

REPORT OF THE MISSION STRATEGY COMMITTEE

Mission Strategy and Planning is a committee of Synod Council. Its primary purpose is to provide advice to the Bishop, Management Staff and Parishes on parish development issues.

The Mission Strategy Committee has conducted its work in 2005 with an awareness of the strategic direction given to the diocese by Bishop Ralph after he listened to the voices of parish members through the New Niagara process last year. In his Bishop's Charge at Synod 2004, Bishop Ralph clearly stated his priorities for the diocese to be: Evangelism, Leadership, and Stewardship.

We have also borne in mind this year the Core Values which were clearly enunciated by New Niagara participants: inclusivity, youth and children, hope, a passion for justice and kindness, a commitment to life-long learning as we continue to grow in our faith, and a desire to share this learning and our Christian story with others.

In the past year, our work has been focused on the following:

Regional Mission Opportunities

Some areas of the diocese are experiencing changes in resources and mission context that require them to rethink how Anglican Mission and Ministry can best be carried on in the new mission context. In previous years, we have seen transformation in the way parishes in a region have continued Anglican mission in new ways. Such examples are the Niagara Falls area and Hamilton Mountain, where, in both cases, a process of change was developed in consultation with this committee. We continue to be in dialogue with leaders in these regions and to monitor the new mission strategies. Currently, the committee is working with St Catharines area, Undermount Region and Port Colborne to provide advice and support to leaders there who are looking at new mission opportunities in a changing context.

Parishes in other areas have consulted with us for specific demographics and other advice. These include St Matthias, Guelph and St Luke's, Palermo.

Ecumenical dialogue with the Evangelical Lutheran Church has begun but, to date, no specific projects have been identified.

Parish Viability Issues

One of the lessons learned from the history of disestablishment and amalgamation of parishes in this diocese is that early intervention in parishes that are experiencing difficulties in continuing their local mission brings a more favourable outcome for parishes and the synod. When dramatic decline, changing demographics or climbing debts are not addressed early we lose opportunities in the form of financial resources and local ministry options. To help address this issue a Bishop's Task Force on Parish Viability was formed to create assessment tools for evaluating parish and region viability. This work was done in consultation with our committee and other groups in the diocese with a particular interest in the development of healthy parishes and regional mission. Mr. Jim Newman, from Mission Strategy, was selected as Chair of this group. We wish to thank him and the whole task force for their conscientious work in creating an excellent resource for parish evaluation. This tool, along with other resources already in existence, will enable us to be more proactive in helping parishes.

REPORT OF THE MISSION STRATEGY COMMITTEE (continued)

Reorganizing for Greater Effectiveness

The committee has spent some time this year looking at its functioning and considering its place within the diocesan structure. While recognizing its limitations within the diocesan framework since it is not a creator of strategies and can only point to potential, it still feels that it has a role to play. That role includes, but is not limited to, the following work:

- Providing a prophetic and critical voice which assists in identifying concerns and issues which need to be addressed. A kind of “audit committee”;
- Conducting literature reviews, conference materials and information, and sharing new information;
- Acting as animators - looking at old things in new ways and ensuring that we as a diocese are not looking at “new” things in “old” ways;
- Acting as a think tank for parishes and the diocese in general;
- Identifying new possibilities and initiatives like church plant opportunities;
- Identifying parishes where an early intervention is desirable;
- Bringing the lens of experience and lessons learned to new initiatives;
- Engager of parishes in identified processes;
- Provider of resources and equipper of consultants;
- Adviser to Bishop, Synod Council and any other person or group who seeks advice on issues of mission strategy and implementation.

In the remaining months of this year, the group intends to reconsider how it meets and who should be there. It may be that we shall be more productive if we work with smaller cells with specific areas of interest in order to achieve our goals.

Jane Stewart continues to support this group with her usual efficiency and attention to detail and for this we are very grateful.

Membership:

Ms. Catherine Cumming	The Rev. Canon Dr. Margaret Murray
The Venerable Dr. Fred Gosse (to June 2005)	Mr. Jim Newman
The Rev. Canon Robin Graves	The Rev. Canon Michael Patterson
The Rev. Canon David Howells (to May 2005)	The Rev. David Ponting (to June 2005)
The Rev. Dr. Steve Hopkins	The Rev. Canon Jim Powell
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones, Chair	The Rev. John Ripley
Mr. David Little	The Rev. Canon Kristine Swire
Mr. Bob McKinnell	The Venerable Marion Vincett

Respectfully submitted,
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones, Chair

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. In response to your direction through the New Niagara process, work in regional youth ministry has begun with Open Space events in the Orangeville area and St. Catharines. As well, the mandate of Children's Ministry expanded to include family ministries. Other initiatives from New Niagara such as confirmation weekends are in discussion.

Children and Family Ministries

The mission of Niagara Children and Family Ministries is to provide proactive advocacy, vision and support for, with and of children and their families.

Our thanks to Dawn Lazerte for her nine years of service to our children's programs within the diocese, including the Canterbury Hills camping program! We rejoice with her as she moves on to a new ministry with Kindergarten children as a teacher within our public school system.

Christyn Perkons is now responsible for Children and Family Ministries, a half-time position. Along with parish leaders, the Program Consultant works to enhance the ability of the Niagara Anglican Community to nurture the spiritual growth of children and their inclusion in faith communities. Leadership training is based on parish and regional need, and coordinated by request.

Children's Ministry Advisory Committee (CMAC)

CMAC is a body of regional representatives with their pulse on what's happening in children's ministry. This group of dedicated volunteers meets to plan, vision and support the work of the Consultant. If you have an interest in being part of this committee, please contact Christyn.

Parish Consultations & Leadership Support

The consultant travels to individual parishes to offer support and resources to volunteers, licensed layworkers and clergy who work in children's ministry. Consultations run the gamut from church school curriculum and vacation bible school resources to tailor-made leadership training, resources for worship and puppet loans.

Cut & Paste is a forum for leaders in children's ministry. Leaders from across Niagara Diocese and Canada send in their teaching tips and program ideas, and these are compiled in a newsletter format. Past Cut & Paste issues are available online, and new issues will be available soon.

Family Ministries

Our annual winter family retreat was resurrected in 2005 with resounding success. The retreat is an opportunity for families to be spiritually nourished and connect with other families in the Diocese. The office Lending Library also has a well-stocked section on Christian parenting and parenting issues.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)

Puppet Ministry

Parishes are encouraged to tap into the talents of their young people and adults to offer this wonderful art medium. Christyn is available to teach mini puppet workshops to individual parishes and show how this creative ministry can be used in worship, children's talks, bible storytelling, junior youth group initiatives and church announcements. Puppets are loaned out to parishes as well as a new portable puppet theatre (courtesy of Dick Lawrence from St. Paul's, Caledonia who so graciously designed and built the theatre as a gift to the Diocese).

Children's Festivals

Support is provided to the regional Children's Festivals through advertising, administration, and button design and creation. Over 700 children enjoy this event annually which typically occurs on the last Saturday in April.

Lending Library

A library of resources is available for loan to parishes for their children's ministry programs. An on-line catalogue can be found on the diocesan web site at the children's ministry page. For example, simply type in the word 'Advent' and a list of the resources available for Advent will appear. Most resources are on a three-week loan and can be picked up locally or transported via parishioners or staff.

Resource Requests

Call the office and request a craft for Pentecost or an outdoor game with spiritual context for Thanksgiving! Ask for a resource on bereavement or divorce! Resource packages have been created for Faith Days such as All Saints Day, Ascension Day, and Ash Wednesday. Information handouts have included articles on Working with Behavioural Challenges, Behavioural Guidance in the Church School, Christmas Pageants, What's Available in Church School Curriculum, Teaching Tips 101, Co-operative Games and Puppet Ministry in the parish.

Youth Ministry

Christyn Perkons and Joyce Wilton job-share the youth ministry portfolio. This work includes diocesan youth ministry events, training and support, parish consultations and resourcing.

Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee (DYMC)

DYMC is a group of diocesan leaders concerned with youth ministry in Niagara. The committee meets monthly to support and offer direction to the Program Consultants in Youth Ministry. Members include Jay Blackwood, Lori Bodner, Amberlee Boulton, Jane Caulfield, Keith Halliwell, Amanda Hawkins, Rev. Kathy Morgan, Rev. Canon Barry Randle, Pat Ruggles, David Rundle, Vanessa Rundle, Sarah Scapinello, and Judy Worsley.

Lending Library

The youth ministry program office houses a resource lending library, which includes resources for program planning, as well as worship resources. There are also resources available to assist in training and study. These resources are available to individuals and parishes on a three-week loan basis. An on-line catalogue can be found on the youth ministry web site: <http://www.zipsqueal.com>.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)

Consultations / Training Events

Joyce and Christyn are involved with a number of parishes on a consultation basis. 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, development of a youth ministry program, specific training for youth ministry staff as well as advice on hiring youth ministry personnel. The final two events on the 2005 youth ministry calendar include a junior youth event and leaders' training called *Youth Connections* scheduled for October 14 at St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton and a weekend leaders training event called *Looking Forward* with Rev. Dr. David Overholt at Canterbury Hills October 28-30, 2005.

