

ST. JOHN'S RESTORATION
Annual Report

2004



St. John's Restoration

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Restoration Co-chairs Report

Three years ago we were despondent and grief stricken, as we viewed the burned-out remains of our beloved church building that had been so badly damaged by the fire of November 1st, 2001. Now it will be just a little more than three months before we return to the beautifully restored building that we probably believed we would never see. It will be with joy in our hearts that we bask in the familiar surroundings as we worship a loving God, who can make all things possible. Moreover, our church building will be better than before with a new and more economical heating system, brighter, controllable, lighting, an unobtrusive sound system, wheelchair accessible pews and washroom, a usable room in the basement, and many other improvements that we would loved to have had in the past, but couldn't afford.

When all the work is finished, the parish will not be faced with any expenses from the restoration, as it has all been paid for by the generosity of persons, corporations, foundations, and governments, both local and world wide. Thus free of any financial burdens, we must now use our resources to spread the Good News of Christ risen and as hymn 86 in our Common Praise hymn book says:

"More than we can ask or imagine, more than we could ever desire, out of the dust God's building a kingdom, like wine from the press, like bread from the fire....."

With God's help we have restored St. John's building from the ashes, now let us go forth and help build His kingdom in Lunenburg.

Andrew Eisenhauer
Co-chair, St. John's Restoration

Ed Jordan
Co-chair, St. John's Restoration



Executive Director's Message *"Heritage of Faith"*

This year the theme for the Heritage Canada Foundation is "Heritage of Faith – Spiritual and Sacred Places". They write how heritage places of religious and spiritual meaning are the soul of Canada's cultural landscape. And that these buildings, like St. John's, connect us to ideas about religion, kinship and places that have shaped communities. The support of our restoration project is a testimonial to the power of religious faith. It has united this parish to its community, province, nation and the world.

As Executive Director I am proud to be part of the vision to restore our church, St. John's. We are fortunate to live in a truly generous community. Whether through gifts of time, talent or treasure, people have and still are reaching out to restore St. John's. I thank all the individuals who work and volunteer for this project and I hope they are proud of their achievements. In accomplishing their achievements, we will be successful in restoring St. John's. We cannot be successful unless a lot of people want them to be.

We have made significant progress towards the ultimate goal of moving the congregation back in to the church. Please refer to the Construction Report by Ben Smith to read all that has accomplished in 2004. Although the process is challenging, success is dependent upon one's ability to meet various challenges. None of what has been done would have been

possible without the support we have received from parishioners, friends, and various funding bodies. We are all aware of our gratitude towards all who have been part of this project. Committee members, project manager, on-site carpenters and craftspeople, office staff and volunteers all contribute to this project. We are very fortunate to have been supported by so many friends. We have heritage and we have faith, through our vision.

A good restoration job not only restores a building. It restores memories, it restores faith and it restores history. We will have restored St. John's and now we must preserve and protect it. St. John's can't talk but we can, we need to make noise, spark interest and show that although St. John's is a magnificent building it is also a wonderful parish that needs members to tell the stories of the past and create the stories for the future. This project has motivated, stimulated, inspired and touched many, many people including myself. This restoration job has restored faith and as we prepare for our "homecoming" we need to help our family grow so that we can realize our vision for St. John's and remember our "Heritage of Faith".

Yours in Restoration,
Denise Black,
Executive Director, St. John's Restoration

Office Manager's Message

"The best way to predict your future is to create it" – Unknown

It is said, "Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all"

Although fire destroyed a significant part of St. John's, it never charred the hope of this parish. During the past three years of my involvement with this project I have learned that hope can overcome tragedy, sadness, loss or any other obstacle that might arise. Obstacles can trick you. They can seem impossible if you take your eye off the goal. How do we conquer these obstacles in life? We work together as a team toward a common goal and the results can only be positive.

Our obstacle was restoring St. John's after a devastating fire ravaged nearly 50% of the historic structure. We quickly decided we needed a plan. We needed a team, a goal and a result. The parish, the volunteers, the committees, the staff, the province, the country and the world make up the team. Restoration of a 250-year-old family church is the goal and what we see today, because of our hard work and determination, is our positive result.

