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FORMAT OF A MOTION

WHEREAS - reason for the motion

WHEREAS - another reason

etc.

It is therefore moved by _____

and seconded by _____

that _____

FORMAT OF A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS - reason for the resolution

WHEREAS - another reason

etc.

It is therefore resolved that _____

Move by _____

Seconded by _____

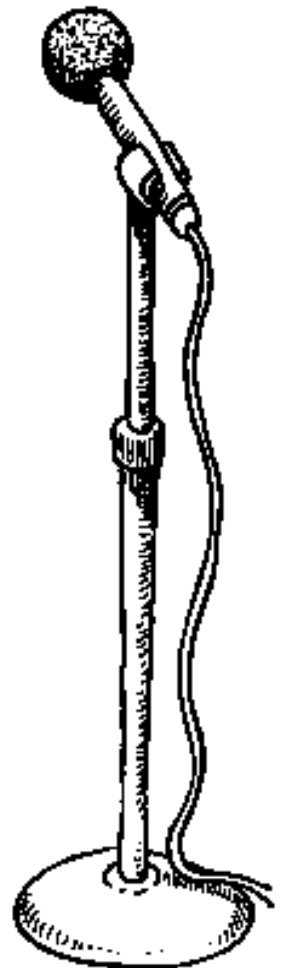
How to Speak to a Motion

Before you go to the microphone:

- 1) Put your thoughts on paper and try to say something that hasn't already been said before or at least say it with a new twist.
- 2) Continue listening to the debate.
- 3) Consult with your table mates about ideas and thoughts. (but not too loudly, be considerate of the speaker)

When you go to the microphone:

- 4) Wait to be acknowledged by the chair.
- 5) Say your name, parish, community.
- 6) State if you are in support or against this motion.
- 7) State your thoughts as clearly as possible supporting your argument with fact or thought.
- 8) Finish with a thank you and return to your seat.
- 9) You make speak only once to each motion.



2007 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 Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones
‘that the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted.’

2. Minutes of the 2006 Synod

MOTION: The Reverend Ian Chadwick/Mrs. Carol Summers
‘that the minutes of the 2006 session of the 132nd Session of Synod, as found on pages 5 through 12 of this Convening Circular be now approved.’

3. Minutes of the 1st Session of the 2007 Synod

MOTION: The Reverend Ian Chadwick/Mrs. Carol Summers
‘that the minutes of the 2007 1st session of the 133rd Session of Synod, as found on pages 13 through 17 of this Convening Circular, be now approved.’

4. Adoption of the Agenda

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

6. Trinity College Corporation

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

(Please note: the Venerable Tom Greene, Reverend Jeff Ward (clergy), Mr. Gordon Askwith, Mrs. Margaret Reid, Mr. Robert Reid (lay), are continuing members of the Corporation of Trinity College.

7. Synod Council Election (nominations sheet handout)

MOTION: The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones/Canon Robert Welch
‘that this Synod elect the regional members of Synod Council and alternate regional members for the 2008-2009 term, as outlined on the nominations sheet, found on page 119 of this Convening Circular.’

2007 SYNOD RESOLUTIONS/NOTICES OF MOTION (continued)

8. Reducing the Effect of Seasonal Flu

MOTION: The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones/The Venerable Marion Vincett
‘that this Synod encourage parishes to consider doing all they can to reduce the effect of Seasonal flu in our churches.’

9. 2006 Audited Financial Statements

MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell
‘that the audited financial statements for 2006, as found on pages 48 through 57, be accepted.’

10. Auditor’s Report

MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell
‘that the Auditor's Report, as found on page 47, be accepted.’

11. Appointment Of Auditors

MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell
‘that KPMG be appointed as auditors for fiscal year 2007.’

12. 2008 Budget

MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell
‘that this Synod approve the 2008 proposed budget.’

13. Residential Schools Settlement Fund

MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell
‘that this Synod approve the transfer of excess funds donated to the Diocese of Niagara’s commitment for the Residential Schools Settlement Fund to the Anglican Church of Canada’s Healing and Reconciliation Fund by the Diocesan Treasurer.’

Welcome to the Second Session of Diocesan Synod 2007!

START HERE!

From Rick Jones, Secretary of Synod

Welcome to the second session of the 133rd Synod of The Diocese of Niagara! We convened in June to elect Bishop Michael and now continue with our “two day” Synod. Thank you for offering your gifts to build up the Body of Christ in the Diocese of Niagara.

Two Day Synod

Two years ago Synod decided to move to a format that alternates each year between a “one day” business format and a “two day” business and programme format. This year we will be using the “two day” format. This will allow enough time to do the core business of Synod such as hearing the Bishop’s Charge, electing Synod Council, approving the financial statements, voting on the budget, and considering other motions. In addition we will have time to be informed and to reflect on the pressing issue of Eco-Justice. This issue was recommended to us by the Youth Synod 2007 and we are looking forward to the presentation by Dr. Christopher Lind.

Worship and the Bishop’s Charge

We will begin Synod on Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. with Eucharistic Worship at the Cathedral. The Bishop will deliver his Charge and it will be video taped live for reproduction and distribution to parishes after Synod. The themes of Creation and the Stewardship of Creation will inform our worship this year.

Re-registration

On Friday morning delegates will re-register for this second session of Synod. This means that **if your parish sent an Alternate Delegate to the first session in June then that delegate is still your delegate for this second session.** If any delegate who attended in June is unable to attend this session then an Alternate Delegate elected by Vestry is able to attend. Please note that this means that a regular delegate who did not attend in June **cannot** substitute for an Alternate Delegate who did attend in June. Please contact Karen Nowicki at the Synod office as soon as possible if you will be sending different delegates than attended in June.

Education and Resources

The longer format of this Synod means that there will be a number of displayers in attendance for the Friday and Saturday morning. Included in this group will be the new ABC Augsburg Fortress bookstore, Environment Hamilton, Canterbury Hills and many others. We will also have resources on display around the theme of Eco-Justice including a free “Greening of Your Church” resource CD prepared by the Region of Undermount.

Friday Night and Saturday

Friday night the formal business of Synod will suspend at 4 p.m. and there will be a reception in the foyer with live entertainment, a Jazz Quartet, and cash bar. This allows the staff at the Convention Centre to transform the room and set the tables for the dinner, which will begin at 6 p.m. The evening will be a tribute to Bishop Ralph Spence as this will be his last Synod as Diocesan Bishop.

Saturday morning will be devoted to looking at motions that will come as a response to the General Synod decisions regarding the blessing of same gender relationships. These motions are not available at this time but will be available on the diocesan web site as soon as they are received by me. They will also be printed for Synod Delegates on arrival Friday. I hope that you will be able to have time before Synod to think about these motions. We will be on a very tight schedule Saturday morning if we hope to end by noon. Leaving at noon has been necessitated by the Santa Clause Parade which will literally surround the Conference Centre and block traffic out of the Centre by about 1 p.m.

If you have any questions about Synod, the agenda or anything else please contact The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller, Chair of the Synod Planning Team, Karen Nowicki or myself.

Thank you! And see you at Synod!

The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones, Secretary of Synod

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Privileges of the House were extended to:

- Ms. Kathryn Davies (Auditor)
- Mrs. Judy Conning (Finance Budget Sub-Committee)
- Mr. Gord Archbell, (Diocesan Mission and Ministries DM&M)
- Mrs. Barbara Forder, St. David's Anglican Church, Welland

ELECTION OF SYNOD SECRETARIES

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones/Mr. Rob Welch
THAT the Reverend Ian Chadwick and Mrs. Carol Summers be
the Honorary Secretaries of Synod at the sessions of this
Synod.**

CARRIED.

MINUTES OF THE 2005 SYNOD

**MOTION: The Reverend Ian Chadwick/Mrs. Carol Summers
THAT the minutes of the 2005 session of the 131st Session of
Synod, as found on pages 4 through 10 of the Convening
Circular, be now approved.**

CARRIED.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Chancellor Rob Welch advised members that motions could be found on pages 2 to 3 of the Convening Circular.

REPORT OF THE AGENDA AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Reverend Dr. Michael Thompson, Chair of the Synod Planning Committee, gave his report and outlined procedures. The agenda could be found on page 1 of the Convening Circular and is printed on yellow paper.

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 chair or honorary secretaries as soon as possible and prior to 10:00 am on Saturday. It will be determined when best to deal with new motions. Motions from the floor, which can be dealt with at this Synod session, will be presented on the screens.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION: The Reverend Dr. Michael Thompson/
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones
THAT the agenda as presented by the Agenda Committee be
adopted.**

CARRIED.

RECEPTION OF ALL REPORTS

**MOTION: Mr. Rob Welch/The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones
THAT all reports found in the Convening Circular and
obtained at registration be received.**

CARRIED.

DIOCESAN COURT

The Bishop announced his appointment of three lay and three clergy members of Synod to serve on the Diocesan Court:

Mrs. Susan Little, Mr. Ian Smith, Ms. Gill Tucker, The Reverend Kevin Bothwell, The Venerable Bruce McPetrie, and The Reverend Canon Lynne Thackwray.

The Diocesan Chancellor is automatically a member of Diocesan Court.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Dr. Michael Thompson made announcements.

RESOLUTION FROM THE VERY REVEREND PETER WALL

Heartiest congratulations to Albion Herald along with the love and affection of all.

Chancellor Rob Welch stated “there is no need for a motion since the support of the house was unanimous as shown by applause.”

TRINITY COLLEGE CORPORATION

**MOTION: The Venerable Marion Vincett/
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones
THAT the representative from the Diocese of Niagara to the
Corporation of Trinity College be the Venerable Tom Greene
and the Reverend Jeff Ward (clergy) for a term of two years
and Mr. Gordon Askwith, Mrs. Margaret Reid, Mr. Robert Reid
(lay) for a term of two years.**

CARRIED.

(Please note: the Reverend Joe Asselin (clergy), is a continuing member of the Corporation of Trinity College.)

GENERAL SYNOD ELECTIONS

The Chancellor read the clergy and laity nominations for General Synod as received by the Nominations Committee. Two withdrawals from the ballot were announced; The Reverend Dr. Patricia McCarthy and the Reverend Martha Tatarnic. Chancellor Rob Welch called for additional names from the floor, no nominations were received and nominations were closed. It was announced that the ballot boxes for General Synod Elections were open. The Chancellor informed Synod delegates that the ballot boxes for General Synod elections would be closed at 1:45 pm.

The Synod Eucharist was held.
The Bishop's Charge to Synod was delivered via video.

BREAK

The Reverend Dr. Michael Thompson made announcements and acknowledged the contribution of FaithLife Financial in sponsoring the morning break.

The Reverend Canon Michael Patterson addressed Synod delegates letting them know of a radio ad campaign that would be aired on several different radio stations throughout Niagara until December 24th. He played two sample ads for delegates.

The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford-Browning addressed the house and thanked Canon Michael Patterson for his ministry and hard work. Applause from Synod delegates.

2005 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell
THAT the audited financial statements for 2005, as found on pages 42 through 51, be accepted.**

CARRIED.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

**MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell
THAT the Auditor's Report, as found on page 41, be accepted.**

CARRIED.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

**MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell
THAT KPMG be appointed as auditors for fiscal year 2006.**

CARRIED.

SYNOD COUNCIL ELECTION

**MOTION: The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones/Mr. Rob Welch
THAT this Synod elect the regional members of Synod Council and alternate regional members for the 2007-2008 term, as outlined on the nominations sheet.**

CARRIED.

The regional slate is as follows:

Members to serve for 2007-2008:

Brock	Mrs. Patricia Davis
Greater Wellington	Canon Mark Tiller
Lincoln	The Reverend Dorothy Hewlett
Mohawk	Mr. Carl Sneyd

Trafalgar
Undermount Mrs. Carol Burnell

Alternate members for 2007:

Brock	The Reverend George Henry
Greater Wellington	no name received
Lincoln	Mrs. Pat Thorsteinson
Mohawk	no name received
Trafalgar	Mrs. Mary Bishop
Undermount	no name received

SYNOD COUNCIL

MOTION: The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones/Mr. Rob 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.

CARRIED.

GENERAL AND PROVINCIAL SYNOD BIOGRAPHIES

A motion from the floor was received.

Currently candidates for election are asked to provide short biographical information, which doesn't outline their stands on current issues facing the church.

MOTION: Ms. Michelle Bockmaster/Mr. Allan Hampson THAT candidates standing for election in future Synods be asked to comment on their positions on current issues

AND

THAT this Synod request the Nominations Committee for General and Provincial Synod delegates to consider establishing a procedure to allow candidates standing for election to comment on their positions on current issues.

CARRIED.

The Bishop thanked Mr. Jim Newman for his work in the area of Stewardship and Financial Development. Applause from Synod delegates.

YOUTH SYNOD

A motion from the floor was received.

MOTION: Ms. Rosemary Anstey/The Reverend Darcey Lazerte THAT this synod congratulate the youth of this diocese for the motions discussed at the Youth Synod held in May, 2006 AND

THAT this Synod follow the example set by our Youth by raising at least one Social Justice issue at Synod in 2007.
CARRIED.

BUDGET 2007

Mrs. Judy Conning, Co-Chair of the Finance Budget Sub-Committee of the Financial Advisory Committee, and Mr. Robert McKinnell, Diocesan Treasurer, delivered a PowerPoint presentation on the Proposed 2007 Budget.

MOTION: Mr. Kirk Boyd/Mr. Robert McKinnell
THAT this Synod approve the 2007 proposed budget.
CARRIED.

GRACE AND LUNCH

The Bishop thanked the Venerable Robert Leckey for his ministry in the diocese. The Venerable Robert Leckey, Church of the Redeemer, Stoney Creek, said Grace and lunch was served at the delegate tables.

