



May 19, 2020

Dear People of St. Paul's,

I pray that this letter finds you healthy and hope filled. This letter is to announce several changes in staff that will take place over the next few weeks. As Marissa Richardson, Susan Payne, and the Rev. Kyle Mackey move into the next phase of their ministry, we want to honor their time spent with us and acknowledge the ways we have been enriched by their presence.

I know it is never easy to say goodbye to people we have come to know, value, and admire in their ministries among us. Our "good-bye" is really a "God be with you." How to do this during a time of needing to maintain social distance is a challenge. I'm in the process of gathering ideas from other colleagues and will work with the Vestry to plan the best way to share with each of them our heartfelt "God be with you." Please expect to receive news about this soon.

Let me take a moment to honor each of our staff members who is leaving St. Paul's.

Perhaps you heard soloist Marissa Richardson sing the anthem, "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" by John Rutter, during Morning Prayer on May 3, 2020. Her performance cut right to the heart. Not only was it beautifully sung but the lyrics were especially relevant because May 3rd was Marissa's last day of her 3-years tenure as a staff singer. It is my sense that the lyrics represent our prayer for her and her prayer for us. The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Susan Payne has given her heart and soul to the children and families of St. Paul's as Director of Children's Ministries these last 4 years. I am grateful for her passion and care for our children. As she retires on May 31st as Director to pursue her nursing education we are fortunate that Susan will remain an active parishioner at St. Paul's.

I am thankful that St. Paul's had the privilege to be the first of many parish positions that The Rev. Kyle Mackey will fill over the course of his priestly ministry. As his two-year Curacy comes to a close I am aware of the many ways he has gifted and formed this community. Personally, I will miss him as a colleague, preacher, and liturgist. He has been a ready resource with his quick mind and sharp wit.

We are proud of them and wish them the best in their new endeavors.

In thanksgiving for the One who walks with us through the many seasons of life,

The Rev. Hazel Smith Glover, Priest-in-Charge