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Dear Parishioner,

This year, at the vestry retreat and parish meetings, St. Peter's members and leaders reflected on our goals and mission. Two themes arose from these reflections: We feel strongly about St. Peter's as a spiritual home and as a resource for the larger community. We also highly value all our programs and ministries.

As we start the stewardship campaign and think about financial support, we expect our future will be different from the past. Churches still hold a unique place in society but not because attending a church is an expected thing to do. We make active choices to explore and live out our faith. We want St. Peter's to remain a very attractive place for others to make the same choices, especially as we bid farewell to Rev. Sandy and begin our search for new clergy leadership.

While we may face challenges, one of our strengths is that we work together as a thriving church community. We are well positioned to provide worship services, offer programs and carry out ministries during a time of transition. However, we must continue to have strong financial support. The great majority of our budget is for staff and when the time arrives to invite a new priest, the diocese will require solid financial standing (as you may be aware, the diocese does not supply parish funding). If you have previously provided a pledge, please prayerfully consider an increase. If you contribute but do not pledge, please consider doing so as it greatly helps with finance planning.

At a recent ceremony in the cemetery, Rev. Sandy noted how blessed we are as the beneficiaries of the contributions of past parishioners. It is now up to us to provide this same support. With this support we will confidently walk together to build our future. We hope you will contribute as generously as you can.

In gratitude,

The Vestry of St. Peter's