



September 17, 2021

Dear Beloved of God,

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.*

*(Ecc.3: 1)*

Upon learning of the financial state of St. George's last week, I have submitted my letter of resignation as Rector to Susan Dunn as senior warden. The vestry has accepted it as of September 16. I trust that God has plans for St. George's and me - *plans for good and not harm but a Hope for our futures. (Jeremiah 29:11 )*

My last Sunday will be October 10th. I look forward to having a service of celebration of our mutual ministry that day at 9 a.m. In the meantime, I look forward to connecting with you and saying goodbye. Call me at 832-922-7022 if you would like to get together or you can always join us for breakfast after Sunday services at Rigo's.

We have known for some time the excess funds which covered our budget overages would not last forever. We have continued to be amazed at all the good ministry we have together over these 10 years. Together we have ushered many into the family of faith and celebrated marriages and lives lived faithfully and those who have gone home to God. We brought to the forefront the needs of our youth in Texas City not only to area churches but the city leadership and Galveston County Food Bank. We educated children about the love of God and the importance of table fellowship and eating well with our cooking classes and Garden of Hope. We helped spread eating well throughout all the elementary schools in the County with a video we did with the Food Bank. We declared and spread Hope in not only our community but communities across the nation via youth doing Harvey relief work. You welcomed the least of these in our neighborhood and those who came our way. You have been a beautiful example of the Body of Christ, so full of love and hope.

I give thanks to God for each of you and the opportunity to serve alongside you in Texas City and Galveston County. I leave with nothing but good will towards you all. I intend to do all I can to ensure a smooth transition. Susan, Sharon, Rip and I are working to ensure nothing is dropped and you all can carry on your good work. Please know you all remain in my prayers, the Bishops Doyle and Monterroso and their staff.

The Diocesan staff and The Rev. Christine Faulstich, Canon to the Ordinary will be working with your leadership team to help ensure a smooth transition. Supply clergy are already lined up to cover the first month of preaching. Deacons Joe and Carolann will be available for pastoral calls.

Again, we look forward to celebrating our ministry together with a Special Service on Sunday, October 10th. On October 11<sup>th</sup>, I will began a three month stent as a Bishop's Fellow.

Finally, we want to inform about the guidelines laid out in the clergy manual about pastoral relationships after a transition: *“The Bishop expects that once a clergyperson leaves a congregation, he or she will bring closure to pastoral relationships with members of that congregation. The health of the congregation is dependent upon how well the transition is managed. Former parishioners should understand from the clergy in a positive and affirming way that it is not appropriate to continue a pastoral relationship. The Bishop expects that the clergyperson will accept no further requests from members and former members of the congregation to provide pastoral services at weddings, funerals, baptisms, or any other occasion of public worship until at least one year after the new rector arrives. After one year, clergy may accept invitations from the interim rector or rector, but may not solicit such invitations.”*

God has been preparing us all for such a time as this as you formed love teams to carry forth the Mission of St. George's to Love God, Love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We trust God is with us and is doing a new thing for His glory.

In Hope and Love,

Pastor Robin+  
The Rev. Robin K. Reeves-Kautz  
Rector, St. George's Episcopal Church

Susan Dunn  
Senior Warden