

## ACTS OF SYNOD 2023

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i) Confirmed the appointments of Committees, as printed in the Convening Circular;	
ii) Received regrets of absences, greetings, and courtesies of Synod;	
iii) Regarded as received the report of the Credentials Committee in regards to Clerical and Lay Delegates present;	
iv) Adopted the agenda;	
v) Adopted the minutes of the 2021 Synod;	
vi) Received the Reports and Motions printed in the Convening Circular;	
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viii) Elected Clerical Secretary and Lay Secretary.	
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**During the course of Synod 2023:**

**Offered a series of breakout sessions for Synod delegates on the following topics:**

<i>Heritage and Hope: Truth, Reconciliation, and The Métis Nation of Ontario</i>	<i>Insurance</i>
<i>Restorying the Church – Fostering a People of Promise Today</i>	<i>Icons of Service and Hope: Raising up Deacons for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Church</i>
<i>Becoming Trauma-Informed: An Introduction</i>	<i>Seeking the Shelter of Hope: A Roundtable Discussion with the Social Justice Committee</i>
<i>Budget and Investments</i>	<i>Screening in Faith/Safe Church</i>

**Participated in Scripture Circles**

**Participated in a Youth Reception the evening of May 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Participated in a Bishophurst Reception the evening of May 12<sup>th</sup>**

## *Journal of Proceedings*

### *Certificate of Approval*

We certify that we have examined the Journal of Proceedings of the Fifty-First Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Algoma as published herein, and have found it to be an accurate record.

Ms. Peggy Morrison  
Lay Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Peggy Morrison", written over a horizontal line.

The Reverend Jonathan Blanchard  
Clerical Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jonathan Blanchard", written over a horizontal line.

The Most Reverend Anne Germond  
Archbishop of Algoma

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Anne Germond", written over a horizontal line.

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**THE 51<sup>st</sup> SESSION OF SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF ALGOMA**  
**MAY 11-13, 2023**  
**THE WATER TOWER INN, SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO**

***Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>***

Archbishop Anne Germond formally declared that the 51<sup>st</sup> sitting of Synod was in session and welcomed all delegates.

**OMNIBUS MOTION ORGANIZING SYNOD**

**Moved by:**           The Very Rev. James McShane  
**Seconded by:**      The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle

***That:***

- 1. The appointment of committees, as printed in the Convening Circular, be confirmed;***
- 2. The regrets of absences, greetings, and courtesies of Synod be extended or received as the case may be;***
- 3. The report on Credentials in regard to the number of Clerical and Lay Delegates be regarded as received, and that the Chair, as soon as may be practicable, shall announce the result of such scrutiny;***
- 4. The agenda be adopted;***
- 5. The minutes of the previous Synod of 2021 be adopted;***
- 6. The Reports printed in the Convening Circular and any additional Reports be received;***
- 7. The actions of the Diocesan Executive Committee be approved;***
- 8. The Lay and Clerical Secretaries now be elected, and that the Rev. Jonathan Blanchard be the Clerical Secretary and that Ms. Peggy Morrison be the Lay Secretary.***

**CARRIED #1**

**MORNING PRAYER**

Within the context of Morning Prayer were the following:

- Scripture Circles
- Blessing of the Prayer Vigil Candle by the Archbishop
- Commissioning of the Volunteers
- Offered prayers in remembrance of those individuals who have gone before us and read names of those listed under “In Memoriam” in the Synod Journal. See pages 5-7 of the Journal.

The Archbishop introduced the Ven. Marie Loewen as Chaplain for Synod.

## COURTESIES OF THE HOUSE AND THE FLOOR

The Archbishop announced Courtesies of the House and the Floor that have been granted by the Chair as printed on page 17 of the Journal.

### GREETINGS RECEIVED

The Very Rev. James McShane relayed greetings to Synod from The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls, Primate of The Anglican Church of Canada.

The Archbishop relayed greetings to Synod from The Right Reverend Doctor Stephen Andrews, Principal of Wycliffe College.

### GREETINGS TO KING CHARLES III

The Archbishop called on the Rev. Canon Ed Swayze to offer greetings to King Charles III from the 51<sup>st</sup> Session of Synod of the Diocese of Algoma.

*The Archbishop and members of the 51<sup>st</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Algoma uphold you in our prayers as your reign as King of Canada begins. We offer our condolences on the death of your beloved mother, Queen Elizabeth II, and we pray that the memory of your mother and the love she had for you will strengthen you. We pray for your leadership as monarch of Canada and head of the Commonwealth, that God will grant you grace and wisdom as you adapt to changing circumstances in the world in which we live.*

Members of the 51<sup>st</sup> Synod rose to sing “God Save the King”.