You have created your future. You have rebuilt your heritage, restored your faith and have made your vision a realization. St. John's is standing strong because of the hope that you have endured. St. John's is standing once again because you were part of the team, because you wanted to reach the goal and because you believe in positive results. You have made this happen.

This project has taught me many things. Although I am not a member of your parish, it has showed me that through Heritage, Faith and Vision a spark of hope can create a whole new light. It has shown me that "The best way to predict your future is to create it".

I am honoured to have been invited along on this journey and am privileged to be a part of restoring St. John's.

Sincerely,
Stephanie M. Veinot

Construction Committee Report

Introduction

This report will be a continuation of the one featured in the "Annual Report for 2003". Last year we gave a detailed report of the first two years work. We hoped that it would be of interest to the current members of the congregation and of historical interest to future generations. We will continue to describe the work in the third year of the restoration using this format.

The Construction Committee consists of Jim Morrow, Andrew Eisenhauer, Ed Jordan, Ben Smith, Ron Cahoon and Denise Black. We meet weekly. Other representatives of the parish join our meetings as needed.

Floor Stabilization

Phase 2 of the restoration consists of the interior work that began in late 2003. Our first priority when we moved inside was to stabilize the floor. In order to make sure that the floor was well supported, the carpenters installed new footings and columns as required, replaced any beams or joists showing dry rot or damage and installed joist hangers as required. Some of the original hand hewn joists dating back to 1754 in the northwest corner of the nave were close to or touching the ground and had rot. We excavated ground to create a larger air space in these areas and under the floor in the narthex (vestibule). When the floor was stabilized, we covered the bare ground with a 10 mil PVC vapour barrier and covered the barrier with crushed stone.

Working Floor

Construction manager, Ron Cahoon, arranged for a second floor to be built in the nave of the church. He supported this floor on a network of scaffolding set on the ground floor. This floor provided a working platform for all the finishing from the top of the arch brackets to the ridge of the roof. Having this work platform at a higher elevation saved hundreds of hours of time compared with working from ground level.

By observing the mortise joints in the top of the remaining hammer beams, we can surmise that our floor was approximately three feet below the flat ceiling which historical records tell us existed in the building until 1870 to 1873. We can imagine how the 1870's carpenters built

and installed the first beautiful arches. They worked on the top of the ceiling using only lantern light. This would explain how they erected the larger arches in place with less sophisticated tools than are available in current times.

Our floor remained in place during the spring and summer of 2004 until all the trades, who worked at the higher elevations, had finished in the area.

The Chancel Arches and Trim

Part of the carpentry crew worked on the intricate system of arches and trim in the chancel area. Little of the upper parts of this woodwork remained after the fire so we had to rely on photos to do the restoration. Parks Canada photos taken in their documentation of the site in 1998 were of particular value. The Construction Manager and carpenters showed exceptional skill in restoring this area of the church. The detail of the arches and the wall panels are examples of their work.

Approximately 25 percent of the five arches at the front of the nave and 50 per cent of the six screens covering the two organ chambers survived the fire. The carpenters meticulously restored all surviving components and blended them with new pieces to complete these ornamental components of the chancel.

During the clean up, we recovered from the debris, components of the door and partition separating the sacristy from the nave. These

were incorporated in the restored partition.

Ceiling and Gable Ends

The diagonal sheathing on the ceiling and gable ends were restored using 1 x 10 inch beaded pine supplied by Bridgewater Moulding & Woodworking. Pine finish was added to the tops of the columns and the main beams to match the ceiling. All the arches were sanded and any missing trim at the crown moldings or above was added while the second floor was in place. The carpenters also built a new main arch above the balcony, as only about 5 per cent remained after the fire.

Lath and Plaster

We noted in last year's report that the plaster finished walls stood up extremely well to both the fire and the huge amounts of water used in the fire fighting. Without the fire resistance provided by this finish, there might not have been enough of the church walls left to restore. Therefore, we took care to repair and refinish the walls of the nave, the walls above the balcony and in the stairwells, and the walls in the organ chambers with plaster instead of the more common gyprock.

Skilled plasterers were not available in our area so a team from Halifax was recruited to complete our work.

Interior Finishes

Our construction manager brought in a crew to

start the interior finishes as soon as the carpenters completed their work in the Chancel. This work consisted of staining, varnishing and painting. This trade required a skill level equivalent to that of a furniture refinisher because it involved determining the composition of the original finishing materials and matching the finishes on new surfaces with old. Refinishers who were immediately available for a large job were needed so our construction manager went to the Halifax area and hired A. Gannon Painting & Dec. Ltd.

