

# 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 20<sup>th</sup>, 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 15<sup>th</sup> @ 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](http://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 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:nbpyouth@yahoo.ca) or Lisa Blais at [blais.trinity@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:blais.trinity@gmail.com)  
Deadline: Last Thursday of the month**

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