

The Episcopal Church Building Fund

(Established by General Convention of 1880 as the American Church
Building Fund Commission)

MEMBERSHIP

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The Rt. Rev. Christoph Keller, Jr., due to retirement
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SUMMARY OF THE COMMISSION'S WORK

The Board of Trustees meets four times a year to support services related to planning, designing, and financing of church building sites and buildings as carried out through the staff and standing committees. In the last triennium our services grew to provide loans to dioceses for congregations totaling \$4,991,600, as compared to \$2,488,250 in the previous triennium. Funding in the form of loans to dioceses for congregations provide financing toward the cost of church land, building remodeling, repairs, and construction for a new mission or redevelopment of existing sites and buildings.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

(passed by unanimous vote of the Trustees)

Resolution #A003

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, **That the 69th General Convention call on each diocese and congregation to carry out a program of fire and risk prevention in order to protect the membership and property of the Church.**

THE BLUE BOOK

Resolution #A004

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, **That the 69th General Convention call on each diocese and congregation to create and maintain art and architectural excellence in the worship environment of all church buildings.**

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Board of Trustees of the Episcopal Church Building Fund, which is now in its second century of service to the Church, voted unanimously to achieve the goal of expanding our services to increase support of national and diocesan efforts through a "Builders for Christ" development program. A Strategic Planning Committee of our board identified needs and opportunities where our services, if expanded, would better serve the dioceses and congregations of our Church. It is the intention of our board in the next triennium to begin to implement through committees and staff the steps necessary to meet our short and long term goals. (See Appendix.)

APPENDIX

*Our Goals to Serve the Church
into the
Next Century*

I. PLANNING

To be the recognized resource for services related to church sites and buildings, including ecclesiastical art and architecture within the Episcopal Church, with particular attention to the worship environment, educational and program space.

This can be accomplished by

- Establishing a National Commission on Ecclesiastical Art and Architecture.
- Expanding the existing services of the Fund.
- Broadening the network of diocesan representatives.
- Providing regional representatives of the Fund.
- Financial support.

II. FUNDING

To be one additional source where a diocese may borrow adequate funds for a congregation to provide partial financing for remodeling, repairs, and new construction as well as for land, special programs such as housing, accessibility, and repairs to organs and stained glass.

This can be accomplished by

- Increasing the Permanent Revolving Loan Fund through contributions, Investment Debentures and by leveraging our existing funds.

III. SPECIAL SERVICE

To achieve a working relationship with those programs of the Church where our services may be supportive. At the present time two needs and opportunities exist:

1. To support the programs of the Church Center, such as new congregational development where land and buildings are required, housing, General Loan Fund, and missionary dioceses.

This can be accomplished by

- Preparing a program of services, resources, and funds available for presentation by the chairman of our board with representatives of the Fund to the Presiding Bishop and his representatives.

2. To increase our relationship with the Church Insurance Company, whereby, after identifying areas of mutual concern, we can share together in preparing and distributing church site and building standards. The material will provide resource information for new construction and restoration of existing property. Particular attention would be given to occupancy provisions such as fire and risk prevention.

This can be accomplished by

- Representatives of the Fund meeting with representatives of the Church Insurance Company to identify mutual concerns and to prepare site and building standards for use in the life of the church.

The above Planning, Funding, and Special Service Goals build upon the 107-year foundation of services by the Fund and retain the historical purpose that meets the present and future needs. We believe that it is possible to achieve the necessary funding for this three-fold strategy to expand our services because these goals can be supported by the case for the Fund that illustrates the accomplishments of the past and the needs and opportunities of the future.