

Dear saints in Fernandina Beach,

I am honored and excited to accept the call to serve as the 20th Rector of St. Peter's Church. I am grateful to Bishop Howard, to the Wardens and Vestry, and to the Search Committee, for this trust placed in me. My spouse Carly, and children Luke (age 10) and Maggie (age 8), will move to town in the next few weeks as we prepare to take our place among you and with you.



In a meeting with your Vestry last week, I talked about my impression that you are a group of people who love Jesus and want to bring other people to know and love him, too. I said it seems to me that you know who you are, and know who you want to be. From the little time I've spent in the parish so far, I know that this impression will only deepen as we come to know each other more.

St. Peter's is full of people who love the church. You have beautiful and well-kept space for ministry. You clearly have a desire to love and serve your neighbors. All of these things excite me. But most of all, you and I have the ministry of Christ, who desires to restore all people to unity with God and each other in himself. I cannot wait to begin our work in that ministry together. I am praying for you already, and I ask your prayers for my family and me.

God bless you until we meet on the island. In the meantime, I am

Your servant in Christ Jesus,

The Rev. Joseph R. Woodfin

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