May 2, 2020

Dear friends,

The Diocesan Vestry Retreat is today, Saturday, May 2 on Zoom! We are excited to welcome 466 of our Vestry/Bishop’s Committee members to take advantage of this engaging leadership development opportunity. Gathering with the vestries of our other congregations within our diocese is always a warm and encouraging experience. This year will be no different.

Bishop Smith and his staff will be the presenters for the day – where we will focus on What’s Next and Why?, and how, in the words of Henri Nouwen, “we make the life of the Spirit within and among us the center of all we think, say, or do”.

The logistics will be different than our usual event at DaySpring. You can gather together in groups or individually and join via computer using Zoom. You’ll have a front row seat to the presenters and screen. Our schedule allows for time for individual vestry discussion and sharing with the group. Materials will be distributed to each of you via email, and on our website. Remember, we guarantee that the deliverables you’ll receive at this event will become a valuable part of your ongoing vestry agenda.

Our schedule consists of the following sessions, all on Zoom:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Agenda</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30am - 9am</td>
<td>Diocesan Zoom Meeting ID</td>
<td>Gathering time&lt;br&gt;Slideshow of SWFL online worship offerings</td>
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<tr>
<td>9am – 10am</td>
<td><a href="https://episcopalswfl.zoom.us/j/98169231133">https://episcopalswfl.zoom.us/j/98169231133</a></td>
<td>Opening Remarks – Bishop Smith&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Financial Sustainability in an Unprecedented Time&lt;/i&gt;&lt;br&gt;(Hosts: Anne Vickers and Martha Goodwill)&lt;br&gt;Q&amp;A</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15am – 11:45am</td>
<td>Local Vestry Zoom Meeting ID (or other plan)</td>
<td>Local Vestry Discussion and Lunch (on your own)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45-12 Noon</td>
<td>Gathering time</td>
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<td>12 Noon – 1pm</td>
<td>Sharing from Local Vestry Discussions (Hosts: Canon Richard Norman, Bishop Smith)</td>
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<td>“Make the life of the Spirit within and among us the center of all we think, say, or do”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Q&amp;A</td>
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<td>Concluding Remarks/Closing Prayer – Bishop Smith</td>
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We are emailing the Zoom Meeting ID to each registered participant, **right here**, in advance of Saturday, May 2. We hope you have determined/shared a Zoom Meeting ID or other plan among your vestry members for your local discussion session. And don’t forget to hydrate - bring your drinking water and lunch!

We have been busy this week mailing 466 copies of the **Finance Resource Guide** to the homes of each registered participant. If you have not yet received your copy, it will come as soon as possible (we’ve made 2 reorders from the distributor). This book, recently published by the Episcopal Church Foundation, will provide rich commentary and practical conversation and action steps for your vestry through the coming years.

If you have any questions, please call the Diocesan Office at 941-556-0315. If you have a logistical question on Saturday, please reach out to one of your vestry or diocesan friends, as we’ll be busy multitasking on Zoom!

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Faithfully,

Your Diocesan Staff
2020 Diocesan Vestry Retreat Zoom Invitation:

Join Zoom Meeting

https://episcopalswfl.zoom.us/j/98169231133

Meeting ID: 981 6923 1133

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 981 6923 1133

Find your local number: https://episcopalswfl.zoom.us/u/aLdbEAxbZ
VESTRY CONVERSATION TOPICS

From Finance Resource Guide

1. At present, who are the people in your congregation with a role in your congregation’s finances? How long have they been in those roles? How are you inviting new leaders into financial leadership and allowing them to discern how to best use their gifts? (Chapter 3)

2. What areas feel “mysterious” or “out of control” or “risky” in terms of your congregation’s financial health? How and when do you want to invite the wider congregation into an assessment? How long is your runway? (Chapter 5)

3. How has your congregation prepared for a disaster that might impact your building, worship, employees, data, or leadership? Drawing on your experiences from Hurricane Irma and COVID-19, what has been impactful? (Chapter 9)
Vestry Retreat Materials Links:  [https://www.episcopalswfl.org/retreat.html](https://www.episcopalswfl.org/retreat.html)

- **ECF Finance Resource Guide**
  Mailed to the home address of each person registered

- **TEC Manual of Business Methods**
  The Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs may be downloaded in English [here](https://www.episcopalswfl.org/retreat.html) and in Spanish [here](https://www.episcopalswfl.org/retreat.html). A simple print version may be ordered by contacting the Finance Office at nduverseau@episcopalchurch.org. The cost, including postage, is $20.00.

- **Diocesan SWFL Benchmark Report**
  [https://www.episcopalswfl.org/retreat.html](https://www.episcopalswfl.org/retreat.html)

- **Presentation Powerpoint Slides – Vickers/Goodwill AM Session**
  [https://www.episcopalswfl.org/retreat.html](https://www.episcopalswfl.org/retreat.html)

- **Diocese of Southwest Florida Journal and Directory**
  [https://www.episcopalswfl.org/retreat.html](https://www.episcopalswfl.org/retreat.html)

- **“The Church in Southwest Florida Is Online” Slideshow Images**
  Photos: [https://www.icloud.com/sharedalbum/#B16GcuRfIqhyy8](https://www.icloud.com/sharedalbum/#B16GcuRfIqhyy8)

- **Evaluation survey**
  Link to survey: [https://episcopalflorida.wufoo.com/forms/diocesan-vestry-retreat-webinar/](https://episcopalflorida.wufoo.com/forms/diocesan-vestry-retreat-webinar/)