



SPR Parishioners,

Last month, we said farewell to the Rev'd Peter Lane and his family. We celebrated in true St. Paul and the Redeemer style with a wonderful reception in the Parish Hall. We, the Wardens, are very grateful for the support the congregation has given us during this transition time.

Now we move on to the next phase. In January, the vestry met with the Rev'd Andrea Mysen and the Rev'd Victor Conrado, of the Diocesan Office on Ministries. They gave us an outline of how to move forward in planning the search process. Since we have such a strong congregation at SPR, the wardens and vestry feel that we are well prepared to embark on a successful search. We also feel that our search will be a high profile search in the Diocese and that we will have many qualified candidates.

Our first step in the Rector Search process is to assemble a Rector Search Committee. The members of the Search Committee are charged by the vestry to conduct a confidential process to recruit, interview, discern and recommend to Bishop Lee and the vestry candidates for their consideration as next rector of St. Paul and the Redeemer. We began this process with the selection of Search Committee Co-Chairs. The vestry believed that it was important to involve the co-chairs in the process early, so they could begin working with the vestry and the Diocese, and could assist the vestry in the selection of the other members of the Search Committee. The vestry has called Gail Williams and Ellen Wiggins to be the Search Committee Co-Chairs. Gail and Ellen are former Wardens who are highly regarded in the community, well organized, and have demonstrated in various ministries at SPR that they are leaders who are able to delegate tasks.

The vestry now seeks to create a Search Committee with the following attributes:

- Small group, 7-9 members who are active participants in the ministry of St. Paul and the Redeemer
- Respected members of the community
- Diverse group that is representative of the parish
- Qualities and Skills: deep listeners, collaborative, consensus builders, prayerful

The Search Committee will be responsible for completion of the following tasks:

- Conduct a church assessment and facilitate small groups in order to understand our vision, future goals, and what we seek in our next rector
- Update the SPR website and draft materials that will be used to advertise the position
- Work with the diocese to recruit, screen, interview and visit prospective candidates
- Recommend final candidates to the Bishop and the vestry
- Adhere to the charge, the timeline and the presence of the Holy Spirit in their work

Next Steps

Submit nominations, including self-nominations, for the Search Committee to the Clerk of the Vestry, Twila Jones, at search@sprchicago.org. Include a brief narrative that describes the qualities and skills that the nominee will bring to the Search Committee no later than Sunday, February 11, 2018.

The vestry and Search Committee Chairs will review the nominations and select the members (February-March)

- The Rector Search Committee members will be announced and receive their charge from the vestry. (April)

St. Paul and the Redeemer is fortunate to have a number of talented parishioners, which will force us to make some very difficult choices among the nominees. While everyone who is nominated will not be selected for the Search Committee, there will be other opportunities to be involved in the Rector Search Process.

We know that many of you will have questions during the search process. The vestry is committed to keeping you updated with letters like this one, through Sunday presentations, and other communications as needed. Also, many of you have asked how you can help support the vestry, and staff during the transition. At this time, your continued prayers for, and participation in the life of SPR will be a great source of support to our church community.

Sincerely,

Romonda McKinney Bumpus, Co- Warden

Harold Olivey, Co-Warden



Ellen Wiggins

Ellen Wiggins most recently served on the Capital Campaign committee. Prior to that she served from 2012-2016 on the vestry as Warden. Ellen helped launch Godly Play, the Women's Group, and the Garden Ministry, assisting with organization and development. She has facilitated three discernment committees for candidates in the formation process. Currently, she is active in the Healing Prayer Ministry at the 9:15 service and Co-chairs the Investment Committee.



Gail Williams

Gail Williams served on the vestry from 1998-2001, and was a Warden from 2001-2007 during the last SPR Rector Search. Currently, she is a chalice minister, a leader in the Haiti Ministry, and active in the newly formed Anti-Racism Working Group.