

# Annual Report 2015

**St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church**

**Diocese of Olympia**

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**The mission of St. Antony's is to be a loving and welcoming people who worship God, grow in Christ, and serve others. Gather, Grow, and Go!**

**Bishop:**

The Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, Diocesan Bishop

**Vicar:** The Rev. Bill Fulton 360-620-8086

**Associate Priest:** The Rev. Craig Vocelka

**Secretary:** Linda Robuck 360-698-0555 (Church Office)

**Treasurer:** Jim Foley

**Bishop's Committee:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Penny Whitney, Bishop's Warden (2nd term)	January 2017
Charles Smith, People's Warden	January 2018
Sylvia Campbell, Welcoming	January 2016
Carleton McKenney, Youth (2nd term)	January 2016
Carrie Rivers, Environment	January 2016
John Stockwell, Building	January 2016
Bill Reeder, Stewardship/Finance	January 2016
Mark Westin, Worship, Music and Liturgy	January 2017
Elizabeth Haney, Outreach	January 2017
Bill Demmon, Communications	January 2018
Charles Smith, Faith Formation	January 2018
Loretta McGinley, Parish Life	January 2018
Rev. Bill Fulton, <i>Ex officio</i> member	
, Clerk	

**2015 Delegates to the Diocesan Convention:**

Charles Smith

Carolyn Sorrell

**Alternate Delegates**

Bill Demmon

Gail Westin

**Note:** Monthly BC Meeting Minutes, Treasurer's Reports, and the 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes can be found on the St. Antony's website under the tab, "About", and "Bishop's Committee."

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## **Vicar's Report for the year 2015 - Rev. Bill Fulton**

2015 was very good year for us. I could feel the Spirit of God moving among us and bringing new things into existence. We accomplished some important things and we grew as a congregation. I feel a sense of anticipation as we work towards our goal of building a new building. God is at work among us.

This year we lost two very important figures – Jane Stockwell, our matriarch, and Fr. Bob Bethea, who served as interim priest and as an elder figure. On the plus side, we added seventeen new members who have added their gifts to our church family. Financially we did very well, finishing with a surplus and increasing the total amount pledged for the capital campaign. My thanks to Jim Foley for bringing his skills to the job of treasurer, and to Ann Daniels for the ongoing behind-the-scenes work of receiving treasurer. After five years of ministry with us, our faithful priest and friend Fr. Craig Vocelka was called to be Vicar of Faith Church, Kingston. We miss his energy and vision but we wish him well in his new calling.

We continued our outreach work, including serving at the Lord's Neighborhood Diner, and we continued our rich collaboration with New Fellowship Church with shared worship and a picnic, weekly conversation, and cooperation with the building. I'm pleased that we had a successful Barn Sale, thanks to the efforts of our Bishop's Warden, Penny Whitney and many cheerful volunteers. Our Sunday School brought up our children in the Christian faith and we have worked hard to keep two child care workers in our nursery each Sunday. Our Altar Guild gave loving care to our altar and the flowers. Our secretary Linda Robuck has continued to grow into her job as secretary, becoming ever more valuable.

The members of our Bishop's Committee did a great job in each of their commissions. I was especially struck by the creativity of the Welcoming committee who provided welcoming bags for our newcomers, held a newcomer coffee, and wrote "Verbal Sketches" of our parishioners in newsletter. Mark Westin and our Parish Life commission started up Regional Ministry Groups so we can get together with parishioners who live near us. This year we began a new ministry of Eucharistic Visitors, who bring Communion to those who are unable to come to church. Thanks to Loretta McGinley for organizing this special ministry.

Our choirmaster and pianist Jeremy Dupea left for Chicago, but we were fortunate to find two musicians of the highest caliber, Joann Richardson and Chris Eisenberg. Our choir is growing and thriving under Joann's direction, and once a month we are fortunate to have guitar accompaniment organized by Mark Westin.

This last summer we found that we had a homeless couple living in a tent in the woods above our church. I think we responded in a way that was fair and compassionate, helping them to move to a better situation. A work crew cleaned up the grounds.

A big part of our work this year focused on planning for our new building. John Stockwell, Chair of the Building Committee, has done a marvelous job leading our effort to build a new church. He has cast a vision and led the charge for us to accomplish the vision. Rich Rogers has chaired the Design committee that has worked with the architect to design the new building. This took a lot of my time and energy this year, but it's been rewarding to see diverse ideas coming together to form a great design. In the coming year we hope to finalize our design and financing and break ground.

