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Church of the Redeemer

Dear friends:

I'm very pleased to let you know that The Redeemer will have a new Associate Rector beginning August 1, 2017. I have asked the Rev. Jo Ann Jones to join the staff, and she has gladly accepted the call.



Jo Ann was ordained to the transitional diaconate at the Philadelphia Cathedral this June, after graduating from General Theological Seminary, and though she is a recent ordinand, she has a long and distinguished history within the Diocese of Pennsylvania. She has been a member of the African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas for several decades, serving as both a vestry member and a rector's warden. In addition, she served the diocese, the national church, the community as a member of the diocesan Standing Committee, a Lay Delegate to General Convention, and a member of the board of Episcopal Community Services. Most recently, while studying at GTS, she was for two years a part-time intern at Saint David's in Wayne.

Jo Ann was raised in Baltimore and graduated from Swarthmore College and the University of Maryland School of Law. She spent most of her professional life practicing law within the city of Philadelphia, concentrating in public housing.

Jo Ann proved to be sharp and insightful in her interviews, and she showed a clear command of both our posted job description and the expanse of The Redeemer's many programs described on our website. She was impressed with the formation work we have begun and is eager to help further develop the full range of our formation and mission/outreach opportunities. Jo Ann's own ordination and late vocation is the culmination of a calling that she patiently pursued in various forms for many years. Her attention to her own responsibility in discipleship informs her sense of what formation is and should be. She brings with her a deep knowledge of urban issues and a thoroughly grounded sense of how to actively engage issues of importance to the church. My goal, as always with a multiple clergy staff, is to form a team that is diverse and complementary, so that collectively we can give voice and effectively respond to the needs and hopes of the whole congregation. Jo Ann will help us do that.

The expansion of this position from half-time to full-time provides us more and better opportunities for program development and growth. I am delighted that Jo Ann comes to us with such a broad array of experience, skill, and knowledge of the diocese and the greater Philadelphia area. I hope that you will warmly welcome her to The Redeemer.

Peter

The Rev. Peter Vanderveen, Rector
Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr

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