



The Church of the Holy Comforter

543 Beulah Rd NE Vienna, VA 22180 ▪ 703.938.6521 ▪ www.holycomforter.com

The Rev. Jon C. Strand, Rector
 The Rev. Ann H. Gillespie, Sr. Associate Rector
 The Rev. Jackie Thomson, Pastoral Associate

May 28, 2024

To our neighbors on Cynthia Lane and John Marshall Drive:

The church of the Holy Comforter would like to share with you information about an exciting solar project that will start this summer. The Episcopal Diocese of Virginia set a goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030. In 2023 Holy Comforter launched a "Solarize the Campus" project to turn this goal into reality. The project plan includes installing solar panels on our campus to enable use of clean energy and foster the care of God's creation. A newly constructed solar array will support the primary set of solar panels in the center section of our lower parking lot. We are pleased to share that the project is progressing, including permitting with the Town of Vienna. Our parking lot array will produce approximately 76% of our total electrical needs annually! The remaining 33% will be achieved by solar panels on the roof of our chapel and McGill Hall, both located on the front of our campus facing Beulah Road. We are not planning on installing solar panels on our high-pitched Sanctuary roof.

As this will be a visual change to our campus, we wanted our neighbors to be informed. In addition to the solar array, we will improve the lighting of the lower parking lot (down pointing side-shielded lighting), with approval by the Town of Vienna. The solar array structure will be approximately 13' high with a 5-degree tilt (mostly flat).



We are holding our quarterly congregation **Town Hall on Sunday June 2 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** in our Community Hall. While we use our quarterly Town Halls to update our congregation on the life of our parish, the primary topic will be our solar project. We are inviting you to attend. In addition to a full presentation on this project there will be time for Q&A. If you are unable to attend this Town Hall meeting and have questions about our solar project, please contact our Church Office (703-938-6521).

Sincerely,

The Rev. Jon Strand, Rector
 David Grove, Sr. Warden
 Kathy DeSanti-Paulini, Jr. Warden

*Attn BAR Members:
 Please know this
 letter/notice
 was hand delivered on
 May 30th 2024 to
 all surrounding neighbors*