

ANNAPOLIS-DIGBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL MEETING, OCTOBER 22, 2011

The Council of the Annapolis-Digby Association met at the First United Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal on Saturday, October 22 with Moderator Rev. David Phillips in the chair. David welcomed everyone and opened with prayer. Rev. Fred Bigelow presented a Devotion based on 1st Samuel 17, the story of David and Goliath. Goliath taunted the Israelites and God. David offered to go and fight the giant because he knew that his God was alive and David believed that God would be with him and help him to overcome Goliath. David knew that the size of his God was greater than Goliath and David's faith in his God was greater than his fear of the giant. David relied on the Lord for his strength. We too, must not let our giants defeat or destroy us but rely on Jesus for our strength. If we have Jesus, we have all we need to defeat our giants, because the battle belongs to the Lord! We need to ask God to help us defeat the Giants we have in our lives. If we win, we praise the Lord, and if we lose, we still praise Him. Fred closed with prayer.

Our Moderator, David Phillips asked everyone to introduce themselves and regrets were offered from those who sent word that they were unable to attend.

MOTION # 1: (M. Billard /F. Bigelow), that the minutes of the March Council meeting be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 2: (K. Purdy/Sheila Haynes) that the corrected Financial Report from the Annual meeting and the Financial Report from May 1 to October 22, 2011, be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

BUSINESS FROM THE MINUTES:

Regional Working Group:

The Regional Working Group will cease to be at the end of the year because our Regional Minister, Rev. Ron Baxter, will be retiring and a new system with Associate Executive Ministers will be in place in July 2012. Money left in the Working Group Account, after all bills are paid will be divided between the Annapolis-Digby Association and Eastern Valley since both were supporting the Working Group.

Youth Work:

Pastor Mark Cress reported that the Digby Cluster was focusing on starting a Youth Group at the Smith's Cove Fire Hall. Information has gone to all the churches in this Cluster and people who have volunteered to help are in the process of doing their police checks and Social Services check. The group will be for youth from 11-18. Mark asked that we keep the Digby Cluster Group in prayer and pray that the Youth Group will begin in the new year.

Middleton Youth meets weekly in their own church, and Rev. Bill McLeod reported that Nictaux Baptist is holding a Youth Rally on Friday, October 28th at their church for all youth in the Middleton Cluster.

Pastor Mark Reece reported that the Paradise Youth and Bridgetown youth meet together weekly with the Grade 5/6 youth meeting on Tuesdays and the grade 7-12 meet on Wednesdays. Paradise Church has held a Movie Night on some Friday nights which is attended by all ages of the church and the community.

OTHER EVENTS:

Pastor Ron Purdy reported that he and Karen will conclude their pastoral service at Mount Hanley on this Sunday evening, October 23. Port George closed its doors in the summer and the church building has been sold. Mount Hanley will be having its final service in the church on Sunday, October 23 at 7pm with Rev. Ron Baxter as guest speaker. Pastors Ron and Karen Purdy will provide special music. The Church will be decommissioned on October 30th and put up for sale. Ron asked that we keep them and the members in prayer as they all seek to find a new place to serve and worship.

CAMP KINGSWOOD:

David Longley reported that the Camp Board was looking at incorporation of the camp, that new members have come on the Board, that there is a new Camp Logo, plans for a new building and that the road has been repaired. He encouraged us to get involved in the camp as the Camp is looking for more volunteers to help at the camp. **One more person from this Association is needed to sit on the Board.** The Board meets the first Tuesday of each month. Anyone can join a sub-committee of the camp if they are interested. Ask David if you are interested or talk to a member of the Executive. David was thanked for his report.

MOTION # 3: (S. Longley/ M. Cress), that Bernice MacLean be a Member-at-Large to sit on the Executive. **CARRIED.**

SPRING ASSOCIATION:

A discussion took place as to where our Spring Association should be held. Last spring it was at New Tuskent Baptist Church in Digby County so it should be in Annapolis County this time. Pastor Ron Purdy will ask Middleton Baptist if they will host the Spring Association. Sheila Haynes will also check with Middleton Baptist as to catering the noon meal, worship procedures, etc. and will work with the clerk on the details for that day. Speakers suggested for that day were Rev. Sam Chaise, CBM General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Peter Reid, Rev. Dr. Harry Gardner, Dr. Jim Beverly and Rev. Dr. Bruce Fawcett. A theme was not decided because we will wait until we see who can come in April and what they might wish to speak about. The Executive will work on obtaining the speaker and setting up the meeting details.