DIOCESAN MISSION AND MINISTRIES (DM&M)

MOTION: Mr. Peter Swire/Mr. Kirk Boyd
THAT Synod approve the following recommendations to amend the existing formula used to calculate the parish Diocesan Mission & Ministries (DM&M) calculation:

Recommendations:

- 1) that parish financial information for the immediate complete prior year be used to determine operating income (i.e. 2005 parish financial information be used for calculating 2007 DM&M contribution).
- 2) that all income of a parish used for operating purposes, excluding capital costs and outreach gifts, be assessed at the rate of 20% for parish DM&M contributions to the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara.
- 3) that the annual increase in parish percentage rate be limited to 5% for parishes whose current rate is calculated at less than 20% (i.e. a DM&M percentage rate of 17% will increase to 17.85 % in the following year and to 18.74 the next year and so on until the 20% rate is achieved).
- 4) that transitional provisions be adopted for parishes to reduce their historical diocesan receivables.

AMENDMENT: The Reverend Jean Archbell/Mr. Jim Robinson
2) that all income from a parish used for operating purposes, excluding capital costs, historical diocesan receivables owed by the parishes, and outreach gifts, be assessed at the rate of 20% for parish DM&M contributions to the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara.
DEFEATED.

The Reverend Dr. Steve Hopkins called for the motion to be considered in parts for voting.

**MOTION: Mr. Peter Swire/Mr. Kirk Boyd
THAT Synod approve the following recommendations to
amend the existing formula used to calculate the parish
Diocesan Mission & Ministries (DM&M) calculation:**

Recommendations:

1) that parish financial information for the immediate complete prior year be used to determine operating income (i.e. 2005 parish financial information be used for calculating 2007 DM&M contribution).

CARRIED.

2) that all income of a parish used for operating purposes, excluding capital costs and outreach gifts, be assessed at the rate of 20% for parish DM&M contributions to the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara.

DEFEATED.

3) that the annual increase in parish percentage rate be limited to 5% for parishes whose current rate is calculated at less than 20% (i.e. a DM&M percentage rate of 17% will increase to 17.85 % in the following year and to 18.74 the next year and so on until the 20% rate is achieved).

CARRIED.

4) that transitional provisions be adopted for parishes to reduce their historical diocesan receivables.

CARRIED.

BREAK

The Reverend Dr. Michael Thompson made announcements and acknowledged the contribution of Pollard Windows in sponsoring the afternoon break.

It was announced that the General Synod ballot boxes were closed and the results of the election would be announced prior to adjournment.

DIOCESAN MISSION AND MINISTRIES (DM&M)

A motion from the floor was received.

**MOTION: Mr. Ross Gillett/The Very Reverend Peter Wall
THAT the Diocesan Mission & Ministries recommendation #2
be referred to Synod Council with input coming from the
house to take the matter under consideration.**

CARRIED.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS ON SAME GENDER BLESSINGS

Delegates entered into roundtable discussions on Same Gender Blessings.

2007 GENERAL SYNOD ELECTION RESULTS

The General Synod Election results were announced.

The General Synod slate is as follows:

Regular Clergy Delegates 2007

The Venerable Marion Vincett

The Venerable Michael Bird

The Reverend Dr. Michael Thompson

The Venerable Lynne Corfield

The Reverend Dr. Stephen Hopkins

Regular Lay Delegates 2007

Ms. Bill Mous

Mrs. Carol Summers

Mr. Ian Pratt

Mrs. Wendy Newman

Mrs. Elizabeth Kerley

Substitute Clergy Delegates 2007

The Very Reverend Peter Wall

The Reverend Canon Michael Patterson

The Reverend Sandra Copland

The Reverend Canon Dr. Sharyn Hall

The Reverend Amy Cousineau

Substitute Lay Delegates 2007

Mr. Ross Gillett

Mrs. Catherine Cumming

Mrs. Judy Connor

Mr. Carl Sneyd

Mrs. Diane Branch

BISHOP'S ASSENT

ASSENT

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

The Bishop closed the session with the blessing and the 132nd Synod of the Diocese of Niagara was prorogued at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones, Secretary of Synod
Mrs. Karen Nowicki, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of Synod
Mrs. Carol Summers, Honorary Lay Secretary
The Reverend Ian Chadwick, Honorary Clerical Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE 1st SESSION OF THE
133rd SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA
HELD ON JUNE 2, 2007 IN HAMILTON**

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2007

CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL, HAMILTON

Registration began at 7:45 a.m. Bishop Ralph Spence called the 1st Session of the 133rd Synod of the Diocese of Niagara to order at 9:00 a.m. Seated at the head table were Bishop Ralph Spence and Chancellor Rob Welch.

ELECTION OF SYNOD SECRETARIES

**MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller
THAT the Reverend Ian Chadwick and Mrs. Carol Summers be
the Honorary Secretaries of Synod at the sessions of this
Synod.**

CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller
THAT the agenda as presented by the Agenda Committee be
adopted.**

CARRIED.

RECEPTION OF ALL REPORTS

**MOTION: Canon Robert Welch/The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller
THAT all reports found in the Convening Circular on the
Diocesan Website and obtained at registration be received.**

CARRIED.

NEW MEMBERS OF SYNOD

The Bishop welcomed:

- Rev. Marcus Germaine, Rector, Church of the Nativity, Hamilton
- Rev. Bahman Kalantari, Assistant Curate, St. Mark, Orangeville
- Rev. Paul Maynard, Bishop's Deacon
- Mr. Bill Mous, Ministry Associate, St. James, Dundas
- Rev. Aaron Orear, Assistant Curate, St. Jude, Oakville

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Chancellor Rob Welch reported that, as of 9:00 a.m., June 2, 2007, 237 out of 270 eligible lay delegates had registered, representing 87.78% of all eligible delegates in the order of laity, and 100 out of 119 eligible clergy delegates had registered, representing 84.03% of all eligible delegates in the order of clergy.

**MOTION: Canon Rob Welch/The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller
THAT the report of the Credentials Committee be accepted.**

CARRIED.

WELCOME TO THE DEACONS REPRESENTING THE COLLEGE OF DEACONS

- Richard Beaudoin, Anne Crawford, Ronald Pincoe

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Privileges of the House were extended to:

Mr. Robert Morrow, Chair, Electoral Synod Nominations and Planning Committee

The Reverend Audrey Conard

WELCOME DIVINITY STUDENTS:

The Bishop welcomed Cheryl Barker, Sue Channen, Brian Galligan, Matthew Griffin, Lucinda Landau, Sheila Vanzandwyk

Bishop Spence welcome all in attendance and thanked all the staff and volunteers who helped to make this day happen.

TECHNICIANS/SOUND SYSTEM

Bishop Spence thanked Mr. Bryan Stopps and Mr. Derek Smith on the Sound System and Mr. Carl Sneyd operating the PowerPoint Presentation.

THE DUNHAM GROUP

Bishop Spence thanked The Dunham Group; Christopher Grabiec, John Janisse, and Jason Lok, broadcasting the Electoral Synod live on the Diocesan Website.

INTERIM SECRETARY OF SYNOD

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller was appointed as the Interim Secretary of Synod for this session of the 133rd Synod of the Diocese of Niagara.

WELCOME TO THE VISITING BISHOPS

Bishop Spence welcomed the visiting Bishops:

Bishop Ann Tottenham

Bishop John Bothwell

Bishop Clarence Mitchell

Bishop Walter Asbil

The Reverend Susan Johnson, Bishop's Commissary
Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller made announcements. He thanked Mrs. Karen Nowicki, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of Synod and Mr. Robert Morrow, Chair, Electoral Synod Nominations and Planning Committee.

Delegates were informed that there may be a need to adjust the agenda from time to time during the course of the day. Lunch would be a floating lunch starting at 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. while the balloting continued.

The Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee and Camp Canterbury Hills Alumni would be staffing a BBQ lunch in front of the Cathedral (Bishop's Gate). Tickets for the lunch could be purchased in Myler Hall.

Delegates were told that the Quiet Room was located in the Columbarium, hosted by the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer. The Cathedral was also designated a cell-phone and Blackberry quiet area.

Canon Tiller announced that the Eucharist would be shown on the large screen

and that there would be 4 Communion stations.

At this time Archbishop Caleb Lawrence moved to the head table to chair the remainder of the proceedings.

The Synod Eucharist began at 9:15 a.m.

ELECTORAL PROCESS

Mr. Robert Morrow, Chair, Electoral Synod Nominations and Planning Committee addressed the house and reviewed the balloting process for the day.

He told delegates that the committee would be putting together an evaluation and would welcome their feedback on the process of the Episcopal Election. The feedback form would be posted on the diocesan website and responses forwarded to the next Electoral Synod Nominations and Planning Committee.

Robert also let delegates know that the Electoral Synod was the 1st Session of the 133rd Synod of the Diocese of Niagara and that the 2nd Session was scheduled for November 2007.

He made mention of the members on the Electoral Synod Nominations and Planning Committee and if delegates had any questions, the following people could be of assistance;

Canon Rob Welch, Canon Rob Park, Chris Grabiec, the Reverend Dorothy Hewlett, Nick Head-Petersen, the Venerable Marion Vincett and two wonderful representatives from the Synod office - Karen Nowicki and Alison D'Atri.

He mentioned that there were over 50 volunteers and 30+ youth staffing the lunch BBQ. He also thanked the Reverend Stephen Murray and his team who put together the liturgy for the day and the ministry stories that would be heard throughout the day.

Delegates received the first ballot at registration.

He then introduced the 12 nominees;

The Reverend Canon Dr. Alyson Barnett-Cowan

The Venerable Michael Bird

The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford Browning

The Reverend Canon Sandra Copland

The Venerable Lynne Corfield

The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones

The Venerable Bruce McPetrie

The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray

The Right Reverend Philip Poole

The Reverend Canon Brian Ruttan

The Venerable James Sandilands

The Very Reverend Peter Wall

Archbishop Caleb Lawrence addressed Synod Delegates and thanked the nominees. Before the ballot boxes opened Archbishop Lawrence asked if there were additional nominations from the floor. There were no further nominations. This was repeated before every ballot.

The ballot boxes were opened.

<u>First Ballot Results</u>	<u>Clergy</u>	<u>Lay</u>
The Reverend Canon Dr. Alyson Barnett-Cowan	7	11
The Venerable Michael Bird	22	37
The Venerable Lynne Corfield	5	22
The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford Browning	11	20
The Reverend Canon Sandra Copland	12	33
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones	14	22
The Venerable Bruce McPetrie	6	9
The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray	6	10
The Right Reverend Philip Poole	13	41
The Reverend Canon Brian Ruttan	5	4
The Venerable James Sandilands	4	18
The Very Reverend Peter Wall	8	18

The Reverend Canon Brian Ruttan withdrew

<u>Second Ballot Results</u>	<u>Clergy</u>	<u>Lay</u>
The Reverend Canon Dr. Alyson Barnett-Cowan	2	3
The Venerable Michael Bird	32	56
The Venerable Lynne Corfield	5	15
The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford Browning	10	21
The Reverend Canon Sandra Copland	11	33
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones	17	25
The Venerable Bruce McPetrie	4	2
The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray	3	4
The Right Reverend Philip Poole	16	58
The Venerable James Sandilands	5	13
The Very Reverend Peter Wall	9	16

The Reverend Canon Dr. Alyson Barnett-Cowan, The Venerable Lynne Corfield, The Venerable Bruce McPetrie, The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray and The Venerable James Sandilands withdrew

<u>Third Ballot Results</u>	<u>Clergy</u>	<u>Lay</u>
The Venerable Michael Bird	41	85
The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford Browning	10	21
The Reverend Canon Sandra Copland	10	33
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones	19	30
The Right Reverend Philip Poole	22	65
The Very Reverend Peter Wall	10	14

The Reverend Canon Dr. Cathie Crawford Browning and The Very Reverend Peter Wall withdrew

<u>Fourth Ballot Results</u>	<u>Clergy</u>	<u>Lay</u>
The Venerable Michael Bird	57	119
The Reverend Canon Sandra Copland	11	25
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones	17	30
The Right Reverend Philip Poole	25	72

The Reverend Canon Sandra Copland withdrew

<u>Fifth Ballot Results</u>	<u>Clergy</u>	<u>Lay</u>
*The Venerable Michael Bird ELECTED	71	149
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones	20	17
The Right Reverend Philip Poole	18	75

The Venerable Michael Bird was elected Coadjutor Bishop.

Archbishop Caleb Lawrence asked The Venerable Michael Bird to give his personal assent to the election results. Bishop-elect Michael Bird gave his assent emphatically.

The Reverend Canon Dr. Rick Jones spoke on behalf of the other 11 nominees and congratulated Michael. Bishop Poole was given privileges of the house and moved that the election be unanimous. General assent was signified by applause.

Archbishop Caleb Lawrence led in prayer.

Coadjutor Bishop-elect Michael Bird addressed the Synod.

Closing Hymn #598 Go to the World.

BISHOP'S ASSENT

ASSENT

Bishop Spence gave his assent to all actions of this session of Synod.

The Bishop closed the session with the blessing and the 1st session of the 133rd Synod of the Diocese of Niagara was prorogued at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller, Interim Secretary of Synod

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

Mrs. Carol Summers, Honorary Lay Secretary

The Reverend Ian Chadwick, Honorary Clerical Secretary

REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHURCH BUILDINGS

The members of the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings have continued to work quietly behind the scenes on many building issues of varying kinds.

