

October 2018: The Parish Survey

October 25, 2018: Questions from the Parish Survey

Following are the substantive questions presented in the Survey.

- Why are you at the Advent, and not at some other church? Or, what is it that the Advent feeds in you that is critical to your religious life?
- What is the greatest strength (or several strengths) of the Advent?
- What is the biggest challenge (or several challenges) that the Advent faces?
- What about the Advent do you think is most important to preserve?
- What about the Advent do you think is most in need of improvement?
- What else would you like the Search Committee and the Vestry to know and to consider as we go through the transition process and into the next Rectorate?

October 20, 2018: [Letter announcing availability of the Parish Survey](#)

October 4, 2018: An update from the Wardens including announcement of the Parish Survey

We both extend our greatest thanks and appreciation to those who helped make our Michaelmas celebration such a wonderful evening. This opportunity to welcome our Bishop and to celebrate our Rector's 20 years of ministry among us showed the great vitality of our Parish. In the wake of those events, we would like to provide an update on various activities that are or will be underway in conjunction with the transition to the next chapter in the life of the Church of the Advent.

Late last month, the Vestry had a very productive retreat and meeting led by the Canon to the Ordinary, the Rev'd Canon Bill Parnell. These retreats are always a valuable opportunity for the Vestry to reflect on, and prepare itself for, the work of the year ahead. That is particularly so as we enter a period of transition early next year. We are thankful to the Rector and to Canon Parnell for putting on such a fine event.

Both of the transition committees, described in prior communication, have also been at work. The Administration Committee, led by David Lapin, has been conducting interviews with Jim Wood and all of the other members of the Parish staff as part of updating our job descriptions and to work on a formal employee handbook. The Search Committee, led by Lynda Blair, has been working on a questionnaire for the Parish. This will be a very important and valuable opening step in its work. *Information about how to complete the questionnaire will be circulated by email and by regular post in the very near future. Please do keep any eye out for this in your mailboxes, both electronic and physical.*

The questionnaire is an opportunity for everyone in the Parish to share thoughts, hopes, and concerns with the Vestry and Search Committee. For that reason, we encourage and hope for a very strong response to the questionnaire. Please be sure that the office has an up-to-date and accurate email and regular mail address for you, so that we can be sure to reach as many

parishioners as possible. For those that do not use email, you will have the opportunity to request a paper copy of the questionnaire. Details on how to do so will be forthcoming.

Last, but certainly not least, the Finance Committee (led by Thatcher Gearhart) and the Stewardship Committee (led by Fran Piscatelli) are beginning to organize for the upcoming **canvass and the Vestry's annual budgeting process**. We are thankful to the many talented Adventers who serve in these various roles. We are grateful for all for your questions and input of caring and concern expressed about this very important time in the life of our parish. Please try to direct your communication to members of these committees, the Vestry, or to us.

Faithfully yours,
Thomas Brown & Paul Roberts,
Wardens