



Anglican Church Women - Diocese of Algoma

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Anglican Church Women in the Diocese of Algoma is to unite all women in promoting the love of Christ with their time, talents and resources.

Greetings: It gives me great joy to wish each and every one a Merry Advent.

Your Diocesan Anglican Church Women have been very busy as a Board. We received the following motion from the Deanery of Sudbury/Manitoulin and it gives us an opportunity at this time to give thought to our vision and structure.

"The Deanery of Sudbury/Manitoulin ACW agrees to explore new models of Diocesan Executive instead of offering a slate of nominations for the next Diocesan Executive rotation."

Your executive and board are all aware that Sudbury/Manitoulin has MANY wonderful sisters in Christ, who serve faithfully and with dedication to their church, community and nation. I am very proud of them that they prayed, gathered and listened as they discerned this motion.

I feel the Holy Spirit is already speaking to us as this motion arrived on my desk late Saturday and at Church on Sunday - First Sunday of Advent- a new year filled with anticipation. I listened to the words of Isaiah 64: 9 "Yes, O Lord you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter, we are all the works of your hands." This passage spoke to me and I hope to each one of you as we move forward.

We are seeking input from the membership re a new model to move forward into future years. Several ideas and suggestions have come from the board and we would like the membership to participate in this process. You should write or email you thoughts to:

Jacquie at jehowell@vianet.ca or Donna Oliver at john.donna.oliver@sympatico.ca

Your executive looks forward to hearing from you the members.

With time constraints would you reply no later than January 2nd, 2012.

I would ask that you pray for the Diocesan Anglican Church Women as you journey through Advent.

In this hectic time, in our secular world may we recall these words
The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed. (*Psalm 126: 4*)

I wish all who read this letter a very wonderful twelve days of Christmas

May you each share with your family, friends and community;

Joy

Peace

Hope

Blessings to all,
Jacquie

Algoma Anglican Church Women Update from President, Board and Executive

November 2011

I have had the joy and privilege of representing you at the National Presidents' Conference in Ottawa, thanks to Shirley Marsden who accompanied me as a personal care giver and note taker. Her report is on the web. Pat, Mary and I attended the Deanery of Temiskaming annual meeting and the entire executive were present at the Deanery of Muskoka. I was a guest of the Episcopal Church Women of South West Florida at their gathering - Believe in a Miracle, a day of devotion, growth and fellowship.



The ACW Diocesan Board met Sept 26th-27th

We were pleased to welcome Barbara Sherwood, president of the ACW of Algoma, Candice Rapp, president of ACW of Temiskaming, Pam Handley Diocesan devotion chair and Eva Black 2012 Diocesan Conference chair. We prayed for Marion Collinson who could not attend. It was a very intense day and a half.

The first draft of the 2013 budget was accepted. It will be reviewed at the May Board meeting for presentation to the membership.

The Deanery Presidents gave their reports and I continue to be amazed by the ALGOMA Women who witness to their Christian beliefs through devotion and mission. Several new initiatives were reported: Anglican Lutheran Women's Bursary in Thunder Bay, The Salvage Book program in Temiskaming. In Muskoka a progressive church service in a multi-point parish also the induction of Lynne van der Hiel as an Oblate of the Sisters of St. John the Divine, in early September. In Algoma the sharing of Valentine Cheer Baskets to seniors. Sudbury/Manitoulin has been giving a great deal of thought and prayer to the selection of the new Diocesan executive.

Eva Black gave her update for the **MAY 14-16, 2012 Conference in Temiskaming**. It will be held at the Clarion Pinewood Park Hotel in North Bay. The registration fee will be \$70.00 as approved by the Board. Debra Lefebvre of Buy-A Net malaria prevention program in Uganda will be our guest speaker.