There is firstly the general advisory capacity of this committee so that parishes can call and receive a referral to a member who has the specific skills needed to help a parish solve a problem. In this area of our work the following parishes have benefited from such advice:

- St Paul's Caledonia
- All Saints, Hagersville
- Transfiguration, St. Catharines
- The Church of Our Saviour the Redeemer, Stoney Creek
- St John's, York

Secondly, many of our church complexes are not accessible to handicapped or disabled parishioners and often the calls are for advice in how to achieve accessibility within an often complicated and multi-level building. Advice of this nature has been offered to:

- St John's, Burlington
- St Michael's, Hamilton
- St Stephen's, Hornby
- St. Aidan's, Oakville
- St James and St Brendan's, Port Colborne

A third kind of advice offered by this group relates to new construction. Several parishes benefited from such advice in 2006 - 2007:

- St Mark's, Orangeville which is planning an exciting new addition
- St Luke's, Palermo, which is getting closer to a new construction date after a long stretch of uncertainty and many delays
- St John's, Thorold, where the building is now complete and being enjoyed by the parishioners

There is a full description of the resources offered by this committee and of diocesan expectations around new construction projects on the diocesan website under "Resources - Church Buildings Committee" or you can call Karen Nowicki or the Executive Officer to access assistance directly.

Thank you to all our dedicated volunteers and especially to Karen Nowicki who is usually the first contact for parish members with this group.

Committee members

Mr. Bill Bohn
Ms. Brenda Brownlee
The Reverend St. Clair Cleveland
Mr. Robert Cox
Mr. William Filer
Mr. Don Hicks
Mr. John Layfield
Mr. David Ricketts

Mr. Roy Shoalts
Mr. Dan Tregunno
The Reverend Susan Wells
The Venerable Marion Vincett, Chair
Mrs. Karen Nowicki, Staff Support
Bishop Ralph Spence, Ex-Officio
The Venerable John Rathbone, Ex-Officio

Respectfully submitted,
The Venerable Marion Vincett, Chair

REPORT OF THE BISHOP'S DECENNIAL INSPECTION COMMITTEE

This Committee was formed as a separate committee from the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings in the Diocese of Niagara, and it operates under Canon 4.6.1 as approved by Synod and under the direction of the Bishop.

As the name implies an Inspection is carried out every ten years; but an Inspection is also to be done before any new construction, alterations or additions to existing Parish facilities are started.

Shortly after last Synod Mr. Bill Parker, resigned as Chair of the Committee and Mr. Ralph Crysler took over on an interim basis. As of 01 July this year Mr. Christopher Walker assumed the role of Chair, and later in July Mr. Bill Holman joined the Inspection Committee. My thanks and appreciation go to the committee for 2006-2007, Mr. Ralph Crysler and Mr. David Ricketts. At one point we only had two pre-qualified Inspectors on the roster, but recently two new Inspectors have joined the team.

The following parishes are to be congratulated on completing their Decennial Inspections in 2006 - 2007:

All Saints, Hagersville
Christ Church, Niagara Falls
St. Aidan's, Oakville
St. Barnabas, St. Catharines
St. Christopher's Burlington
St. George's, St. Catharines
St. John's, Winona
St. Luke's Burlington

Since the inception of the program in 1999, inspections of 57 properties have been completed and at the present time 35 properties remain to be inspected. Of these, six remain from prior years, which for various reasons have not been able to have an inspection, and two further parishes are still due to complete their inspection in 2007. We expect, with the help of the new inspectors to clear this backlog in 2008.

Overall the inspection of church buildings is working well in cooperation with the Regional Archdeacons and the parishes. We are currently working to revise the Terms of Reference for the Inspectors and to develop a model Maintenance Program to better meet the needs of Parishes.

Committee Members

Mr. Mr. Ralph Crysler
Mr. Bill Holman
Mr. David Ricketts

The Venerable Marion Vincett, Ex-officio
Mr. Christopher Walker, Chair

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Christopher G. Walker, Chair

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

FOCUS:

This group continues to expand our work in offering resources for lay workers and parishioners, clergy and the Diocesan judicatory network for the creation of a safer church. Those who serve on this team work at providing basic education in preventing misconduct. There are also team members who are especially trained in responding to situations where misconduct is alleged to have taken place. It should be noticed that increasingly there is a connection between this task force and the efforts of the Volunteer Screening and Development Group, under the able guidance of Joyce Wilton, as we work together for a safer, healthier church environment.

ACTIVITIES:

Our primary activity is to respond to situations where there is a concern that professional misconduct may have taken place and where individuals feel that the church is not a "safe place" for them.

The task force continues to provide orientation education to clergy and lay workers as they are licensed for professional ministry within the Diocese.

Members of the committee are also available for parishes, deanery groups and Clericus group both to educate people around issues of harassment and abuse and to work at prevention. In such settings, we assist people in understanding the policy as it currently exists.

Throughout the Canadian and North American churches, denominations are discovering that our "first efforts" in these policies were perhaps less than adequate. We continue to work at revamping the current policy in concert with both the national church, other Dioceses and other denominations.

MEMBERSHIP:

This committee includes clergy, pastoral specialists, lawyers and professionals with counseling and child welfare expertise.

The Right Reverend D. Ralph Spence
Mr. Graeme Leach
The Reverend David Long
The Reverend Rod McDowell, Deacon
The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell (Chair)
The Venerable Jim Sandilands
Ms Joyce Wilton

This year, we recognize the work of Canon Lynda Kealey, as a volunteer consultant.

Respectfully submitted,
Canon Marni Nancekivell, Chair

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EVANGELISM

The work of Evangelism in our diocese has continued in earnest this year. However, it is my opinion that the commitment to evangelism is not happening fast enough or our efforts are sometimes derailed by the stresses and pressures of doing ministry in this time and place. The more I travel about the diocese and beyond, the more convinced I become that God is calling us out of the status quo into a new way of being the Church and challenging us to offer the Gospel in new and creative ways. If we seek to be a vibrant, healthy, responsive community of faith, then evangelism is not an option. The Bishop's charge last year identified evangelism as one of the three components of the overall vision for ministry of our diocese. It was with that in mind that the evangelism working group moved forward with initiatives and support to parishes in order to realize that vision.

In the fall of 2006 the diocese engaged in a radio and newspaper campaign that was very well received both within our Church and outside of it. The feedback from the campaign suggested that it was highly successful for a number of reasons. First, attendance at church services over the Advent/Christmas season was up in 97% of the parishes in the diocese. Second, people reported that they often heard others speaking about hearing the radio spots and how unusual it was to hear a church being advertised; people were talking! Lastly, people commented on how much easier it was to talk to friends and family about their church because of this advertising; it made us proud. What was very important about the campaign was that it served to offer a healthy, even amusing, image of our church in a time when most of the press we had been receiving had been generally very negative. It is our hope that this year's campaign will build on that success and further assist in communicating to the world that within our Anglican communities, *'you mean more here!'*

This past year saw a number of parishes continuing with the Natural Church Development process by engaging in their second round of surveys with tremendous results. There are presently 25 parishes in the diocese utilizing NCD. It is one of the most effective and helpful means to determine what direction a parish should move in and we would highly recommend having someone assist your parish in determining whether it may be right for your community.

Workshops, ideas, and support are available to assist you in understanding how to begin evangelism within your community. Much of the work of the EWG is done with individual groups or churches; to date 84 parishes have contacted the evangelism office for some sort of assistance over the last two and a half years. We would encourage you to contact this office in order to determine what we may do in order to assist you in making evangelism an integral part of your mission and vision.

Thank you to all members of the Evangelism Working Group for your continued commitment.

Michael Patterson
Hugh Haney
Paul Tinker
Mark Tiller
John Bowen
Renee Desjardin

Cindy Blades
John Baxter
Ruth Anne Martin
Cheryl Fricker
Pam Guyatt
Rob Hurkmans

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Canon Michael Patterson

2007 DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL

Representatives from Regions

Mrs. Patricia Davis	Brock
Ms. Gill Tucker	Brock
The Venerable Lynne Corfield	Brock
Mrs. Susan Pulleyblank	Greater Wellington
The Reverend Canon Mark Tiller	Greater Wellington
The Venerable Thomas Greene	Greater Wellington
The Reverend Dorothy Hewlett	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 Michael Bird (until September 2007)	Trafalgar
The Venerable Steve Hopkins (from October 2007)	Trafalgar
Mr. Robert Tilbury	Undermount
Mrs. Carol Burnell	Undermount

Representatives of Divisions of Ministry

The Reverend Dianne Distler	Congregational Support
Mr. Ross Gillett	Ministry Support
Mrs. Judy Connor	Outreach

Canterbury Hills Representative

Mrs. Nancy Miller

Financial Advisory Committee Representative

Mr. Peter Swire

Bishop's Appointees

Ms. Cindy Blades
Mr. Nick Head-Petersen
Mrs. Beth Kerley
Mr. Ian Pratt

Members by Office

The Right Reverend D. Ralph Spence	Bishop
The Right Reverend Michael Bird (from October 2007)	Coadjutor Bishop
Canon Robert Welch	Chancellor
Canon Terry Jackman	Vice-Chancellor
The Venerable Marion Vincett	Executive Officer
The Very Reverend Peter Wall	Dean
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones	Secretary of Synod
Mr. Robert McKinnell	Treasurer

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL

This report summarizes the actions of the Synod Council from the November 2006 Synod to the Synod Council meeting of October 2, 2007 inclusive. Eight meetings were convened. Attendance averaged 85%.

Membership

- all changes in membership were in accordance with Canon 1.9 and the election of members and alternate members by Synod in November 2006

Election and Appointments

- authorized the following at signing officers: The Right Reverend Ralph Spence, Diocesan Bishop; The Venerable Marion Vincett, Executive Officer; The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones, Secretary of Synod; Mr. Robert McKinnell, Treasurer; The Reverend David Long, Director of Ministry Support; 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 2007 as follows: The Reverend Owen Ash, Mr. Kirk Boyd, The Reverend Darcey Lazerte, Mr. Tom Poirier, Mr. Gordon Reed, Mr. Ian Smith, Mr. David Ricketts, Mr. Peter Swire, Mr. David Watson
- elected members of the Audit Committee for 2007 as follows: Gord Archbell, Ed Crighton, Gerald Jenkins, Jim Newman, David Page, Ian Smith, Peter Swire, Jonathan Marler
- 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. Seymour Wigle (Jan. 2006 - 2009), Mrs. Joyce Frank (Jan. 2006 - 2009), Mr. Andrew Bucknall (Jan. 2006 - 2009), Mr. James Sweetlove (Jan. 2006 - 2009), Mr. Gord Archbell (Jan. 2004 - 2007), Archdeacon Bob Leckey (Bishop's Appointee 2007)
- appointed KPMG auditors of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara for fiscal year 2006
- elected the following to serve as the Synod Council Coordinating Team: Lynne Corfield, Pat Davis, Beth Kerley, John Palmer, Bob Tilbury, Mark Tiller, Peter Wall
- appointed Archdeacon Lynne Corfield Diocesan Administrator of All Saints Mission, Niagara Falls
- appointed the following names to the Electoral Synod Nominations and Planning Committee: Mr. Rob Welch, The Venerable Marion Vincett, Mr. Chris Grabiec, the Reverend Dorothy Hewlett, The Reverend Rob Park, Mr. Bob Morrow, Mr. Nick Head-Petersen
- appointed Canon Mark Tiller as Interim Secretary of Synod for June 2, 2007

Policy Matters

- approved to amend the policy 'A Motion to Empower Corporations To Enter Into Site Use Agreements of Less Than Three Years' to read 'that the agreement may be terminated by *Name of Church* upon sixty days' notice'.

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)

Parish Matters

- requested that the Bishop suspend weekly worship at the All Saints Mission effective March 4, 2007
- authorized the Bishop to endorse the application of St. James Anglican Church, Guelph to the Anglican Foundation for a grant in the amount of \$15,000
- authorized St. John's, Burlington the opportunity to move forward and review a draft licensing agreement between the Province's Ontario Realty Corporation (ORC), Halton Region and St. John's, Burlington to enable entry on to the lands to clean them up
- approved that St. John's, York move forward on preparing an encroachment agreement with the assistance of the Diocesan Solicitor, Gerry Aggus, subject to a special vestry meeting held by the parish and that the parish refer to Canon 4.7
- Synod Council gave its support and approval, in principle, to a Cathedral Place Capital Campaign, 'Preserve to Server', in the amount of \$4 million, to be raised throughout the diocese for the ongoing ministry and maintenance of Cathedral Place
- approved that the parish of St. Mark's Anglican Church, Orangeville to enter into a re-organization arrangement between the Church, Hiwhois and Credit River, concerning the re-organization of Credit River to allow the Church to exercise control over Credit Rivers' operation, as described in the Executive Summary provided by St. Mark's
- supported the shared ministry of All Saints, Ridgeway; St. John's, Ridgemount and St. Luke's Lutheran of Ridgeway
- approved Long Term Licensing Agreements for St. Columba, St. Catharines
- approved a one-year License Agreement for St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls
- approved the Incumbent and Churchwardens of St. John, Ancaster to renew the lease agreement with Bell Mobility Cellular Inc. for a term of five (5) years commencing January 1, 2008 and ending December 31, 2012
- approved Long Term Licensing Agreements for St. George's, Homer
- gave assent to the amalgamation of Our Saviour, Stoney Creek and Church of the Redeemer, Stoney Creek as in accordance with Canon 4.5

