

What's Going On in Conference!

Annual Meeting: 217 registered (82 registered at this time in 2010)

Youth Forum: 168 participants including leaders

Children at Conference: 15 registered so far

Pancake Lunch at the Office: Successful and yummy!

Presbyteries & Congregational Future Development Series: Middlesex, Lambton, and Essex

People in Partnership: Cuban exchange this summer to Pearce Williams and Bimini Camps

Moderator's Visit

<http://www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/events/spirit-express>

The Moderator's Visit Task Group for London Conference would like to celebrate that our Moderator Mardi Tindal will be in London Conference from October 18th through to Sunday October 23rd, 2011. The Moderator has expressed a desire to use the train as much as possible and that we show off how our congregations are Greening our spaces and the world in which we live.

The task group has planned that the Moderator visit us on the following days and we invite each Presbytery to use their time with the Moderator as they see fit. Some events just seem to make sense; for example, the train from Sarnia to London leaves at 6:22 am. and arrives in London at 7:34am so Middlesex may choose to host a Breakfast for her. If you would like some ideas for your presbytery please let us know, but you know better than us the greening projects and efforts of the congregations in your Presbytery. Be creative!

October 18th:

Train leaves Toronto at 10:55 and arrives in Stratford at 13:11. (Huron-Perth and Oxford)

October 19th:

Train leaves Stratford at 13:13 and arrives in Sarnia at 15:28 (Lambton)

October 20th:

Train leaves Sarnia at 6:22 and arrives in London at 7:34 (Middlesex and Elgin) or Middlesex could opt for the Moderator arriving at 19:56 from Sarnia.

October 21st:

Train leaves London at 10:06 and arrives in Chatham at 11:09 (Kent) or Kent could opt for the Moderator arriving at 15:05.

October 22nd:

Train leaves Chatham at 11:11 arrives in Windsor at 11:53 (Windsor) *or* Windsor could have the Moderator arrive at 15:51.

October 23rd:

The Moderator would leave Windsor at 13:21 (perhaps 17:30 but this has to be negotiated). Harrow United has asked if the Moderator would come to their church for the Sunday Service.

I pray that this is enough information to get each Presbytery planning. Let us know as your plans take shape so that the Conference can share in your excitement and so we can have a list of contact people in each Presbytery who will be the host. Items to consider:

- Who will be greeting her at the stations?
- Do you have someone who will be acting as a chauffeur?
- Where will the Moderator eat? Spend the night?
- What activities will the Moderator participate in during her visit?

Please submit your finalized plans regarding the Moderator's activities while she is in your presbytery to Gary Clark by Sept 9, 2011 in time for the September executive meeting.

Peace, The Moderator's Visit Task Group for London Conference

Division of Mission in Canada

The Division of Mission in Canada - Planning Budget and Support Committee seeks "To support growth and transformation in Presbyteries and Congregations by encouraging, educating and challenging." Following are some highlights of its meeting on April 6, 2011.

- A presentation was made by the Youth and Young Adult Network to Huron-Perth Presbytery's meeting, using a video resource developed in December 2010. We hope to expand and refine that resource by gathering further material and footage at the upcoming Youth Forum event.
- We are waiting further input from a consultant working with Algoma Presbytery who had expressed concerns about the "Welcoming Congregations" resource (responding to the first phase, "Customer Service" of the government's Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act). Until we hear otherwise, we don't see harm in proceeding with the material as circulated.

- Working with the Division of World Outreach to present a session at the Annual General Meeting of Conference on “Revitalizing the Church through Mission” using stories of our local congregations and our overseas personnel.
- Another cooperative venture is a camping exchange with the Presbyterian Church in Cuba. This summer, Liz Brene will be working with Pearce Williams camp in July and Camp Bimini in August. Two camp staff would travel to Cuba in the summer of 2012.
- We discussed tiered pricing for Conference youth events which informs participants of the true cost of such gatherings and allows for them to pay more for registration, if they wish and are able. No one will be forced to pay the higher price and confidentiality will be maintained. Some camps have implemented this with positive results. The events in question would be Youth Forum, Children at Conference, Youth at Conference, Young Adults in Transition

Nominations

For information: Philip Newman will be Chair of Nominations effective rise of Conference.

Motion **It was moved, seconded and carried that Mary Anne Silverthorn be appointed as Chairperson of the Finance & Administration division.**

Motion **It was moved, seconded and carried to add Lynne Dunlop as a member of the Incorporated Ministries committee.**

Planning Committee

Motion **It was moved, second and carried that the Annual Meeting in 2012 be held on May 4 - 6th 2012 at the Hellenic Center, 133 Southdale Rd. W in London, Ontario hosted by Middlesex Presbytery.**

Take-Aways

Who is your Presbytery representative that will sit on the London Conference Executive from the rise of conference 2011 to 2013? Please forward that name to the conference office as soon as it is known.