SpiritQuest

SpiritQuest is an intimate spiritual retreat for youth aged 15-19. This year it was held at St. Michael's House in Oakville on January 28-30, 2005 with a full house at 13 participants and two leaders.

Servers' Fest

Christ's Church Cathedral hosted this event on February 19, 2005. There were over 100 participants representing more than 20 parishes. The age range for this event was six years through to retirement. Thank you to the approximately 20 volunteers who helped make this annual event a success and to the Cathedral for its hospitality.

Youth Leadership Training Program (YLTP)

YLTP is a three-year leadership training program (now in its third decade) that occurs during March Break. This year, it took place at Canterbury Hills from March 13-16, 2005 with 37 participants including six adult leaders. A Commissioning Service was held at St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls on June 25, 2005 for the 10 "graduates" who completed the three-year program this year.

Youth Synod

Holy Trinity, Welland was the host parish for this year's Youth Synod held April 29-May 1, 2005. One hundred and eighteen (118) delegates were in attendance representing 51 parishes. The Chancellor was The Reverend Dr. Stephen Hopkins. The minutes are available on the Youth Ministry web site: www.zipsqueal.com. Many thanks to our host parish Holy Trinity as well as the supporting local parishes and community for their hospitality and leadership!

Niagara Youth Conference (NYC)

This was the 60th year for Niagara's cornerstone program in Youth Ministry. NYC took place from August 28 to September 2, 2005 at Canterbury Hills with approximately 110 participants. The program is staffed by 23 volunteers.

Synod Youth Members Residence & Orientation

We continue to provide a residential program at Canterbury Hills and an orientation to synod procedures for Youth Members of Diocesan Synod during the annual Synod meeting in November.

Youth Ministry Sunday

This is an annual event for the diocese and this year was celebrated on or around June 5, 2005, by many parishes across the Diocese. Resource material and bulletin covers were mailed to all parishes and also made available on the web site at

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)

www.zipsqueal.com. Youth Ministry program consultants and volunteers spoke at several Youth Ministry Sunday celebrations.

Support for Parish Workers in Children's and Youth Ministry

Children and Youth Ministry Network (CYMN)

CYMN is a group of parish-based staff and volunteers in children and youth ministry who meet once a year to network, share program ideas and support one another. All parish staff and volunteers are welcome to drop in at this informal gathering where there is always a table of books and resource materials available for purchase. Prayer, fellowship and food are always part of our day. We are looking forward to our third *Spiritual Spa for Leaders* on November 13, 2005 at St. Christopher's, Burlington.

Training Options

Often, when parishes attempt to hire additional staff for children's, youth and family ministry, they find there are very few people available with formal training in this area. In many cases, parishes find they have to hire a person with commitment and basic skills and hope they can develop their expertise as they work in the job. To respond to this situation, we have developed a *Mentorship Program for Children & Youth Ministry Leaders*. Leaders from around the diocese have been able to take advantage of various training opportunities such as the Barabara Coloroso Conference, Spiritual Spa, Five Oaks NEOS training events and the youth leaders training event – Looking Forward.

Adult Education

Due to a change in staff time priorities, the Adult Education Team and its work is currently on hold; however, parish resourcing has continued. Please contact Joyce Wilton for assistance.

Ground-swell

Ground-swell was a resource for parish-based adult education published by our diocesan Working Group. We published eight issues with a copy mailed to every parish. This resource is also available on the diocesan web site.

Bishop's Diploma Course (BDC)

This program provides instruction related to faith issues for over 100 lay people. There are two eight-week terms, fall and winter, offered in as many as six parish centres. This program offers courses on the Old Testament, New Testament, ethics, liturgy, history, spirituality and Anglicanism. Jane Stewart provides staff support for BDC and may be contacted for more information. We would like to thank the BDC leaders for their ongoing leadership and dedication to the program.

New Agape

All My Relations...The Journey Continues is the family-based education component of the Diocesan commitment to the New Agape. This annual event under the auspices of Children, Youth and Family Ministries is designed to provide children, youth and families with an opportunity to learn about aboriginal culture and interact with aboriginal people. Thank you to St. George's, St. Catharines for hosting this event on October 16 and to Rev. Val Kerr for her leadership role.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)

Staff

We are incredibly grateful for the hard work and outstanding skill of the Program Staff of the Diocese. Thank you for all you do to enhance the life and ministry of so many people. You are part of what makes Niagara unique and special!

Thanks to our Volunteers!

Finally, we want to thank the over 100 volunteers who have supported our work in the past year. Without you, we could not make the difference in peoples' lives that we have been privileged to offer. Thank you!

Staff of the Division are:

Marion Vincett	Executive Officer
Jane Stewart	Diocesan Administrative Assistant
Dawn Lazerte	Program Consultant, Children & Family Ministries (to September 2005)
Christyn Perkons	Program Consultant, Children, Youth & Family Ministries, New Agape Education
Joyce Wilton	Program Consultant, Youth Ministry, Volunteer Management & Screening

**REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION
HELD MAY 1, 2004 AT ST. CHRISTOPHER'S, BURLINGTON**

Introduction of:

Chair	Jackie Pidduck
Chancellor	The Reverend Dr. Stephen Hopkins
MCs	Sam Ponting and Drew Henry
Diocesan Program Consultants	Christyn Perkons and Joyce Wilton
Secretary	Bill Mous
Local Planning Coordinators	The Reverend Dan Bennett, Carol Wade, Donna Manning

Voting Delegates:

Tammie Allie	Monica Griffin	Kate Murphy
Tracy Allie	Jordan Groves	Rachel Oskam
Trisha Allie	Andrew Gumbinger**	Katie Peach
Alicia Archbell	Jake Harrison	Adam Peck
Mac Armstrong**	Karen Haycroft	Chris Peroune
Jason Ashcroft	Nick Head Petersen	Heather Pickett
Katie Barnard	Sarah Henderson	Samantha Ponting**
James Beattie	Brenda-Lee Henry	Carolyn Pugh
Eric Bennett	Deirdre Henry	Christine Pugh
Sarah Bird	Drew Henry**	Chris Richard
Amberlee Boulton**	Kyla Hitchcock	Graham Robertson
Kristi Boulton	Ben Howells	Julian Rossiter
Nicole Brookes	Maggie Howse	Evan Rudderham**
Adam Carriere	Tom Howse	Christopher Saayman**
Amanda Caspersen	Peter Hughes	Robbie Samson
Rebekah Clause	Emily Irwin-James	Jeremy Sinclair
Kira Conibear	Tim Johnson	Cody Slote-Roberts
Steve Cosby	Eric Johnston	Amanda Smith
Eirelyn Croft**	Maggie Kerr	Emma Smith
Declan Davorne	Sarah Koslicki**	Josh Smith
Jeff Deegan	Catherine Lamoureux	Katharine Sobschak
Rebecca Donaldson	Barbara Jean Lick	Chelsea Stewart
Paul Dosser	Erika Lindsey	Lindsay Stewart**
Janoi Edwards	Sarah MacDonald	Cole Sutton-Greenhalgh
Elyse Ellis	Eddie Main	Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh
Emily Eros	Danielle McCallum	Hilary Svatos
Jenn Evans**	Kyle McCooley	Jonathon Taft
Jordan Fang	Mara McInnes	Justine Taft
Andrea Fisher	Todd Miles	James Theisen
Lisa Fulbrook	Katrina Mio	Laura Tomkins
Alex Glass	Josh Mitchell	Derek Watson
Patricia Gould	Cam Moffat	Laura Zargi
Bill-Jim Green	Josh Morrison**	
Allison Greene	Carli Mulligan	

**** Motion Planning Team Members**

Other Adult Observers:

The Rev'd David Anderson	Regional Dean, Brock
Jay Blackwood	Youth Ministry Committee
Lori Bodner	Youth Ministry Committee
Jane Caulfield	Youth Ministry Committee
Courtney Evers	Youth Synod Coordinator
Belle Daley	Church of the Incarnation, Oakville

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

The Rev'd Cheryl Gaver	Youth Worker, St. Cuthbert's, Oakville
Keith Halliwell	Youth Ministry Committee
Jenny Harper	St. Paul's, Westdale
The Ven. Dr. Rick Jones	Archdeacon, Mohawk Region & Rector, Church of the Resurrection
Phil Jones	Church of the Incarnation, Oakville
The Rev'd Kathy Morgan	Regional Dean, Mohawk
The Rev'd Stephen Murray	Motions Development Team Coordinator
The Rev'd Tim Novis	Regional Dean, Trafalgar
The Rev'd Stuart Pike	Regional Dean, Lincoln
Brandon Prodger	Church of the Incarnation, Oakville
Pat Ruggles	Youth Ministry Committee
Sarah Scapinello	Youth Ministry Committee
John Theisen	St. John's, Thorold

Tech Crew:

Jon Simkins Church of the Incarnation, Oakville

Chancellor's Charge:

- What are we trying to do here today? Discern the will of God (Greek=theo)
- The church is a community of discernment, and aims to discern where is God in our lives and what God is doing
- When we speak the truth from the depths of our being, we have a much greater chance of finding out where God is in our lives
- Respect is critical to allow people to speak from the depths of their being
- We will work towards a common understanding of where is God in our lives and what God is doing
- You will give voice to the mind of Christ in some really important decisions this weekend

Motion to Give Rights to the Floor for Observers:

“that the observers listed above be granted rights to the floor”

Moved by: Jackie Pidduck, St. James and St. Matthias, Guelph

IN FAVOUR: 109

OPPOSED: 1

Motion Carried.