Property Matters

- approved the disestablishment of St. James, Dundalk
- approved the disestablishment of Christ Church, Nanticoke
- approved the sale of Our Saviour, Stoney Creek to Shirley Thomas Weir in Trust for a company to be incorporated for \$765,000 to close on July 31, 2007
- authorized the corporation of St. John's Anglican Church to sell the church property at the South West corner of Wellington County Roads 7 and 21 in Elora to Wolfe, Smith & Forster, Barristers and Solicitors; signatory H. Deryk Smith for \$305,000 cash to close on March 15, 2007 and that the Purchaser assumes all risk, responsibility and cost associated with the closing of the cemetery
- ratified the disestablishment of St. Philip's, Burlington on April 29, 2007
- approved the sale of the rectory at 4138 Mountain Street, Beamsville for \$260,000 to Edward Dykstra and Wendy Putnickovitch, to close on August 17, 2007
- approved the purchase of the property at 4337 Ontario Street, Beamsville for \$280,000 from John and Berendina Wikkerink, to close on August 31, 2007

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)

Property Matters

- approved the sale of All Saints, Hagersville rectory to Susan and Robert Horning for \$176,500 to close on June 18, 2007
- approved the sale of the rectory at 229 Albion Avenue, Oakville for \$705,000 to Kekobad Behram Aga, to close on the date being the next business day following 30 days after the date upon the severance of the lands
- authorized the Corporation of St. John's Anglican Church, Thorold to move forward with the severance of the property and to list the rectory property for sale, under the conditions as set out and approved by the special vestry meeting held on May 31, 2007
- approved the sale of St. John's, Thorold rectory at 38 Clairmont Street for \$224,000 to Phillip and Marisa Rocco to close on March 3, 2008, offer conditional on the sale of the Buyers home by November 3, 2007
- a moratorium on the selling and/or disposal of rectories and rectory property be in effect as of June 5, 2007 until November 17, 2007, at the latest, so that a plan for rectory and rectory property sales be brought forward and adopted by Synod Council and/or Synod
- approved the sale of St. Philip, Burlington to The Hamilton Christadelphian Church for \$850,000 to close on September 14th, 2007 and approved the Diocese of Niagara taking back a first mortgage for \$175,000 at an interest rate of 5% per annum, yielding \$1,017.81 per month, to be paid out by December 31, 2007 or upon the completion of the sale of the existing lands owned by the buyer at 20 West Avenue North, Hamilton, Ontario, whichever date occurs first
- authorized the Corporation of St. Paul's Anglican Church to list the church property in question located on South Street in Port Robinson for \$175,000 or any figure that is greater and to sell the same in consultation with Synod council for no less than \$170,000
- approved the sale of Grace Church, Hamilton to Senburg Management Ltd. In trust for \$320,000 to close on December 31, 2007
- supported the disestablishment of St. Mark's, Louth should the congregation be unable to meet it's budgetary goals by November 1, 2007
- authorized the corporation of St. Luke's Anglican Church, Palermo to list a portion of the rectory land on the west side of Valley Ridge Drive, Oakville and that it be offered to Mattamy Limited, prior to offering the land for sale to any other party, for the sum of \$600,000
- authorized the Diocese of Niagara to list approximately 1.6 acres of land adjacent to the St. Luke's, Palermo property for no less than \$1.9 million

Financial Matters

- amended the Synod Delegate fee for 2006 to \$100 per delegate from \$75
- accepted the recommendation of the Financial Advisory Committee and approved using the current Diocesan Mission & Ministry formula for the purpose of calculating 2007 parish Diocesan Mission & Ministry amounts
- approved that the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara loan, interest free, \$84,500 to St. James and St. Brendan Anglican Church, Port Colborne to assist with renovations to and refurbishing of the former St. James Church and that this amount will be repaid from the sale of the St. Brendan's property
- approved the Bishop and the Diocesan Treasurer be empowered to transfer up to \$200,000, as needed, from the balance in the 'Parish Sale Proceeds' fund account to assist with the excess costs of Personnel Transition and Severance during 2006

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL (continued)

Financial Matters

- approved the request from St. Michael's, Hamilton to borrow \$28,000 from its Rectory Fund for Capital Projects
- authorized All Saints, Hagersville to borrow \$49,000 for their Rectory Fund for Capital Improvements
- received the Financial Statements of the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara as of December 31, 2006
- approved an increase of 25%, effective September 1, 2007, to the Interim Pay Scale
- accepted the recommendation of the Compensation Sub-Committee to increase all pay grades on the minimum stipend scale established for parish clergy by 2.2% and on existing clergy housing allowances; and that a minimum 2.2% increase be recommended for all lay employees in 2008
- referred to the 2nd Session of the 133rd Synod of the Diocese of Niagara what should be done with the excess funds collected by the Diocese of Niagara for the Residential Schools Fund
- that the Bishop strike a committee comprised of members from Christ's Church Cathedral Corporation, the Financial Advisory Committee, and the Cathedral Place Property Committee, under the leadership of the Bishop to provide recommendations to Synod Council relating to the request for immediate financial assistance from Christ's Church Cathedral, plus any new models for ministry and governance at the Cathedral Place, with the committee reporting back to Synod Council by December 4, 2007

Electoral Synod Nominations and Planning Committee

Council members received an information package with regard to nomination balloting. Included in the package was a roster list of the Electoral Synod Nominations and Planning Committee (ESNPC), Canon 2.1, Provincial Canon III, ballot casting information page, and a list of eligible clergy – Diocese of Niagara.

OTHER

- endorsed the Manifesto on Family Reunification, which calls on our Government to make speedy family reunification a priority, as presented by the Canadian Council for Refugees
- approved the distribution of reference pamphlets to each member of Synod and encourage parishes to consider doing all they can to reduce the effect of seasonal flu in our churches
- approved the request from the Compensation Committee to begin a process to consult with parishes to have the Employee Assistant Program become a part of the benefit package for all employees
- approved the Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance (AD&D) coverage as part of the benefit package effective January 1, 2008
- approved that the Diocese of Niagara Emergency and Pandemic Plan, September 2007, be distributed at the September 2007 Clergy Day and be posted on the diocesan website
- referred the request to change the way we act on elections to Provincial Synod and General Synod from Youth Synod to a Canons Committee

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Canon Dr. Richard Jones
Secretary of Synod

REPORT OF THE INVESTMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

(This subcommittee is responsible to the Financial Advisory Committee)

Our Investment Funds which started in June 1996 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 delivers consistent and superior returns. For our portfolio they employ 24 managers.

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. For the five years since we have been with Russell, the returns before expenses are as follows: June 2003 (1.72%), June 2004 13.56%, June 2005 9.48% and June 2006 7.14%, June 2007 14.7%, for a 5-year average return of 9.5% per year.

The fees charged by Russell were until recently 62 bps (a basis point (bps) is 0.01%) plus 6% GST per year, paid quarterly. Russell has recently reduced its fee to 52 bps plus GST per year. Also, a monthly administrative fee 50 bps is charged by the Diocese. The current total fees are 1.02% per year.

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. Since June 30, 1997 unit values have increased from \$10.00 to \$17.18717 as at June 30, 2007.

Present members of the Investment Subcommittee are:

Mr. Andrew Bucknall
Mr. Robert McKinnell (Diocesan Treasurer)
Mr. David W. Pady (Past Chair)
Mr. Roger A. Phillips (Chair)
Mr. David Ricketts
Mr. Dan Waterston
Mr. David Watson
Mr. Malcolm Williams
Ms. Kim Waltmann (Secretary)

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Roger A. Phillips, Chair

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. Approximately 30 reappraisals have been completed this year.

During the past year, the insurance building inspection program has been continued by the Diocesan Insurance Broker, David Ricketts. Churches and church properties at all of the church locations have been inspected in the 1997 to August 2007 period.

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. It is strongly suggested that this 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 folks 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. As a member of General and Provincial Synod, he is often sought to advise other dioceses on insurance issues. He is available to assist, at any time, any parish with their questions.

Our Insurance Administrator is Kim Waltmann and is the cheerful voice at the Diocesan Resource Centre to assist you on a daily basis as well.

Many thanks go to the members of the subcommittee:

Peter Swire

Violet Whitehouse

Neil Groombridge

Russell Moodie

Kim Waltmann (Administrator/Secretary)

Bob McKinnell (Diocesan Treasurer)

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Murray Rathbone, Chair

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN TREASURER

This marks the end of my eighth year as your Diocesan Treasurer.

The year end results for 2006 in the General Fund are positive with a small surplus of \$31,620 before depreciation of \$108,961. This did not provide the necessary funds to make our \$102,500 annual debt repayment to the bank. The difference has come through a decrease in our cash position. At year end, our unrestricted deficit improved significantly as we saw a reduction from (\$1,611,074) to (\$1,263,082). This resulted from the transfer of funds arising from the sale of closed parishes. When parishes are closed the residual proceeds are held for one year as required by our Canons. At the end of that year two-thirds of that residual amount is transferred to the Diocese to restore fund balances and reduce debt.

Our Participation Unit investment with the Russell Investment Group performed extremely well this past year. Unit values rose from \$15.02018 to \$16.83671 during calendar 2006. This increase represents an approximate 12.1% rate of return.

Year-to-date financial operating results for 2007 indicate we could be close to a breakeven position depending on our investment return at year end. The stock market has shown greater volatility than in 2006 and it is difficult to determine where we will end the year at. The unit value has risen from \$16.83671 at the beginning of this year to \$17.00484 at the end of August. This represents an increase in value of only 1.0% for the past eight months. Most expenses are well within budget with the exception of the Personnel Transition & Severance category. This item is much higher than anticipated when the budget was set in early 2006.

As mentioned previously, our Synod long term debt continues to reduce at the rate of \$102,500 per year. We are committed to this repayment plan for quite a few years to come. It is encouraging to note that CIBC, our banker, has been pleased with our overall performance and no changes are expected in the Synod's bank operating line.

The 2008 proposed budget is a balanced budget and contains few changes as we enter into a transition period with Bishop Michael Bird assuming responsibility in March of 2008.

We will be challenged in the years to come as we deal with continued parish closures and the loss of their support and contribution of DM&M dollars. However, we expect the high costs associated with Personnel Transition & Severance will subside as we have responded to pressing transitional needs at a number of parishes. We will need to ensure we have the necessary funds to repay our Synod bank loans and continue to reduce our Fund Balance deficit.

During this next year, we will address financial issues at the Cathedral which may have an impact throughout the Diocese and possibly result in a revised structure at Cathedral Place. Committees are now in place to examine both financial matters as well as structure design.

On a positive note the Financial Advisory Committee, the various Sub-Committees of the FAC and the Audit Committee deserve our thanks for their diligent work over the past year. Their efforts have proved invaluable to me in the carrying out of my responsibilities as Diocesan Treasurer. My personal thanks to the chairs and members of these various committees for the time they have given to the diocese and for their collective insight. Also a heartfelt thank you to everyone that has stepped

forward and helped whenever a need arose.

REPORT OF THE DIOCESAN TREASURER (continued)

Special thanks to Kirk Boyd, Chair of the FAC; Judy Conning, Chair of the Finance/Budget Sub-Committee; David Pady, Chair of the Investment Sub-Committee; and Murray Rathbone, Chair of the Insurance & Risk Management Sub-Committee, all whom are leaving as respective Chairs this year, for their many years of dedicated and selfless service.

My personal thanks to everyone, at the Synod office, for joining in and helping each other when there was a need. This type of cooperation encourages a team environment and makes for a pleasant workplace.

I would like to give special thanks to the great staff in the Finance area for their hard work, exceptional performance, loyalty and dedication. Thank you to Wendy Duncan, Debbie Young, Nancy Clause and Kim Waltmann.

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Robert L. McKinnell
Diocesan Treasurer & CFO

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 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.

Children and Family Ministry Advisory Committee

- ✦ Regional representatives meet bi-monthly to support the work of the Program Consultant, to vision and plan around diocesan-wide programming and training needs, and to offer feedback about resources.

Family Ministry

- ✦ An annual retreat for families is held at the Canterbury Hills Conference Centre each winter to provide families with an opportunity to relax, to reconnect with their family members, to bond with other families and to nourish each other. The 2008 Winter Retreat is scheduled for February 8-10 and the theme is Making Heart-Bread.
- ✦ 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 2008 Children's Festivals in Undermount/Mohawk, Lincoln/Brock, Greater Wellington and Trafalgar began in early November.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)

All My Relations...the Journey Continues

- ✦ Family-based education component of the five-year Diocesan commitment to New Agape designed to provide children, youth and families with an opportunity to learn about aboriginal culture and interact with First Nations people. The final event was held March 4, 2007 at St. George's, St. Catharines.

Soul Rhythms

- ✦ An annual event intended to nourish, nurture and thank parish volunteers – Sunday, November 25 at St. Christopher's, Burlington.
- ✦ Participants have a choice of workshops which include offerings such as Aromatherapy, Sacred Circle Dancing, Drumming, Biblical Gardening, Card making and also enjoy dinner and a guest speaker.

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:

- Make a Joyful Noise
- Get Up On Your Knees (Preaching the U2 Gospel)
- The Humongous Book of Games for Children's Ministry
- Lamps, Scrolls & Goatskin Bottles: A Handbook of Bible Customs for Kids
- The Creative Storytelling Guide for Children's Ministry: When All Your Brain Wants to Do is Fly
- Fisher-Price Little People Nativity Set
- In the Beginning...Growing into a Life of Faith (for ages 3-5)
- Mixing It Up with Harry Potter: 12 Sessions on Faith

Resources

The consultant can provide:

- ✦ Resource packages for Christian Education Days - All Saints Day, Ash Wednesday and Pentecost.
- ✦ Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation materials.
- ✦ Retreat planning resources.
- ✦ Innovative worship resources.
- ✦ 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 Consultant: 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.
- ✦ Provide resources and leadership training for junior/senior youth ministry and young adult initiatives to parishes and parish clusters by request.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)

- ✚ 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, and to offer feedback about resources.

