



March 11, 2013

To All Members of the Parish

Yesterday, March 10, 2013, the Vestry approved unanimously, the 2013 – 2017 Mission and Ministry Plan for Saint Paul Episcopal Church, Columbia, PA. This Mission and Ministry Plan has been “in the works” for over 20 months.

The members of the Mission and Ministry Committee, under the leadership of Tracy Witmer, have worked hard through dozens of committee meetings, four all-parish meetings, and significant time in small group meetings and individual work to bring this plan together. Their dedication, hard work, prayer, and discernment overcame all hurdles to bring what you see here to fruition. Their commitment to involve every member of the parish was the right course of action and our Mission and Ministry Plan is the richer for it. We owe Tracy and her entire committee a debt of gratitude that can never be fully expressed in words.

It is important that you take the time to read the Plan in its entirety. Then pray – pray that you will discover how you can help our Parish Family achieve the mission and ministry goal that the plan lays out for us. One thing is clear – each member of the parish must take personal and individual responsibility for the continued existence and growth of this parish. We can no longer rely on having the “priest do it” or “it’s the Vestry’s job.”

Take this booklet and put it in your bible, or on your refrigerator, or on your nightstand. Read it over often. Pray about it daily. Together we can achieve all that God desires and wants for us. There is nothing we cannot do together with the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit. Over the next five years, this document will guide our future. It will help us to decide how to use our resources of time, talent, and treasure. It will determine our future as a Parish Family. That is important.

Serving the people of this parish is truly a joy and a treasure. I look forward to many more years of “Together Building the Kingdom of God.”

Peace and Blessings.

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