1. One Tonne Challenge

Whereas: Saving energy is not only beneficial to the environment, but also can save money and greatly improves the standard of living, and

Whereas: We are called to be in charge of our Earth. “The highest heavens belong to the LORD, but the earth has been given to humanity.” (Psalm 115: 16), and

Whereas: The government has spent a lot of time and money on environmental awareness, suggesting that we need to cut back on our energy consumption, and

Whereas: If parishes commit to the program, they will see a financial return within 5 ½ years, and

Whereas: The information is easily accessible and cutting back on energy consumption is simple by following the One Tonne Challenge Guide, and

Whereas: Past Youth Synods have dealt with the environment issues in small steps (1989 – use of recycling boxes; 1990 – ban on Styrofoam & plastic cutlery; 1997 – ban use of PVC's) but now it is time to take a larger leap.

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod 2005 will forward a motion to Diocesan Synod requesting every parish undergo an environmental audit. Furthermore, delegates will challenge their parish to cut back on emissions by at least one tonne with results observed over the next five years by the Youth Synod Council.

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod delegates will persuade their own families to participate in saving one tonne of energy each year.

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod delegates support the use of Diocesan wide solar panels on churches and will work to persuade their parishes of the economic and environmental feasibility.

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod delegates will be persuaded to carpool to and from Diocesan Youth Events, starting tomorrow, and to persuade the members of their parish to carpool.

Moved by: Mac Armstrong, St. John's, Cayuga

Seconded by: Christopher Saayman, St. Mark's, Orangeville

- We need to be proactive in protecting our environment
- As Christians and Canadians we should strive to reduce our environmental impact as we have limited resources on our planet.
- Encourage churches to take small steps, even if they can't take huge steps in this campaign
- If we all take up this challenge, we will act as leaders to the communities and help reduce the global warming trend
- Energy saving lighting isn't all that bad, and could even brighten up some of our churches
- The motion sounds good on paper, but how can we ensure the commitment of our churches?

Procedural Motion

"That this motion is tabled until after the Youth Council motion has been considered."

Moved by: Andrea Fisher, St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls

Seconded by: James Beattie, Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton

This Procedural Motion passed without a recorded vote.

Debate on this motion resumed after a motion regarding a Youth Synod Council was passed.

- Parishes need to look at the financial feasibility of taking up this challenge.
- This motion is a good idea, but I can't support this motion because I don't have enough information about the feasibility of this motion.
- The one-tonne challenge is a great idea on paper – but how realistic is it?
- This motion will help Canada reach our Kyoto Accord commitment – and it makes more sense financially to meet our targets than having to pay penalties for not achieving our Kyoto commitments
- Solar power is an investment. Rewards will be seen in the long-term
- What about the costs to our environment? These costs are important to this discussion in addition to the economical issues of this motion.
- Youth bring with them enthusiasm and energy and fundraising potential, and even if we start small, we can make a dent in achieving this goal
- We can reduce our energy consumption in many ways apart from solar panels; for example we could reduce our air conditioning temperatures, or bike/walk to our churches
- Energy consumption can be measured from meters located at every building to monitor our progress

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

IN FAVOUR: 86

OPPOSED: 10

Motion Carried.

2. Formation of a Youth Synod Council

Whereas: The Diocese of Niagara Youth Ministry Program Department has moved towards volunteer-based leadership in planning Youth Synod, and

Whereas: The existence of a group that meets between Youth Synods could be beneficial to facilitate and promote the actions, values and thoughts of Youth Synod, to follow up on motions and to generate motions for Youth and Diocesan Synods, and

Whereas: Additional input throughout the course of the year from youth delegates would greatly help these volunteers, and

Whereas: Diocesan Synod Council may be used as a model for a Youth Synod Council, and

Whereas: Regional representation on Youth Synod Council may create benefits of better communication between Youth Synod, regions, and parishes, as well as to provide opportunities for events and motions reflecting the concerns and priorities on a local level.

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod 2005 approves the formation of a Youth Synod Council to commence regular meetings beginning in the fall of 2005, and to continue on an annual basis.

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod Council will be composed of:

- Chair(s) of Youth Synod & Diocesan Bishop (ex officio),
- Two Delegate Representatives from each Region of the Diocese of Niagara, to be chosen by consensus from among the region's Youth Synod delegates prior to the first meeting of the Council,
- Outgoing and Incoming MCs,
- Five Members-at-Large appointed by the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee (in consultation with Youth Ministry staff), and
- Convenor

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod Council will:

- Plan, write, submit motions for Diocesan Synod;
- Discuss current events and make responses on behalf of Youth Synod;
- Be a body for consultation, planning, motion follow-up, advice and advocacy without canonical authority. As such it is bound by the canons, constitutions, and policies of the Diocese of Niagara, and the motions approved by previous Youth Synods.

Moved by: Christopher Saayman, St. Mark's, Orangeville
Seconded by: Eirelyn Croft, St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton

- Youth Synod has been an important decision making body, however, follow-thru is difficult.
- The formation of the youth council would facilitate this follow-thru and continue discussions throughout the year; thus having a larger role in the decision making process of the diocese
- Many diocesan programs teach us how to be leaders, and this council would be an excellent way to express these leadership skills

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Unfriendly Amendment: that the phrase “to be chosen by consensus from among the region’s Youth Synod delegates” be replaced with “to be chosen by application from the region’s youth”

Moved by: Justine Taft, St. Brendan’s, Port Colborne

Seconded by: Monica Griffin, All Saints, Hamilton

- The problem with selection by youth is that youth from long distances who wouldn’t be able to attend and uninterested people would make the council ineffective
- Power to the people is an important concept and consensus is an important part in this council
- Youth synod selecting the members will bring the council greater validity

Friendly Amendment to the Amendment: that the amendment be revised as follows: “to be chosen by consensus from applications submitted from the region’s youth”

Moved by: Adam Carriere, St. Peter’s, Hamilton

Seconded by: Drew Henry, St. Matthias, Guelph

- Youth without a church connection can still apply
- How would you know to apply to the council if you have never served on this new council before? Thus consensus should be favoured over application

- Who is doing the consensus? Could the consensus be formed on Sunday morning from applications submitted after the first session of synod?
- The intent of this clause was to facilitate youth ministry on the regional level; as well as to ensure that youth synod would not turn into a popularity contest but rather that the council would have the best representation possible.

IN FAVOUR: 29

OPPOSED: 64 **The amendment was defeated.**

Debate on the original motion resumed.

- What is the frequency of the youth synod council meetings? On an as needed basis.
- How do we facilitate people from the diocese gathering together for these meetings? Perhaps meetings every other month
- This is a great way for the youth of our diocese to take ownership of our motions.
- Would this council eliminate the motions development team? Yes
- This motion allows us to get new people to be able to make motions: allows opportunity for others beyond the Motions Committee
- This is important for giving a better representation for the youth of our diocese

The original motion was carried without a recorded vote.

Motion to Give Rights to the Floor for Observers:

“that Phil Jones and Jennie Harper be added to the list of observers listed above and be granted rights to the floor”

Moved by: Jackie Pidduck, St. James and St. Matthias, Guelph

Motion carried without a recorded vote.

3. HIV/AIDS

Whereas: Since the 1980s, 40 million people world-wide have been impacted by HIV/AIDS and 90% of these are in sub-Saharan Africa, and

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

- Whereas:** Since the 1980s, 21.8 million people have died as a result of AIDS; more than 4.3 million of whom were children under the age of 15; nine million of whom were women and 8.5 million were men, and
- Whereas:** Many of these deaths in developing countries were attributable to limited access to healthcare, medication, education, and prevention programs, and
- Whereas:** Access to condoms and HIV/AIDS preventative education are not widely available to people around the world, and
- Whereas:** Organizations such as the United Nations are helping to educate people worldwide about HIV/AIDS and to create funds for preventions and education, and
- Whereas:** PWRDF has pledged over the next four years to: support community led development initiatives to help people affected by HIV/AIDS take control of their own lives; raise awareness and deepen involvement of Canadian Anglicans in issues related to HIV/AIDS in Canada and across Africa; advocate for a change in policies and practices, both in Canada and in countries around the world, that increase harm both at a global level and at the level of communities addressing stigma and discrimination; raise an additional \$1,000,000 to increase our capacity to respond to partner's initiatives
- Be It Resolved:** The delegates to this Youth Synod 2005 be encouraged to learn about HIV/AIDS, building on the resources offered here and,
- Be It Resolved:** Youth Synod delegates be encouraged to get involved with and support organizations that address the issues of HIV/AIDS locally and abroad (e.g. fundraising, awareness, volunteering)
- Moved by:** Evan Rudderham, St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton
Seconded by: Andrew Gumbinger, St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton

- A video clip from the World Vision 30 hour famine HIV/AIDS video was viewed.
- In developing countries we are aware of HIV/AIDS, however we don't do enough to help countries without the resources to deal with this epidemic
- We need to continue to reach out to those in need. If we act now, lives will be saved.
- We are blessed with many resources in Canada, while 5 people in sub-Saharan Africa die of HIV/AIDS every minute – we need to do something now.
- The most scary and common symptom of HIV/AIDS is no symptom at all.
- We have to get the message of HIV/AIDS out there more, and we need to make a difference
- If we help others, how can we help ourselves when we are affected by these diseases
- We often associate HIV/AIDS with junkies and promiscuity, but there are millions of victims of HIV/AIDS who are innocent
- We should focus on HIV/AIDS more as Cancer and MS get huge amounts of attention
- St. Andrew's Grimsby will be hosting a PWRDF 24 hour famine on May 13/14; please sign up by seeing Sam Ponting or calling the church at 905-945-8894
- HIV/AIDS does affect Canadians but our health care resources allow for a much better outlook than countries in Africa and other developing nations.

