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November 1, 2024

Dear friends,

I am thrilled to be here in the Diocese of Islands and Inlets in this new role created to better support the wonderful parishes and people across this diocese. I'm grateful that Bishop Anna and Diocesan Council created this position and offered me the opportunity to follow this call here in the diocese, and I'm excited to do this work with all of you.

The heart of my ministry is enabling people to live fully into who God created them to be, and I am particularly passionate about walking alongside parishes in the work of being communities where that holy process takes place. I have gained experience doing this over the last eight years as a trainer for the College for Congregational Development, and I have consulted with congregations using the tools from that work which include congregational development, organization development, leadership development, conflict management, and cultural competency. I've also worked with and led two bishop search processes and served on the team that assisted the bishop with the discernment process for Holy Orders. These experiences further confirmed my desire to accompany people in the hard, holy work of transitions and ministry discernment. Through all of this, I discovered a call for working individuals and communities as they discern how God is calling them in their own unique ministries. As we do this work, I care deeply about bringing the processes of our Church in line with the faith and values we profess, keeping our baptismal vows to seek and serve Christ in all persons and respect the dignity of every human being at the center of our work.

In this role as Canon for Lay-led Parishes and Parishes-in-Transition, I will be working with lay-led congregations, those who are not served by settled clergy, and parishes who are going through major transitions, whether that be a clergy transition or something else. As we approach this work, I believe there is so much possibility for us as a church when we use together the best of tools from secular and religious sources in order to live out the depths of our faith in our own time and place. I hope to practice this with you all as we work together to make our parishes and life together more faithful, vital, and healthy. But whatever I bring, I also come to this work knowing deeply that all of you are the experts in your own ministry. We only live out our calls in the particular places and times that we live in, and I cannot support and encourage your ministry without knowing the context you serve in. I've already begun traveling around this beautiful diocese and am so excited to explore and learn more about your ministry and the places and people you serve.

I am so glad to join Bishop Anna and the rest of the synod staff in supporting you in your ministry. If you are in a parish that is lay-led or facing a transition, we have either already met or you will be seeing and hearing from me soon! Please don't hesitate to reach out if I can help. I look forward to sharing in ministry with you and discovering together how God will work among us, held in the knowledge that it will be infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.

Peace,

The Rev. Canon Jenny Replogle