

Diakonia

Spring 2023 Newsletter

Licensed Lay Ministers Association
of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

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Warden's Message

The greater the difficulty the more glory in surmounting it. Skillful pilots gain their reputations from storms and tempests. - Epictetus

Greetings,

We have weathered storms and tempests over the past few years. First, it was the tempest of the Covid 19 lockdowns in 2020 and 2021. Church leadership and congregations struggled to keep finances afloat and ministry happening. Then we had Hurricane Fiona batter the Maritimes in September 2022. This storm canceled the Fall Conference. The topic we were going to look at was how the church is to navigate the choppy waters of declining resources and the part laity will play as we move forward. That discussion has been postponed and will be the focus of our afternoon session at our upcoming Annual General Meeting. All this is intended as a primer for the fall conference 2023 when the Association and Diocesan and Formation leadership sit down to talk about the future and role of laity in the church.

The Church is like a boat. We are in an ark, a vessel of salvation. We are in the ark with the apostles. We will find safety if we keep our eyes fixed on Christ and listen to his voice.

Prayer is about having our eyes fixed on Christ and listening to his voice. Last year's AGM, held at St. Peter's Church, Eastern Passage, featured the Diocesan Vocations Coordinator, the Reverend Frances Drolet-Smith, who spoke to us about praying through scripture. The Word continues to speak to us if we have ears to hear, hearts to love, and wills to act.

The Licensed Lay Ministers' Association has been blessed with skillful pilots who have navigated us to where we are today. Presently we are experiencing a change of deck hands. Special thanks to David Harrison who is retiring as President. He took up the presidency again in the midst of Covid and has steered the Association through unsettling times when in-person meeting was difficult. Fortunately, he had the technical skills to keep us all talking to each other. Victoria Henrickson, our secretary and Diakonia editor, retired this year after many years of serving the Association. Her shoes were big ones to fill. Appreciation is extended to Maxine Simpkin who has kindly

agreed to serve as secretary. Likewise, kudos to Gail Teixeira who has agreed to come on as Diakonia Editor. Another clergy (an appointment yet to be announced) will be taking the place of the Reverend Darlene Jewers on the Board of Standards who is on leave from ministry. The Reverend Ms. Jewers was the Bishop's appointment for the Board and has served in that capacity for many years. She was a familiar face at meetings and the fall conference. To everyone who has helped out over the years many thanks. To those who are coming into leadership roles, may God richly bless you in your tasks. Thank you for stepping up.

Now onward. New shores await us.

Yours in Christ,
Archdeacon Thomas W. Henderson
Warden, Diocesan Licensed Lay Ministers

President's Message

It is my honour to write my final annual report for the Licensed Lay Ministers Association. As I stated in last year's report, this was a position that I did not expect to fulfill for a second term!

Since our last Annual Meeting, our Secretary and Diakonia Editor decided that it was time for her to retire so she could pursue other interests. Victoria is and will be missed by us all. Victoria's husband, Victor was the person who was responsible for the desktop publishing of the Diakonia- his skills were most appreciated and will also be missed.

The Executive decided that the job of Secretary and Diakonia Editor were too much for one person (I don't know how Victoria managed them both!) so the position was split and we searched for volunteers.

Maxine Simpkin (already a member of the executive as an Area Representative) has very kindly stepped forward and volunteered to be our secretary! She also volunteered to take over the position of Secretary to the Board of Standards. Many thanks to her for this.

Finding a Diakonia Editor was more difficult, I took it on for a short period of time, only to discover that I don't have the skills necessary! Thankfully, Gail Teixeira stepped forward and has taken over the role. This edition of the Diakonia will be her first. Many thanks, Gail!

All our meetings this year have been via Zoom. This has allowed us to meet as a full Executive from the comfort of our homes with no need to travel.

Again this year, we are going to live-stream and record the Annual General Meeting and educational component. The live stream will be available on our YouTube channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/@nspeilicensedlayministers7713/streams>

Our AGM this year will be held on Saturday, June 10 at St Andrew's Cole Harbour beginning at 9:30 am with our Gathering, followed at 10:00am by Eucharist.

