**SYNOD 2023 BREAKOUT SESSIONS - Thursday, May 11th**

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| **2:15 –**  **3:15 PM** | **WEST HALL**  **HERITAGE AND HOPE:**  **TRUTH, RECONCILIATION, AND THE MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO**  **Mr. Mitch Case**  The Métis are a distinct Indigenous people with a unique history, culture, and language, and the heritage of territory including waterways of Ontario and the area surrounding the Great Lakes. In recent years, it has been a growing priority of the Diocese of Algoma to forge a supportive relationship with the local Métis community. In 2017, the property formally serving St. John’s Church, Sault Ste. Marie was ceded to the Historic Sault Ste. Marie Métis Council as an act of “tangible reconciliation” in recognition of the existence of a Métis burial ground on the site.  After a brief overview of Métis identity, legacy, traditions, and rights, Mitch will discuss local efforts to advance the historic claims of the Métis community in regions served by the Diocese of Algoma.    Hear about current efforts to hold Canada accountable for the promises made to the Métis nation and learn how we as Canadian Anglicans can attend to the stories shared by the Métis and find respectful ways of working together to achieve lasting justice. | **CENTRE HALL**  **RESTORYING THE CHURCH**  ***FOSTERING A PEOPLE OF PROMISE TODAY***  **The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle**  Hear about an exciting initiative in our Diocese supported by the Anglican Foundation of Canada. *ReStorying the Church* stands at the intersection of our common worship, the church’s vocation to make disciples and initiate them into the Body of Christ, and the ongoing formation/transformation of Christians.  Rather than seeking yet another new program or gimmick to buttress the institution or quickly reverse congregational decline, *ReStorying the Church* imaginatively reengages us with practices foundational to the church’s life, practices able to bring about the “counter-scripting” necessary for us to faithfully embody the gospel story in this generation.  *ReStorying the Church* responds to one of the priorities articulated by our Archbishop since 2017, namely that greater emphasis be placed on discipleship formation and the development of baptismal ministries. If such development is to prove long-term and deep-rooted, it must become habitual and central to all aspects of our life together rather than simply one stream of activity alongside many others.  Participants in this session will savour an initial taste of ancient wisdom capable of freshly nurturing a People of Promise today. | **EAST HALL**  **BECOMING TRAUMA- INFORMED:**  **AN INTRODUCTION**  **Ms. Erma Howe, MSW, RSW**  There is growing understanding of trauma and its very real effect on emotional, mental, spiritual and physical well-being. In our communities, we are beginning to talk about it, identify it, and acknowledge how traumatic experiences shape us and change us.  We need to extend this understanding to our own personal awareness and that of the people we minister to. We have an opportunity to break the cycle of trauma when we start applying the concepts that help us recover and heal. This workshop is an introduction to trauma: what it is, how it affects our nervous system, the protections we form to survive and cope that can help us or perpetuate more trauma, and what to do when we experience hurt and harm.  Why being trauma-informed matters to our parishes  Some Helpful Definitions:          Trauma         Sanctuary Trauma         Moral Injury         Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)      Trauma’s Effect on the Nervous System:  Understanding how we are built to survive  Recognizing Harm that happens to us: An introduction to the language of feelings  Basic Care of Ourselves and Others | **COURTYARD**  **BUDGET AND INVESTMENTS**  **Ms. Leila Fiouzi (RBC, PH&N)**  **Mrs. Jane Mesich**  **Ms. Jennifer Baron**  The long term investment portfolio of the Diocese of Algoma is managed by RBC PH&N Investment Counsel (PH&N). PH&N is a member company of RBC Financial Group and provides discretionary investment services to Canadian not-for-profit institutions and high net worth families. PH&N follows an institutional investment process and structures customized portfolios that leverage the extensive investment capabilities of RBC Global Asset Management, Canada’s largest asset manager. PH&N’s investment approach is characterized by a firm-wide approach to strategic and tactical asset allocation, long term discipline, active management, and a comprehensive approach to managing and monitoring risk. In this session, representatives from PH&N will provide an update on the portfolio structure and performance for the Algoma investment funds.  Jane Mesich and Jennifer Baron will be available to answer questions on the proposed budget or anything financial. |
| **3:30 –**  **4:30 PM** | **WEST HALL**  **INSURANCE**  **Mr. Larry Day, Dawson and Keenan**  **Mr. Rob Jordan, Ecclesiastical**  **Mrs. Jane Mesich**  Limits of insurance will be discussed and how to know if Church property is insured adequately. Other items for discussion will be the need for third party liability coverage, and what to consider when storing Church information on personal computers. | **CENTRE HALL**  **ICONS OF SERVICE AND HOPE: RAISING UP DEACONS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY CHURCH**  **The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle**  When it comes to ordained ministry, most of us think only of bishops and priests. If deacons are given any thought at all, the tendency is to see the diaconate as simply a transitional phase leading to the priesthood. However, in biblical times and for many subsequent centuries, the diaconate was recognized throughout the church as a distinct order and vocation, carrying the grace expressed through ordination into the folds of day-to-day existence. Algoma is among dioceses engaged in the current effort to restore this place of deacons within its life. So, what are deacons? Why and how is this recovery happening? What difference will doing so make for the vitality of today’s congregation, in helping us to live as People of Promise? With Archdeacon Jay Koyle and some of Algoma’s deacons, spend a session discovering why the diaconate is important for the church today, and what our Diocese is putting in place to discern and nurture vocations to this distinct ministry. | **EAST HALL**  **SEEKING THE SHELTER OF HOPE**  **A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WITH THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE**    Where do you see people who are living on the street?  Who are they?  Why are they homeless?  Is there affordable housing in your community?  What does "affordable" mean?  What is being done to address these problems?  What is working, and what is not?  Is housing a human right?  What does the Gospel say?  We invite you to join a round table discussion to explore answers to these questions. Your voice will help shape the ongoing work of social justice.  Members of the Social Justice Committee from Thunder Bay, Sudbury, North Bay, Muskoka, and Sault Ste. Marie have been grappling with the issues of homelessness and affordable housing. We explore the underlying causes, hear the voices of homeless people, and advocate for action. | **COURTYARD**  **SCREENING IN FAITH/**  **SAFE CHURCH**  **Archbishop Anne Germond**  **Mrs. Liz Hamel**  The Screening in Faith process, adopted under Canon H-4 of the Diocese of Algoma, requires all parishes and deanery or diocesan organizations to screen volunteers and/or employees in a manner appropriate to the level of risk in their ministry (Low-Mid-High Risk).  This session will discuss the SIF process and the importance of Safe Church in our parishes. |

***‘PEOPLE OF PROMISE: OUR STORY, OUR JOY, OUR HOPE”***

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