



BUILDING FOR OUR MINISTRIES

What has the Building Committee been doing? As you know, the Building Committee took a time-out from its efforts to design new facilities after we learned that the projected costs of the new sanctuary, additional classrooms and offices, and renovated fellowship hall would exceed the funds that could realistically be counted on at that time. Aided by advice from an expert from the Episcopal Church Foundation, a series of Small Group Meetings (SGM) were organized over the summer to elicit views from parishioners. The focus of those meetings was on parishioners' dreams for St. Chad's future broadly, not simply the Building Program.

We owe much to Cathy Conn for organizing the SGM, to Ruth Miller and Sherry Holmen for leading the several other facilitators (Phyllis Boyadjian, Barbara DeHoff, Rich Lehoucq, Miriam Stucker, and Peggy Way), and to those who hosted the 13 gatherings: Marjorie Bahm, Larry & Beth Babineaux, John & Cathy Conn, Bill & Bev Eckel, Franklin & Dessa Halasz, Marge Hardison, Gerry & Murray Hill, Kitsie Hilaire, Jack & DJ Hoffman, Stuart & Charlotte Schoenmann, Paul & Anne Shoemaker, Rich & Eileen Simpson, Don Smiset, and Bob & Jane Stuart. And special thanks go to Eileen Simpson who headed the Communications Subcommittee in compiling the results of those SGM.

The results of those SGM meetings are now being studied carefully by both the Building Committee and the Vestry. We hope soon to recommend our next steps. I'm sure also that recent turmoil in financial markets and the broader economy of the U.S. will play an important role in those deliberations. Please stay tuned – and keep St. Chad's Building Program in your thoughts and prayers.

Despite the summer time out we have been investigating the issue of sewer and water service for St. Chad's. Might it be prudent, for example, to arrange for St. Chad's to be connected to public water and sewer service now to replace our current septic system and well? There are 2 service providers who have said that they would be willing to serve St. Chad's and we are now investigating questions of jurisdictional authority.

Finally, since my last report to you, I am delighted to report to that one parishioner, who wishes to remain anonymous, has made a very generous donation of \$42,000 in stock to the Building Program. In addition, another parishioner has donated a valuable painting to the Building Program. In accordance with the donation policies adopted by BC3 and approved by the Vestry, the Vestry's Finance Committee is in the process of selling those assets so that the proceeds may be used when needed by the Building Program. All of us are very grateful for the support for St. Chad's continued programmatic growth which, after all, is the *raison d'être* for the Building Program.

Yours in Christ,
Bob Gough, Chair

St. Chad's Episcopal Church

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