In the coming year, I pray that we will continue to be faithful to God's calling, welcoming one another and offering hospitality to all people, reaching out to those in need, growing in faith, and meeting together weekly to receive the most precious Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bill

## **Bishop's Warden Report for the Year 2015 - Carol "Penny" Whitney**

As with any job, it takes some time to learn responsibilities, and this was certainly true with me and the position of Bishop's Warden.

During the past year, I have tried to be someone with whom our vicar could consult over concerns he had and decisions he had to make. Also, if a member of our congregation came to me with an issue, I took it to Bill and we discussed it and resolved the problem.

There were four matters which stand out in my mind as being things in which I was involved during 2015. Two of which relate to my job as Bishop's Warden and two which do not.

In June, when Father Bill and Linda Robuck were on vacation at the same time (one day), I became the "go to" person for administrative issues of the church. Although I was apprehensive, nothing bad happened and Linda came back the next day.

With Nick and Carrie, the couple camping in our church's woods, the situation created controversy and fortunately was resolved in a caring and positive way. So many of us pitched in to donate money, food and camping gear, and then helped clean up the camping site. I was proud to be both a member of St. Antony's and a part of the Bishop's Committee.

Prior to the Barn Sale, I compiled orders for St. Antony's t-shirts, had them printed, and distributed the shirts to those who had ordered them. I worked on the Barn Sale as organizer of the barn contents and the sale itself. I enjoyed watching church members pulling together to produce a successful money making event for our church and our community.

Currently I am leading the Poulsbo Neighborhood Ministry Group. We have met twice and will try to continue to meet. It is good to blend members of the 8 o'clock and 10 o'clock services and learn more about one another.

I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to serve as Bishop's Warden, and thank you for the support and encouragement I have been given.

Carol (Penny) Whitney, Bishop's Warden 2015

## **People's Warden Report for the Year 2015 - Charles Smith**

The year began with defining each of the Bishop's Committee positions and posting the descriptions on the website, in the newsletter and on the parish hall bulletin board.

During the year many things were noted. Most will be covered in other annual reports so I will mention just a few here:

- The Easter Vigil was lightly attended. Fortunately the Easter Day services were much better attended.
- The Wednesday evening program took time to discuss the topics of General Convention while we were preparing for and praying for General Convention. This Wednesday evening series was popular.
- We are looking for a clerk to take the minutes at Bishop Committee meetings.
- We increased our nursery attendants to two people this year. There have been some comings and goings but things should be stable now.
- Safeguarding God's Children: The Safeguarding God's Children course was offered twice at St. Antony's in 2015.
- Safeguarding God's People: The Safeguarding God's People course was also offered at St. Antony's in 2015.

A homeless family was found in the woods behind St. Antony's in September. A small group from St. Antony's met with Nick and Carrie to see what we could do. What we could do centered on many concerns:

- Loving our Neighbor: what can we do to help Nick and Carrie. This included getting them into the system so that they could get support and taking up a collection for supplies they needed and bus passes so Nick could look for work and they could get to DSHS, Kitsap Community Resources, Peninsula Community Health service and get pre-natal care for Carrie who is pregnant.
- Security: making sure there was no threat to Sunday School in the modular
- Avoiding more homeless people moving in instead of using the support systems available in the county.
- What impact this could have on selling the property.

Happily Nick and Carrie found a person who was willing to take them in. Their camp in the woods behind St. Antony's has since been cleaned up.

Submitted by Charles Smith

## **Building Report for the Year 2015 - John Stockwell**

January to December of 2015 proved to be a very busy time for members of the Building Committee and the 4 Sub-Committees. The many hours of time given by members of our congregation working on these committees has moved St. Antony's forward on the construction project for the new property.

Capital Campaign Sub Committee – What wonderful success was realized by the generous gifts of our congregation to the Capital Campaign Fund. St Antony's began the year with the success of \$428,000 donated or pledged to the campaign. By December 2015 generous additional money has been received or pledged to make the current fund approximately \$454,000. So many thanks to all that have worked on, pledged to or already donated to the fund.

Architect Selection and Design Sub Committee – The many hours of meetings and discussions regarding the design of our new building have developed the floor plan and site layout for the new facility. The very dedicated members of this committee really deserve our special thanks and recognition. They have attended many evening meetings with the architects (meeting twice or more monthly). It will be exciting to see the presentation during the 2016 Annual Meeting.

