



Holy Trinity Anglican Church
Special Vestry meeting
October 18, 2026

1. Call to Order: Opening Prayer
2. Diaconal Discernment Process: K. McLean
3. Investment Portfolio
4. Holy Trinity Chapel and Outreach Centre Washrooms
5. Close with the Grace

Diaconal Discernment Process: Katherine McLean

Holy Trinity and our founding parishes have been blessed with the ministry of Deacons for several years. The Diaconate is a full and separate ordained order from that of priests. The charge to a Deacon at ordination states:

“As a deacon in the church, you are to study the Holy Scriptures, to seek nourishment from them, and to model your life upon them. You are to make Christ and his redemptive love known, by your word and example, to those among whom you live, and work, and worship. You are to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. You are to assist the bishop and priest in public worship and in the ministration of God’s Word and Sacraments, and you are to carry out other duties assigned to you from time to time. At all times, your life and teaching are to show Christ’s people that in serving the helpless they are serving Christ himself.” (BAS p. 655)

Persons wishing to discern a call to ordination as a deacon through the Diocese of Huron’s Deacon’s Formation process are required to be supported by their parish through a motion of vestry. By upholding Katherine in this way, the parish commits to supporting her in prayer, in offering opportunities to learn the role of a deacon and by the formation of a Parish Lay Committee.

MOTION:

Be is resolved that this Vestry of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Stratford, support Katherine McLean in her discernment of a call to the diaconate and commend her to the Deacons' Board and the Bishop.

Investment Change

The Grow in Grace campaign held in 2025 was supported by many parishioners who responded with one-time gifts or pledged funds to assist with the re-roofing of the south roof of the building as well as raising funds for a part-time Children, Youth and Family ministry position. A large percentage of the gifts are pledges over five years but the roof will be completed this fall, with payment needing to be paid this fall. To cover this cost until the pledged funds are received, the parish gave permission at the annual Vestry meeting in February 2026 for up to \$500,000 to be borrowed from the Endowment fund.

After much thought and discussion, the treasurer and wardens believe it best not to removed funds from the Endowment fund but to instead borrow the necessary funds from Libro, the parish's financial institution. Libro will only allow this if Libro holds as security an amount from the Endowment fund equal to, or greater than, the amount the parish is borrowing. None of the capital of the Endowment fund will be spent, simply moved from one investment vehicle to another. The return on the investments held by Libro will be similar to the return on funds invested with the diocese.

The Trustees of the Endowment fund support this proposal as it does not affect the principal of the Endowment Fund.

MOTION:

Be it resolved that this Vestry of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Stratford direct the wardens to withdraw \$650,000 from the Endowment Fund currently invested with the Diocese of Huron and invest these funds in Libro Credit Union. All conditions of the Endowment Trust continue to apply to these funds.

Washrooms at Holy Trinity Chapel and Outreach Centre

The Holy Trinity Chapel and Outreach Centre (HTCOC) is used by a variety of groups: the Connections Centre which includes the Warming Centre from November to May, 12-step groups, the Breakfast Club, community meals, our Holy Trinity food banks and various rental groups. During the Warming Centre season, there are times when the building is in use around the clock. Parish leadership and staff are seeking to grow the number of paying rentals in order to assist with the costs of maintaining the building. The lack of a bathroom on the main floor is a hindrance to renting the available space on this floor (gym and sanctuary). The men's bathroom on the lower floor also requires repair. Three companies were asked to quote on this work. One company's quote did not match the scope of work well and we have not received a quote from one company. The third company has been asked to update their quote before the vestry meeting so that it can be shared with vestry. The quote from April is approximately \$39,000 for the upstairs washroom and approximately \$11,000 for the lower washroom. The price for the lower washroom assumes that the work to the upstairs washroom is being completed as there is some overlap in the plumbing for the two. Due to the cost of these renovations and repairs approval of our Vestry and of the Diocese is required. There is approximately \$25,000 available in the building fund of the former St. Paul's church which can be used toward this project. We also hope to apply to the Huron Development Fund for a grant to assist with these costs. The maximum amount we can apply for is \$15,000 (25% of the total cost.) Vestry approval is needed for such the application.

MOTION:

Be it resolved that this Vestry of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Stratford, request permission of the Diocesan Council to add a washroom to the main floor of Holy Trinity Chapel and Outreach Center and to proceed with the repair of the men's washroom on the lower floor at a cost of approximately \$60,000 (including a 15% contingency) plus HST.

MOTION:

Be it resolved that this Vestry of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Stratford, apply to the Huron Development Fund of the Diocese of Huron for a grant of \$15,000 to assist with the cost of the washroom repairs and installation.