

# ***St. Paul's Anglican Church, Fort Erie***

*Since 1921, we have been a community of Christ's people gathering for prayer, worship, service and ministry. We strive to always be an open, warm, safe and nurturing spiritual community for all.*

***Our Mission:*** *Equipping God's people for leadership, ministry and service, welcoming and reaching out to all, in Christ's name.*

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## **A Mid-year Parish Report from the Corporation**

July 1, 2007

One often hears in churches, "I didn't know that! Why didn't they tell us?" Well, it has been my experience that the proverbial "they" often have told "us." What is more the "they" is "us"! It is our collective responsibility to be communicating with one another; to be active listeners and seekers of information; and proactive tellers of the story of the life of the ministry in a particular place.

The Corporation is acting on that responsibility by seizing this moment to issue a "State of the Parish" report about a wide range of things that might otherwise only get reported annually prior to or at the annual Vestry meeting, or that might only be noticed by members of Parish Council. This information is vital so that we can all feel ourselves: to be "in the know" and equipped to take our part in the councils and ministries of St. Paul's. So, since we met at the annual Vestry on February 11, 2007...

### **Parochial Committee**

The Parochial Committee [composed of Bev Ashey, Frances Blair, Sue Hannah, Jack Hobbs, Sharon Insley, Kyle McCooey and Wayne Redekop] working initially with the Rev'd John Ripley, Transition Consultant, (and Canon Terry) convened a parish history event and produced a parish profile enhanced by a thorough parish consultation process. They met with the Bishop on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and have since reviewed resumes and conducted interviews with candidates. They are honouring the confidentiality of their process to the point that "I'd tell you, but then I'd have to shoot you!" has become an oft repeated refrain when we pushed for more information. Their efforts on behalf of the parish continue and we are asked to support them with ongoing prayer for the Committee members, their work and the candidates offering themselves for consideration.

### **Worship**

In the first half of 2007 we have worshipped with our partners in the gospel at All Saints' Ridgeway; St. John's, Ridgemount; St. Luke's Lutheran, Ridgeway; and Trinity Lutheran, Fort Erie, as well as the Presbyterian, Lutheran, United, Roman Catholic and Anglican (PLURA) churches throughout Lent. Especially memorable were the Maundy Thursday service at All Saints and the Old Fort service and picnic hosted by Trinity Lutheran. "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1) We celebrated the first Easter Vigil at St. Paul's for a number of years and rediscovered the power and beauty of the light of the Risen Christ piercing the darkness of light and welcoming us all into new life. We have also run the gamut of our liturgical history, making visits to the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries in our "Continuing in the Breaking of Bread" series. Through that series we saw that gathering as a eucharistic community has been the norm for more than two millennia of Christian worship, even as we experienced a great range of changes in how we celebrated our communion with God and one another in Christ. Very positive feedback about the Youth and Beyond the BAS services mean that

our Worship Advisory Committee will no doubt be asking what patterns and resources will inform the worship life of the parish in the future. We were blessed to have in our midst Bishop Clarence Mitchell (taking services early in Lent, when Canon Terry was vacationing) and Bishop Ralph Spence during his episcopal visit in March.

### **Sacraments & Pastoral Statistics**

As Anglicans we have a strong commitment to the celebrations of the sacraments of God's grace and presence. We have welcomed five new members of the body of Christ through baptism: Caroline Marie Woehl; Michaela Rae Daley; Christopher James Brunning; Shelby Janice Burnison; and Noah Andreas Gmoser. Preparation for confirmation has been begun with three candidates. We have celebrated the ordination to the diaconate of the Rev'd Roderick Hugh McDowell. Preparations for marriage have been undertaken with several couples. Five weddings are planned for 2007 and four for 2008 at this time. We have stood with the families and friends of those who have lost a loved one through death, conducting twenty-two Funerals, Interments or Memorial Services for: Catherine Edith Bown; Vera Geraldine Hamilton; Lorna May Chlischczyk; James Adams Likins, Jr.; Leona Small; Lorna Ileen Nelson; Mervin Alexander VanKoughnett; Deborah Patricia Mountain; Wilfred Richard Hicks; Barbara Ann Kellam; Esther Louise Morreale; Mary Aileen Stephens; James Peter Carther; Dennis Earl Barnatt; Virginia Bella Jamieson; Doris (Kay) Marshall; Michael Jack Mountain; Minnie Plato; Doreen Betty Beauchamp; Donald Harvey Glenny; Lothar Manfred Prager; and Charles Perry Taylor.

