

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church
Special Vestry Meeting
July 2, 2024, 2024 4:00PM
Via Zoom

Present: Rector's Warden: Patrick Reilly, Vestry Warden: Barbara Koenig, Vestry Members: Gary Jacobson, Bill Robinson, Riley Huston, Jennifer Hanson, Chris Alvarez, Michiel Boudrez, Diane McKay, Jack Knight, Clergy: Mike Angell, Mandy Taylor-Montoya, Officers: Evelyn Hanneman, Judy Fifield

Vestry Members Michele McKenzie and Bruce Roach were not able to attend this meeting. They will be contacted by Mike and/or Mandy separately.

Mike said the opening prayer asking God to be with us as we hear the information Mother Mandy is to share with us.

Mandy informed the Vestry that she has accepted a position as Rector at St. James Church in Taos. She spoke about the call for her to stay at St. Michael's during the transition and discernment process, and the first year of Mike's tenure as our new Rector. Mandy is now called to shepherd a new community. She spoke about the excitement she feels for the work St. James is doing – robust outreach ministries which includes a large food pantry and innovative youth programs. She spoke of St. James wanting to look and sound more like their neighborhood, of being committed to deepening discipleship through spiritual formation and cultivating intergenerational community.

The start of school is pushing things forward quickly. July 28, 2024, will be Mandy's last Sunday with St. Michael's. A notice will be sent out to our congregation and St. James congregation tomorrow with a letter from Mandy.

The Vestry was also informed that Vacation Bible School will be cancelled.

The Vestry congratulated Mandy on her new adventure and will be praying for her and her family.

Mandy then left the ZOOM meeting.

Jack stated that we supply good clergy for vacancies. He asked if there would be an exit interview with Mandy. Mike responded that all church staff have been asked to complete a self-reflection form as part of their annual performance review process which is now taking place. He plans to use the form that Mandy completes as a framework to gain constructive information and feedback. The Wardens will be involved in this conversation.

There was a suggestion to have Canon Lee come to St. Michael's to inform the congregation about the larger church and the decrease in the numbers in seminary which presents some real challenges in recruitment for open clergy positions. Mike informed the Vestry that Canon Lee is currently on sabbatical. Perhaps this can be explored when he returns in the fall.

Mike was asked about what support he needs. He spoke about the need for lay leadership to step in during this interim period. An example he gave was Children's Ministry where perhaps there could be a lay position to fill in for the short-term. He has spoken to Susan Allison-Hatch and will speak to Judith Jenkins about providing pastoral care and support for the congregation. In a conversation with Bishop Hunn, there may be some consideration given to hiring an interim clergy - perhaps someone in early retirement. Another possible option would be to use supply celebrants.

There will be a send-off celebration for Mandy. She requested a "beefed-up" coffee hour on her last Sunday. As has been done in the past, the congregation will be asked to contribute to a departing gift to present to Mandy.

Mike said the closing prayer giving thanks to Mandy and to be with Mandy and her family as they move to Taos.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:47PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Judy Fifield, Clerk