

Muskoka Churches Deanery Council Meeting

October 22, 2024

7pm via Zoom

https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/SCAW2024-promo_v1.pdf

A Litany for Spiritual Care Awareness Week

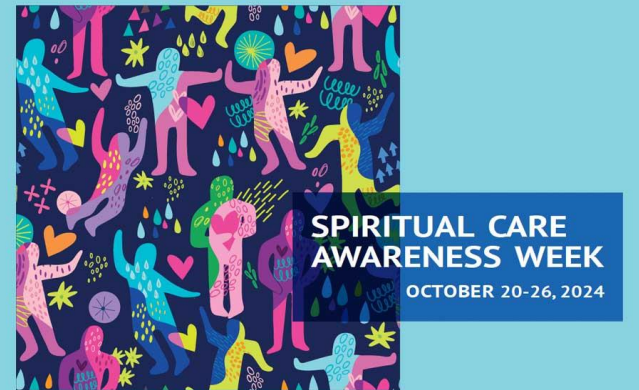
We pray that each spiritual care provider to know the grace of God in their ministries. May their skill, care, and wisdom be God's grace poured out.

We pray that chaplains and spiritual care providers continue to see God in the faces of those whom they serve. May their hearts remain joyful in God's promises and at peace in God's providence.

We pray that spiritual care providers and chaplains may be renewed in hope. May the flame of their faith in human goodness and witness to a future of promise burn brightly in spite of the darkness of disease and suffering, social injustice and cultural division.

We pray that chaplains and spiritual care providers may continue to feel God's power and steadfast presence in their ministries. May they always find refuge in their weariness and renewed strength in God's peace.

We pray in gratitude for those who provide spiritual care. May they know themselves to be a part of a ministry that has existed before them and will outlast them. May that knowledge allow them to do the good work of their vocation with full hearts and unfettered spirits. Amen.



AGENDA

- Opening Reflection
- Review & Adoption of the Agenda
- Review & Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Business arising from the Previous Meeting
- Financial Reports
- Archdeacon's Report
- Deanery Officials Reminders: AODA, Emergency & Safety, etc
- Ministry Reports: Anglican Foundation, Lay Readers, Anglican Church Women, etc.
- Presentation of the Diocesan Budget, followed by discussion
- Other Business
- Adjournment



MINUTES OF JUNE 4th MEETING



Meeting held In-Person and by Zoom with 20 people present.

Heather opened with a prayer and video on Access Forward as AODA requirements were to be a significant portion of the meeting discussions.

Secretary for Meeting: Nomination for a secretary in the absence of the Deanery Secretary for the purposes of taking minutes. Nomination of Nancy Houghton by Wendy Hogarth, seconded by Ron Algate. No other nominations, carried by acclamation.

Agenda: Moved by John Dunbar, seconded by Brad Burgess, the Agenda be accepted as presented. Carried.

Minutes: Moved by Margaret Morrison, seconded by Jim Schell that the Previous Meeting Summary be adopted as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising: Clarification on Lay Reader vs Lay Leader terminology.

MINUTES OF JUNE 4th P.2



Financial Report: Moved by Wendy Hogarth, seconded by Ron Algate that the Financial Report by accepted as presented. Carried.

- NOTES – reminder to everyone that cheques need to be payable to Muskoka Deanery for dues. Heather was to inform the Treasurers. Upgrading the Deanery account to allow e-transfers would result in a monthly service charge of between \$2 to \$5 depending on the number of transactions, going to maintain the current account. Discussion of the Expense Consideration to reimburse the costs of the BBQ, to a maximum of \$250.00, with the Archbishop on June 1st, 2024. Moved by Lynne Preston, seconded by John Dunbar. Carried.

Archdeacon's Report: Read by Kelly Baetz. Announcement of new Honorary Associate and formal swearing of oath and issuing of license for GailMarie Henderson in Bala, Barkway, Gravenhurst parishes, and announcement of new Honorary Associate Jim Sutton in Parry Sound (issuing of license to be done later as he was not in attendance). Presentation of Diocesan Lay Reader Emertius license to Derek Shakespeare and Diocesan Lay Reader license to Nancy Houghton.

MINUTES OF JUNE 4th P.3



- Anglican Foundation of Canada Report: Anne Wilson joined the meeting at 7:41 pm to talk about the Say Yes to Kids campaign. 33 teams across Canada raised money for camps including Gitchigomee, Manitou and Temiskaming. Bursaries are used to support Kids and many that have benefitted from bursaries pay it forward.
- Lay Readers: our Deanery hosting the next Diocesan Layreader Conference on Oct. 4 – 6th, 2024 in Parry Sound. Open to all Layreaders, layreaders-in-training or anyone else interested in finding out more about the Layreader ministry.
- Anglican Church Women: Deanery President sent her regrets, but the ACW hosted a wonderful Annual Meeting and expressed their thanks to everyone who helped support the Deanery ACW for the meeting.

