

Muskoka Deanery Council

PREPARATION FOR
DIOCESAN SYNOD

April 29, 2025
7pm via zoom

**“With Joy We Will Drink Deeply
from the Fountain of Salvation”**

Isaiah 12.3



Cover Artwork by Helen-Mary Carter

AGENDA

- Opening Reflection
- Review & Adoption of the Agenda
- Review & Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Business arising from the Previous Meeting
- Financial Report
- Archdeacon's Report and other ministry reports
- Preparation for Diocesan Synod: Agenda, Themes and Motions
- Preparation for Diocesan Synod: Budget Presentation
- Preparation for Diocesan Synod: Elections
- Other Business
- Adjournment

Deanery Council Meeting February 25, 2025, 7pm via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm with 24 in attendance. Heather showed a short World Day of Prayer video of the song “Wonderfully Made”, then opened with prayer.

Agenda: Moved by Sharon Boyuk, seconded by Joy Stott that the agenda be accepted as presented. Carried.

Minutes: Moved by Nora Goltz, seconded by Gunars Balodis that the Minutes of the October 2024 meeting be adopted as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising: A Celebration of New Ministry for the new combined parish of Muskoka Lakes and Trinity Parry Sound will be Nov. 28 in the afternoon at Port Carling. There will also be a dinner event on the same day, most likely in Emsdale

Financial Report: Moved by John Dunbar, seconded by Phelan Scanlon that the Financial Report be accepted as presented. Carried. Moved by Sharon Boyuk, Seconded by Phelan Scanlon that the 2025 deanery dues remain at \$30. Carried

- Moved by Edna Murdy, Seconded by Joy Stott that the Deanery affirm to pay expenses of up to 3 youth delegates to Synod. Carried. At this point Heather invited Celie (Lei) MacDonald to introduce herself. Lia is interested in attending Synod as a youth delegate. Nominated by Nora, Seconded by Sharon Boyuk that Lia attend Synod as a youth delegate. Carried.

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The MMEF Committee is looking for a new member at large. Betty Whetham has retired as Chair and Brad Burgess has been appointed by the Archbishop as her replacement. Brad acknowledged Betty's contribution indicating that it was a pleasure to work with her. She was well organised and often had to follow up. Brad indicated that Betty has set a high standard which he will try to match. Colin Edwards advised that most of the work is done by email.

Nominated by Kelly Baetz, Seconded by Colin Edwards that John Dunbar be elected. John accepted. There were no further nominations and John was acclaimed.

- **Archdeacon's Report:** Still looking for a Muskoka representative to sit on the Episcopal Endowment Fund Committee – to fundraise to fund the office of the Bishop. There will be a fundraising dinner and silent auction during Synod to raise funds for the Episcopal Endowment Fund. The Committee is looking for the donation of a basket filled with items that represent our Deanery for the auction. Donations should be forwarded to Kelly and she will put the basket together. The Etty Project (a one woman play based on Etty Hillesum) will be hosted on March 30.

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Anglican Foundation: Anne Wilson advised that the Bishop's dinner during Synod will be limited to 150 people. The hope is to raise \$4,000,000 so that only the interest would be used. Although each Deanery is asked to provide one basket, more than one would not be rejected. Anne advised that this is the 4th year that more than \$1,000,000 has been granted and the first year that all 30 Dioceses received a grant for something. The next date for application is March 1. Joy Stott advised that Port Sydney and Emsdale received funding for the Emsdale Explorers and that the program has really taken off. Currently they are running Fun Friday PA Day programs 5 times a year in 2 school districts. They hope to expand to an after school program in Port Sydney next year and possibly a summer program.

- **Regional Dean's Report:** We were again reminded of the accessibility requirements that must be in place by the end of the year we were directed to www.muskokachurches.com to see what is required as far as accessibility requirements and fire safety and emergency response plans which are all to be approved at the 2025 Vestries. There are training videos specific to churches as well as templates. Also available to the website are the forms for capital projects, honorariums, deanery dues and parish visits. With respect to church closures, an Other Assets Policy is going before Executive Committee on March 3 and 4. Let Heather know if you think there is anything else that should be considered.

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Other Business – Issues Arising from Vestry and Synod issues: Phelan felt that we need another 1.5 hours to discuss as the topic is overwhelming. He suggested that the Diocese should consider coming up with an “everything” report. Brad indicated that the forms and templates provided by the Diocese were very helpful and he would be willing to assist anyone that needs help with the forms. Phelan indicated that the Synod small group workshop on practical things are very helpful and we need more of that. Any thoughts can be emailed to Heather at any time.