### WELCOME TO GUESTS

The Archbishop welcomed all guests to Synod with particular mention of the following:

- Bishop Michael Oulton (Diocese of Ontario)
- Archbishop Francisco de Assis da Silva (Episcopal Anglican Church of Brazil)
- Mr. Alex Pierson, Executive Officer (Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario)
- New Deacons: The Rev. Thomas Ferris, The Rev. Deb Everest, The Rev. Jan Latham
- New Canons: Canon Garth O'Neill, Canon Ken Lawson, Canon Jane Mesich
- The Rev. Brad Mittleholtz (Zion Lutheran Church)
- Several facilitators who will be joining us throughout our days together: Dr. Scott Brubacher (Anglican Foundation of Canada), Mr. Will Postma (PWRDF), Mr. Rob Jordan (Ecclesiastical Insurance), Mr. Larry Day (Dawson and Keenan Insurance), Ms. Erma Howe (Sudbury-Manitoulin Deanery), Mr. Mitch Case (Métis Nation of Ontario), Mr. Taylor Woodward (RBC, PH & N), Mr. Ryan Turnbull (Thorneloe University)
- All those who have journeyed to be with us as observers to Synod

The Archbishop expressed regrets from the Rev. Kate Scott, the Rev. Lana Grawbarger, Ms. Amy Bottos, Ms. Linda O'Neill, and the Rev. Diana Wilde.



## **ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF APPOINTMENTS**

The Archbishop announced the following appointments:

President of the Diocesan Court	Canon Ken Lawson
Chair of the Bishophurst Maintenance Committee	Mrs. Marilyn Schmidt

## **INTRODUCTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Archbishop introduced members of the Executive Committee for 2023-2025 and requested each member to stand to be recognized. See page 8 of the Journal.

## **ARCHBISHOP'S CHARGE**

The Archbishop presented her charge to the 51<sup>st</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Algoma. See pages 54-72 of the Journal.

## **ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Daniel Klein, Chair of the Elections Committee, reviewed the process for elections. Nominations and voting will all be online. If any delegate is having difficulty with the online process, connect with any member of the Elections Committee. Motions coming to the floor of Synod will be voted on by show of hands. Every eligible delegate must have their nametag on in order to vote.

Various positions are up for election this year:

General Synod 2025, Provincial Synod 2024, Representative to the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, Diocesan Court, Bishophurst Maintenance Committee.

Daniel also announced that Ms. Alicia Sandham is acclaimed as the Youth Representative to the Executive Committee.

## **CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Ven. Joan Locke, Chair of the Credentials Committee, provided the report. Currently, there are 41 Clergy and 66 Lay Delegates in attendance.

## **PRIMATE'S WORLD RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FUND**

Mr. Will Postma, Executive Director of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, offered a presentation on their development programs and humanitarian responses as they work toward a truly just, healthy, and peaceful world. He entertained questions from the floor.

## THE ANGLICAN FOUNDATION OF CANADA

Dr. Scott Brubacher, Executive Director of the Anglican Foundation, offered a presentation on the work of the Foundation. The Anglican Foundation of Canada exists to support ministries of the Anglican Church throughout Canada, by enabling connection, fostering innovation, stewarding resources, and connecting generous donors to their philanthropic goals. Between 2010 and 2022, 40 projects were supported in Algoma in the amount of \$240,000. Dr. Brubacher outlined the impact zones of the Foundation: Diverse Infrastructure, Community Ministries, Indigenous Ministries, Sacred Music and Liturgical Arts, Leadership and Education. The Grants Portal is available on their website (<https://www.anglicanfoundation.org/apply/>) where the grant categories are also found. Grant deadlines are now four times a year – July 1, October 1, January 1, and April 1. Dr. Brubacher also spoke about the huge success of the “Say Yes! To Kids” Program. He encouraged each parish in Algoma as a call to action to join the Companion Program which represents a \$100-\$500 annual donation to the Anglican Foundation.

The Archbishop expressed appreciation to Mr. Will Postma and Dr. Scott Brubacher for their presence with us and for their presentations.

### **MID-DAY PRAYER**

**The first series of Breakout Sessions were held between 2:15 – 3:15 p.m.**

- ***Heritage and Hope: Truth, Reconciliation, and The Métis Nation of Ontario***  
Mr. Mitch Case
- ***Restorying the Church – Fostering a People of Promise Today***  
The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle
- ***Becoming Trauma-Informed: An Introduction***  
Ms. Erma Howe, MSW, RSW
- ***Budget and Investments***  
Mr. Taylor Woodward, Canon Jane Mesich, and Ms. Jennifer Baron

