

**AGENDA FOR THE 135TH SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20 TO SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2009 IN HAMILTON**

Friday, November 20, 2009		Hamilton Convention Centre
8:00	Synod Member's Registration	
9:00	Call to Order	
9:05	Organizing Synod	
	- Credentials Committee Report	(Motion p.3)
	- Welcome to New Members of Synod	
	- Welcome to Guests	
	- Privileges of the House	
	- Election of Synod Secretaries	(Motion p.3)
	- Approval of Minutes of the 134th Synod Second Session (March 2009)	(Motion p.3)
	- Notices of Motion	
	- Agenda Committee Report	(Motion p.3)
	- Reception of all Reports	(Motion p.3)
	- Appointments to Diocesan Court	
	- Announcements	
	- Election of Trinity College Corporation	(Motion p.3)
	- Election of 2010 - 2011 Synod Council members	(Motion p.3)
9:20	Changes in Canons	
	- 3.3(19) Discipline Part 5 - Principles and General Procedures to be Observed in Discipline Procedures	(Motion p.5)
9:25	2010 General Synod Nominations General Synod balloting begins	
9:30	Gathering Worship Bishop's Charge	
10:45	Break Announcements	
10:55	Stewardship & Financial Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Holland Hendrix • Mr. Jim Newman 	
12:05	Green Parish Accreditation Program	
12:20	Provincial Synod Presentation	
12:30	Grace and Lunch (at tables)	
1:30	PWRDF Presentation	
2:15	General Synod balloting ends	
2:15	Financial Advisory Committee	
	- 2008 Audited Statements	(Motion p.4)
	- Auditor's Report	(Motion p.4)
	- Appointments of Auditors	(Motion p.4)
2:45	Break	
3:00	2010 Proposed Budget	(Motion p.4)
3:30	Payroll Pre-Authorized Payment	(Motion p.4)
3:40	Affirm Actions of Synod Council	(Motion p.4)
3:50	Other Business	
4:00	General Synod Results	
4:05	Prayer Bishop's Blessing Adjournment	

BEFORE YOU LEAVE PLEASE DEPOSIT YOUR COMPLETED EVALUATION FORM AND NAME TAG IN ONE OF THE BOXES LOCATED AT THE REGISTRATION DESK.

“Living the Vision” A Diocesan Celebration
 Saturday, November 21st, 2009 Hamilton Convention Centre

7:00 – 9:00	Set-up
9:30	Doors Open

Main Stage & Podium (Convention Hall)	
9:30	Lindsey Mills & Christian Ambiance
10:00	Worship & Welcome
10:30	Liturgical Dance: St. Christopher’s, Burlington Church of the Resurrection
11:00	The Reverend Dr. Gary Nicolosi
11:30	A Taste of Jazz Vespers
12:30	Annie Kashamura Zawadi

Transcendent Worship (Rm 314)	
10:00	Experience Taize Music, meditation, silence, candle-light in the style of the Taizé community.
11:00	Sacred Circle Dancing Simple, non-threatening dances engage the whole body in the act of worship.
12:00	Tactile Worship A variety of ways to pray together or individually that begin from our sense of touch.

Kids Zone (Convention Hall)	
9:30	Puppet Ministry from St. John’s, Ancaster
10:00	G.I.F.T. A new model for Sunday morning children’s programs.
11:00	Messy ChurCH A hands-on learning experience for feeding the faith of families.
12:00	Godly Play Activities that engage children in the story of our faith.

Marketplace (Convention Hall)	
10:00 am – 1:00 pm	Ministry Marketplace - Visit and talk with people and parishes. Gather ideas from Vision resource groups. Dialogue. Network. Share.
	Techie Table - using technology & media to enhance worship
	Speaker’s Corner, Graffiti Wall, Mega-Map - Creatively express your hopes, anxieties and dreams for our diocese, your parish and your faith. Get messy! Make art! Express yourself!
	Wandering Saints & Significant Spiritual Figures - Ask some of the pillars of our faith how they lived the vision in their own ways during their own lifetime.
	“The Hub” Café - Take in the atmosphere and some good conversation.

Jam Session (Rm 201 on 2 nd Floor)	
10:00	‘Good Praise Music’ Contemporary worship songs that are tried, tested & true; and fun & easy for musicians & congregations.
11:00	‘Secular Songs in Worship’ Great tunes that enhance worship and nurture faith inside and outside the church walls.
12:00	A Wee Sing Love to sing but not a professional? Learn simple songs from Iona, Taizé, and around the world.

1:00	Closing Celebration of the Eucharist With Bishop Michael Bird, The Reverend Dr. Gary Nicolosi and the NYC band
	Bishop’s Assent and Closing Remarks
3:00	Departure and table take-down

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Welcome to Diocesan Synod 2009

Living The Vision: A Diocesan Celebration!

Welcome to the 135th Synod of the Diocese of Niagara, this has the potential to be one of the most interesting and significant synod's you have ever attended. Thank you for offering your gifts in the leadership of our diocese.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

This is a two day Synod beginning Friday morning and ending Saturday afternoon.

Core Business of Synod on Friday

The core business of this day will be to hear the Bishop's Charge, elect Synod Council, elect members to General Synod, approve financial statements, discuss the budget, receive reports, and vote on one Canon change. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with business beginning at 9 a.m.

Electing Members of General Synod

General Synod meets every three years. The next meeting will be in Halifax, Nova Scotia, from June 3rd to 11th, 2010. We will be electing 5 clergy and 5 lay delegate members of General Synod (the Bishop and Chancellor are members ex-officio), in addition the Bishop has appointed Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh as our youth delegate. Clergy elect the clergy and laity elect the lay delegates. Nominations were solicited through Archdeacons and Regional Councils, in the Niagara Anglican and on the diocesan website. The Coordinating Team of Synod Council acted as the nominating committee, ensuring that enough nominations were received in both orders, that there was an equal number of male and female nominations, and that the biographies of all nominees were made available. It is possible for nominations to occur from the floor of Synod. Nominees would be offered the opportunity to address Synod delegates and would be invited to a microphone to give a 60 word biography orally. Ballots will be given to all delegates at registration and no replacement ballots will be available.

Living the Vision: A Diocesan Celebration on Saturday

Synod continues with a dramatic day of celebration for all members of the diocese. This means that Synod is still in session but all members of our parishes, who wish to attend, will be given the opportunity to join with us in a day of education and inspiration. Here is what to expect:

- A day to include a variety of experiences to both celebrate and bring "Our Vision" to life.
- Two remarkable guest speakers, Gary Nicolosi and Annie Kashamura Zawadi
- Diverse & Innovative worship throughout the day
- Games and activities for children and young adults
- A Ministry Marketplace of ideas for living out "Our Vision"
- Resources to assist parishes in the implementation of "Our Vision"
- A Community Café
- Live Music
- A Eucharistic Celebration with Bishop Michael

This will be a unique opportunity for all our parish members to join with us at Synod and experience this significant moment in the life of our diocese, while engaging and celebrating our Diocesan Vision. This will be a day to bring the Vision to life in practical and experiential ways.

Doors will open at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday morning and we will continue until 3:00 p.m. Closing worship will begin at 1:00 p.m. A full agenda of the day is included in this convening circular.

I hope you will share this information with others in your parish who would be interested in attending. This event has FREE ADMISSION.

Thank you and see you at Synod!

The Venerable Dr. Rick Jones, Secretary of Synod

P.S. It now appears that this Synod will take place during a time that we are dealing with H1N1 concerns. We will be taking every precaution in our conduct of Synod to ensure the safety of delegates.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY TO STAY HOME IF YOU FEEL YOU ARE COMING DOWN WITH A COLD OR THE FLU. IF YOU ARE RECOVERING FROM A FLU, THE GUIDELINE WE HAVE HEARD IS TO WAIT AT LEAST 24 HOURS AND UP TO ONE WEEK AFTER THE LAST FEVER BEFORE GOING OUT INTO GROUPS.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US ALL STAY HEALTHY!

CANONICAL CHANGES

Canon 3.3(19) Discipline Part 5 - Principles and General Procedures to be Observed in Discipline Procedures

MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/ The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
'that Canon 3.3(19) be amended to read, 'No proceedings shall be taken in respect of an alleged offense under Section 7 (e) or (f) unless 6 months notice of intent to take proceedings have been given to the Bishop, priest or deacon against whom it is intended proceedings will be taken.'

**MINUTES OF THE 2nd SESSION OF THE
134th SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA
HELD SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2009 IN HAMILTON**

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2009

CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL, HAMILTON

Registration began at 8:00 a.m. Bishop Bird called Synod to order at 9:00 a.m. Seated at the head table were Bishop Michael Bird and Chancellor Robert Welch. The Bishop welcomed everyone to Synod.

NEW MEMBERS OF SYNOD

The Bishop welcomed:

- The Reverend Cheryl Barker, St. Paul's, Caledonia

WELCOME TO THE DEACONS REPRESENTING THE COLLEGE OF DEACONS

- Richard Beaudoin, St. Clair Cleveland, Roderick McDowell

WELCOME GUESTS:

The Bishop welcomed:

- Chris Grabiec and John Janisse, Diocesan Webmasters

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Chancellor Robert Welch reported that, as of 9:00 a.m., March 28, 2009, 161 out of 245 eligible lay delegates had registered, representing 66% of all eligible delegates in the order of laity, and 88 out of 103 eligible clergy delegates had registered, representing 85% of all eligible delegates in the order of clergy.

**MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
THAT the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted.
CARRIED.**

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

No Privileges of the House were extended.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 134TH FIRST SESSION OF SYNOD
(NOVEMBER 2008)**

**MOTION: The Reverend Ian Chadwick/Mrs. Carol Summers
THAT the minutes of the 2008 session of the 134th Session of
Synod, as found on pages 3 through 10 of this Convening
Circular, be now approved. CARRIED.**

NOTICES OF MOTION

Canon Robert Welch advised members that motions could be found on pages 2 of the Convening Circular.

REPORT OF THE AGENDA AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller, Chair of the Synod Planning Committee, gave his report and outlined procedures. He referred to the revised agenda, as handed out at registration, printed on yellow paper. Resolutions/notices of motions can be found on page 2 of the Convening Circular.

A mover and a seconder to a resolution or motion will be allowed a total of six minutes to speak. Speakers to a motion will be allowed two minutes each. A "warning" bell will be sounded when 20 seconds are remaining in the speaker's allotted time; and a bell will be sounded to indicate the end of the allotted time. New motions not included with the Convening Circular package or handed out at registration are to be delivered to the Secretary of Synod as soon as possible and prior to 10:00 am. It will be determined when best to deal with new motions. Motions from the floor, which can be dealt with at the Synod session, will be presented on the screens.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller/
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
THAT the revised agenda obtained at registration be adopted.
CARRIED.**

RECEPTION OF ALL REPORTS

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller/
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
THAT all reports found in the Convening Circular and
obtained at registration be received. CARRIED.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller made announcements.

WORSHIP

Synod morning worship began.

THE VISION AND PLAN INTO THE FUTURE

The Bishop delivered his Charge to delegates. The feedback received from the regional meetings was to slow down with the implementation of the Vision. The Bishop asked for parish commitment, inviting every parish in Niagara to get involved. He also asked delegates to let him know what resources they would need to move the Vision forward in their parishes.

Delegates watched a video; It's a Brand New Day. The Venerable Michael Patterson spoke about the Vision. The 5 areas of the Vision are: Flourishing Culture of Innovation; Prophetic Social Justice Making; Effective Resource Management; Life Changing Worship Experience; Outstanding Leadership for Ministry. It requires spiritual discipline; valuing diversity; honesty and integrity; passion and hard work.

BREAK

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller made announcements.

THE VISION AND PLAN INTO THE FUTURE

After the morning break there was an open microphone question and answer period.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller made announcements.

Bishop Bird introduced Mr. Javier Arias who will be working with the Spanish congregation.

2009 PROPOSED BUDGET

The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford Browning and Mr. David Eccles, Co-chairs of the Finance Budget Sub-Committee of the Financial Advisory Committee, and Mr. Robert McKinnell, Diocesan Treasurer, delivered the budget presentation on the Proposed 2009 Budget.

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte/Mr. Robert McKinnell
THAT the 2009 Diocesan Operating Budget, as found on pages
17 through 22 of this Convening Circular, be approved.**

CARRIED.

PAYROLL PRE-AUTHORIZED PAYMENT

**MOTION: The Venerable Michael Patterson/Mr. Robert McKinnell
THAT this Synod defers the Payroll Pre-Authorized Payment
Plan motion to the 135th Session of Synod in November.**

CARRIED.

PRESENTATION FROM CHANCELLOR ROBERT WELCH

Chancellor Robert Welch addressed delegates and gave a report on the ongoing litigation with the Network affiliated parishes.

BISHOP'S ASSENT

Bishop Bird gave his assent to all actions of the Synod.

Delegates were led in closing worship.

Bishop Michael Bird closed the session with the blessing and the 2nd Session of the 134th Synod of the Diocese of Niagara was prorogued at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones, Secretary of Synod

Mrs. Karen Nowicki, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of Synod

Mrs. Carol Summers, Honorary Lay Secretary

The Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick, Honorary Clerical Secretary

REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHURCH BUILDINGS

The Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings exists to bring together the collected experience of those who work professionally in the construction industries, to the service of parishes with building maintenance problems or those planning capital investments.

Spending money is too easy. Spending it wisely though, in order to get the most from it, requires particular diligence and care, not just in the planning and design but in the management processes and in the financing of every project. Members of the committee provide their knowledge free-of-charge, in a friendly manner and are focused on the best interests of parishes. They are not called to criticize or second guess; they are called, however, to real economy and true welfare.

Of growing concern in our deliberations are the sometimes conflicting issues, on the one hand, of Heritage Designations and, on the other, of environmental imperatives; including the important diocesan initiative for "Greening Niagara."

Over the past year committee members have provided advice to the parishes of St. Aidan's, Oakville; St. Luke's, Palermo; St. Mark's, Orangeville; Church of Our Saviour, the Redeemer, Stoney Creek; St. Paul's, Shelburne and All Saints', Hamilton.

There is a description of the resources offered by the committee, and of the diocesan requirements around new construction projects, that can be viewed on the diocesan website under "Resources-Church Buildings Committee" or you can call Karen Nowicki at 905-527-1316 x 380 for immediate service, or you can contact the Committee Chair, the Reverend Ian Chadwick at 905-988-7873 or stalbins@vaxxine.com if the matter is sufficiently desperate to require prayer.

If, in your parish, you are anxious about some structural weakness in the church fabric, or some maintenance issue with the potential to cause trouble, call Karen, or Ian, and get yourself some expert advice: it could save you some sleepless nights and save the parish a bundle.

A particular thank you to the dedicated volunteers who are the committee members. Those long drives to evening meetings at the other end of the diocese may be a satisfaction, but we recognize and appreciate that they come at the personal price of time and effort. But what we maintain and build together is not just good stewardship, but of Glory to God.

We thank past members of the committee for sharing their time and expertise namely; Mr. Robert Cox, Mr. Dan Tregunno and The Reverend Susan Wells. We also welcome new members to the committee; Dr. Arthur Heidebrecht, Mr. Steve Swing and Mr. Ian Milroy.

Committee members

Ms. Brenda Brownlee
The Reverend Ian Chadwick, Chair
The Reverend St. Clair Cleveland
Mr. William Filer
Dr. Arthur Heidebrecht (2009)
Mr. Don Hicks
Mr. John Layfield
Mr. Ian Milroy (2009)

Mr. David Ricketts
Mr. Ken Schroeder
Mr. Steve Swing
Mr. Roy Shoalts
Mr. Christopher Walker (Chair of BDIC)
The Venerable Michael Patterson
Right Reverend Michael Bird

Respectfully submitted
The Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick, Chair

REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S DECENNIAL INSPECTION COMMITTEE

As a result of the economic turmoil and uncertainty of the past 18 months, 2009 has been a difficult year for the inspection program. In many cases Parishes have been reluctant to make the necessary commitment to an Inspection, mainly due to financial constraints and changes to staff and key volunteers. Somewhat surprisingly Inspectors have been unusually busy and trying to work with reduced personnel; in addition one inspector who has worked for the Diocese for more than ten years has had to resigned due to ill health. At present we have three pre-qualified Inspectors on the roster; one has indicated his intention to resign in the near future, and we are actively searching for three new Inspectors to join the team before the 2010 program begins.

16 Inspections of Diocesan property were scheduled for 2009. Of these, only three have been completed as of the date of writing. Through the good offices of the Archdeacons it is hoped that the majority of the remainder will be completed before winter or at least will have an Inspector nominated and a firm schedule for completion. The schedule of Inspections for 2009 was full in order to reach the goal of having every property in the Diocese inspected within the initial ten years. After that in 2010 the second cycle of Inspections will start. In the meantime a comprehensive review of the program is being undertaken to ensure that it will be simpler for both Parishes and Inspectors and full use is made of the initial report.

The new Model Property Maintenance Program and the associated Maintenance Checklist has been completed. The clergy, wardens and property managers of all Parishes are encouraged to peruse the two documents carefully. They have evolved as a result of the experience gained during the first decennium of the Diocesan Property Inspection Program, and have been essentially distilled from the best practices employed by Parishes. Used with care and discretion they should provide a good and efficient basis for the sound management and maintenance of Parish property. They will also make subsequent Inspections of the Property more effective, simpler and less costly! These two documents together with the Terms of Reference (September 2009) have been posted on the Diocesan website with a new link "Decennial Inspection Committee".

My thanks and appreciation go to the committee for 2008-20098, Mr. David Ricketts and Mr. Bill Holman. Mr. Ralph Crysler has regretfully had to resign for health reasons after some nineteen years of faithful service on the Advisory Committee on Church Buildings and the Decennial Inspection Committee. Ms. Karen Nowicki in the Cathedral office continues her tireless and timely work facilitates the smooth and effective operation of the Committee.

