



July 20, 2017

The Episcopal  
Church of The Good Shepherd

Pamela Dolan  
Rector

Dear Good Shepherd Friends and Family,

For the past several days I have stared at the line on my to-do list that reads, "Write Farewell Letter" and I skip right past it, having no idea how to begin. It is hard to say goodbye! This parish has been and will continue to be so important to me. I am honored by the times we have shared and the ways you have allowed me into your lives, in good times and in bad.

As most of you know by now, I have accepted a call to be rector of the Church of St. Martin in Davis, California. This is a homecoming of sorts, as I grew up just a few miles down the highway in the town of Vacaville before we set off for the Pacific; furthermore, almost all of my family still lives in California. So I am grateful for this opportunity to return to my home state. At the same time, we have been very happy here during our twelve years in this Diocese and especially during my time as your rector and I will miss you all.

We all know that transitions can be times of anxiety. However, I strongly encourage you to move forward with confidence into the future God desires for you. God will, in due time, provide you with an interim rector and then a new rector. But meanwhile God is providing you with so much right now: great clergy in the form of Susan, our deacon; and Maria, our priest associate; great lay leadership from Joanne and the whole Vestry; and a great Diocese that cares very much about this parish. Most of all, of course, God provides you with one another, with your wonderful gifts for outreach and community, worship and fellowship. You have all that you need!

My last Sunday is August 20 and then I leave for Tanzania. I hope you will be so good as to pray for me and my family during this time of transition, as of course I will be praying for all of you.

Blessings,

*Pamela +*