

DIOCESAN COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Prepared by Fred Krieger, Executive Secretary of Synod

At its meeting of 7 December 2006, Diocesan Council

- was chaired by Bishop Moxley, Bishop Hiltz attending part of the meeting only due to the death of his wife's sister
- welcomed new members representing Regional Deans and four standing committees of synod
- was led in worship by Darlene Fleet
- remembered Max Baker, Emmanuel Church, Spryfield, who died since the last meeting of Council.
- heard that Patrick McWade had been appointed Chair and Donna Mosher a member of the Anglican Foundation Screening Committee
- heard that Judy Carpenter and Kees Zwanenburg had been appointed to the Agenda Committee of Diocesan Council
- heard a report from Michael Janz, Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator. He is helping congregations be present to God and youth. 'Learn their names.' He is working on innovative youth programs. His wife has opened a coffee shop, the Wired Monk on Hollis and Morris Streets.
- heard a report by Bishop Moxley on her activities, which include an excellent meeting of the House of Bishops, some reflections on governance and changing the size of General Synod, and in our own Diocese some plans to re-align regions
- heard a report from the Diocesan Executive Director that highlighted changes in deployment of the archivist, parish amalgamations, and progress in negotiations on medical and EAP plans
- concurred with the Bishop in two amalgamations: the Parishes of Digby and Weymouth and the Parishes of Liverpool and Eagle Head
- heard a report from the Capital Campaign Financial Planning Task Group (to be considered at the February meeting of Council) and approved an interim contribution to Atlantic School of Theology from monies already collected for that purpose
- heard a report from the Diocesan Controller, Peter Flemming, that Treasurer's Reports had been sent out and that the 2005 Audit was close to completion
- heard a report on the recent meeting of the Council of General Synod by Bishop Moxley. Highlights of that report are on the Website of the Anglican Church of Canada
- heard that the National Church initiative on church development and stewardship is called 'Letting Down the Nets.' Our Diocesan initiative, aided by this initiative, is called 'Companions on a Journey: the Journey from Scarcity to Abundance.' Three pilot regions have been selected. Materials and conferences are in preparation.
- heard a report from the Leap for Faith Campaign that commitments now amount to \$2,805,439, that is, 85% of our goal. Work is still in progress
- received a presentation by the Archivist which she was not able to offer at Synod
- approved amendments to Archives Access Policy Directives
- approved an additional eight hours work time for the Diocesan Archivist
- toured the Resource Centre

-in light of other major task groups now operating, agreed to do nothing at this time about the motion on synod size referred to Council by synod until interest in and energy for this becomes evident

-attended to discrepancies in synod representation by amalgamated, twinned and aligned parishes and agreed that this be referred to the Allotment Task Group and Diocesan Management Group

-heard a report from the Communications Task Group (Members: Gloria McClure-Fraser, Tanya Moxley, Jan Connors, Debbie MacDonald, Sandra Fyfe, Bishop Hiltz, Lisa Vaughn, Paul Sherwood and Janet Marshall)

-heard a brief report on the Allotment Task Group. Gretchen McCurdy is the chair. They plan to take a fresh approach to allotment

-heard that the National Church would help fund our study of effective Diocesan organization

-discussed and expressed disagreement with Administration and Finance Committee's decision 'that parishes be granted a \$8,000 basic exemption for each full-time stipendiary clergy serving their parishes.'

-noted and discussed at length the Administration and Finance Committee's decision to approve 'an interim part-time position of Financial Development Office Assistance, with terms of reference and salary to be determined according to the Diocesan scale'

-in addition to those noted, gratefully received reports from National and World Mission and Program Planning

Diocesan Council meets again on Thursday, February 22.