

## **Claremont school has agreed to purchase Memorial Hall from St. Aidan's.**

### **St. Aidan's also announces its intention to sever properties**

**August 23, 2018, Toronto** St. Aidan's has entered an agreement to sell Memorial Hall (at the south end of St. Aidan's church, facing Silverbirch) to the Claremont School. The Claremont School is the only elementary co-educational school dedicated exclusively to the teaching of students with dyslexia from Grades 1 - 8. The sale of the property will become final if the associated severance application is approved. The school would be a good neighbour and fit seamlessly into the fabric of the neighbourhood. It is our understanding that the building footprint, the tree canopy and façade will remain unchanged and that any renovations that are needed will be done on the inside of the building to facilitate the needs of the teaching environment.

An application has also been submitted to the City of Toronto to sever the property currently owned by St Aidan's through the Diocese of Toronto. The severance application will re-align the various existing lots that comprise the church property into lots that more accurately represent the current configuration of the site. (Some current boundary lines go through walls.) If successful, the application will see the church properties sub-divided into seven individual lots: (1) the church proper, with frontage onto Queen Street; (2) Memorial Hall, with frontage onto Silver Birch Ave; (3) the Rectory, a fifty foot lot with frontage onto Willow Ave; and, (4) four, individual twenty-five foot lots with frontage onto Willow Ave. that is currently vacant land. If the severance is approved, the church intends to sell the surplus lands, including the land associated with Memorial Hall and the four vacant lots on Willow Ave. The proceeds of the sales will be used to fund the revitalization of the church. The building is well over 100 years old and needs significant renovations. These renovations are vital to the church being able to continue to fulfil its mission.

No timetable has been set for the sale of the surplus lots that front onto Willow Ave. The severance application requests the development of single- family homes that fit within the constraints of the local zoning by-laws. This style of development best suits the current fabric of the street.

St. Aidan's has been an integral part of the Beach community for more than 100 years. We are a community of families, couples, and singles at all ages and stages of life learning together what it means to be God's people. We are also a community of outward looking people, active in our support of the Beach community at large through various outreach programs such as Out of the Cold, Creative Spaces and The Beach Cares, (our Syrian family sponsorship group including people from St. Aidan's, Beach United and the local community). In recent years we have been refining the church's mission - *to know Christ and to make Him known* – so we can continue to fulfill this mission for the next 100 years.

As part of the process of re-imagining and re-energizing the church's mission we have considered how every facet of the church's resources and assets might be utilized most effectively. We are happy to report the two major steps, noted above, to the parish, our neighbours and the local community.

As indicated, the severance application has just been submitted to the city. We hope that a meeting at the City of Toronto Committee of Adjustment for minor zoning variances associated with the application will occur this fall, but no date has been set at this time. The church will host an open house and information session in advance of the meeting to share more details. If you have any questions please address them to [staidansrenewal@gmail.com](mailto:staidansrenewal@gmail.com) . St. Aidan's is committed to being open and transparent throughout the severance process and subsequently during the revitalization process of the church and our mission. We look forward to being an important part of the Beach community for the next hundred years and beyond.

If you are interested in purchasing a property please contact our agent, Mark Richards at Mark Richards, The Richards Group, 416.728.2499 [mark@therichardsgroup.ca](mailto:mark@therichardsgroup.ca)