Ornamental Painting

The ornamental painting in St. John's consists of the following:

- The hand painted East wall of the chancel
- The stars on the chancel ceiling
- The three banners over the arches between the nave and the chancel
- The faux marble finish on the main columns in the nave
- The banner over the main entrance to the nave
- The gold leaf emblems on the columns in the nave and chancel

We found the company to do this trade in Lunenburg, namely Era Studio and the owner Julie-Jayne Coolen. Julie-Jayne started in the late summer with the first project positioning the stars. The story of the stars is fully described in the Decorative Painting Report found on Page 18.

Balcony Reconstruction

Both ends of the balcony suffered extensive damage during the fire and subsequent fire fighting. Early in 2004 the carpenters framed out and boarded in two new ends for the balcony. The structural engineer's design included a couple of interior steel joists strategically placed to upgrade the strength of the joists above the supporting columns. During the clean up after the fire, we recovered much of the fascia components and the T & G ceiling underneath the balcony. The carpenters restored the fascia identically to the original, using those components that were recovered.

The center of the balcony presented a different problem. The Structural Engineer determined that it was marginally strong enough to support the maximum expected live load despite the fact that the joists had a long span and a number of cutouts in them. The committee decided that it was worth the extra time and expense to strengthen the framing in this area while we had the opportunity. Strengthening involved sistering the joists and adding fish plates and hangers where needed. Carpenters removed the remaining pews in the area, marked and

removed the floor boards, performed the strengthening work and then replaced the floor and pews. This work was completed in 2005.

Electrical System

The electrical system in the restored St. John's Church is entirely new. This immense task would not have happened without the efforts of Darrell Knickle. He single-handedly did the electrical installation, acquired the material, got it to the site and installed it. The St. John's congregation owes to Darrell, more than anyone else associated with the restoration, a big thank you for his contribution of time, talent and treasure.

The new system is a 400 amp, 4 wire, 208/110 volt, 3 phase and single phase system fed by an underground line from Duke Street to an electrical room in the basement. Darrell worked along, keeping pace with the carpenters, to bury the wiring in the walls and behind trim, so that it is not exposed.

The Construction Committee considered several designs of light fixtures for the church. In the end we decided to restore the original fixtures. We recovered as many of the old fixtures as possible and Lunenburg Industrial Foundry cast new sections where necessary. Darrell will be purchasing new electrical components for each fixture. The lights will be able to be dimmed when lower light levels are desired.

Darrell is continuing the installation of the

electrical system in 2005.

Heating System

Don Warner, a Mechanical Engineer from Halifax designed the new heating system. The contractor for the work is H.E. Armstrong Mechanical Ltd. of Kingston, NS. The former steam boiler was replaced with two hot water boilers. One boiler will be able to handle the complete heat load most of the time. The second boiler will provide topping up capacity as well as back up capacity if one boiler is shut down. We expect to experience increased boiler efficiency from these modern boilers, especially when operating nearer to full load.

We have new tube and fin radiators along the walls under the pews and some of the old cast iron radiators have been refurbished and reused. Later in 2005, when the center pews are installed, the contractor will install the remaining tube and fin radiation under these pews.

The design of the heating system includes several features that did not exist in the previous system namely:

- 1) Zones each with its own circulator and thermostat controlling the level of heat in a different area
- 2) Heat under the floor to control humidity and dampness on the exposed timber floor supports
- 3) Heating controlled by

programmable timers

- 4) An underground heating system outside the front entrance to melt ice
- 5) Oil tanks inside a tray to capture any leaks or spills

Sprinkler System

Viking Fire Protection Inc. of Dartmouth has installed a new sprinkler system. This time we had the advantage of installing the sprinkler system at the same time as the restoration was taking place. This allowed the piping to be strategically placed within or beside the woodwork and the exposed pipe to be painted with the same colours as the adjacent walls or ceilings. We are sure that you will find that the sprinkler system blends in so well that it is practically invisible.