In the first six months of this year, we at St. Paul's have enabled pastoral care through a range of vehicles: monthly nursing & retirement home services at four different locations; Easter shut-in communion visits; more than three dozen pastoral home visits, about three dozen hospital visits; a dozen or two marriage preparation sessions and around ten additional pastoral office visits.

### **Faith Nurture**

Although one should normally expect, when a parish is between Rectors, that the educational offerings would be somewhat fewer in number, we have learned and grown in faith with a Lenten series devoted to exploring the purpose of the church; continued (and now concluded) weekly study of the *Acts of the Apostles* in our Bible Study; and offered an eight week Confirmation preparation process since Vestry met in February. The Church School completed a great programme year constructed Piece by Piece from units focused on animals of the Bible, friendship and superheroes. Our liturgical history series provided quite a few educational opportunities as well. Registration for a Lenten Quiet Day was practically nil, so the event was cancelled. It may be that we need to have fewer programmes and encourage participation more actively. This form of programme can make a significant contribution to the spiritual lives of those who take part.

### **Outreach**

The long-serving team of Teresa & William Whitford and Jack & Lois Hobbs have now retired as coordinators of the St. Paul's Kitchen/Outreach programme. Their faithfulness to this vital justice ministry is noted with much appreciation; as is the willingness of a new team to continue serving the needs of the wider community. Welcome to Robert Brooke, Mary Ann Frerotte, Sue Hannah and Frances Richardson who form that new team. They, like their predecessors, will be depending upon many others to join the team so that (many) more than a hundred hungry people can be fed with a warm meal and equally warm fellowship one Saturday a month.

St. Paul's has been an active supporter of the Habitat for Humanity Niagara build. We contributed \$1,000 (from the bequest of Charles Albert Wright); many lunches for workers (provided by the ACW, St. Nick's Elves/Victorian Tea Ladies and the St. Paul's Kitchen/Outreach); several devotions shared with workers at the beginning of the work day on site; and a number of volunteer hours working to coordinate the faith community's participation in this project. The results are: a great sense of satisfaction that something can be done about homelessness and that we can make a difference; three (out of an eventual five) single family homes built at the corner of Phipps Street & Dodds Crescent; and renewed hope for the families who will be moving into affordable homes very shortly.

A Refugee Working Group has been formed to coordinate our efforts at supporting refugees arriving in our community and to promote our partnership with others involved in these ministries. We are happy to report that our own parishioners, recently arrived from Africa, have been granted refugee status! Congratulations to Despina Niyomwungere, Nouni Munezero, and Marlene Ntaganzwa! We held a shower helping Despina and Nouni get established in their first apartment and have tried to walk alongside them as they find their bearings in their new country. Becoming aware that their new status as refugees triggers the need to pay a landing fee to the federal government, we have decided to conduct a fundraiser to strengthen the Matthew House "Landing Fee Grant" programme so that they and others can receive a grant which will subsidize the \$550 (per principal applicant) by a third. Matthew House has run this programme for a while now and have discovered that many refugees have paid back these grants making it possible for others to receive the same assistance. We want to strengthen our partnerships with Matthew House, Casa El Norte, the Multi-Cultural Centre, Primate's World Relief and Development Fund and others engaged in refugee ministries. Consequently, we are holding a Yard Sale in the lower parking lot on Saturday, August 18 to raise some funds for the Landing Fee Fund. Please speak to Sue Hannah about donations of items for sale at the Yard Sale. Please also consider making a financial donation to St. Paul's through regular offering envelopes on or prior to August 19, marking the envelope (and cheque) as being for the "Matthew House Landing Fee Fund."

