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**St. Stephen's  
Episcopal Church**

# Press Release

## **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Holds Annual Meeting**

Parish thanks departing leaders for their service and hears from new rector

**Pittsfield, MA, February 19, 2021:** Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church held its 2021 Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 14. In accordance with current public health guidelines, the meeting was conducted virtually. Officers and members of the Vestry were elected. The church's budget for 2021, as developed by the Treasurer and Finance Committee, was adopted.

The parish also thanked and honored two key leaders for their vital contributions as they stepped away from their roles.

The Rev. David DeSmith served faithfully as Bridge Rector at St. Stephen's for several months after the unexpected and heart-rending death of the Rt. Rev. John Tarrant, who was serving as Interim Rector. David's steady hand, pastoral compassion, and inspiring preaching helped the parish navigate a most difficult time.

Tom Dillon served St. Stephen's as Co-Warden for four often challenging years. The parish thanked Tom for his dedication, his calm approach to leadership, and his gentle sense of humor, all of which he employed gracefully while leading the parish through several major transitions.

A prerecorded message from new rector Rev. Dr. Nina Pooley closed the meeting. The Rev. Dr. Pooley was called to St. Stephen's in December 2020, and after relocating from Maine, assumes her leadership role at the church this month.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church has been serving of the Pittsfield community for more than a century. Due to the current public health crisis, all worship services are being held virtually and can be accessed via the church's website at [www.ststephenspittsfield.org](http://www.ststephenspittsfield.org). Through its feeding program, St. Stephen's Table, the parish serves hot nutritious dinners to people in the Pittsfield community every Thursday and Friday.