**The second series of Breakout Sessions were held between 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

- ***Insurance***  
Mr. Larry Day, Mr. Rob Jordan, Canon Jane Mesich
- ***Icons of Service and Hope: Raising up Deacons for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Church***  
The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle
- ***Seeking the Shelter of Hope: A Roundtable Discussion with the Social Justice Committee***
- ***Screening in Faith/Safe Church***  
Archbishop Anne Germond and Mrs. Liz Hamel

## CONVERSATION CIRCLES

Delegates broke into table conversation circles for discussion on the theme of this year’s Synod (“People of Promise: our story, our joy, our hope.”) and on the Archbishop’s Charge to Synod.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Archbishop advised that the deadline for motions to the Resolutions Committee is 7:30 p.m.; the new Executive Committee of the Diocese will be meeting over dinner in the Courtyard; and she reminded all delegates and guests of the Youth Reception being held in the Governor General Suite commencing at 7:30 p.m..

### **TAIZE SERVICE**

Synod recessed for dinner.

### ***Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>***

The Archbishop acknowledged the youth delegates to Synod and how their hospitality evening was so enjoyable for all.

### **MORNING PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE CIRCLES**

## ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Daniel Klein, Chair of the Elections Committee, expressed appreciation to all individuals who have submitted nomination forms and are allowing their names to stand for election. He provided clarification on nominations and who is eligible to stand for election.

## CONSTITUTION AND CANONS

The Ven. Dr. Deborah Kraft, Chair of the Constitution and Canons Committee, introduced members of the committee: Mrs. Kathleen Aitken, Ms. Amy Bottos (Vice-Chancellor), The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle (Ex-officio), The Ven. Marie Loewen, Canon Garth O'Neill (Chancellor). She referred to the committee's report contained on pages 155-157 of the Convening Circular. In order for a constitutional or canonical amendment to be implemented, the resolution must be carried with a 2/3 majority. Notice of motions must be contained in the Convening Circular and may be found on pages 20-29.

The first four proposed amendments have been endorsed by the Constitution and Canons Committee as well as the Executive Committee.

### **Amendment to Canon B-1: The Executive Committee**

**Moved by:**                **The Ven. Dr. Deborah Kraft**  
**Seconded by:**        **The Ven. Marie Loewen**

***That this Synod 2023 modify the wording of Canon B-1 meetings: Section 6 by removing one phrase and adding a new phrase in order to give flexibility for meeting platforms.***

meetings:

6. *The Executive Committee shall meet at least three times each year, ~~at such time and place by in-person or digital meetings~~ as it may decide.*

CARRIED #2  
2/3 majority

#### Amendment to Canon I-2: Signing Officers

Moved by: The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle  
Seconded by: The Ven. Marie Loewen

*That Canon I-2: Signing Officers be amended for clarification and designation of the Signing Officers for a congregation as follows:*

~~*The signing officers of the congregation shall be one of the churchwardens and any one of the incumbent, the churchwardens, the treasurer, or such other member of the congregation who is appointed by the vestry.*~~

*One of the churchwardens and one of the other designated signing officers of a congregation shall be required to sign on behalf of that congregation. The designated signing officers of a congregation are its churchwardens, its incumbent, its treasurer, (if one is appointed), and such other members of the congregation who are appointed by the vestry.*

CARRIED #3  
2/3 majority

#### Amendment to Canon B-2: The Diocesan Court

Moved by: Canon Garth O'Neill  
Seconded by: The Ven. Dr. Deborah Kraft

*That this Synod 2023 eliminate the reference to the Diocesan Registrar in Canon B-2: The Diocesan Court.*

*procedure:*

~~*8. a) The Registrar of the Diocese of Algoma shall be the Registrar of the Diocesan Court.*~~

*b) The Court may appoint ~~such other~~ officers as it finds necessary.*

CARRIED #4  
2/3 majority

#### Amendment to Canon B-3: Sexual Misconduct and the Diocesan Response Group

Moved by: Canon Garth O'Neill  
Seconded by: The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle

*That this Synod 2023 replace the Diocesan Response Group with the Provincial Safe Church Resource team as the mechanism for dealing with situations of alleged sexual misconduct pursuant to this Canon and that all references to the Diocesan Response Group or Response Group in this Canon be deleted and replaced with the Safe Church Resource Team (SCRT).*

## *2. Policies*

*g) The role of the ~~Response Group~~ Safe Church Resource Team is not investigatory. It inquires into the substance of allegations of sexual misconduct, and makes recommendations regarding Church policy and pastoral care. The ~~Response Group~~ Safe Church Resource Team does not bear the responsibility of determining guilt or innocence.*

*j) In situations where the complaint becomes a matter before a civil, criminal, or Church court, it should be understood that witnesses may be subject to being called under subpoena. Such witnesses could include members of the ~~Response Group~~ Safe Church Resource Team.*

