



ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Highlights – February 7, 2018

by Laura Ingersoll, Senior Warden

The Vestry appointed Ted Swett to serve as Secretary, and re-appointed Hollis McLoughlin as Treasurer, Mary Kostel as Chancellor, and Corinna Gilmore and Woodfen McLean as Youth Vestry Members.

This was a specially-called meeting to enable the new Vestry to discuss with our Bishop, Mariann Budde, the process of discerning whether the Vestry should call Geoffrey as our Rector. To guide the conversation, the Senior Warden had offered a discussion paper reviewing the current three-year contract with Geoffrey, beginning on March 1, 2017, which provides that after 18 months (next September) the Vestry, Geoffrey, and the Bishop would “meet and determine whether it is in the mutual interest of the congregation and [Geoffrey]” for the Vestry to call him as Rector. The Vestry has sensed that after almost a year with Geoffrey the congregation is prepared for us to undertake such a discernment now, and Bishop Mariann assured us the 18-month marker is not fixed, and it's up to us to decide when we're ready to move forward. For that reason we have initiated the discernment process with Geoffrey and Bishop Mariann. The discussion paper set forth some of the ways in which we have come to know Geoffrey, his evolving ministry among us, his skills and abilities, and his vision for our future. Following robust conversation with Geoffrey and Bishop Mariann, and among ourselves, the Vestry emerged with the consensus that we intend to vote on whether to extend a call to Geoffrey to serve as our Rector, at our regular meeting on March 21. In the six weeks between now and then, we will (1) clearly and widely communicate to the congregation our intention and how we are preparing for that decision, (2) invite members of the congregation to comment on the matter to the Vestry, and (3) take certain steps to ensure we exercise due-diligence appropriate for this important decision. The Vestry will continue its discussion at the Vestry Retreat on February 16-17, and at the next regular Vestry meeting on February 28.



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3001 Wisconsin Ave NW / Washington DC 20016 / 202.363.8286 / www.stalbansdc.org