IN FAVOUR: 94

OPPOSED: 0

Motion Carried.

4. Support for Youth Ministry

- Whereas:** Many young people have greatly benefited from the youth programs our diocese provides, and,
- Whereas:** the youth of our church are not just our future, they are our present, and,

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Whereas: our diocese has one of the best youth ministry programs in the country, and,

Whereas: youth ministry was the #1 initiative at all four New Niagara open space meetings.

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod 2005 supports the financial maintenance of all current youth ministry events.

Be It Resolved: That a motion be forwarded to the 2005 Diocesan Synod requesting both full funding for all current events and an increase in the 2006 budget for Regional/Area youth ministry initiatives

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod 2005 asks delegates and other young people to positively contribute to their parishes by offering at least \$1/month to their church and volunteering for at least five hours this year.

Moved by: Christine Pugh, St. George's, Guelph

Seconded by: Amberlee Boulton, St. Matthias, Guelph

- These programs affect so many young people's lives, and in appreciation of this we should also show our gratitude by giving back to our parish communities
- Being able to make a contribution back to the diocese is an essential part of this motion as it shows we are serious about this ministry and taking ownership for these programs

Friendly Amendment: *that the second be it resolved clause be revised as follows: "That a motion be forwarded to the 2005 Diocesan Synod and the Financial Advisory Committee requesting both full funding for all current events and an increase in the 2006 budget for Regional/Area youth ministry initiatives"*

Moved by: Christine Pugh, St. George's, Guelph

Seconded by: Amberlee Boulton, St. Matthias, Guelph

- The budget for youth synod was reduced in the last budget, which emphasizes critical nature of this motion
- The budget is different every year, so it is important to make our case for funding every year

IN FAVOUR: 92

OPPOSED: 4

Motion Carried.

5. Missile Defence Plan

Whereas: We are called as Christians to be peacemakers "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God" (Matthew 5:9), and

Whereas: There are many threats to human security (like poverty, AIDS, global warming and conventional wars) that are pressing right now, and a Missile Defence Shield would not address any of these, and

Whereas: Not only will this plan violate the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, and the UN Outer Space Treaty, but it will also impact our relations with Russia and China and all countries that oppose this system, and

Whereas: Canada has declined participation because a Missile Defense Plan would not be consistent with Canadian values, however Canadian corporations are not prevented from bidding on contracts for the creation and support for the MD Plan in the United States, and

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Whereas: The involvement of Canadian Corporations in the MD Plan could be seen as supporting the United States' actions.

Be it Resolved: Youth Synod Delegates are encouraged to write their local representatives about their concern in a proposal that contradicts current treaties between nations.

Be it Resolved: Youth Synod will write a letter to the Prime Minister and Representatives asking the Canadian Government to ban Canadian corporations from bidding on contracts that support the MD Plan.

Moved by: Mac Armstrong, St. John's, Cayuga

Seconded by: Sarah Koslicki, Church of the Incarnation, Oakville

- Even though we aren't signed on to this plan politically, if we help in the construction of such a system, we are still active participants
- If we were to support Missile Defense it would harm Canada's position in the world
- The United States has poured trillions of dollars into the development of this system without proven results or need, and there are many other worthy causes that this money could have been put towards
- This issue may be revisited by future youth synods if Canada finds itself directly threatened
- We should be wary of nuclear subs in the North West passage that could launch an attack on the United States

Friendly Amendment: that an additional be it resolved clause be added as follows: "Youth Synod will also encourage the building of sub gates to discourage military marine traffic through the North West passage".

Moved by: Derek Watson, St. Luke's, Burlington

Seconded by: Elyse Ellis, Christ Church, Woodburn

- We need to take into account the lives and jobs of contractors whose jobs are contingent on Missile Defence contracts
- We need to look back and remember how close the Cold War brought us to World War 3, and that Missile defense brings us back to the tension of that era
- The amendment doesn't make sense and has sidetracked the focus of the motion.

Procedural Motion

"That this motion be voted on seriatim (clause by clause)".

Moved by: Amberlee Boulton, St. Matthias, Guelph

Seconded by: Sam Ponting, St. Christopher's, Burlington

This procedural motion carried without a recorded vote.

Vote on clause 1:

IN FAVOUR: 81

OPPOSED: 17

Clause carried.

Vote on clause 2:

IN FAVOUR: 82

OPPOSED: 18

Clause carried.

- What does the sub gate have to do with missile defence?
- What about whales in the area? What are the environmental impact of these gates?
- We must protect Canada's sovereignty in the North.

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Vote on clause 3:

IN FAVOUR: 7

OPPOSED: 92

Clause defeated.

6. Refugee Appeal Process

Whereas: In 2001, the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA) provided a Refugee Appeal Division to give a refused refugee the right to appeal a negative refugee decision, and,

Whereas: In 2002, then Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Denis Coderre, announced that they would no longer implement the appeal process, and,

Whereas: Now, one judge decides if the person faces persecution in their home country, a decision on which the person's very life and security may depend. There is no right for an appeal on this decision, and,

Whereas: They are lacking the rights available to every Canadian - the right to appeal a negative decision.

Be It Resolved: The Youth Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Niagara adds its voice to those of the Canadian Counsel of Refugees, Amnesty International, The Refugee Committee of the Diocese of Niagara and many others who protect and sponsor refugees by individual delegates signing the Refugee Rights petition.

Be It Resolved: The youth delegates take action in their congregation to call our government to implement a fair appeal process for refugees. These actions could include a petition (see link for petition), a letter to your local MP or the Minister of Immigration, an e-mail campaign or in the case of an election asking candidates to take a stand on this issue.
http://www.kairoscanada.org/e/action/AppealForRefugeeRights_Petition.pdf

Moved by: Rebekah Clause, Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton

Seconded by: James Beattie, Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton

- The essence of this motion is that refugees do not have the right for a fair appeal despite obvious humanitarian grounds for such a claim or an appeal.
- This situation occurred in recent months with the deportation of Saadia, a parishioner from the Church of the Resurrection, who was under the threat of an honour killing in Morocco
- Saadia was denied refugee status based on technicalities, without the opportunity to appeal
- Saadia was deported in late January, and was forced to leave Canada with her young son Hatem (a Canadian citizen), while her husband stayed behind in Canada
- We need to pressure the government to do what they said they were going to do in implementing an appeal process
- There is an appeal process for parking tickets, but not for refugee status

Friendly Amendment: *that the following be it resolved clause is added to this motion: "That Youth Synod delegates circulate the supplied petitions in their parishes as well as their communities. This issue would also be sent to Diocesan and General Synod with encouragement that they would do the same."*

Moved by: Adam Carriere, St. Peter's, Hamilton

Seconded by: Monica Griffin, All Saints, Hamilton

IN FAVOUR: 103

OPPOSED: 1

Motion Carried.

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

7. Windsor Report

- Whereas:** The issue of gay unions and integrating the gay community into the church has been an ongoing process for the last thirty years, and,
- Whereas:** Motions have been brought forward to end the rift. However, all motions to show our support of gay unions have gone unanswered and without any foreseeable actions, and,
- Whereas:** Youth Synod and Diocesan Synod have been discussing the issue of same sex unions for the past decade yet instead of coming to a decision they have “instituted” time to discuss the issue, and,
- Whereas:** The Diocesan Synod voted 67% to uphold the sanctity of the same sex unions, and,
- Whereas:** The Anglican Bishops of Canada have decided to adhere to the Windsor Report on behalf of the Canadian Anglican community, and,
- Whereas:** The Windsor Report strives to unite the Anglican communion at the cost of discouraging marriage of homosexuals within the community, and,
- Whereas:** The Bishops of Canada have decided to reflect on the issue of same sex marriage until a decision can be made at the 2007 General Synod.

Be It Resolved: This Youth Synod will send a memorial to the 2005 Diocesan Synod expressing our deep concern that this matter has taken so long to resolve.