## *4. Initial Jurisdiction*

*c) Where the Bishop has declined to appoint a ~~Response Group~~ the Safe Church Resource Team, the Executive Committee of the diocese may, either at its own instance, or the petition of the complainant, refer the matter to the ~~Response Group~~ Safe Church Resource Team provided that no such referral shall detract from or in any way interfere with the initial jurisdiction of the Bishop.*

## *5. Diocesan Response Group*

### *a) Composition*

*i) ~~Members of the Response Group shall be chosen for an inquiry from a list of appropriate potential members selected by each Deanery.~~*

*ii) ~~Each Deanery Council shall in its last meeting prior to the convening of Synod select at least three potential members of a Response Group, for a term running from regular Synod to regular Synod.~~*

*iii) ~~In selecting potential members, special consideration shall be given to the qualifications listed below (sections vi-vii).~~*

*iv) ~~No person who has a conflict of interest with respect to a complaint shall sit as a member of the Response Group for that complaint.~~*

*v) ~~A person has a conflict of interest with respect to a complaint if the person is so connected with the complaint itself or with a person who has an interest in the complaint, as to have, or appear to have, a bias with respect to the complaint. In those cases where there is a conflict of interest evident on the part of the members of the Diocesan Response Group that cannot be reconciled, the Bishop shall appeal to the~~*



~~Metropolitan for an appointment of a qualified person from another Diocese in the province.~~

- ~~vi) The Response Group shall be composed of three members made up as follows:~~
- ~~1) a licensed priest or deacon of the diocese who has held a bishop's license for a minimum of five years;~~
  - ~~2) a lawyer;~~
  - ~~3) and an additional person, clerical or lay.~~
- ~~vii) In selecting members for the Response Group at the deanery or Episcopal level, special consideration shall be given to those with particular knowledge through training or experience in the areas of human relationship and/or sexual misconduct.~~
- ~~viii) The Response Group shall have at least one member of each gender.~~
- ~~ix) The members of the Response Group shall be appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the Archdeacons from the lists provided by the Deaneries. In the event that the Deanery lists do not contain individuals qualified to serve on the Response Group under the terms above, the Bishop shall, after consultation with the Archdeacons, appoint to the Response Group any suitable individual who is a member of the Anglican Church of Canada and resident in the Diocese of Algoma. The Bishop shall inform the complainant and respondent of the membership of the Response Group before the Response Group begins its inquiry.~~

## **6. Term of office**

~~The term of office of the Response Group will be for the duration of the inquiry and will continue until the conclusion of that inquiry, even in the event that the inquiry continues beyond the time of the diocesan synod at which the term of the Response Group members would normally terminate.~~

## **7. Chair**

~~The Response Group will select its own chairperson from its members.~~

## **8. Alternates**

- ~~a) If a vacancy in the membership of the Response Group occurs after the inquiry has begun, the Bishop shall consult with the remaining members of the Response Group and shall either:~~
- ~~i) continue the inquiry with the remaining members solely;~~
  - ~~ii) appoint a replacement member and continue the inquiry;~~
  - ~~iii) direct that a new inquiry be undertaken with a replacement member or members;~~

~~or~~

~~iv) terminate the inquiry altogether~~

## **9. Responsibilities**

- a) ~~The Response Group~~ **Safe Church Resource Team** will be responsible for making an inquiry into the allegations referred to it by the Bishop and for providing a final written report.
- b) ~~The Response Group~~ **Safe Church Resource Team** may at any point in the inquiry make recommendations for dealing with all people affected by the allegations, including but not limited to the following:
- i) the complainant, and the family and friends of the complainant;
  - ii) the respondent, and the family and friends of the respondent;
  - iii) the congregation or other Church community immediately involved;
  - iv) any others who may be affected by the allegations.
- c) Every effort will be made to ensure that all members of the ~~Response Group~~ **Safe Church Resource Team** are present at interviews with the respondent and witnesses, but an interview may proceed with only two members physically present.

## **10. Procedure**

- c) In the event that the complaint does not require the involvement of the civil authorities, the Bishop may consult with the ~~Diocesan Response Group~~ **Safe Church Resource Team** to determine what course of action should be followed.
- e) ~~The Response Group~~ **Safe Church Resource Team** shall meet with the complainant to hear the complaint. ~~The Response Group~~ **Safe Church Resource Team** will inform the complainant of the right to have legal representation at this meeting, and in cases where the complainant is a child or person who is otherwise legally incapacitated, of the requirement of having a parent or legal guardian present. In the event that no such parent or legal guardian exists, the ~~Response Group~~ **Safe Church Resource Team** shall refer the matter to the Bishop who will appoint an appropriate individual to represent such child or legally incapacitated person.
- f) The complainant will be assured that, under the process of this Canon, it is not necessary to meet the respondent face to face during the inquiries by the ~~Response Group~~ **Safe Church Resource Team**. Such a meeting will only be arranged with the permission of the complainant. The complainant will be informed that future proceedings may require such a meeting.

