

January 2016

My dear friends,

Happy New Year!

We get to say this twice: first on the First Sunday of Advent—the beginning of our church calendar year—and now at the beginning of the calendar year. Beginnings are a wonderful thing—full of hope, ideas, clean slates and second chances. What a perfect picture of our Christian life together. Each new day is an opportunity to start fresh, knowing that we are forgiven, restored and filled with the love of God.

On January 17th we will have our Annual Meeting. We'll begin with our Sunday worship and then share brunch together. We'll elect wardens, vestry members and share thoughts on the past year and plans for the coming year. 2016 will be a year of learning, growing and reaching out. The new opportunities we have in front of us are exciting. Some may look like challenges, but they are truly opportunities for expressing our love for God, for each other and for God's whole creation.

In closing, I'd like to remind you of the Advent candles that we lit each week:

HOPE, PEACE, JOY AND LOVE

This is my New Year's wish for all of us—that we have a year of hope, peace, joy and love—living it, feeling it and sharing it.

Your Sister in Christ,

Mother Bonnie+