

St Peter's at the Light
7th St and Long Beach Blvd
Barnegat Light, NJ 08006

March 2, 2026

Greetings to each.

On Sunday, Gen shared her heart and her plans with the community. We are writing to clarify what happens next. But first, we want to thank God for Gen and her ministry among us. We have benefited individually and as a community. We also pray that God will bless and guide Gen and Joan as they move into the next chapter of their life.

In the Episcopal Church, transitioning from a current priest to a new priest often begins only after the current priest has departed. There can be good reasons for this, but Bishop French has suggested, and we agree, that St Peter's will be better served by starting this process immediately. To this end, the Bishop has already met with the Wardens and is scheduled to meet with the full Vestry next week. As the process unfolds, the Vestry will also include opportunities for the whole community to be heard regarding St Peter's next clergy call.

Our work will address two important issues. The most immediate is what we will do in the short term after June 14, when Gen concludes her ministry as the Priest at St Peter's. Our priority is to continue the ministries of St Peters, especially our Saturday and Sunday services. We are fortunate that Gen has given us plenty of time to prepare for this. The Vestry will also begin considering our longer-term need for a new pastor and hopefully begin an active search process in the coming months. St Peter's will be an attractive ministry for both interim supply priests and for a new Rector. Our community is vibrant and strong, and we are in a unique location. That we can offer a beautiful Rectory will also be helpful.

Please join us in praying for God's wisdom and guidance as we together consider all these issues. We will keep the community informed and involved along the way, and together by God's grace, bring St Peter's into a new chapter in our almost 135-year story.

Blessings,

Tom MacArthur and Maria Schmidt - Wardens