***g) 1) Unless prohibited by police or court procedure, the Response Group Safe Church Resource Team will obtain a written complaint:***

***i) from the complainant if the complainant is an adult;***

***ii) from the parent or individual with legal custody if the complainant is a child or a person who is otherwise legally incapacitated; in the event that no such parent or legal guardian exists, the Response Group Safe Church Resource Team shall refer the matter to the Bishop who will appoint an appropriate individual to represent such child or legally incapacitated person***

***h) The Response Group Safe Church Resource Team shall provide a copy of the written complaint to the respondent within forty eight (48) hours after it has been received. Unless prohibited by police or court procedures, the Response Group Safe Church Resource Team, or its delegate, will meet with the respondent and his or her legal counsel, if the respondent has chosen to have counsel present, to hear the response to the complaint. If the respondent is a child or person who is otherwise legally incapacitated, he or she must have a parent or legal guardian present. In the event that no such parent or legal guardian exists, the Response Group Safe Church Resource Team shall refer the matter to the Bishop who will appoint an appropriate individual to represent such child or legally incapacitated person.***

***i) If the Respondent does not have immediate access to legal counsel, reasonable time will be given for that to happen before the Response Group Safe Church Resource Team meets with the respondent.***

***l) Any resignation or withdrawal from Church membership, office, or holy orders of a respondent while under inquiry by the Response Group Safe Church Resource Team will not necessarily terminate the inquiry.***

***m) At the end of its inquiry the Response Group Safe Church Resource Team shall recommend in writing, with reasons, that the Bishop:***

***i) dismiss the complaint; or***

***ii) take disciplinary action; or***

***iii) take such other actions as seem appropriate.***

***n) The Bishop shall report a decision, in writing, to the complainant, respondent, Safe Church Resource Team, and, where appropriate, affected Church communities.***

***o) No action or other proceedings may be commenced in any court against the Bishop, any member of the ~~Diocesan Response Group~~ Safe Church Resource Team, or their delegates, for any act in good faith in the execution of their duties under this Canon.***



Questions from the floor:

- Can a person be compelled to participate in a Safe Church proceeding if they are not in a leadership role but simply members of the congregation? The Chancellor responded: the law of the land will prevail; internal procedures will not trump the legal authorities.
- Clarification provided on the question. If the situation is not in the hands of legal authorities. The Chancellor indicated that we cannot compel people to participate or testify. He clarified that the Canon in question addresses the mechanism of this process.

The question was called and **CARRIED #5**  
**2/3 majority**

### Canonical motions prepared by a member of Synod

#### Amendment to Canon I-3: Churchwardens

Moved by: The Rev. Kevin McAllister  
Seconded by: The Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong

*That Canon I-3: Churchwardens be amended to include a term limit of 5 years for churchwardens.*

*Selection of churchwardens:*

*1 g) No person who has held the office of Churchwarden for five consecutive years shall be appointed or elected a Churchwarden again until the expiration of one year following the termination of their fifth consecutive year of holding office as a Churchwarden, save and except with the approval of the Bishop or the Bishop's designate, should they be satisfied new leadership for the position is not reasonably available in the Parish.*

The Rev. Kevin McAllister spoke to the motion. Comments from the floor were received.

Moved by: Mr. Daniel Klein  
Seconded by: The Rev. Raymond Knight

*That this motion be tabled.*

**CARRIED #6**  
**50 + 1**

#### Amendment to Canon I-3: Churchwardens

Moved by: The Rev. Kevin McAllister  
Seconded by: The Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong

*That the incumbent, as well as the churchwardens, be included in the appointment of a treasurer.*

### ***Duties of churchwardens:***

**3 (e) with the incumbent, to appoint, if they so desire, a treasurer to assist them by keeping the accounts and paying all bills promptly, as directed by the wardens and the incumbent.**

The Rev. Kevin McAllister spoke to the motion. Comments from the floor were received.

The Rev. Heather Manuel offered a “friendly” amendment:

*“the churchwardens, in consultation with the incumbent, to appoint, if they so desire, etc.*

The proceedings paused for a break before commencing a scheduled presentation. Debate on this motion will continue later in the agenda in consultation with the Agenda Committee.

### **PRESENTATION ON FORMATION**

The Rev. Canon Dr. John Gibaut, President and Provost of Thorneloe University, offered a presentation.

