



St. John's Episcopal Church
214 North Sixth Street
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901
479-782-9912

May 1, 2008

Dear Friends:

As many of you know who have gone through this process before, we must now say goodbye to our beloved priest and friend, Father Danny Schieffler. We have been truly blessed during these past nine years while Danny has been at St. John's. Our parish has grown and flourished under his guidance and friendship and love and I know this will be a difficult time as we say good-by to him and his family. But I also know that God's love is with each of us and we will continue to work as a parish to share God's love with the Schiefflers as they move forward in their journey and with each other as we proceed in our own journeys of faith.

As your Senior Warden, I have talked at length with Bishop Benfield and together with the Rev. Dennis Campbell, Canon to the Ordinary, we have already started working toward an orderly transition. I plan to call a special vestry meeting next week to discuss the plans set forth by the Bishop. Of course, Marti is very willing to continue with her ministry at St. John's during the coming months until such time as we have formed a search committee and begin the search process.

Please call or email me anytime you want to discuss anything that concerns you and know that each of you is in my prayers.

In peace and love,

Louise Watts
Senior Warden