Be It Resolved: This Youth Synod will continue to encourage productive dialogue about the same-sex unions in our own parishes

Moved by: Evan Rudderham, St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton
Seconded by: James Beattie, Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton

- There have been several motions about same sex unions over the past several Youth Synods (at least seventeen) without results, and that we have come to a decision that we need to move on
- Our God is a loving God, and we need to make a decision about this issue
- We need to keep our foot in the door regarding this issue at Diocesan Synod and thus continuing this discussion and continuing to push this issue is essential
- Romans 2:22-29 was read
- “Love your neighbour as yourself” and that the church and society has no business in the bedroom
- How can we judge what type of love is valid?
- We need to distinguish between disapproval of same sex unions and love of homosexuals. One does not equal the other.
- If we are going to support this motion we need to stand behind this motion passionately

IN FAVOUR: 95

OPPOSED: 9

Motion carried

Motion to Give Rights to the Floor for Observers:

“that Belle Daley be added to the list of observers listed above and be granted rights to the floor”

Moved by: Jackie Pidduck, St. James and St. Matthias, Guelph

Motion carried without a recorded vote.

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

8. Stereotyping

Whereas: Cliques and stereotypes are evident in schools based on a person's clothes, music, activities, where they are from, etc. and,

Whereas: stereotyping adds unnecessary stress, when students already have a lot to worry about such as: marks, jobs, post-secondary education, relationships, etc., and,

Whereas: our stereotyping can lead to discrimination that may be dangerous. For example, Youth Synod 2001 encouraged delegates to stop bullying in schools, and,

Whereas: stopping stereotyping can create a "level playing field" where each individual is treated equally.

Be It Resolved: That Youth Synod 2005 encourages each delegate to actively ban stereotyping in their parish and diocesan youth events.

Be It Resolved: That delegates commit to stop referring to other as "group", but use each individual's name.

Be It Resolved: That delegates will persuade their family and friends to end stereotyping.

Moved by: Emily Irwin-Jones, St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls

Seconded by: Nicole Brooks, St. Andrew's, Grimsby

- God created everyone equally – why do we need to divide ourselves?
- Realistically, how do we implement this motion?
- We need to consider: What is stereotyping? It can be useful in a business situation, so how and why do we want to end it? It is not always a negative issue.
- Stereotyping hurts and lowers a person's self-esteem
- This is such a broad topic and has been going on for hundreds of years
- This motion looks great on paper, but then again, so does communism

IN FAVOUR: 81

OPPOSED: 15

Motion Carried.

9. Smoke-Free Youth Events

Whereas: Smoking kills. According to Health Canada*, "Tobacco kills over 45 000 people in Canada each year. That's more than the total of all murders, alcohol-related deaths, car accidents and suicides." "A Canadian dies every 12 minutes of a tobacco-related disease." and,

Whereas: Second hand smoke kills. According to Health Canada*, "more than 45 000 people will die prematurely this year in Canada due to tobacco use – at least 1000 of them will be non-smokers." "Exposure to second-hand smoke increases your risk of getting either lung cancer, heart disease, or respiratory problems." and,

Whereas: Nicotine is one of the most addictive substances known, according to Health Canada. "Approximately 8 out of every 10 people who try smoking get hooked." Youth have started smoking at Diocesan sponsored youth-ministry events and,

Whereas: In the province of Ontario it is illegal to smoke under the age of 16. Many participants in Diocesan Youth Events are under the age of 16 and,

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Whereas: There are many programs and support available to help stop smoking. *<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hecs-sesc/tobacco/index.html>

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod 2005 will ban smoking at all future youth events for all involved (including staff, delegates, observers, volunteers).

Be It Resolved: Anyone found smoking at all future youth events will be dismissed following the same protocol as for those found violating the set norms prohibiting drugs and alcohol.

Be It Resolved: Anyone found giving cigarettes to others at all future youth events will be dismissed following the same protocol as for those found violating the set norms prohibiting drugs and alcohol.

Moved by: Amberlee Boulton, St. Matthias, Guelph

Seconded by: Evan Rudderham, St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton

- Youth look up to the staff who often smoke at youth events
- Second-hand smoke is even more potent and affects people who don't actively smoke but are exposed nonetheless

Unfriendly Amendment: that words "observers and volunteers" be deleted from: "That Youth Synod delegates circulate the supplied petitions in their parishes as well as their communities. This issue would also be sent to Diocesan and General Synod with encouragement that they would do the same."

Moved by: Justine Taft, St. Brendan's, Port Colborne

Seconded by: Jonathan Taft, St. Brendan's, Port Colborne

- Withdrawal from this addiction will lead to cranky staff and volunteers
- People need to be on an equal playing ground – youth and volunteers alike

Amendment Defeated without a recorded vote.

Debate on the original motion resumed

- This motion is discriminatory as smoking is a lifestyle and should be the smoker's choice
- This motion is slippery slope and could lead to further discrimination
- Youth events would provide a supportive environment to quit smoking
- Smoking is a very personal choice and the church should not be involved in this issue, and this motion will only repel youth from attending and experiencing youth ministry events
- People should be allowed to smoke within given boundaries at youth events as smoking is an addiction
- We shouldn't be adding another barrier between the Church and youth
- Smoking has serious health consequences
- This is not about a test of faith or getting staff to try to quit smoking, but about role-modeling positive behaviours for youth

IN FAVOUR: 48

OPPOSED: 59

Motion Defeated*

* A recount occurred after an initial vote of 50 in favour and 50 opposed to this motion.

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

10. Chaplaincy in Schools

- Whereas:** We as Christians are called to a life of faith not just when we gather as a Church, but in all aspects of our lives, and
- Whereas:** Students work by learning, but aren't given chances to integrate faith with what they're learning and,
- Whereas:** The same separation of Church and State that protects the rights of minorities makes it more difficult for students in the public school system to experience elements of faith during the school day and,
- Whereas:** All members of the Church can benefit from support: ⁹Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: ¹⁰If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! ¹¹Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? ¹²Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." (Eccl. 4.9-12)

Be It Resolved: Members of Youth Synod respectfully request their parish priests to volunteer--in writing--pastoral, counseling, and chaplaincy services to all public schools within the boundaries of their parishes that teach any students between Kindergarten and Grade 12.

Be It Resolved: That Youth Synod request the Bishop to write letters to the Ontario Ministry of Education and to each public school Board of Education that is responsible for students within the Diocese of Niagara. These letters will explain why these offers will be made and describe what services priests may be able to provide.

Moved by: Jenn Evans, St. James', Dundas
Seconded by: Lindsay Stewart, St. Christopher's, Burlington

- This allows the opportunity for a resource person of a spiritual orientation to be available to youth
- Seeing a priest in an everyday environment increases the comfort level of youth with spirituality and approaching a clergy person
- The sample letter will be written contingent on the motion being passed
- As a person who attends a catholic school, a chaplain really adds to the school community and facilitates people who are searching for something more spiritual in their quest
- There are issues with this motion regarding church and state, but does not overtly conflict with the Ontario Education Act

Procedural Motion

"That this motion be referred to the Youth Synod Council"

Moved by: Drew Henry, St. Matthias, Guelph
Seconded by: Sam Ponting, St. Christopher's, Burlington

Procedural motion carried without a recorded vote.

11. Support for Sudan

Whereas: We are called as Christians to help those in need, "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." (Colossians 3:12), and

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Whereas: Tsunami Relief efforts demonstrated immense compassion and outpouring of financial support that is also necessary for Darfur, Sudan. Estimates place the death toll in Sudan at 280,000 – 350,000 (**more** than the 238,000 dead or missing in the South East Asia Earthquake). More than 750,000 people in drought-stricken Darfur are displaced, or homeless, and

Whereas: If abuses in Sudan do not end immediately, the human rights and humanitarian consequences in Darfur will worsen, and

Whereas: There are increasing signs that Sudan could face a man-made famine if no intervention takes place, adding thousands of deaths of men, women and children to the number of victims the government of Sudan has already killed.

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod delegates will sign the petition to encourage the Canadian government to increase financial aid to Darfur, Sudan.

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod delegates will encourage members of their parishes to sign the petition, and will be responsible for forwarding the petition to their local member of parliament.

Be It Resolved: Youth Synod delegates will also encourage and promote fundraising for relief to Darfur in their parishes.

Moved by: Mac Armstrong, St. John's, Cayuga

Seconded by: Andrew Gumbinger, St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton

- The question was called without debate.

Motion Carried without a recorded vote.

Closing Remarks

Christyn's Update of Last Year's Motions:

Child and Youth Counselor for the Diocese of Niagara

- Youth Synod 2004 did indeed send representatives to the New Niagara Open Space meetings, and those representatives spoke strongly in support of the employment of a child and youth counselor for the youth of the Diocese.
- While this idea was part of the Open Space discussions, it did not receive sufficient support overall to be placed on the final list of issues for the Diocese to consider in the 2005 budget.

Positive Self-Image

- Despite this motion passing with unanimous support, The Program Department has not had any reports of parishes hosting youth appreciation weekends nor has the department received reports about meaningful volunteer opportunities for youth being created.
- If your parish has done something to recognize youth volunteer and leadership contributions, please let us know in the Program Department.
- The Program Department did send thank you cards to all our 2004 and early 2005 volunteers in appreciation for their gracious and abundant support.

