

4 Jan 2023

Dear Christ Church Community,

You have received a message from senior warden, Nancy Lutsko, that the vestry has extended a call to the Rev. Hal Weidman as rector at Christ Episcopal Church. My intent as your interim rector has been to prepare you for the calling and arrival of a new rector. From the beginning, we've known this day would come, and it comes as an answer to your prayers and mine.

I am writing to announce my resignation as interim rector. My last Sunday will be January 15th. Rev. Weidman arrives on Ash Wednesday and it has been my practice to depart a month prior to the new rector's arrival.

Even though we've known our relationship was short-term, we've worshiped, prayed, served, and played together for sixteen months. Bonds of affection have formed that will be ongoing. I've taken Christ Church to heart and have come to love and believe in you. My care for you will not end this month; prayers and hopes will continue for your well-being.

We will take a one-year hiatus from being in touch. Then, with Rev. Hal's knowledge and approval, we can reestablish contact as individuals. Some of my most treasured ongoing relationships have begun during interim rector service. The one-year break will give Rev. Hal and Michelle space to form their own bonds with you and will help you focus on your future as priest and people and not on your recent past with me.

It would be very meaningful to me if you took a moment to write me a note about what this interim period has meant to you. Note cards and envelopes will be available at church the next two Sundays, or you can use your own stationary and bring your notes with you. We will place a container in the narthex in which you can drop your notes. You also can email Kim at office@christchurchvaldosta.org with your note.

If you would like to get together for a visit over coffee, a meal, or your favorite libation, I'll do the best I can to make it happen. Also, please feel free to come by the office without an appointment. I'll be there each day except for my day off the next two Fridays.

God's peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David".

The Rev. David W. Perkins
Interim Rector