

## Annual Meeting 2020 Search Committee Report

*Lord, you have searched me out and known me,\* you know my sitting down and my rising up; You discern my thoughts from afar. Psalm 139*

The Search Committee is excited to share that our Community Ministry Portfolio has been published and we will now begin to receive names!

Our search committee was commissioned by the Vestry in May of 2019 and began the discernment process with a comprehensive parish survey (we thank you ALL for the input you've provided us!) Following the completion of the survey, the search committee facilitated a parish wide focus group, with careful attention paid to capturing the comments of each participant. Our desire as a search committee was to blend the needs and aspirations of our current congregation with Ware's long and rich history as we transition to our next chapter of ministry. This we will continue to do prayerfully, in seeking to do God's will.

This is the time when confidentiality is most important. We will not be able to share information about candidates, not even the number of applications or where they come from, with ANYONE, including the Vestry. We will be entering this phase with continued prayer support from the congregation, keeping an eye on the gifts you have articulated in your responses for the parish's needs. Remember God's warning to Samuel as he sought the next King of Israel: "Do not consider their appearance or height, for I have rejected them. The Lord does not look at the things that people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." We are seeking the **parish's** priest.

Thank you for your continued support,

Elizabeth Roane, Bryan Hartley, Mary Montague,

Chuck Crook, Susan Jenkins, Wes Jones, Rick Zima

*Almighty God... We beseech you to guide us in our search for the one, who even now is being called to shepherd your flock at Ware Church.*