Sales Sub Committee – Some congregation members questioned whether or not a buyer for the current property could be found. As with much of this building project the Holy Spirit has guided us and provided opportunities. Here too is one such opportunity. During the 2015 Barn Sale a lady visited the sale. During her visit she inquired about St. Antony's property and what was to happen when we move to the new facility. When told the property was for sale she inquired as to the details. She has since signed a very favorable "Purchase Agreement". Per our agreement with New Fellowship Church they have a 90 day "Right of First Refusal" for the purchase. This is currently taking place. Either way the sale of the current property is pending.

Transition Sub Committee – Due to the favorable agreements on the pending "Purchase Agreement" the action required of the Transition Sub Committee has been modified. Agreement between the buyer and St. Antony's allows the congregation to remain at the current property while the new facility is being constructed. Therefore the needs for the Transition Sub Committee have been adjusted to planning the actual move.

I have the greatest respect for every member of these committees and their commitment to the growth and vitality of St. Antony's. It has been a pleasure to chair the Building Committee and work with the members of the committees.

John Stockwell-Chairman  
Building Committee

## **Communications Report for the Year 2015 - Bill Demmon**

Communications is a process of sharing and listening. Communications by itself is actually nothing. It needs something to communicate - a thought, an idea, a goal, a wish or want. Example: Our Savior communicated something wonderful by his sacrifice on the Cross for us.

Therefore, I would like to report the communications processes have improved throughout St. Antony's in 2015. This was especially discovered during the "people in the forest" event in August - October 2015. The St. Antony community improved in many communications areas, especially in the skill of listening - including to and from the Bishop's Committee, as individuals and groups and the Church leadership worked the issues.

### **Details:**

#### **Reaching the Military and others churches:**

We are continuing to invite the military from the bases and ships around St. Antony's to worship with us.

We are actively working with Rev. Kathleen Kingslight of St. Paul's in Bremerton so our two military liaison programs would be mutually beneficial to all the bases and both churches. This can be expanded to more Peninsula Region Episcopal Churches in 2016.

For this reason, and for many others, I recommend increased support to Carolyn Sorrell's effort to facilitate effective communications as Co-Convener of the Peninsula Region.

#### **How we communicate:**

- We have many successful forms of Communications here at St. Antony.
- We have new bulletin boards and the information on all bulletin boards is being kept more current and constantly tell the story of what we did and are doing.
- The monthly newsletter, Glad Tidings, in both electronic and hard copy form,
- Our Facebook page,
- the Website
- the weekly bulletin, various meetings, church service announcements, plus all the smiles, hand shakes, and hugs among all of us, and let us not forget our best and most fruitful form of communication --- Prayer.
- Our hallmark - being a welcoming church - is known far and wide.

#### **Goals for 2016:**

- Improve communications among the 8 and 10 o'clock services.
- Support all church leadership in getting the information out for their events and community support programs.
- Continue to invite the military personal to worship with us.
- Work closely with the Evangelism and Welcoming Committees.
- Actively ensure we are reaching all St. Antony parishioners with the flow of church information.

**Keep Communicating: Keep Gathering, Growing, and Going.**

Submitted by Bill Demmon

## **Environment Report for the Year 2015 - Carrie Rivers**

2015 was a busy and successful year around St. A's. Thanks to the help of all the willing church mice, we seem to always make it through with everything we need. I want to especially Thank David Sorrel again for being the best sexton I could ever ask for. He has tirelessly worked on our new property and has had a great group of volunteers to help him. His hard work made our picnic very successful and quite lovely with all the underbrush and trees trimmed and lots of holes filled in so that the ground was level and easier for walking and parking. He also made ready the barn for winter by covering the barn in a massive tarp to try to preserve the wood for our new picnic shelter.

We have replaced a few needed lights and fixtures again this year due to regular wear and tear and or failure. There is a new light mounted on the modular that is wonderful for illuminating that whole side walk in the dark hours of the night.

So far this year we have not had any sump pump issues thanks to Dave Peterson and his electrical skills. I can tell you I appreciate not having to deal with any sanctuary floods.

We had Sam's Reasonable Landscaping back again this spring through fall. They seem to be quite efficient at keeping our grounds looking lovely.

To any of you who have cleaned up the grounds around the church and up in to the woods from our property guests I want to sincerely thank you. Your diligence and care has allowed us to keep our Church grounds looking as nice as it can.

This past fall we signed up for recycling at the church which we have not had in the past. In the past we have had a few parishioners taking home recycling from time to time but this way we don't have to ask or expect of any one to do this task. This bin goes out every other week and I hope that if you have coffee hour you are making use of the bin versus hauling your containers home.