- Theology in the life of every Christian
- 3 resources: the Bible, the Creeds, public worship of the Church
- Our Eucharistic Prayers: read the texts; extraordinary statements of faith
- Catechism and 39 articles – Book of Common Prayer
- “Every baptized Christian is a theologian”
- Never stop reading and learning

The Rev. Dr. GailMarie Henderson and Mr. Ryan Turnbull (zoom), Professors at Thorneloe University, offered insights and comments on theology and formation.

Delegates were given time at their tables to discuss formation and the needs in today’s church.

### **Amendment to Canon I-3: Churchwardens**

The Chancellor addressed the “friendly” amendment to the motion under debate earlier. A “friendly” amendment is only considered such when it does not alter the original intent of the motion. In this case, the original motion’s intent would be altered so the “friendly” amendment proposed by the Rev. Heather Manuel cannot be considered as such.

The Archbishop indicated that debate on this motion will continue once the Agenda Committee reviews the agenda and slots it into our proceedings.

### ***NOON DAY PRAYER***

The Archbishop reminded the Executive Committee members of the lunch meeting being held in the Courtyard.

## REPORT FROM THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Ms. Alison Weir, member of the Credentials Committee, provided an updated report. Currently, there are 63 Lay delegates and 39 Clergy delegates in attendance.

### FINANCES

Canon Jane Mesich reviewed The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Algoma Financial Statements as of December 31, 2022 and entertained questions.

Moved by:           The Ven. Glen Miller  
Seconded by:       The Rev. Thomas Ferris

*That The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Algoma Financial Statements as of December 31, 2022 be accepted as circulated.*

CARRIED #7

Moved by:           Ms. Anne Wilson  
Seconded by:       Ms. Alicia Sandham

*That Joe Ruscio Professional Corporation, be appointed to review the financial statements of The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Algoma.*

CARRIED #8

Moved by:           Ms. Adrienne Davis  
Seconded by:       The Ven. Hugh Hamilton

*That the Budget Estimates for 2024 and 2025 be received as circulated.*

CARRIED #9

Moved by:           The Very Rev. James McShane  
Seconded by:       The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle

*That this Synod gathering express a Vote of Thanks to Canon Jane Mesich and Ms. Jennifer Baron for everything they do with finances and in keeping the Diocese straight.*

CARRIED #10  
Unanimously

### AMENDMENT OF CANON I-3: CHURCHWARDENS

The original motion was re-read.

Moved by:           The Rev. Kevin McAllister  
Seconded by:       The Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong

*That the incumbent, as well as the churchwardens, be included in the appointment of a treasurer.*

*Duties of churchwardens:*

**3 (e) with the incumbent, to appoint, if they so desire, a treasurer to assist them by keeping the accounts and paying all bills promptly, as directed by the wardens and the incumbent.**

The Rev. Canon Ed Swayze suggested a “friendly” amendment to include churchwardens in the second line for reasons of consistency. No objection was received from the mover or the seconder.

Therefore, the motion now reads:

*That the incumbent, as well as the churchwardens, be included in the appointment of a treasurer.*

*Duties of churchwardens:*

**3 (e) with the incumbent, to appoint, if they so desire, a treasurer to assist them by keeping the accounts and paying all bills promptly, as directed by the churchwardens and the incumbent.**

Comments were received from the floor.

Moved by: Ms. Anne Wilson  
Seconded by: Ms. Carole Nesbitt

*That this motion be tabled.*

**DEFEATED**

Motion back on the floor and the question was called.

**CARRIED #11  
2/3 majority**

75 in favour; 14 against; 1 abstentia – 90 people voted out of a possible 102 eligible to vote

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Daniel Klein, Chair of the Elections Committee, reminded delegates of the 3:45 p.m. deadline for nominations. It would be helpful to have more nominations for General Synod.

Mr. Don Vardy (Emmaus, Sault Ste. Marie) is participating in a bike ride of 200 kms sometime in August to support youth mental health. He has a goal of \$10,000. Support would be appreciated by others and donations may be arranged through Canadian Mental Health in Sault Ste. Marie so a receipt may be issued.

The Archbishop welcomed all to the Bishophurst reception this evening.

## **ELECTIONS COMMITTEE – NOMINEE INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Daniel Klein, Chair of the Elections Committee, announced the nominees slated for election.