One of our accomplishments this year was the completion of the synopsis for each of the Training Videos. Now that has been completed, we need to start updating! The videos are available through our YouTube Channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLY7CsSqW4Hqsx8k9Q-tGYLT0LdvV5vZPh>

Finally I would like to thank the Rev Tom Henderson, our Warden, and Barb Bergeron, our Vice President, for their valued support and guidance over the past two years.

David Harrison
President
Licensed Lay Ministers Association
Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

Minutes of the June 2022 - Annual General Meeting

Licensed Lay Ministers' Association of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, St. Peter's, Eastern Passage

Minutes of June 11, 2022 10 am

- **Welcome/Licensed Lay Ministers' Prayer**
The meeting opened at 10:45 am with The Rev. Tom Henderson, Warden of the Association, welcoming everyone to the Annual General Meeting. He then invited those gathered to say the Lay Ministers' Prayer.
- **Attendance**
There were 28 members in attendance. (List attached to the original minutes.)
- **Regrets**
There were 16 regrets provided. (List attached to the original minutes.)
- **Approval of Agenda AGM June 11, 2022**
It was moved by Ted MacDonald and seconded by Anne Williams that the Agenda be approved as circulated. **Motion Carried.**
- **Approval of AGM Minutes of June 12, 2021 (meeting held via Zoom)**

There being no errors or omissions in the Minutes as circulated, it was moved by Anne Williams and seconded by Ted MacDonald that the Minutes of the June 12, 2021 AGM be approved as circulated. **Motion Carried.**

- **Business Arising from the June 12, 2021 AGM Minutes**
- **Fall Conference 2022**

The Rev. Tom indicated that the 2022 Fall Conference is planned for our Lady of Hope Retreat Centre, Stanley Bridge, Prince Edward Island, September 23-25. He said this would be an internal discussion about our approach for lay ministry going forward. He said there would be a series of workshops looking at areas where licensed lay ministry may be expanding. He stated that the Registration information will be in the Fall Diakonia.

- **Association Banner**

Victoria Henrikson was thanked for all her work on the design and having the new Association Banner produced by Halprint in Halifax. The new Banner was at the Church for all to see.

- **Summaries of Training Videos**

David Harrison, President of the Association, reported that it is time to have the Training Videos redone, because of the name change for the Association at the 2019 Synod which changed the name from lay reader to Licensed Lay Minister. He also said that a new syllabus should be developed.

- **VSST - Creating Missional Communities**

David Harrison encouraged everyone to check out what is being offered by the VSST. The information is available on the Diocesan webpage.

- **Correspondence**

Victoria Henrikson reported that no correspondence has been received for this meeting.

- :
- - The Warden's Report is available in the Spring issue of the Diakonia 2022.
- - The President's report is available in the Spring issue of the Diakonia 2022.
- :

The Rev. Tom Henderson reported that the Board is looking at the Archival Policy of the Association and the Constitution and By-Laws to bring everything in line with the name change. The one issue before the Board is the future role of Licensed Lay Ministers in the Diocese which, as stated, will be discussed at the Fall Conference this year and the following year.

- - is available in the Spring issue of the Diakonia 2022.

It was moved by The Rev. Tom Henderson and seconded by Brent Boutilier that the reports of the Warden, President, Board of Standards and Diakonia Editor as presented in the Spring 2022 issue of the Diakonia be adopted.

Motion Carried.

- :

- The report was presented by Lynda Durant for her mother, Lois Durant, Treasurer. The year end financial report showed the Association in good financial shape going forward with a year end balance of \$7,291.00.

It was moved by Lois Durant, seconded by Dennis Eisan that the Year End Financial Report for the period April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022 be accepted as presented. **Motion Carried.**

- Lynda Durant presented the Review of the Books for this period which was carried out by Nicole M. Young showing a year end balance of \$7,791, with an outstanding cheque of \$500.

Moved by Lois Durant, seconded by Paul Fevens that the Review of the Books for the period April 1 2021 - March 31, 2022, be accepted as presented. **Motion Carried.**

- - The Proposed Budget has been reviewed by the Executive and is an estimate of what the Association will be doing in the coming year.

