

Vestry Approves DFDC Recommendations

The Vestry voted unanimously at a special meeting on May 24 to approve the Dickinson Fund Discernment Committee for Phase Two's recommendations for using the approximately \$1.7 million proceeds from the sale of the Betty Dickinson property in 2012.

The Vestry's decision is the culmination of three years of work by two separate discernment committees.

Ninety percent of the funds realized from the sale of the Dickinson property, or approximately \$1.575 million dollars will be dedicated to a continuing partnership with the new Philips Academy Charter School in Paterson (PACS – Paterson) which will open in September, 2016. An initial grant of \$175,000 will be made this summer to help defray the start-up costs associated with opening the school, and the report envisions grants to be made over the course of six years in increasing amounts to support the operating of the school.

The recommendation includes components that are designed to build on the long, effective relationship St. Elizabeth's has had with Philips Education Partners, which will oversee this new school as well as forge a strong partnership between St. Elizabeth's congregation and the administration and staff of PACS – Paterson.

The Vestry also approved the DFDC recommendation that 10 percent of the funds, or approximately \$175,000, be retained for use within St. Elizabeth's to address projects within the congregation and to augment St. E's various reserve funds.

Finally, based on the committee's recommendation, the Vestry will create an ongoing committee of parishioners which will facilitate the partnership with PACS – Paterson. Any member of St. Elizabeth's who would like to serve with this new committee is welcome to join—details will be published early in the autumn.

There will be more information disseminated, including an insert in the Sunday bulletins on May 29th and June 5.

The DFDC wishes to thank the many parishioners who participated in this discernment process. We are excited about the opportunities that lay ahead and we eagerly look forward to the broad St. E's community's involvement in this potentially transformative endeavor.

The Dickinson Fund Discernment Committee: Chris Walsh, *Chair*; Wendy Broadbent, Rohan de Silva, Dan Etna, Tim Graham, Gaye Thurston, Karla Tombaugh, Sharon Walker, Mary Wynn Seiter, *Senior Warden*, Don Taylor, *Junior Warden*.