

4903 Queensbury Way E  
Colleyville, TX 76034  
August 18, 2019

Dear St. Martin's Vestry,

After prayerful consideration, and four months of interviews, Aaron and I have decided that I accept a new job. It is a great opportunity for me and my family and affords me to be part of the ground-floor team of an Internet startup. I will be a partner in the LLC and get to build the global compensation and benefits infrastructure. It is exciting work and a unique opportunity.

There is a downside though. The job is in Los Angeles and I start working on August 26<sup>th</sup>. I am spending the next few weeks transitioning and leasing a temporary apartment. Aaron, Jordan, and Logan will be staying in Colleyville, readying the house to sell, working hard in school, and eventually relocating to California no later than next June. Starting the weekend of September 14, I will travel to Texas every other weekend to spend time with them and hopefully see each of you at upcoming Eucharists.

Given my limited time in Texas and my responsibilities to work and family, I believe it best to resign from St. Martin's Vestry, committees, and projects effective after the next Vestry meeting on September 15, 2019. The decision does not come easily because we are in a time of rector transition and I struggle leaving you now. But you are all strong, smart, capable leaders and Father Ron seems to be a good man, wise teacher, and experienced in pastoral change, so I believe you are in good shape for what lies ahead. Jeremiah taught us God has plans for us; plans for good and not for evil. When you pray, God will hear you, and when you seek you will find. Trust and it will be.

With your consent, I would like to continue to serve as Chartered Organization Representative for the Scouts until we finalize our move. I am hopeful Jordan will be able to complete his Eagle Scout Project as a service to St. Martin's. He is on track to achieve his Life Rank on December 20<sup>th</sup> and will be able to complete his Eagle project after that date. I have especially enjoyed scouting and the many memories it has made with our boys. The troop has existed for years without anyone from our parish involved and now we have four scouts (Matthew, Jordan, Ronnie, and Elliot) in the program. St. Martin's has hosted community-wide merit badge programs, volunteer opportunities, Scout Sundays, and exposed so many to The Episcopal Church's unconditional love. Many chartered organizations exclude GLBT leaders and girls. St. Martin's support fills a need in the community. May God continue to bless this ministry.

Saint Martin in the Fields will always hold a special place in our hearts. You welcomed us and allowed us to participate as full members in the body of Christ. Although our family does not conform to tradition, we have never felt out of place. Instead you have encouraged, supported, befriended, and mostly loved us. We are not gone yet though and will cherish what time we have left.

During this time of transition, I ask that you please pray for us. We are excited but we are also a little intimidated by what lies ahead. This is a big change for Aaron and me, but even more so for Jordan and Logan. They have been our children six years now and we are proud of the young men they are growing to be. Their paths have changed as have ours. Changed for good. Thank you for being such an important part of my family's journey.

May the Lord watch over you, strengthen you, and guide you as you begin the process of pastoral change and in every aspect of your lives. And, thank you. Thank you for all you do to bring light into the world.

Yours in Christ,



Christopher DeClerk