

Report of Diocesan Council Addendum to the 128th Session of Diocesan Synod

MISSION AND OUTREACH

ANGLICAN CHURCH HOMES (Sussex NB)

The first apartments at Anglican Church Homes were built next to Trinity Church, Sussex, in 1965. Some land was purchased from Trinity Church, and the church also gave a gift of land. These apartments were built to provide affordable housing for seniors, giving preference to retired clergy. In 2001, a new four unit building was added, and another was built this past winter, opening in February. We now have a total of 21 apartments, as well as a large hall with kitchen facilities (Kirkland Hall). We are pleased to have three retired clergy as residents – the Rev. Canon Basil Buckland, the Rev'd Gerald Gray and his wife, Elsie, and the Rev'd Lloyd McFarlane and his wife, Helen. The apartments are overseen by a very dedicated Board of Directors, chaired by Mr. Clarence McFarland.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev'd David J. Barrett, Board Member

PARISH SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT

ANGLICAN HOUSE (THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND INSTITUTE)

Without a doubt, Anglican House is facing difficult times. Certainly the decrease in the number of parishes in the diocese, leading to a decrease in the number of clergy, is a large factor in our financial woes. Adding to this is cost saving measures on the part of parishes, including downloading church bulletin covers and finding their Sunday School curriculum on the Internet. As well, many people now purchase books on the Internet from discount stores, and it is impossible for Anglican House to compete with these prices. Still, we press on.

The Board of Anglican House, along with our two excellent staff, Gwen MacKnight (manager) and Cathy Ramey, look at Anglican House not only as a business, but chiefly as a ministry. Anglican House houses the Diocesan Resource Centre, and we are pleased to have it there. To help relieve our financial pressures, the Board asked the Diocese to increase our annual grant from \$6,000.00 to \$15,000.00, and this was done – thank you. As well, we reduced one position to half time, and cut back the hours of our janitor. As a result, for our fiscal year 2004-2005, we showed a small profit of \$2,000.00. Anglican House has, for many years, had a few investments, and they are now being sold to pay down what it owed to suppliers (our debt is \$67,000.00.)

The future of Anglican House looks somewhat bleak. Do you shop at Anglican House? Do you appreciate its very existence? Anglican House needs to be used more – the bottom line is, “If you don't use it, you will lose it.” PLEASE, support your Diocesan book store (and it is much more than books, we carry liturgical supplies, cards, many gift items, and virtually any book can be ordered for you – come and see us at 116 Princess Street, Saint John).

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev'd David J. Barrett, President