It was moved by Lois Durant and seconded by Dennis Eisan that the proposed Budget for April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023, be approved as presented. **Motion Carried.**

- **Appointment of Individual to Review the Books for 2022-2023**

Nicola Young has been recommended to do the Review of the Association.

It was moved by Lois Durant and seconded by Louise Young that Nicola Young be appointed to review the Association books for the period April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023. **Motion Carried.**

- **Elections**

- **Area Representative - Eastern Shore**

The Rev. Tom reported that Judy Beaver, who had served a long period as the Area Representative for the Eastern Shore, has retired. He thanked Judy on behalf of the Association.

Brent Boutilier offered to take on the position.

- **Area Representative - Dartmouth**

With Barb Bergeron serving as Vice President, the position has become vacant. Barb was thanked for covering the position for many months now.

Paul Fevens volunteered to take on the position of Area Representative for Dartmouth.

- **Area Representative - Northumbria**

Financial Statement Year Closing 2022

Diocesan Lay Ministers Association - Financial Statement
March 31, 2022 to December 31, 2022
Year Closing Report for 2022

REVENUE

	Credit	Debit	Balance
Income			
Bank Balance Forward 31-Oct-22			\$9,466.00
Membership	\$9,969.00		
Annual Meeting			
Medallions & Ribbons	\$1,282.44		
Conference Registration	\$1,850.00		
Miscellaneous	\$3,300.05		
Total Book Revenue Brought Forward	\$16,401.49		

Expenses

Website Maintenance		\$341.56	
Annual Meeting		\$646.95	
Annual Fall Conference		\$2,958.85	
Products (Board of Standards Video/Education)		\$95.26	
Travel		\$40.00	
Postage		\$488.54	
Printing		\$3,151.12	
Operational Expenses	Banner Stand		
Miscellaneous		\$48.40	
Total Book Expenses Brought Forward		\$7,770.68	
Book Balance Forward October 31, 2022			\$8,999.66
Bank Balance Forward December 31, 2022			\$8,697.15
O/S Deposits			\$0.00
O/S Cheques	Aug 2, 2022 re postage \$23.02		
	Oct 12, 2022 re postage \$43.32		\$66.34
Book Balance December 31, 2011			\$8,630.81

There were no volunteers or nominations for Northumbria, so David Harrison offered to try to recruit someone to fill this vacancy. Until then, he will continue to cover this position, along with being President of the Association and Webmaster.

It was moved by Ted MacDonald and seconded by to accept Brent Boutilier as the Area Representative - Eastern Shore and Paul Fevens as Area Representative - Dartmouth and to give David Harrison permission to find someone to represent the Northumbria Region. **Motion Carried.**

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Motion regarding Change of Association Fiscal Year in the By-Laws and Constitution**

The Rev. Tom Henderson explained that the following motion was presented and approved by the Executive to be presented to the 2022 AGM:

“Moved by David Harrison, seconded by Barb Bergeron that the fiscal year of the Association move to the calendar. Motion Carried.”

He then went on to explain that Parish Parochial forms are usually received by the end of March and that is when the bulk of the Association’s income is usually received from the Parishes. He also stated, that if passed by the AGM members present, this would necessitate a change in the Association’s Constitution and By-Laws.

Moved by Ted MacDonald and seconded by Brent Boutilier that the Association’s fiscal year end move to the calendar year. **Motion Carried.**

- **Motion re Release of the Association’s Year End Financial Statement**

The Rev. Tom Henderson explained that the following motion was presented and approved by the Executive to be presented to the 2022 AGM:

“Moved by Barb Bergeron and seconded by Ted MacDonald that the Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held within three (3) months of the release of the preceding fiscal year’s financial statement which has been reviewed, recommended, and approved by the Association’s Executive. This financial information shall be released by March 31st of the current year.”

Motion Carried.

Moved by Barb Bergeron and seconded by Anne Williams that the Association’s Annual General Meeting be held within three months of the release of the preceding fiscal year’s financial statement which has been reviewed, recommended, and approved by the Association’s Executive. This financial information shall be released by March 31st of the current year.

Motion Carried.