From a technical point of view we have made several improvements. These are:

- 1) The main sprinkler system is now a wet system which has a faster response to fire fighting than the former dry system
- 2) The system in the bell tower, which has to resist freezing, is a separate small dry system
- 3) The system protecting the organ chambers is Fireflex (cycling systems) to give protection to the organ from accidental discharges but which still protects these areas against fire.

- 4) All piping is now hot galvanized steel instead of black iron to resist the formation of internal rust particles which would require more frequent flushing out

Landscaping

Immediately following the fire, Colleen Mercer Clarke, a landscape architect from Halifax, volunteered to assist the Church when the time came to restore the site. Colleen now works with James McKee, whose mother, Johanne Zwicker McKee, has a family relationship to St. John's going back to its beginning in 1754. Colleen and James gave the Construction Committee suggestions on how to direct water coming off the roof or down the paths away from the building and how to improve the landscaping without basically altering the basic look of the Church. The landscaping work immediately adjacent to the church began in 2004.

Also in 2004, we engaged an arborist to examine the health of the trees on the site and to prune them if necessary. As a result of his report, three of the older trees that exhibited advanced rot or disease were removed.

Ben Smith
Chair, Construction Committee
24 January 2005

2005 Activities

June 12, 2005 has been selected as the date for the service to rededicate St. John's Church. We have many details to complete to fully complete St. John's Restoration. These include but are not necessarily limited to the following:

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- 1) Completion of the Ornamental Painting
 - 2) Clean up, repair, refinishing and reinstallation of the pews, book racks and kneelers
 - 3) Clean up and repair of the wall plaques
 - 4) Clean up and repair of the floors
 - 5) Installation of new brass work
 - 6) Repair and installation of reading desks, bishops chair and other chancel furniture
 - 7) Specification and purchase of choir pews
 - 8) Repair and finishing of the balcony and the rooms under the balcony
 - 9) Building, restoration and refinishing of the choir pews
 - 10) Installation of the chime stand and the mechanical connections to the bells
 - 11) Completion of internal electrical installation including lighting
 - 12) Completion of heating system
 - 13) Completion of side door exit stairs
 - 14) Repair, refinishing and reinstallation of hymn boards, world war plaques, list of ministers, flags, miscellaneous memorials, bulletin boards, etc
 - 15) Specification and installation of carpet
 - 16) Design and finishing of new room in basement
 - 17) Wiring and installation of external flood lights and street light
 - 18) Purchase and planting of replacement trees
 - 19) Completion of landscaping
 - 20) Installation of remaining stained glass windows
 - 21) Installation of frame which can be opened in corner of Fishermen's window
 - 22) Completion of wash rooms
 - 23) Purchase and installation of safe
 - 24) Installation of desk in Rector's Vestry
 - 25) Installation of hand rails in stairwells
 - 26) Installation of hangers and shelves in gowning rooms
 - 27) Completion of repairs to crypt
 - 28) Repair and refinishing of window nameplates
 - 29) Completion of bequest and donor history and desk
 - 30) Installation of storage cabinet for hand bells
 - 31) Construction and installation of hand bell tables
 - 32) Purchase of piano and caster system
 - 33) Removal of site office and storage of files
 - 34) General clean up
 - 35) Installation of organ (scheduled for November and December 2005)
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Campaign Committee Report

We have been blessed by a wonderful and generous response to the appeal for funds to support restoration of St. John's. The response began almost immediately following the Nov 1, 2001 fire. Early unsolicited generosity helped support the initial decision to proceed with restoration. It gave a positive indication that funds could be raised to achieve the goal of a full historic restoration.

As at December 31, 2004, a total of \$6,330,000 has been received. In general terms, sources of funds received to date have been-

Insurance	\$2,684,000
Infrastructure Program	1,000,000
Parks Canada	550,000
Parish and Friends	438,000
Events and activities	346,000
All other sources	<u>1,312,000</u>
Total	\$6,330,000

With outstanding commitments and pledges of approximately \$270,000 plus \$450,000 of Parks Canada's funding to come (of which \$335,000 had been claimed but not received as at Dec 31), we are confident that our goal will be achieved. One tremendous success of our campaign has been that funds are being received at a sufficient rate to always allow us to proceed with restoration work as fast as possible. We have never had to worry about paying our bills as work progressed. In fact, funds invested during restoration have already earned \$142,000 to support the project.