The Annual Calendar of Events includes:

Looking Forward: Youth Leaders Training Weekend

- ✚ Niagara is hosting this provincial training initiative for the third consecutive year at Canterbury Hills Friday, November 2 to Sunday, November 4, 2007.
- ✚ This event is geared for adult leaders in youth ministry (both professional and lay) to learn new skills, compare notes, find support and rejuvenation, and share resources.

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 15 to Saturday, November 17, 2007 at Canterbury Hills, for youth member ages 16-25.
- ✚ Provides an opportunity to create relationships amongst the youth and young adult community attending Diocesan Synod, and offer support and education about procedures and meeting content for Synod.

SpiritQuest

- ✚ An intimate spiritual retreat for youth aged 15-24.
- ✚ SpiritQuest was held the Unity Retreat Centre in Hamilton, with 15 participants and three leaders, February 9-11, 2007.
- ✚ The program has expanded recently to include a young adult component with particular emphasis on making transitions and the spiritual journey.
- ✚ The 2008 event will take place February 1-3 at the Unity Retreat Centre.

Servers' Fest

- ✚ An annual day-long event to connect, thank and encourage servers of all ages from all parishes across the diocese.
- ✚ Christ's Church Cathedral hosted this event on February 24, 2007. There were over 100 participants representing more than 20 parishes ranging in age from 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.
- ✚ The 2008 event will take place on Saturday, February 23 at Christ's Church Cathedral.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)

Youth Leadership Training Program (YLTP)

- ✦ A three-year leadership training program (now in its third decade) held during March Break. It takes place at Canterbury Hills, this year from March 11-14, 2007 with 40 youth participants, ages 13-16, including six adult leaders.
- ✦ A Commissioning Service for the 3rd year participants, their families and supporters was held at St. Christopher's, Burlington on May 27, 2007. Thanks to St. Christopher's for their hospitality.
- ✦ The 2008 event will take place Sunday, March 9 to Wednesday, March 12.
- ✦ Applications for first year participants are available now and will be accepted until the end of January 2008.

Youth Synod

- ✦ The largest youth ministry program in Niagara, the 19th annual Youth Synod was hosted by St. George's, Guelph, May 4-6, 2007.
- ✦ Offers youth delegates ages 13-21 the opportunity to debate and strategize about issues important to their faith and their communities.
- ✦ Over 120 delegates and over 50 adult volunteer staff were in attendance representing over 50 parishes. The minutes are available on the Youth Ministry website: www.zipsqueal.com. Many thanks to our host parish St. George's for their enthusiasm and hospitality!
- ✦ Youth Synod 2008, hosted by St. Andrew's, Grimsby, will take place May 2-4.

Youth Synod Council

- ✦ This body, which 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, came into being as a result of a motion at Youth Synod 2005.
- ✦ Involves 15 youth representatives representing the regions along with the Chair of Youth Synod
- ✦ Thanks to Rev. Stephen Murray for facilitating the Council's work in 2007, and to Matthew Griffin for assuming the facilitator's role for the upcoming Youth Synod.

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.
- ✦ 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 2007 resources and the resources from previous years.

Niagara Youth Conference (NYC)

- ✦ The cornerstone event in youth ministry in Niagara - this year was the 61st 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 26-31, 2007 at Canterbury Hills with 112 participants. The program is staffed by 23 volunteers who give nine months to the planning and execution of this conference; pictures of which can be viewed at www.zipsqueal.com.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)

Regional Youth Ministry

Lincoln Youth Fest (LYF)

- ✺ The parishes in the Lincoln Region, with the assistance of the diocesan youth ministry staff, began to dream of working cooperatively in ministry to its youth in grades 5-8 in the winter of 2006 which has resulted in the Lincoln Youth Fest which meets monthly, one Friday a month, to share a meal, to have fun together and to develop a new and supportive faith community across the region.
- ✺ Lincoln Youth Fest meets September through May.

Hamilton Regional Youth Worship – The Gathering

- ✺ This event offers worship quarterly in the 21st Century with a live band and liturgy written and delivered by its 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.
- ✺ A goal of 2008 is to extend this ministry to the Burlington, Guelph and the Niagara peninsula.

Stoney Creek

- ✺ As part of the Stoney Creek/Winona parishes' work on shared ministry, Diocesan staff was invited to participate in children/youth ministry planning; work which has been on hold during the Our Saviour the Redeemer transition period.

Lending Resource Library

- ✺ Includes resources for program planning, current youth ministry theory and theology as well as worship and music resources. Located at the Diocesan Resource Centre Program Department offices and are available to individuals and parishes.
- ✺ To check out the many resources available, an on-line 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.

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.
- ✺ The biennial retreat took place on Saturday, November 4 at Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton with guest speaker Bishop Ann Tottenham.
- ✺ Graduations are also planned biennially. The next graduation will be planned for 2008 at Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton.

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF CONGEGATIONAL SUPPORT (continued)

- ✦ Thank you to BDC leaders Rev. Haynes Hubbard, Rev. Canon Dr. Mark McDermott, 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 – contact her for more information.

Congregation Support

- ✦ Joyce serves on the Safe Church Committee, is a member of the Safe Church investigative team, and is part of the Diocesan Parish Support Team. Joyce also staffs the Volunteer Management & Screening initiatives for the diocese.
- ✦ Christyn does facilitation work for parishes in Open Space, Asset Mapping and Appreciative Inquiry, serves on Candidates Committee, and is part of the Diocesan Parish Support Team, is the diocesan support person for the Clergy Family Wellness Group as well as serving as the Chair of the Bishop's Dialogue Task Force on Same Gender Blessings in 2007.

Thanks to our Volunteers!

We would like to thank the dozens of volunteers who have supported our work in the past year. Without you, children, youth and family ministry would not be transforming people's lives. Thank you!

Staff of the Division are:

- ✦ Marion Vincett, Executive Officer, Ext. 340, marion.vincett@niagara.anglican.ca
- ✦ Christyn Perkons, Program Consultant, Children, Youth & Family Ministries, Ext. 460, christyn.perkons@niagara.anglican.ca
- ✦ Joyce Wilton, Program 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 19th Youth Synod Session
Held May 5, 2007 at St. George's, Guelph**

Introduction

Chair	Bill Mous
Chancellor	The Reverend Dr. Stephen Hopkins
MCs	Kristi Boulton and Nick Head-Petersen
Diocesan Program Consultants	Christyn Perkons and Joyce Wilton
Secretary	Jay Blackwood
Youth Synod Coordinator	Courtney Evers
Youth Synod Council Coordinator	The Reverend Stephen Murray
Youth Local Planning Coordinators	The Reverend Derek Anderson, Nancy Hewat

Voting Delegates:

Alicia Archbell**	Karen Haycraft	Katie Peach**
Sam Archbell	Jade Hayward	Braden Perrett
Mac Armstrong**	Nick Head-Petersen**	Yogi Pitt
Maggie Armstrong	Brenda-Lee Henry	Hannah Raaflaub
Stuy Armstrong	Deirdre Henry	Devin Robbins
Kaitlin Bainbridge	Alex Hill	Julian Rossiter
Whitney Bassett-Bradley	Ben Holtam-Prodger	Evan Rudderham
James Beattie	Rosie Hopkins	Matthew Saayman
Eric Bennett	Emily Irwin-James	Kyle Samuels
Leslie Bothwell	Janine Jackson	Margaret Sawatzky
Amberlee Boulton	Charlotte James	Erin Shuter
Kristi Boulton	Emily Johnson	Cody Slote-Roberts
Ayanna Boyce	Hilary Johnston	Maddisson Slote-Roberts
Logie Bradley	Tessa Jones	Marrissa Slote-Roberts
Steff Browning	Derek La Hay	Ashley Smith
Cam Buttrum	Kaitlin Lagerwerf	Emma Smith
Adam Carriere	John Lehocki	Kate Smyth
Desiye Collier	Marsha Letman	Katharine Sobschak
Jenn Cumming	Barbara Jean Lick	Chelsea Stewart
Jeff Cummings	Amanda Lickers	Diana Stout
Jeff Deegan	Mike Lickers	Cole Sutton-Greenhalgh**
Steph DeForest	Scott Lorimer	Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh**
Rae Dingwall	Clair Macaulay-Newcombe	Hilary Svatos**
Matt Dolson	Jay MacKinnon	Andrew Szucs
Nate Duliban	Tricia Manning	Bryan Szucs
Dane Edwards	Chris Mantel	Colin Taylor
Janoi Edwards	Emma Marchand	Heleena Teal
Elyse Ellis**	Katie McCann	Laura Tomkins
Hilary Finch	Kyle McCooley**	Alex Urquhart
Andee Fisher**	Christopher McDevitt	Zach Vernon
Mathew Fisher	Thomas McDevitt	Monica Volkov
Corey Freeman	Colleen Meade	Nicholas Waterman
Ken Garland	Justin Michael	Pamela Wettlaufer
Sarah Gibbons	David Micks	Jordyn Woehl
Nora Gravelle	Dan Mitchell	Diana Wood
Billy-Jim Green	Allison Mondloch	Dave Wright
Monica Griffin	Marah Montague	Ashley Yaworski
Becky Halliwell	Josh Morrison	Laura Zargi
Steve Harschnitz	Charlotte Morritt-Jacobs	
Ashley Hatcher	Sarah Noiseux	

**Youth Synod Council Members

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Other Adult Observers

Jamie Barnes	Observer
Ven. Michael Bird	Archdeacon of Trafalgar Region, Episcopal Nominee
Jay Blackwood	Small Group Leader
Lori Bodner	Observer
Jane Caulfield	Observer
Belle Daley	Youth Ministry Committee
Courtney Evers	Youth Synod Coordinator
Mary Gordon	Small Group Leader/Youth Ministry Committee
Ven. Tom Greene	Archdeacon of Greater Wellington
Matthew Griffin	Small Group Leader
Keith Halliwell	Observer and Photographer
Jen Harper	Small Group Leader
Laura Harrison	Small Group Leader
Phil Jones	Small Group Leader
Rev. Canon Dr. Rick Jones	St. Paul's Westdale, Episcopal Nominee
Katie Macdougall	Observer
Kim Martignago	Observer
Rev. Jean Mitchell	Observer
Rev. Kathy Morgan	Regional Dean, Mohawk/Youth Ministry Committee
Rev. Canon Dr. Margaret Murray	St. Matthias Guelph, Episcopal Nominee
Rev. Stephen Murray	Youth Synod Council Coordinator/Small Group Leader
Megan Peach	Small Group Leader
Pat Ruggles	Small Group Leader/Youth Ministry Committee
Ven. Jim Sandilands	St. James Dundas, Episcopal Nominee
Sarah Scapinello	Small Group Leader/Youth Ministry Committee
Very Rev. Peter Wall	Dean of the Diocese of Niagara, Episcopal Nominee
Jane Wyse	Diocesan Staff

Tech Crew

Jon Simkins

Motion to Give Rights to the Floor for Observers:

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

The house granted overwhelming consent.

1. GLOBAL WARMING

WHEREAS: Global warming is an observable increase in the average temperature of the Earth. It is also an increase in global temperatures that can cause rising sea levels and changes in the amount and patterns of precipitation (www.earthday.ca);

AND WHEREAS: Delegates of Youth Synod 2007 should be helping stop the causes of Global Warming.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. When delegates return to their church they will help start compost and green box programs or if they exist, then get involved in helping people use them more.
2. Youth Synod will petition the Bishop of Niagara to declare one Sunday per year for Anglicans to walk, cycle or car-pool to church and delegates will walk or car-pool whenever possible and encourage others to do the same.
3. When delegates return to their church, they participate in an “adopt a road” program and pick up garbage on a Sunday after church.

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

4. Youth Synod 2007 notes that Diocesan Synod 2006 passed a motion resolving to consider at least one social justice motion yearly and requests the Secretary of Synod to designate global warming as the social justice theme of Diocesan Synod 2007.

Moved by: Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh
All Saints, Hamilton

Seconded by: Katie Peach
St. Matthias, Guelph

Discussion

- Motion was created to raise awareness of the issue.
- Scientist estimate that we have approx. 10 years to decrease the impact of our actions on global warming.
- Does the inclusion of global warming as a social justice issue at Diocesan Synod exclude same-sex blessings from being addressed as a social justice issue?
- The secretary of synod may consider the issue of same-sex blessings as a non-social justice issue, but we do not know if it would be excluded.

Friendly Amendment: *Youth Synod 2007 will ask that all Anglicans in the Diocese of Niagara petition the Government of Ontario to reduce airborne pollution due to coal-fired electrical generation plants.*

Moved by: Matthew Saayman, St. Mark's, Orangeville
Seconded by: Nick Head-Peterson, St. David & St. Patrick, Guelph

- Coal-fired energy in Ontario provides many jobs
- Adopt-a-Road may be too much for a church
- Remember that Global Warming is not simply about energy protection but about the consumption of individuals in our society... we need to look at our behaviours and be willing to make sacrifices about our current ways of living
- There are alternative methods of composting if green boxes are not available
- Is this day enough to make any impact? Should we do a month?
- Taking it step by step can make a difference
- You and your church can choose to take these actions further

Procedural Motion

Motion to vote clause-by-clause

Moved by: Evan Rudderham, St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton
Seconded by: Desiye Collier, St. Paul's, Hamilton
It passed overwhelmingly.

