

**The Mission of Saint Boniface
is to continue Christ's ministry in the world
through worship, teaching, healing and service.**

All people are welcome here! We are an inclusive, progressive congregation, holding fast to the best traditions of the past and willing to explore the new places God may lead us.

We are a large and diverse community of faith. We invite you to join one of our ministry or program groups where you will be personally supported, spiritually and intellectually challenged, and encouraged to make a difference in the world.

We are committed to excellence in

- **worship with sound preaching and quality music**
- **education and programs with equal focus on children, youth, and adults**
- **service to our community and beyond with our financial and personal resources.**

Our vision is for our parish to be the best the Episcopal Church can be.

Old version with strikeouts and rationale

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We are an inclusive, progressive congregation, holding fast to the best traditions of the past and willing to explore the new places God may lead us.

We are a large and diverse community of faith. We invite you to join one of our ~~small groups~~ where you will be personally supported, spiritually and intellectually challenged, and encouraged to ~~exercise your ministry as a Christian.~~

Rationale: "small groups" is a moniker for special ministries in some churches. We adopted it after a workshop some years ago, but in retrospect we never developed "small groups" although we assertively developed ministries and programs. Changing to "ministry or program groups" makes "encouraged to exercise your ministry" awkward in the same sentence. Substitute "encouraged to make a difference in the world."

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Rationale: This is important to us and should be first up, relocate to top of the statement.

~~The Episcopal Church is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion, some 79 million Christians who find their spiritual roots in the Catholic and Protestant traditions.~~

Rationale: This important part of our identity is not unique to St. Boniface and can be proclaimed in places other than our mission statement.

~~With St. Margaret's Church, Sarasota and St. Edmund's Church, Arcadia, we are members of the Route 72 Coalition of Episcopal Churches, a partnership created to share resources and strengthen the congregations of the Diocese of Southwest Florida.~~

Rationale: The coalition is no longer a "front page" item. We began the coalition in July 2003, and its heyday was the hurricane relief of 2004 and our 50th anniversary three year financial commitment to fund a second priest at St. Margaret's. By 2007 St. Margaret's abandoned its growth project and St. Edmund's was self funding a part time priest. The coalition exists in memory and friendship, and the weekly bible study by the clergy of St. Boniface and St. Margaret's. If mission needs develop, it could become front page again.