### **General Synod**

#### **Clergy**

The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Green  
The Rev. Ann Camber  
The Rev. Thomas Ferris  
The Ven. Kelly Baetz  
The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle  
The Rev. Claire Miller

#### **Lay**

Ms. Alicia Sandham  
Mr. James Hunt  
Ms. Adrienne Davis  
Ms. Sharon Boyuk  
Mr. James MacGlashan

#### **Youth**

Mr. Samuel Fritz  
Ms. Hollie Davis

### **Provincial Synod**

#### **Clergy**

The Rev. Susan Montague Koyle  
The Rev. Thomas Ferris  
The Ven. Kelly Baetz  
The Rev. Ann Camber  
The Ven. Joan Locke  
The Rev. Nancy Ringham  
The Rev. Elizabeth Kingston  
The Rev. Claire Miller

#### **Lay**

Ms. Philippa Howard  
Mr. James Hunt  
Ms. Diane Swayze  
Ms. Alicia Sandham  
Ms. Alison Weir  
Ms. Adrienne Davis  
Mr. Steve Newroth  
Ms. Janet Borneman

#### **Youth**

Ms. Hollie Davis (**acclaimed**)

### **Diocesan Court – all acclaimed**

The Ven. Dr. Harry Huskins  
Canon Hugh Mackenzie  
Canon Fran Glover

### **Primate's World Relief and Development Fund Representative - acclaimed**

Ms. Cathy Pirrie

## **BEREAVEMENT AUTHORITY OF ONTARIO**

Canon Jane Mesich introduced Mr. Alex Pierson, Executive Officer of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. Mr. Pierson provided a presentation on the Bereavement Authority of Ontario and entertained questions.

## GREETINGS

**Bishop Thomas Dowd, Roman Catholic Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie** – offered by Ms. Beverly Boyd, St. Paul's, Wawa

**Bishop Michael Pryse, Lutheran Eastern Synod** – offered by the Rev. Brad Mittleholtz, Zion Lutheran, Sault Ste. Marie

**Archbishop Francisco de Assis da Silva, Episcopal Anglican Church of Brazil** – offered at the Bishophurst reception

## SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE MOTION

**Moved by:** The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Green

**Seconded by:** The Rev. Ann Camber

*That the Diocese of Algoma study, advocate for, and act on homelessness, designate Homelessness Week with a focus on worship, education, advocacy and action culminating in a Homelessness Sunday on a date to be determined at the pleasure of the Archbishop.*

**CARRIED #12**

It is hoped that the date for Homelessness Sunday will be as close to October 10<sup>th</sup> as possible.

## **EVENING PRAYER**

The Archbishop recessed the proceedings for the evening.

***Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>***

Mr. Daniel Klein, Chair of the Elections Committee, announced that an issue has occurred with the electronic electoral process. Lay nominees will have to be voted on by paper ballot. Information on the delegate nominees is posted in the atrium. Paper ballots were distributed.

## **CLOSING EUCHARIST**

### ***Scripture Circles***

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, GREETINGS, LICENCES

The Archbishop expressed appreciation to the Scripture Circles team of the Ven. Kelly Baetz, the Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong, and Mrs. Brenda O'Neill.

Ms. Anne Wilson expressed appreciation to the Archbishop and others who organized the lovely Bishophurst reception. She also indicated, on behalf of the Ven. Linda White who had to leave early, that Temiskaming Deanery is contributing \$1000 to the Episcopal Fund and hereby challenges the other four deaneries to match it.



The Archbishop called on the Rev. Dr. Bill Steadman, Honourary Associate at St. James, Goulais River, to bring greetings from the United Church of Canada.

Rev. Steadman expressed greetings from the Rev. Peter Harkness (Executive Minister) to this gathering of Synod. He noted that the Canadian Shield Region of the United Church of Canada covers basically the same geographical area as the Diocese of Algoma. He is carrying rocks to their United Church Gathering upcoming soon and will be bringing the remaining rocks from the prayer room to be mingled with the others in a show of unity. He commented that it is the solid nature of faith that guides us and encourages us. Faith built on a rock can last and be revered for generations to come.

The Archbishop called on Dean James McShane to read and present the newly ordained deacons with their licences from the Archbishop.

The Archbishop expressed appreciation on behalf of the Ven. Roberta Wilson-Garrett to all the prayer room volunteers – Ms. Judy Knight, the Rev. Canon Rosalie Goos, Ms. Mary Idehan. She noted that others in the hotel, not associated with Synod, have been dropping in for prayers and comfort.

Canon Garth O'Neill, Canon Ken Lawson, and Canon Jane Mesich made a special presentation to the Archbishop and advised her that the Cathedral Chapter of Canons will participate in the fundraising for the Episcopal Fund. They challenge others across the Diocese to participate and donate.

The Archbishop indicated a special birthday was being celebrated on May 14<sup>th</sup>. She asked members to stand and sing Happy Birthday to Ms. Alison Weir, Diocesan Warden of Lay Readers.

### **REPORT FROM THE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Daniel Klein, Chair of the Elections Committee, provided the results of the elections.