MINUTES OF JUNE 4TH P.4



Follow-Up from Synod: Resolution #1 from Synod should be a topic of discussion in each parish at Advisory Board/Parish Council meetings; Resolution #2 from Synod – we are still looking for a Muskoka Representative for the Episcopal Endowment Fund Committee; Resolution #3 from Synod – reminder of funds to be put aside for Layreader support in each parish; Resolution #4 from Synod – Communion Forest Initiative – each parish is to undertake at least one initiative before the next diocesan synod. A reminder that there is money available from the Muskoka Ministry Fund which could be used to help with projects for that initiative. Deadline to apply is the end of June.

AODA Requirements: Heather provided a slideshow on AODA. Information is also available on the Provincial Website under Small Business Standards. The final slide was a “To Do” List for 2025.

1. Create your Accessibility Policy – template will be sent around by Heather
2. Create your Fire, Safety and Emergency Plan – template will be sent by Heather
3. Pursue the items required to accomplish these plans: signage, ramp, large print items, revise volunteer or job descriptions, etc.

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4. Train staff and volunteers as required.

5. Ensure your Vestry 2025 includes an opportunity to approve the Accessibility Policy and compliance measures.

Resources to help: www.accessforward.ca for training needs; www.ontario.ca/page/accessibility-in-ontario for resources and tips; Contact local Fire Department for helpful tips or templates; Contact your Deanery Officials

Other Business: Visits by Deanery Officials – reminder to schedule annual visit if not already done; Updates on Courageous Conversations – will be on a future Agenda
Gospel Based Discipleship – summer session is starting, 1 hour, ecumenical
Children's Story Time – 9 am Saturday morning
Summer Officiants – please notify Kelly for permissions that are needed.

Moved by Ron Algate that we adjourn at 8:54 pm. Next meeting will be in October.

We closed with the Grace.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Houghton

Financial Report



Balance at previous meeting:	\$1445.61
Income: Parish 'dues' (2x\$30)	\$60.00
Expenses: Deanery BBQ event	<u>\$250.04</u>
Current Balance:	\$1255.57

NOTES:

Bank now requires cheques payable to 'MUSKOKA DEANERY'.

Please mail to Shirley Burton, PO Box 71, Baysville, ON, P0A 1B0

MUSKOKA MINISTRY ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT



The Muskoka Ministry Endowment Fund Board is pleased to announce the names of the successful applicants for 2024.

1. The Parish of Lake of Bays – Tree planting project - \$540.00
2. St. James the Apostle, Port Carling – equipment purchase - \$540.00
3. Christ Church, Port Sydney – Creation of a Webpage and communication improvements - \$540.00
4. St. James, Gravenhurst – two (2) faith-formation educational initiatives - \$540.00
5. Trinity-All Saints, Bala – two (2) faith-formation educational initiatives – \$540.00.

Congratulations.

Please remember to submit your receipts to whethambetty1936@gmail.com, by the end of the year in order to receive your grant reimbursement.

Board members:

Brad Burgess, Colin Edwards, Ken Lawson, Esq., Rev. Lynda Mee, and Betty Whetham (Chair)

ARCHDEACON'S REPORT

Dear Members of Deanery Council,

As I write this, it is Thanksgiving Monday, and I am indeed thankful for much, not least of which is the privilege of serving alongside each of you here in the Deanery of Muskoka. I pray you had wonderful Sunday services in your corners, and that you know the power of practicing gratitude not only at Thanksgiving, but every day.

Some of you have likely heard that my husband and I, as well as one of our Deanery Council members James Hunt, were in a car accident while coming home from Provincial Synod. While we all emerged relatively okay, I am taking a few weeks to cut back on my workload and recover (if you've ever had sore ribs, you know where I'm coming from!!). Do feel free to be in touch with me as needed, as while I am cutting back on meetings and events, I am still available to try to answer questions and to talk. I know our Deanery Officials Rev. Heather, John and Colin, are also more than willing to work with you on matters of property, finance, and mission.

As our Archbishop begins her duties as Acting Primate for the Anglican Church of Canada, I ask that you remember to pray for her, as well as for the Synod Office staff. What a busy season! We are all grateful that Bishop Michael Oulton will be assisting in our Diocese from now until late summer.



ARCHDEACON'S REPORT CONT'D



Geographically, Muskoka is closest to Bishop Michael, and it would be wonderful to invite him here for some kind of celebration (ideally, as they say, “before the snow flies.”) If you have ideas about this or if you need an Episcopal visit to your parish, please be in touch.