I want to thank everyone for allowing me to serve on the Bishops Committee as environment chair. It has been a good experience and a challenge at times but one that I appreciate none the less.

Thank you, Caroline Rivers

## **Faith Formation Report for the year 2015 - Charles Smith**

**Bible Study:** The Monday evening bible study began as a short term walk through the gospel of Mark. Interest grew it into an ongoing bible study until summer.

**Vicar Bible Study:** This program continued throughout the year. Thank you Fr. Bill.

**Book Study:** Carolyn Sorrell and Ann Daniels led book study groups during the year. Thank you Carolyn and Ann.

**Sunday School:** 2015 was another fantastic year for the students and teachers participating in Saint Anthony's Sunday school! Each Sunday we averaged about 15 youth who participated in Sunday school classes. The theme for this year was learning how to "do the right thing" even when no one is watching". We discussed many of the examples and lessons from the life of Jesus that we could apply to our own daily life. We explored the many tools that we can use to help us make the best decisions when faced with challenges that come our way. We talked about the examples Jesus set for us as he faced challenges when he was here on earth and decided that by just asking "what would Jesus do" we could make good choices. We even had bracelets that had the acronym WWJD!

The youth of St Antony's continued to amaze Sandy and Melanie with their deep thoughts, keen curiosity and telling conversations. The students are serious about their learning and have a thirst for knowledge. I think that sometimes the teachers learned from the students!

Each Sunday we use the same lessons and gospel readings as parents will hear in church. This lends itself to some great family conversations later. Class content includes youth oriented "sermons", open discussion, games and crafts that reinforce important lessons and inspire some fascinating discussions. Our goal continues to be the teaching of Christian values and preparing our youth to grow up walking in the way of the Lord.

**Vacation Bible School:** There was limited interest in 2015 and that interest suggested we support New Fellowship Church's (NFC) Vacation Bible School. Unfortunately NFC wasn't planning to hold Vacation Bible School during the summer.

**J2A: Journey to Adulthood** was a new-to-Saint-Antony's program in 2015. Two of our youth have been active in the program all year long and are looking forward to confirmation during the Bishop's visit on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January.

**Centering Prayer:** Centering Prayer is available every Wednesday afternoon at 2:00pm.

**Nursery:** see the People's Warden Report.

**Wednesday night program:** Except for a brief hiatus during Holy Week and another in August; there has been a contemporary worship service at 5:30 PM each Wednesday, followed by a pot luck dinner at 6:15 PM and a program at 7:00 PM. Program topics varied through the year to meet a variety of needs and expressed interest. Come for one, two or all three parts of the evening program.

**Spiritual Direction:** A few members have mentioned that they are meeting with a spiritual director. We have several in the area, some at St. Antony's; others are affiliated with other congregations. I had complete freedom in whom I choose. Please see Fr. Bill if you desire more information.

**Discernment Group:** This is for anyone who is trying to make a decision of significant personal importance, not just those considering holy orders. A group was discerning in 2015. Are you interested in being in a discernment group in 2016? Please see Fr. Bill if you desire more information.

**Little Sisters of St. Clare:** A contemplative religious community of women that meets monthly at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church. There are two sisters who reside in our church – Sr. Mary-Olivia Stalter and Sr. Kathryn-Mary Little.

## **Faith Formation Report Continued**

Cursillo: Carleton McKenney attended the spring Cursillo. The fall Cursillo was postponed. We have two candidates for the spring 2016 Cursillo so far. Please let me, or any Cursillo graduate, know if you would like to know more.

Kairos: St. Antony's provided prayer support for two Kairos' this year and one team member for one of those Kairos weekends. See Charles Smith if you are interested in being on a team or being part of the prayer support.

EfM: St. Antony's continues to team up with St. Paul's to offer an Education for Ministry group. Kathy Little, Cris McCarty (St. Paul's) and Charles Smith are mentoring the group this year. There are four years to this program (Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Theology – ethics – and interfaith encounter); however, participants commit to just one year at a time.

Submitted by Charles Smith

## **Outreach Report for the year of 2015 - Liz Haney**

Each month \$100.00 is distributed to The Lord's Diner from the Brandenburg Fund.

