

# THE EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

OCTOBER 28, 2007

## INCREASED COMMUNICATION TO OUR PARISH MEMBERS

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Introduction from the Chairman**
- **From the Religious Committee**
- **From the Maintenance Committee**
- **From the Ad-hoc New England Council Committee**
- **From the Chairman**

In an ongoing effort to increase communication between our Executive Board and our parishioners, I am pleased to submit our second issue of the **EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT**. Our goal is to give everyone an update on the last Sunday of each month.

Included in these issues will be information that you're not getting from other sources.

I hope you find this information in-

formative and helpful.

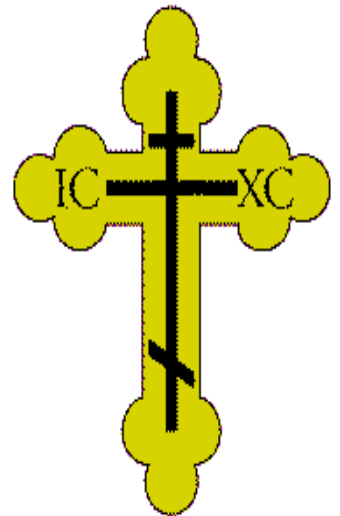
If you have any questions please feel free to contact me, or any member of the Executive Board.

Our mutual goal is to keep the Church of St. John of Damascus, and all its many facets running as smoothly as possible.

Sincerely,

Wayne E. Zahka

Chairman, Executive Board



## AN UPDATE FROM THE RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE

This month the Religious Committee recognized the altar servers who served their Church last year. Those young men with outstanding behavior and attendance received special recognition along with their certificate of participation. We need to give all Altar servers a word of encouragement and thanks for helping to beautify our Liturgical experience.

### **Please help us to make Sunday Service run smoothly:**

Individuals who work at the Bengari on Sundays will be standing at the side entrances to the church. They will encourage and help us to enter the church at the proper times once liturgy has begun. If no Bengari volunteer is present, we have posted by each door, lists which show the portions of the liturgy when you should not enter the church. Please abide by these.

Please remember that business at the bengari should be conducted either before or after liturgy, not while liturgy is being served.

Deborah Vogel,  
Chair, Religious Committee

**FROM THE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

These items have been approved by the Executive Board and completed in the last month. The Church complex looked beautiful and very clean for the Centennial Celebration. We have made substantial progress on the safety of the church inside and out over the last six months.

The most recently completed projects are listed below.

- Front door renovation - \$2,200
- Dome painting - \$2,500
- Cinder block wall repair – granite cap donated by Doug Arbeely
- Perimeter of parking lot cleaning
- Planting of mums - \$650 (includes wall repair, cleaning, & mums)
- Cleaning of carpeting and chairs - \$2,800
- Refinishing the wood floor and stage - \$1,900
- Projector and screen for our function Hall – donated by Anthony and Jolaine Hamwey
- Labor to install projector and screen – donated by volunteers for The Night of Memories
- Labor for the wiring of the projector – donated by Rich Homs
- Alteration to bazaar banner - \$40
- Cleaning the church brick facing - \$600
- Lighting repair in hallway – donated by Rich Homs

Total Expenditures            \$11,430.00

**“The Church complex looked beautiful and very clean for the Centennial Celebration”**

The Executive Board has been very careful funding the necessary projects for the Church and the parish home. We hope to continue upgrading and maintaining the facilities. There are currently more projects to be approved with the continued financial support of the parish. Look here in the future as more projects are completed. Thank you to all who have contributed time, money and materials!

There are still many opportunities to give back to the Church. Join us!

**Let us know where your talents lie.**

Chris Bradley and Rich Homs  
 Co-Chairs, Maintenance Committee

## FROM THE AD-HOC NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES COMMITTEE

The New England Council of Churches consists of all of the churches and missions in the Diocese of New England and The Fellowship of St. John the Divine. The Council was originally established in 1959 to manage a piece of land in Wrentham. The land was to be used to build a Retreat Center for the New England churches. After several years of the land not being used, it was sold in October 2000 for approximately \$352k. Currently the balance in the account is \$561k earning an annual return of approximately 7.8%.

A recent proposal was put forth to use the money to hire a Youth Director that would be available to all churches. In the proposal, all churches would have to make a yearly contribution and a five year commitment to the proposed youth director position. St. John's commitment was to be \$5000 per year, or \$25,000 for the five year period. The short time period between receiving the proposal and the meeting date did not allow us to have a formal Executive Board meeting to fully discuss the issue.

The Council met on October 13, 2007 in Worcester to discuss this proposal. In attendance for St. John's was Fr. John Teebagy, Alan Cardoos, and Don Khouri. A motion was made and voted on, to establish a Diocesan Youth Committee to develop details regarding hiring, housing, and responsibilities of a Diocesan Youth Director. The committee would consist of one representative from each parish to be appointed by the Pastor, the Chairman of the Fellowship, the Archdiocesan Youth Director, and the President of the NE Council. The motion passed with one church opposed. Representatives from St. John of Damascus church put forth other options for the utilization of the funds. This Diocesan Youth Committee will report back at the next New England Council meeting scheduled for February 9, 2008.

We will discuss our position further at our next Executive Board meeting, scheduled for October 29, 2007. We will keep you abreast of any developments.

Don Khouri  
St. John of Damascus Representative to the New England Council

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I would like to challenge everyone to fully enjoy the upcoming annual Bazaar at our church.

Please remember that all proceeds from the Bazaar, as with all church functions, go to support the upkeep of our church. Please be generous with your purchases and donations. The Bazaar shouldn't be looked upon as a place to find "bargains". It should be looked upon as a place to find fellowship, love, great food, and old friends....all while supporting your church.

God Bless you all.

Wayne E. Zahka  
Chairman, Executive Board

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