**Search Committee - July 4th First Sunday of the month Update & July Newsletter**

The Search Committee held a join meeting on Monday June 28, 2021 with our wardens Pam McKay, and Paul Aldridge, and Rev. Rebecca conducted by our search consultant, Jane Redmont, and our Canon Martha Hubbard. The meeting was in anticipation and preparation of our search process postings for July 1, 2021. Our Parish Profile has been accepted as well as our completed two (2) accompanying and required documents: Status of the OTM (Office of Transition Ministry) Community Portfolio Form, and the TCM (Transition Conference Ministry) Open Job Position Form. Additionally, the Profile, OTM, and TCM documents will also be posted to the Trinity website per The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts protocol timeline.

At the meeting, however, Jane and Canon Martha explained why and recommended that the Search Process be paused for three months. This means that the Search Committee will publish the profile and begin receiving names on October 1st rather than on July 1st. The expectation is that the new rector will be in place by Easter 2022.

As you may also feel, many dimensions of our life together are experiencing profound change. The larger community of Episcopal Churches, in our diocese and in the wider church, are also experiencing the disorienting effects of the pandemic, and stresses related to regathering.

The changes we discussed at our meeting include the following, not in any order of importance:

1. Clergy exhaustion, burnout church-wide

2. Trinity’s new staff coming in: parish administrator; preschool director

3. Work on the rectory

4. Genesis II – Trinity Topsfield has engaged in the Genesis II program to gain insight on how to focus on the practice of building new ministry relationships within the local congregation and our wider community.  Genesis II is offering the possibility that, step by step, we can accomplish little things that will be the steppingstones that will lead us into new and beautiful places.

5. Historical stresses and conflict, and willingness to engage with facilitator Rev. Bill Kondrath

6. Need for rest: Sabbath

7. The Pandemic

Sincerely, Your Search Committee

Members of the Search Committee are: Carol Westhaver and John Wilson (Co-chairs), Ben Bollinger (Chaplain), Mark Young and Cyndi Bernhard-Sanger (Co-Secretaries), Denise Aldridge, Jan Gaboriault, Joan Campbell, and Mike McKay.

**We walk in faith together. Thank you for being a part of the New Rector Search process!**