

DEC meeting Nov. 23, 2023 @ 7 pm

Present: Tammy, Brian, Stan, Rose, Don, Peter, Candace, Gail, Cheryl, Jamie, Bishop David

Regrets: Leon, Willi.

Management Committee:

- Motion: Cheryl / Rose – That DEC approve the 2024 budget as presented by the Management Committee.
 - Approved unanimously (11 in favour)
- Introduce to DEC: That Property Committee review the uses of Diocesan Property
 - (Synod Office, Malvern House, Bishop's Lodge)
 - Anything to do to create revenue or reduce costs
 - Property Committee agreed they would take this on in due time.
 - Both the Cathedral and Synod Office are on a flood plain
 - Possible to move the Synod Office so its above water?
 - Possible to modify existing buildings to save money?
- Introduce to DEC: That WHY Committee support ongoing prayer throughout the diocese *We call for ongoing prayer throughout the Diocese that we hear God's guidance as we all share the same financial struggles at all levels of the church. While acknowledging the seriousness of our financial situations; we pray that: we trust in God, we act intentionally to move forward in ministry, and we not be overwhelmed or discouraged but be hopeful for our future.*
 - WHY Committee: Bishop writes letter to propose this across the parishes
 - Bishop agreed to take this on.

Property Committee:

- Update: Parish Utility rates on the back-burner until the New Year, as are Cemetery to Greenview and Goodwin Church conversations.
- Update: Lac La Biche church
 - Appraiser getting costs to date for Brian
 - Cracking in the foundation found (not due to fire)
 - Appraiser getting bids for rest of repairs
 - Concern it may exceed insurance payable amount for building
- Update: Movement from AON to Lloyd Sadd (insurance brokers)
 - Concern about changing from Ecclesiastical Insurance whilst there are open claims
 - Information update required.
 - Including updating Parish insurance requirements
 - New insurance period is Jan 1st (a period of grace, but of unknown time)
 - Management Committee recommending moving from a single payment for the year to a monthly payment (no surcharges, interest, or extra fees)
- Update: St. Paul's (Boyle) Rental
 - Insurance wants to review agreement and scope

- Suggesting we look at other possible uses for St. Paul's as well, which would provide ministry to benefit Boyle and provide ongoing revenue
- Renter not in a position to buy at present.
- Decision: St. Thomas' Fort McMurray
 - The Insurance company created a very detailed specification of all the required repairs.
 - Work already done will be paid separately from new bid.
 - Two contractors bid:
 - Sutton: \$108,800.50. Paul Davis: \$94,484.11
 - Insurance company is obligated to go with lowest price unless extenuating circumstances.
 - If the Diocese selects other than the low bid, then the Insurance company gives us the money and the diocese manage the rebuild.
 - If anything is missed which should be included, it will be added in by the insurance company if we go with the low bid.
 - Motion: Brian / Peter: That DEC advise the Insurance company that they agree with the selection of Paul Davis for the repairs of St. Thomas' Fort McMurray.
 - Passed unanimously (11 in favour).

WHY Committee:

- Update: Looking at suggested baptism program (sent in by the bishop)
 - How does this fit in with places like Wabasca?
 - How to adjust to the local context most helpfully and culturally appropriate?
 - Don't stifle the Holy Spirit
 - DEC members would like to see (Tammy will send out to DEC members)
- Update: Would like to refer what we used to think of as "Sunday School" to "Family Ministry". It is now "Family Ministry".
 - Will post links to resources onto the diocesan website and into the weekly email
- Update: Looking forward to the Christmas book ("My Way of Love") being sent to all clergy and wardens.
- Update: Lay Training (possibly in conjunction with Dioceses of Calgary, Arctic, or Emmanuel & St. Chad) – further discussion required
- Decision: Request more focussed targeting for this group from the Bishop and DEC
 - Next meeting: discuss the WHY committee together as DEC as a whole
 - Bishop to present up front framework
- Update: Diocesan website is much more navigable with latest update
 - Please continue to notify people of this in the weekly email
- Update: Will ask Parish representatives to share what they are doing so it can be shared across the diocese (continuing on with the sharing given by parishes at the Diocesan Synod).
- Update: "Book from Lambeth" – (a children's gospel of mark in which the person could read the words off the page, or watch a short cartoon relating to it by taking a picture of a qr code on the page, with their phone). Excellent resource but expensive.

- Would like to look at alternatives or cost-sharing (with Calgary / Edmonton / others)

Committee of the Whole:

- Motion Gail / Jamie – approve minutes of Nov 23 2023 as distributed
 - Passed unanimously.
- Signing Authorities
 - Cheryl Anderson (Registrar)
 - Bill Paul (Chancellor)
 - David Greenwood (Bishop)
 - Gail Shewchuk (Diocesan Secretary)
 - (Sherri Lizotte)
 - (Terry Leer)
 - (Dorothy Malone)
 - (sign confidentiality agreements and willingness to abide by our Diocesan Handbook, with current Criminal Records Check and Vulnerable Sector Checks)

MOTION: Cheryl / Rose that the names above be approved for signing authority with the conditions which are given.

(10 in favour, 1 opposed) – carried.

Bishop investigating online authorizations with the Bank.

- Synod 2023 AD debrief (Gail)
 - Report of debrief from Synod Planning Committee given
 - Will be distributed to DEC members.

9:22 adjournment with prayer