

## ***Open Budget Review Q & A to be held Friday, February 12 at the Williamsburg Lodge.***

The Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia's Annual Council will take place from Friday, February 12 through Sunday, February 14, 2010. The schedule of events, published elsewhere in this Jamestown Cross edition, will include something new this year...an ***Open Budget Review Q & A***.

The meeting will be held on Friday, February 12, 2010 from 5 until 6 p.m. in the Tidewater Room in the Williamsburg Lodge. The purpose is to allow delegates, interested parishioners, clergy and others to ask the Treasurer both general questions about the budget and specific questions relating to finance-related matters regarding such issues as employee benefit plans, pensions and clergy compensation. Understanding the budgeting process and the decisions relating to how pledge monies are allocated (priorities) is an important topic and this meeting should allow for open conversation and better understanding of financial decisions that impact all parishes.

During this meeting, topics may include how to impact future budgets by communicating program support and priorities, what funding sources are available and how they are allocated to the different diocesan programs, what monies are in restricted accounts or endowed funds and how these are allocated inside the budgeting process. In addition various subjects such as Chanco on the James, diocesan and parish business expenses, the proper utilization of discretionary accounts, clergy compensation calculations, and medical and other employee benefit plans will be discussed as requested.

Art Spooner, the diocesan Treasurer, will be present along with the current and future chairs of Program, Budget and Review (PB & R). This will be a particularly helpful meeting for those who are unable to attend the pre-council meetings as it will follow a similar format. All are welcome to participate on Friday, February 12. Information on the ***Open Budget Review Q & A*** will be posted on the website at [www.diosova.org](http://www.diosova.org).