

**ANNAPOLIS – DIGBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

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**COUNCIL MEETING**

**1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal**

**MARCH 23, 9:00 AM**

**Present:** June Little, Lloyd & Betty Gilileo, Bill McLeod, Deborah Wetmore, Paul Weare, Eugene Foster, Cathy Batson, Bernice MacLean, Linda DeMone, Sharon White, Joyce Marshall, Shelly Martin, Joyce Jackson, Helen Ivens, Fred Bigelow

**Regrets:** Mark Cress, Elizabeth & Randy Legassie, Patty Beals, Tim O’Blenis, David & Sharon Longley, Brian Wallace, Deann Carter

The Moderator of the Annapolis Digby Baptist Association Rev. Linda DeMone welcomed those who were presented and opened the Council Meeting with prayer. A special welcome was given to Lloyd and Betty Gilileo who have retired to Nictaux and are attending Wilmot Baptist Church.

June Little gave the Devotional, “How Can the Fruit of the Spirit Grow in My Life.” June had broccoli seeds in a small plastic bag and stated that if the seeds stayed in the plastic bag nothing would happen. The points of her devotional are:

1. Die to ourselves. God needs to be first in our lives.
2. Stay connected to the vine. Stay on the vine reading God’s Word, praying and being around other Christian people.
3. Stay focus on what God wants to do for us. Follow God’s plan.
4. Don’t pick a favourite fruit. All are available to have an abundant life. We need to have all of Him.

The minutes of the October 28, 2018 Council Meeting were approved as written.

The clerk presented the financial report. The clerk moved to accept the report and Bernice MacLean Seconded the financial report.

Discussion on the upcoming Annual Meeting April 27, 2019 at Digby Baptist church:

- The theme for the Annual Meeting is “Congregational Living, how to live as a congregation and pastor.” Speaker is Rev. Joanna Doak. Sharon White offered to billet Joanna if she needed a place to stay overnight.

It was suggested that we send Rev. Seth Moore a letter concerning his representation on the Convention Ordination Council. He at present is not an active member in an Annapolis-Digby Baptist Association Church. Bernice MacLean felt the letter should not be sent by email but by regular mail as she felt it was more personal.

Rev. Linda DeMone is the Alternate. If Rev. Seth Moore cannot act as our representative, Linda DeMone will become our representative and an alternate will be elected.

A discussion was had on granting Association Licenses between Annual Meetings. It was felt that this could be discussed at the Annual Meeting.

Rev. Fred Bigelow suggested that Council should help compose the proposed budget for 2019-2020. The financial situation was presented. CBAC grants are becoming smaller each year and many of the churches do not contribute to the operation of the Association.

Bernice felt that churches should pay. The voluntary amount of \$50.00 per church was set back in 2010. Need to ask churches to increase their fees to cover deficit.

It was also noted that some of our youth, especially in Digby County attend Camp Penial. The Moderator felt that we should be sending something to them. Maybe sharing what we send to Camp Kingswood with Camp Penial. This suggestion is to be brought up at the Annual Meeting.

The Moderator stated that we should invite a representative from Camp Penial to speak to Council on their work.

The acceptance of the proposed budget as amended was moved by Paul Weare and Seconded by Bill McLeod. Motion Carried.

### **Team Rima – Lic. Sharon White**

Concerned citizens want to bring Rima's other family members to Canada. Hill Grove Baptist Church are the sponsoring church for the team of community people as the Sponsor Group. Those Team Rima are sponsoring to come to Canada are Rima's mother, 3 brothers, 1 sister and one niece; a total of six people. The Team's sponsorship budget to raise is 40,000.00 and at the present have raised 15,000.00.

A 'Toonie Can' is one way of raising funds. A person can sign up for a can and collect their 2019 donation one toonie at a time. At present there are 133 cans out. The most a can has held so far is \$374.

The Team has received support from other groups, such as the Freeport Legion, DRHS had a bottle drive which netted \$276.00. If churches want to fundraise for this cause, Team Rima will help out.

It normally takes 12-18 months after application is sent for the family to arrive. Please pray for the family and pray for the process. Team Rima is also their Facebook page name if anyone wants to follow the process. A tax receipt will be given for any donation over \$20.00. Send it to Hill Grove Baptist church in care of Team Rima.

Sharon is also going with CBM to Lebanon. It is an Accredited – Practical Course from June 12-28, 2019.

Bernice MacLean gave the Council notice that this would be her last Council Meeting. She has been coming to Council for the last 25 years. The moderator congratulated her on her years of service and how we will miss her participation.

The Council has two new members, June Little and Paul Weare.

Bill McLeod announced that this would probably be his last attendance at Council, as of the end of April he is retiring from ministry after 30 years at Nictaux. The Council members present wished Bill all the best as he enters retirement.

### **NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES**

#### **Wilmot Baptist Church – Rev. Lloyd Gilieo**

As Wilmot is without a pastor, various people have been filling the pulpit. Upcoming services will be conducted by Rev. Dr. Spencer Boersma and Rev. Dr. Bob Wilson.

#### **Nictaux and Torbrook Baptist Churches –Rev. Bill McLeod**

Three folks to be baptized on Easter Sunday. When Bill retires Nictaux and Torbrook will separate and each will be looking for a pastor.

#### **Middleton Baptist Church – Bernice MacLean**

Middleton Baptist has 30 young people in Sunday school. The church itself has 15-16 youth but youth group attendance is around 40. Plans of a baptism are in the future.

#### **Victoria Vale Baptist Church – Pastor Shelley Illsley - Martin**

Victoria Vale has been hosting brunches and has been having 60 people in attendance. There is to be a gospel Concert on April 14<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM. by Mountain Top Ministries.

#### **Bridgetown Baptist Church – Joyce Jackson**

Bridgetown Baptist hosted Emotionally Healthy Relationship Course. Soup & Sandwich lunch after church. People invited from the local area apartments to attend. A baptism is scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Paradise Baptist Church – Rev. Eugene Foster**

From their Refugee family two boys and their mom to be baptized. Have been meeting in the homes but will move to the small hall in April. Hosted Alpha program.

#### **Digby Baptist – Joyce Marshall and Sharon White**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month the Senior Group meets from 2-4 pm. Looking for a name for the group. Sunday school has 6-12 children. During Holy Week there will ½ hour concerts.

Ecumenical Service on Good Friday at 11:00 AM at Grace United Church.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Annapolis Royal – Paul Weare**

Rewriting the Constitution.

Revived the Annual Roll Call Service

Had the Alpha Course in the Fall. Second session coming up soon.

#### **Inglewood – Cathy Batson**

A deacon at the church will be turning 100 on May 15, 2019.

**Margaretsville Baptist Church – June Little**

The church will be hosting their supper outreach program starting on April 12<sup>th</sup>. The pastor has started a nursery.

**Tiverton Baptist Church – Helen Ivans**

Fisherman’s Service was well attended.

Youth Group is hoping to go to Moncton. There is fundraising to help support that.

**Bear River East (BRE) Baptist Church – Rev. Fred Bigelow**

Conducted the Alpha Course last Fall.

The church hosted an outside Nativity Program during the Christmas season in December.

Looking at ways to improve the church facilities to be able to minister to all levels of the congregation.

A call for Adjournment was made. It was Moved by Bernice MacLean; 2<sup>nd</sup> by June Little that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Respectively Submitted,

Rev. Fred Bigelow, Clerk