

To my dear Parish Family,

It is my hope that our assisting clergy and deacon know how very much we appreciate their care for us, particularly in this time of transition. To Nancy Tiederman, thank you for presiding for these five weeks. And to **Judith McDaniel**, while it is understood that you are serving as Interim Priest at St. Bede's in Port Orchard, we still consider you as "ours" and so very much appreciate the work that you do and your contribution to our parish. And **Patricia Robertson**, thank you for all that you bring to us in our Contemplative Ministries work (Centering Prayer, Contemplative Book Study Group, and the 'Day of Wisdom Teaching' and more) as well as your devotion and willingness to provide the healing services on most Thursdays since the end of August. And **Dan Fowler**, your presence at the 10am service as well as the work that you do "out there" in the island community is as integral to St. Barnabas as is the sun coming up in the morning. To each of you, our assisting priests and deacon, thank you; it is our hope that you know fully how much your work on our behalf and your presence within our congregation is appreciated.

Beginning this coming Wednesday, October 5th, we will be in the good hands of Jan Heller as his role as our Interim Priest officially begins. Jan will provide for us our pastoral care (such as funerals, weddings, memorials, etc.), our Sunday services, Thursday healing services and any other pastoral needs. Jan and his wife, Linda, have been longtime parishioners and we are so fortunate to have them back from their adventures (first sailing for several summer months and then travelling to China). **The administrative functions of church business, facilities, grounds, staff, Day School, etc., will continue to be the responsibility of the Senior Warden. Please be aware that Jan's role is part-time.**

As you know, the Stewardship Campaign is in full swing. You should each have received your letter and envelope from Ric Cederwall and Maggie Ball as co-chairs of the campaign; if you have not received your letter and envelope to turn in, please don't hesitate to contact either Ric or Maggie or, alternatively, Kathy Irvin or Julie Houck in the office.

The Elijah Project continues to move through its process which takes time and patience as we gather further information. Please know that as the Committee is able to gather and parse further information, it is your patience and support for which we are most appreciative.

I am enthusiastically looking ahead to the future for which I am certain there is "just the right Priest" for us to call, when the time is right. **The development of the Parish Profile is the next order of business and that process is set to begin in October.** The Parish Profile is the important piece of work that must now be developed carefully and prayerfully before we can then move to the next phase of work, which is the formal search.

It is because of each of you and all that you bring to our parish family, that I am filled with gratitude and confidence in our future; I thank each of you for being a part of this very special and important time.

As always, I send each of you my warmest regards,

Virginia