We are delighted that it has been possible [through the efforts of many parishioners] to raise \$1,500 through the recent spaghetti dinner to support Colin & Christina Ford (former parishioners) as Colin recovers from a very serious spinal cord/neck injury. His recovery from this life-threatening injury has been very slow, but he and Christina are persevering. They have assured us that they have been deeply moved by this expression of support.

St. Paul's has been happy to sponsor (through the donation of space) the Niagara Chapter of Native Women's August 11<sup>th</sup>, *Sharing Our Teachings, Honouring Our Voices* community education event. In light of the fact that Alcoholics Anonymous does not have the organizational structure to apply for liability insurance, we are donating the cost of liability insurance from the rent we receive from the Sunday and Friday night groups meeting in our space.

### **Property Stewardship**

All of the ministries referred to above are dependent upon the resources we make available from God's extravagant generosity to us. Keeping in mind our vision and mission as a church, and, as stewards of the gifts of God that have been shared with St. Paul's, the Corporation devotes its time to oversight of property, financial & people resources.

### Afterglow

The Afterglow Event in January, celebrating Wayne Redekop's term of office as Mayor, raised \$7,041.37 towards the restoration of the tower steps. Many thanks were expressed to the Committee (under the direction of Don Campbell) and the many others who helped them conduct an evening with class! Those funds have been deposited in the Building Restoration Fund awaiting more definitive word about the ultimate cost of this project and a plan to raise the remainder required to complete it.

### Kitchen Retrofit

Late last year and early this year a set of events were set in motion leading to our having to undertake a major kitchen retrofit. Our phone system and alarms systems had become increasingly unreliable, shutting down or sounding off at inopportune times. We replaced the phone system [through the generosity of parishioners in the Plugged in for Ministry appeal] and it was arranged to have the alarm systems given a thorough maintenance check. It was discovered that we had not been conducting annual fire system inspections. When one was arranged, it was discovered that we were not compliant with the fire code in a number of ways. We changed a number of our practices and policies to become compliant. We reminded ourselves and other building users that hallways and fire exits must be kept clear of obstacles. We replaced a number of fire extinguishers and connected a couple of heat sensors to the fire monitoring system. And we received the word that our use of the kitchen facilities fell under the rules for commercial kitchens. We would, therefore, be required to install a fire suppression system and undertake a number of other renovations in the kitchen to accommodate this system. So began a long, frustrating and costly saga. The installation of the fire suppression equipment began in the first week in April. It was expected to take about a week. In mid-June month (what we hope is) the last stage in the retrofit was completed. Despite the tireless efforts of Julie Hannah, Buildings & Grounds Co-Convenor, (with the able assistance of Al Payne, Rob Everett, and others) disagreements and unclarity about what would actually comply with all the various relevant regulatory codes stalled progress and delayed the projects completion.

The costs have been significant. We have turned to one of our benefactors to defray those costs relying upon the Charles Albert Wright bequest for a little more than \$10,000 of the total price tag of \$13,845.22. The Corporation will meet in July to consider potential sources of income for the remainder of this unbudgeted expense. For those who like details, the costs (approximately) break down as follows:

Fire suppression system & installation	\$9,000.00
Engineering drawings	\$1,900.00
Air venting (parts and labour)	\$1,350.00
Miscellaneous related plumbing and electrical work	\$1,600.00\

In the end, we believe we now have a kitchen that will comply with regulatory requirements and we await word from a follow-up inspection that will confirm this. Many thanks for the patience of those who were unable to use the kitchen for our various events since the beginning of April through to May and partially in June! The creativity of those who begged and borrowed alternative kitchen facilities was noted with great appreciation. Thanks also for the compliance of any future users of the kitchen. In order for anyone to use the stove-tops or ovens in the kitchen users must receive training from Julie Hannah. This is vital for fire safety and to avoid a costly (\$1,000 per reset) reset of the fire suppression system every time it is triggered.

