

# St. Philip / St. Matthias Discernment Update #5

January 22, 2026

Dear St. Philip Friends,

We are grateful to those of you in the parish who have been able to attend the Wednesday drop-in meetings or who have provided your thoughts through email and conversations with us. Your engagement in these ways is immensely appreciated.

## **Discernment Process**

Out of these conversations and communications, further questions have emerged, one being that of process and what stage we view the discernment process to be at.

Currently this can best be described as **information gathering** and inclusive of:

- Seeking to answer the questions put forward at the July 27<sup>th</sup> congregational meeting
- Meeting with the St. Matthias wardens to determine if we have a common understanding of what a potential future of St. Matthias and St. Philip would be implemented

## **Communication, communication, communication...sometimes thwarted by technical issues:**

Throughout this period, we are relying on clear and informative communication. We are aware our efforts are complicated as some parishioners are not receiving updates sent from our [wardens@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:wardens@stphilipvictoria.ca) e-mail account. Those with Shaw e-mail addresses seem to be most vulnerable, but it seems other addresses are also affected.

- If you are aware of someone who is not receiving updates from this address (or [admin@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:admin@stphilipvictoria.ca), or maybe St. Philip Anglican Church), please let us know. We will do our best to ensure everyone receives information in a timely manner and will provide the missing communication via individual e-mails.
- Each Sunday we will make available some copies of the most recent update, available in the Narthex

### **Two more drop-in opportunities:**

Our next scheduled drop-in times are:

- Wednesday, January 28th, 7:00-8:00 PM downstairs in the church (there is a choir practicing upstairs)
- Thursday, January 29th, 12:00-1:00 PM upstairs in the church

If you have already attended and would like to drop in again, you are most welcome and if you have not had an opportunity to attend, we hope you might be able to make it to one of these sessions.

Through these efforts, we hope to have enough information that will help St. Philip parishioners decide if we should proceed with a formal discernment process.

We are constantly reminded of how we are a family, and families may experience times when differences seem difficult. We remember that through the grace of God we continue to love and look for ways we are united. May love and unity be both our guide and our goal. Thanks be to God!

Peace and grace,

Judith and Larry