- Adopt-a-Road is not that difficult, can be a small road, can be cleaned monthly, or every few months
- We're thinking too small by saying only one Sunday a year

Friendly Amendment: to add the following to clause 2: *And to encourage the Bishop to couple this event with Earth Week.*

Moved by: Nick Head-Peterson, St. David & St. Patrick, Guelph
Seconded by: Tricia Manning, St. John's, Thorold

- Giving the idea of global warming as the Diocesan Synod social justice issue can be done any year
- Social justice discusses the rights of people rather than rights of the environment
- Embarrassment over Diocesan Synod not tackling the hard issues
- Global warming is actually climate change being trendy about the issue gets people talking about the issue.

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

- In the future look at what we can do in our community and during youth events to reduce waste and make an impact.

Clause 1: When delegates return to their church they will help start compost and green box programs or if they exist, then get involved in helping people use them more.

In Favour: 108
Opposed: 6
Clause is carried.

Clause 2: Youth Synod will petition the Bishop of Niagara to declare one Sunday per year for Anglicans to walk, cycle or car-pool to church and delegates will walk or car-pool whenever possible and encourage others to do the same, and to encourage the Bishop to couple this event with Earth Week.

In Favour: 117
Opposed: 4
Clause is carried.

Clause 3: When delegates return to their church, they participate in an “adopt a road” program and pick up garbage on a Sunday after church.

In Favour: 79
Opposed: 39
Clause is carried.

Clause 4: Youth Synod 2007 notes that Diocesan Synod 2006 passed a motion resolving to consider at least one social justice motion yearly and requests the Secretary of Synod to designate global warming as the social justice theme of Diocesan Synod 2007.

In Favour: 109
Opposed: 8
Clause is carried.

Clause 5: Youth Synod 2007 will ask that all Anglicans in the Diocese of Niagara petition the Government of Ontario to reduce airborne pollution due to coal-fired electrical generation plants.

In Favour: 20
Opposed: 91
Clause is defeated.

2. PROCEDURAL MOTION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Youth Synod debates motions that have been designated clause by clause as a whole motion and then vote clause by clause.

Moved by: Stephanie DeForest, St. James, Dundas
Seconded by: Andee Fisher, St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls

In Favour: 90
Opposed: 20
Motion is carried.

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

3. iCHURCH

WHEREAS: (Toronto Star article) “It has been predicted that the last Anglican will leave the last Anglican church in 2050” which shows us that the church in our modern times is not keeping up with the changing technologies and times of society;

AND WHEREAS: The internet brings many benefits to the church that have not been tapped into as society moves towards a more internet-oriented lifestyle;

AND WHEREAS: The availability of the internet is becoming more and more widespread which will allow the church to communicate with more people that are not within their parishes’ main area of focus and develop better communication with ministry partners (i.e., The Diocese of Niagara’s congregations being able to communicate more easily with The Diocese of Moosonee’s or Cuba’s congregations via the internet).

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The delegates of Youth Synod request the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee look into the feasibility of hosting podcasts and webcasts of contemporary worship services on ZipSqueal by the end of January 2008.
2. If feasible, the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee will begin an iChurch Task Force that will oversee the integration of new technology into the youth ministry activities and website.
3. The delegates of Youth Synod with technological experience will donate their time and technology to the video recording of all youth gatherings, contemporary worships, and other events that can be later made available to view via the internet.

Moved By: Cole Sutton-Greenhalgh, All Saints, Hamilton

Seconded By: Mac Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga

Unfriendly Amendment: *That the iChurch congregation meet once a month or bi-monthly.*

Moved by: Mike Lickers, All Saints, Hagersville

Seconded by: Pam Wettlaufer, St. John’s, Burlington

- This takes away from the spirit of the original motion; not looking to create an online congregation.

- About meeting together... must encourage people to still meet together

- iChurch spirit was not to replace parish services

Amendment was defeated.

Discussion

-
- Access to events online
- Won’t have to drive to places
- Great for people who are already a part of the church but does not encourage people to come out
- It’s expensive to do
- Losing the physical community aspect of church
- You can see pictures online already

Procedural Motion

Elyse Ellis requested that the question be called.

In Favour: 57

Opposed: 52

IN FAVOUR: 81

OPPOSED: 32

Motion is carried.

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

4. ELECTION OF A NEW BISHOP

WHEREAS: This is a pivotal time for the Anglican Church within our parish communities, diocese, nation, and internationally;

AND WHEREAS: A new Bishop of the Diocese of Niagara will be elected on June 2, 2007;

AND WHEREAS: The youth of the Diocese are an important part of many of the great events of this Diocese and contribute to its wonderful work in the many communities;

AND WHEREAS: There are currently 12 nominees for the position of Coadjutor Bishop of Niagara;

AND WHEREAS: Youth are the present and the future of our church and our voice is an important one in choosing a new Bishop; and every parish is able to send one youth delegate to the Electoral Synod.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Youth Synod 2007 asks Synod delegates to elect a bishop who is visibly engaged in diocesan and regional youth events such as Youth Synod, NYC and YLTP; and youth ministry within their own parish.
2. The youth urge delegates to vote for a nominee who embodies characteristics including empowering lay leadership, spiritual grounding, respecting the opinions of youth and who values a strong connection to all parishes and their congregations.
3. A memorial be sent to Electoral Synod expressing these.

Moved by: Nick Head-Petersen, St. David & St. Patrick, Guelph

Seconded by: Hilary Svatos, St. Jude's, Oakville

Discussion

- This could be a vote for the direction of the church for many years to come and we may not have another opportunity very soon to make an impact like this

Friendly Amendment: *to add a clause: That all Bishop nominees have a chance to reflect on what they have observed today and briefly talk (for no more than 3 minutes) about their vision for the future of the Diocese of Niagara and the larger Anglican community. This will occur at the end of today's first or second session.*

Moved by: Katie Peach, St. Matthias, Guelph

Seconded by: Josh Morrison, Young Adult Mentor

- Think about how much fun you can have with the Bishop... it would be a radical change if we went to NYC and did not have fun with the Bishop
- Several nominees are at Youth Synod this weekend, talk to them while they're here
- Encourage everyone to feel connected to the process... your priest, lay and youth representatives are going to represent you, ensure they represent your opinions
- Email the candidates with your questions
- Important and the Bishop see first hand what is going on... its discouraging that the Bishop is not here it feels like our opinions may get lost or go unheard if he is not present
- Last year the current Bishop was at Youth Synod for a little while... remember it's a lot of work
- Despite the absence of the Bishop, our voice is heard – sent memorials to Diocesan and General Synod and Youth Synod held up as example at Diocesan Synod in terms of addressing social justice issues

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

IN FAVOUR: 118

OPPOSED: 1

Motion is carried.

5. MEDIA BIAS

WHEREAS: Media bias is a term used to describe a real or perceived bias of journalists and news producers within the mass media, in the selection of which events will be reported and how they are covered. “Media bias” usually refers to a persistent or widespread bias disregarding the standards of journalism, rather than the perspective of an individual journalist or article; www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Media_bias

AND WHEREAS: Articles in newspapers and news reports are often times repeated, even if they are already “widely reported in other news media” (such as the coverage of personal celebrity lives and “overrepresentation of crime reporting, particularly street crime”). This is to lower the cost it makes to present these types of stories, compared to “investigative” journalism which takes the time and money to research the whole story and review all the facts. Because of costs, many stories are only half presented, which leaves more room for bias enter; www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Media_bias

AND WHEREAS: The news media are money-making businesses. They must present products that appeal to their customers in order to make a profit. News media customers are advertisers, so the best “products” the news media can offer are viewers and readers. The more readers and viewers the media has, the better their profit. The news media is biased toward conflict (bad news and narrative biases) because conflict draws readers and viewers. But that doesn’t necessarily mean that these stories are untrue; <http://www.rhetorica.net/bias.html>

AND WHEREAS: Media violence also a major factor in society today, which effects the long and short term affects in aggression. Research on violent television, films, video games and music reveals evidence that media violence increases the likelihood of aggressive and violent behaviour; whether it is in long or short term contexts; <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/links/doi/>

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Delegates will form discussion groups in their parishes, to meet once a month. These groups will talk and debate about current issues: identifying biases and practicing the development of independent opinions.
2. Delegates will give up all watching of television, playing video games and using the internet for any reason during the first full week in October after Thanksgiving (this year that would be Monday, October 15th to Sunday, October 21st, 2007) annually; and that, during this time, delegates will read at least two different newspapers, and seek out alternate sources of receiving news. Delegates will encourage their family members and friends to also participate in this boycott.
3. Delegates will not use internet sources, and especially Wikipedia, during October 2007, unless explicitly told to do so by teachers.

Motioned by: Elyse Ellis, Christ Church, Woodburn

Seconded by: Andee Fisher, St. John’s, Niagara Falls

Discussion

- Affects our lives everyday, and so the one week media ban helps us to realize how much media influences our opinion, and gives us a chance to think for ourselves
- Music is excluded from the media ban, even though it is recognized that music includes a media bias
- Is hoped to encourage people to make their own decisions

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

- Newspaper is thought to be one of the most biased sources, and is not included in this ban
- Media is one of the ways that we can learn about happenings around the world, and without it, we would have no knowledge of what was occurring nationally or globally

Procedural Motion

Emma Smith asked that the motion be voted on clause-by-clause.

Motion was approved.

- Smaller towns may not have access to wider varieties of informed sources, and so the internet offers the opportunity to access this information
- The focus is also on being critical and analytical of the information that is being read, and making an informed decision as to whether or not it is a credible source
- Media will always be around us, and so we need to learn to think for ourselves even while in the presence of the media
- Addressing violence due to media is good
- Do violent video games make all people violent?
- Focus on parenting and how the media portrays violence
- People do not think of the deeper implications of their video game play

Procedural Motion

James Beattie asked the question to be called.

Clause 1: Delegates will form discussion groups in their parishes, to meet once a month. These groups will talk and debate about current issues: identifying biases and practicing the development of independent opinions.

In Favour: 77

Opposed: 39

Clause is carried.

Clause 2: Delegates will give up all watching of television, playing video games and using the internet for any reason during the first full week in October after Thanksgiving (this year that would be Monday, October 15th to Sunday, October 21st, 2007) annually; and that, during this time, delegates will read at least two different newspapers, and seek out alternate sources of receiving news. Delegates will encourage their family members and friends to also participate in this boycott.

In Favour: 18

Opposed: 98

Clause is defeated.

Clause 3: Delegates will not use internet sources, and especially Wikipedia, during October 2007, unless explicitly told to do so by teachers.

In Favour: 16

Opposed: 103

Clause is defeated.

6. MULTIPLE AMENDMENTS

WHEREAS: Youth Synod proper only allows one amendment per motion.

AND WHEREAS: Although time efficient, this can reduce the ultimate effectiveness of the motion

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Maximum of 3 relevant amendments be permitted per motion to increase the effectiveness of a motion;
2. Each of the 3 amendments can be amended once;
3. If the motion is voted clause by clause one amendment per clause is permitted.

Moved by: Adam Carriere, St. John's, Nassagaweya
Seconded by: Ashley Smith, St. John's, Burlington

Discussion

- This issue was referred to Youth Synod Council and they decided that in order to protect the original intention of the motion, one amendment was decided to be adequate.
- Who determines what is a relevant amendment?
- Amendments were changing the wording of be it resolved clauses in the past and that is why the rule was changed at Youth Synod in the past.
- Calling the question should be addressed also.
- Write new motions rather than amending repeatedly.
- More amendments may take away from the presentation and discussion of other motions during the Youth Synod proper sessions.

Procedural Motion

Josh Morrison asked that the question be called.

The house agreed.

In Favour: 24

Opposed: 82

Motion is defeated.

7. PROACTIVE YOUTH MISSION TRIPS NOW

WHEREAS: Several initiatives to undertake active missionary work by youth in this diocese have been passed at previous Youth Synods, including the mission trip motion of Youth Synod 2006, and it is clear there is a strong desire for a mission trip program within this diocese;

AND WHEREAS: Youth Synod Council understands that the Rev. Patricia Lucy has been designated by the Executive Officer as the Youth Mission Trips Coordinator, and that as such, she has participated in a training workshop around setting up mission trips;

AND WHEREAS: There has been no youth mission trip proposed for 2007;

AND WHEREAS: There are many faith organizations currently running youth mission trips, some of whom have worked with parishes in the diocese, and future cooperation with such programs could be immediately productive for the youth of the diocese.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Youth Synod 2007 appoints Nick Head-Petersen, Mac Armstrong, and two members of the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee to work with Rev. Patricia Lucy to create a youth mission trip for 2008.
2. This Youth Mission Trip Working Committee explores utilizing currently existing programs as part of their work in the next year.

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

3. That space on ZipSqueal be devoted to regular reporting on the progress of mission trips.

Moved by: Mac Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga
Seconded by: Maggie Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga

Discussion

- There have been several motions around this in the past but not much action has been taken... I have been waiting to go on a mission trip for several years so this motion is intended to encourage it to happen now.
- There are many who have waited for several years for this program to take place.
- Would these mission trips be funded for the participants?
- What about donating time/money to other global social justice causes.
- A motion around mission trips was heavily favoured in 2006.
- Clause 3 has been proposed in the past. There will be space on ZipSqueal when there is a mission trip
- What does one do on a mission trip?
- Who is Patricia Lucy? What does she do? Patricia Lucy (St. Paul's, Glanford) was asked by Archdeacon Marion Vincett to assume responsibility for coordinating a diocesan youth mission trip in response to Youth Synod 2006 motion. She sits on the Outreach Committee.
- Why are certain individuals on this committee?
- More opportunities for rural churches to participate
- Mission trips have been attempted in the past and youth need to take responsibility for this to happen. Especially the people named in the motion. You need to be committed to the full process of planning and funding it.
- This is a very special gift to another global community and we are representing our dioceses in this.
- Consistency is required from the individuals in charge.

