

BRIEF ON RECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Falls Church Episcopal
March 2, 2020

OUR PRAYER

Almighty God, thank you for the blessings you have bestowed upon this church, and for the guidance you continue to provide. In this time of transition, allow us to hear the Holy Spirit through the congregation. We pray for the gifts of listening, wisdom, patience, trust, and strength so that we may discern your will in choosing a rector who will help our parish fulfill its vision and mission.

WHO AND WHAT IS THE SEARCH COMMITTEE?

The vestry appoints a Discernment Committee, also referred to as a Rector Search Committee.

The Rector Search Committee has a few primary responsibilities:

- Listen and Learn from the Congregation*
- Publish a vestry-approved and Bishop-approved Community Ministry Portfolio, which describes the church to potential candidates*
- Receive names and interview persons*
- Select a finalist after the Diocesan Office of Transition Ministry vets the candidate*
- Submit the finalist to the vestry to be approved*

[Not a responsibility of the Discernment Committee, but the final step is an agreement between the vestry, candidate, and Bishop]

The Committee at Falls Church Episcopal

Mark Hadley, Chair; Walt Cooper, Walker Hardy, Stephanie Pegues, Lara Ramsey, Carla Wilson, Maury Wray

WHAT GUIDES THE WORK OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE

“Christian discernment is not the same as decision making. Reaching a decision can be straightforward: we consider our goals and options; maybe we list the pros and cons of each possible choice; and then we choose the action that meets our goal most effectively. Discernment, on the other hand, is about listening and responding to that place within us where our deepest desires align with God’s desire. As discerning people, we sift through our impulses, motives, and options to discover which ones lead us closer to divine love and compassion for ourselves and other people and which ones lead us further away.”

-Henri Nouwen

HOW DOES THE COMMITTEE DO ITS WORK?

Meeting Cadence

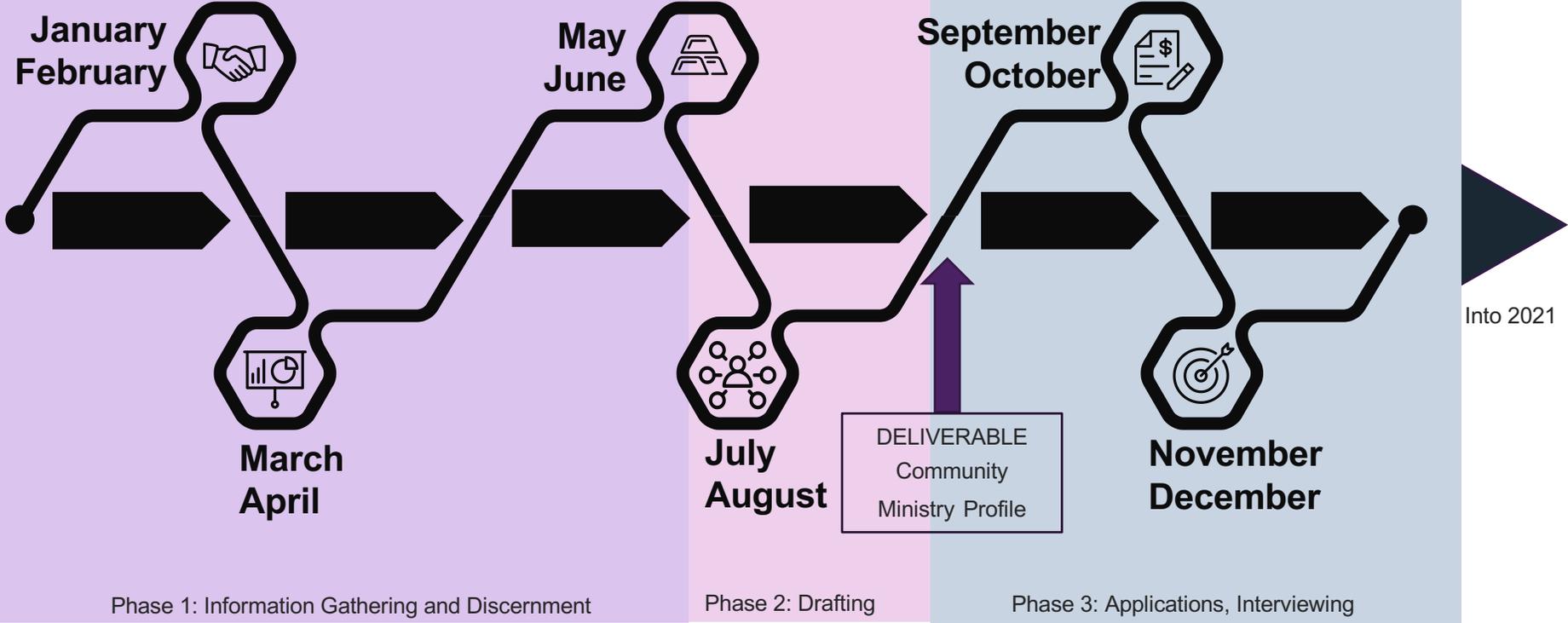
- ❑ *Biweekly committee meetings 2020: February – June (Wednesdays at 7pm, Sundays at 11:15am); July – August electronically; and then September - December (Wednesdays at 7pm, Sundays at 11:15am)*
- ❑ *Biweekly warden briefings*
- ❑ *Periodic Congregation briefings (initial plans are prior to focus groups, and before and after summer)*