Out of budgeted funds of \$3,000.00 plus \$1,725.25 which was carried over from 2014 and \$123.00 in card sales, we had a total of \$4,848.25 to distribute to the following organizations:

- CK Food Bank
- Coffee Oasis
- Kingston Food Bank
- KCR Christmas Angels
- Kitsap Community Resources
- Rescue Mission
- Salvation Army
- Seafarers
- Stand up for Kids
- Take it to the Streets
- YMCA Alive Shelter

An in gathering was held for Stand up for Kids and Coffee Oasis with 80.00 and 10.00 collected plus supplies. Eleven back packs were filled and given to Woodland Elementary and Armin Jahr schools.

Possible ideas for the new year include October Fest and Putt Putt Golf fund raiser.

Submitted by Elizabeth Haney

## **Parish Life Report for the year 2015 - Loretta McGinley and Mark Westin**

Loretta McGinley and Mark Westin shared this commission. They met in February to review the parameters of the role, which included planning and coordinating social and pastoral care activities.

Parish life was involved in the following 2015 events:

- **Coffee Hour.** Sarah Rogers graciously accepted a request to coordinate the coffee hour schedule for the year, and very ably managed this role. She agreed to continue to coordinate this important role through 2016.
- **Lenten Soup Suppers.** There were five Wednesday night Lenten soup suppers held, with very good attendance.
- **Prayer Chain.** Information about this ministry was highlighted in a May Glad Tidings article, in addition to in-church announcements.
- **All Church Retreat.** Mark Westin suggested planning an autumn all-church retreat. Several possible venues were explored, with a decision made to hold off on this event this year and to reconsider a retreat at a later time.
- **Lay Eucharistic Visitor (LEV) Program.** Five parishioners applied through the Diocese to become LEV's. Father Bill provided training for this ministry, and Father Tiernan taught a mandatory Protecting God's People program. The Diocese granted LEV licenses to the five parishioners and a schedule was created to provide weekly LEV visits on a rotational basis to homebound parishioners. One LEV has since stepped down from this ministry, leaving a total of four current Lay Eucharistic Visitors at St. Antony's.
- **Annual Church Barbecue.** The 23 August annual picnic was a great cooperative effort of many church members. Carrie Rivers provided a great To-do list for the planning of this successful event, and many people came forward to plan, set up and orchestrate this event with New Fellowship Church.
- **Neighborhood Ministry Groups.** At Mark Westin's initiative, a successful kickoff event was held to launch St Antony's Neighborhood Ministry Groups - another vehicle for fellowship, team building, and to get to know the closest of our St Antony's family members a little better. Nine groups were created; with each family slotted in a group with their geographic neighbors. Since then, one or more groups have joined together for a variety of fall follow-on events. It was suggested that each group put their heads together and try to have one event every quarter, but more frequent and/or joint events would be great too. There have been groups gathering in homes for dinner, several restaurant gatherings, a trip to a living Christmas tree event, potluck get-togethers, etc. Two groups are planning a trip this winter to the car museum in Tacoma. The neighborhood groups are all about team building, fellowship and mutual support; and giving all of us (especially newer folks) a way to get to know people better in an outside the church social setting. Parishioners with questions about the program, or are unsure what group they are connected with should check the map in the narthex or contact Mark & Gail Westin or Loretta McGinley.
- **Christmas Cookie Exchange.** In coordination with the St. Antony Youth group, there was a Christmas cookie exchange and singalong on 12 December from 2:00-3:30 in the church hall. Mark Westin & John Stockwell provided music and it was a fun and relaxing event for all. General consensus was to plan this gathering again next year.

Submitted by Loretta McGinley and Mark Westin

## Stewardship & Finance Report for the Year 2015 - Bill Reeder

### **STEWARDSHIP** (Bill Reeder, Stewardship Commissioner)

Stewardship is about caring, caring enough to take action, to step up and accept responsibility for something entrusted to us. We did that in 2015 as a congregation, as a church family. We have been generous in offering our time, talent, and treasure to the work of God through Saint Antony's. It did not matter that the stewardship commissioner was so frequently absent, working overseas most of the year; the congregation was there, being good stewards, their gratitude to God evident in so many ways.

The 2015 stewardship program endeavored to maintain a year-round focus on stewardship through newsletter articles, Bill and Craig's sermons, interaction with the congregation, and our ongoing capital campaign. A stewardship dinner in October kicked off the fall stewardship campaign with a moving presentation by our diocesan Canon for Stewardship and Development. Ingathering Sunday was held on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, and by late December, our receiving treasurer reported forty-eight of our Saint Antony families have pledged nearly \$130,000. There are still more outstanding pledge cards to be received, as well. Your generosity is so appreciated.

