

## A Path Forward

*The Intent: Is to be clear about healthy boundaries of retired clergy and rebuild trust, in hope that Deacon Richard can, in a healthy, faithful, and effective way, become a regular attendee of Trinity Church in Belleville.*

For the next 6 months the Bishop and Archdeacon will need to see from Deacon Richard:

- No involvement with Trinity, Belleville
- Keep all the boundaries in the Retired Clergy Expectations document
- To not attend services at Trinity, Belleville
- Do not participate in any liturgies and deny requests to do so with grace and love.
- No emails or letters to the Bishop, current clergy or other leaders about this issue.
- No acknowledgement of requests from congregants about you returning. Make clear your boundaries with the people of Trinity, Belleville.
- Continue to work on finding peace with the past.
- When socializing with parishioners, refrain from talking about the church or sharing opinions about the church.
- Think about how you will embody these healthy boundaries for the good of Trinity, Belleville and your peace.

*If you agree to this, we will put a date on the calendar for you to return to discuss returning to Trinity Belleville with the Bishop and Archdeacon in 6 months. If any of these boundaries is not held the clock will start over. (Richard Deacon agreed on May 3rd to follow this path forward.)*

### **Next Steps**

- Deacon Richard's date with the Bishop is November 1st at 1pm. I (Canon Ellen) will be encouraging him to bring someone(s) with him for support and for accountability to that meeting.
- Wednesday, May 10th Canon Ellen shared these expectations and pathway forward with clergy and vestry of Trinity, Belleville and requested that they share it with the congregation, so we will all know how to help to make this happen.
- Canon Ellen asked the Vestry to make this plan as widely known as possible so we can all be on the same page and help Deacon Richard.
- If Deacon Richard has any question or needs advice on a particular situation he is to reach out to Archdeacon Tim Spannaus