

# **Loans**

Loans are available for the construction, improvement, repair, purchase, or refinancing of Episcopal Church buildings, land, rectories, schools, and ministry properties.

- Borrow up to \$1,000,000.00 (larger loan amounts are available; call for details)
- Loans are non-mortgage, with a 2% origination fee; no closing costs
- Fixed rate of interest; currently 6.5%.
- Monthly amortized repayment term up to 15 years (longer terms are available; call for details); no pre-payment penalty.

#### <u>NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM</u> <u>'Buildings for a New Tomorrow'</u>

'Buildings for a New Tomorrow' is a national ecumenical gathering of innovative church leaders committed to developing solutions for under-used and underfunded buildings. The gathering encourages networking and best practice sharing. Held annually; usually the week following Easter. Topics have included

- Managing closures and mergers with compassion and logic.
- Cost saving measures of environmental stewardship and going Green.
- Emergent church models that de-emphasizing buildings.
- Use church buildings for income to support ministry and increase connections in the community.

# **Recasting of Building Assets**

A year-long process with groups of congregations to make their buildings tools for ministry and financially self-sustaining. ECBF Coaches take the parishes through a process of assessing financial vulnerability. The aim of the process is to help congregations identify their place in the community — to understand their relevance; to build mission and value in the world around them, and to use their real-estate assets to develop financial self-sustainability.

ECBF Provides the following services to help parishes achieve financial self-sustainability:

- 1. Develop financial self-sustainability through the creative use of buildings and property.
- 2. Create relevancy by developing relationships in the outside community.
- 3. Sell or reallocate real-estate assets which are redundant or cannot be sustained.
- 4. Inspire new ways to be a thriving church.

# <u>Jump Start</u>

For congregations ready to face their fears about finances and the future of their parish, the Episcopal Church Building Fund's JumpStart program is a way to help congregations get started in their own evaluation and exploration at their own pace.

JumpStart is a one-day event aimed at parish leaders who are ready to take a hard look at the challenges many congregations face over their future. Developed by the Episcopal Church Building Fund, JumpStart workshops are an exciting and compelling way for parishioners to "jump start" their parish into new and revitalized ministries and mission. JumpStart encourages

congregations to understand the need for relevance and taking calculated, informed risks, both in building membership and in creating financial stability.

#### **Consultations**

For too long, the ECBF has watched congregations struggle with a choice between having HVAC and maintenance, or clergy leadership and programs. Too often the buildings are underutilized, with rooms being used only a few hours weekly.

The ECBF works one-on-one with congregations and dioceses on any number of challenges and decisions. We work in any number of ways: by phone, web conference, and onsite — however we can help, our approach is individualized, driven by the needs of the parish — what works best for you.

Congregations utilize our expertise to answer questions like these:

- Do we spend more time at vestry meetings talking about finance than mission?
- Do our neighbors know who we are? What we do, who we serve? Do we matter to them?
- If our building disappeared tomorrow, would anyone outside of our parish notice or care?
- Are our buildings being used to their potential, or are they just draining our checkbook?
- How can our buildings help us to become self-sufficient?
- Has our main mission work become building maintenance?
- Do we know who we really are?

Julia Groom, President, jgroom@ecbf.org Sally O'Brien, Vice President, <u>sobrien@ecbf.org</u> Deedi Trabosh, Director of LAF (Loans, Administration & Finance), <u>dtrabosh@ecbf.org</u> Brandon Kelly, Marketing and Communication Coordinator, <u>bkelly@ecbf.org</u> 804-893-3436 <u>www.ecbf.org</u>