Committee Members

Mr. Bill Holman

Mr. David Ricketts

Mr. Christopher Walker, Chair

The Venerable Michael Patterson, Ex-officio

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Christopher Walker, Chair

REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S TASK FORCE FOR A SAFE CHURCH

PRIMARY FOCUS:

As a Christian community of faith, the Anglican Diocese of Niagara is committed to creating and maintaining a community in which members, staff, volunteers and guests can work and worship together in an atmosphere free from all forms of discrimination, harassment, exploitation or intimidation.

This group continues to develop our knowledge in offering “best practice resources” within the Diocese of Niagara. Those who serve on this team work at providing basic education to lay people and clergy in the prevention of misconduct. Some of our team members are especially trained in the investigation of circumstances where misconduct is alleged to have taken place

ACTIVITIES:

Those who serve on this team work at providing basic education to lay people and clergy in the prevention of misconduct, and help individuals and communities to reflect on what it is to be a “Safe Church”. Safe Church issues range from issues of individual misconduct, the maintenance of healthy interpersonal boundaries to the planning of physical plants to maintain transparency and a safe environment in which community can function.

Our primary activity continues to be the provision of basic orientation the policy *Sexual Misconduct Policy: Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Assault 2000* which currently governs clergy and lay workers licensed for professional ministry within the Diocese. Our training extends far beyond acquainting people with the policy *per se* and extends beyond “the letter of the law” to help individuals identify circumstances, behaviors and practices which create the potential for unwholesome interactions to occur.

We exist as well, to respond to, (and at the Bishop’s invitation, investigate) situations where there is a concern that misconduct may have taken place and where individuals have felt that because of something specific, that the church is not a “safe place” for them. Team members are especially trained in responding to situations where misconduct is alleged to have taken place.

Members of the committee are also available for parishes, deanery groups and Clericus group both to educate people around the nature of harassment, abuse and the misuse of power. In such settings, we assist people in understanding the policy as it currently exists. The creation of a “safer church” is of concern in denominations throughout the world. Many resources from throughout the Anglican Communion and from other denominations are being employed as at the current time, we are in the midst of re-writing our Safe Church Policy. The new policy will reflect not on issues of professional misconduct alone, but also on issues such as bullying and the misuse of power which occurs from time to time within the Christian community.

It should be noticed that increasingly there is a connection between the work of this task force and the efforts of the Volunteer Screening and Development Group, under the experienced guidance of Joyce Wilton, as we work together to insure a safer, healthier church environment.

REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S TASK FORCE FOR A SAFE CHURCH (continued)

MEMBERSHIP:

This committee includes clergy, pastoral specialists, lawyers and others who have a concern for a Safe and Healthy church.

This year we acknowledge with thanks the extensive work of other individuals, Canon Robert Welch, Diocesan Chancellor, Archdeacon Lynne Corfield, the Reverend Canon Robin Graves, Mr. David Ricketts and Mrs. Alison D'Atri who have given generously of their time in special projects of the Safe Church Task Force.

Members:

The Right Reverend Michael Bird

Mr. Graeme Leach

The Reverend Rod McDowell, Deacon

The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell (Chair)

The Venerable Jim Sandilands

Ms Joyce Wilton

Respectfully submitted,
Canon Marni Nancekivell, Chair

2009 DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL

Representatives from Regions

Ms. Barb Hopkins (until June 2009)	Brock
The Reverend George Henry, Deacon	Brock
The Venerable Lynne Corfield	Brock
Mrs. Susan Pulleyblank	Greater Wellington
The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller (until May 2009)	Greater Wellington
The Reverend Susan Wilson (from June 2009)	Greater Wellington
The Venerable Peter Scott (from September 2009)	Greater Wellington
The Reverend Canon Robert Fead	Lincoln
Mr. John Palmer	Lincoln
The Venerable Bruce McPetrie	Lincoln
The Reverend Canon David Pickett	Mohawk
Mr. Jim Morgan	Mohawk
The Venerable James Sandilands	Mohawk
The Reverend Suzanne Craven	Trafalgar
Mr. Mitch Banks	Trafalgar
The Venerable Stephen Hopkins	Trafalgar
Mr. Paul Clifford	Undermount
Mr. Russell Kelk	Undermount
The Venerable Richard Jones	Undermount

Representatives of Divisions of Ministry

The Reverend Dianne Distler	Congregational Support
Ms. Sharon White	Ministry Support
The Reverend Jean Ruttan-Yates, Deacon	Outreach

Canterbury Hills Representative

Mrs. Nancy Miller

Financial Advisory Committee Representative

Mrs. Judy Conning

Bishop's Appointees

Ms. Cindy Blades
Mr. Brian Grose
Mrs. Beth Kerley
Mr. Ian Pratt

Members by Office

The Right Reverend Michael Bird	Bishop
Canon Robert Welch	Chancellor
Mr. Terry Jackman	Vice-Chancellor
The Venerable Michael Patterson	Executive Officer
The Very Reverend Peter Wall	Dean
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones	Secretary of Synod
The Venerable Dr. Michael Thompson (from September 2009)	Non-territorial Archdeacon
Mr. Robert McKinnell (until October 2009)	Treasurer

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL

This report summarizes the actions of the Synod Council from the November 2008 Synod to the Synod Council meeting of October 27, 2009 inclusive. Ten meetings were convened. Attendance averaged 81%.

Membership

- all changes in membership were in accordance with Canon 1.9 and the election of members and alternate members by Synod in November 2008

Election and Appointments

- authorized the following at signing officers: The Right Reverend Michael Bird, Diocesan Bishop; The Venerable Michael Patterson, Executive Officer; The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones, Secretary of Synod; Mr. Robert McKinnell, Treasurer; The Very Reverend Peter Wall, Dean; Ms. Debbie Young, Assistant Treasurer
- required that the signature of one of the following must appear on cheques: the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, or the Executive Officer
- elected members of the Financial Advisory Committee for 2009 as follows: The Reverend Owen Ash, Mrs. Judy Conning, The Venerable Lynne Corfield, Mr. Stan Hatcher, Mr. Jim Higginson, The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte, Mr. Tom Poirier, Mr. Ian Pratt, Mr. Fred Roach
- elected members of the Audit Committee for 2009 as follows: Mr. Gord Archbell, Mr. Ed Crighton, The Reverend Dianne Distler, Mr. Jim Higginson, Mr. Gerald Jenkins, Mr. Jim Newman, Mr. David Page, Mr. Ian Smith, Mr. Peter Swire, Mr. Seymour Wigle
- elected Mr. Jim Sweetlove as President of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, for a one-year term
- elected Mr. Andrew Bucknall as Vice-President of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara, for a one-year term
- elected members of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation as follows: Mr. Gord Archbell (Jan. 2008 - Dec. 2010), Mr. Andrew Bucknall (Jan. 2009 - Dec. 2011), Mrs. Judy Conning (Jan. 2009 - Dec. 2009), The Venerable Lynne Corfield (Jan 2008 - Dec. 2010), Archdeacon Bob Leckey (Bishop's Appointee 2009), Mr. James Sweetlove (Jan. 2009 - Dec. 2011), Mr. David Watson (Jan. 2009 - December 2009)
- appointed KPMG auditors of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara for fiscal year 2008
- elected the following to serve as the Synod Council Coordinating Team: The Reverend Suzanne Craven, The Reverend Dianne Distler, The Reverend George Henry, Russell Kelk, John Palmer and The Very Reverend Peter Wall
- re-appointed the Regional Archdeacon of Brock as the Diocesan Administrator of All Saints Mission, Niagara Falls for 2009
- approved The Reverend Sue-Ann Ward replace The Reverend Martha Tatarnic, as the Diocesan Administrator at St. Hilda's Anglican Church, Oakville effective January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009; pursuant to Canon 4.5, Section 7, subject to review by the Bishop and Executive Officer
- approved that the Diocesan Administrators, The Reverend Susan Wells, St. George's, Lowville; The Venerable Bruce McPetrie, Church of the Good Shepherd, St. Catharines; The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones, St. Peter's, Hamilton; pursuant to Canon 4.5, Section 7, terms be extended until December 31, 2009, subject to review by the Bishop and Executive Officer

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)

Election and Appointments (continued)

- appointed the Synod Council Coordinating Team to be the General Synod Nominations Committee and approved the process for General Synod nominations
- approved The Reverend Susan Wilson, Greater Wellington representative replace Canon Mark tiller on Synod Council to December 31, 2010
- appointed The Venerable Lynne Corfield chair of Passion for Justice
- withdrew the appointment of Mr. Robert L. McKinnell as Diocesan Treasurer effective October 22, 2009

Policy Matters

- that annual vestry meetings be held by February 28, 2009 under Canon 4.1.4
- approved St. Christopher's, Burlington, St. Paul's, Norval, St. John's, Ancaster, Church of the Incarnation, Oakville and St. Columba, St. Catharines to enter into site use agreements under the terms of the Parish Licensing Agreement, with user groups for the terms specified
- considered changes to Canon 3.3(19) Discipline Part 5 - Principles and General Procedures to be Observed in Discipline Procedures

Parish and Property Matters

- approved the Letter of Intent to Fram Building Group and Diversicare on the St. Luke's, Palermo proposed property development project
- approved and supported the continued negotiations between the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara, St. Luke's, Palermo, Fram Building Group and Diversicare on the Limited Liability Partnership property development
- authorized the Corporation of St. Paul's, Fort Erie to list the church rectory property at 30 Idylewylde Street for no more than \$224,000, and to sell the same, for no less than \$195,000
- approved an electronic poll be conducted per approval of the acceptance of any offer that the Corporation would recommend be accepted
- authorized the Bishop to endorse the application of St. Aidan's Anglican Church, Oakville to the Anglican Foundation for a grant in the amount of \$15,000
- authorized the Bishop to endorse the application of St. Mark's Anglican Church, Orangeville to the Anglican Foundation for a grant in the amount of \$15,000
- approved the request from St. James, Fergus to borrow up to \$25,000 from its Rectory Fund for existing repairs to the church roof
- approve the request from Church of the Nativity, Hamilton to borrow \$15,000 from the Rectory Fund of the former Grace Church, Hamilton to cover existing repairs to the rectory located at 42 Owen Place, Hamilton and the funds be paid back over 3 years
- approved the request from St. Paul's, Fort Erie to borrow \$8,000 from the Rectory Land Trust to pay for a survey required in order to sever property with the understanding that it be repaid when the rectory is sold

Financial Matters

- received the 2009 proposed budget
- accepted the recommendation that parishes be allowed to adopt the one year calculation method for DM&M commencing in 2009
- approved that once a parish has adopted the one year calculation method for DM&M it may not return to the three year rolling average method

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)

Financial Matters (continued)

- requested the Financial Advisory Committee to identify all of the options to increase income and reduce expenses to manage cash flow and requested that a report be received by Synod Council on June 2, 2009
- accepted the Report of the Financial Advisory Committee and commits to implementing the recommendations as quickly and effectively as possible
- supported and endorsed the Passion for Justice Campaign to raise funds until December 31, 2009
- authorized the management team to access the Diocesan Investment Funds as required for the fiscal year, to December 31, 2009, and to report back to Synod Council
- received the 2010 proposed budget
- accepted the recommendation from the Compensation Sub-Committee that the minimum stipend scale for clergy remain the same for 2010
- authorized the creation of a Task Force to review the current financial situation of the diocese and make recommendations on plans to improve the financial health of the diocese
- authorized the appointment of four (4) members by Synod Council and four (4) members by the Bishop to the Task Force
- The Task Force is to report back to Synod Council on December 1, 2009 with recommendations on how they will proceed

Other

- referred the report from the Electoral Synod Nominations and Planning Committee back to the committee and requested that recommendations and a process to acquire feedback from candidates be received by Synod Council
- supported the Fresh Expressions workshop held on Saturday, May 9th at St. James Anglican Church, Dundas
- supported the Bishops endorsement of Bill C-291 giving Refugees their right to appeal
- expressed thanks and gratitude to Bishop Michael Bird on his 1st Anniversary as Bishop of Niagara
- the Cathedral Place Task Force has met and will continue its work. The chair of the Task Force is Mr. Rob Reid
- congratulated Bishop Michael Bird on his 2nd Anniversary as Bishop of Niagara and thanked him for his leadership
- ratified the amended Minutes of Settlement and authorized the Diocesan Administrators to communicate this decision to both the defendants and Mr. Justice Yates

Respectfully submitted,
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones,
Secretary of Synod
Mrs. Karen Nowicki,
Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of Synod

REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The goal of the Stewardship and Financial Development Committee in Niagara is to develop a ***Generous Culture of Stewardship*** in Niagara through Year Round Stewardship Education, Gift Planning Education, Capital Campaigns, Research and Development, and Communications.

Since the beginning of 2009 the Diocese no longer maintains a part-time stewardship position, but instead hires the services of a part-time Stewardship Consultant, a role that is currently filled by Jim Newman, CMA, O.N.

The Stewardship Consultant's primary duties with parishes involve developing year round stewardship programs, narrative budgets, gift planning initiatives, capital campaigns, parish brochures, and marketing materials, as well as workshops and Sunday morning preaching about stewardship. In addition, he assists the Diocese with other stewardship and financial matters including web site development, targeted campaigns, grant applications, and related committee work.

Currently the Chair of the Stewardship and Financial Development Committee, the Diocesan Treasurer, and the Stewardship Consultant are working closely with the Department of Philanthropy of the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada to re-develop a comprehensive Gift Planning program in Niagara.

Respectfully submitted,
The Venerable Lynne Corfield, Chair

REPORT OF THE MISSION STRATEGY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

In today's environment, the work of the Mission Strategy Committee has become of vital importance to the life of the diocese of Niagara. The mission of this group in this past year has been one of creating strategic plans for regional ministry development, providing support to parishes in mission initiatives, making recommendations to synod council and the Bishop and supporting the development and deployment of the Diocesan Vision of 'Pursuing Excellence in Ministry'.

Regional Planning - Mission Strategy has spent considerable time examining the need to explore different ministry models given the challenges we all face with declining resources, aging buildings and higher costs for maintenance. In the Welland area, there has been a discussion ongoing regarding how the five parishes might create a regional ministry plan where they might share clergy support and pastoral care, administrative help and where there is a shared understanding of a common ministry plan for the area. We have discussed at length how, moving forward, as Anglican communities it will be more and more important to broaden the way we think about ministry and be less parochial and protective of our individual congregations. In Halton Hills, the Georgetown/Milton parishes have also engaged in a collective conversation about their future together lovingly referring to their mission plan as STEAM (Serving Together Expanding and Enhancing Anglican Ministry). Bishop Michael Bird appointed the Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray as the missioner for Halton Hills charged with the responsibility of creating a new way forward for these parishes together.

Members of Mission Strategy have also been invited into parishes as consultants to help them create their own strategic plans. St. Aidan's Oakville, under the very capable leadership of the Reverend Cheryl Fricker has been engaged for a number of years now of re-visioning what and who they are called to be in that part of the Oakville community. Their Lindisfarne project has engaged the entire community in determining how St. Aidan's could best reach out to meet the needs of the local neighbourhood. They have developed local partnerships, begun addressing building limitations and how they can re-tool to meet the needs and changed the way they think about being the Church in that place.

Mission Initiatives - This past year saw introduced into the diocese an initiative that comes out of the Church of England referred to as Fresh Expressions. A member of the committee, Andy Kalbfleisch and his wife Sue, have been to England on a couple of occasions studying and learning about this new expression of Christian Church. This experience has translated into Niagara and a number of parishes are exploring ways to offer Fresh Expression of Church for instance the Damascus Fair Trade Cafe in Dunnville or the Hub Pub in Port Colborne. The Kalbfleisch's organized a very well attended Fresh Expressions day in our diocese this past May and if you would like further information go to: www.niagara.anglican.ca/Fresh_Expressions/index.cfm.

Diocesan Vision - Mission Strategy has been very involved in the development and communication of the evolving diocesan vision, Pursuing Excellence in Ministry. The Bishop has spent this fall travelling around the diocese articulating what this vision might look like and mean for parishes across the diocese. This vision will only be realized and effective as parishes understand, embrace and engage in this way forward. We believe that as a Church we are being called to something new so if you want to learn more and engage in knowing how this can be implemented in your parish, please contact the synod office.

REPORT OF THE MISSION STRATEGY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE (continued)

Mission Covenant - Mission Strategy has been looking at the whole experience of transitions in the life of a parish when a new rector is being sought. What is the purpose of the interim period? What is expected of the interim priest through this process? Do parochial committees have the skill set and knowledge to effectively manage this process? Within the diocese there exist a number of programs that all feed into a process of transition, and we have worked at determining how each relates to the other. What is the relationship between Niagara Continuing Education, Fresh Start, the Companions Program and how they effectively prepare parishes and clergy alike for transition? Parishes must clearly understand and articulate their mission and purpose and have that reflected in their parish profiles. Often this is not the case. Mission Strategy wants to have consultants offer expertise and resources to parishes in providing an accurate and realistic picture of their present reality and what the future might hold.

In the same capacity, the Bishop seeks to create a process whereby the parish, new clergy and Bishop himself clearly articulate and understand what is expected of each of the parties in making the parishes' hopes and vision a reality. It is hoped that moving forward, a covenant can be crafted between these parties that makes clear what role each of the parish, Bishop and clergy play in realizing their shared plan for the future.

Re-development Projects - Presently there are two major re-development projects being pursued in our diocese. In Hamilton, All Saints' Church has partnered with an organization called Options for Homes to create an eight story geared to income affordable housing condominium. The present church is beyond repair and will be brought down to make way for this new project. However, the All Saints' parish will move to the first floor of this building with worship space, a storefront ministry and the opportunity to continue their ministry without the paralyzing costs of maintaining a very old building. We want to thank the people of All Saints' for their foresight, courage and commitment in moving forward with this very exciting plan that will guarantee ministry in that area for a long time to come.