#### **Provincial Synod**

##### **Clergy**

The Rev. Thomas Ferris  
The Rev. Susan Montague Koyle  
The Ven. Joan Locke  
The Rev. Nancy Ringham

##### **Alternates**

The Ven. Kelly Baetz  
The Rev. Ann Camber  
The Rev. Elizabeth Kingston  
The Rev. Claire Miller

##### **Lay**

Ms. Philippa Howard  
Mr. James Hunt  
Ms. Alicia Sandham  
Ms. Alison Weir

##### **Alternates**

Ms. Diane Swayze  
Ms. Adrienne Davis  
Mr. Steve Newroth  
Ms. Janet Borneman

##### **Youth (acclaimed)**

Ms. Hollie Davis

## **General Synod**

### **Clergy**

The Ven. Kelly Baetz  
The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle

### **Alternates**

The Rev. Thomas Ferris  
The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Green

### **Lay**

Mr. James Hunt  
Ms. Alicia Sandham

### **Alternates**

Ms. Sharon Boyuk  
Ms. Adrienne Davis

### **Youth**

Mr. Samuel Fritz  
Ms. Hollie Davis (alternate)

As noted earlier, Diocesan Court and Primate's World Relief and Development Fund representatives were all acclaimed.

Daniel expressed gratitude to the Credentials Committee and the Synod Office staff for all their assistance. He also thanked all nominees for allowing their names to stand and to all members for voting.

**Moved by:** Mr. Daniel Klein  
**Seconded by:** Ms. Alicia Sandham

***That all ballots be destroyed.***

**CARRIED #13**

## **RESPONSE TO THE ARCHBISHOP'S CHARGE**

The Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong, Chair of the Archbishop's Charge Response Committee, introduced the response from the committee. Members of the committee followed with various sections:

- People of Promise – Church has a sacramental quality – The Rev. Dr. Derek Neal
- Signs of God's Activity in our Context – Ms. Adrienne Davis
- "Holy Saturday" Church – Ms. Philippa Howard
- Emphasis on Christian Formation and Emphasis on Vocations; Raising up Lay Readers – The Rev. Thomas Ferris and Ms. Jane Templeton
- Concluding Remarks and Introduction of Motions – The Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong

The Response to the Archbishop's Charge may be found on pages 73-81 of the Journal.

**Moved by:** Ms. Jane Templeton  
**Seconded by:** Ms. Adrienne Davis

***That every parish in the diocese be expected:***

- ***to identify at least one area of formation or education which needs to be further developed in the congregation(s), bearing in mind the Archbishop's Charge***

- *for the parish ordained and lay leadership to take concrete steps to address the area(s) of development*
- *and to report to their Deaneries and to the diocesan office the step(s) they have already taken (or are committed to taking before the next diocesan synod); and that this reporting process on progress be undertaken no later than the next regular parish Vestry meetings in early 2024.*

**CARRIED #14**

Second, in her charge, Archbishop Anne identified the establishment of The Episcopal Fund, for permanent, secure funding of the bishop's ministry in Algoma. As already outlined, this is a significant \$4 000 000 commitment, although we are already approaching 23% of this goal. As observed in the Archbishop's Charge, the planning and decisions regarding this fund ought not to rest with the Archbishop and the Diocesan Treasurer alone, and so we respectfully move the consideration of this motion:

**Moved by:** Ms. Philippa Howard  
**Seconded by:** The Rev. Thomas Ferris

*That an Episcopal Fund Committee be established, consisting of at least one member from each deanery, to begin the work of resourcing a secure financial future of the episcopacy in Algoma.*

**CARRIED #15**

**Moved by:** The Rev. Dr. Derek Neal  
**Seconded by:** The Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong

*We strongly encourage that every parish set aside a minimum of .1% of their annual budgets to support layreaders between 2024-2029.*

**CARRIED #16**

**Moved by:** Ms. Adrienne Davis  
**Seconded by:** The Rev. Thomas Ferris

*Bearing in mind the "Communion Forest," we ask that each deanery provide some education about the Christian stewardship of creation; and that each parish undertake at least one initiative, before the next diocesan synod.*

**CARRIED #17**

The Archbishop expressed appreciation to the Archbishop's Charge Response Committee for all their work in responding to her charge and preparing the motions.

### **VOTE OF THANKS COMMITTEE**

The Rev. Ann Camber, Chair of the Vote of Thanks Committee, with the assistance of Ms. Alicia Sandham and Ms. Donna Coulter, members, offered the Vote of Thanks to Synod. The report may be found on pages 82-94 of the Journal.

A final hymn of praise was sung.

The Archbishop offered travelling mercies to all heading home and requested that her love and prayers be relayed to the parishes. Talk about Synod; talk about your experience; talk about the motions; share with those who were not with us.

### **CONCURRENCE AND PROROGATION**

The Archbishop offered her concurrence with all motions and actions taken during these proceedings and prorogued the 51<sup>st</sup> session of Synod at 11:50 a.m.