



December 28, 2017

The vestry and wardens send greetings to you in this blessed Christmastide!

Peter's departure from SPR marks an important point of transition in the life of our parish. Our focus for the past two months has been on saying goodbye to the Reverend Lane and his family. Your generosity in this time, both through donations to the food pantry and your pledges in support of our mission in 2018, has been extraordinary, and the vestry is extremely thankful for all of you.

To ensure that we have continued clerical leadership after Peter's departure, the vestry has been reviewing and interviewing candidates for interim rector. We are excited to announce that we have called the Reverend Julianne Buenting to serve as Interim Rector at St. Paul and the Redeemer. Her first Sunday as interim rector will be on February 4, 2018. During her time with us, she will provide pastoral care for the parish, preside at liturgies on Sundays and Holy Days, and oversee day-to-day operations of the church in conjunction with our skilled staff and associate clergy. She will provide leadership for the parish as we do the hard work of calling a permanent rector, a process that will take approximately one year.

The Reverend Buenting was a parishioner at St. Paul and the Redeemer for many years in the early 2000s, and our parish sponsored her during her discernment to ordained ministry. Since being ordained, she has served as priest associate at St. John's Episcopal Church and as Executive Director and Director of Pastoral Care at Montgomery Place/Church Home. Most recently, she has served as Interim Rector at Church of the Transfiguration in Palos Park, where she has developed a love for, and clear vision of the work of, interim ministry. She has a deep affection for SPR, and is thrilled to serve the parish during this time of exciting change.

As we move forward in the process of calling our new rector, the vestry and wardens invite you to ask questions and voice your concerns to us. We want to make the process as transparent as possible, and will communicate regularly to provide the parish with updates as circumstances merit.

Yours in Christ,
The Vestry and Wardens of St. Paul and the Redeemer
