

Summary of February meeting of Woolastook Presbytery

The weatherman cooperated by giving us a beautiful day and this led to a good attendance at the meeting.

Several new members were introduced to the Court including Wally Ellis serving the Stanley Pastoral Charge, Mary Taylor serving the Lake View Pastoral Charge and young people who are considering becoming Inquirers.

A motion made at the November Presbytery meeting regarding policy on clergy and manses will be rewritten and sent on to Conference as a Proposal and then on to General Council.

A list of clergy from other denominations wishing to be admitted to the Order of Ministry of The United Church of Canada was read and accepted.

The chair, Rev. Meredith Fraser gave highlights from a recent meeting of the Conference executive. This included news of an allocation increase and more focus on rural ministry. At the "Sharing Time" we heard of activities from Gibson Memorial United Church and from the Stanley Pastoral Charge.

Nominations were received for Presbyters and Clergy to be delegates from Woolastook Presbytery to General Council in August. Rev. Meredith Fraser was elected as the clergy delegate and Elaine White the lay delegate.

Committee Reports

Norman Laverty, newly appointed **Chair of Church in Action** presented the outline of a proposal to be sent to Conference. This proposal follows up on one presented last Conference by Woolastook Presbytery regarding the cut backs to the Churches work with Refugees. This is to be written as a formal proposal and forwarded to Conference.

Gospel, Ecumenism and Theology, Rev. George Feenstra, requested time on the agenda at a forthcoming Presbytery meeting for a workshop on Baptism. George distributed an outline on Baptism for the Court to read and come prepared to discuss.

Education and Students, Rev. Nancy Ritchie spoke of 2 Inquirers who are already in the process and 3 applications from people wishing to be Inquirers.

Pastoral Care, Graham Powell, reported on recent visits made to the Board of Camp Woolastook, and the Canterbury/Richmond Pastoral Charge.

Pastoral Relations Rev. Bev. Brazier, and Merle Blake, spoke of the continuing work of the committee. The Call to Rev. Stephen Longmoore to the Plaster Rock, Grand Falls/Riley Brook Pastoral Charge as of July 1st was approved. And Bev. Brazier and Elaine White will represent Presbytery at the meeting of the Settlement Committee.

Stewardship, Wendy Topolski told the Court that Woolastook Presbytery surpassed it's M and S objective, but the national objective was not met. Congratulations to all our Pastoral Charges.

Christian Life and Growth, Rev. Amos Adeniyi told the Court that there are 4 young people going to the Intermediates at Conference and 4 going to the Youth at Conference. Rev. Helene Burns reported that Camp Woolastook is working on a new policy for 2009. And there will be a workshop, Learning and Leading at Forest Hill United Church on March 28th.

The meeting closed with worship conducted by Rev. Margaret Archibald of the Gibson Memorial Church and included Covenanting with Wally Ellis, Stanley Pastoral Charge and Mary Taylor Lake View Pastoral Charge.

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