Thank you to all those who have supported the fundraising efforts in any way – Donors, Volunteers, Staff, Governments, Corporations, Organizations and the Community at large - your support is very much appreciated!

The focus of our campaign from now, until restoration is complete, will be to collect remaining outstanding pledges and to follow up on interest expressed in opportunities to sponsor specific items such as windows, pews, lights or other furnishings and fixtures. Anyone interested in such giving opportunities is asked to please contact Denise or Stephanie in the Restoration Office.

During our campaign, we were offered a very special gift to be invested permanently within a Foundation, with the income from those funds to be used to support on-going maintenance and preservation of our Parish's heritage properties. This was a wonderful \$500,000 gift that will benefit the Parish of St. John's forever. To accommodate this gift, St. John's Heritage Foundation was established and the funds have been received and invested within the Foundation. This Foundation can also provide a vehicle to receive similar gifts that future donors might wish to contribute for purposes of supporting on-going maintenance and preservation.

Thank you to all who have supported fundraising and the Campaign Committee in any way. The results of your effort and contributions have been outstanding. Thank you!

Jim Eisenhower
Chair – Campaign Committee
February 4, 2005

Restoration Committee



Andrew Eisenhauer
Restoration Co-Chair



Ed Jordan
Restoration Co-Chair



Jim Eisenhauer
Chair – Campaign
Committee



James B. Morrow
Chair – Organ
Committee



Ben C. Smith
Construction Chair



Denise Black
Executive Director



Ron Cahoon
Project Manager,
Dora Construction



Peter Allen
Warden / Chimer



Dan Steele
Treasurer



Stephanie Veinot
Office Manager



Mary Ann Varner
Gift Shop Manager

* Not shown; Grace Swan, Conservation Chair

***ST. JOHN'S RESTORATION
BALANCE SHEET
PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004***

	December 31, 2004	December 31, 2003
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and term deposits	709,187	439,757
Marketable securities (Market value of \$ 370,152; 2003 = \$ 356,770)	351,737	351,445
Merchandise inventory	-	20,000
Receivables	385,046	1,239,105
	<u>1,445,970</u>	<u>2,050,307</u>
Long term and capital assets:	-	-
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,445,970</u>	<u>2,050,307</u>
 LIABILITIES & FUND FOR CHURCH RESTORATION		
Current liabilities:		
Operating accruals	77,878	120,558
Holdbacks payable	36,823	50,427
Payroll taxes payable	2,330	5,002
	<u>117,031</u>	<u>175,987</u>
Long term debt:	-	-
Total liabilities	<u>117,031</u>	<u>175,987</u>
Fund for Church Restoration:		
Opening fund position	1,874,320	2,303,142
Net (usage) contribution for the year	(545,381)	(428,822)
Total Fund for Church Restoration	<u>1,328,939</u>	<u>1,874,320</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund for Church Restoration	<u>\$ 1,445,970</u>	<u>\$ 2,050,307</u>

***ST. JOHN'S RESTORATION
STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES
PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004***

	Current Year	Total to Date
CONTRIBUTIONS		
Donations	\$ 378,511	\$ 1,572,636
Government contributions	635,000	1,920,636
Insurance proceeds	-	2,683,947
Investment income	34,020	141,767
Fundraising events	77,533	195,530
Gift shop revenues	34,735	150,847
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	1,159,799	6,665,363
EXPENDITURES		
Restoration expenditures		
Stabilization of property	(4,059)	331,126
Demolition/Debris removal	6,581	86,719
Foundation work	45,477	128,960
Repair main floor	12,450	59,935
Rough carpentry	25,875	468,163
Timber framing	(3,926)	254,845
Exterior finish	9,976	618,451
Windows and doors	15,889	260,063
Interior finish	641,835	644,565
New organ	159,076	280,519
Repairs to bells	8,859	93,239
Repairs to murals	30,849	30,849
Fittings and equipment	64,251	165,605
Electrical	26,497	42,762
Mechanical	228,040	232,347
Landscaping and site work	17,343	17,343
Painting	5,203	90,247
Building contents	9,291	38,578
	1,299,507	3,844,315
Restoration related costs		
Architectural and consulting fees	222,333	768,691
Fund raising expenses	15,151	46,142
Gift shop expenses	56,289	204,603
	293,773	1,019,436
General and administrative expenses		
Salaries and benefits	67,799	216,505
Office and utilities	44,101	151,268
Insurance	-	85,000
Accounting and legal	-	19,900
	111,900	472,673
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,705,180	5,336,424
NET (USAGE) CONTRIBUTION FOR CHURCH RESTORATION	(545,381)	1,328,939