OASIS 2012 will be held at Crandall University in Moncton on August 22-25. This Association is seeking two delegates who have never attended our CABC annual Meeting which is now called OASIS instead of "Convention". If you have someone in your church who would be interested in going to Oasis in 2012, please let the Clerk know. Each delegate is given \$300.00 to cover expenses. Each delegate who goes as an Association delegate must be prepared to give a report at the Annual meeting in April and may also report to the Council in October if they wish. Receipts for expenses must be kept by the delegates and an account be given to the clerk after Oasis.

REGIONAL MINISTER'S REPORT:

Rev. Ron Baxter, Regional Minister for Region II, presented a written Report to the Council and highlighted the information that was applicable to our Association. Ron spoke on Pastoral changes within the Association, changes and programmes at Acadia Divinity College, as well as upcoming events. Ron spoke on the UIM situation which is below the goal where we should be at this time of the year. He commended those churches who met their quotas and reminded those who didn't, that there was still time before the end of the year to do so.

Ron will be retiring at the end of the year from his position as Regional Minister and the Regional Working Group will be disbanded at that time. Ron spoke of Rev. Sam Chaise's visit to Region II, gave an update on Oasis and business at our Convention.

Ron informed the Association that Rev. Dr. Randy Legassie and his wife, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Legassie, had been appointed as Global Field Staff by CBM and will be going to Kenya to work with the ABC (African Brotherhood Church) They will also be teaching at the university in Nairobi in 2012. There will be a Transitional Ministry Team in place from Jan. 1, 2012 until June 30th, 2012. The team consists of Rev. Dr. Peter Reid, Executive Minister of CABC, Rev. Jerry Horsman, Rev. Greg Jones, Rev. Elias Mutale and Dr. Malcolm Beckett. These team members may be contacted by pastors and churches from Jan.1/12, at (506) 635-1922, if they need services formerly supplied by our Regional Minister.

Ron thanked the Association and the Pastors for their support over the years and wished God's Blessing on us.

MOTION # 4: (F. Bigelow/C. Batson, that Rev. Ron Baxter's Report for Region II be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

Moderator David Phillips thanked Ron for his untiring work on our behalf. We are planning an official retirement dinner for Ron on November 19th or 26th whichever date is open at a venue in the area. It was agreed that we would also ask Rev. Wayne Fevens to the dinner because he was part of our Association, being the Regional Minister for Digby County which is in Region V. The invitation was extended to both their spouses. The Executive will plan the details and let members know when and where the event is taking place, the cost, etc. The event would comprise of a Worship and time of music, as well as greetings and appreciation of our Regional Ministers and their wives. Everyone in the churches of the Association will be invited to attend and bring greetings. Pastors Ron and Karen Purdy offered to do some musical selections at the dinner.

THERE WAS NO REPORT FROM REGIONAL MINISTER OF REGION V.

MOTION # 5: (M. Billard/D. Robertson) that a Notice of Motion be given at the 2012 Annual Meeting for Constitutional changes to **Article V . Structure 1:C** to add the position of a Vice-Moderator to the Executive with the same eligibility as the term for the Moderator. Further it was moved that the term of the Clerk be the same as the terms of the Treasurer and Webmaster, who **may** not follow the pattern as required of the positions of the Moderator and Members-at-large. **CARRIED.**

ACTIVITIES IN LOCAL CHURCHES:

Pastors and other members spoke of on-going, and one time activities which had taken place in their churches and shared ideas in which others may be interested, such as:

Hill Grove held NCD sessions(Natural Church Development); Lower Granville Pastorate meets together for Bible Study and carries on A Spiritual Formation Study; Wilmot has a Prayer Service each Sunday at 6:30; Digby held a Men's Retreat; Margaretsville hosts a separate Men's and Women's breakfast once a month as well as a Mom and Tots time for the community; Middleton celebrated a Historical 150th Anniversary with the history of the church's founding when it included Port George and Nictaux; the Digby Cluster is working on an Area Youth Group to be held at the Smith's Cove Fire Hall.

MOTION # 6: (B. MacLean/S.Haynes) that this Association grant an extra \$1000.00 to Kingswood Camp in light that we did not meet our Revenue Canada quota for Mission Grants last year. **CARRIED.**

COMMISSIONING SERVICE FOR THE LEGASSIES:

MOTION # 7: (B. MacLean/S. Longley) that our Association hold a Commissioning Service for the Legassies in the spring, perhaps at the Annual Meeting or on a separate occasion and that we give \$500.00 to CBM from this Association to honour the Legassies' support and work over the years in this Association. **CARRIED.**

On motion by Pastor Lester Simpson, the meeting was adjourned and Rev. Sharon Budd closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Billard, Clerk