The Timing of Niagara's Diocesan Synod

- Youth Synod 2004 did request that Synod Council consider changing the timing of Synod to accommodate a younger body of representatives.
- Representatives from Youth Synod 2004 also represented this viewpoint at the New Niagara Open Space events.
- In response to this input from Youth Synod and New Niagara, the Bishop struck a task force to consider changing the timing of Diocesan Synod; this committee has not made a final report.

REPORT OF THE SEVENTEENTH YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Diocesan Youth Mission Trip

- Under the leadership of Amberlee Boulton, a youth member of the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee, a mission group formed and spent most of a year planning a mission trip for March 2005. Just two weeks before the trip, it had to be cancelled because two of the members were unable to go.

Harassment of Gay and Lesbian Youth

- The Program Department has had no reports of delegates encouraging their Boards of Education or their individual schools to adopt harassment policies that specifically address sexual orientation. If you know of a delegate following through on this aspect of the motion, please alert Joyce or Christyn.
- Similarly, the Program Department is not aware of any delegates encouraging their parishes or the Diocese to include in their codes of conduct a harassment policy specifically including sexual orientation. Again, if you or another delegate you know has followed through on this part of the motion, please contact Christyn or Joyce.

Lyric Censorship of Music

- The Program Department has had no reports of delegates following through on this motion.

No Spam

- The Program Department has had no reports of delegates following through on this motion.

Chancellor's Closing Remarks:

- Steve reminded delegates that they would be very busy when they return to their parishes as they have three petitions to sign, letters to write and issues to educate their parishes about
- Meet with your clergy and wardens and ask for their advice on how you can move these issues ahead
- Steve reminded us that our church has HIV/AIDS. It is a fact of life and the virus is coursing through the bloodstream of our community. Famine events and AIDS walks are an awesome opportunity to support this issue
- \$1/month is crap. You need to support Youth ministry more than this wimpy effort. The Biblical standard is 10% - do the math. This will send a clear message to your parish that you take this ministry seriously.
- You need to attend regional budget meetings and you need to say that you support this ministry financially and make that support vocal.
- Same sex unions: the memorial of YS 2003 was in fact passed on to General Synod by our Diocesan Synod. The youth caucus played a significant role in this discussion at General Synod.
- Steve cautioned about quoting 'authoritative' sources.
- While the state doesn't have a place in the bedroom, the church does. We care about all our relationships and want them to honour Christ and ensure the dignity and worth of every human being
- Not all people enter life on an equal footing, but that all people share an equal dignity.

Pat Ruggles – Chair of the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee

- Pat shared The Rev'd Stuart Pike's comments: impressed with the delegates' compassion
- Pat acknowledged the work of the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee in organizing events such as Youth Synod

Jackie Pidduck, Chair

- Jackie thanked our Chancellor and Joyce and Christyn, Stephen Murray and the MCs.
- Jackie reiterated that Youth Synod was in question not so long ago, and that it was through the work of Courtney Evers that made this Youth Synod possible and for that we are all eternally grateful. Courtney has modeled the ability to dialogue, reflect, and put our passion into action.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF MINISTRY SUPPORT

- The Reverend Lynda Kealey resigned as chair and members expressed appreciation for her many contributions over the years. Mr. Ross Gillett was elected chair and the representative to Synod Council with Ms. Sharon White as the Alternate.
- The Reverend Jean Archbell resigned and members thanked her for her contributions and wished her well in her new position as Rector of St. Elizabeth's, Burlington. Jim Costigan resigned after almost 20 years' service to this board.
- We welcomed the Reverend Dan Bennett, Rector of Holy Trinity, Welland as a new member. One or two more members are needed to assist with matters at hand.

College of Deacons chair, the Reverend Ann Turner, Deacon moved to British Columbia. We thank her for all she accomplished and wish her well in the west. The new chair is the Reverend Anne Crawford, Deacon. The Committee is pleased with the progress and expanding activity of the (Vocational) Diaconate. The Reverend Clair Cleveland, Deacon was ordained on April 21; he is a member of St. Phillips', Burlington.

- We continue to monitor impending provincial legislation on Heritage and Accessibility.
- The new provincial water regulations now have been significantly modified. See the website for further information.
- Proposed Heritage legislation has been deferred for further study; it would have severely hampered the use and sale of church properties.

A revised Privacy Statement was developed for our web site. Although we are not covered by federal privacy legislation, parishes are urged to use care and to receive permission before releasing any personal information. We welcome Canon Marni Nancekivell as the new Director of Interim Ministry and Coordinator of Fresh Start. Canon Bill Thomas retires as Director of Interim Ministry as of August 31. Thanks so much to both Bill and Ann Turner, the previous coordinators of Fresh Start.

The Compensation Sub-Committee recommended an increase of 2.5% in the minimum salary guidelines. Synod Council agreed, and the increase was approved.

- ❖ The Supplementary Employment Benefit is now available for all parish employees on the Diocesan payroll who can claim EI benefits. Combined with EI sickness benefits, an employee may receive 95% of their salary for short term illness. Contact Debbie Young to put your parish employees on our free payroll system.

The Director of Human Resources, Treasurer and Executive Officer continue to represent the Diocese in discussions with the National Pension Office over our serious concerns about changes to the LTD Plan. There is wide disagreement regarding both the process and the new restrictions.

Guidelines for Clergy Supply and interim ministry were amended to reflect increased travel costs and inflation.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF MINISTRY SUPPORT (continued)

The Evaluation Task Force, chaired by Gordon Ross, has produced Evaluation instruments suitable for use by parish clergy and support staff. A volunteer group of parish clergy is presently using an instrument, with Gordon acting as consultant. They will assist the Task Force in evaluating this approach. Support staff at Cathedral Place has also been evaluated. Copies of that evaluation tool are available from the Director of Human Resources. Senior Management at Cathedral Place, including Bishop Ralph Spence, has also been evaluated. It is proving a positive and enlightening experience.

Educational Events

- This spring the Dioceses of Toronto and Huron joined in the design and teaching of 23 candidates from all three dioceses at Canterbury Hills in New Ministry 101 (formerly Deacons' School). Rave reviews were received from the participants.
- Employment issues were presented and discussed at a Clergy Day in March and later as part of the Churchwardens and Treasurers' Workshop.
- Our Primate, the Most Reverend Andrew Hutchison, was the speaker for the annual Clergy/Layworkers' Conference held May 30, 31, and June 1, 2005 at Hockley Highlands. Next year's conference will be held May 15 to 17, 2006. Consideration is being given to arranging another Retirement Seminar.

Much information developed by the committee, the Human Resources Director and others, related to clergy and other personnel is now available on the Diocesan Web Site. Subjects include Fresh Start, Health & Safety, Evangelism, Interim Ministry, and SARS - just about anything one could wish for. Refer to it often - it grows on you.

The Committee members greatly appreciate the support and assistance provided by both David Long and Alison D'Atri. Much has been achieved in the past few years and much more will be accomplished in establishing proper staffing policies and ministry standards and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Ross J. W. Gillett O.N., Chair

REPORT OF THE TRANSITIONAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

The past year has seen the *Interim Ministry Program* and the *Diocesan Fresh Start Program* evolve into the new umbrella title of “Transitional Ministry”. Both areas have a history of assisting congregations in the area of transition during the time of leadership changes. As the process has become more integrated, our ability to respond to parishes in a unique and individualized way has increased, allowing for a more helpful response to the process of transition. (A Parish in Transition is defined as any parish in the period between the announcement of the departure of an incumbent to 24 months after the arrival of the new rector.)

The past year has seen two staff support people leave these areas. In late spring, Deacon Ann Turner moved to the Diocese of New Westminster and this past August the Reverend Canon Bill Thomas retired. Both Ann and Bill have contributed substantially to ground-breaking ministries and the Diocese of Niagara is deeply in their debt.

The *Interim Ministry* portion of Transitional Ministries continues to assist and advise the Diocesan Bishop and Executive Officer in the process of training, education and deployment of clergy employed in ministry during the intervening time between Incumbents. As well, this group has prepared a small group of volunteer transition consultants to assist parishes in planning and process during Interim times. The number of clergy who are involved in *Interim Ministry* is constantly in flux. In the past year, we have seen several people retire from this ministry, however, as of this writing, there are six people being prepared to serve as *Interim Ministry* pastors in the future.

On behalf of the Diocese, the committee maintains an Institutional Membership in the Interim Ministry Network, an ecumenical organization including more than 35 Christian denominations on three continents. At the 2005 annual conference of the Interim Ministry Network, Canon Thomas, Director of Interim Ministry, received his designation as a Profession Interim Specialist and will be one of only three Canadian faculty instructing the new Basic Certificate course.

Fresh Start, which is a program designed to facilitate times of transition for both clergy and congregations, continues to thrive in the Diocese of Niagara. Originally a program of the Episcopal Church in the United States, it is in the process of being “Canadianized”. In fact this past April, the first Canadian training event took place.

We have grown in the past year from having six trained facilitators to having ten gifted and enthusiastic people who have been prepared to offer the program in our Diocese. *Fresh Start* uses a model of education based on thematic modules which include leadership tools such as “critical incidents”, and “intentional conversations” between laity and clergy. All clergy and congregations experiencing transition are asked by our Bishop to participate in this program.