The second is at St. Luke's Church in Oakville. This parish is partnering with a retirement residence company to build a retirement home on diocesan property that will also tie in with the ministry plan of the parish. At the same time, this joint venture will provide the opportunity for the parish to re-build their parish centre that will become a hub of activity for the north Oakville area. This is a discussion that has been ongoing for many years so to have this dream almost realized is very exciting in the life of St. Luke's and the diocese. To you members of St. Luke's parish, we also thank you for your courage, perseverance and vision. We pray for all of you.

We wish to thank all members of Mission Strategy as listed below for your hard work and commitment over this past year and we look forward to an exciting and busy 2010.

The Reverend Owen Ash
Bishop Michael Bird
Mr. Bill Connor
The Reverend Dianne Distler
Ms. Karen Farrar
The Reverend Marc Germaine
The Reverend Canon Robin Graves
The Venerable Dr. Steve Hopkins
The Reverend Susan Wells

Mr. Andy Kalbfleisch
The Venerable Dr. Rick Jones, Chair
Mr. Bob McKinnell
The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray
The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell
The Venerable Michael Patterson
The Reverend John Ripley
Ms. Jane Wyse, Scribe

Respectfully submitted,
Archdeacon Michael Patterson

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FAC)

The task of the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) is to advise and report to Synod Council and the Bishop on the management and administration of funds and assets held by or under control of the Synod. In addition, the FAC provides advice and recommendations to the Synod Council and the Bishop on all financial matters that are to come before council for resolution. The FAC works through both its committee and various sub-committees, a number of which have separate reports included in the Convening Circular, in advising and working with the Diocesan Treasurer and CFO, his staff and reporting to Synod Council and working with the Bishop.

This past year has been very much dominated by cash flow issues and by the reality of the Bishop's vision and what that means from a financial perspective. In the short term what has happened is that some monies have been earmarked for this vision in terms of allocating \$150,000 to the parishes for either grants or to move to a one year assessment and we have allocated another \$150,000 for another set of grants that are clergy transition related. Long term, the vision and its financial implications continues to evolve. The result of this is that a new position is being created called Ministry Support Consultant which will be staffed in the latter part of 2010. As you can see in the budget, this will be done through internal staff adjustments. This means that while there are some changes in 2010 more changes should be seen in 2011 and beyond.

As we go forward there are two pressing issues. As referred to above, we do have some significant cash flow concerns. This is a result of the cost to date of the breakaway parishes, cumulative operating losses of around \$1,000,000 for the years 2007 and 2008 and the high number of outstanding receivables that the parishes owe the diocese. The other concern, as we move forward, is that as more and more parishes struggle the possibility of declining revenue is a very real possibility in the very near future. This too will impact how ministry is done at the diocesan level and is something that needs to be prepared for. Synod Council has been made aware of these realities and is in the process of beginning to deal with them.

A piece of good news is that, if projections are correct, it looks like we will have a balanced year-end for 2009. As we move forward I know that I can say, on behalf of the FAC, that they will continue to monitor and advise with much thought and prayer as the Diocese prepares for the future.

The members of FAC for 2009 are:

The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte, Chair

The Reverend Owen Ash

Mrs. Judy Conning

The Venerable Lynne Corfield

Dr. Stan Hatcher

Mr. Jim Higginson

Mr. Ian Pratt

Mr. Tom Poirier

Mr. David Ricketts

Mr. Fred Roach

Mr. Robert McKinnell, Diocesan Treasurer

The Venerable Michael Patterson, ex-officio

Ms. Wendy Duncan, ex-officio

Yours in Christ's Service

The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte, Chair

REPORT OF THE FINANCE/BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

(This Subcommittee is responsible to the Financial Advisory Committee)

The Finance/Budget Subcommittee assists the Treasurer with the preparation of the diocesan budget and monitors diocesan financial operations, including parish loans, loan guarantees and dept repayment plans.

At regular meetings, the subcommittee reviewed the statements provided by the Treasurer and ensured that reasonable explanations were provided for both positive and negative variances to the budgeted amounts. Church extension loans, loans payable, and parish receivable for payroll and DMM are also reviewed at each meeting.

This has been a busy and challenging year for this committee. As the result of the decision by the November 2008 Synod to table the proposed 2009 operating budget until a Special Synod in March 2009, the winter months were spent developing what became

a transitional budget. As we continued to embrace the diocesan vision for the future it became obvious that changes to help make this vision a reality would take time to implement. The budget approved in March began this process by providing \$150,000 to provide both short term grants to parishes which are experiencing financial difficulties and are committed to realizing the diocesan vision, as well as allowing parishes who choose to move to a one year calculation of DM&M from the current three year rolling average.

The proposed budget for 2010 continues transitioning towards the realization of the diocesan vision by re-directing resources in certain areas. An additional \$150,000 has been provided to parishes to provide grants for parishes in transition. We continue to look at staff and diocesan operations to determine the most effective way to deliver services. The economic reality of the present time casts a shadow over how we anticipate implementing plans for the future but as Bishop Bird has indicated many times "the status quo is not an option". While change is never easy, it is important that we continue to examine new and innovative ways around how we conduct our affairs as a church. By engaging our parishes directly in this discussion we will emerge as a strong witness to Christ in our community.

At the time of writing the final details of the 2010 operating budget were still being finalized but it is anticipated that we will have a balanced budget. These are the first steps in a process that will be ongoing.

We thank our current members for their time and care for our ministry of finance in Niagara. We would like to express our profound gratitude to Bob McKinnell, Treasurer and CFO of the Diocese. Bob's diligence and skill are invaluable to our work.

Committee Members

Cathie Crawford Browning
Andrew Clinkard
Wendy Duncan
David Eccles
Rob Fead
Jerry Jenkins

Robert McKinnell
Michael Patterson (ex officio)
Maureen Peddle
John Saylor
Ian Smith
Peter Swire

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. David Eccles
The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford Browning
Co-Chairs

REPORT OF THE INSURANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

(This subcommittee is responsible to the Financial Advisory Committee)

This subcommittee of the Financial Advisory Committee advises the Diocese of Niagara and its Parishes through the Financial Advisory Committee regarding Insurance and Risk Management.

The program of professional appraisals of the church owned properties is ongoing. During the past year, the insurance building inspection program has been continued by the Diocesan Insurance Broker, David Ricketts. All church properties are inspected and appraised on a rotating three year basis.

A manual on Church Insurance and Risk Management has been prepared by our broker and is available to each parish through the web in the password protected area accessible to Rectors, Wardens and Treasurers. We strongly encourage that this essential document be made available to new Wardens to help with their duties and responsibilities especially regarding their responsibilities for Liability and Money Handling issues.

The subcommittee carried out its annual review of the Synod's policies, with our broker's assistance. All insurance companies are finding it difficult to assess risk. In this Diocese, because of the measures we have taken over the past 15 years. i.e. the program of church appraisals and inspections done by our broker, we find that there is some rate stability. Indeed this year we were able to lower the ratings on all parishes slightly. We are still faced with the continual challenges regarding insurance companies that will entertain our class of risk. It does not help to have a couple of major losses when we go seeking quotes from other companies. Losses over the past ten years have exceeded premiums. Often we think that only property claims are paid but claims under our liability coverage have increased also. Even if a liability claim is not paid there are lawyers' fees, etc.

The new User Group Insurance program is going well for the various groups that rent space in parish properties. This is a mandatory program throughout parishes in the Diocese and further information is available on the Diocesan website.

Insurance is a very complex commodity and again, I want to again thank our broker, David Ricketts. David keeps on top of changes in the market place and advises the committee and the FAC. He is available to assist, at any time, any parish with their questions.

Our Insurance Administrator, Kim Waltmann, is the cheerful voice at the Diocesan Resource Centre to assist you on a daily basis as well. We welcomed five new members to the sub-committee this past year. Their collective insurance experience and knowledge will be a great asset as we deliberate policy options.

Many thanks go to the members of the subcommittee:

Kathryn Anderson

Tim Burch

Brent Davis

Linda Daniels-Smith

Neil Groombridge

Violet Whitehouse

Kim Waltmann

(Administrator/Secretary)

Bob McKinnell (Diocesan Treasurer)

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Peter Swire, Chair

REPORT OF THE INVESTMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

(This subcommittee is responsible to the Financial Advisory Committee)

Our Investment Fund was restructured in June 1996 to the current participation unit format. It has been managed by Frank Russell Canada Limited (Russell) since July 1, 2002. Russell uses a multi-asset, multi-style, multi-manager approach to reduce risk and deliver consistent and superior returns. For our portfolio, they currently employ 24 managers.

Russell charges a fee of 52 bps plus GST per year (a basis point (bps) is 0.01%), paid quarterly. Also, the Diocese charges an administrative fee of 50 bps per year, paid monthly. The current total fees are 1.02% per year.

The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara uses a system of participation units through which the Diocese and the participating Parishes share the risks and rewards associated with the investment of their funds. Parishes, who chose to receive a monthly payment, received a 5% cash payout each year up to December 31, 2000 except for 1998 when they received 7.2%. Since January 1, 2001 Parishes have been able to withdraw funds by redeeming units on a monthly basis and this has replaced the cash payout. Unit values were originally set at \$10.00 and they peaked at \$17.30 on June 2007. As of June 2009 the unit value was \$14.03.

The returns on our participation units have fluctuated over a number of years similar with the stock markets. Following are the results, after expenses, as of June each year: June 2003 (1.72%), June 2004 13.56%, June 2005 9.48%, June 2006 7.14%, June 2007 13.33, June 2008 (3.81%) and June 2009 (12.77%).

We thank all of the members who are serving on the committee and in particular those who have recently left for their many years of service to the Diocese through their involvement on the Investment Sub-committee: Mr. Ted Crabtree, Mr. David W. Pady, Mr. Roger A. Philips and Mr. Malcolm Williams.

Present members of the Investment Subcommittee are:

Mr. Andrew Bucknall
Rev. Canon Robert Fead
Mr. Robert McKinnell (Diocesan Treasurer)
Mr. David Ricketts
Mr. David Watson (Interim Chair)
Ms. Kim Waltmann (Secretary)

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. David Watson, Interim Chair

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 4, 2009

To: Members of Synod

From: Budget Sub-committee

Re: **2010 Proposed Budget**

Attached is the 2010 Proposed Budget which was approved by the Financial Advisory Committee.

We recognize that a budget is simply a tool wherein we forecast the expected revenues and expenses that will occur in a future period. It gives us a comparison between what we think will happen and what actually happens. The importance of a budget lies in our ability to understand and explain variances that are different than we originally predicted would happen.

This budget is the next step towards realizing the evolving vision of the Diocese of Niagara. In the 2009 budget, we made some reductions in specific expense categories to make funds available to address two specific needs at that time. The first pertained to the Diocesan share of expenses at Cathedral Place and attempts to better match expenses with the role the Cathedral plays in the life of the Diocese. The second was the beginning piece of addressing the DM&M structure that currently exists and moving to a new model. There was \$150,000 available to provide both short term grants to parishes who are experiencing financial difficulties and are committed to realizing our Bishop's vision, as well as allowing parishes who choose to move to a one year calculation of DM&M from the current three year rolling average. This latter opportunity will assist parishes who are experiencing significant reversals in income or operational changes. A number of parishes have chosen to move to the one year DM&M model and we are in the process of setting that up. In addition, parishes have applied for the above noted grant and a decision related to those requests will be made shortly.

For 2010, a further sum of \$150,000 has been set aside in the budget for parish grants under the category Diocesan Operations. This will alleviate some of the pressure on the Personnel Transition and Severance line, as these costs were formerly included under this item.

A new position has been created entitled Ministry Support Consultant beginning in October of 2010. This is an important component of the new vision and is required to implement the covenanting process amongst clergy, parishes and the Diocese.

We have balanced the budget and financed the new items contained therein through a reduction in our commitment to the National Church and not replacing an employee from the finance area who has accepted other employment.

Following are some highlights of the budget which I hope will assist you in reviewing it:

Face Page - Budget:

- There has been no change in the Diocesan Mission & Ministries rate used to calculate the assessment figure. The current rate of 32.83% remains unchanged for 2010. The projected DM&M amount used for 2010 budget purposes is net of the \$150,000 that has been set aside to assist parishes as mentioned above.
- We have not projected any investment return for 2010 as we anticipate these funds will be required to finance our ongoing cashflow needs as well as having offset operating losses for 2007 and 2008, in addition to funding the expenses related to the breakaway parishes. As we identified last year, investments previously decreased as they were the source of the \$850,000 we used to purchase the 1.6 acres adjacent to St. Luke's in Palermo and the \$528,560 representing Endowment Funds which were transferred to the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara. The later transfer was done to ensure we maintain the integrity and purpose for which the endowment funds were originally established. Income generated from the endowment funds will support those activities that they were intended for.
- The budget for Synod Council Committees has been reduced to 5,000 and members of Synod Council are now bringing their own meals to meetings of this body.

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- A new position is included in the budget entitled Ministry Support Consultant and this will commence in October 2010. This has been mentioned above and will move us forward in realizing the new vision.
- A part-time position has been created named Cemetery Consultant to assist parishes in dealing with the various regulations established by the province with respect to cemeteries.
- The Louisa Parke Fund was totally drawn down during 2005. However, the commitment for a number of retired clergy remains. The \$44,000 amount represents the total monies required, for this purpose, in 2010. It is less than budgeted for in 2009 and it will continue to reduce over the coming years.
- The Treasurer's salary line was reduced in 2010 to reflect the interim position.
- Costs related to the office staff in the Finance area have been reduced in 2010 to reflect the loss of one employee who has accepted alternative employment. It is hoped the work load can be distributed amongst the remaining staff.
- The Investment Fund Administration Transfer represents the fee charged for the administration of Diocesan investments. The service fee transfer projected for 2010 is similar to that budgeted in 2009.

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- The Personnel Transition and Severance budget line has increased to \$315,000. It is difficult to anticipate on an annual basis what the appropriate figure should be, since the budget is set well in advance of the next operating year. Since 2000 Survive & Thrive has funded an additional amount of \$70,000 per year for five years and in 2004 a further one time amount of \$200,000 was approved. During 2004 the total amount expended in this category, from all sources, amounted to \$450,000. In 2005 this jumped up to \$590,825. In 2006 this increased to \$703,675. In 2007 it fell back to \$663,884. In 2008 it dropped slightly to \$660,178. For 2009 we are running over budget but at reduced rate compared to 2008. We are hopeful that the 2010 expense amount will be in line with the budget, especially since we have removed \$150,000 from this line by setting up the parish grants.
- The Parish Grants is a new line in name only, as the dollars were previously allocated under the Personnel and Transition line.
- Interest rates have decreased significantly this year so we have allowed for a reduction in Parish Interest/Other Expenses.
- Parish Loan Reduction reflects the annual loan payment we are required to make to our bank each year based on outstanding Synod term loans. This amount was increased in 2005 to \$115,010 as the result of borrowing \$125,000 to meet our commitment on the \$250,000 roof repairs to Cathedral Place in 2005. It is to be repaid over the next ten years.
- Staff Expenses have been reduced as we attempt to further reduce spending.
- A new category was added in the 2009 budget entitled Recovery Interest on Parish Receivables. A number of years ago, Synod gave approval to Synod Council to implement a program of charging interest to parishes on their Diocesan receivables. Synod Council, on October 14th 2008, tabled a motion to implement a plan to charge interest on Diocesan aged receivables older than 90 days. The approval of the 2009 budget resulted in the implementation of this charge. This action would place the interest cost related to using Diocesan funds squarely with the parish of origin rather than having all the other parishes subsidize the cost. Our current level of outstanding receivables would generate approximately \$43,000 per year and be an offset against interest charged on our bank operating loan.
- The Cathedral Place Building section was changed in 2009 in order that all of the costs associated with the Cathedral Place property were reflected in the budget. The actual 2008 results only reflect the Diocesan share. There has been a reduction in projected costs for 2010.
- In 2008 we assisted the Cathedral by providing some salary assistance which recognized the staff services the Diocese uses when we hold special events at the Cathedral. We discontinued that in 2009 and replaced it with a 50% reduction in the DM&M paid by the Cathedral. This recognizes the time and talent the Diocese receives without attempting to match it to any specific salary.
- As noted above, we have reduced our apportionment to the National Church for 2010.

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- Canterbury Hills has proposed a reduction in the Summer camp Program that will see support for this item eliminated over the next three years. Reductions will be in the amount of \$50,000 for 2010 and \$30,000 for 2011 and \$15,000 for 2012. It is anticipated that Canterbury Hills will replace these funds through development of their own fundraising program and the camp will continue in its present form.
- The Chaplaincy Program has been reduced by one third for 2010.
- Outreach Within The Diocese has been reduced by approximately 66%.

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- Clergy Development & Education has been reduced in the Divinity Student's and Ordinations categories as the number of students has declined from previous year.

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- Another Archdeacon was appointed in 2009 and we have increased the Archdeacons line to accommodate that change.
- The Clergy and Licensed Lay Workers Conference has been reduced to better reflect the dollars being spent in this area.
- Support for the Niagara Anglican has been increased to \$30,000. It has been an ongoing challenge to control costs in this area based on the continuing increase in mailing and production costs. Although we have limited the number of pages that make up the paper, this has only assisted in reducing our production costs.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT

Our Mission is to develop strong, vital, committed faith communities in the Diocese of Niagara and to nurture the leadership required to create and sustain them.

Through programs, events, training days and parish consultations, Children, Youth and Family Ministries continues to support the Bishop's priorities for the Diocese of leadership, stewardship and evangelism.

