

Dear SJE family and friends!

One piece of advice your Parochial Committee was given by the diocese is to communicate extensively as we go through this process of finding our next Priest. It is all of our opinions, concerns and dreams that are required for us to actually find the person who fits our parish.

The parochial committee has met twice, most recently Dec 6, 2022.

We had some questions to consider that we need to get parish input for:

- 1) What are we wanting to celebrate as God's leading in our congregation for the past decade, ie. not just things we're celebrating about our experience, but how we sense God moving, e.g. small groups
- 2) How do we get a good idea of what our parish wants and needs?

We came up with a few actions:

- 1) Celebration session, some way of formally recognizing the good things that we appreciate about life in the parish, and in our lives, all gifts from God. Maybe best early in the new year. Not just reflecting on the past, but also dreaming about the future. This session would lead into data collection:
- 2) To plan for data collection:
 - a) Parish Survey
Create an online survey (Emma C volunteered to create the survey, would use content that we provide). It would be valuable to have broader sense of what people value, their needs, what they can offer from across the parish.
 - b) Invite small groups to each host a discussion internally on what we might want to collect together; validating the role of small groups in the life of the church, and increasing opportunities for participation.
 - c) and initial drafts of the descriptive portions of a parish profile.
- 3) We will be exploring and deciding how best to use the proposed survey and small group consultations, with more information to follow in January.
- 4) Parish Profile: We are inviting teams involved in relevant areas to provide information for the template we are required to fill out. The headings are:
 - Hopes and Dreams
 - Location and Membership
 - Worship

- Organizational Structure
- Programmes and Organizations
- Finances
- Property

The next Parochial Committee meetings are January 3rd, 19th. The date for Celebration is TBD.

Your Parochial Committee membership is dictated by Diocese Canon Law: The Wardens, two Synod reps, and a Diocesan advisor.

We are Rev. Leonel Aboroa-Bolona, Bonnie Munn, Deborah Bowen, Mary Donkin, Michael Bowering, Graham Cubitt, Margaret Wilding and Archdeacon Terry DeForest.

Please speak with your parish friends, small group members, choir and band members, knitting group members etc. If you or they have any questions you can **ask us!! We want to hear from you!!!**