Communication Modalities

- ❑ *Intra committee: google docs site*
- ❑ *Committee to Congregation to include E news, Emails, Website, Adult Forum*
- ❑ *Congregation to Committee: rectorsearch@thefallschurch.org*
- ❑ *Communication with Candidates tfcerecortsearch@gmail.com*

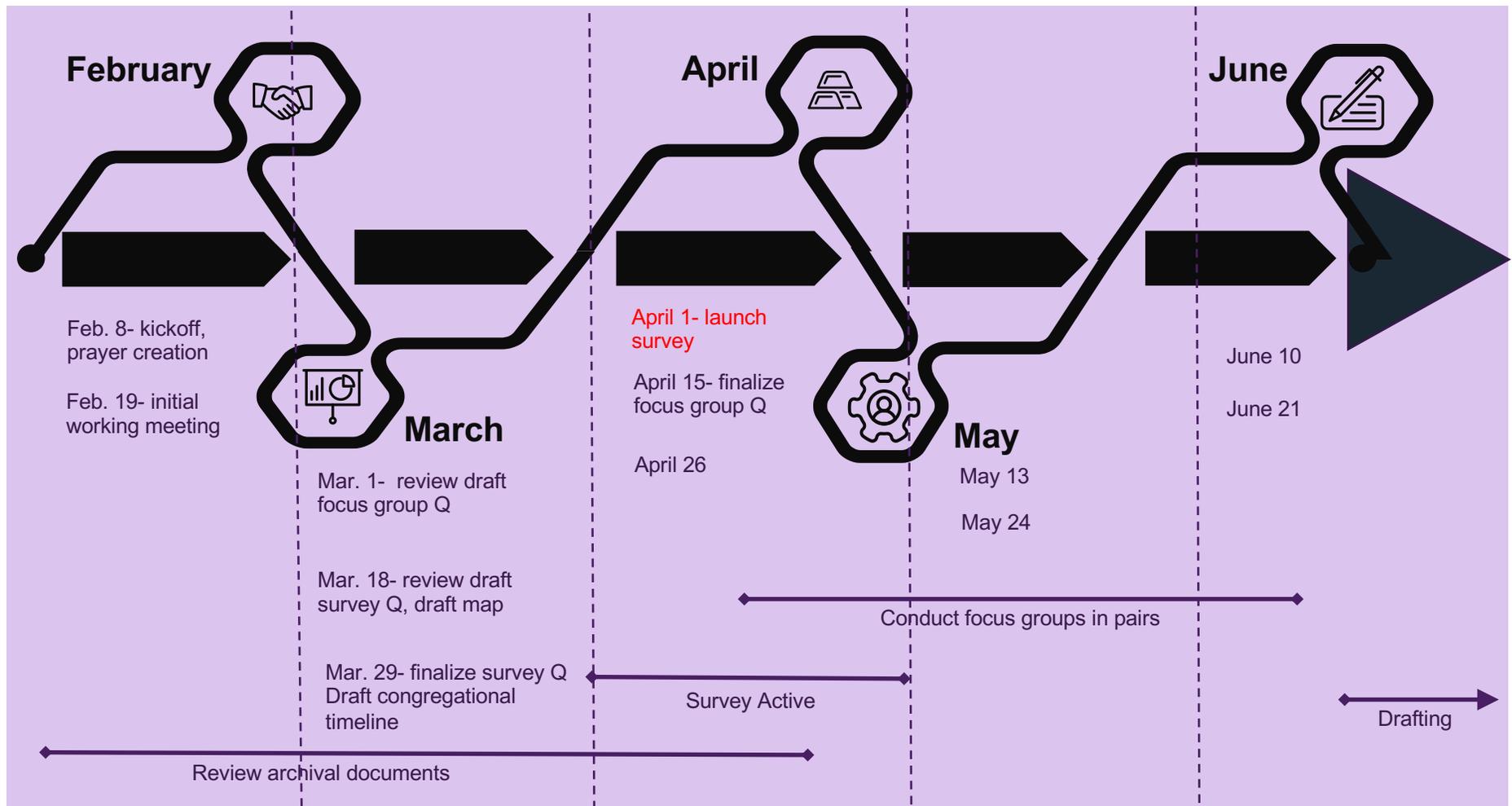
OUR HIGH LEVEL TIMELINE

Commissioned by the Canon to the Ordinary
January 19, 2020





PHASE 1 TIMELINE



Dark purple font- scheduled committee meetings

Red font- other dates