Children and Family Ministries

Program Consultant: Christyn Perkons on part-time basis.

- ✦ Works to enhance the ability of the Niagara Anglican Community to nurture the spiritual growth of children and their inclusion in faith communities.
- ✦ Provides resources and leadership training for Sunday morning programming, junior youth ministry and family ministry to parishes and parish clusters by request.
- ✦ Visits parishes by invitation to get to know volunteers and staff involved in children and family ministry; to get a sense of what's happening in parishes across the diocese, and to offer resources.

Family Ministry

- ✦ The annual retreat for families held at the Canterbury Hills Conference Centre each winter has regrettably been suspended for the time being.
- ✦ Resources particular to family needs are available through the lending library and include books in the areas of parenting, family spirituality, family activities, special needs children, sexuality and family milestones as well as games, music and videos/CDs.

Puppet Ministry

- ✦ Eighteen puppets along with puppet skits, instruction guides, and training manuals are available for loan to parishes to use in Sunday morning children's programming, children's talks, worship, Bible storytelling, and church announcements. Mini training workshops can be provided to parishes by the consultant, and training days by a professional at a puppet training school are offered as interest dictates.

Children's Festivals

- ✦ The consultant provides support to the regional Children's Festivals through advertising, administration, and button design/creation. Over 700 children enjoy this event annually which typically occurs on the last Saturday in April. Planning for the 2010 Children's Festivals in Undermount/Mohawk, Lincoln/Brock, Greater Wellington, and Trafalgar began on November 2nd.

Soul Rhythms

- ✦ An annual event intended to nourish, nurture and thank parish volunteers – Sunday, November 15 at St. Christopher's, Burlington.
- ✦ Participants have a choice of workshops (which have included in the past offerings such as Aromatherapy, Sacred Circle Dancing, Drumming, Biblical Gardening, Floral Arranging, Belly Dancing) and also enjoy dinner and a guest speaker.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT continued

Lending Library

A wide variety of books, activities, games, music, videos and CDs are available for three week loans through the Program Consultant's office. New resources include:

- Water Bugs & Dragonflies colouring book (explaining death to young children)
- Love Life, Live Lent Family Book: Transform Your World
- Anglican Learning Centres: **The Creed**, and **All Saints**
- Sharing the Easter Faith with Children (from birth to 12)
- Games, Kids, and Christian Education
- Storytelling, Kids, and Christian Education
- Topsy Turvy Christmas: a Musical Play for Children with music CD

Resources

The consultant can provide:

- ✦ Resource packages for All Saints Day, Ash Wednesday and Pentecost.
- ✦ Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation materials.
- ✦ Retreat planning resources.
- ✦ Innovative worship resources including instructed Eucharists.
- ✦ Response to particular needs such as: specific types of crafts, crafts related to a particular observance such as Good Friday, games for teaching servers, developing a junior youth ministry, and summer activities related to church and faith experiences to name but a few.
- ✦ Information handouts including articles on Prayers for Children, Hosting an All Saints Party, Working with Behavioural Challenges, Christmas Pageants, What's Available in Church School Curriculum, Teaching Tips 101, Co-operative Games, Puppet Ministry in the Parish, and Young Teens Ministry Toolbox.

Youth Ministry

Program Consultants: Joyce Wilton and Christyn Perkons job-share this 4/5 time portfolio.

- ✦ Work to enhance the ability of the Niagara Anglican Community to nurture the spiritual growth of youth and young adults and their inclusion in faith communities.
- ✦ Develop and train a strong and committed group of lay and clergy leaders to staff our programs and to share this leadership and their abilities with the larger diocesan community
- ✦ Provide resources and leadership training for junior/senior youth ministry and young adult initiatives to parishes and parish clusters by request.
- ✦ Visit parishes on request to get to know volunteers and staff involved in youth ministry, to get a sense of what's happening in parishes across the diocese and to offer support and resources

Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee (DYMC)

- ✦ Representatives meet monthly to support and offer direction to the Program Consultants, to define and execute the direction, vision and plans around diocesan-wide programming and training needs to reflect the diocesan vision, and to offer feedback about resources.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT continued

The Annual Calendar of Events includes:

Looking Forward: A Youth Leaders Training Event

➤ A residential event that offers youth leaders (young and old, lay and ordained) training in current issues and an opportunity to network with other leaders. This **Outstanding Leadership for Ministry** event is coordinated, hosted and staffed by Niagara but has participants from the dioceses of Niagara, Huron and Toronto

➤ This event is taking place on Friday November 6 and Saturday November 7, 2009

Diocesan Synod Youth Members Residence & Orientation

➤ A residential program at Canterbury Hills that includes an orientation to synod procedures for Youth Members of Diocesan Synod during the annual Synod meeting in November.

➤ The residence and orientation will take place on Thursday, November 19 to Saturday, November 21, 2009 at Canterbury Hills, for youth member ages 16-25.

➤ This **Outstanding Leadership for Ministry** event provides an opportunity to create relationships amongst the youth and young adult community attending Diocesan Synod, and offers support and education about procedures and meeting content for Synod so that youth are able to take a leadership role.

SpiritQuest

➤ An intimate spiritual retreat for youth aged 14-24 highlighting **Life Changing Worship** and a **Flourishing Culture of Innovation**.

➤ SpiritQuest was held at Crieff Hills Retreat Centre in Puslinch, with 10 participants and three leaders, January 30 to February 1, 2009.

➤ The program has expanded recently to include a young adult component with particular emphasis on making transitions and the spiritual journey.

➤ The 2010 event will take place January 29-31 at the Crieff Hills Retreat Centre.

Youth Leadership Training Program (YLTP)

➤ A three-year leadership training program (now in its third decade) held during March Break to develop youth leaders who can offer **Outstanding Leadership for Ministry**. It took place at Canterbury Hills, this year from March 15-18, 2009 with 34 youth participants, ages 13-16, including seven adult leaders.

➤ A Commissioning Service for the 3rd year participants, their families and supporters was held at St. Christopher, Burlington on June 6, 2009. Thanks to Donna Ellis and Sue Nicolls for their three years of leadership to this 2009 graduating group.

➤ The 2010 event will take place Sunday, March 14 to Wednesday, March 17.

➤ Applications for first year participants are available now and will be accepted until the end of January 2010.

Youth Synod

➤ The largest youth ministry program in Niagara with a dual focus on **Prophetic Social Justice Making and Outstanding Leadership for Ministry**, the 21st annual Youth Synod was hosted by St. Christopher, Burlington, May 1-3, 2009.

➤ Offers youth delegates ages 13-21 the opportunity to debate and strategize about issues important to their faith and their communities as well as providing opportunities to experience **Life Changing Worship**.

➤ Over 90 delegates, 20 adult observers, and over 50 adult volunteer staff were in attendance representing over 40 parishes. The minutes are available on the Youth Ministry website: www.zipsqueal.com. Many thanks to our host parish St. Christopher's for their enthusiasm and gracious hospitality!

➤ Youth Synod 2010, hosted by St. James, Dundas will take place April 30 to May 2.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT continued

Youth Synod Council

- ✚ This body drafts motions for the upcoming Youth Synod, follows up on motions post-Synod, and functions as the voice of youth in the Diocese of Niagara between Youth Synods.
- ✚ Involves seven youth representatives representing the regions along with the Chair of Youth Synod who meet monthly from October to May developing **Outstanding Leadership for Ministry** skills and broadening their understanding of **Prophetic Social Justice Making**
- ✚ Thanks to Rev. Matthew Griffin for facilitating the Council's work in 2009 and for his willingness to continue in 2010.

Youth Ministry Sunday

- ✚ A variety of resources (bulletin covers, theme ideas, and liturgical material) are offered to parishes to help them celebrate Youth Ministry in their congregation on the date of their choosing. This contextual liturgy material is developed within a **Flourishing Culture of Innovation** framework and is intended to help youth and the parish families that support them celebrate their ministry through **Life Changing Worship**
- ✚ Resource material and bulletin covers were mailed to all parishes prior to the June event (our target celebration date; parishes can use the material at their own convenience) and also available on the website at www.zipsqueal.com. Check out this site to view the 2009 resources and the resources from previous years. The new material is posted in early May.

Niagara Youth Conference (NYC)

- ✚ The cornerstone event in youth ministry in Niagara with a multiple focus on **Life Changing Worship**, a **Flourishing Culture of Innovation** and **Prophetic Social Justice Making** - this year was the 63rd Anniversary of the first NYC (formerly NLC).
- ✚ The purpose of this five day residential event is to establish a caring, spiritual, participatory, learning community that encourages inclusivity and personal sharing (mitigated, of course, by fun and frivolity).
- ✚ NYC took place from August 23-28, 2009 at Canterbury Hills. The program is staffed by 18 volunteers who give nine months to the planning and execution of this conference; pictures of which can be viewed at www.zipsqueal.com.

Regional Youth Ministry

Hamilton Regional Youth Worship – The Gathering

- ✚ This event, reflecting the vision in a **Flourishing Culture of Innovation, Life Changing Worship and Outstanding Leadership for Ministry** and now completing its fourth year, offers worship quarterly with a live band and liturgy written and delivered by youth and young adult participants.
- ✚ A group of committed youth leaders and adult supporters meet along with diocesan youth ministry staff to plan this worship in the Hamilton area.

Regional Youth Worship – The Gathering North

- ✚ Our goal in 2009 was to extend this ministry to the Greater Wellington area. This goal was reached with one event held at St. George's, Guelph on April 5th and another at St. Matthias on October 18th.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT continued

Lending Resource Library

- ✦ Includes resources for program planning, current youth ministry theory and theology as well as worship and music resources. Resources are available to borrow by individuals and parishes. They are located in the Program Department offices at Cathedral Place.
- ✦ To check out the many resources available, an online catalogue can be found on the youth ministry website: www.zipsqueal.com.

Consultations and Training

- ✦ Joyce and Christyn are involved with a number of parishes on a consultation basis.
- ✦ Consultations can be as simple as telephone support and resource sharing electronically or as complex as a multi-event response created for your parish.
- ✦ Consultations are designed to meet the needs of the individual parish. The focus of the consultation may include visioning for youth ministry in the specific parish or area, development of a youth ministry program, specific training for youth ministry staff and volunteers as well as advice on hiring youth ministry personnel.

Thanks to our Volunteers!

Thank you to the dozens of volunteers who have supported our work in the past year. Without you, these ministries would not be transforming the lives of children, youth and adults across the Diocese.

Adult Education - Bishop's Diploma Course (BDC)

- ✦ This program provides instruction related to faith issues for over 100 lay people through two eight-week terms (fall and winter) and is offered in as many as six parish centres. Course themes include Old Testament, New Testament, ethics, liturgy, history, spirituality, world religions and Anglicanism.
- ✦ Diploma requirements are completion of six course and attendance at a retreat.
- ✦ Retreats and graduations are planned biennially. The next retreat will be held October 3, 2009 and graduation will be planned for December 3, 2009.
- ✦ Thank you to BDC leaders, Ven. Bruce McPetrie, Rev. Canon Barry Randle, Rev. John Ripley and Rev. Paul Whitehouse, for their ongoing leadership and dedication to the program.
- ✦ Jane Wyse provides staff support for BDC and may be contacted for information.

Congregation Support

- ✦ Joyce serves on the Safe Church Committee, is a member of the Safe Church investigative team, and staffs the Volunteer Management & Screening initiatives for the diocese.
- ✦ Christyn does congregational support and development work with parishes using tools such as Open Space, Asset Mapping, Appreciative Inquiry & Holy Conversations/Strategic Planning, maintains a CSD resource library, serves on Candidates Committee and the Vision Planning Team, and coordinates the Alternative Liturgy Conversation.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT continued

Congregational Support & Development Resources

- Emerging Church/Alternate Worship – books, videos, DVDs.
- Change Management – books and ‘how to’ manuals.
- Adult Education – programs; Via Media, Living the Questions (1 & 2) Saving Jesus, Eclipsing Empire, The Fit Life.
- Parish Guide for Same Gender Blessings Discussion.
- PCensus – a tool that gives parishes access to detailed demographic information for any area around the parish including census data, current and future year estimates, demographic profiling and lifestyle targeting.
- New Resources: God’s Tapestry: Understanding and Celebrating Differences, Can Our Church Live?-Redeveloping Congregations in Decline, Spirit and the Politics of Disablement, Eclipsing Empire: Paul, Rome and the Kingdom of God (from Living the Questions), The Church of All Ages: Generations Worshipping Together, Becoming a Blessed Church: Forming a Church of Purpose, Presence and Power

Staff of the Division are:

- Michael Patterson, Executive Officer, Ext. 257, michael.patterson@niagara.anglican.ca
- Christyn Perkons, Consultant, Children, Youth & Family Ministries, & Congregational Support, Ext. 460, christyn.perkons@niagara.anglican.ca
- Joyce Wilton, Consultant, Youth Ministry, Volunteer Management & Screening, Congregational Support Ext. 430, joyce.wilton@niagara.anglican.ca
- Jane Wyse, Diocesan Administrative Assistant, Ext. 420, jane.wyse@niagara.anglican.ca

**REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION
HELD MAY 2, 2009 AT ST. CHRISTOPHER'S, BURLINGTON**

Introduction of:

Chair	The Reverend Bill Mous
Chancellor	The Venerable Dr. Stephen Hopkins
MCs	Steff Browning and Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh
Diocesan Program Consultants	Christyn Perkons and Joyce Wilton
Secretary/Tech Crew	Jamie Barnes and Brandon Prodger
Youth Synod Coordinator	Mary Gordon
Youth Synod Council Coordinator	The Reverend Matthew Griffin
Youth Local Planning Coordinators	Simone Griffiths, Rob Pawson, Sandi Smith

Voting Delegates:

Elliott Armstrong	Ben Holtam-Prodger	Sarah Noiseux
Mac Armstrong	Rosie Hopkins**	Katrice Nolan
Stuart Armstrong**	Peter Howard	Emily Oliver
Thomas Armstrong	Charlotte Irwin-James	Jeremy Phillips
Nick Arseneau	Janine Jackson	Carolyn Pugh
Dani Atkinson	Emily Johnson**	Joseph Pugh
Vanessa Bassett-Bradley	Jeremy Kennedy	Jammal Pusey
Whitney Bassett-Bradley	Derek La Hay**	Nathalie Reid
Maddy Bentham	John Lehocki	Laura Robson
Steff Browning	Jess Letman	Thomas Rolfe
Erin Buttrum	Barbara Jean Lick	Kohdy Rusk
Lauren Clark	Mike Lickers	Kate Smyth
Lenox Daley	Ben Lloyd	Cole Sutton-Greenhalgh**
Nate Duliban	Brandon Lloyd	Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh**
Alexia Ferraro	Justin Lloyd	Patrick Taylor
Hilary Finch	Duncan MacKinnon	Candice Toth
Mat Fisher	Aidan Maloney	Alex Urquhart
Tom Frampton	Tricia Manning	Lily Vermolen
Andrew Garland	Chris McDevitt	Zach Vernon
Bre Gordon	Matt McDonald	Monica Volkov
Eric Greene	Sarah McDonald	Rob Warren
Monica Griffin	Cory McGee	Will Wells
Richard Griffin	Fletcher McGee	Dale Wilbur
Becky Halliwell	Aley Meade	Ryan Williams
Ashley Hatcher	Justin Michael**	Connor Wilson
Nick Head-Petersen	Emily Moar	Diana Wood
Deirdre Henry	Allison Mondloch	Sabrina Yott
	Kevin Murray	
	James Noble	

** Youth Synod Council Members

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Other Adult Observers:

James Beattie	Small Group Leader
The Right Reverend Michael Bird	Bishop of Niagara
The Venerable Lynne Corfield	Archdeacon, Brock Region
Belle Daley	Youth Ministry Committee
Steph DeForest	Small Group Leader
Donna Ellis	Youth Ministry Committee
Jen Harper	Small Group Leader
Keith Halliwell	Small Group Leader
Laura Harrison	Small Group Leader
Phil Jones	Small Group Leader
The Reverend Kathy Morgan	Regional Dean, Mohawk
Anna Ryder	Small Group Leader
Sarah Scapinello	Small Group Leader/Youth Ministry Committee
Jane Wyse	Diocesan Staff

Chancellor's Charge:

- Over 90 Delegates gathered to focus in the theme “One to Many” – no one person stands alone
- Every person in the room has power to make change; Youth Synod is the place to seize opportunities and to network with others who are passionate about the same issue.
- Introduced Bishop Michael
- Bishop Speaks
 - The Bishop reminded the delegates that last year was his first Youth Synod as Bishop and he didn't feel like he knew much. A year later, he joked that he knows it all.
 - Bishop Michael added that Youth Synod is a place that nourishes him, and that he had been looking forward to joining the delegate for a dose of inspiration. He acknowledged that the work of Youth Synod reinvigorates his own passions about justice.
 - Thanks to everybody for inspiring him.
 - Wished every blessing on the work of Youth Synod and said he was delighted to be here.

The Chair - Call for nominations:

- General Synod meets in Halifax this year
- More information is available with Steph DeForest
- Need to be a delegate to Diocesan Synod to be nominated for General Synod.
- Christyn Perkons has the nomination forms and the voting will be done this afternoon

Norms for Youth Synod

- Encourage to pay attention and listen attentively
- Respect and recognize the need for safe space.
- Respectful open and honest conversation is welcome.
- Reminders about Youth Synod process
 - Motion read in entirety
 - Mover/Seconder to speak
 - Floor open to debate – Go to microphone that best matches your height and speak when the Chair acknowledges you
 - Identify your name and your parish
 - Amendment Zone – Matthew Griffin and Phil Jones as advisors for those writing amendments

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Motion to Give Rights to the Floor for Observers:

Phil Jones	Belle Daley	James Beattie
The Venerable Lynne Corfield	Sarah Scapinello	Jen Harper
The Reverend Kathy Morgan	Anna Ryder	Laura Harrison
Steph DeForest	Donna Ellis	Keith Halliwell
	Jane Wyse	

“that the observers listed above be granted rights to the floor..”
The house granted overwhelming consent.

