

Mission Bytes

North Bay Presbytery Mission Committee

10/1/2014

Vol. 1, No. 1

The North Bay Presbytery Mission Committee is pleased to present to you the first edition of the *Mission Bytes* newsletter. Building on our Presbytery's Mission priorities established in 2011, this newsletter is a way to share actions and offer information on how we can support these mission goals.

Green Action

- A Climate Change Rally took place in North Bay on September 20th, in advance of the UN summit on the Climate Crisis. Approximately 75 people of all ages joined with movements around the world to participate in the largest climate march in history.
- Near North Mobile Media Lab will be presenting Docs North Film Festival November 14 - 16 @ The Capital Centre North Bay. The award winning film - *Above All Else* - will screen Saturday November 15th @ 4pm @ The Capital Centre. This film tells the story of a Nebraskan farmer fighting the Trans Canada Keystone XL pipeline. It is a reminder of the power of resistance for what people love and value most. This is a timely film for our area in anticipation of the Trans Canada Energy East pipeline proposal which will pass through the Lake Nipissing and Trout Lake watersheds.

Justice for Aboriginal Peoples

- Presbyters are encouraged to share the **monthly "Minutes for Right Relations,"** in their congregations during worship, meetings, etc. M4RR are posted on the Manitou Conference website www.manitouconference.ca and are also distributed via email.
- Copies of **"We are all Treaty People"** are now being placed in Presbytery public libraries. We are researching the possibility of also placing them in school resource centres.

Mission Priorities

As set forward by North Bay Presbytery,
September 2011

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- To strongly encourage **green action** by individuals and in congregations by providing support, resources and guidance.
- To continue to work in advocating for **justice for Aboriginal peoples.**
- To support **youth** through programming that engages youth in their faith formation, and in their post-secondary lives.

Youth and Young Adults

- The North Bay Presbytery Youth Group in collaboration with North Bay's I-DYG (Inter-denominational Youth Group) are holding a Youth Retreat at Spirit Point on Friday October 24th – 26th. The theme for the weekend is "Living in Right Relationship" Throughout the weekend youth will explore what it means to live in Right Relationship - with each other, with our earth and with themselves! For more information please contact Marcel MacDonald, North Bay Presbytery Youth Coordinator at nbpyouth@yahoo.ca or Lisa Blais at blais.trinity@gmail.com
- YOUTH FORUM 2015!
Youth Forum is a unique event in the life of the United Church of Canada, engaging youth delegates (ages 15 – 18) in exploring United Church identity and connection and contributing their learning and perspectives to the work of the General Council in meaningful ways.
 - Manitou Conference Executive will select five interested and motivated youth to attend the National Youth Forum Winter Gathering at Five Oaks Centre in Paris, Ontario.
 - Those youth delegates will then further select one full commissioner and one alternate to represent Manitou Conference at the 42nd General Council in Cornerbrook, Newfoundland.
 - Youth Forum Commissioners will be employed throughout the summer by the General Council to consult with youth and to consider the recommendations of the Comprehensive Review Task Group while completing a national pilgrimage to Cornerbrook; as commissioners, they are empowered to speak and vote at General Council, and so must be members of the United Church of Canada.
 - Alternates will attend the 42nd General Council with a voice, but no vote. A third Youth Forum delegate to General Council, again with a voice, but no vote, may also be elected at the General Meeting of Manitou Conference, May 22-24 2015.
 - How do I apply? Complete an application form available from your minister, youth minister or online at www.manitouconference.ca. Applications must be submitted to Manitou Conference BY NOVEMBER 10.

Other Items

- The Grand River Book Room will provide a **book display/sale at our Nov 22 Presbytery Meeting**. Please let us know the type of books, or specific books, you would like to see there!

If you have announcements or items that you would like to submit to the Mission Bytes Newsletter please forward them to:

**Lisa Blais at blais.trinity@gmail.com
Deadline: Last Thursday of the month**