

SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER MEETING:

We wrapped up our conversations about the new Long Range Plan and capital needs of our campus. We set a timeline for producing/launching a plan for the parish to see by the 2012 annual meeting.

The plan is organic and virtual. It is organic in that the plan builds on the successes of, and learns lesson from, recent projects, such as the solar/roof project, elevator, fellowship plaza, and labyrinth. It is virtual in that instead of being an update of a static paper document, the plan will live on our parish website for constant refinement and feedback.

We observed that the plan has elements of "yesterday, today and tomorrow." Our plan builds on, and will highlight, the rich legacy of St. Stephens. It will serve as a tool for assessing current resources and needs. And it will set forth priorities and options for future growth.

We believe we have developed a vision that can be fulfilled in manageable phases. The vision includes a new entrance/welcome area, parking lot and facilities on the upper campus; various expansions and improvements downstairs, particularly to the parish hall; and refurbishing/reformatting of buildings on the lower campus. The changes will not be radical but incremental, reflecting the growth of, and needs expressed by, our parish.

We will circulate draft text for the plan in early January for comment, then vote on it at our January LRP meeting. The plan will be presented to the Vestry the following evening, then shared with the parish at the annual meeting and online.

We hope the Vestry will assess the Long Range Plan annually and make adjustments -- and the financial commitments -- necessary for its achievement.