It is our hope that through the integration of *Interim Ministry* and *Fresh Start*, the Transitional Ministries team will be able to continue to grow in our ability to support and uphold parishes in transition.

REPORT OF THE TRANSITIONAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE (continue)

Interim Ministry Committee Members:

The Reverend Robin Graves
The Reverend Canon Elaine Hooker
The Reverend John Ripley
Mr. John Stevens
The Reverend Canon Bill Thomas
The Venerable Marion Vincent, ex-officio

Fresh Start Facilitators:

The Reverend Jean Archbell
Ms. Diane Hewat
The Reverend Dr. Stephen Hopkins
Mr. Russ Kelk
The Reverend Michael Mondloch
Ms. Jackie Pidduck
Mr. John Stevens
The Reverend Canon Bill Thomas

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell
Fresh Start Coordinator (from May 1, 2005)
Director of Transitional Ministries (from September 1, 2005)

The Reverend Canon William Thomas
Director of Interim Ministry (to August 2005)

The Reverend Deacon Ann Turner
Fresh Start Coordinator (to April 2005)

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF OUTREACH

“To create, strengthen, and support responsible relationships which promote justice peace and the stewardship of creation.”

The Outreach Division is coordinated by the Diocesan Outreach Committee. The role of this committee is to bring together the diverse voices of the individual groups, initiatives, sub-committees which are involved in many different ventures around the diocese and to support parish Outreach. This coordination role includes, but is not limited to:

- Communication on Outreach matters
- Outreach Symposium and other educational events to support and encourage parish based Outreach
- The reception of reports and support for initiatives from Partners in Mission, Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund, Refugees, and others
- Oversight of the diocesan Outreach funds, and administration of the *Survive & Thrive* Endowment grants
- Being the conduit for social-justice petitions to governments and other important political/social concerns e.g. refugee claimants, poverty initiatives, etc.

Highlights of the committee’s work since Synod 2004 are:

1) Outreach Symposium - A very successful outreach symposium was held in April at St. James, Dundas. This event brought together people passionate about outreach ministry from around the diocese to hear a diverse assortment of presenters share their passion for many of the outreach ministries that take place throughout our diocese.

2) Millennium Grant - Bill Mous, an active member of our committee for the past four years as youth representative, applied for and was successfully awarded a Millennium Foundation Internship Grant. This government funded program offers an opportunity to work for a not-for-profit organization on a self-designed project. Bill chose to work with the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara, and one-third of his time was spent with the Division of Outreach – primarily in the creation of the Outreach Supplement to September’s Niagara Anglican.

3) Outreach Supplement - A six-page full-colour supplement to the regular Niagara Anglican edition was put together as part of Bill Mous’ internship. This supplement features nearly twenty contributors and showcases a wide variety of outreach ministries that take place within our diocese. Without Bill’s devotion, passion and enthusiasm, the September Supplement to the Niagara Anglican would not have been possible. We as a committee are both thrilled with the success of that supplement and are also grateful to Bill for his commitment to our work.

4) Endowment Fund - The *Survive & Thrive* Outreach Endowment Fund is now operational. For 2005, \$10,000 is available to parishes and other diocesan ministries to support new outreach projects. In 2006, we anticipate that \$20,000 will be available to support new Outreach initiatives. Application forms are available on the diocesan website.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF OUTREACH (continued)

Looking Forward:

- The Outreach Committee has undergone a few changes in the past year. Rev'd Paddy Doran and Rev'd David Ponting have both retired from the committee and we would like to thank them both for their passion, enthusiasm, knowledge, time, and talent that they gave to the Division of Outreach. The committee would also like to thank Mrs. Jeannette Piper whose term on the committee has ended. Archdeacon Marion Vincett has taken on the oversight role of the Outreach Division. Fortunately Karen Nowicki has been the stable factor in the Synod Office for Outreach. Karen continues in her role offering Administrative Support for which we are very grateful.
- A sub-editor to the Division of Outreach will assemble interesting Outreach articles, pictures and information for every edition of the Niagara Anglican.
- The committee will be compiling an online Outreach Toolkit that will be available to parishes, including such resources as a Speakers Bureau.
- Committee members all multi-task to accomplish the divisions present agenda and there is a great need to recruit new volunteer members in the various areas of Outreach.

Current committee members

Mrs. Judy Connor (chair, P.I.M. committee member)

The Reverend Cheryl Fricker (Diocesan P.W.R.D.F. Coordinator)

Mrs. Bev Groombridge (chair, P.I.M.)

Mr. Bill Mous (P.I.M. committee and Outreach Representative on Synod Council)

The Reverend Lynne Thackwray (P.I.M. committee member)

Mrs. Carolyn Vanderlip (Diocesan Refugee Coordinator)

Staff Support

Mrs. Karen Nowicki, Administrative Assistant (recording secretary)

The Venerable Marion Vincett - Coordinator for the Division of Outreach

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Judy Connor, Chair

REPORT OF THE PARTNERS IN MISSION COMMITTEE

I write as someone who has been involved in Niagara's Partners in Mission Program for over 10 years. During that time, I have had both leadership and support roles within this ministry.

There are challenges in working with the Diocese of Keewatin because their structures are very different than the parish structures of Niagara. This presents our Partners in Mission Committee with a different set of logistics in this partnership, as compared to the one we have with Cuba.

We have asked the PIM office at National Church for some help with our challenge of both understanding better the expectations of the program and of energizing members of this diocese for the task, and will be meeting with them in the fall.

In March, we were happy to host the very enthusiastic Bishop Tamayo and his wife, Marta. Bishop Tamayo is the acting Bishop of Cuba as well as being Bishop of Uruguay. He is busy man of great faith and we had fun taking them to Niagara Falls and, with the help of two passes from Archdeacon Lynne Corfield, up the Skylon Tower to appreciate the view.

During the late spring we had a chance to connect with our Keewatin partners by providing seeds of hardy vegetables for gardens in that northern climate.

We know that some parish visits to Cuba have happened on an informal basis and for that we rejoice, but the only official visit we are aware of this year was the one by St Paul's, Dunnville.

We tried to plan the Second Annual Prayer Walk for Saturday, June 18th in recognition of National Aboriginal Day on June 21st. Unfortunately there was too little interest this year and so it had to be cancelled. Nonetheless, we are grateful to Christ Church, Flamborough for their offer of hospitality for that event.

We would like to congratulate Bill Mous, a member of the Diocesan Outreach and Partners in Mission Committees, who has been appointed to the National Partners in Mission Committee. Bill has a lot of knowledge and gifts to contribute to this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Bev Groombridge, Chair

REPORT FROM THE PRIMATE'S WORLD RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Primate's World Relief and Development fund is the Canadian Anglican Agency for development, relief, refugees and justice.

In the Diocese of Niagara, through various faithful efforts both individually and corporately, we respond to the gospel call to "bear witness to God's healing love in a broken world" in a BIG way with givings in 2004 in excess of \$324,000.

I am in awe of the creativity, the passion and the generosity of our parishes in support of PWRDF. It serves as a reminder to us all, that although the needs at home and around the world are indeed great, our capacity as Christians to show God's love is even greater.

Inspired by that enormous capacity to love we saw an overwhelming response to the Tsunami disaster in South Asia early this year. Donations from parishes across Canada, including Niagara topped 1 million dollars before government matching. These funds will go a long way to meeting both the short-term emergency needs for food, shelter and medical supplies as well as the long-term development, rebuilding and recovery efforts.

Another PWRDF initiative that has seen increasing support is the "Partnership for Life" campaign that is responding to the HIV/AIDS Pandemic in Africa. The passionate call to action by Stephen Lewis at our General Synod last May has captured the hearts of many of our parish working groups, who have decided to take on this initiative as a parish or regional project. Together in solidarity with our brothers and sisters who are suffering in Africa, they are raising money, raising awareness and doing their part in working towards "a generation without Aids".

With the help of Samantha Ponting, our PWRDF Diocesan Youth Coordinator and the Parish of St. Andrew's, Grimsby, we had the privilege of hosting a Diocesan PWRDF Side by Side Famine Event in May, to raise awareness on some of the Global issues and initiatives of PWRDF. In solidarity with the both hungry and the fed; eight volunteers gathered with eighteen young people from across the Diocese to pray, to learn and to fellowship together and raised over \$1700.00 towards the HIV/AIDS initiative.

Young and old, big and small, together we **are** making a difference.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Cheryl Lynn Fricker,
PWRDF Diocesan Coordinator

REPORT OF THE REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP WORKING GROUP

The committee is very proud of the work of the Church of the Resurrection earlier this year in advocating for the return of Saadia Hetaj, a refugee claimant deported by Canada in spite of her fears of an honour killing by her father because she had refused an arranged marriage. Through the tireless efforts of Archdeacon Rick Jones and members of the congregation, Saadia and her two year old son, Hetem, were returned to Canada after spending several months in hiding in Morocco. Saadia's husband, Suad, was given emotional and moral support by members of the congregation as he anxiously awaited his family's return. Shortly after Saadia's return, the Canadian government changed the rules so that spouses of Canadian citizens and permanent residents, whatever their status, are no longer required to leave the country and be separated from their families in order to be sponsored to return under the Family Class. We believe that this was, at least in part, due to the advocacy efforts by members of the congregation and others in the diocese and the community. Our hats go off to the members of the Church of the Resurrection, and all who provided support in so many ways.