- **MEMBERS’ CONCERNS**

- - Dennis Eisan asked if there is a full complement on the Board of Standards to which The Rev. Tom Henderson responded that there is a full slate of members.

- Motion to Adjourn - Moved by Paul Fevens that the meeting adjourn at 11:30 am.
- Close with The Grace

Respectfully submitted

Victoria Henrikson
Secretary

Proposed Constitution Change

Section 3. Membership.

Subsection (i) currently states: the President of the Diocesan Lay Readers Association;

Proposed change: the President of the Licensed Lay Ministers Association or, in the event that the President is unable to attend, the Vice-President of the Licensed Lay Ministers Association.

Regional Reports

(Please note that the Spring Newsletter often has fewer regional contributions)

Cape Breton Region

Workshop - a report by Georgina Granchelli

Cape Breton Anglican Lay Ministers gathered today (May 6.2023) in North Sydney for a one day workshop on Sermon Basics. Thank you to Dr. Dave Csinos from the Atlantic School of Theology who led an engaging and informative session.



Chignecto Region

The Licensed lay Ministers in the Chignecto Region have been fulfilling their roles dutifully, assisting their Priests or Priest in Charge with Eucharistic duties as needed, also the Readings and doing the Prayers for the People. Many are leading Morning Prayers on a regularly recurring basis as needed when there is no Priest available, which is often, for some, as in the Northumberland parish, 3 times a month, in Shubenacadie usually once a month, except when there are 5 Sundays in a month During Advent and Lent the Parrish of Northumberland joined with the other churches of various denominations for Ecumenical services on a rotating basis.

All Saints, Springhill and St. Georges, Parrsboro share a Priest, so the Licensed Lay ministers do the Morning Prayer service alternate weeks. As each church has 2 , each gets to do a service once a month. The South Cumberland Care Centre and the

Springhill Hospital have now allowed the Lay Ministers back in to visit their members there, post Covid 19 !

As Anglican Women, they support the ACW teas and sales and the Food Bank, which is in St. Georges' basement. All very actively supported by the Parishioners.,

The 4 Licensed Lay Ministers at St. James rotate with the Eucharist activities, and Morning Prayer services., about 15 times a year. They also do Morning Prayer service when required, in the neighboring Parish of Rawdon. Some are members of the Altar Guild, Bible Study, Seniors Lunch program and the Sewing classes in the Church. A collection of warm clothing and blankets was held for the needy in December. An ongoing collection of empty pill bottles, over 250 so far for recycling, to prevent disposal in the garbage was initiated by a Licensed Lay Minister. Over 13,000,000 are thrown away each year in Nova Scotia. A Licensed Lay Minister is also a Warden and one is the Parish Treasurer. In the Community they are also involved with the Shumilacke Community Food bank. Toiletries were collected for Mother's Day for the women at the Women's Transition House in Truro.

At St. Johns in Truro there are 8 Licensed Lay Ministers who are involved in various activities of the church. Community dinners ,in co-operation with the other churches in the area, are held at St. Johns on a regular basis. Support for the children's breakfast and lunch program at the local school are supported by the parishioners, as is the winter clothing project — warm coats, mitts and hats for the students.

The Licensed Lay Ministers at Christ Church Amherst have been reduced to 3 . All are involved in the Parish activities. The Advent Ladies Day was well attended and appreciated.

Respectfully submitted

Anne Williams

Chignecto Regional Representative

Valley Region

The Parish of St. James Kentville

. I do not know if you have heard from anyone else at St. James here in Kentville, but as you are aware we have been without a Priest since November so the licensed lay ministers have had extra duties to perform. We have received help from Rev. Kent Greer, Rev. Canon Lynn Usans and Rev. Falan McNaulty since then. We are also doing a few home communions and participating in Bible Studies. That's about it for now..
Wayne

Licensed Lay Ministers' Report: *Parish of Bridgetown March, 2023*

"When you go through deep waters, I will be with you." Isaiah 43:2

Deep waters, disease, virus: life-altering changes. God will be with us. That is the promise of our Christian faith.