Friendly Amendment: to amend clause 1 to read as follows: Youth Synod 2007 appoints Nick Head-Petersen, Mac Armstrong, and/or others appointed by Youth Synod Council, and two members of the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee to work with Rev. Patricia Lucy to create a youth mission trip for 2008.

Moved by: Nick Head-Peterson, St. David & St. Patrick, Guelph
Seconded by: Kristi Boulton, St. Matthias, Guelph

- How would they be funded?
- Funding may take a few years and training and preparation is required, the money may be better spent by donating it to existing organizations that do this type of work
- World Vision suggestions are ok, but mission trips are personal and you're making a commitment of your own time and work... its more rewarding
- There need to be a strict acceptance process to ensure that everyone who says they are going to go is committed to going.

Procedural Motion

Braden Perrett asked that the question be called.

It was not the will of the house at this time.

- This motion should have been discussed with Patricia Lucy rather than being presented without her awareness
- Patricia Lucy has been contacted about progress reports to Youth Synod Council
- The responsibility of Outreach Committee has been overlooked
- We are putting the responsibility on other people, we can do this ourselves
- Creating our own program so that people have access and are comfortable with the organization they are donating their time and money to
- This is our responsibility (to help others) as Christians.

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

IN FAVOUR: 110

OPPOSED: 4

Motion is carried.

STATEMENTS FROM EPISCOPAL NOMINEES

- **Rev. Canon Dr. Brian Ruttan**
 - How you do things is as important as content
 - Psychotherapist who is concerned about process
 - Music writer with hymns in the hymn book
 - Stirring round of “Glory to God in the Highest” with the help of Steve Hopkins

- **Rev. Canon Dr. Margaret Murray**
 - Song “We Will Walk With God”
 - Rhythm challenged
 - The song is about the way she works with people
 - Walking with God and walking with people is the way the Diocese works the best
 - Awestruck with the wisdom of youth
 - Youth voice should be clearer in the church
 - We should make video of youth synod to show Diocesan Synod how well youth work and move process along

- **Rev. Canon Dr. Rick Jones**
 - Story about TV Evangelist and his white dove (Holy Spirit) which was eaten by the cat
 - Sometimes life in the diocese feels like the cat ate the Holy Spirit
 - Things should be exciting in parishes and across the dioceses like they are at youth events
 - Secretary of Diocesan Synod 2007
 - Listening to you has generated lots of ideas; like I will try to get David Suzuki to Diocesan Synod 2007
 - Appreciate the motion around Media Bias
 - Remembers when Canterbury Hills Camp was almost closed. At that time people led a charge to keep Canterbury Hills alive and profitable. Is willing to fight to keep youth programs.
 - When you’re thinking about the next person, ask them, when the going gets tough, what will be the priority of Youth Ministry and Canterbury Hills in the future of the Diocese?

- **Ven. Michael Bird**
 - The work of the church, proclaiming God’s love in the word has not changed to much in the last 2000 years but the world that we are proclaiming it too has - changing with increasingly rapidity
 - Sometimes we fail to meet these changes
 - There are places across the Diocese that have vision and creativity around how to bring that message in the changing world
 - Youth Ministry has that creative vision about how to bring that message across
 - Youth Ministry is the seeds to grow the future of the Diocese.
 - His version of Anglican Idol... sang an Eric Clapton song.

- **Very Rev. Peter Wall**
 - Very happy that we’re all here, fill shim with hope
 - Happy that Youth Ministry in the Diocese is lively and that people care about it... point of pride
 - Measure of youth’s dedication to give a weekend to work on resolutions that matter and helping the church to learn what matters
 - Leaders deserve a lot of credit for their hard work
 - Honoured and humbled to be nominated, 3rd or 4th time he’s been on an Episcopal ballot

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

- Life of a Bishop is difficult and at times lonely one
 - Lots that interests and frightens him about the prospect of doing the job
 - Niagara is on cutting edge of the church - looked to with great admiration
 - Would be an honour for him to lead with people like us around him
 - It will be fun to figure out what our future will be with the youth
 - He's an old fart and we would keep him young
 - Looking at new way to be the church and be Anglicans in the world
 - Philosophy is one of the bedrock subjects of Christianity
 - Monty Python... a group of people who are in their own way philosophers
 - A song about philosophers... "I drink therefore I am." The new Cartersian philosophy.
- **Ven. Jim Sandilands**
 - Believes in tradition but creativity
 - Sing God's song at every time you can, sing it loud and strong
 - Will promise to try to answer your forwarded questions
 - (Insert bass solo here)
 - He loves you all

8. PROVINCIAL & GENERAL SYNOD DELEGATE ELECTIONS

WHEREAS: The Provincial Synod of Ontario, meeting in the fall of 2006, passed a motion urging diocesan bishops to effect changes so that youth delegates to Provincial Synod be elected rather than appointed;

AND WHEREAS: At this time youth delegates are currently appointed by the Bishop, and that the Diocese as a whole lacks the opportunity to provide input, unlike the process for clergy and adult lay delegates;

AND WHEREAS: Youth delegates are full members of the bodies to which they are delegates, with full privileges;

AND WHEREAS: Youth delegates represent not only the youth but the diocese as a whole.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. We ask the Bishop of Niagara and Synod Council to bring forward a motion to diocesan synod that will change the canons that specify how youth delegates to Provincial and General Synods are selected, so that youth delegates for each event are elected by the same Diocesan Synod which elects adult delegates.

Moved by: Nick Head-Petersen, St. David & St. Patrick, Guelph

Seconded by: Kyle McCooley, St. Paul's, Fort Erie

Discussion

- More democratic method for selecting candidates
- Closer to the rest of the system for Provincial/General Synod delegates
- We are old enough to have our own Synod, we are mature enough to vote for it
- Youth having a say in who represents them
- Proposal of amendment to have those delegates voted upon at Youth Synod for selection by the Bishop
- This person is representing the diocese not just the youth of the diocese, keep the motion as written
- Diocesan Synod does not have the knowledge of the candidates that we do
- We should have a say because it would change our church
- Have the Youth Synod select their nominees and forward them to Diocesan synod for election from that body

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

- Youth Ministry Committee current makes suggestions of representatives that are selected by the Bishop

Friendly Amendment: *that the clause be amended as follows: We ask the Bishop of Niagara and Synod Council to bring forward a motion to diocesan synod that will change the canons that specify how youth delegates to Provincial and General Synods are selected, so that youth delegates for each event are nominated by Youth Synod and elected by the same diocesan synod which elects adult delegates.*

Moved by: Karen Haycraft, St. Simon's, Oakville

Seconded by: Cam Buttram, Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton

- Representative to Provincial & General Synod must be a member of Diocesan Synod at the time of their nomination
- If the persons nominated are not a parish delegate, the Bishop could appoint them as youth delegates to Diocesan Synod.

IN FAVOUR: 108

OPPOSED: 6

Motion is carried.

9. SAFE INJECTION SITES

WHEREAS: Heroin is a highly addictive drug. It kills almost 5,000 people in Canada each year. Heroin users can spend \$150-200 per day if they are an everyday user. All heroin users can get HIV/AIDS if they use contaminated needles, and sharing needles is a common practice amongst heroin users because they can't afford them or acquire them easily;

AND WHEREAS: Safe Injection Sites saves countless lives every day by administering the proper dose of methadone thus avoiding drug overdoses and preventing HIV/AIDS as well as other transmittable diseases by eliminating the use of shared needles;

AND WHEREAS: If addicted drug users stop using drugs, they will go into withdrawal and become seriously ill. Because many heroin users are unable to work or because the money they earn is insufficient to feed their daily habit, many turn to crime to fund their heroin habit. So by using Safe Injection Sites, they can get help to legally feed their addiction which will result in fewer robberies and other crimes;

AND WHEREAS: God wants us to love our neighbour as ourselves and if our neighbours are drug abusers, then we should help them get clean materials and help;

AND WHEREAS: Safe Injection Sites are extremely clean and well supervised with personnel trained in drug administration as well as strategies to support addicts who want to end their addiction.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. A petition, signed by the delegates and staff of Youth Synod 2007, will be sent to all of the regional health systems in our diocese to tell them of our support and to request that more safe injection sites be opened.
2. Each member of Youth Synod will write a letter to their Member of Provincial Parliament asking that more safe injection sites be opened.

Moved by: Kyle McCooley, St. Paul's, Fort Erie

Seconded by: Alicia Archbell, St. Elizabeth's, Burlington

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Discussion

- Current closest safe injection site is in Toronto
- Heroin is widely used
- It is a good idea to support environments that help people get well in a safe and healthy environment
- HIV and AIDs motions have been passed in the past and not support this motion contradicts our decision to fight this
- There are other ways to get clean... methadone and Tang. Can be taken orally which decreases the risk of HIV and AIDs transmission
- Create a safe environment for people who have the injection with trained professionals who ensure safe use and can promote reduction of dependence and addiction
- Heroin users are taking this risk upon themselves
- They can just quit if they don't want the risk
- Permitting other people to do heroin by reducing the risks associated with the drug
- People won't care what 14-15 year old kids have to say
- Safe drug use sites in Ottawa have not been effective (anecdotal story, not referenced)
- Supervision of these sites would be important
- Motion is missing support for increased awareness of safe drug use sites and methods or steps to eradicate drug use through awareness
- Logistical question, who would be staffing it and how many people come through?
- What about the safety of the employees?

Friendly Amendment: *to amend clause 2 to read as follows: that Each member of Youth Synod will write a letter to their Member of Provincial Parliament asking that more safe injection sites be opened. Additionally, members of Youth Synod are encouraged to write to the appropriate national government representatives to help decrease the number of drug users in the country.*

Moved by: Desiye Collier, St. Paul's, Hamilton

Seconded by: Scott Lorimer, St. John's, Thorold

- The only program in Canada that is for youth is a harm reduction site, should we not support programs that support youth.
- Would they be checking to ensure that there are no first time users?
- This does not encourage use because these centres would be places that good information would get to potential users
- Methadone is the heroin equivalent of the nicotine patch, makes quitting easier and reduces withdrawal symptoms
- World Health Organization has asked Canada to stop safe injection sites, and communities are moving to needle exchange programs instead so that drug use is not encouraged
- Large number of drug users are aboriginal, and not passing this motion would reflect a lack of care for them
- We need to consider the human factor, not just the drug
- This motion is referring to safe injection, needle exchange and usage reductions
- Safe injection sites are closely monitored and secure places

IN FAVOUR: 85

OPPOSED: 29

Motion is carried.

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

10. SEX BEFORE MARRIAGE

WHEREAS: Sexual intercourse should be part of a loving relationship and each partner should feel both sensitive to and protective of the other. Some people believe you are ready to have sex if you are comfortable telling your partner what feels good to you. Others feel you are ready to have sex when you can go to the drugstore and buy condoms with your own money, or when you can make an appointment with your doctor to get birth control; (<http://www.canadianliving.com/Canadianliving/client/en/Family/DetailNews.asp?idNews=1568&idSM=64>)

AND WHEREAS: The Bible has no actual reference to sex being a sin before marriage; the Bible does refer to sex as ‘fornication’, which does NOT mean ‘sex before marriage’; **Matt.15: 17-20; Mark 7: 19-21.** Jesus asked them “Don’t you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out the body? But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man ‘unclean’. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, **sexual immorality**, theft, false testimony, slander. These are what make a man ‘unclean’; but eating with unwashed hands does not make him ‘unclean’.” However this applies to several things outside of marriage, like incest or rape; (<http://net-burst.net/singles/premarital.htm>)

AND WHEREAS: In the Old Testament Law, casual sex was impossible. For an unmarried man to have sex with an unmarried woman was to make an even more binding commitment than normal marriage; (<http://net-burst.net/singles/premarital.htm>)

AND WHEREAS: There is no right age to start having sex. It depends on when you feel comfortable and the time is right for you. Everybody has a different feeling about when that time is and when the right age is. How ready you feel emotionally and how ready your body feels will help you figure that out. If not sure, think about all the reasons why you feel you are ready to have sex and all the reasons why you are not. You are the best person to make that decision; (<http://www.spiderbytes.ca/Sexuality/SexualityFAQ.shtml>)

AND WHEREAS: Precocious sex refers to sexual intercourse initiated before 16 years of age. More than 30% of adolescent females are sexually precocious and nearly 70% have engaged in sexual intercourse by age 18. Most young people begin having sex in their mid-to-late teens, about eight years before they marry; while 93% of teenage women report that their first intercourse was voluntary, one-quarter of these young women report that it was unwanted; seven in 10 of those who had sex before age 13. Each year, almost one million teenage women - 10% of all women aged 15-19 and 19% of those who have had sexual intercourse, become pregnant. (<http://www.teencarecenter.org/index.php?s=factsheets&p=sheet8>)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Delegates reaffirm the motion on sex before marriage from 2003.
2. Delegates will discuss sexual issues with prospective or current partners, with parents, with confidantes and with trusted peers and elders, before and while engaging in sexual relationships.
3. Delegates will ask Diocesan Youth Ministry to provide and facilitate and conduct workshops and opportunities to discuss issues relating sexual relationships and sexual health.
4. Delegates will ask the Youth Synod Council to question the non-negotiable(s) of Youth Synod as it pertains to this motion and change them accordingly.

