

TO THE CONGREGATION:

The Vestry has begun the search process to find our new priest. The search for a Priest-in-Charge is likely to be neither as easy nor as quick as most of us would like. Yet, this is an exciting, almost generational opportunity to set the Church on a path to flourish for the next decade, or more. We are focused on finding the best possible new leader to guide our spiritual growth and to help us to revitalize and grow Advent.

The Bishop's office directs much of the process, with The Rev. Canon Arlette Benoit Joseph serving as the Diocese's Canon for Transition. We are given specific procedures to follow and are cautioned to allow the time and open mind necessary to discern God's plan for us. A copy of the "Diocese's Protocol for a Search Process" is available on the website. Canon Arlette also offers her email address to the congregation for questions: abenoitjoseph@diopa.org.

Canon Arlette encourages us to delay much of the actual search-related work while we celebrate Rev. Nancy's many years of commitment to our Church. As such, much of the search process cannot formally launch until after we say goodbye to Rev. Nancy at the end of the year.

This important decision should be not made by a limited few, behind closed doors. It impacts each of us. We will, therefore, provide regular updates for the congregation. It is essential that a well-informed congregation work together through this process, and communicate freely its concerns and hopes. For our common purpose, the Vestry promises to be forthcoming and candid with news along the way.

Sixteen years ago, God brought together Church of the Advent and Nancy Hauser. Though we are saddened to see her and Ed leave, we sincerely pray that they have many years of happiness and blue skies ahead.

Each member of the congregation is essential to this exciting transition. The Vestry looks forward to working with each of you, as we move forward. We have faith that same God will find for us the new Church leader we now seek—if we join together to ask His help.

Thank you for your prayers and support during this time,
The Vestry, Episcopal Church of the Advent