

April 4, 2022

Friends,

The people of The Episcopal Church of the Atonement in Westfield have called the Reverend Sandi Albom to serve as interim effective August 1st.

Atonement has enjoyed the inspired leadership of the Reverend Nancy Webb Stroud, rector since 2009. I am deeply grateful for Nancy's ministry and for her service to our diocese and the wider Church. A beloved rector prepares to leave and that is never easy. But we are glad that the timing is right for Sandi to leave her work in East Longmeadow and walk with the people of Atonement through the work of transition.

After a 40-year career in nursing and corporate healthcare consulting, Sandi earned the Master of Divinity degree and a Certificate in Anglican Studies from the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, MA. She was ordained to the priesthood in 2018 by The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld, Bishop of The Episcopal Church in New Hampshire. She is the convener of Recovery Ministries of the Episcopal Church in New Hampshire and began a "recovery dinner church" in Manchester. Sandi also serves as an at-large member of the Board of Directors of The Recovery Ministries of the Episcopal Church. With over 400 hours of CPE, and certified as a spiritual director, Sandi's ministry has a focus on pastoral care and retreat work. She and her husband, Bob, live in Windsor Locks, CT.

Sandi's interim at St. Mark's has been a blessing. I have no doubt her efforts in Westfield will yield good fruit. I ask your prayers for Nancy and for Sandi as one chapter ends and another begins for God's mission at The Episcopal Church of the Atonement.

The Rt. Rev. Douglas J. Fisher

IX Bishop of Western Massachusetts