



Dear Friends,

The Discernment Team has worked diligently since being formed by the Vestry a few months ago to seek a new Rector for Grace Church. On June 13, the Vestry received the Discernment Team's report. The Discernment Team has done a thorough search and followed the current process and practices of the Episcopal Church. Discernment has involved a good deal of prayer, as well as meeting interested candidates on paper, online, through Zoom interviews, and during in-person visits in Kirkwood.

At present, we remain in the discernment process. After getting to know the candidates, and their getting to know us, a good match for Grace has not been found.

There will be a prayerful pause during the summer months as we think about and reflect on our experience so far. We will build a plan for our next steps. We have learned two important things. One, the worst thing we can do is to call the wrong person, as that would serve neither them nor us and could cause lasting pain. Second, rushing forward toward deadlines is counter to the kind of hopeful and peaceful result we want to achieve. Pray heartily and ask God to be with us as we pause and contemplate our future together as a church family.

Blessings,
Chris Ludbrook, Senior Warden
Rebecca Harrison, Junior Warden
Lynette Ballard, Chair, Discernment Team
Dick Entenmann, Vice-chair, Discernment Team

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