



St. Paul's Anglican Church
70 Clyde St.,
Almonte, ON K0A 1A0
Monday, July 30, 2018

Dear members of St. Paul's,

This letter is to inform you that a Special Meeting of St. Paul's Vestry has been called for Sunday August 12, 2018.

We will convene after the 10:30 a.m. shortened service at approximately 11:15 a.m.. We expect the business of the meeting will take only about half an hour. Please attend if you are available.

Background: Recent Bequests and Capital Project Needs

As you may already know, we have received a generous bequest from the estate of Ralph Langtry amounting to \$25,000 plus his rehearsal organ which is now in our Hall. This bequest has helped to fund several projects urgently needed to ensure the upkeep of our church building, most notably, the sanding and refinishing of all the floors and the new carpeting.

About six weeks ago Bob Bassett, People's Warden, informed the congregation that he had received a 76-page report from the building inspector after his examination of the Rectory. One of the immediate requirements is to replace the roof to make the Rectory habitable. (Rev. Pat really lived up to her reputation for the blessing of animals. She shared her home with many squirrels and bats!) At the time, we assumed we would need to make a major fund-raising effort to pay for the roof, as well as several other jobs needing to be done to ready the Rectory for a new tenant.

But God is so good, and His timing is perfect. Shortly after receiving this report on the state of the Rectory, we received official news that we are a partial beneficiary of the Vern Barrett Estate (Kelsey Fund). And that once everything had been settled we would receive a bequest in the amount of approx \$160,000.

We have already received \$128,000 of this bequest (the rest will come later) and now we must make important decisions regarding the necessary capital expenditures. God has provided for us the means to accomplish all that the building inspector requires us to do and we are truly blessed.

Bob Bassett has worked very hard getting several roofing companies to provide estimates for replacing the Rectory roof, installing eavestroughs, plus work on the basement to solve the mould issues, the rotting balcony, and bathroom repairs. The lowest estimate for the roof with eavestroughs etc. is \$40,000. The contractor must be booked now if we want to get the work done before winter.

Reason for the Meeting

Before we can commit to contracting with the various companies that have been identified by Bob and approved by Parish Council as best value for money, there are some Diocesan rules (Canon Law) that we must follow.

Usually bequests go into the Diocesan Consolidated Trust Fund and a church then makes a request to withdraw the amount needed for a large-ticket item. Since time is of the essence, we need to get the Rectory ready for our new Priest and to get the roof replaced before the winter.

Our Treasurer, Sandra Cain, has sent a formal request to the diocesan Director of Finance requesting permission for us to keep these funds in our bank account to pay for the Rectory repairs and other capital projects.

However, in order for us to make an expenditure of over \$30,000, the Diocesan rules require that we hold a Special Vestry meeting with our congregation.

We will therefore meet as St. Paul's Vestry. Please mark Sunday August 12 on your calendar. We encourage you to attend this meeting where you will be fully informed about all the necessary work.

Bob will be present to explain everything and afterwards he would be delighted to take you on a tour of the Rectory so you can see what needs to be done for yourself.

This will also be an excellent opportunity for us to show our gratitude to Bob for all the time and effort he is putting in to planning for these renovations.

This Sunday morning, we sang *Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart*, and I think we can all agree we have a lot to be thankful for. Not only has God provided the finances to repair our Rectory, he has provided us with Rev. Karen Coxon to shepherd us on this renovation journey over the next few months. Praise God.

See you on August 12th.

Yours in Christ,

Handwritten signatures of Wendy Shaw and Karen Coxon.

Wendy Shaw
Rector's Warden

The Rev. Karen Coxon
Interim Priest-in-charge

Bob Bassett
People's Warden *in absentia*

Note: According to Canon Law, all members who contribute at least \$25 annually to the church annually may vote at a meeting of the Vestry.