

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF
THE TRUSTEES OF THE DIOCESE OF
THE NORTHEAST AND MID-ATLANTIC

To the One Hundred Thirty-Second Council of the
Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic of the Reformed Episcopal Church

Dear Brethren,

The Board of Trustees met three times since our last report at the 131st Council of the Diocese. Trustee meetings are held at the Reformed Episcopal Seminary in Blue Bell, PA with the exception of the November meeting which is held at the site of our annual Diocesan Council. Bishop Hicks has presided over all meetings of the Board of Trustees in the preceding year. Regular reports were received from the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Provost of the Reformed Episcopal Seminary.

NOVEMBER 3, 2011:

- At the annual organizational meeting of the Trustees held at Diocesan Council the following officers were elected: The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks, President; the Rev. Dr. Jonathan S. Riches, Vice President; the Ven. Jon W. Abboud, Treasurer, the Very Rev. Gregory J. Miller, Secretary.

MAY 21, 2012:

- **First RE Church, NY** – First Church is in need of financial assistance to continue their work in NYC. They have opened a Christian School which has been quite successful and is growing. However, they need some time for it to grow to the point where it can sustain the parish financially. First Church requested a loan of up to \$1M, to be drawn upon as needed, as a lien against their property in order to bridge the gap between their current financial situation and such time as the school can support the parish. The church property is valued at \$8M-\$10M. If the school does not meet enrollment benchmarks then the loan will be considered in default and the Diocese would be able to sell the building to recover the loan money extended. **The Trustees approved the proposed loan with the Ven. Jon Abboud and Bishop-elect Gillin serving as the Trustees' escrow agents with the contingencies that, 1) Title Insurance be obtained before further money is disbursed, 2) we obtain a current broker's opinion for the valuation of the property, 3) that all building permits and certificates of occupancy from the City of NY be provided to the Trustees, and 4) that beginning in 2015 and every year thereafter \$100,000 be repaid on the principle of the loan in order to avoid default.**
- **St. Michael's REC, Enola, PA** – St. Michael's parish is also in need of financial assistance. Based on projected income and expenses the parish will run out of money by the end of August 2012. **The Trustees voted to provide St. Michael's with \$4000 up to the next budgeting period and that the Church Extension and Growth Committee recommend to the Trustees additional, budgeted parish support in 2013.**
- **Grace Church, Collingdale, PA** – Grace Church in Collingdale has requested \$30,000 to support the work of the parish and their Christian Academy, both of which are serving the Liberian community with the Gospel, Christian education, and Christian discipleship. Money in the Benson Fund has been designated for this purpose. **The Trustees of the Diocese authorized the Trustees of the Benson Fund to release \$30,000 to Grace Church, Collingdale.**
- Money has been budgeted for the consecration and housing allowance of Bishop-elect Gillin. An estimated date of his consecration is September 29, 2012. The budget was approved based on an expected consecration date in July. **The Trustees agreed to pay Bishop-elect Gillin his housing allowance immediately since he has already been performing duties and making visitations for Bishop Hicks.**
- Both Jim Kester and Joshua Grote tendered their resignations to the Trustees due to time and location changes in their professional careers. Replacements will be elected at Council in November 2012.

SEPTEMBER 24, 2012:

- **First Church, NY** - First Church NY proposed assigning the deed of their property in lieu of foreclosure to the Diocese instead of obtaining Title Insurance that was required by the Trustees at the May 21, 2012 meeting. There is a judgment on the property for \$2120 from June 2011. There is also a lien to the Beekman Hill Board of Managers on the condominium (rectory) in the amount of \$31K. The appraisal of the property is \$11.4M for the church building and \$1.8M for the condominium. Said lien and judgment will be satisfied with the monies received from the disbursement of loan funds. The Church does not owe the \$2100 to the City of NY for employment tax and will receive the money back. **The Trustees voted (the Rev. Matt Harrington abstaining) to continue to go ahead with the loan to First Church taking the deed in lieu of foreclosure instead of Title Insurance with the stipulation that in the event of default of the loan and the sale of the property the proceeds of the sale of the property will be used to satisfy the outstanding balance of the loan with the remainder to be used to advance the work of the Reformed Episcopal Church.**
- **St. Michael's REC, Enola, PA** – The Trustees voted to provide St. Michael's with \$1000 in parish assistance for each of the months of October, November, and December 2012
- **2013 Budget** - The proposed diocesan budget, including \$1000 in monthly support for St. Michael's REC in Enola, PA was reviewed and approved for adoption by the 132nd Council of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic of the Reformed Episcopal Church.

Respectfully submitted,

The Very Rev. Gregory J. Miller,
Secretary to the Trustees