### Memorials

A number of memorials (purchased from Memorial Funds or other designated donations) have been purchased this year: a digital piano in memory of Charles Albert Wright, finally enabling Sarah Cardwell to take her own instrument home! (funded from a portion of his bequest); a collection of books on theology, spirituality and scripture study in memory of Barbara Ann Kellam; a home communion/anointing for the sick set in memory of Lorna May Chliszczyk; and a purchase of chair and table racks for the Main Hall. It has also been suggested that the unused portion of the funds donated in memory of Barbara Kellam be transferred to the Benefactors' Fund so that the parish can sustain several subscriptions to Forward Day By Day, a wonderful resource for daily prayer and meditation which Barbara promoted the use of here at St. Paul's. The possibility of acquiring a power-point projector and screen has been suggested recently as well.

### Sacristy/Vestry

Through the volunteer labours of Francis, Robert and Jennifer Learn, cupboards in the sacristy have been lowered and moved into the Vestry where Altar Guild members are now able to gain access. The resulting open space in the sacristy means that a beautiful window is uncovered. Thanks to Sue and Julie Hannah the uncovered walls have been repaired and painted. These renovations have both practical and aesthetic benefits – like so much of the work of the Altar Guild.

### Other Maintenance and Supplies Expenditures

As per the budget submitted to and approved by Vestry, a wide range of normal maintenance expenses have been incurred in the first six months of the year. These are coming in well below the year-to-date budget figure of \$5,000. Painting of the narthex ceiling and the outside of a stained glass window frame, stripping and waxing the Main Hall floor; repairing the dishwasher; repairing a pump for the church furnace; the (first) annual fire inspection; connecting heat detectors; and toilet repairs have all come in for about \$4,200. Thanks again to Julie Hannah for coordinating this work so ably.

### Property Management

A much delayed process of becoming compliant with diocesan canons with respect to the licensing of spaces (i.e. what might normally be called “non-exclusive renting”) is still underway. The first example will be put before a Special Vestry meeting to authorize a licensing agreement between St. Paul's and the Fort Erie Cooperative Nursery School. Such agreements are required when a space has been licensed for more than three years. The school has been here for a couple of decades (although the requirements are somewhat newer than that!).

### Rectory

The Rectory (with a fine view of the Niagara River) has been rented (not “licensed,” since the tenants have exclusive use!) since December 2006. Should a new Rector be chosen who wishes to live in the Rectory, the tenants will be given 60 days notice that we wish them to vacate. In the meantime, it is good that our Rectory is being used by a large family, rather than devoting the space to the occasional and partial use of the Interim Pastor. Canon Terry is staying in a lovely, affordable apartment also with a view of the water. During the first part of this year, we have incurred costs of \$1,300 in plumbing costs and repairs to the furnace.

### Liability Insurance

Diocesan policy requires that we ensure that liability insurance is available for all non-parish events. This means that we must impose an insurance premium for various receptions held by parishioners, non-parishioners and non-parish groups. In cases where the user already carries sufficient insurance coverage, the parish, diocese and Bishop are included on the user's policy for the duration of the event. "Parish events" are covered by the insurance policy we already have in place. The Corporation has written to the diocese to request a review of this policy. We would like to be in a position where our umbrella policy covers parishioners' receptions, and a number of events where the insurance premium cost seems prohibitive and, compared to other facility operators, non-competitive. Until the policy is changed, we shall continue to act in compliance with it.

