

ANNAPOLIS-DIGBY UNITED BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Annual Meeting, April , 2006
Annapolis Basin Conference Centre, Cornwallis Park, NS

The Annual meeting of the Annapolis-Digby United Baptist Association was held on Saturday, April 29, 2006 at the Annapolis Basin Conference Centre at Cornwallis Park in Champlain Hall. Sixty delegates and guests registered for "Our World of Mission in Transition".

Rev. John Purdy, Past Moderator, opened the assembly with prayer. This was followed by a wonderful time of worship and praise by the Middleton Worship Band. A welcome on behalf of the Association was given by the Past moderator along with the announcements. John indicated that the WMS/ABW had met here on Friday with a special luncheon and recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the United Baptist Women's Missionary Union (UBWMU). As well, all members of WMS over seventy years were recognized and presented with a carnation for their faithful service. Ninety-nine women and 2 men attended the WMS meeting. All women in attendance were presented with a gift bag to celebrate the special event. A round of applause was given to the women on their occasion of 100 years of faithfulness! John also indicated that a delicious dinner was held at the Pearson Peacekeeping Dining Hall last night for Pastors and spouses. Leon Langille was soloist and Marilyn Smith was the speaker.

A hymn was sung and everyone greeted each other. An offering for the Sharing Way and Canadian Baptist Missions was taken at this time.

The theme of this spring Assembly was, "Our World of Mission in Transition" and Marilyn Smith, former Director of the Sharing Way, was the keynote speaker. Marilyn is still working with The Sharing Way, but is now CBM's Director of Public Engagement and Advocacy. Clerk Mary Billard introduced Marilyn to the Assembly and Marilyn explained her role in this new endeavour for CBM, and noted that we all must begin to look at the real causes of poverty in the world and be willing to do something about it. She said that we must get to the root of the problem and only then will we make a real difference in the world.

Marilyn introduced us to the **Micah Challenge Tool Kit** which was developed as a global campaign to raise a powerful voice **for** and **with** the poor. It provides for Christians across Canada to deepen their own commitment and to urge the government to fulfill the eight MDG -Millennium development goals set in 2000. Marilyn explained the Biblical Basis of the Campaign as found in Micah 6:8: ***"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"*** The goal is to 'mobilize Christians against poverty'.

Marilyn went on to list the 8 goals and to show how we can all use the Micah Challenge Tool Kit to play a part in securing a more just and merciful world. The Micah Challenge in Canada is endorsed and supported by a number of Christian organizations and denominations as well as the Government of Canada through its efforts in CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency) and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

The first goal is "to reduce absolute poverty and hunger by 2015". The next 6 goals all focus on the consequences of poverty. The eighth and final goal is "to develop a global partnership for development".

Marilyn issued the "Micah Call" to all of us, to be the agents of **for** and **with** the poor, and to work with others to hold our national and global leaders accountable in securing a more just and merciful world.

Marilyn told of the work that is going on in different areas of the world and how practical help to women, education for girls and boys, and work with AIDS victims in Africa is essential. Otherwise who will do the work, teach the children if they are dying from HIV/AIDS? Marilyn closed the session with prayer.

After a nutrition break, the Assembly divided up into two groups, one heading off to a workshop with Marilyn Smith on the "Micah Challenge" and another with Marilyn Steeves on "How to Minister in Your Workplace". Both workshops were repeated so that all could attend both sessions.

After asking the blessing, Rev. John Purdy invited everyone to a bountiful and sumptuous lunch prepared and served buffet-style by the Champlain Hall kitchen Staff.

The afternoon began with a worship and praise time and a hymn sing, followed by an offering for the work of the Association.

An "**OPEN FORUM**" entitled, "**All You Wanted to Know About Missions**" was held in the afternoon where guests and delegates were able to ask questions on any topic about missions. Many took part in this interesting and informative time, on how our missions are changing, and had their many questions answered.

BUSINESS OF THE ASSOCIATION:

The clerk, Mary Billard read the Rules of Order, and opened the business session with prayer.

ANNUAL REPORTS:

MOTION #1 : Billard/B. MacLean, that the **Minutes of the Fall Association Business meeting** held on September 3, 2005 at First Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal, be accepted as printed and circulated. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 2: J. Purdy/ J. Hirtle, that the **minutes of the Fall Association Programme**, held at Nictaux United Baptist Church on September 24 be accepted as printed and circulated. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 3: J. Purdy/B. MacLean, that the **Moderator's Report** be accepted as printed and circulated. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 4: D. Robertson/G. Allen, that the **Mission Commission Report** be accepted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 5: J. Hirtle/ E. Waugh, that the report of the **Witness Commission** be accepted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 6: E. Waugh/W. Bradley, that the **Training Commission Report** be accepted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 7: D. Robertson/D. Scheel that the **Licensing Committee Report** be accepted as presented and circulated, with the addition of the name of David Phillips who was also interviewed. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 8: M. Billard/J. Hirtle, that the **Ladies Retreat Report and Financial Statement** be accepted as printed and circulated. **CARRIED.**

REGION II POWER POINT PRESENTATION:

Regional Minister, Rev. Ron Baxter, before presenting his written report, gave an interesting visual account of the work he does in Region II, with pastors, churches, the Divinity College, and Camp Kingswood where he led wilderness camps and 2 canoe trips. He also showed the work he does for us through the Convention.

MOTION # 9: R. Legassie/W. Bradley, that the report of the Regional Minister, Rev. Ron Baxter, of Region II, be accepted as visualized, presented and circulated. **CARRIED.**

Ken Trimper of Bear River East Baptist Church, thanked Ron for the work that he did in helping their church become a church on their own and as a member church of this Association.

MOTION # 10: Billard/W. Bradley, that the **Proposed Budget** for the next fiscal year be accepted as printed and circulated.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 11: D Robertson/B. MacLean, that a Vote of thanks and appreciation be given to our clerk, Mary Billard for the work she does for this Association beyond the call of duty. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 12: Billard/D. Robertson, that the **Financial Report** for the period of May 1,2005 to April 30, 2006 be accepted as printed and circulated. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 13: M.Billard/G. Allen, that the report from Regional Minister of Region V, Rev. Wayne Fevens, be accepted as printed and circulated. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 14: W. Bradley/B. Patterson, that the report from Camp Kingswood be accepted as printed. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 15: G. Allen/J. Hirtle, that the written and verbal report given by Allison Magee on Camp Kingswood be accepted as printed and presented. **CARRIED.**

The Nominating Committee presented its report and asked for nominations from the floor for vacant positions.

MOTION # 16: K. Trimper/E. Waugh, that nominations cease. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 17: B. Patterson/R. Legassie, that the report of the Nominating Committee be accepted as printed, circulated and presented. **CARRIED.**

MOTION # 18: R. Legassie/B. MacLean, that the Association give power to the Council Executive to fill any positions left vacant on the Council and committees for 2005-06. **CARRIED.**

HARVEST HOUSE MINISTRIES:

The Director of the Harvest House Ministries, located in the former Springwater School in Rossway, is carrying out a healing and recovery programme for young and older people who may be involved in drug, alcohol or other addictions. There is a ministry team which works with the clients to train them in new trades or vocations, so they can make a fresh start in life. The clients come from all walks of life, male and female, young and old. Harvest Youth works with young people who get in trouble, and who just want to be loved and are open to the Gospel. Information pamphlets were left for the Assembly to take back to their churches.

With no further business, on motion by Rev. Dr. George Allen, the meeting was adjourned.

The Vice Moderator, Bill Patterson, thanked the presenters and the people that came out for this Association meeting. Bill closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Billard, Clerk