

Parish Council Highlights –September 18, 2011

- Rob Speers could not be a Youth Delegate to Synod because of his age (youth delegates must be between 16 and 22). He was registered as a regular delegate, but couldn't attend due to work obligations.
- St. Andrew's proposal for a multi-use facility would cost approximately 10 million dollars, not 3 million as previously reported.
- The Parish Hall Review Committee has been very busy and feels they should meet with the congregation to discuss where we want to go and include a visioning exercise. The revised estimated cost of repairs is \$125,000. Can we afford to keep the hall? October 16th will be the date to hold a congregational meeting even though it's Back to Church Sunday
- Update on church restoration of the north and west wall: the carpenter is too busy to do it this fall but will make it a priority in the spring. Materials will be ordered now. Painting has been done on the large and side windows of the church.
- We have an exciting proposal for consideration – John Scott, organist at Acadia University, has agreed to be our new Director of Music. A two page proposal was submitted. Some of the highlights include:
 - John would conduct the choir practices and play as organist one Sunday per month.
 - Student scholars would play the organ for the other services
 - A choral scholar would also be here each week.
 - Students would be paid so they will be dedicated.
 - We will have a dynamic contribution to music here.
 - John already is at St. James so there will be shared resources.
 - It will be a great connection with the university.
 - A schedule has been discussed so consistency will be achievable.
- New procedures for handling money will be completed and active by January 1, 2012. Offering money will be directly deposited by the Counters into one bank account.
- Parish Council approved the placement of a memorial bench in memory of Olive Stoddard.
- Approval was granted for our Administrative Assistant to receive an adjustment to her pay and an additional \$1,000 in 2012 in consideration for the time required to fulfill duties as Parish Hall Manager.

Parish Council Highlights –October 16, 2011

- Rector's Highlights
 - Attendance is down significantly this fall as it is in some of the other churches, perhaps because of the nice fall weather, or health issues?? Sandra asked council members to let her know if there are concerns we need to address that are affecting church attendance.
 - It's been a year of a lot of changes. Sandra is hopeful for stability with the new music program underway.
- The Parish Visioning group has met several times. They are identifying our strengths, needs and wants and prioritizing them.
- Our congregational meeting re: the future of the Parish Hall was this morning. After the presentation and comments from many parishioners, the overall feeling was to move forward and part with it. The overall costs presented are a burden to our sustainable future. This could be a great opportunity. If L'Arche buys the hall, the option will be there for us to continue to meet there. Concern was also expressed that we not rely too heavily on that when making a decision.

Grant Peart made the following Motion, seconded by Ron Stuart: Parish council agrees to hold a congregational meeting on Nov. 6th at which time the following motion will be put forward: "The congregation of the Parish of Horton authorizes the Parish Council to negotiate the sale of the Parish Hall subject to final congregational approval."

A second Motion was then passed with approval stating: "It is the intention of Parish Council that the funds received from the sale of the Parish Hall be invested for future capital use." It is not our intent to build another building.

- The meeting and vote will take place on Nov. 6th at 11:00 am.
- Lorraine Street is the new chairperson for the Pastoral Care Committee.
- Two positions are still vacant on Parish Council with the resignation of Eleanore Howard and Elaine Slauenwhite. Our Warden Kathy will be stepping down in February with the end of her term. We are looking for someone to take on this responsibility for 3 years.
- Treasurer's comments:
We are on track with the budget and in a projected deficit position this month. Projected revised deficit for year end is -18,000