



April 8, 2019

Chapel Friends,

I pray you and your family are very well and enjoying a meaningful Lent. There is a lot going on at the Chapel of the Cross and I want to share exciting news with you, specifically about our celebration of Holy Week and Easter, our Groundbreaking this Sunday (Palm Sunday, 14 April), and the latest on our new worship space.

First of all, Holy Week is almost here! We will mark the holiest week of the year with several worship opportunities, all of which are outlined on the enclosed card. Please stick the card on your fridge, stash it in your pocketbook or knapsack, and join us for as many as you can. A few I want to highlight: on Maundy Thursday our guest preacher is Kirk LaFon, Chaplain at St. Andrew's School, and we will enjoy one of my favorite occasions of the year, the Agape Supper hosted by the Hospitality Committee. On Good Friday, we will welcome back our Bishop to preach at noon. And Easter Sunday, we will revel in the festivity of the greatest day at 7:30, 8:45, 11, and 5, with a Easter Egg Hunt for all ages at 10. We look forward to a great week.

Second, we have reached some major milestones in the process towards completing our new worship space. The Finance Committee and Vestry have approved a final budget for the project of \$4,648,231, we have signed a financing agreement with Bank First, we have signed a contract with Probity to be our contractor, and we signed a letter of intent with the Noack Organ Company to build a traditional pipe organ for the new space. Each of these are profoundly significant and I am so grateful for the leadership, wisdom, and discernment of the Building Committee, Finance Committee, and Vestry who so deftly navigated these processes. If you are interested in further details, please ask.

Hence, and finally, this Sunday (Palm Sunday, 14 April) at 10 we will take another important step and celebrate a groundbreaking. With music, prayers, and thanksgiving we will finally "turn dirt" and begin the next phase of the project. I hope you and your family will be there.

Phew! That's a lot! I am so thankful for each and everyone of you who do so much to make the Chapel such an excellent parish. And more importantly, I give thanks to God for blessing us with the opportunity and ability to be a sacred space and witness to God's love in Madison County. As Paul wrote to the Church in Ephesus, "glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever." Amen. See you at the Chapel.

Keep the Faith,

The Rev. Ben G. Robertson, IV

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Rector

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*Welcoming the stranger,
nurturing one another,
and guided by the Holy
Spirit, the Chapel of
the Cross strives to live
the mission of Jesus
Christ through prayer,
traditional liturgy,
Christian education,
active outreach, and love
of all God's creation.*
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