

Grace Newsflash

Grace Anglican Church

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Construction to Begin in August on St. Stephen's House Residence

At a Special Vestry on June 11th the Vestry voted to begin renovations to the St. Stephen's House rectory to convert it into a Laurier Student residence. The residence will be marketed by the university as an alternative Christian residential experience for mature students. The Laurier chaplain's office and meeting space for small groups will also be in St. Stephen's House.

The Vestry heard that, once renovations have been paid for, the residence will deliver roughly \$35-\$40,000 a year in excess revenue which should assure the parish of a balanced operating budget long term.

The Vestry also looked at sev-

eral options for financing the renovations to St. Stephen's House. It was decided to fund the renovations by asking parishioners and interested others to loan the parish the money. The parish will pay the loans out after ten years. During the term of the loans, lenders will receive 6% interest from the parish. We are hoping to raise the entire \$250,000 in this way. The interest rate we will pay was intentionally set to be attractive in comparison to rates currently available in the consumer financial marketplace.

If all goes well, construction for St. Stephen's House will commence in August. It is expected that the construction will



take approximately sixteen weeks and that we will open in time for the January 2007 school term.

Renovations will include fire doors, an exterior staircase to all three levels, new bedrooms and washrooms on the third floor and new washrooms on the second floor. Thanks to Roger Murray and Dave Hyatt, the project leaders, for their hard work on SSH.

Praise Worship Service set for September

Preparations for the launch of our new Praise worship are well underway. A new committee is meeting weekly to plan the launch, advertising has been booked, and several musicians have already been recruited. Rehearsals for the new band will be one night a week

in July and August. The last week in June the stage will be moved to the far end of the upper parish hall, its height halved, and its total surface area marginally smaller. We are also planning kitchen renovations this summer. Pike's of Paris have been contracted to

re-finish the hall hardwood floor the second week in August with funds raised in the Re-tooling for Tomorrow campaign. We are still trying to raise the seed money to pay for the sound equipment, a drum set, digital piano and audio visual projectors and screens.

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Summer Hours

• Please take note of the following changes to our Summer worship schedule:

- The 8:30 service will meet at St. James' Church in July and here at Grace Church in August.
- Our main service will begin at 10:00 a.m. in July and August.

Methadone Clinic Update

On January 24th the fire at St. Andrew's not only destroyed a building, it left several important outreach ministries without a home. Grace Church offered its space and we currently are exercising a Ministry of Hospitality to the St. Andrew's Soup for the Soul dinners and a methadone clinic located in our upper parish hall. That clinic is open six days a week and provides a very important and vital service to the community. It includes a pharmacy in our boardroom, a lab, and doctor's examining space. We have asked the pharmacy to relocate to

one of the cubbies at the opposite end of the hall by August 1st. The latest word from St. Andrew's is that the clinic and pharmacy should be relocated back to St. Andrew's by November. We expect the Soup for the Soul dinners to remain at Grace at least another year.

Contest— Name our new Praise worship service

Praise worship services need a catchy name

to get peoples' attention. One in Hamilton is called "The Meeting House". Another is called "The Gathering" and still another "The Awakening". Do you have an idea for a name for our new Praise service?

If so, please call the office at 752-1829 and let us know your idea.



Organizational Restructuring in Church Office this summer

After 9 years as our secretary at Grace Church, Dave Johnston is taking on new responsibilities. Effective September 1st, Dave will be filling a new paid position. His title will be Co-Ordinator of Volunteer Ministries. Dave will be doing most of the jobs he currently does around Grace.

We are going to recruit a part time secretary to work three mornings a week to do strictly the secretarial and reception piece of Dave's former job. The new person will be responsible for the weekly bulletin

and input of the weekly slide presentation for the new Praise service. The secretary will also take meeting minutes for the board. We will also be doing a major audit of all our communication materials, brochures and leaflets and the new secretary will have a significant role in that project.

Dave Johnston will be responsible for all volunteer ministries. He will identify and recruit volunteers and work with the rector and wardens to ensure volunteers are available

for our ministry programs and committees.

CHAPLAIN SEARCH CONTINUES

We are also interviewing for a new chaplain to Laurier Brantford in July. Our plan is to have the new chaplain in place by the start of the coming school year. This will be a shared position—half time chaplain and half-time associate priest at St. Mark's. The chaplain will have a presence at Grace two Sunday's a month.

"The quality of life is in proportion, always, to the capacity for delight." Julia Cameron

Golf anyone? Grace members to tee it up Sunday August 27th!

Look out Mike Weir. On August 27th at 1:30 p.m. Grace Church is holding its annual golf tournament at the Delhi Golf and Country Club.

Cost of \$55 per person includes golf, cart, dinner and beverage (tea or coffee). Please register by August 13th by calling the church office at 519 752-6814 or call Paul Spong at 519 759-1479.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is scheduled for August 21-25th at Faith Lutheran. Please call the church office for more details.

RECTOR'S SUMMER SCHEDULE

The Reverend Dave Ponting will be on vacation from July 10th through August 10th. Most of that time he will be out of town.

Canon Bob Schroeder will be taking the July services and Rev. Allan Cook the August 6th service. For pastoral emergencies during this time please call Canon Schroeder at 519-759-8372