### **Financial Stewardship**

#### Financial Advisory Committee Recommendations

While the Corporation's Financial Advisory Committee has been on hiatus during Chairperson Bob Potts' recuperation from surgery for portions of this year, it has nevertheless been quite productive. It is recommending: a parish-wide, mid-year communication about finances (which this letter is a response to); keeping two Building Funds – a Building Maintenance Fund (for smaller and unanticipated projects) and a Building Restoration Fund (for "lease-hold improvements," major, usually anticipated, projects); the establishment of an Endowment Fund (using the portions of the General, Orr & Scholfield Fund for which there are donor-imposed restrictions on the use of the principal) and a Benefactors' Fund (for bequests and gifts where there is no restriction on the use of the principal); the renaming of the General, Orr & Scholfield Fund as the Benefactors' Fund (in light of the numerous other donors who have contributed to this fund over the years); inquiring about the feasibility of investing (all or part of) our overdraft security with the diocese for a better return on investment; improvements in our financial reporting in the bulletin (which have been implemented in recent weeks). It has also undertaken a review of the history of our investment funds. Work is being done at present to generate a Parish Funds Directory as a tool to inform parishioners about our various funds, their terms of reference, the ways they are used and opportunities to contribute to them.

#### Fundraising

Fundraising for the operating account has continued throughout 2007 at the typical breakneck, St. Paul's pace! We are deeply grateful to the Anglican Church Women (ACW) whose Rummage Sale, Soup & Sandwich Lunch and funeral receptions have made it possible for them to contribute \$3,500 to the operating budget this year. Thanks to Margaret Payne, ACW President, and all who work with her in the ACW. We are deeply grateful to the St. Nick's Elves/Victorian Tea Ladies whose Victorian Tea (including raffles, and other activities) made it possible for the group to contribute \$5,769 to the operating budget this year. We note with appreciation that Marilyn DeBeau, Co-coordinator, has had to make health concerns a priority at this time and congratulate Barbara Steele and all the other people who have stepped into the breach. We have received notice that the group will not be launching a Fashion Show this fall and concur that it is important to pace our activities as a parish so that they are sustainable.

We have received word from the Speaker-Mabee Trustees that St. Paul's will be in receipt of \$5,700 (plus \$1,000 for St. Paul's Kitchen/Outreach) this year. This continuing and substantial support of our ministries is appreciated.

### Offering Envelope Givings

As parishioners have been made aware through the bulletin announcements, there is a growing gap between our 2007 budget figure and the actual amount donated through offering envelopes and pre-authorized payments. Our shortfall in year-to-date envelope givings as of June 24<sup>th</sup> is \$2,789.95. Put another way, our givings are at about 93.9% of budgeted year-to-date. While it is a great boon that St. Paul's receives such substantial support from fundraising activities, investment and rental income, a church's ministries are supported primarily and most appropriately by its members. This year we have not been matching the level of support we gave last year. It is our hope that more and more parishioners will review the very good news that we have to share in this mid-year, "state of the parish" report and decide that increased support will be possible. In order for us to continue to do such good work together, financial resources are needed. With givings at 93.9% of budget we are close to our goal. The budgeted target is within our reach. We are all invited to consider stepping up to this challenge.

Please also consider making use of the enclosed pre-authorized payment (PAP) application. At present 20 of the 190 envelope holders make their contributions to the parish in this way. It is a way in which our intentional financial support of the ministries at St. Paul's can be sustained during the summer months or other times when attendance is irregular. Please note that we can change the amount of our pre-authorized payments, should our circumstances or intentions change, by simply communicating with the diocesan (by mail or e-mail) staff person who coordinates this programme for parish, Ms. Kim Waltmann. More extensive use of this manner of giving would make planning parish finances more stable. If you still wish to put something on the collection plate, there are little cards announcing that you are making your contribution by PAP available in the narthex.

### The Charles Albert Wright Bequest

A slight change was made in the disposition of this bequest from the plans announced earlier this year. This generous bequest from a parishioner has been used in the following ways: \$20,000 has been invested in what will become the Benefactors' Fund to support the ministries at St. Paul's; \$1,000 supported the work of Habitat for Humanity in its Niagara Build; \$4,500 has been designated to pay for our new digital piano; and the slightly more than \$10,000 remainder has been applied to the major and unbudgeted kitchen retrofit project.