***ST. JOHN'S RESTORATION
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004***

	Current Year	Total to Date
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN):		
Cash flow from operating activities		
Net (usage) contribution for Church restoration	(545,381)	1,328,939
Non-cash items:		
Decrease (increase) in receivables	854,059	(385,046)
Increase in merchandise inventory	20,000	-
(Decrease) increase in current payables	(58,956)	117,031
	<u>269,722</u>	<u>1,060,924</u>
Cash and marketable securities, beginning of period	<u>791,202</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash and marketable securities, end of period	<u>1,060,924</u>	<u>1,060,924</u>

Conservation & Restoration

Grace Swan continues to focus on Conservation and Restoration of items that were damaged or lost in the fire. Work has continued on the hatchment by Michelle Gallinger. The Hatchment is nearing completion and will be ready very soon.

Choir and lay readers received new robes for Christmas. The old gowns will be washed, inventoried and will be offered to another needy parish. A lot of time has been spent on tracking various memorial items that may have been damaged or destroyed in the fire. Many individuals have inquired about these items so that they could have the chance to restore their own part of St. John's.

Kellie McIvor of Halifax, NS was awarded the task of restoring the 14 memorial plaques inside the church. Bud Webster of New Germany, NS will be undertaking the restoration of the brass items in the chancel area of the church. There are approximately 6 brass items to be restored in total. Archaeologists from In Situ, Dartmouth, NS have visited the site and investigated the crypts. The crypts remain in their original positions and have not been moved. Archaeologists have cleaned crypts to stabilize the brick.

Lists continue to be developed to record items that will need to be replaced. Giving opportunities are available to those who are interested. You have the opportunity to restore an original light fixture for \$650, or restore your family pew for \$500. Tax receipts will be issued for these donations.

Thank you to those who have already contributed to the restoration and conservation of these items.

Restoration of the “Chime of Ten Bells”

This last year has been a busy time for the restoration of the bells.

I have been working on the completion of the chimestand, which is now over 90% completed. In April, I travelled to St. John's Anglican Church in Truro, where I was able to borrow the bronze Meneely music rest from the church's chimestand, and bring it back to Lunenburg where it was used in the recasting of a new bronze piece for our chimestand in Lunenburg. At the same time, two ornate bronze sidepanels were recast from the original remaining pieces that were once part of our chimestand.

Metal components that make up the chiming action have been fabricated and prepared for installation. As well, the redesigned spring action, which has been manufactured by Meek's and Watson, were received this fall from Ohio. These newly designed actions will enable the chimes to be restored to the manner in which the Meneely's originally intended them to work.

I am now in the process of finalizing all the work necessary to complete the installation of the chimestand and all the necessary components, in preparation for the June 12th Rededication Service and the summer tourist season. I can hardly wait to ring the bells once again.

I would like to take this time to extend special thanks to Richard Watson and Bill Meeks of Meek's and Watson in Ohio. These two dedicated people have provided me with ongoing information, tips and support over the course of the last three years. Their great knowledge of Meneely bells has made my job of restoring the chimes a wonderful learning experience.

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter F. Allen
Chimer

Organ Committee Report

The organ committee did not meet during the past year as all our decisions had been completed in the previous year. The new organ is now under construction at Casavant Frères and is designated by them as OPUS 3845.

Their present plan is to have our representatives inspect the new organ in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, during the week of September 26th. The organ should arrive at St. John's Church around Tuesday, October 31. Physical completion will be around Saturday, November 19th. Their voicers will start the tonal finishing of the new Organ about Tuesday, November 22nd and complete their work about Saturday, December 3rd.

Casavant recommends that our organist play and test the organ for a few weeks in order to make sure it is working perfectly. Based on this we should consider holding a dedication service in early 2006.

A small two keyboard Hammond Organ is now in the Zinck room and can be used in our first service now scheduled for June 12th. Thanks to Joan and Charles Carlson for the donation of this organ.

