

## Jeffords Fellowship Hall Update for the Week of October 15, 2007

This has been a very busy and exciting week! We met on Monday evening to prepare for our presentation to the Diocesan Financial Committee on Tuesday. The Committee requires many historical financial documents for their approval – nine years of projected expenses, cost of the project and explanation, the last five years of financial history, current construction budget, status on project loan and others found in the Building and Financial Manual. Many thanks to Charlie Gwynn and Cathy Cheatwood for their assistance in getting these documents produced and ready to submit.

We met with the Diocesan Committee on Tuesday afternoon. The Committee was very supportive of our project but it is a bit daunting to have fifteen present to our four!! The presentation began with a history and overview of our project from Father Paul. Lance Patterson presented the financials and answered questions from the Committee. We are very blessed that we have had the expertise of Lance Patterson to assist us with this very important approval. Lance is also working to secure our bank loan. Jan Georges was present as Chair of the Project. Judy Beecham attended as a supportive Parishioner. The Committee said that they would call us Tuesday afternoon with their decision. We all left feeling we had done as well as possible on our presentation.

The call came a few short hours after meeting (long hours for some of us!) to tell us that we had passed approval. The decision is now moved forward to the Standing Committee and the Bishop will let us know within a month.

We met on Wednesday afternoon with our Architects and Builders to review the design and get an update on pricing. It was a long meeting (four hours) but we were excited with the results. When you are reviewing every facet of the build from floor to ceiling it is overwhelming but makes you understand why the expense is so great. A great deal of work has been put forth by both Architect and Builder. The good news is that we are within budget and the price of the site work has come down. The total pricing for site work and the building is \$5,475,000.

Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, has been set as our ground breaking day. It has taken us nearly two and a half years to reach this point and we should all rejoice in it!!