From the Senior Warden April 30, 2021

Let's start with the big news: The Diocese has approved our Reopening Plan. That means your Re-opening Regathering Committee (RORG) will now put the final steps in place to enable us to resume in-person worship at 10 o'clock on Sunday mornings sometime in the near future. The online service will continue in addition to in-person worship. Details about regathering, the protocols, the information, the way to register, will all be forthcoming in the next week or two. Michele, myself, the Vestry, and the RORG want to make sure we have the information understandable and accessible and that it goes out to everyone at the same time. To keep things simple, if at this time you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Chair of the RORG, Karen Wiedemann at karen.widemann@gmail.com.

Other news from where I sit is the new vestry and the new leadership team is getting off to a good start. Both the new Vestry and the new Finance Committee has met. In addition, the new treasurer, Frank Nickerson, myself, and our Jr. Warden Jim Pitman have met a number of times to talk about overall parish issues. Our Reverend, Michele Morgan and I meet once a week and we have instituted twice monthly meetings with Jim Pitman. Also instituted are once a month meetings that bring together Michele, Frank, Jim, and me. Jim and I take advantage of work space for us in the office and meet almost daily. I greatly enjoyed and was informed by meeting with our Director of Youth and Family Ministry Caleb Nelson Amaker. And of course, dear parish family please contact me if you want to talk about anything. I live close to the church and would be happy to meet outside or contact me at seniorwarden@stmarks.net or give me a call or text at 508-776-3256.

Lastly: Did you know that St. Mark's has a group of folks called our Elders? These are people who have served in one of the following roles for our Parish: Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden and a Co-Director of Christian Education. The group convenes at least once a year but given my history of our wonderful Parish I look at the group as a wonderful loving resource. I reached out to the Conveners of the Elders shortly after our annual meeting and extended an invitation to the group to meet with me. The response manifested itself in three 90-minute meetings with three different groups of Elders. Promoted by two questions each Elder gave words of advice to me. I wish to thank the two conveners of the Elders, Betsy Athey and Bruce Sherman for arranging and facilitating the meetings and to the Elders who participated. The experience was both affirming and inspirational. No matter if we look at where we have been, where we are, or where we're going to, Saint Marks is a church with enormous blessings, institutional knowledge, inspiration and a deep commitment to being God in the world. It is such an honor to be your Senior Warden. Until next time, go with God.