1. CONSUMERISM AND HOW IT RELATES TO STEWARDSHIP IN DELEGATES’ PARISHES

WHEREAS: Almost everyone buys many things that we do not really need, and Jesus reminds us that where our treasure is, there our heart will be also (Mt 6.21).

AND WHEREAS: The amount of money spent on unnecessary purchases could be spent on better things, or for other people who need basic necessities.

AND WHEREAS: Stewardship committees are a great way to advocate for, and share stories of, non-consumption with fellow parishioners and friends.

AND WHEREAS: Youth Synod has previously passed a motion against buying bottled water: while environmental in focus, this motion shows our long history of working against consumerism.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Delegates cut back spending on unnecessary items, both major and minor expenses (from a new PS3 game system or a new iPod to a daily Tim Horton’s coffee, fast food instead of bringing food with us, hair products) and donate either a personal set amount or percentage of the money that would have been normally spent on minor purchases to their home parishes or other charities.
2. Delegates join or help to form stewardship committees (including at least one youth) and actively and creatively participate in the activities of those committees.
3. Delegates participate in sharing stories about mindful consumerism and why they are not spending this amount of money using the email address: whatididntbuy@gmail.com.

Moved by: Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh, All Saints, Hamilton
Seconded by: Stuart Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga

Discussion

- *Be mindful of how much money you spend on consumer products vs. donating.*
- *Forgetting that it’s not just about money, it’s also about skills and talents.*
- *Economy relies on us to consume goods, don’t want to pull support from them.*
- *About shopping smart and not buying the wrong things.*
- *Helping the economy.*
- *Our generation is the generation that will make change. It’s easier for us to get new messages and concepts. This is wonderful way to get involved and use the money we do have for the greater good.*
- *If it’s too easy for you to give, you’re not giving enough.*

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Procedural Motion

Motion to vote clause-by-clause

In Favour: 62

Opposed: 11

Motion carried.

- *Nickels and Dimes do go a long way. Spare change can do a lot of good.*
- *Need to be careful by voting clause by clause. Depleting power of motion if you pass one and not another.*
- *Raise hand if you think there is something you can give up to make a difference (about 50% raised). "You can't do everything but you can do something"*
- *Voting clause by clause is an easy way out, water down motion.*
- *Question: "What would stewardship committees be doing?"*
 - *Advocacy and information group, but it can be whatever you want it to be.*

Friendly Amendment: Delegates participate in sharing stories about mindful consumerism and why they are not spending this amount of money using the email address: whatididntbuy.ys09@gmail.com.

Moved by: Justin Michael, St. Matthias Guelph

- *What will be done with the stories?*
 - *Purpose of email is to hear their stories, and at future Youth Synods read them out, post on Zipsqueal, put in to action our plans.*
- *Motion is about consumerism and how it relates to stewardship.*

Call the question

Clause 1:

IN FAVOUR: 78 PASSED

OPPOSED: 4

Clause 2:

IN FAVOUR: 63 PASSED

OPPOSED: 16

Clause 3:

IN FAVOUR: 63 PASSED

OPPOSED: 21

2. BISHOP'S VISION/CONNECTION TO YOUTH MINISTRY

WHEREAS: Diocesan youth ministry has embodied a flourishing culture of innovation by modeling and teaching how to take intelligent risks and to try out new ideas in programming, in worship, in leadership, in stewardship, in interpersonal skills, and in myriad other ways;

AND WHEREAS: The actions of Diocesan Youth Ministry show a longstanding track record of commitment to prophetic social justice-making e.g. Youth Synod influencing Diocesan Synod's decision to include issues of social-justice making in its two-day synods, advocating for the full inclusion of gays and lesbians in the entire life of the church and for the ordination of women to the episcopacy, speaking out against sweatshop labour and advocating for fair appeals for refugees, supporting the use of fair trade products, and several poverty reduction motions and actions;

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

AND WHEREAS: Youth ministry has been a leader in moving toward effective resource management in terms of greening youth ministry events and parishes, of managing volunteers, of bringing food for food banks and generally living out of a theology of gratitude for the abundant blessings which God has given to us;

AND WHEREAS: Youth ministry has helped to give training and opportunities for Christians, young and old, in outstanding leadership for ministry for both volunteer staff and event participants via the Youth Leadership Training program; Youth Synod in general and its Young Adult Mentor program in particular; the Niagara Youth Conference; SpiritQuest; the Diocesan Synod Orientation Program; and many, many more events and programs as well as advocating for leadership training for clergy and laity through Youth Synod;

AND WHEREAS: We are renowned across Canada for both creating and advocating for contemporary, life-changing worship services that fully engage laity and clergy in designing, creating and participating in transformative liturgy that is Spirit-driven, affirming, inclusive, diverse, and highly participatory as well as for training events designed to help participants develop liturgical skills and best practices;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Youth Synod 2009 affirms the Diocesan vision and resolves to continue its leadership role as the vision is fully realised in the Diocese of Niagara.
2. Youth Synod 2009 asks the Bishop to affirm his commitment to living out the diocesan vision in partnership with the youth of the Diocese of Niagara through Diocesan Youth Ministry.

Moved by: Stuart Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga
Seconded by: Cole Sutton-Greenhalgh, All Saints, Hamilton

Discussion

- *Everybody in the room as been affected by a youth event.*
- *Point of clarification on 2nd clause*
 - *Asking Bishop to help us help him.*
- *Keep going*

Friendly Amendment:

3. That Youth Synod 2009 invites Bishop Michael and all future Bishops to youth events and that we regularly reinforce how much we appreciate his/her presence.

Moved by: Justin Michael, St. Matthias Guelph

Call the question

IN FAVOUR: 83 PASSED
OPPOSED: 0

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

3. INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE IN CHURCH/NON-DEROGATORY LANGUAGE

WHEREAS: It is common for many people to use words such as “gay” and “retarded” in the wrong context (e.g. as synonyms for the word “stupid”). It is profoundly disrespectful to use these words in the wrong context and youth should be encouraged to try and stop using these terms in inappropriate ways;

AND WHEREAS: Our faith has long taught that how we speak matters very deeply, as we can see in many places in the Bible: “For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” (Matthew 12:34) and “Let your speech always be with grace” (Colossians 4:6);

AND WHEREAS: Scripture is clear that God is beyond gender: “So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.” (Genesis 1.27);

AND WHEREAS: Youth Synod has had a history of inclusive language in past motions and continues to be committed to ensuring that we speak and act to include all of God’s people.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Delegates no longer use words such as “gay” and “retarded” pejoratively as synonyms for “stupid”.
2. Delegates encountering others speaking this way will ask those people to stop doing so.
3. Delegates try to use both male and female pronouns for God and always keep an open mind about the gender of God.
4. Worship at youth events will use gender-neutral language and a balance of pronouns to refer to God.
5. Youth Synod 2009 asks the Bishop and the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara to commit to using gender-neutral language and a balance of male and female pronouns in all future diocesan worship services.

Moved by: Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh, All Saints, Hamilton

Seconded by: Rosie Hopkins, St. Christopher’s, Burlington

Discussion

- *Retarded means slow, not stupid. The word has a legitimate use - used in music all the time.*
- *Show of hands, who has been in a hallway and heard those terms. 100%*
- *How many of you told that person what they said was inappropriate. 20%*
- *Everyone has slipped a few times. Recognize you’re using language hurtfully and change your language.*

Call the question

IN FAVOUR: 79 PASSED

OPPOSED: 4

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

4. HOMOPHOBIA

WHEREAS: Homophobia is the irrational fear of, aversion to or discrimination against homosexuality or homosexuals;

AND WHEREAS: The Bible says in Malachi 2:10 “Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why do we profane the covenant of our fathers by breaking faith with one another?”;

AND WHEREAS: In 2005, 2003, 2001 and 1995, Youth Synod advocated for the blessing of same gender unions, and Bishop Michael announced at Diocesan Synod in March 2008 that the Diocese is creating rites for the blessing of civilly married same sex unions, and that he intends to authorize the use of those rites shortly after their completion.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Delegates will write to their local municipal board members asking them to proclaim May 17, 2010 as international day against homophobia and to fly the rainbow flag on that day.
2. Delegates will petition their high school to fly the rainbow flag from May 15-18th (the 17th is a Sunday this year).
3. Delegates will remove from their daily vocabulary language that would exclude, antagonize or discriminate against people of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered (“GLBT”) community such as the words gay, dike, fag, pansy, etc. and actively intervene when others use such language.
4. Delegates will sign the Safe Schools Petition, calling for concrete action to provide a safe environment for GLBT students and staff as well as those perceived to be GLBT. (Petition found at:
<http://www.egale.ca/index.asp?lang=E&menu=1&item=1176>)

Moved by: Justin Michaels, St. Matthias, Guelph

Seconded by: Cole Sutton-Greenhalgh, All Saints, Hamilton

Discussion

- *Must be prepared to put in the effort that it requires to uphold the motion. It takes a lot of convincing*

Procedural Motion

Motion to vote clause-by-clause

In Favour: 32

Opposed: 48

Motion defeated.

- *Would like to discuss ways to intervene when somebody does something hurtful. How to open dialogue, and find out where it is coming from for them.*
- *We have to be careful how we throw around the word ‘homophobia’.*
- *The next step in a process that has already begun.*
- *Alerting us all to privacy issues re 3rd clause*
- *It is probably an issue but you are not hearing about it.*
- *“Everybody uses those words” is not an acceptable excuse.*

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

- 2nd clause will end poorly – will we actually ask our schools to fly the flag; will they agree to fly it and if so, will that cause more problems for gay students?
- Question: If we can't refer people as 'gay', what can we refer them to?
 - Justin responds: Part of 3rd clause is not using words in a certain context..

Friendly Amendment:

1. Delegates will write to their local municipal board members, **MPs, and MPPs** asking them to proclaim May 17, 2010 as International Day Against Homophobia and to fly the rainbow flag on that day.
5. Delegates will offer peer support to all those in the GLBT community who have been hurt by homophobic comments and views.

Moved by: Carolyn Pugh, St. Matthias Guelph

Procedural Motion

Motion to vote clause-by-clause

In Favour: 58

Opposed: 25

Motion carried

- Catholic High School would not fly a flag. Request answer in closing comments
- Flying flag not gay pride, but recognition
- Point of clarification: where will we obtain a rainbow flag? Answer in closing remarks

Call the question

1st clause:

IN FAVOUR: 72 PASSED

OPPOSED: 12

2nd clause:

IN FAVOUR: 56 PASSED

OPPOSED: 30

3rd clause:

IN FAVOUR: 82 PASSED

OPPOSED: 4

4th clause:

IN FAVOUR: 77 PASSED

OPPOSED: 6

5th clause:

IN FAVOUR: 82 PASSED

OPPOSED: 3

5. YOUTH OUTREACH MOTION

WHEREAS: Youth ministry events are intended to create safe spaces where we can grow as individuals and leaders, explore and get excited about our faith, and worship in ways different than at church;

AND WHEREAS: Relationships in faith communities are important because they allow youth to connect with others who share similar values and get to know each other on a deeper level than may otherwise be possible;

AND WHEREAS: It is important for those new to youth ministry to feel welcomed and safe at youth events in order for them to participate in these relationships;

AND WHEREAS: In the first Christian community, "the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul" (acts 4.32), we see the ideal presented that we are joined through our faith as one and must know and care for one another.

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Youth Synod 2009 asks the Diocesan Program Consultants to coordinate youth ambassadors at all major diocesan events to talk up why it is a great thing to be part of Diocesan Youth Ministry events and what youth will gain from participating in Diocesan Youth Ministry events, and to support that, each Youth Synod 2009 delegate will volunteer to be a youth ambassador for at least two diocesan events in 2009-2010.
2. Youth Synod asks the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee to create teams to go out to parishes (as invited) to make presentations about the benefits and joys of participating in Diocesan Youth Ministry events, and to support that, each Youth Synod 2009 delegate will volunteer to be part of a team.
3. Each Youth Synod 2009 delegate will, at any Diocesan Youth Ministry event she/he attends from now on, meet and speak to at least one person whom she/he has not met before, and that Diocesan Youth Ministry staff and volunteers will ensure that event participants are reminded to do this at the beginning of each event.
4. Youth Synod 2009 asks Youth Ministry Program Consultants to arrange for non-staff youth greeters at all Diocesan Youth Ministry events, and to support that, each Youth Synod 2009 delegate will volunteer to be such a greeter.

Moved by: Rosie Hopkins, St. Christopher's, Burlington

Seconded by: Derek La Hay, St. Christopher's, Burlington

Discussion

- *3rd clause: Diocesan events, go out and make friends!*
- *Youth events are a great place to come for people who are shy to really shine and be themselves. I'm really shy but I feel very comfortable at youth events, even the first time I go to something, people are very welcoming*
- *Youth need a comfortable and safe space to talk about faith*
- *Participating in youth ministry events gives you a chance to eliminate pre-conceived notions*
- *Going to youth ministry events is also a wonderful way to eliminate the awkwardness of meeting new people because you know everyone will accept you as you are*
- *I come a long distance to get to youth ministry events and I do that because they meet my needs in many ways but we need to remember that for youth outside of the Hamilton area, travel time can be an issue and cost can be an issue. I spend about \$30 in gas every time I come in for an event*
- *Program diversity is important to being an ambassador*

Friendly Amendment:

5. That delegates and participants actively try to bring one or more friends to future youth events.

Moved by Becky Halliwell, St. Matthias, Guelph

- *Bursaries available to help youth attend all the various youth events and it's important to remember and remind one another that the bursary money is there so that no one is excluded from youth ministry events because of cost.*

Call the question

IN FAVOUR: 87 PASSED

OPPOSED: 0

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

6. BULLYING: A CALL TO ACTION

WHEREAS: bullying is seen as a widespread problem in schools and among youth and is an issue that has touched many at Youth Synod either directly or through friends and peers;

AND WHEREAS: 34% of students in grades 7 to 11 say they are bullied within a school year, and 27% say they have been bullied online;

AND WHEREAS: bullying is very hard for adults to catch and prevent; especially online and non-violent bullying;

AND WHEREAS: 81% of bullying happens in a peer group where friends are pressured into keeping silent about the actions of their peers;

AND WHEREAS: 83% of students who have watched bullying say it made them uncomfortable and 57% of the time when someone intervenes in a bullying situation, it stops within 10 seconds—and peers intervene more often than adults;

AND WHEREAS: the suicide rate among students from ages 10 to 19 is on the rise, and research shows that chronic peer abuse is an additional risk factor for childhood and adolescent suicide for both victims and perpetrators.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The delegates of Youth Synod 2009 commit to intervening when seeing or hearing about acts of bullying.
2. The delegates of Youth Synod 2009 will be mindful of what they put on Facebook, Zipsqueal, MSN and other websites.
3. Youth Synod asks the Program Consultants to provide training on how to deal with bullying (both at and away from youth events) to youth ministry volunteer staff.
4. Youth Synod 2009 asks the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee to address the issue of bullying at events such as The Gathering, NYC, YLTP, etc.

Moved by: Derek Le Hay, St. Christopher's, Burlington

Seconded by: Diana Wood, Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton

Discussion

Friendly Amendment:

5. That Youth Synod delegates are encouraged to join an existing anti-bullying group in their school or parish (or help create one if none exists) in which they will discuss cyber bullying, physical bullying, verbal bullying, etc.

Moved by Jammal Pusey, St. Simon's, Oakville

- *Not time for personal stories, time to debate the motion*
- *The most you need to say is a little comment, and you can stop any future repercussions.*

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Procedural Motion

Motion to vote clause-by-clause

In Favour: 32

Opposed: 51

Motion defeated

- *3rd clause will be pointless unless delegates bring issues to staff.*

Request to Amend

Request denied by Chair – Youth Synod only permits one amendment per motion

- *Expand interpretation of intervene. Make sure you get out and help people. Use the power you have to not let it happen.*
- *Find and use a support system. Find the people who are here who you can talk to.*

Call the question

IN FAVOUR: 84 PASSED

OPPOSED: 1

7. END THE GENOCIDE IN DARFUR

WHEREAS: Genocide is the deliberate and systematic destruction, in whole or in part, of an ethnic, racial, religious, or national group;

AND WHEREAS: Genocide in Darfur has killed 400,000 people to date, and displaced more than 2.5 million people since 2003;

AND WHEREAS: After the Holocaust, our world leaders pledged that genocide would never happen again, but since that day incidences of genocide have occurred without intervention from the worldwide community in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and now Darfur;

AND WHEREAS: God commands us to “Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends,” (John 15:12-13);

AND WHEREAS: God calls us to be responsible to help every person to bring about God’s reign;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. All delegates will become a voice for Darfur by sending a post card to the Prime Minister and their MPs and/or will call 1-800-GENOCIDE to show that we join the Save Darfur! campaign in supporting: *the promotion of **peace**, the **protection** of civilians, **punishment** for the perpetrators of genocide, **prevention** of future genocides*
2. Delegates will become a member of the Save Darfur Coalition to get updates on how they can help work against the genocide in Darfur (savedarfur.org) and sign the petition to urge China to stop protecting Sudan and aiding the genocide in Darfur (<http://action.savedarfur.org/campaign/chinaolymp>).

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

3. Delegates will host a film screening at their home parishes and/or schools using the Darfur: A Call to Action video and discussion guide and urge the parish and/or school to take action to help Darfur, including, for parishes, to become a Congregation of Conscience <http://www.savedarfur.org/page/s/faith> postcards.
4. Delegates will write to their local newspaper about the crisis in Darfur, what they are doing to try to stop it, and the importance of covering the Darfur crisis in our media.
5. Delegates will pray daily for an end to the crisis in Darfur.