Sharon Creasor expressed her frustration that their building needs a ramp in order to become accessible, to install a ramp requires a building permit but there are no guidelines available with respect to volunteer labour.

Sharon Boyuk advised that the roof on the bell tower is rotted (photos and inspection by drone) and therefore they should not be ringing the bell at the moment.

Moved by Nick that we adjourn at 8:59 pm.

We closed with the Grace.

Respectfully, Janet Borneman

Financial Report

Balance at previous meeting:	\$1255.57
Income: 2x\$30 donations, \$0.31 Interest	\$60.31
Expenses: none	<u>0.00</u>
Current Balance:	\$1315.88

NOTES:

- Annual donation toward Deanery activities is \$30
- Bank now requires cheques payable to 'MUSKOKA DEANERY'.
- Please mail to Shirley Burton, PO Box 71, Baysville, ON, P0A 1B0

Letter to delegates Algoma Synod 2025

Convening Circular 2025

Draft Agenda – April 24, 2025

Breakout Sessions Algoma Synod 2025

Sending of Delegates to Diocesan Synod – Service Form (2025)

ELECTORAL INFORMATION FOR SYNOD DELEGATES AND NOMINATION FORMS

Algoma Synod 2025 Election Summary

Information for Synod Delegates

Synodical Governance 2025

Synod – Procedures 2025

Resolution Training

Useful Tips for Synod Members 2025

AVAILABLE AT

DIOCESEOFALGOMA.COM

“About the Diocese”

“Synod Notes”

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

Wednesday, May 7th:

3:30 – 5:30 Registration at 619 Wellington St East

4:30 – 5:30 Synod Delegate Orientation at St. Luke's Cathedral

7:00 – 9:30 Opening Service at the Cathedral, reception to follow

Thursday, May 8th:

7:30 – 8:30am Registration at Water Tower Inn

8:30 Opening Ceremonies & Motions

9:30 Archbishop's 'Charge'

11:00 Keynote Speaker Dave Csinos: Intergenerational Ministry

Thursday afternoon:

1:15 – 1:45 Plenary Session

2:30 – 3:30 Breakout Session #1

3:45 – 4:45 Breakout Session #2

BREAKOUT SESSION OPTIONS

Worship:

#1 Singing our Faith: Music in Worship with Jay Koyle and Norm Blanchard

#2 Introducing the New Lay Readers Manual with Jay Koyle and Alison Weir

Youth Ministry:

#1 So Elephants Destroyed Your Well: Rebuilding With and For Youth

#2 The Gift of Youth: Rebuilding the Well

Huddle up to Handle Hunger. Both #1 and #2

Presented by the Social Justice Committee of the Diocese of Algoma and Dr. Ryan Weston (Lead Animator for Public Witness for Social and Ecological Justice, Anglican Church of Canada)

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED...

Friday, May 9th:

9:20-10:30 Constitutions & Canons motions

10:45 – 12:00 Plenary for The Anne Germond Legacy Fund

2:00 – 2:30 Plenary Session

2:30 – 3:15 Plenary Session

3:15 – 3:30 Finances and motions

4:15 – 4:35 Plenary Session

6:30 Banquet for Episcopal Fund (ticket event)

PLENARY SESSIONS:

Insurance matters

Anglican Foundation of Canada

Alongside Hope (former World Relief & Development Fund),

Public Witness for Social and Ecological Justice Anglican Church of Canada

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED...

Saturday, May 10th:

Response to the Archbishop's Charge, with motions

Any remaining motions

Vote of thanks

Archbishop's Concurrence

JOURNEY HOME!

Woven throughout Synod are:

Opportunities for daily worship, Bible Study (scripture circles) and a prayer room.

Elections for:

Youth Representative to General Synod

Youth Representative on the Diocesan Executive Committee

2 Lay and 1 Clergy Member of the Diocesan Court

Canonical Motion, p. 21

Amendment to Article 3, Section 2 of the Constitution –

Moved that this Synod 2025 amend Article 3, Section 2 of the Constitution to allow at least one Synod delegate to be elected from each congregation.

2. number of delegates:

- a) Every ~~separate parish congregation, regardless of the number of its congregations,~~ shall be entitled to elect one lay delegate and an alternate. **In the case of the election of more than one delegate, the chair of the vestry shall sign a certificate stating the number of canonical voters and forward it to the Secretary of the Synod with the certificate of election.**
- b) If the number of its canonical voters exceeds one hundred, the ~~parish~~ **congregation** shall be entitled to two lay delegates. If the number of its canonical voters exceeds two hundred the ~~parish congregation~~ shall be entitled to three lay delegates.
- c) ~~Not more than one delegate in each parish shall be a non-resident of that parish.~~