

Message from the Junior Warden

We are entering into a very exciting time in our parish life! Exciting can be fun or it can be scary, especially if you are like me, and wish things could stay just so for a little longer. But I have to say I am so pleased and proud of the way that we all worked together to send Rev. Carol off into the next stage of her life. It was a wonderful event that came together in a very organic way, each person contributing their special part. I hope we can continue that energetic, fun-loving, “can-do” attitude as we move forward with selecting an Interim priest and then a new Rector.

As we strike out on our adventure I think it would be helpful for everyone to know about the milestones that we will encounter along the way.

Month 0-2: Supply Clergy

Supply priests will take care of us until the interim arrives. If you have any pastoral needs, please call me or Carol Purcell and we will connect you with a priest. We don't need to know any details of what you might need, but just that you need assistance.

Month 1-2: Interim selection

The Vestry will meet with the Bishop and Canon Michael Barlowe, who has the responsibility to assist the Bishop with Clergy appointments, on Oct 4th.

An interview has been set up for October 16th with an Interim candidate selected for us by the Bishop and Canon Michael. A few Vestry members will conduct the interview and then the candidate will preach to the whole Vestry. If the candidate is selected, we proceed to the hiring process and if not, another candidate will be identified by the Bishop.

Month 2-3: Profile Search Committee

A Profile and Search Committee (PSC) and co-chairs are appointed by the Vestry. This committee is separate from the Vestry, but keeps the Vestry updated on their activities. The committee is trained by Canon Michael or his designee. The PSC begins work on parish self-study and profile.

Months 3-6: Town Meetings

The PSC holds congregational “town meetings” to work on the profile we would like for a new rector. This is an important part of the process. Everyone in the parish will have an opportunity to give their opinions on what direction the parish should take and what we want in a leader.

Month 6-8: Profile Completion

The profile is completed and is presented to the Vestry and Canon Michael for comments and approval. After approval, the PSC prepares questions and requested materials for applicants, and gets approval from the Bishop's Office. The profile and application process is posted on the parish website.

Month 6-10: Interviews

Applications are evaluated by the PSC, interviews are conducted. Finalists are selected and given to the Vestry and Canon Michael.

Month 10-12: Selection of the Rector

The Vestry interviews the finalists. The finalists meet with Bishop Marc and Canon Michael. The Rector is elected and the election is confirmed by the Bishop.

Month 12-15: Celebration of New Ministry!

The new Rector begins residence in the parish; celebration of New Ministry is scheduled!

Whew! It will be quite a journey! As I get to know more and more about many of you during work days, and coffee hours I am more and more impressed with the depth and range of experience and talent that we have in the congregation and I am sure that we each have an important part to contribute to the journey! I have great confidence that with God's guidance we can work together to select a great new Rector!

Faithfully Yours,

Ann Butcher

“Change is the essence of life. Be willing to surrender what you are for what you could become.” Anonymous