Moved by: Emily Johnson, St. Christopher's, Burlington
Seconded by: Sabrina Yott, St. Christopher's, Burlington

Discussion

- *Considered the motion we just passed on bullying, we should stand up for this.*
- *Passed a motion three years ago at Youth Synod regarding Darfur. What have we done about it?*
- *Justice needs to be served, Law & Order needs to be pursued*
- *Responsibility to put forward a message of love as Christians.*

IN FAVOUR: 93 PASSED
OPPOSED: 0

8. HIV/AIDS

WHEREAS: HIV/AIDS kills over 3 million people a year and people who have HIV/AIDS need help to find a cure so they can live.

AND WHEREAS: God once said "every soul that eateth that which died of itself, or that which was torn with beasts, whether it be one of Your own country, or a stranger, he shall both wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean, until the even: he shall be clean."

AND WHEREAS: HIV/AIDS is not only a medical condition, but also involves a social stigma where people with HIV/AIDS are discriminated against, and deemed "unclean".

AND WHEREAS: We are called to reach out to those in need, just as Jesus reached out to lepers and others that society considered unclean.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Youth Synod delegates will learn more about HIV/AIDS, and make a presentation to their parish council about how their parish can become involved in working against the spread of HIV/AIDS and helping those affected;
2. Youth Synod delegates will also form discussion and action groups in their schools, to work within their schools to help those with HIV/AIDS

Moved by: John Lehocki, St. James/St. Brendan's, St. Colburne
Seconded by: Richard Griffin, All Saints, Hamilton

Discussion

- *What about those who don't want to be helped?*
- *Before you do a presentation, do your research and get your facts straight.*

Procedural Motion

Ashley Smith asked that the motion be tabled until Youth Synod 2010

In Favour: 72 PASSED

Opposed: 14

Motion tabled.

9. YOUTH SYNOD PRINTING

WHEREAS: At Youth Synod 2009 there was a motion directing Youth Ministry Program Consultants to reduce paper by not mailing out packages but providing info online;

AND WHEREAS: Many delegates have not brought a copy of the motion and the agenda with them to Youth Synod

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Youth Synod 2009 directs the program staff to make green printing decisions and still make sure delegates have what they need for Youth Synod.

Moved by: Christyn Perkons, Program Staff

Seconded by: Matthew Griffin, Youth Synod Committee Coordinator

Procedural Motion

See below

10. POST YOUTH SYNOD COMMUNICATION

WHEREAS: We are aware that communication between Youth Synod and our individual parishes poses a challenge to us;

AND WHEREAS: We are called to be prophetic voices in our church community;

AND WHEREAS: We have learned that one person can make a difference.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Youth Synod council will provide practical materials to aid in our post Youth Synod communications.
2. We request a page be dedicated to the description and depiction of Youth Synod in the Niagara Anglican
3. A volunteer group convened today and at subsequent Youth Synods by the program consultants to produce material for use in newsletters and the Niagara Anglican
4. Youth Synod Committee will also provide a draft letter reporting the business of Youth Synod highlighting areas in which youth have agreed to take action.

Moved by: Steff Browning, St. John's, Thorold

Seconded by: Sabrina Yott, St. Christopher's, Burlington

Procedural Motion

See below

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

11. ANIMAL PROTECTION

WHEREAS: Because of the current recession, more animals are being abused, starved, and abandoned on the streets;

AND WHEREAS: God calls us to be stewards of all of creation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Delegates will bring a non-perishable food item for animals along with other food items to youth ministry events
2. Delegates will volunteer at least 10 hours at a local animal shelter of the next year.

Moved by: Ashley Hatchel, St. Pauls, Dunnville

Seconded by: Matt Fisher, St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls

12. THE LORDS PRAYER AT YOUTH SYNOD

WHEREAS: Youth Ministry is largely focused on community and worship;

AND WHEREAS: Youth Ministry worship often encourages participants to recite the Lord's Prayer in the form that they are familiar;

AND WHEREAS: Many participants find the worship to be "interrupted" when we fumble over the different versions we know;

AND WHEREAS: Because we invite several forms of the prayer, we do not project/print any in our worships leaving those who do not remember the Lord's prayer to feel left out of the community.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. That Youth Ministry adopt one version of the Lord's Prayer at all youth events and that the version be chosen at this Youth Synod 2009 by way of vote.

Moved by: Lennox Daley, All Saints, Hamilton

Seconded by: Nick Arseneau, St. Philip's by the Lake, Grimsby

13. CALLING THE QUESTION

WHEREAS: Democracy grants a voice to all participants, including the minority opinion;

AND WHEREAS: Youth Synod is a democratic process;

AND WHEREAS: A thorough and in depth discussion of motions, in which all voices have a chance to be heard, is necessary for a meaning Youth Synod experience;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The rules of order be changed so that votes on calling the question, require at least a 2/3s majority.

Moved by: Justin Michael, St. Matthias, Guelph

Seconded by:*

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Procedural Motion

That the above five motions be referred to Youth Synod Council.

Moved by: Alex Urquhart, St. Paul's, Dunnville

Seconded by: Barbara Jean Lick, St. Thomas, St. Catharines

In Favour: 78

Opposed: 6

Motion carried

Closing Remarks

The Right Reverend Michael Bird, Bishop:

- “Live with courage, act with justice and choose with love”.
- For many of these motions we need to live with courage. Many call for justice making, and require us to be proclaimers of justice and love.
- Money is available to those who need it to attend diocesan youth events.
- Pleased with the definition of homophobia.

The Venerable Dr. Steve Hopkins, Chancellor:

- Impressed with quality of debate. People were very thoughtful before they spoke.
- Important that this be a safe place for people to tell their stories. Our whole story as a faith community is founded on a bullying incident.
- This is a place where we can talk about faith and spirituality freely. All are affirmed. The abusive power is resisted. Different commitments are made. Different values are expressed in word and deed.

The Reverend Bill Mous, Chair:

- What you have done today has been to put your faith into action. I encourage you to continue to do that once you leave this place.
- Thank you to the Chancellor for all his help and the MCs for their leadership and support

REPORT OF THE CANTERBURY HILLS SUMMER CAMP

- Canterbury Hills office staff preparing brochures, registrations packages and mail-outs all fall
- A Camp Co-ordinator coming on board Nov-Dec to participate in staff hiring
- A Returning Staff Dialogue Day in February
- A New Staff Selection Day in March
- A five-member Resource Team arriving on site in early May to open the Camp Office and prepare the site
- A Staff Weekend mid-May to bring the entire 40-member Staff Team together and build community
- An Open House in June to introduce new families to the Camp facility
- A Training Week in June as soon as school ends to prepare the Staff Team for the opening of Camp
- July – August: 546 Campers attending the Residential and Day Camp sessions
 - Campers from socially and financially challenged families attend in partnership with St. Matthew’s House
 - Campers from emotionally challenged home situations attend in partnership with Angel Tree, a program that supports families with an incarcerated parent
 - Campers with physical or developmental challenges attend in partnership with Reach for the Rainbow
 - Campers attend with the support of the Canterbury Hills Camp Bursary Fund

And then it all starts over again! And as we gather for Synod this fall, it has already started for the 50th time, as 2010 will mark the 50th summer that a children’s summer camping program has been offered at Canterbury Hills. That’s over 25,000 children whose lives have been significantly impacted in the context of a loving and caring Christian community. That’s well over 1000 young adults who have been trained as exceptional leaders and then gone on to use their skills honed at Canterbury Hills Camp in their parishes, their communities, and their vocational pursuits. That’s the legacy we’ll be celebrating as we move into 2010!

As we reflect on Summer Camp 2009, we give thanks for the leadership of Ms. Heather Pearson, our Camp Coordinator this past summer, the members of the Resource Team, and all the members of the Staff Team who worked incredibly hard to ensure that the children entrusted to our care had a safe and memorable summer camp experience. We give thanks for the Camp Alumni members who staffed BBQs at the Open House and opening night of each of the residential sessions, thereby raising \$2,000.00 for the Camp Bursary Fund. We give thanks for the six diocesan priests who came out to celebrate the closing Eucharist at each of the camp sessions. We give thanks for the financial support of the Diocese that has allowed this wonderful ministry to flourish these past 49 years. And we give thanks for all the lives touched and changed by God in ways that we could never have “asked or imagined”.

And we pray that will all happen again in 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend David R. Linn
Executive Director, Canterbury Hills

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSITIONAL MINISTRIES

Interim Ministry

The time of pastoral transition in a congregation is often a complex time. For that reason, in the Diocese of Niagara, we practise Interim Ministry, which is a time of the intentionally focused work of pastoral and administrative care and leadership. In our Diocese, clergy who are interims have been specifically trained for this work. The interim placements generally extend from between six to twenty-four months, and are held at the Bishop's pleasure.

This past year, we have significantly re-vamped the Diocesan Policy for Interim Ministries. At the present time, the draft policy is in the hands of our Diocesan Bishop, and in due time will be presented to Synod Council for review. Specifically, new policy seeks to clarify the financial policy, issues around benefits, hours worked and vacations, travel costs, among other things. We are indebted to the Reverend Susan Wells who chaired this Task Force, as well as to the Reverend Canon Fran Darlington, the Reverend Barbara Sykes and the Reverend Canon Terry DeForest for their dedicated work in creating this revision.

New to this policy is a three way covenant, between the Diocesan Bishop, the Parish and the Interim. Not all parishes are the same, of course, nor are the circumstances pertaining to each interim appointment. The covenant agreement allows for specific issues and tasks to be named by the parties which may need attention in the individual interim appointment. (For example, a specific parish may be in transition from an individual parish to being part of a parish cluster. If so, not only their identity will need a different kind of reflection, but also their expectations and ways of functioning will need to change.) By specifically naming these concerns in the covenant, work in addition to the usual developmental work of interim time will be facilitated.

Fresh Start

In the recent past, Fresh Start has been a programme which has assisted both clergy and congregations during the time of pastoral transition. Originating in the United States with the Episcopal Church, Fresh Start has developed considerable Canadian content over the past years. Fresh Start 2.0 reflected that contribution. Within the past year and a half, Fresh Start has evolved yet again, to Fresh Start 3.0. It brings a wider range of resources, and a depth of information to parishes and clergy dealing with transition. Although external structure has stayed the same, many of the modules would be virtually unrecognizable to people who participated in earlier versions of the programme.

In the past year, two groups of parishes have "graduated" from Fresh Start. I thank especially, the Reverend Canon Bill Thomas, the Reverend Jean Archbell, and Mrs. Laurie Adamson who have shared with me, leadership in facilitating these two groups. At the present time, we have one cluster of parishes engaged in Fresh Start. Mrs. Ruth Anne Martin shares leadership with me in that particular group.

Much changes in Diocesan life, and we are currently engaged in a conversation about how best to serve clergy and congregations in transition. The shift to sometimes appointing new ordinands to incumbencies creates a dilemma about how best to address the needs of those clergy and others.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSITIONAL MINISTRIES (continued)

At the request of Bishop Bird, we are currently in the process of evaluating our Diocesan Fresh Start participation, so we can better learn specifics of how it has benefited clergy and congregations, and to hear what other needs may need to be addressed.

This past year, Archdeacon Stephen Hopkins, who has been a key leader in the Fresh Start programme, within the Diocese of Niagara and throughout Canada and the United States has submitted his resignation to our Diocesan programme. We thank Archdeacon Hopkins for his invaluable contributions, and the echo of his wise question: “What can we learn from this?” will long ring in our ears.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell
Director of Transitional Ministries

**REPORT OF THE
ANGLICAN CHURCH MINISTRIES (ACM) FOUNDATION, NIAGARA**

The Board of Directors of the Foundation has continued to supervise the financial results of the funds entrusted to the Foundation:

Endowment Funds

The various funds established to receive capital gifts from members of the diocesan family include:

Training and Leadership Fund
Outreach Fund
Divinity Students Endowment Fund
The Bishop's Company Endowment Fund
Endowment funds established by various parishes
Rectory Funds

The endowment funds held for certain parishes and the rectory funds now form a very significant portion of the total funds.

Financial Report

Please see the 2008 audited financial statements on the pages following.

The Foundation had Fund balances totaling \$9,068,405 as at December 31, 2008.

Directors - 2008

Mr. James Sweetlove, President
Mr. Andrew Bucknall, Vice- President
Mr. Gordon Archbell, Secretary
Bishop Michael Bird (Ex-officio)
Mr. Robert McKinnell, Treasurer (Ex-officio)
Mr. Seymour Wigle
Mrs. Joyce Frank
Archdeacon Lynne Corfield
Archdeacon Bob Leckey

I would like to thank all the members of the Board of Directors for their continuing support and dedication. I would particularly acknowledge the significant contributions of Mr. Seymour Wigle and Mrs. Joyce Frank who have retired from the Board. The Board was pleased to welcome Archdeacon Lynne Corfield and Archdeacon Bob Leckey and new and valued members.

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. James Sweetlove, President

Diocese of Niagara: Division of Outreach

This committee consist of 15 members.

- Survive & Thrive: The Survive and Thrive application criteria and evaluation form has been edited. The deadline has been changed to October 20, of the previous year. Applications will be accepted once yearly. However, due to the downturn in the economy, and the decrease in returns on investment, there will be **no** funding available from the Survive & Thrive Outreach in the Name of Christ Endowment Fund this year.
- Members of this committee are deeply involved in many other groups or committee: such as Greening Niagara, chaired by Bill Mous. Our PWRDF representative is Doris, M'Timkulu. Social justice is spear headed by Colleen Syms, and Carolyn Vanderlip is our refugee coordinator as well as being actively involved in the PWRDF 50th anniversary.
- Responding to the legacy of residential schools, the Anglican, Presbyterian, United and Roman Catholic Churches are coming together as a working group. Ellie Johnson is part of this group. Their goal is education, for both aboriginal and non-aboriginal people to encourage and build relationships. The Anglican healing fund has distributed over three million dollars for projects that promote healing and wellness.
- Food for Life program
- Justice Camp May 9-14 2010

REPORT OF THE CANTERBURY HILLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Canterbury Hills Conference Centre and Camp is a living example of the Diocese of Niagara at work in our world. Canterbury Hills' ministry of hospitality is a source of spiritual, personal and physical growth that embraces a diverse range of people. Nestled in the heart of the Carolinian forest of the Dundas Valley, Canterbury Hills provides accommodation and meeting space for individuals, church affiliated groups and community organizations.

The past year and continuing into the current year the conference facilities have seen an increase in bookings despite the downturn in the economy. Our very popular and successful summer camping program operated at 102% capacity. All of this attests to the attraction and value associated with Canterbury Hills.

We are fortunate to have a very dedicated, caring staff under the leadership of the Rev. David Linn, our Executive Director. The staff team ensures that the guests at Canterbury Hills are welcomed warmly, fed abundantly, and kept safe and comfortable during their stay. The staff also ensures that the facilities are clean, well maintained, attractive and actively protect the natural setting of Canterbury Hills.

Canterbury Hills is a property of the Diocese of Niagara. Like any property with land and buildings to care for there are always constant repair and maintenance issues to deal with. A regular program of preventative maintenance and quick response to urgent property issues ensures that the facilities are always welcoming and comfortable for guests. As budget support for the capital maintenance of Canterbury Hills is reduced it becomes more and more challenging to properly maintain the facility on behalf of the Diocese.

The Board of Directors of Canterbury Hills is a dedicated group of volunteers who provide advice and direction to the Executive Director. Jim Rundle (Church of the Nativity, Hamilton) and John Layfield (St. John's, Ancaster) completed their terms on the Board last May. We thank them for their many years of dedicated service to Canterbury Hills. A warm, appreciative welcome is extended to our new Board members: Tina Macdonald (St. Matthias, Guelph), the Rev. Eleanor Clitheroe (St. Luke's, Smithville), Courtney Evers (St. James, Dundas) and Norm Read (St. John's, Burlington).

For the coming year the Board is dedicated to ensuring that Canterbury Hills' ministry of hospitality is aligned with the Bishop's visions for ministry. We are also striving to manage our natural and financial resources in a manner that is supportive of the Diocese.

Respectfully submitted
on behalf of the Board of Directors,
Mr. Greg Murray, Chair

REPORT OF BROCK REGIONAL COUNCIL

Brock Region encompasses the half of the Niagara Peninsula that includes Dunnville, Wainfleet, Port Colborne, Fort Erie, Niagara Falls (and previously Chippawa), Fonthill and Welland. All the parishes are represented at meetings the first Wednesday of the month. Each meeting is held at a different parish in the region, even though distances can be daunting. This exercise has made our region “smaller” in the sense that we know our region better and it has offered us opportunities to visit and learn first hand about other parishes.

The format of most meetings is a presentation by a guest speaker on either a topical subject or an activity of the Church which needs support or wider understanding. These are followed by a brief social period with refreshments, provided by the hosting parish, after which we attend to the business portion of the meeting.

An important element of the business meeting is the report from Synod Council which updates parish reps on the various matters of concern from the Diocese and any proposed changes to Canon law or policies and the budget intentions. The business portion of the meeting is also an opportunity for parishes to discuss new ideas and discover new ways in which to grow.

Some of our time and focus has been and will continue to be on the role of the council in the region. We are in the process of trying to find the answers to such questions as:

- How can we be of the greatest assistance to the parishes within the region?
- Who are we?
- Where are we going and what do we need to do to get there?
- What should be our role in addressing specific Diocesan issues such as pandemic planning and the greening of Niagara?
- How will we incorporate the Bishop’s vision?
- Etc., etc., etc. there are many more questions that still lie ahead.

