



July 18, 2019

Dear People of St. Paul's,

I am writing to introduce our new full-time associate rector. Or perhaps I should say re-introducing. Following a thorough process (see the attached letter from Bill Phillips) I have asked the Rev. Julie Graham to transition to fill the full time position we have been seeking.

Julie brings over 25 years of ordained ministry experience. She began her ministry serving in two parishes similar to ours in Orinda and Walnut Creek. She also served as a half time associate priest in a newly planted mission congregation that met in a former Chuck E. Cheese pizza parlor!

Julie served for eight years as the coordinator for Youth and Young Adult Ministries in our Diocese. While there she pioneered many innovative programs at the diocesan level and in parishes throughout the Bay Area.

In 2009, Julie assumed responsibility for our Ministry with Children and Families. In her time here she has created the pray-grounds, she has founded M.O.M.s and parents' groups, built a team to produce our famous Christmas pageant and, just this Lent, initiated a new small group called the Way of Love.

I believe Julie will build on the relationships she already has with members of St. Paul's, and create new relationships as well. She brings enthusiasm and wisdom to our upcoming work of responding to the changing religious landscape.

Julie will begin her new position on August 11. Julie will continue her work with families of young people and will be spearheading our efforts to be a welcoming place for those seeking a church home.

We are in the final stages of appointing a half-time pastoral associate, and I look forward to sharing more news of our new staff team and our next steps in August.

Faithfully,

Thomas