

WOLFVILLE AREA INTERCHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes of Executive Meeting

Manning Chapel 10 September 2003

1. President Roger Prentice called the meeting to order at 7.35 PM.

Members present: Roger Prentice (chair), Robyn Brown-Hewitt, Margaret Burton, Roger Cann, Neil Cloghesy, Bruce Dienes, Rodger Forsman (acting secretary), Janet Kirkconnell, John Mercer, Heather Parker, Diana Shelley, Helen Whidden, Ralph Winter.

Regrets: Nancy Burbidge, Cheryl Manzer, David Ogilvie

2. Roger Cann conducted a meditation on Emil Brunner's comment that mythic religions require no personal relation to historical facts, whereas Christianity depends on a personal relationship with an historical individual.
3. The minutes of the last executive meeting 11 June 2003) were approved on motion (R Forsman/D. Shelley).
4. Correspondence: R. Prentice read two letter regarding the WAICC's contribution to João Matwawana's visit to Africa. (Letters on file)

5. Business arising

- (a) "The Messenger"

A major intention of the next issue is to give higher visibility to the WAICC's activities on emergency needs, thereby informing people about the reasons for the annual Christmas appeal.

- (b) It is hoped to have special offering envelopes for the same purpose.

6. Treasurer: the treasurer's report was approved on motion (R Winter/B. Dienes)

7. Committees

- (a) Atlantic Ecumenical Council (Bruce Dienes)

Plans are proceeding for a conference to be held in **November 2004** on the theme: "Ecumenism in the Post-Modern Age".

- (b) Clergy Committee (Robyn Brown-Hewitt)

The committee meets regularly for sharing regarding common concerns and issues arising in ministry in the Wolfville area, issues facing the supporting congregations, planning shared services, and study of the scriptures.

The fall lecture by Sally McFague is still being planned. Robyn will keep the Council informed on this matter.

- (c) Inter-Church Housing: Margaret Burton reported that the agency still functions but has very little money to do what it would like to be able to do.

(d) Ministries Committee: report by Margaret Burton attached.

Moved (R. Cann), second (M. Burton) that the WAICC contribute up to \$500 towards the expenses of the 26 September workshop, expenses to include postage, printing, facilities and costs associated with lunch. Carried.

(e) Nominating Committee: no report

(f) Program Committee (D. Shelley)

A program featuring João Matwawana is not possible. The Committee is planning for a hymn-sing at Wolfville Baptist Church on 7 November.

(g) Website committee (Bruce Dienes)

(i) **More input is needed from the churches. For example, a bulletin or calendar can be posted for everyone's information.**

(ii) Training in posting information is available from Bruce.

(iii) Notice to church representatives: **Please act on this matter in your own congregations.**

(h) Finance committee (R. Winter)

(i) Proposals for fund-raising initiatives should be discussed with the Finance committee.

(ii) A photo album with suitable captions should be prepared for the archives.

(iii) The Centre for Cultural Renewal has a web site that is worth examination. (www.culturalrenewal.ca)

8. From the churches

(a) St John's: Fall start-up activities are on-going, there is fund-raising for renovations/repairs, there will be a blessing of the animals service, discussions of the portable altar continue, there will be a Taizé service one per month.

(b) St Francis: Fall start-up activities are on-going, there is a Saturday Mass at the University Chapel, the church enjoyed a visit from a Nigerian family which it sponsored.

(c) St Andrew's/Greenwich: the General Council meetings were highly successful. There were 750 registered delegates, plus about half as many who did not register. More than 400 volunteers were on duty daily to assist with details. The University served 28,000 cups of coffee. Fall start-up activities are on-going, with the question "Now what?" in the forefront after the previous years of preparation for the General Conference.

Robyn introduced Heather Parker, ministry intern at St Andrew's.

(d) Wolfville Baptist Church: there are three new staff persons. Rev Dr Barry Morrison has a half-time appointment and will be primarily responsible for preaching and worship; Rev Judith Gates has a half-time appointment in the area of pastoral care; Rev Heather Taylor has responsibility for Christian Education/Christian Nurture.

- (e) Friends: the society is now registered to perform marriages. An open house will be held in the parlour at St Andrew's at 7:00, 30 September for the benefit of any who might be interested in the Quakers. A follow-up series on understanding Quakerism will be presented during October and November. It will provide a general over-view of Quakerism for members and non-members alike. In August, 2004, the National Quaker gathering will take place at Kings-Edgehill, in Windsor, NS. In May 2004 Nova Scotia will host the Atlantic Friends Gathering.
- (f) Manning Chapel: There is good attendance at services. Plans are being made for the 40th anniversary celebrations, 3-5 October. These will include an organ concert on 3 October by Craig Humber, a former chapel assistant now studying in Germany, and the anniversary service on Sunday, 5 October, at which the rev Dr Philip Joudrey, an Acadia graduate and Principal of United Theological College will preach. New hymn books and psalters are being acquired, and Chapel Hall is about to be refurbished.

9. New business

- (a) Hymn sing (H. Whidden): Friday, 7 November, at Wolfville Baptist Church, possibly with a Wesleyan theme.
- (b) "The Messenger": R Prentice will edit another issue when time allows. Deadline for submission of copy: 22 September. Church news items are solicited. This helps the congregations to become familiar with each other.

10. Other Business

- (a) John Mercer relayed a information about an offer by A Rashid to speak to church groups in Wolfville with the aim of raising money to support work among women in Iraq.

11. Next executive meeting: 8 October 2003, 7:30 PM, in Chapel Hall

12. The meeting adjourned on motion at 9:12 (D. Shelley/J. Mercer)

13. R Cann pronounced a benediction.

VOLUNTEERS FOR OPENING MEDITATION:

2003

8 October: Neil Cloghesy
 12 November: Bruce Dienes
 (December, if there is a meeting:
 John Mercer)

2004

14 January: Margaret Burton
 11 February: Diana Shelley
 10 March: Helen Whidden
 14 April: Nancy Burbidge
 12 May: (annual general meeting:
 Roger Prentice)
 9 June: Rodger Forsman