In order to grow and thrive, we, like everyone else must take stock of where we are and use the answers to the questions to establish the destination of our continuing journey.

Thank you to all the council members who continue to come out diligently, especially in the cold, snowy, winter months, without whose attendance there would be no regional council.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Patricia Davis, Chair

REPORT OF THE UNDERMOUNT REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Ten Tribes of Undermount

Undermount Region lies below the mountain “Niagara Escarpment” from Winona on the east to west of McMaster University and north to Hamilton Harbor and Lake Ontario. It is a region of agriculture, educational facilities, shipping and both light and heavy industries. We have ten parishes including the Cathedral. We also have St. Matthews House and three community outreach centers located in our region. Jamestown near the Cathedral and the McQueston Centre close to the Church of the Nativity as well as the ABC food program operated out of the Church of the Ascension. The Mission to Sea Farers, situated in the Hamilton Harbor Area serves visiting sailors from ships of many countries which dock in Hamilton. The sailors have access to the internet so they can talk to those back home, and opportunity to visit Niagara Falls along with many other activities that the Mission offers to them. We are the smallest Region in the Diocese in mileage but powerful in spirit. Our welcoming parishes are a great diversity of worship services from Anglo-Catholic to Evangelical, from liberal to Conservative. These represent the diversity from street folk, university and college students to the descendants of the founding fathers of Hamilton. Undermount also offers many sizes of spaces and buildings from the grandeur and beauty of the Cathedral to the carillon and “rural” beauty of St. John’s in Winona. From majestic pipe organs and hymn books to guitars, drums and Power Point. From the traditional inspirational quiet services to lively, invigorating, inspirational worship, as a region we offer something somewhere for everybody.

We continue as a region to work on the Greening Niagara Committee and are part of the testing process for accreditation as a Green Parish at either Bronze Silver or Gold level. At some point during this session of Synod you will hear of the progress in this area. The parishes in Undermount have greatly reduced waste, recycled fervently and overall have taken on the challenge of making our region a Greening Region. We encourage you to look at the Greening Niagara portion of the Diocese of Niagara web site to learn about many innovative ideas, programs and posters that you can use in your home parishes. During the past year our Regional Council held discussions on requirements for the Order of Niagara and are working at our Regional meetings on the Diocesan Vision. We were one of the first regions in our Diocese to hold a special meeting, attended by several people from each parish, with Bishop Michael present to inform parish members of this vision. They have taken the information they received back to their home parishes for parish input and action

One of the mandates of a Regional Council is to “support, encourage and facilitate the mission of the church in response to local and regional needs” Canon 1.10. 5(a). Many of our parishes are actively working locally with faith groups of other denominations and are active with Children’s Festival, Bible Study, Prayer Groups, Out of the Cold, Open Doors Hamilton, Seniors activities, Youth Clubs, College and University Outreach, Scouting and Guiding, breakfast programs and AA groups. For the past three years on Victoria Day, one parish, St. Alban the Martyr works with six other denominations to have a Party in the Park located opposite it. Christian music, displays, prayer table, games, face painting and food are available to the neighborhood. This year close to 1,000 youth and adults attended the event. St. Alban’s has recently started a new program, Parenting Skills for Teen Mothers. Our Regional Council Outreach this year was a monetary and donation of food items in support of St. Matthews House.

REPORT OF THE UNDERMOUNT REGIONAL COUNCIL (continued)

We hold bi-monthly Regional Council meetings. These are attended by both clergy and lay representatives. Each parish attending the meetings informs the others of their successes with events they have held and also future activities. That way we all share in the spread of great ideas that each of us can take back to our own parishes. The Council reps are also made aware of any Diocesan programs that may be new to them or that they need to take action on in their home parishes. All of us feel it is truly thrilling to be a small part of making a difference in the life of our parishes, Undermount Region and our Diocese of Niagara.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Betty Denny
Mr. Russell Kelk

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN ARCHIVIST

It is important for us to be reminded of the vital part McMaster University in Hamilton plays in maintaining our Diocesan Archives. Since 1975 we have had an agreement with the Mills Memorial Library of McMaster to store in their humidity controlled rooms our important archives, registers, documents etc., there is no charge to any parish for this service. It is covered in our diocesan budget. If copies are need of any baptism or marriage record a nominal fee of \$25 is charge to the person making the request.

We have made a good start on our Stained Glass Window Registry. In a Diocesan letter from Bishop Bird sent to all parishes in April 2009 the importance of this Registry was noted. Already a number of churches have had their stained glass windows photographed and recorded. It is very important that the dedication of said windows be clearly recorded. With the closure of some churches and the possible sale of the building, with or without windows, the Diocese needs to aware of the location of all our windows. Families who gave the windows many years ago want to know where “grandfather’s window” can be found.

One church, St. John’s Elora, has embarked on a long range program to inspect and restore their windows. I’m sure they would share their experience with any other parish.

We have recently acquired some “holy hardware” from some closed churches and have been successful in finding permanent homes for these valuable items. A record has been kept of the new homes so that the items can be traced if needed.

Your Archives has printed a very complete and valuable resource booklet entitled “Archives – Our Story” and details what things are of an archival nature and should be kept and for how long. We also have a comprehensive booklet on “Stained Glass Care” for parishes. The booklets were distributed to each parish, but if extra copies are required call Cathedral Place 905.527.1316 x450.

Copies should be made of any plans or blueprints and filed in the Archives at Cathedral Place. I have a file of resources on each parish and this information may be of assistance for anyone writing a history of their parish.

It is important that all names on registers for baptisms and marriages be clear and legible. These should be printed along with the signatures for future archival purposes.

Please contact myself or Ruth Anne Martin at Cathedral Place for any questions on Archives.

Respectfully submitted,
The Venerable John Rathbone
Diocesan Archivist

REPORT OF THE CATHEDRAL PLACE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The 2009 members of the Cathedral Place Property Management Committee are Diane Dent, Paula Esteves, Barbara Jepson, and Janina Vanderpost (Chair) representing Cathedral Vestry, and Mitch Banks, David Pickett, Ian Pratt and Robert Tilbury appointed by Synod Council. The *ex officio* members are the Executive Archdeacon, the Diocesan Treasurer and the Dean. The committee has met three times so far this year and will meet once again before the end of 2009.

As reported last year, a unified budget for Cathedral Place has been instituted. The Committee oversees this annual budget and, in this regard, receives regular updates from the Diocesan Treasurer on the status of the budget. As at September 17, the Committee is advised that the 2009 budget is on track. At the September meeting, Committee began reviewing expenses for the upcoming year for the purpose of developing a draft 2010 budget. A Cathedral Place budget and recommendations will be presented later this year to Synod.

A significant development this year was the appointment on January 5, 2009 of Roger Cassey as the new Cathedral Place Property Manager. Mr. Cassey came to us with a wealth of property management experience and he has made substantial advancements in the overall management of the property especially in areas such as staffing and working with contractors. Many of the efficiencies he has introduced will result in cost savings. There have been major undertakings to do with fire and safety, painting and other maintenance, air conditioning, security and event booking procedures. For the immediate future, efficiencies in snow removal are being examined. A longer term schedule for the repair and maintenance of stained glass windows is in place and insurance claims are being made for recent damage, from vandalism, to some windows.

On May 11 the Committee met with Kiki Aravopoulos of Ontario Heritage Trust and Meghan House, a heritage planner from the City of Hamilton. From these representatives we learned about the mandates of their organizations and some of the procedures and processes that must be followed when maintaining or upgrading designated heritage buildings such as the Cathedral.

A general agreement between Cathedral Place and the Jamesville Children's Centre is in place and working well.

Plans for celebrating the cathedral's 175th anniversary in 2010 are well underway. No major property enhancements are proposed for this event.

The legal agreement establishing Cathedral Place, first drafted in November 1995 and amended by the Committee in October 2007 is not yet signed but follow-up is continuing.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Janina Vanderpost, Chair

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY CONSULTANT

The Cemetery Consultant position functions as a resource offering support, advice and guidance for parish corporations and trustees entrusted with the operation and care of cemeteries, niche walls, scattering gardens and columbariums. It assists with the interpretation of and adherence to provincial guidelines and legislation governing cemetery operations and additionally, provides advice and support relating to situations and concerns that may occur.

During the preceding twelve months the Consultant has provided corporations and trustees assistance and support relating to the following circumstances:

- The regulations governing the sale of abandoned church cemetery lands;
- The procedure required to disestablish a cemetery (columbarium) upon the sale of church property and further, the requirements governing the relocation of the columbarium to another church cemetery;
- Reviewing and updating cemetery bylaws and contracts of sale;
- The expansion of an existing cemetery;
- The regulations associated with liability issues relating to the maintenance and care of memorial markers;
- Licensing and reporting issues;
- The relocation and interment of human remains from an abandoned cemetery;
- Advice concerning inaccessibility of a cemetery plots due to substantial tree growth.

As part of the Diocesan Resource Centre, the Cemetery Consultant extends an invitation to all parish corporations and cemetery trustees seeking assistance or advice concerning operations, regulations, and other cemetery matters. Inquiries may be directed to the Consultant at 905-562-5945 or via e-mail bculp@vaxxine.com

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Brian Culp

NIAGARA CONTINUING EDUCATION

Newly ordained clergy in our diocese are expected to participate in the first two years of their ministry (with a 3rd year optional) with a programme known as Niagara Continuing Education. We meet three times per year in an overnight session held at Canterbury Hills. Participant driven in terms of our themes, our sessions have alternated between professional skills development and the health and wellness of clergy as leaders.

In February of 2008, Bishop Michael Bird who presented an early version of his vision “Pursuing Excellence in Ministry”. It was also a time for both Marion and I to get on board with our participants and solicit their input into our upcoming programme.

In May of 2008 our overnight session focused on “Sustaining Spirituality for Ministry” with Canon Audrey Conard as a resource person. As a spiritual director to many clergy, Audrey had some important insights for our participants.

In October of 2008 we had a visit from the Venerable Rick Jones who ran a session on the “Do’s and Don’ts of Running a Vestry Meeting.” As an experience clergy, Rick was an excellent resource to newly ordained clergy preparing for their first Vestry meetings as Rectors. We also had an excellent session with the Reverend Sue Steiner from Conrad Grebel College. Sue’s focus was on “Managing Conflict in Faith Communities.” She is a consultant in this area and brought good practical knowledge and a grounded theological overview of the issues involved as well.

In February of 2009, Dr Wanda Malcolm from Wycliffe College led a very informative session on “Clergy Wellness.” As a therapist in private practice, Wanda brought both her professional background and her own deep faith experience to our discussion of this important area. Wanda was also involved in a large research project in the diocese of Toronto on clergy mental health and had plenty of insights to share from her involvement in this study.

In May of 2009 our theme was “Navigating Change in Congregations - A Lay Perspective.” We were fortunate to have the assistance of Rob Reid and Bob Morrow with background help from Fred Hall. Each of these men has extensive experience as volunteer consultants in the diocese and had many important things to share from their perspective as lay persons involved in parish life.

In October of 2009 we had a visit from the Reverend Dr Paul Wilson, professor of homiletics at Emmanuel College. In response to participant input, Paul explored the theme “Sustaining Energy in Our Preaching - *Especially When We’ve Been Through The Lectionary Several Times.*”

Each session also includes a fairly lengthy check-in. This is an opportunity for clergy to reflect upon both their personal and professional lives in a supportive and safe atmosphere. Worship and community building are also important components to NCE.

We appreciate the support which the diocese offers in this area of our common ministry. While both the Venerable Marion Vincett (*retired*) and I are volunteers, the accommodation, meals and resource costs are sponsored through the diocesan budget. It’s a worthwhile investment in the ongoing formation and support of our parish clergy in the first two years of their ordained ministry.

Marion and I have shared in the co-facilitation since the February of 2008 and have enjoyed the ministry we’ve shared with our newly ordained colleagues.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Canon Joseph Asselin
NCE Co-facilitator

DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

	Member 2010-2011	Alternate 2010
BROCK	Reverend George Henry, Deacon All Saints, Welland Mrs. Patricia Davis St. James and St. Brendan the Navigator, Port Colborne	No name received
GREATER WELLINGTON	Mr. Lloyd Hicks St. George's, Guelph	No name received
LINCOLN	No name received	No name received
MOHAWK	Canon Scott McNaughton St. Stephen's, Hamilton	No name received
TRAFALGAR	The Reverend Susan Wells St. George's, Lowville Ms. Connie Price St. Matthew on-the-Plains, Burlington	Mr. Kirk Boyd St. Simons, Oakville
UNDERMOUNT	Mr. Paul Clifford St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton	Ms. Brenda Brownlee All Saints, Hamilton

The above names were secured from the Regional Chairs and Regional Archdeacons according to the direction received from Synod Council.

**Clergy Nominations for the 2010 General Synod
(in alphabetical order)**

Barker, The Reverend Cheryl

- Ordained in May 2008
- Rector of St. Paul's, Caledonia January 2009 to present
- President of the Caledonia Ministerial - a group interested in community development and healing
- Spent the previous 2 years in the remote parish of the Magdalen Islands, Diocese of Quebec
- Is working on developing a strong sense of the church within the community which developed while working one on one with people where they live
- Strongly interested in the growth and development of Christ's presence in the greater Anglican church - through social justice issues, community development, and working with youth
- Is a fine artist as well as a business major which allows the creative to work with the practical

Corfield, The Venerable Lynne

- Rector of St. John's, Niagara Falls 2000
- Ordained deacon and priest 1997
- Served as Assistant and Priest-in-Charge at Church of the Redeemer 1997 to 2000
- Bishop's Chaplain 2001 - 2003
- Regional Dean 2001 - 2003
- Archdeacon of Brock 2003 - present
- Member of Regional Council, Synod Council, Stewardship & Financial Development, Anglican Church Ministries Foundation Niagara & FAC
- Member Provincial Synod 2006 & 2009
- Member Provincial Executive Council 2006 - 2009
- Nominated for Deputy Prolocutor General Synod June 2009
- Member General Synod 2007

Distler, The Reverend Dianne

- Ordained in 2004 becoming the Rector of St. Alban the Martyr, Hamilton
- Regional Dean of Undermount
- Synod Council Member since 2005, 2 years on the Synod Council Coordinating Team
- Member of Diocesan Mission Strategy and Audit Committees
- Prior to ordination - Lay Delegate to Synod for 5 years and involved in Outreach, Worship, Children's and Youth Ministries and the Out of the Cold Program
- 23 year Banking career
- Cradle Anglican

Clergy Nominations for the 2010 General Synod (continued)

Fead, The Reverend Canon Rob

- Rector of St. George's in St. Catharines
- Regional Dean of Lincoln
- Ordained Deacon April 17, 1993
- Ordained Priest May 7, 1994
- Appointed Honourary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral November 5, 2006
- Chaplain in the Canadian Forces
- President of Downtown Council of Churches in St. Catharines
- Member of the Diocesan Budget Committee
- Member of the Diocesan Investment Committee
- Member of the Board of Directors for Alzheimer's Society Region of Niagara
- Resident of St. Catharines with wife, Veronica

Fricker, The Reverend Cheryl

- Rector, St. Aidan Church, Oakville since 2006
- Appointee to Corporation of Trinity College 2008
- Assistant Curate, St. Andrew, Grimsby 2003 - 2005
- Assistant Curate, St. John, Ancaster 2002-2003
- Ordained Deacon and Priest in 2002
- Diocesan Representative to PWRDF 2002 - 2006
- Diocesan Outreach Committee 2002 - 2006
- Diocesan Representative for National Ecojustice AGM in 2005

Gladding, The Reverend Mark

- Rector of St. Paul's, Fort Erie, 2006 to the present
- Rector of Grace Church, Arthur and St. Paul's, Mount Forest December 2004 - 2006
- Regional Dean of Brock, formerly Regional Dean of Greater Wellington
- Ordained in 1994 Diocese of Huron
- Previous appointments include St. Stephen's, Brantford; St. George's of Forest Hill, Kitchener
- In the Diocese of Huron was a member of the Doctrine & Worship Committee, Executive Committee, and the Evangelism Task Force, Planning and Agenda Committee Chairperson for the Waterloo General Synod General Synod

Guyatt, The Reverend Pamela

- Rector of St. James (Merritton), St. Catharines, October 2007 - Present
- Curate, St. John's (Ancaster), Hamilton, September 2003 - September 2007
- September 1999 - April 2003 Student at McMaster University and Trinity College
- A member of the Diocesan Evangelism Working Group from 2005 - 2007
- Ministerial Secretary in Ancaster for 2 years (2004 - 2005)
- Prior to Ordination I worked as an Air Traffic Controller in the North Carolina and managed a Dufferin Game Room Store in Hamilton.

