

Parish Council Highlights January 2014

A. MAP update since the December Parish Council meeting:

1. Allen Box produced a report summarizing his facilitation of the parish conversations held on November 19 and December 8. Included in this report is a summary of the December 1 tri-parish Discernment Team meeting, written by Judy Darling. The report is available in paper form and on our website at www.stmarksottawa.ca/MAP.
2. A third tri-parish Discernment Meeting was held on Sunday January 5, mainly to discuss in depth the contents of the Discernment Team final report. St. Mark's members made available Allen Box's report to anyone at the meeting who wished a copy.

The three small groups formed at the December 1 Discernment Meeting (each of which had a St Mark's discernment member) had prepared material on

- a. a recommended direction,
- b. a proposed motion for each church's Vestry (annual or special) in 2014, and
- c. an implementation strategy.

The content of these three documents would need to be supplemented by background information and some proposed timelines for going through 2014 with the view to making final decisions in 2015. It should be noted that the implementation strategy does not specify what the final decision should be in 2015; instead, it elaborates the questions that need to be explored in coming to a final decision – questions relating to ministry evaluation, staffing, partnerships/stakeholders, buildings, finances, governance, communications, diocesan involvement, and what needs to be in a work plan for working through the interim period between the 2014 Vestries and the 2015 Vestry. It is intended that an Implementation Team would be struck after the 2014 vestries to work out the implementation strategy.

A. MAP update continued

3. At the December Parish Council meeting, Parish Council asked the MAP team to address the questions by individuals that had been submitted to Parish Council. Michael Perkin offered to contribute to this as well. Some work has been done, and consolidation of the results is underway.
4. It is expected that the report from the Discernment Team will be published towards the end of January. This report will contain a motion for all three churches to consider at their vestry meetings. After the release of the report, the following parish discussions about MAP matters are planned for St. Mark's:
 - a. A Town Hall meeting, facilitated by Archdeacon Chris Dunn will be held after the 10:00 am service on February 2.
 - b. MAP will NOT be on the agenda at the Annual Vestry on February 23. The opportunity exists for a brief Q&A once the Vestry meeting is adjourned, but there will not be a facilitator present.
 - c. A second Town Hall meeting, facilitated by Archdeacon Chris Dunn will be held after the 10:00 am service on March 16.
 - d. A special meeting of the Vestry is planned for April 6th, chaired by Archdeacon Chris Dunn.
 - e. The possibility of shortening this timetable and holding the Special Vestry on March 16 exists, should it seem that everyone is ready to come to a decision.

B. St. Mark's finished 2013 with a surplus of \$13,809.

Complete financial details for the year will be provided in the Vestry Report in February.

C. The congregation is invited to make proposals for appropriate projects to be funded from memorial donations in 2014.