Several parishes participated in the KAIROS petition demanding that the government implement the Refugee Appeal Division of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (2001). Currently, a single member of the Immigration and Refugee Board decides whether a refugee claimant faces persecution in their home country. Although the right to appeal a negative decision is part of the Act, the government has refused to implement it, and therefore refugees have no ability to appeal a decision on its merits. For more information, see www.kairoscanada.org.

This year we were fortunate to have a talented graphic design artist donate his time towards helping us design a new display board. We invite you to take a look at it during Synod, and to contact us if you would like to borrow it for display in your parish.

Several congregations are involved in active sponsorships, or are awaiting the arrival of their sponsored refugees. In addition, we have submitted several "family linked" sponsorships, in which family members already in Canada will provide the financial and settlement support to the sponsored refugees. In this way we are helping to reunite families who have been separated by war, violence, and persecution.

Carolyn Vanderlip continues her term as an elected member of the NGO-Government Committee on the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program. She is also a member of the Steering Committee for the Refugee Sponsorship Training Program, and represents the Diocese of Niagara as a member of the Canadian Council for Refugees (www.web.net/~ccr). For more information on refugee sponsorship, visit the website www.helprefugees.com.

Members of the Refugee Sponsorship Working Group include Carolyn Vanderlip (Coordinator), Maureen Robinson, Janice Skafel, and Kim McCulloch.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Vanderlip,
Diocesan Refugee Sponsorship Coordinator

REPORT OF CANTERBURY HILLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It's hard to believe that another year has already come and gone. This past year has been productive and exciting for Canterbury Hills. We had to regrettably accept the resignation of the Reverend Canon Barry Randle. We were pleased to have Mrs Carol Burnell join us as a replacement for Barry. Ms Irene Pasel left the Board after fulfilling her three-year term and has moved on to an executive position in Orillia, Ontario. We would like to thank Irene for all her hard work and dedication to Canterbury Hills. As well, a very special thank you goes to Mr. Robert Morrow who completed two three-year terms with Canterbury Hills plus an extra year as Past Chair and Recording Secretary. Robert's council and support will be greatly missed by all.

At our Annual General Meeting held this past April Ms. Nancy Millar was elected to the Board. We would like to thank all who applied for the position and take this opportunity to welcome Nancy.

Canterbury Hills Officers for 2005 -2006 are:

Mr. David Toth, Chair

Mr. Jim Rundle, Secretary Treasurer

Mr. John Howard, Vice-Chair

Mrs. Nancy Millar, Synod Council Rep

Our June meeting was an orientation session complete with a site tour and history lesson.

We had to make some difficult decisions last year, including putting on hold the redevelopment of Bagnall Lodge due to current financial and political realities. We have become pro-active in starting some short-term redevelopment that will complement the full redevelopment in the future. Some examples are; changing the library and a bedroom into a breakout room complete with "Murphy" beds, thereby giving us more flexibility to meet client needs; updated washroom facilities: retrofitting the windows in the foyer and chapel, and adding motorized shades and projection screen in the main meeting area. The re-shingling on Bagnall Lodge has also been completed.

This past summer was the Reverend Stephen Murray's last as Camp Co-ordinator, a position Stephen has held for five years. All have appreciated Stephen's hard work and significant contributions and we wish him all the best as he pursues full-time parish ministry. The Board would like to thank all our staff for carrying out their special ministry in a professional, caring way. We received a letter from our auditors, Crawford, Smith and Swallow, saying our financial records are in good order and they found nothing of a significant or material nature to report - what a fabulous compliment to our staff. The dedication and hard work of all involved makes the ministry of Canterbury Hills that much easier. We would like to thank the Reverend David Linn our Executive Director. He supports the Board as our counsel, and his insight and keen business sense keeps the day to day operation of the Conference Centre running like a well oiled machine.

We are committed to continuing to exercise our year round ministry of hospitality with a growing clientele of national, provincial, diocesan and parish groups, other faith and other church groups, not for profit agencies and programs, as well as educational and governmental organizations, establishing valuable ministry links and partnerships in the people serving arena.

Respectfully submitted,
David M. Toth, Chair

REPORT OF THE CANTERBURY HILLS SUMMER CAMP

“How ‘bout the heat?” Did you find yourself using similar words during this past summer as the temperature set new records? Now imagine yourself in charge of a group of 8 - 10 children who have come to camp looking for activities full of fun, laughter, great memories and new friendships. Such are the skills and gifts of camp staff that make each day fresh and exciting despite the challenges presented by the weather. As they live, eat and play in their Unit these young leaders embody the camp mission, “to provide opportunities for campers to experience a nurturing Christian community, while exploring their relationships with God, Creation, and each other.” The success of the summer camping program depends greatly upon the efforts of the camp staff. We have been blessed by a group of highly skilled, committed, and passionate young people who offer their leadership at camp, in parishes, at school and in our communities.

The Numbers - For the third summer in a row the camping program has operated at 100% capacity. There were 7 Day Camp sessions with 30 - 33 day campers, and 6 Residential Camps sessions with 56 campers which means that more than 550 campers attended. Many campers come from the Hamilton area, while others come from as far as Texas, Florida and Calgary. Partnerships with organizations such as St. Matthew's House and the Children's Aid Society ensure that children from diverse backgrounds are able to attend camp. The partnership with Reach for the Rainbow expanded this summer by adding a second 1:1 staff support in day camp for campers with special needs. The number of campers with unique physical or developmental needs being integrated at camp has increased from 15 in 2003 to 29 in 2005. All campers are able to participate in a variety of camp activities including: archery, archaeology, sports, drama, swimming, crafts, climbing, and much, much more. Some groups designed their own activities such as 'Boot Camp' and 'Spa Night,' which means that the possibilities for fun are really only limited by our imaginations.

Operating at 100% capacity is a sign of success, but it also means that there are more opportunities for ministry, which brings with it some interesting challenges. The plans for 2006 are underway with an expectation towards expanding the camping program. There is the possibility of adding more units each session, but this will need to be balanced by the challenge of finding enough space for all the groups and ensuring enough resources are available. Expanding means stretching a tight budget further for meals, accommodation, staffing and activity materials, not just for a few more kids, but for 50-70 more! It is a good problem to have, and we hope that this vision will be supported by the people and parishes of the diocese.

After 13 summers on camp staff, the last 5 as Camp Coordinator, I have chosen to move on from this position. It is with a mixture of excitement and sadness that I leave the camping program. However, I have no doubts that it is the right decision for me and the right time for new vision, direction and leadership for the camp, which will be blessed by having Courtney Evers (O.N.) as the new Camp Coordinator. Courtney returns to camp with 8 summers of experience. She is a registered nurse currently working on her master's degree. I am confident that Courtney will bring many gifts to the camp including her joy, enthusiasm, and a sense of God's ministry in all that she does.

REPORT OF THE CANTERBURY HILLS SUMMER CAMP (continued)

Thank you to the people and parishes of the Diocese of Niagara who have been very generous with their time, energy and money to support the camping ministry. Thanks to the clergy who celebrated the Eucharist with us each week. A special thank you to the vast number of people who promote the camping program in their parishes, sponsor children to attend camp, encourage young leaders to apply for staff positions, and keep us in their prayers. Our success has been a big team effort!

Respectfully Submitted,
The Reverend Stephen Murray,
Camp Coordinator

**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 seven funds previously established to receive capital gifts from members of the diocesan family continue:

Education and Training Fund
Outreach Fund
Divinity Students Endowment Fund
Clergy in Transition Endowment Fund
Youth Ministry Endowment Fund
Evangelism Endowment Fund
The Bishop's Company Endowment Fund

These funds complement the Planned Giving Program of the Diocese. The Foundation has developed brochures and web-site information to advise potential donors on the ways in which the Foundation is able to address the objectives of donors who wish to endow capital funds.

Financial Report (see 2004 audited financial statements on pages following)
The Foundation had Fund balances totaling \$1,815,023 as at December 31, 2004. Investment results continued to be strong for the year.

The Foundation is mandated to both protect and grow the capital funds entrusted to the Foundation on a long-term basis. The results for 2004 reflect success in this regard.

I would like to thank all the members of the Board of Directors for their continuing support and dedication. I would particularly like to recognize Gordon Archbell, Secretary for continuing to maintain our records in a professional manner and Robert McKinnell for the excellent financial and investment information that he provides to the Foundation.

Directors - 2004

Mr. Seymour Wigle (January 2004 to 2005)
Mr. Andrew Bucknall, Vice- President (January 2004 to 2005)
Canon Richard Rokeby (January 2004 to 2006)
Mrs. Joyce Frank (January 2004 to 2006)
Mr. James Sweetlove, President (January 2004 to 2006)
Mr. Gordon Archbell, Secretary (January 2004 to 2007)
Archdeacon Ian Dingwall (Bishop's Appointee)
Bishop Ralph Spence (Ex-officio)
Mr. Robert McKinnell, Treasurer (Ex-officio)

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. James Sweetlove, President