At the beginning of September, Rev. Margaret Morrison retired from active ministry and she will soon be moving house. There are few clergy who have been more involved at the Deanery level than Margaret, between the co-operative Zoom worship services, her YouTube children’s ministry, and the invitations she so openly and enthusiastically would extend to all our churches for various educational and celebratory events. Thank you dear Margaret. We are better because of you.

I know the Deanery Council meeting will be full of important matters, including the 2025 accessibility requirements ALL our churches must tend to in the very short term, if you haven’t already. I know these kinds of things can feel daunting, but they are part of our mission to love our neighbours and one another well. Let’s help each other get this done as much as possible.

Also at this meeting we will hear from Jane Mesich and Jennifer Baron, our Diocesan treasurer and assistant treasurer. They will be presenting the Diocesan budget in advance of Synod 2025. This is an opportunity to give input into the budget, so don’t be shy about bringing your ideas, questions, and concerns (all while extending a warm welcome to Jane and Jenn, who work so very hard on all of our behalf!) Have a wonderful meeting. I may log on and join you – if not, I’ll see you next time.

With gratitude, Ven. Kelly Baetz, Archdeacon

FROM YOUR DEANERY OFFICIALS:



✓ Accessible off-street parking

✓ Fire safety and emergency response

✓ Obtaining services (service counters, fixed queuing guides, waiting areas) 'To Do' List for 2025

On www.muskokachurches.com : Template for Emergency & Safety Plan, Template for Accessibility Policy, Overview of the AODA and compliance categories.

Signage for washroom, fire exit, etc. is readily available online!

Contact local Fire Department for helpful tips or templates.

Contact your Deanery Officials!

On www.muskokachurches.com : Annual Parish Visit Report Forms, application forms for capital projects below \$40,000 with no loans (can be approved by the Deanery Officials) and for projects over \$40,000 or requiring funding (Deanery Officials bring to Executive Committee for approval)

To keep in mind: Communion Forest project, Faith Formation initiative, Lay Reader support funds.

Anglican Foundation of Canada report to Deaneries in the Diocese of Algoma Fall, 2024



The Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC) continues to work on behalf of across Canada. Since January, the Foundation has distributed more than \$560,000.

In the 3rd quarter of the year, \$166,000 went to 12 Dioceses. Dr Scott Brubacher, Executive Director of AFC said, “ It was encouraging to see the full breadth of AFC’s grant program this cycle with grants awarded to all five of our funding impact zones.

The grants awarded also represented wide-ranging parts of the country, literally, from coast to coast to coast, from Alert Bay, B.C. to Inuvik, N.W.T. to Gander, N. L. The 5 Impact Zones are Community Ministries, Leadership and Education, Diverse Infrastructure, Indigenous Ministries as well as Sacred Music and Liturgical Arts.

Our Dioceses “Say Yes To Kids” team was one of 33 teams across Canada. We raised the second most monies of all teams, \$7,381.00. Each of our three Camps in Algoma, Camp Gitchigomee, Camp Manitou and Camp Temiskaming received a cheque for just under \$2,000 for their bursary funds.

The National Youth Initiative received the other portion.

If you are a member, please renew. If you are not a member of AFC, please consider becoming a member with a donation. Go to the AFC site and follow the directions to donate. IMAGINE MORE! Think what your donations can do! Anne Wilson, Diocese of Algoma Representative to the Anglican Foundation of Canada. (originalanne@yahoo.com. 705-648-3625)

Diocesan Social Justice Committee

Connie Knighton, Representative from Muskoka



The focus of the Social Justice Committee continues to be homelessness.

After a successful weeklong, Diocesan-wide focus on homelessness in the spring, many parishes have taken up the call to be active in housing efforts in their communities.

St. Ambrose, Baysville, has been negotiating with the town of Baysville and the District of Muskoka to cede church lands in order to build co-operative, sustainable and supportive housing. This is not an easy process. Nevertheless, the roster of interested persons across the Deanery continues to grow and when we succeed, our small project may become a model for similar small projects on church lands across the Deanery. We have the full support of Archbishop Anne + and Diocesan Administration.

As you are aware, the problem of homelessness and housing insecurity and affordability is of concern to all of us who care about our sisters and brothers. Stay tuned for ways in which you might be able to help 'The Bridge,' our project is named.

MINISTRY REPORTS



- Lay Readers
- Anglican Church Women

Gospel-based Discipleship is Mondays 7:30-8:30pm via zoom

At this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84108676909?pwd=4U5lpzGGpy6JBkrJq4DNeNyGFCHmsa.1>