## **People Stewardship**

### A new Bishop and a new Archbishop

As part of the wider Anglican Church, St. Paul's is in the midst of experiencing changes in leadership. The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara has elected the Venerable Michael Bird, Rector of St. Luke's, Burlington and Archdeacon of Trafalgar, as Co-adjutor Bishop Elect. The soon-to-be Right Rev'd Michael Bird will be consecrated as a bishop on September 30<sup>th</sup> and take up responsibilities as diocesan Bishop on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008 when Bishop Ralph Spence's retirement takes effect. The Most Rev'd Fred Hiltz was elected by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and installed as Primate on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Clarification of the Role of a Deacon

The Rev'd Rod McDowell has taken up responsibilities suited to his order of ministry, serving in the liturgical role as deacon. In consultation with Rod, other clergy in our midst, and the Wardens, Canon Terry has suggested that we should make use of Rod in a manner that is distinctively diaconal – with focus on servant ministries. We intend to resist the pressure to treat a parish deacon as an almost priest. Rod, therefore, will not be asked to conduct so-called “Deacon’s Masses” and will work in times of urgent pastoral need in partnership with the priests that are on-call.

### Parish Council

Parish Council elected Jonathan George as Chairperson, relieving Canon Terry of the responsibilities he exercised in that role since last June. At the request of the Interim Pastor, Parish Council is now meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month (usually), giving the Corporation to meet prior to Council but after our monthly financial reports are available. Parishioners are welcome to attend Parish Council to keep current on developments in the planning and coordination of our parish’s ministries. Council has identified almost a dozen Interim Goals which it has been pursuing in recent months. A calendar of community-building events; some initiatives for promoting reconciliation in our relationships with one another; some renovation projects; and proposing some plans for promoting different kinds of growth in the parish have explored.

### Expressions of appreciation and support

We celebrated with several hundred other people from the diocese the awarding of the Order of Niagara to our own Ray Martin and Jennifer Learn on Mothers’ Day. We took the occasion of the Youth Ministry service and annual parish picnic to recognize the long service of these Church School leaders: 40 years for Ellen Ford; 35 years for Charlotte White; and we don’t know how many years for Annie Henningham! We noted with appreciation the retirement of Miriam Reddon after 50 years in the choir and Sarah Hodder after many years of faithful service in the office, kitchen and ACW. At a Special Vestry we added Jordyn Wright as a Youth Synod Delegate, who enjoyed the experience alongside our other Delegate, Kyle McCooey, enough to report on it during our Youth Ministry Service. The Corporation has awarded bursaries to Jeffery Hooper, enabling his studies at Wycliffe College, Toronto, from the Glenn Reddon Trust Fund & the Caroline Winston Griffin Bursary Fund.

### Intercessors

In light of the retirement, death or ordination of our three Lay Readers, we have created the role of Intercessor, leading the Prayers of the People at Sunday services. Frances Fowl, Jonathan George, Sue Hannah, the Rev'd Rod McDowell, Nick Ross and Elizabeth Whitton have been trained and commissioned for this role. Jack Hobbs, Ed Humphreys, Doug Lauder, and Tim Timbers have volunteered to take up this role in the fall as well.

### Coffee Hour

Problems getting volunteers to host the 10 a.m. Service Coffee hour have resulted in the Parish Council suggesting that a roster of teams of volunteers be recruited by the Corporation. These teams will be designed so that the overlap which members of more than one group were experiencing can be reduced or eliminated. Please speak to one of the Wardens this summer if you would be willing to serve

### Worship Advisory Committee

The Worship Advisory Committee has been up and running during the past year. Spaces are still available for some positions representing particular services. Speak to the Rev'd Rod McDowell, Chair if you are interested. The Committee will meet next in September and will have the chance to reflect on our liturgical history series; the request to find ways of making use of the Ten Commandments in our worship; the desire for more frequent youth-led services; etc..

### Staff reviews

While this review process has been delayed by other pastoral priorities, the Corporation will be conducting performance and professional development reviews with Canon Terry, Sarah Cardwell and John Newton in the near future.

### Volunteer Screening and Management

The diocese will be revisiting this policy in 2007/08 asking parishes to review the state of their compliance with it. We at St. Paul's have not been able to complete our roster of job descriptions or review where we are with this programme. The diocesan announcement of training, resources and deadlines will be of some assistance in providing us with a timetable and way to move towards compliance.