James B. Morrow
Chair - Organ Committee

Decorative Painting

On May 14, 2004 the American Express Foundation and World Monuments Fund Presidents, Mary Beth Salerno and Bonnie Burnham announced that St. John's was awarded an \$80,000 US grant for the conservation and recreation of the painted decoration of the interior of the church.

Located on the chancel walls of St. John's Church are mural paintings that date from 1872. The chancel walls are hand painted directly on the wooden panelling using stencils in conjunction with a great deal of brush applied embellishments to illustrate a pattern of decorative scrolling designs. In the centre of each wooden panel there is a golden cross bearing the sacred monogram "IHS" as well as other Christian symbols. Much of the decorative work was highlighted with gold leaf. The domed ceiling of the chancel was painted blue and studded with approx. 700 gilded stars. The overall effect before the fire was very luminous and magical.

After the fire, all decorative paintings are in need of restoration efforts. The painted surfaces are heavily soiled due to fire, smoke and water damage. The layers are discoloured, peeling and stained from heat and moisture within the wood panelling.

Decorative artist Julie-Jayne Coolen of Era Studio, Lunenburg was hired to restore all the decorative painting components for St. John's. Her first goal was to restore the starred ceiling of the chancel in time for the official funding announcement from World Monuments Fund and American Express Foundation in October 2004.

Julie-Jayne and her mother, Margaret Coolen were interested in finding out if the star patterns on the ceiling were actual constellations or just random. To assist them in their effort, Dr. David Turner of Saint Mary's University in Halifax was contacted. He determined that the star pattern on the chancel ceiling is exactly what we would see from Lunenburg at sunset on the evening of December 25, 1 AD, the traditional date for the birth of Jesus Christ.

The discovery was officially announced during the funding ceremony, which was then featured that evening on the Discovery Channel's Daily Planet Show on October 7th.

St. John's Restoration Gift Shop and Interpretive Centre

In 2002, a temporary building was constructed at the corner of Cumberland and Cornwallis Street in Lunenburg, NS. This Restoration Gift Shop and Interpretive Centre would provide visitors with insight to the fire, the restoration efforts, as well as give them the opportunity to purchase unique Restoration merchandise.

The 2004 season brought many inquiring visitors to the centre. Although tourist traffic numbers were down when compared to previous years, all visitors had a positive attitude toward the project and wanted to be educated about St. John's Heritage, Faith and Vision and donate towards our efforts.

In 2005, a small gift shop area will be located in the basement of the church. The proceeds from this shop will be used to maintain our beloved St. John's. The gift shop will include "St. John's" items such as historical books, ornaments, church figurines and stained glass items made from pieces of the original windows. Special thanks to Sharon Green who has volunteered to undertake this project with the help of the Heritage Committee.

It is with Special Thanks that we extend sincere appreciation to MaryAnn Varner, Gift Shop Manager and Rachel Jane Cluett, Assistant Manager for their hard work and commitment to the gift shop over the last three years. We couldn't have done it without you! We also wish to extend thanks to all those who have supported St. John's Gift Shop and Interpretive Centre in the past. Your support has contributed to the success of this project and we are appreciative of those who have taken the time to visit. You can keep yourself up to date with our project by visiting our website at <http://www.stjohnsrestoration.com>

Thank you!

Stephanie M. Veinot

St. John's Challenge Golf Tournament

Thank You for supporting Restoration

On August 5, 2004 we held our 2nd St. John's Challenge Fundraising Golf Tournament at Osprey Ridge Golf Course in Bridgewater, NS. We are delighted to report that our 2004 tournament raised in excess of \$50,000 in support of restoration.

Joan & Charles Carlson enthusiastically chaired this event with the help of outstanding committee heads, dedicated volunteers and the support of Restoration Office staff. This event would not have been possible without the positive efforts of this ardent team of individuals.

Special thanks are extended to our Banner Sponsors – RBC Financial Group and West Nova Fuels, our Caddy Sponsors – ABCO Industries, Charm Diamond Centres and CIBC Wood Gundy along with those who sponsored tees, greens and carts. Thank you to those who were Patrons of the tournament, as well as the businesses who graciously donated prizes for our golfers. The efforts of these key players were greatly recognized throughout the tournament and they are to be commended for their outstanding contribution to our success.

