

Outline of Comments by the Rev. Aimée Eyer-Delevett

Sunday Transition Team – Where Will We Worship?

All Saints Annual Meeting

Feb. 26, 2017

We have a strong, creative, diverse team dedicated to making our worship work during the rehabilitation of the Sanctuary and its closure. The people on the team include:

- Charlie Cairns
- Leah Watson
- Anne Hopkinson
- Pamela Hawes
- Steve O'Connor
- Fr. Paul Collins
- Leslie Huber
- Andy Rosenberger
- Diana Andonian

We are facing a complex set of criteria to evaluate potential sites (both on and off campus):

- 1) Adequate size to accommodate worship services
- 2) Adequate area(s) for Sunday School Classes
- 3) Adequate parking (preferably on site)
- 4) Available for use for 109 consecutive Sundays
- 5) On site storage for hymnals, prayer books, Altar Guild items, Sunday School materials, etc.
- 6) Costs

The priority is certainly to stay on campus, and we're evaluating costs and permitting requirements for on-campus options.

We've looked at a wide range of off-campus options (see the list available online) and we've already **eliminated 23 off campus sites**.

There are currently **6 off campus sites still under evaluation**.

If anyone has any suggestions for locations, please let one of us know and we will follow up.

I want to admit to my fear: **That'd we'll find a place to worship, and you won't show up.** But . . . then my faith speaks to my fear, and I'm reminded of a few things:

- a) I'm reminded first that we raised over \$10 million TOGETHER to preserve and restore our sanctuary. And that if we could achieve that TOGETHER, we're in this together, as well. I'm reminded of the STRENGTH of this COMMUNITY of FAITH.
- b) And I'm reminded of the words written in Deuteronomy: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor." These words about our ancestral father Abraham were delivered to a generation of Israelites who have wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. An Israelite community, caught between the Exodus and the Promise Land.
- c) Their wanderings remind me that this wandering is a part of our heritage. And our ancestral wanderings teach us that even as they wandered in the desert, God was there. Without tent or temple, God was still present with them in the COMMUNITY.

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- d) This will be an invitation to grow deeper as a community of faith, bound by our commitment to Christ and one another, just as we have worked together to ensure the restoration and preservation of our beloved sanctuary.
- e) Finally, I remember my call. I know beyond a shadow of doubt that I have been called by God and the Church to be your priest, and you to be my people. God has great things in store for us, and through us for others. But we must show up, and do this together, because we cannot be the church God calls us to be in this time and in this place without one another.

7) We'll hold a town hall later in the spring to update people on our progress. Please keep our beloved community and our transition in your prayers.

Thank you.