

Ministry Report February 2021

This is an important month in our annual cycle as we come to the end of a PC year and move to our Annual General Meeting (Vestry). I want to say **thank you to all of the PC members** for your hard work in this trying year, and for those of you standing down, thank you so much for your part in this important work. For those of you staying on, we know there will be much work to do in the coming month.

Nominating Committee

At our meeting this month we will get an update to the possible makeup to next year's PC. Thank you to the Nominating Committee for taking on this work.

The Grounds

There has been no contact from Garside signs, I will follow up in the coming days. We have a proposal to consider regarding a full engagement CPTED review from Rethink Urban, and I hope we have all taken time to read it through. Steve Woolrich has told me that they would want to start work as soon as possible, with Church and community engagement work starting in March. Steve's presence in the grounds would also be happening (should we approve that work) as soon as the project begins. We have references for Steve and are hoping to follow up on more recent work he has done. I have been informed that the Diocese will expect us to have a full CPTED report before any requests are made to modify grounds.

Same old same old online world

Our online world has to remain as our exclusive way of communicating and gathering for an indefinite period. Do remember that we have daily prayers live on Facebook or shared via YouTube, details are usually given each day on the website. We are considering how we will mark Lent, Holy Week, and Easter online, both in terms of our worship and in terms of the educational/discipleship possibilities. We will spread the word widely when plans come together.

We have also had a request to consider a session or sessions to talk about the theology of the Eucharist and the feasibility of 'virtual celebration', which at present is not allowed within the Anglican Church of Canada, or indeed any branch of Anglican Church throughout the world (to the best of my knowledge) – there is already a good set of substantial theological reflections available on the Anglican Church of Canada website (www.anglican.ca/faith/ministry/pandemic-times/)

Care for self

In these increasingly frustrating and isolating times, I want to encourage you all to take care of yourselves, give yourself more time to relax, meditate, pray, or whatever gives you peace and strength. If you need to talk please do get in touch with me on my cell 250 516 9565 or with other members of the ministry team. Yes, we can be busy, but we are never too busy to make time for you. Be kind to yourself, and to one another.

With thanks for our partnership in the Gospel,

Alastair