We have three licensed lay ministers in the Parish of Bridgetown: Mark Rutherford, David Skidmore, and Mary Oldford. Retired LLM Connie Hannam supports the work of

the LLMs by helping with the Readers' and Servers' list and assisting with services at St. Mary's Belleisle. Reverend Dawn -Lea Greer has been on sick leave since the fall, so the LLMs have been filling in where needed..

In 2022 we returned to "in person" services and licensed lay ministers took part in services as readers and servers, led Morning Prayer at St. Mary's and St. James and supported the ministries of the Reverend Falen McNulty, the Reverend Dawn-Lea Greer and the Reverend Julia Ford.

David continues his ministry of choir director and has offered his services as organist until we are able to fill that position. He also prepares the weekly bulletin which is a wonderful connection for those in attendance and those shut-in. He is the parish and St. James treasurer. Mark continues his work as Parish Warden, sings in the choir and leads Morning Prayer. Mary continues her work with Pastoral Visitation and she and retired LLM Connie Hannam prepare the readers' and servers' list. Connie also helps with Morning Prayer at St. Mary's. All three LLM's pitch in with fund-raising endeavours and Parish work as needed.

We give thanks for the ministry of the Reverend Falen. In the fall it was announced that the Reverend Dawn-Lea Greer, deacon, had been selected by the Parish Parochial committee as rector. The ministry and style of the Reverend Dawn-Lea is well-known to us as she did her student practicum under the Reverend Deborah Lonerghan Freak and we welcome her back to the Parish of Bridgetown. Due to illness, Reverend Dawn-Lea's ordination into the priesthood has been delayed until March 25, 2023, with the Reverend Julia Ford overseeing the parish and taking services of Holy Eucharist. We pray for Rev. Dawn-Lea's continuing recovery.

Deep waters, challenges and changes. We know that God will be with us.

The Parish of St. James Brooklyn March, 2023

"We live by faith and not by sight" 2nd Corinthians 5:7

It would be nice if we had a crystal ball and could foresee the future! On the other side of thinking that would make things too easy!

In our little parish our faith has been tested these past two years but we continue to move forward. Doing seminars and meetings by Zoom. Clericus, ministerial and parish council in-person. Taking part in Women's Inter-Denominational Day and maintaining in-person services in both churches, with Sunday morning on-line from the parish of Avon Valley.

We have four Licensed Lay Ministers that do services:

Eva Evans, Norman Brooks, Ted MacDonald, Rose Marie MacDonald.

Dawn Brooks leads services as well. Rev. Kent Greer does Holy Eucharist once a month. Rose Marie MacDonald carries out home communion visits and communion to nursing homes and hospitals when Covid restrictions permit.

Our Licensed Lay Ministers wear many hats to make the parish thrive and prosper.
Thank you to Rev. Tom Henderson, our priest in charge for his wise counsel.

Respectively Submitted
Rose Marie MacDonald

Members of The Board of Standards

Archdeacon Tom Henderson	Warden
Vacant	Clergy Representative
David Harrison	President of the Association
Barb Bergeron	Vice President of the Association
Marilyn Massie-Clarke	Past President of the Association
Maxine Simpkin	Secretary
Anne Williams	Member at Large
Ted Macdonald	Member at Large
Janet Tibert	Member at Large

Members of the Executive

Archdeacon Tom Henderson	Warden
Vacant	Clergy Representative
David Harrison	President of the Association
Barb Bergeron	Vice President of the Association
Marilyn Massie-Clarke	Past President of the Association
Maxine Simpkin	Secretary
Lois Durant	Treasurer
Gail Teixeira	Diakonia Editor

Regional Representatives

Cape Breton : Georgie Granchelli	Fort Sackville: Maxine Simpkin
Chebucto: Vacant	Northumbria : Nancy MacDonald
Chignecto: Anne Williams	South Shore: Roger Demone
Dartmouth: Paul Fevens	Valley: Ted Macdonald
Eastern Shore: Brent Boutilier	Prince Edward Island : Dawn Upham

*May we who have much remember those who have little.
May we who are full remember those who are hungry.
May we who are loved remember those who are lonely.
May we who are safe remember those who are in danger.
May we who have much learn to share.*