Clergy Nominations for the 2010 General Synod (continued)

Hall, The Reverend Canon Dr. Sharyn

- Parish Vicar, St. Luke's Church, Burlington (2001-present)
- Diocesan Ecumenical Officer
- Vice-chair, Lutheran-Anglican-Roman Catholic committee of four dioceses
- Member, International Anglican Women's Network (IAWN)
- IAWN delegate to session of United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, New York, March 2009
- Member, Niagara Covenant Response Group, Spring 2008
- Chair (2006-2009), Executive Board, Liturgy Canada
- Member, worship team, General Synod 2004
- Ordained 1997; Assistant Curate, St. Cuthbert's, Oakville (1997 - 2001)

Hopkins, The Venerable Dr. Stephen

- Rector, St. Christopher's Burlington 2006 - present
- Archdeacon of Trafalgar 2007- present
- Rector, St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton 2003 - 2006
- Assistant Curate, Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton 2000 - 2003
- deacon 2000, priest 2001
- Secretary of Synod, 2001 - 2006
- Director of Program, 1993 - 2003
- Program Consultant, Diocese of Toronto 1984 - 1992
- General Synod member 1995 & 1998 (lay), 2004 & 2007 (clergy)

Patterson, The Venerable Michael

- Executive Archdeacon of the Diocese of Niagara 2008 to present
- Director of Evangelism - Diocese of Niagara August 2003 to January 2008
- Ordained deacon - 1988, priest - 1989
- Former Appointments; St Simon's, St. Cuthbert's, St. John's- Nelson
- Former Full time 'stay at home dad'
- Member of Organizing Committee for National Church Leadership conference
- Member Mission Strategy Committee
- Member Primates Commission for the Anglican Foundation of Canada

Pickett, The Reverend Canon David

- 20 years ordained service in 4 parishes, Ancaster (since 2001), including \$2.4 Million re-development
- Diocesan Service: Stewardship, Strategic Planning, Policy on Ethics & Professional Conduct, Liturgical Planning, Parish Intervention, Synod Council
- Honorary Sr Fellow (Renison University), Distinguished Alumni (Huron University), Life Member of PWRDF
- Extensive continuing ed & vocational dev. incl TST, College of Preachers, Washington, SSJE, Mt. Carmel
- Interest in music, esp. 3 Cantors raising over \$1M for PWRDF

Clergy Nominations for the 2010 General Synod (continued)

Thompson, The Venerable Dr. Michael

- B.A. (1978), MDiv (1983), DMin (1994)
- Ordained Deacon 1983, Priest, 1984 (Edmonton)
- St. Cuthbert's, Leaside, 1992 - 2001
- Principal Secretary to the Primate, 2001 - 2004
- Rector, St. Jude's Church, 2004
- Regular contributor, *Niagara Anglican* and *Ministry Matters*
- Author: *Seeking the Seekers, Living the Spirit of Eucharist, Living the Spirit of Marriage*
- Chair, General Synod Communications and Information Resources Committee
- Member, Council of General Synod

Tiller, The Reverend Canon Mark

- Rector Grace Church, Waterdown
- Regional Dean of Greater Wellington
- Member of Synod Council 2006 - 2009
- Secretary of 2007 Episcopal Election Synod
- Chair, Diocesan Synod Planning Committee, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2007 & 2008
- Chair, Diocesan Magnetic Church Conference Planning Committee, 2004 & 2005
- Member of Diocesan Evangelism Committee; Diocesan Parish Assessment Task Force, 2004 - 2006; Bishop's Synod Task Force, 2004 - Present

Vaughan, The Reverend Tom

- Rector Parish of St. David and St. Patrick, Guelph, Diocese of Niagara 2008 - present
- Interim Priest Parish of Yarmouth, Diocese of Nova Scotia 2007 - 2008
- Regional Dean of Annapolis Diocese of Nova Scotia 2005 - 2007
- Rector Parish of Digby-Weymouth Diocese of Nova Scotia 2004 - 2007
- Member of Diocesan Synod Council 2004
- Ordained Deacon and Priest 2004

Wall, The Very Reverend Peter

- Rector of Christ's Church Cathedral and Dean of Niagara since 1998
- Very active in Diocesan and National Church life
- Liturgical officer for Niagara
- Member of Synod Council
- Elected member of the Council of General Synod 2004 - 2007, Member of General Synod 2010 Planning Committee, Co-Chair, General Synod 2010 Worship Committee
- Anglican Co-Chair, Joint Anglican Lutheran Commission
- Past member of both General and Provincial Synods
- Active ecumenically - appointed Anglican member of ELCIC National Church Council; The Ontario Stewardship Network; Director, The Anglican Foundation

Clergy Nominations for the 2010 General Synod (continued)

Ward, The Reverend Sue-Ann

- Vicar of Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton
- Diocesan Administrator of St. Hilda, Oakville
- Executive Director of HARRRP
- Helps to coordinate social justice and community development projects in the areas of housing, income, education, recreation, and food security
- Member of the Diocesan Outreach Committee
- Coordinator of immersion opportunities for Justice Camp 2010

Wells, The Reverend Susan

- Medical Laboratory Technologist, Welland, St. Catharines
- Director of Environmental, Health and Safety Compliance , MDS Inc., Toronto
- Priest-in-charge of St. John's, Nassagaweya and Curate at St. George's Lowville
- Rector of St. John's Rockwood, at the time the new addition was build
- Trained as Interim Pastor
- Interim Pastor at St. Philip's, Burlington during which time the parish was disestablished
- Interim Pastor at St. Philip's Grimsby and St. Luke's Smithville
- Administrator and Priest in Charge of St. George's Lowville.
- Spiritual Director – Niagara Anglican Cursillo
- Served on Bishop's Advisory Committee for Church Buildings

Wilson, The Reverend Susan

- Rector of St. Paul's, Shelburne since September 2005
- Participant in the Collegium for Small Churches in June 2009
- Member of Synod Council
- Alternate Delegate for Provincial Synod 2009
- Chaplain to Ordinands
- Member of Board of Directors for Canterbury Hills
- Chair of Shepherd's Cupboard Food Bank in Shelburne
- Coach for Shelburne Little Rocks (Curlers)
- Padre, Shelburne Legion Branch 220

**Lay Nominations for the 2010 General Synod
(in alphabetical order)**

Barnes, Mr. Gordon Wayne

- born in Montreal, September 1949
- married Kathy Tarr August 1971, two children Jennifer and James
- graduated Bishop's University with BA (hons) in 1971 and Queen's University in 1973 with LLB
- admitted to the Ontario bar in 1975
- worked at Goodyear Tire from 1973 to 2003, retired as President & CEO 2003
- member St Christopher's Church, Burlington
- past warden St Christopher's, retired Director of Trillium Health Centre
- interests include reading, travel, golf, cottage and selected volunteer activities

Edwards, Mr. Michael

- Past Peoples Warden, church secretary, Chalice administrator and choir member, St. Phillips, Weston, ON
- Former Outreach Committee member, Diocese of Toronto and St. Phillips, Weston
- Former Cemetery Manager and administrator, St. Phillips, Weston
- Member St. Aidan's, Oakville
- Choir member, Licensed Lay reader and Chalice Administrator, Property Chair
- Member Greening of Niagara Committee
- Lay Delegate to Synod 2008 and 2009
- Retired manager and 98 person company co-owner

Harris, Mrs. Bonnie

- Member of St. James and St. Brendan, Port Colborne
- Member of Parish Council
- Lay Delegate to Synod 2008 - 2009
- Worship Committee Member
- Choir Member/Choir Librarian
- Member of Niagara Diocesan Choir - Christ's Church Cathedral
- Assist with Ecumenical Services at Niagara Regional Long Term Care Facility
- Volunteer with Parish Outreach Program - Out Of The Cold
- Former Church School Teacher
- Retired Medical Secretary

Hope, Ms. Janet

- Volunteer participant/planner: Diocesan Visioning, Diocesan Alternative Liturgy Discussion, Imagine Music and Word Conference
- Local worship planning, implementation, liturgy writing; former warden and parish council member, Incarnation, Oakville
- Past youth ministry experience: NYC planning team; Youth Synod founding team member and Chair for three years
- Career public servant, resident of Oakville with husband Peter and step-daughter Madeline

Lay Nominations for the 2010 General Synod (continued)

Kelk, Mr. Russell

- Member of St. Alban the Martyr, Hamilton
- Server, Pastoral Visitor
- Member of Worship Committee, Parish Council
- Lay delegate to Synod
- Parish representative to Undermount Regional Council
- Undermount Region Chair
- Member of Synod Council
- Co-chair of the Greening Niagara Committee
- Group Commissioner 1st North Grimsby Scout Group
- Retired Automotive Electrical and Fuel technician
- Married to Yvonne for 53 years. Two children Kathy and Russ Jr., three grandchildren Kyle, Michael and Stacy

Laughton, Mr. Greg

- Lay delegate to Niagara for over 30 years
- Deputy Lay Secretary to Diocesan Synod for 4 years
- Inaugural Chair of Brock Regional Council
- Member of design committee for Same-Gender-Blessing Liturgy for Niagara
- Member of Candidates' Committee for Niagara
- 32 years' teaching communications skills at NCAAT
- Twenty Years a Scouter

Little, Mrs. Susan A.

- Lay delegate since 1992
- Provincial Synod delegate 2006, 2009
- Synod Council and Undermount Regional Council Chair (2000 - 2004); Coordinating Team (2002 - 2004)
- ACPO assessor
- Diocesan Court since 1999
- Undermount Parish Viability Committee
- Children's Festival Co-founder & Coordinator since 1983
- Parish small group & Bible studies leader
- Summer camp Bible study & VBS leader
- Camp Artaban and Canterbury Hills afficianado
- Cursillista
- Scouts Canada Leader, Trainer & Commissioner

Lloyd, Ms. Holly

- Member St. Paul's, Shelburne since 2007
- Active volunteer for Shepherd's Cupboard Food Bank in Shelburne
- Parish Council Member 2008
- Deputy Warden 2009
- Enrolled at Trinity College in September 2009

Lay Nominations for the 2010 General Synod (continued)

Pratt, Mr. Ian

- Member of Our Saviour The Redeemer Parish Council and Strategic Planning Team developing the Ministry Plan for the recently amalgamated parish
- Former People's Warden, Chair of Parish Council and Stewardship, Representative to Regional Council, and Lay Delegate to Synod
- Member, and former Chair, of the Diocesan Financial Advisory Committee
- Former Co-Chair of the Diocesan Finance/Budget Subcommittee
- Former member of the Diocesan Stewardship and Financial Development Committee
- Member of Niagara Synod Council as Bishop's appointee, 2006 to 2009
Synod Council Representative on the Cathedral Place Property Management Committee
- Member of General Synod from the Diocese of Niagara in 2004 and 2007

Summers, Mrs. Carol

- Member of St John's, York, Lay Reader, Warden, Altar Guild President
- Honorary Lay Secretary of Synod
- Publisher's Advisory Board, Niagara Anglican; Secretary, Niagara Cursillo Secretariat
- Former committees: Evangelism Workgroup, Secretary of Mohawk Regional Council, Diocesan Synod Council, Synod Council Coordinating Team, Cathedral Place Property Management Committee, Cursillo Communications Committee
- Member of Provincial Synod - 2000, 2009, Executive Committee 2003
- General Synod - 2004, 2007

REPORT OF THE GREENING NIAGARA COMMITTEE

In our diocese, our churches and our people have long expressed a concern for creation that is consistent with the fifth mark of mission of the Anglican Communion: "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth".

More recently, this concern has been articulated in the diocesan vision. The Greening Niagara committee seeks, through its ministry, to enable all of us to live out this mark of mission as part of our commitment to God's mission in our world. Below we've highlighted some of our work over the past year.

Approval of Mandate

On October 14, 2008, Synod Council approved the mandate for the work of the Greening Niagara committee. The mandate outlines the immediate priorities of the committee and the scope of its work in our diocese. Our work focuses on four key areas: developing and implementing sustainable best practices, greening our buildings in partnership with the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings (BACCB), animating parishes by equipping and inspiring local green teams, and educational initiatives to reflect theologically about issues pertaining to creation.

Greening Facilitators

We developed a ministry position description for a parish Green Facilitator: someone who is the point person at the parish for matters pertaining to greening; gathering a group of volunteers together to form a green team and liaising with the parish leadership and Greening Niagara committee to reduce the parish's footprint on the earth and undertake practices which are more sustainable. Parishes were invited to designate a Green Facilitator as part of their vestry reporting forms and forty parishes have done so to date.

Gathering & Producing Resources for the Webpage

If you haven't already found it, you'll want to check out our webpage on the diocesan website at: www.niagara.anglican.ca/green. The Greening Niagara committee has worked hard over the past few months to produce and gather several new resources for use in your ministry. Among the new resources, you'll find detailed information about the options available for church energy audits, suggested best practices for various aspects of ministry, and a report by the St. James' Greening Group on green cleaning. Check back often as resources are continually added as they are developed and compiled.

Developing & Piloting the Green Parish Accreditation Program

In response to a motion from this synod in 2007, a good deal of our energy over the past year went into the development of a Green Parish Accreditation program. Sue Carson and Susan Curran deserve our gratitude for spearheading this work. The goal of the program is to encourage parishes in their work towards undertaking their ministries in a more sustainable manner. Similar programs have been developed in the dioceses of Ottawa and New Westminster. As part of the program we also developed a tool, the Niagara Home Challenge, for individuals to use in their own homes. This past summer nine parishes participated in a pilot of the Green Parish Accreditation program. We're grateful to these parishes for their willingness to participate, and for their feedback regarding how we can improve the program. We're looking forward to unveiling the full program at Synod in November.

REPORT OF THE GREENING NIAGARA COMMITTEE (continued)

Encouraging Participation for Earth Hour, Earth Sunday and the International Day of Climate Action

Throughout the last year, our committee has encouraged parishes to participate in opportunities to reflect upon our faith's concern for creation. Bishop Michael's pastoral letter supported KAIROS' call to Canadian Christians to participate in Earth Hour on March 28 as a symbol of our concern for the care of creation. Several parishes held vigils during the hour; and overall energy demand in Ontario was reduced by more than six percent during Earth hour. Many other parishes held an Earth Sunday service on the Sunday before Earth Day (April 19). At the time of writing this report, several parishes are also planning initiatives as part of the International Day of Climate Action (350.org) which is scheduled for Saturday, October 24th. This is an international campaign to bring awareness to climate change by reminding our politicians and decisions makers to pursue strict goals around carbon emissions in advance of the upcoming meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark. The focus is on the number 350, which represents 350 parts per million of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere, which scientists have identified as the safe upper limit of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. We're currently at 385.92ppm.

Supporting Parishes & Ministries in their Greening Work

Members of the committee have been available to give support, advice, and wisdom to various groups and individuals throughout our diocese about sustainable practices for our ministry. We've made presentations to Synod Council, the Secretaries of Niagara Anglican Parishes, and the Canterbury Hills Board. We're also committed to working as partners with the BACCB and with Niagara's Justice Camp. Our goal is to be partners with the parishes and people of our diocese. At the same time, we hope that in the course of your work you'll also share wisdom with our committee too. We invite you to contact Russ Kelk (firstrover@aol.com) or Bill Mous (billstjames@bellnet.ca) with information and resources that we might share with the diocese or if we can be of assistance to you in the work of your parish or ministry.

Over the past year a great deal of work has been done in order to lay a solid foundation for our diocese's vision of more fully living into what our faith teaches in regards to environmental sustainability issues. In the coming months we look forward to working with even more parishes and groups in our diocese to 'green' our ministries. The Green Parish accreditation program is an excellent start, and we hope to report that next year many parishes have become accredited green parishes.

Lastly, we are grateful for the wisdom and energy that each of the members of the Greening Niagara committee brings to our ministry:

Ms. Liz Armstrong	The Reverend Laura Marie Piotrowicz
Mrs. Catharine Bennett	Mr. Michael Skafel
Ms. Sue Carson	Mr. Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh
Ms. Susan Curran	The Venerable Michael Patterson,
Mrs. Patricia Davis	Ex-officio
Mr. Michael Edwards	Mrs. Karen Nowicki, Staff Support
The Reverend George Henry	

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Russell Kelk
The Reverend Bill Mous
Co-Chairs

2009 SYNOD RESOLUTIONS/NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice has been received from members that they will move, or cause to be moved, the following resolutions.

1. Credentials Committee Report

MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
‘that the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted.’

2. Election of Synod Secretaries

MOTION: The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones/Canon Robert Welch
‘that the Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick and Mrs. Carol Summers be the Honorary Secretaries of Synod at the sessions of this Synod.’

3. Minutes of the 2nd Session of the 2008 Synod

MOTION: The Reverend Ian Chadwick/Mrs. Carol Summers
‘that the minutes of the 2008 2nd session of the 134th Session of Synod, as found on pages 6 through 8 of this Convening Circular be now approved.’

4. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
‘that the agenda as presented by the Agenda Committee be adopted.’

5. Reception of All Reports

MOTION: The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
‘that all reports found in the Convening Circular and obtained at registration be received.’

6. Trinity College Corporation

MOTION: The Venerable Michael Patterson/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
‘that the representative from the Diocese of Niagara to the Corporation of Trinity College be the Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte (clergy) for a term of two years.’

(Please note: Mr. Ross Gillett, Mrs. Margaret Reid, Mr. Robert Reid (lay) the Reverend Owen Ash and the Reverend Cheryl Fricker (clergy), are continuing members of the Corporation of Trinity College.

7. Synod Council Election

MOTION: The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones/Canon Robert Welch
‘that this Synod elect the regional members of Synod Council and alternate regional members for the 2010-2011 term, as outlined on the nominations sheet, found on page 107 of this Convening Circular.’

2009 SYNOD RESOLUTIONS/NOTICES OF MOTION (continued)

8. Canonical Changes - see page 5

9. 2008 Audited Financial Statements

MOTION: *The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*
'that the audited financial statements for 2008, as found on pages 38 through 49, be accepted.'

10. Auditor's Report

MOTION: *The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*
'that the Auditor's Report, as found on page 37 be accepted.'

11. Appointment Of Auditors

MOTION: *The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*
'that KPMG be appointed as auditors for fiscal year 2009.'

12. 2010 Budget

MOTION: *The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*
'that this Synod approve the 2010 proposed budget.'

13. Payroll Pre-Authorized Payment

MOTION: *The Venerable Michael Patterson/The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones*
'that this Synod require mandatory participation in the payroll pre-authorized payment plan from all parishes and to authorize Archdeacons to intervene and assist those parishes that are unable to participate in this plan commencing January 1, 2010.'

14. Synod Council

MOTION: *The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones/Canon Robert Welch*
'that the Synod Council Report, having been fully considered, be now finally approved, and that all the decisions, agreements and documents entered into and signed on Synod's behalf since the last session of Synod, be hereby ratified and confirmed.'