Due in part to the overwhelming support we received for our tournament each of the past two years and the fact that St. John's restoration will be substantially complete by August 2005, committee members have decided it might be unwise to hold the 3rd and final tournament. We recognize and appreciate all the sponsors and community support restoration has received in the past. We feel it best to conclude this endeavour upon the success of our first two events.

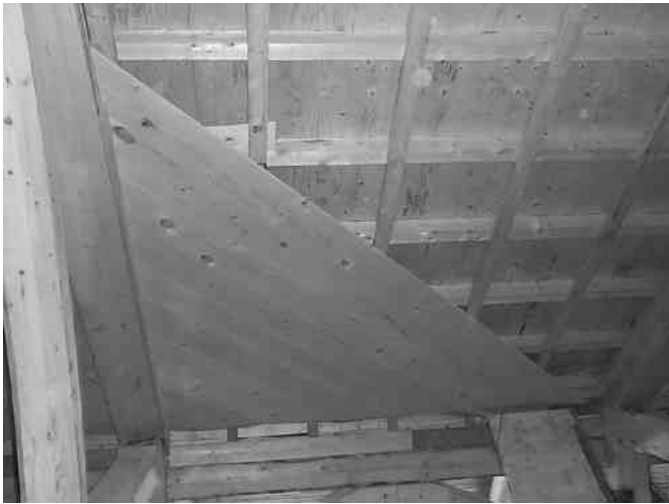
Great appreciation and thanks are given to all of you who supported and participated in the St. John's Challenge fundraising golf tournament. Funds raised have helped restore St. John's - a National Historic Site - to its former glory.

Thank you!
Stephanie M. Veinot

St. John's Challenge

Helping to Restore a National Historic Site





New tongue & groove beaded pine chancel ceiling.



Restored Oak Chancel floor with some new nosing and risers.



Newly constructed tongue & groove pine curved wall located at the entrance of the church along the north side.



Newly restored Sacristy panels and organ screen.



Conservation Specialist, Kellie McIvor is shown restoring one of the wall memorial plaques.



Decorative Artist, Julie-Jayne Coolen applies Gold Leaf on the starred chancel ceiling.



Completed Chime Stand built by Chimemaster, Peter Allen.



Newly restored "Fishers of Men" window.



Construction Chair, Ben Smith
tees off at the St. John's Challenge
Golf Tournament.



Parishioner, Darrell Knickle conducts light test
of restored fixtures.



Members of the Restoration Committee with Lieutenant Governor
Myra Freeman and her husband.



Chimer Peter Allen ringing the bells of
St. John's with a rubber mallet.

You Make a Difference!

For your efforts, your time and your devotion to this project we want to thank you.

From day one, this parish has worked hard to restore their spiritual home. It provides a place of worship, a place of gathering and a "home" where generations have come together to form a strong "family". As we all remember, November 1, 2001 changed all of this. However, due to the steadfast efforts and dedicated determination, St. John's will soon be complete. We as a parish, a province, a country, and as the world, have completed a goal, which seemed far beyond what we could have asked or imagined.

As parishioners, you have helped to make this goal a realization. We want to thank you for the difference you have made. You deserve great recognition for a parish who so strongly believed in such a challenging task and soon will celebrate its completion in it's entirety. We've come this far together, and need to continue to work as a team to get the job done. That's why your continued support would be greatly appreciated.

We have seen the bells return home safely, freshly restored and recast. We have witnessed a new bell tower being lifted. We have seen the sun accentuate the phenomenally restored stained glass windows. We have seen St. John's rise again, which is exactly what we need to do.

With your support, we will see a parish as a family again. We will see a church filled with happiness and rejoicing. We will see the smiles of contented members who so long waited to be in St. John's again. We will hear the bells ringing o'er land and sea. We will hear a tuneful song. We will hear laughter. We will hear praise. But most importantly, we will recognize our accomplishments. The barriers we have overcome. The triumphs we have experienced. The goals we have reached. Funds are still needed to restore St. John's and to help realize our vision.

We look forward to the balance of outstanding pledges being completed in the years ahead. Also, if you have completed your initial pledge, we would appreciate your future support of restoration efforts through our pew and light campaigns. We invite you to contact the restoration office at 634-7260 to discuss your continued support.

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