Moved by: Andee Fisher, St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls
Seconded by: Elyse Ellis, Christ Church, Woodburn

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Discussion

- Sex before marriage is a personal choice
- This motion supports the choice of those people who have chosen to engage in sexual relationships
- Different sources for making this decision such as the Bible should be respected
- Peer pressure issue
- Making an informed choice about a large decision in your life... think about the repercussions and discuss with those around you
- Is this saying that sex at Youth Ministry events is ok?
- No, this is referring to couples at events and their desire to be affectionate rather than sexual at Youth Ministry events.
- Should we define what sex is?
- Several people had issues of contention with the information in the whereas clauses

Friendly Amendment: *to amend clause 4 to read as follows: Delegates will ask the Youth Synod Council to clarify and redefine what is considered appropriate sexual activity at a Youth Ministry event and then question the non-negotiable(s) of Youth Synod as it pertains to this motion and change them accordingly.*

Moved by: Justin Michael, St. James, Guelph

Seconded by: Stuart Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga

Procedural Motion

Becky Halliwell asked that the motion be voted on clause-by-clause.

Motion was passed.

Procedural Motion

Amberlee Boulton asked that the motion be tabled until 2008.

Motion was defeated.

Procedural Motion

Ashley Smith asked that the motion be tabled to later in the session of Youth Synod 2007.

Motion was approved.

- Why are we saying that we encourage sexual activity when we have said that we want to reduce HIV infection?
- Does this conflict with our media bias affirmations to form our own opinions?
- Youth Synod Council does not have the authority to carry out clause four.
- Would any parish host an overnight event where this was encouraged
- Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee should have this motion referred to them as they are the ones responsible for the events

“that this motion be referred to Youth Synod Council and Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee”

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

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

Motion to refer is carried.

11. FOOD DRIVE FOR YOUTH SYNOD

WHEREAS: As Christians we are called to care for those who are sick, disabled, hungry, and alone. (Matthew 25:31-46);

AND WHEREAS: Hunger is a problem that is present both internationally, and within many of our own communities.

From the Canadian Association of Food Banks website (www.cafb-acba.ca):

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Between 1989 and 2006, the number of people using food banks has increased 99.3%. In March 2006, 753,458 hungry Canadians received food from a food bank:

30.4% are single parents	41% are children
22.6% are 2-parent families	6.8% are seniors

AND WHEREAS: Though some communities have a higher need for non-perishable food products, nearly every community has a food bank or is served by one in a nearby community;

AND WHEREAS: at each Youth Synod, over 100 delegates gather at a different parish in a different community and if each delegate brought a gift of food, a lot of food could be raised for the local community food bank.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Each Youth Synod delegate, as of Youth Synod 2008, will bring a minimum of 10 non-perishable goods (or a minimum of \$10.00), to be collected at registration, and distributed to the local food bank. A record of the number of non-perishable goods collected will be reported at the end of the Synod Proper Session, to be recorded in the minutes.
2. Youth Synod Delegates will be encouraged to break the record annually by bringing more non-perishable food items in the years to follow.
3. Participants in other diocesan Youth Ministry events be notified that a food bin will be provided for the collection of non-perishable food items to be distributed under the direction of the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee.

Moved by: Mac Armstrong, St John the Divine, Cayuga
Seconded by: Maggie Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga

Discussion

Unfriendly Amendment: *to add a clause that reads as follows: To ask the youth to bring a donation of food as suggested from a list in their registration package or encourage the parish to donate food items for youth to bring to youth events.*

Moved by: Amberlee Boulton, St. Matthias, Guelph
Seconded by: Cam Buttram, Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton
Amendment is carried.

- Understanding that some people may not be able to afford this
- Some of the youth at events may be users of food banks themselves
- What if a parish does not do a food drive?
- Does the amendment contradict the first clause? No, it simply states that the items would be from a list, and/or that they would be provided by the parish
- The list in the package ensures useful donations for food banks

Procedural Motion

Ashley Smith asked that the motion be voted on clause-by-clause.
The house agreed.

- We are adding \$15 onto our program fees already, how much further are we going to take it?

Procedural Motion

Kyle McCooey asked that the question be called.

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

Clause 1: Each Youth Synod delegate, as of Youth Synod 2008, will bring a minimum of 10 non-perishable goods (or a minimum of \$10.00), to be collected at registration, and distributed to the local food bank. A record of the number of non-perishable goods collected will be reported at the end of the Synod Proper Session, to be recorded in the minutes.

In Favour: 63

Opposed: 49

Clause is defeated.

Clause 2: Youth Synod Delegates will be encouraged to break the record annually by bringing more non-perishable food items in the years to follow.

Clause was initially ruled redundant and out of order.

No vote.

Clause was defeated.

Clause was changed was changed to read “the record” instead of “this record” and brought back into order with the passing of clause four.

In Favour: 105

Opposed: 9

Clause is carried.

Clause 3: Participants in other diocesan Youth Ministry events be notified that a food bin will be provided for the collection of non-perishable food items to be distributed under the direction of the Diocesan Youth Ministry Committee.

In Favour: 113

Opposed: 1

Clause is carried.

Clause 4: To ask the youth to bring a donation of food as suggested from a list in their registration package or encourage the parish to donate food items for youth to bring to youth events

In Favour: 119

Opposed: 0

Clause is unanimously.

12. ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY LAPTOPS

WHEREAS: We are called to care for our planet as stewards of creation;

AND WHEREAS: Computers have gone through many technological innovations over the past several years, including the development of the portable laptop computer;

AND WHEREAS: Paper is a waste of our natural resources and should be reserved for situations where electricity and wireless connections are not available;

AND WHEREAS: The large amounts of paper each Youth Synod delegate is given, when combined with the paper of others at their table equals at least one-quarter of a tree. (The amount of paper found in other formal events such as Diocesan Synod is even greater.);

AND WHEREAS: Paper often makes up the majority of clutter, garbage and recycling in one's house;

AND WHEREAS: Having your own laptop would be really awesome, especially if you do not have one already due to the expense.

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. Youth Synod 2007 will request the issuing of personal laptops to all Youth Synod delegates and staff to track the progress of motions during Synod Proper Sessions and to assist delegates in writing motions from the floor.
2. These laptops must be energy efficient with the possibility of an alternative energy source, such as a small solar panel to decrease the amount of energy used from the power grid, and to uphold an environmentally friendly attitude.
3. Youth Synod 2007 will request Diocesan Synod to also use a similar practice with the Convening Circular in order to reduce paper usage, to set an example to other dioceses across Canada and the world of the Diocese of Niagara's progressive and environmentally friendly attitude.
4. The Program Department will use the website in the future to communicate with all youth ministry program participants, to supply the convening circular for Youth Synod to the delegates, and to request health information and other information.
5. Youth Synod delegates be encouraged to bring their own laptops and that technology be provided that links the main screen to their laptops.

Moved by: Mac Armstrong, St. John the Divine, Cayuga
Seconded by: Hilary Svatos, St. Jude's, Oakville

Discussion

- **Motion to refer to Youth Synod Council - Motion is carried.**

CLOSING REMARKS

Observers Comments

- **Phil Jones**
 - Commend the youth
 - The youth usually notice everything and don't miss little things with motions
- **Brian Ruttan**
 - Observing the debate about sex
 - "The motion was like sex. You get going, then you get close and then you back right off..."
- **Margaret Murray**
 - Inspiring to see people listening to each other and addressing each others concerns
- **Kathy Morgan**
 - Wonderful to see the excitement and interest
 - Diocesan synod delegates certainly don't run to the mic
 - You have a voice and you use it

Steve Hopkins, Chancellor

- Has a lot of fun every time he does it
- Hopes that the new Bishop will be with you for all of Youth Synod 2008
- What happens at Youth Synod, the tactical skill and thought are impressive and need to be seen to be believed
- Procedural motions have Youth Synod take control of its whole life
- Confusion on amendments, remember that it's the text that matters, not what was said or intended... the wording is authoritative
- Most interest moments of debate were when people were attempting to root the debate in their faith experience and values
- Quoting the text may not be enough... we must be able to talk about what it means for us to make a decision as a faith community

REPORT OF THE NINETEEN YOUTH SYNOD SESSION (continued)

- Talking about community and sacrament in the iChurch motion
- Its great that we were being intentional about being a faith community
- Thought that people were going to duck the challenge when they defeated the first food drive clause and that they gave themselves the challenge to do more
- Sensitivity to the needs of others and ourselves
- Taking on the challenge to do something that is a sign of who we are and what we do
- We do this as a sign of God's promise that all are fed and have what they need
- This is about what humanity's ultimate destiny is
- Pleased that they passed the motion that Youth members be elected by Synod. Just elected by Youth Synod would ghettoize youth. The diocese as a whole needs to endorse the voice of youth be their voice. Having the nomination from Youth Synod is a good practical tool.
- The Prolocutor of Provincial Synod is a youth from Diocese of Ottawa, so the youth voice is important.
- Youth Synod as a mission trip... the purpose of a mission trip is to be changed by those we visit and see the church in another place and how people seek to be God's people in their place. Youth Synod allows you to meet people from a variety of parishes and communities and allows us to be changed by our relationships with other people.
- Remember what you have agreed to do. It's vital that you understand your personal responsibility when you vote at Youth Synod.
 - Episcopal elections... get on this soon, its happening shortly
 - Donating technology and time
 - Agents of Green change... who do I need to talk to in my parish?
 - Forming discussion groups on media bias... who do you need to talk to, how do you arrange this?
 - Agreed to sign petition and send a letter about safe injection sites
 - Bringing food to youth events in the future
- Making change happen means we need to make it our change. Change ourselves and change the world.

Bill Mous, Chair

- Congratulations on your hard work on the motions and in the proper sessions
- Good use of the processes involved in Youth Synod in order to have your voice and perspective heard
- The respect you showed in the debate was commendable and is important to have
- We have talked a lot which in itself is powerful and transforming
- Talk needs to be continued with action and commitment to the resolutions that you committed to
- This is where the transformation of ourselves and our world will move out of this place
- If we do not carry these forward we limit ourselves and say little for ourselves and for what youth synod means
- Make it more than a grandiose debating club
- Share the process with your friends and peers, clergy etc.
- Challenge them with the perspectives of the youth that have been brought forward here
- Create a report or presentation for your church so that others can share in what happened
- Thank you to the Chancellor and MCs for their work
- 19th Session of Youth Synod was ended with a standing ovation. Woot!

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF MINISTRY SUPPORT

The committee consists of the Reverend Dan Bennett, Holy Trinity, Welland; Davis Bucsis, Church of the Nativity, Hamilton; Canon Fran Darlington, interim pastor; Canon Elaine Hooker, interim pastor; the Reverend Ron Pincoe, St. Mark's, Orangeville; Ms. Sharon White, St. James, Dundas and Vice-Chair; and Mr. Ross Gillett, St. John's, Niagara Falls and Chairperson, with the appreciated support of the Reverend David Long, Director of Human Resources and Mrs. Alison D'Atri, staff support. Mr. Ross Gillett also represents the division as a Member of Synod Council.

It is still the committee's goal to have a member from the Oakville/Trafalgar area, and possibly another interested party, to participate as a member of this division to contribute to the work of ministry support and related matters.

Committee members are pleased that the College of Deacons continues to be an effective branch of ministry in the diocese under the leadership of the Reverends Joseph Noseworthy (past Chair), Richard Beaudoin (Chair) and Anne Crawford, (Deputy Director). The most recent addition to the Chapter of Vocational Deacons is the Reverend Rod McDowell, St. Paul's, Fort Erie.

The Committee continues to review and discuss the development of recommended policies and good practice in cooperation with the Diocesan Director of Human Resources. Matters considered included the Vacation Policy for Long-term Interim Clergy, the now-complete Emergency/Pandemic Plan, arrangements for the Clergy Retirement Seminar, and the progress of the Compensation Study Sub-Committee. The latter Committee reports each year direct to Synod Council, recommending improvements in the clergy stipend levels and parish staffing rates. The committee recognizes the continuing cooperation of the Dioceses of Huron, Toronto and Western New York, with the leadership of the Niagara Diocese in Emergency Planning and related items.

It is noted that the contract providing the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) has been renewed and all employees on diocesan payroll are encouraged to become familiar with the beneficial resource.

The Committee hopes to complete an updated Mandate for recommendation to Synod Council before year-end.

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Ross Gillett, Chair

DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

	Member 2008-2009	Alternate 2008
BROCK	Reverend George Henry, Deacon All Saints, Welland	Mrs. Sue Hannah St. Paul, Fort Erie
GREATER WELLINGTON	Mrs. Susan Pullyblank St. George, Guelph	Mrs. Judy Conning St. Mark's, Orangeville
LINCOLN	No name received	No name received
MOHAWK	Reverend Canon David Pickett St. John, Ancaster	Mrs. Pat Hyslop St. John the Divine, Cayuga
TRAFALGAR	Reverend Suzanne Craven Church of the Epiphany, Oakville Mr. Mitch Banks St. Elizabeth, Burlington	Mrs. Mary Bishop St. Christopher's, Burlington
UNDERMOUNT	Mr. Paul Clifford St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton	Mr. Russell Kelk St. Alban the Martyr, Hamilton

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

DR. CHRISTOPHER LIND BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Christopher Lind, a prominent lay Anglican theologian and ethicist is returning to Niagara to be the keynote presenter at the November Diocesan Synod.

Dr. Christopher Lind is a Senior Fellow of Massey College at the University of Toronto. He has served as Principal of St. Stephen's College in Edmonton and as President of St. Andrew's College in Saskatoon. He recently completed a term as Director of the Toronto School of Theology. Dr. Lind holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from York University in Philosophy and Political Science, a Master of Divinity degree from Trinity College and a PhD in Theology from the University of St. Michael's College specializing in Ethics and Economics. He has authored or co-edited five books in the areas of Ecumenical Social Ethics, Globalization and Agriculture, Mission and Theology. He has served on the Primates Theological Commission and the National Church's Ecojustice Committee.

Dr. Lind is looking forward to being back in Niagara, where he grew up as a member of St. Jude's, Oakville. He will be working with Synod delegates on issues of Ethics, Theology, Scripture and the Environment.