Diocesan Chairs reported lots of activity. Enid our Newsletter Chair informed us that subscribers remain constant. PLEASE SEND HER A PARAGRAPH OF YOUR NEWS EACH QUARTER. Pam, devotion chair has had her first devotions in the Algoma News printed and we were pleased to read about Muriel Newton White. Ruth continues to keep Family life active and please remember the wonderful Baptismal card, available to all churches. Barb, social action, delivered 3000 soup labels to a local high school, who will obtain equipment for the hearing-impaired students. (May Sequin in Temiskaming collects labels for Camp Manitou.) KEEP THEM COMING.

In the evening, we were led in a wonderful service of Eucharist at St. Paul's Grassmere, with the Venerable Anne Germond officiating and preaching and The Venerable Dawn Henderson celebrating.

Tuesday morning we were led in devotions by Fawna Andrews with the Cambridge singers presenting the hymn "For the Beauty of the Earth" She mentioned that growing up she loved the hymn book and how the hymns seem to take on a new meaning, as she grew older.

Fawna read from a book called "Amazing Grace", then read Philippians 8, sharing with us how this passage applies to the women on this Board. We need to hold criticisms lightly and use them to our advantage and let the others go. It was a wonderful message as we continued our sessions.

The Rev Heather Manuel then led us through a workshop. Heather spoke on "Learning and Leading Together". She presented charts showing how the different generation of women's lives and focus in the church and society have changed over the years. Why do you volunteer- different for each generation.

With this information, she reviewed our mission statement, constitution, finances, and Board structure. Heather reviewed our constitutions and compared it with structures of other Diocesan ACW boards. Heather continued with her presentation, stating the number of changes she noticed in the church last evening and it just proves that even though things have changed, they bear witness to what was, but it needs change from time to time. A great deal of discussion with lots of questions and some great suggestions were presented. Much to be brought forward at 2012 Annual.

The following motion was made:

MOVED BY: Pam Handley **SECONDED BY:** Enid Bastien

That it be resolved that the Diocesan Board acknowledges that the constitution does not require the members of the Executive Board be from the Deanery designated by rotation. **CARRIED**

Mary Andison thanked The Rev. Heather Manuel for her inspiring and informative presentation and gave her a National ACW pin.

Further Business:

Our new National Prayer Partner will be from Western Newfoundland/Labrador and their President Terri Perrill.

Thank Offering: This is an offering used by individuals in their home for blessings and thanksgiving in their daily prayers. Prayers for anniversaries, birthdays, achievements, good health and family joy may be accompanied by dimes, quarters, and loonies and placed in a plastic mite box, jar or can. The Presidents were reminded to collect these offerings for presentation at the opening Eucharist on May 15th, for our Mission 2011 – Buy-A-Net.

SUNDAY MAY 20, 2012 is Algoma Anglican Church Women Sunday. Check with your incumbent and plan to make it a great service of recognition for ALL the women of the Church.

Requests for support of The Mission to Seafarers and Bishophurst renovations were presented and acknowledged. Each parish will receive these requests for further consideration.

NOVEMBER Executive meeting:

Finances were discussed and Donna reported that we are in a positive position. We are under budget, thanks to the generosity of many of the Board members who paid their own expenses, a 2nd delegate did not attend the National Presidency Conference, and there were no costs incurred for the May 2011 Board meeting.

Constitutional Committee will be created to review the current Constitution and Bylaws.

Jacquie



September Board meeting at Pow Wow Point Lodge

Anglican Church Women

Diocesan Presidents' and Co-ordinators' National Conference, 2011

Friday, September 23rd, 2011

The morning began with Morning Prayer with Rev. Catherine followed by breakfast.

The meeting was called to order by the National President, Terri Perrill and session one began followed by table discussions with everyone taking part.

Session two was led by Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Primate of Canada. He spoke on the church in transition and focusing on mission. "God's mission and the church is an instrument in that mission". We must make a real effort to look outward and upward instead of inward. He spoke of the "5 marks of mission" and asked what we are doing about them. Vision 2019 is a good road map to be taken and used as a guideline in setting priorities for the next 5 years. We've seen our church become a Eucharistic centered community and we need to use the liturgy to enliven our service. Archbishop Fred spoke about walking with Indigenous Peoples, truth and reconciliation and giving the missions the right to determine their own governance. He went on to speak about engaging young people and supporting them in their own context.

Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth, (CLAY) "Ask and Imagine" – a youth program originating in London, ON. He said that we must find our place and celebrate it in the Anglican community and that all churches are being asked to come together, speak together and become a more prophetic voice.

Archbishop Fred told us of his pledge "I will never commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women". This came out of the massacre of the University women in Montreal in 1991 and the start of the White Ribbon Campaign. At present there are 55 countries involved in this campaign.

He said that he has always appreciated ACW and mentioned that some of the ministries are changing and new priorities are emerging. He then spoke of International Anglican Women's Network (IAWN), representing 80 million Anglican Women. This organization allows women's voices to be heard within the council of the churches. One of the things that IAWN is working on is "Raising the issues of gender based violence"

Following this session there was a question and answer period.

The Rev. Canon Judy Rios from the Anglican Foundation was our next speaker. She told us that 54 years ago, 7 men came together to contribute to small parishes. An anonymous donation of \$25,000 to start up this project. She told us that at present, there are 61 ACWs as members. Judy showed us teddy bears called "HOPE BEARS" that are for sale with the idea of taking them to your Diocesan ACWs to make clothes for. The money raised by selling the bears goes to the "Kids Helping Kids Trust Fund".



Following the business session one, Sally Goddard spoke of her daughter Nicola Goddard and the "Sunray" project they have undertaken in her name. This project supplies solar lights in first aid stations in Papua, New Guinea. Each light, installed, costs \$1,000.00. A motion was made and carried to give 50% of the Thank Offering to the Nicola Goddard project and 50% to the Council of the North.

Jacque Howell spoke about the ACW Trust Fund set up with the Anglican Foundation. This is to assist individual Diocesan Representatives across the nation to attend the annual National Executive Anglican Church Women of Canada Conference.

Sue Garvey spoke on “Be Ye Doers of the Word, Not Hearers Only”
Start small. Dream big. Change the world, one person at a time.

Saturday, September 24th, 2011

Saturday morning we had morning worship in the round with Rev. Catherine, followed by breakfast.

Following the business session, the Rev. Caroline Langford told us about the Church Army which is now called Threshold Ministries and their project LAMB – Left Abandoned, Malnourished Babies.

Delorie spoke on the White Ribbon Campaign - Women’s rights to voice concerns so that there is social justice for women. She suggested that we support the initiative of IAWN. A motion was made and passed that the National Executive of the ACW will continue to support in principle the white ribbon campaign raising awareness towards women.

After lunch we had a bus tour of the city of Ottawa, ending up at the Cathedral. There we were given a tour and told about the upcoming building project. A wine and cheese social time was spent with Bishop John and Catherine followed by dinner at Cathedral Hall and wonderful entertainment.

Sunday, September 25th, 2011

Following breakfast Terri gave us a list of our Prayer Partners for this year. Our new partner is Western Newfoundland/Labrador with Terri Perrill, their President.

Celia Dodds of the Mother’s Union – Parenting Program, spoke to us about their work and said that we should be partnering, not overlapping. We are both struggling with the same problems and our goals and initiatives are still the same.

The Canadian Mother’s Union has the “Northern Clergy Spouses Fund”. This allows the spouse to have some money to do with as she/he wishes. The fund is supported by the ACW and individual churches.

She mentioned that the Mothers’ Union World Wide Parenting Program includes:

Literary Development (MULDP) - Family Life Program (MUFLP)

The World Wide Parenting Program is the one that is needed the most in Canada, particularly in the North.

Final Thoughts

Terri told us of the future National Conference locations

2012 – Calgary – Sept. 27-30

2013 – Nova Scotia/PEI

2014 – Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Qu’Apelle

2015 – Eastern Newfoundland/Labrador

A challenge was given to every diocese, to decorate a bear and bring it next year (a whole wardrobe) They could then be given to the Anglican Foundation to sell on e-bay as a fundraiser for the Anglican Foundation. This will show solidarity with the Anglican Church Women and the Anglican Foundation.

A final Eucharist was held and everyone departed for their homes.