### Staff Vacations

Canon Terry is intending to reduce his accumulated overtime by working only on Sundays (and one Thursday) from July 1 through 15. He will be on call for urgent pastoral needs during that time. He will be on vacation from July 16 through August 12. Many thanks are extended to the Venerable Ken Cardwell who will be on call for urgent pastoral needs during that time. Rod McDowell is away from July 1 through 14. John Newton is on vacation from July 27 through August 12. He will be in the office on Tuesday, July 24 instead of Friday, July 27.

### **Looking ahead**

In response to a suggestion at Parish Council, each group and office holder at St. Paul's has been asked to reflect upon their mandate, their activities and how these fit with the parish's mission and vision. It is intended that the September Parish Council meeting will be a venue for reflecting on the responses we receive from this request. **On September 9**, when we "stir up" the programme life of the parish, we are holding a Ministry Fair! What's a Ministry Fair? It is an opportunity for parish groups and office holders to erect a booth in the Main Hall showcasing the ministries undertaken by that group or office. The excitement we have about serving in our ministries can be contagious! Do respond to this invitation with creativity and enthusiasm. We are taking this moment to celebrate the range of ministries which have been discussed above (and a few which haven't!).

The Town of Fort Erie is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. How would you like to mark the sesquicentennial of our town here at St. Paul's? Any suggestions should be shared with Canon Terry or the Wardens soon! Please also be advised that the annual Cemetery Memorial Service is being planned for September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3 p.m. Mark your calendars.

We have received notice that as a diocese, we are on the verge of beginning a capital campaign to raise \$4,000,000 to sustain Cathedral Place as our diocesan home. While the local congregation of Christ's Church Cathedral is supporting its own ministries (like other parishes) covering the additional expense of being the Cathedral for the entire diocese is beyond their abilities. We are being asked to remember ourselves as beneficiaries of this,

our “mother” church, the location of the Bishop’s “cathedra” and the centre of our worship and programme life as a diocese. The possibility of our “piggy-backing” major parish projects on top of this campaign will be considered shortly.

In the not too distant future, it is inevitable that we shall be preparing for the departure of our Interim Pastor and the arrival of a new Rector. God’s future will give us opportunities to celebrate what we have achieved working with Canon Terry and to note what remains to be done. God’s future also promises the exciting adventure of building on our past and undertaking the bold new possibilities of a new partnership in ministry with a new Rector (Bishop and Primate, too!).

As we look ahead, let us continue to pray, thankful for the blessings we have received, alert to the responsibilities we have taken up, and hopeful about where we shall go with God!

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev’d Canon R. Terry DeForest, Interim Pastor

Ms. Frances Blair, People’s Warden

Mrs. Sharon Insley, Rector’s Warden

**THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA  
PRE-AUTHORIZED PAYMENT PLAN  
AUTHORIZATION FORM**

Please choose one:

NEW    INCREASE    DECREASE    CHANGE BANKING    CANCEL

**Parish Name & City:**

**Name:**            **St Paul's Anglican Church**

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**Address:**        **32 Idylewylde St**

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**City:**            **Fort Erie, Ontario**                      **Postal Code: L2A 2L1**

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Please attach a voided CHEQUE if it is a NEW account or CHANGING BANK INFO.:

Payments can be taken on any numerical day of the month. Please indicate which day(s) you prefer. \_\_\_\_\_

I/we hereby authorize you to debit my/our account each month on the in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Payable to the Diocese of Niagara for *St Pauls Anglican Church – Fort Erie # 204*

Your treatment of each payment shall be the same as if I/we had personally issued a cheque authorizing you to pay as indicated and to debit my/our account accordingly.

This authorization may be cancelled upon written notice. Please note that we must receive the change by the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month in order for it to take effect for the following month.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_                      Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: The Diocese of Niagara  
Attn: Kim Waltmann  
252 James Street, North  
Hamilton, ON L8R 2L3