



April 2, 2020

Dear St. Helena's Family & Friends,

All of us need to hear good news during this time of disruption, anxiety, and social distancing. God is on the move even in the midst of these current struggles. The Vestry and I are happy to share with you several good things happening at St. Helena's Church right now:

First, it is my joy to announce the Dr. Susan Matteson has accepted my invitation to be our Parish Organist. Dr. Matteson is an accomplished musician with a breadth of experience in Episcopal Church liturgy and choir accompaniment. Even better, Susan has served at St. Helena's in the past and knows us very well. She will commence her ministry on June 15. Welcome Susan!

Second, our Junior Warden, Buildings & Grounds Committee, and staff are taking advantage of this time to make several upgrades to our campus. All of these have been funded from endowment income restricted for maintenance, and not from the Operating Budget:

- The ceiling fans in the historic sanctuary have been replaced. No more whining motors and constant adjustments to avoid excess noise.
- New interior doors have been hung in the historic sanctuary to replace damaged, hollow-core doors and increase our security.
- A new ceiling and lighting in the sacristy and transept hallway is being installed to replace the existing damaged and water-stained ceiling.
- The once pot-holed parking lot and driveway between the Youth House and Education wing is being repaved and restriped.
- The windows on the campus – including all stained glass windows – have been cleaned inside and outside. Our stained glass windows now shine even more beautifully than before.
- The Heating/AC unit for the transept and kitchen, which was originally installed in the 1970's, is being replaced.

I eagerly anticipate the Sunday when we will gather again in-person to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Until that day you remain in my daily prayers. Our Palm Sunday on-line broadcast will take place this Sunday at 10:00am. The easiest way to access it is on the parish website at www.sthelenas.net.

Peace as we enter Holy Week together,

David+