DIOCESE OF ALGOMA

SUMMARY

FIFTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 15 and Thursday, March 16, 2023 VIA ZOOM

**Day#1**

Opening Remarks and Agenda

Archbishop Anne opened in prayer and reflection referring to 1 Peter 4:7 in preparation for our Diocesan Synod gathering of 2023 when we will be spending some time with the New Testament letter, 1st Peter.

Archbishop’s Report: Highlights

* There will be elections at the upcoming Synod for delegates to General Synod 2025 and Provincial Synod 2024. Please pray about letting your name stand.
* The “Sacred Circle”, which is the Indigenous equivalent of Synod is being held in Fern Creek, Orillia. We will be sending delegates from Algoma.
* Bishophurst’s budget line may need some adjusting as the maintenance and operating expenses are becoming more costly.
* Certificates of Appreciation to recognize parishioners (3 folks per parish) identified by the incumbent and wardens will be distributed in the fall 2023, most likely around Thanksgiving. Send names to the Synod Office by the end of May, then Liz can start working on those.
* Synod delegates were reminded of the community building ideas to bring to present during the worship service when Synod convenes.
* Archbishop Anne expressed her deep gratitude to those who contribute actively in their churches.

Committee Reports

***Constitution and Canons Committee Report***

There will be 7 resolutions presented for alterations or additions to the Canons at Synod 2023.

***ACW Report***

The Algoma ACW Annual Conference will be held “in person” at Christ Church, North Bay Tuesday May 30th to Thursday, June 1st. Registration is $110 and that will cover the meals. Gorgi and Cecile from Covenant House, Toronto are the keynote speakers.

***Anglican Foundation Report***

Check out the Anglican Foundation website as the application process has changed. There are individual scholarships as well as loans or grants for organizations. These applications need support of the Archbishop and the Executive Committee.

***PWRDF***

No report at this time.

***Social Justice Committee***

A verbal report that the #1 priority at this time is the issue of homelessness.

***Courageous Conversations***

Courageous conversations are happening in the Muskoka Deanery……

Business Arising

The congregation of All Saints, White River is now dissolved. The church had been deconsecrated in the fall of 2022.

Property Matters

St. John’s in Copper Cliff was approved to withdraw $7,000 from their invested funds to complete the kitchen renovations.

St. John the Divine, North Bay - application to AWBF for a loan to repair the sanctuary ceiling was tabled to the next Executive Meeting at Synod in May, 2023.

Grace Church South River is now closed.

The status of St. John the Baptist, Ravenscliffe is tabled to Executive Meeting at Synod in May 2023.

**End of Day#1**

It was a lively day of discussion, with lots of very difficult decisions. Archbishop Anne commended the executive for the positive spirit in which we engaged and dealt with the issues. She closed in prayer.

**Day#2**

The morning began with a devotion and reflection on 1 Peter 2: 1-10, led by Archdeacon Kelly Baetz.

Financial Reports

Jane presented the financial reports and the proposed budgets for the years 2024-2025. With the state of our current economy, everything is in flux and very difficult to predict with any sense of clarity considering the global markets. The Diocesan Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer will be attending each Deanery Council meeting to present the proposed budget.

Covid 19 has impacted all the churches and conversations both at Parish levels and Deanery Councils around finances need to be robust and serious. There was talk about finding Parish representatives with expertise in financial issues to help the Diocesan Administration and Finance Committee and to work at the Deanery level. At upcoming Synod, there will be breakout rooms on finances and investments. If anyone has questions prior to Synod, please send Jane an email.

Parishes are urged to send in stipends and apportionment in a timely manner.

If you are saving for a rainy day, Archbishop Anne wants you to know

**“The rainy day is here!”**

Other Reports

*Thorneloe University*

The Rev. Canon Dr. John Gibaut reports that Thorneloe has turned a corner with increased enrollment and close to a balanced budget.

*Safe Church Training Program*

All volunteers and parishes are to undertake Vector Solutions Training for Safe Church. This will be tracked at the parish or deanery level going forward.

Archbishop Anne closed in a prayer by Lavern Jacobs, and Indigenous Priest in the Diocese of Huron.

Moved by Archdeacon Joan Locke that the meeting be adjourned.