



## ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH

### A CHANGE IN MUSICAL LEADERSHIP AT ST. ALBAN'S

#### *A message from the Rector*

“Earlier this week I shared with Justin Boyer my intention to make a change in the leadership of our music program. I have assured him that this is in no way a reflection on him or his work. I asked him to serve through August (with an exact date to be determined). I told him that we would like to find ways for the choir and the whole congregation to honor him, if he would welcome that, and would like to present him with a financial gift. I also proposed that St. Alban's commission an original composition by him, if he would welcome such. Justin expressed disappointment that he will not have the opportunity to grow the music program here, but I have assured him of excellent references, and I am in the process of connecting him with some church-based job openings of which I am aware. (For those who aren't aware of it, Justin holds full-time employment on the music faculty of Montgomery College.)

“In my phone calls to the choir, I have emphasized our appreciation and concern for Justin and our staff singers, and that that this is not a sign of a broken relationship. Justin has led our music with grace, good humor, exquisite keyboard skills, and wonderful compositions through a challenging period, and I hope you will join me in expressing appreciation to him over the next few months.

“This change is made possible by a confluence of events making it possible to call Dr. Jeremy Filsell to serve as our Director of Music starting in mid-August, as well as some generous gifts made to support such a change. Jeremy will be assisted for a few hours each week by Ms. Rebecca Kellerman. In addition to leading our adult choirs, they will introduce a comprehensive program of choral music for children and youth who will practice on Thursday afternoons/evenings beginning in September. This change will meet the objectives set forth in the January 2017 Report of the Music Advisory Group, as well as the 2016 resolution, passed during a congregational meeting, calling for establishment of a program of music for children and youth.

“There will be further introductions to Dr. Filsell and Ms. Kellerman in the fall, and further announcements about music for children and youth even sooner. For now, you can learn more about Jeremy at [www.jeremyfilsell.com](http://www.jeremyfilsell.com) and Rebecca at [www.vivocemusic.com](http://www.vivocemusic.com). In the meantime, we will continue to enjoy Justin Boyer's musical leadership, and the significant gifts he shares with us.”



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