### **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN. Building to Serve: God's Field of Dreams** (Sarah Rogers, Capital Campaign Chair)

As the first full year of the Capital Campaign comes to a close, I have nothing but thanks and admiration for the wonderful work being done here at St. Antony's!

We are one third of the way through our collection phase of the campaign and have already collected over 41% of our total pledged amount. At this point in our campaign it is not expected to have more than 28% received. This enthusiastic giving shows the excitement surrounding the building project and the desire to see it complete.

Let's discuss the numbers more specifically:

As of:	<u>December 2014</u>	<u>June 2015</u>	<u>December 2015</u>
Pledged amount:	\$419,428	\$449,979	\$459,987**
Money on Hand:	\$57,180	\$143,294	\$187,948
% to pledge goal:	14%	32%	41%

\*\* Increase in pledge amount of \$10,048 thanks to the 2015 annual stewardship In-Gathering. A combination of new pledges and pledge increases.

This is an amazing amount of money already gathered! \$272,039 left to gather from our generous congregation over the next two years. We expect to have this remainder received by the completion of our campaign in December 2017. As we anticipate to have our building built before December 2017, a bridge loan will be needed to cover the balance not yet received, so the more we can gather, the less we will have to borrow.

As of now, no one is significantly delinquent on their fulfillment obligation to their pledge.

This is nothing but great news all around. Thank you!

Submitted by Bill Reeder

## **Welcoming Report for the Year 2015 - Sylvia Campbell**

### **Bishop's Committee Position Description of Welcoming Commission - 2015**

“Coordinates aspects of how we do Evangelism, especially inviting, orienting, and incorporating new members, including follow-up with guests, welcome bags, pew cards, greeters, and participation in Military Appreciation Day.”

**Commission Members:** Tovi Andrews, Barbara Berglind (June - December), Sylvia Campbell (Chair), Gail Ferguson, Linda Robuck, Jacque Walker (January – June). With a few exceptions, the committee met bi-weekly.

### **Areas of Endeavor**

#### **Military Appreciation Day:**

Gail Westin did a phenomenal job chairing the event. At least twenty-five church members were involved or contributed in some way. New items given out this year included fifty red, white, and blue bookmarks crocheted by Bobbie Morgan and two printed inspirational messages prepared by Tovi Andrews – one an invitation to the rite of Baptism, the other a guide to God's promises given in the Bible. Also given out were seventy-five packets of Christian materials compiled specifically for military personnel and donated by Pathway Ministries. The prayer for military personnel that we recite weekly was on prominent display. As in previous years, balloons were provided by the Reeders, and Fr. Bill managed the ecclesiastical display and slide show. Carrie Rivers provided a handsome door-prize gift basket required by the Chamber of Commerce organizers.

#### **Welcome Bags and Notes:**

A specific count of welcome bags given out was not kept, but between fifteen and twenty were prepared and distributed. In addition to the usual informative brochures and “treats,” bookmarks handmade by Lynda Loveday and Barbara Berglind were included as well as well a limited number of small Gideon bibles and a copy of the current newsletter. Notes of welcome were sent to every local visitor who signed the guest book and left contact information.

#### **Welcoming Coffee:**

The Commission sponsored a Welcoming Coffee at the Campbell home for all recent newcomers (14) and current Bishop's Committee members. Though nasty weather and schedule conflicts prevented several from coming, guests expressed appreciation for the opportunity to meet informally and become better acquainted. In view of the positive response, the committee recommends having a similar event in the future.

#### **Newsletter Submissions:**

Write-ups about ten parishioners were submitted as “Getting to Know You” articles for the church newsletter. Most introduced newcomers, but a few presented long-standing parishioners as well.

#### **Coordination with Other Commissions/Committees:**

The Welcoming Commission worked with Bill Demmon from Communications in brain-storming ideas and in executing various projects. The Welcoming Commission distributed fifty-five flyers announcing the Easter service (half that number posted at Bangor Base by the Westins). Commission members also assisted Bill in posting the Christmas flyers around Silverdale and Poulsbo. Additionally, the Commission oversaw the installation of the new bulletin board in the narthex which will help orient new people and provide a place for enhanced communication within the congregation.

Continued on next page

## **Welcoming Report Continued**

Members from the capital campaign also met with the Welcoming Commission to discuss possible inclusion of campaign material in the welcome bags. It was decided it would be better to distribute that information during the fall stewardship drive.

Gail Ferguson assisted Lincoln Avenue Bible Church in Bremerton in promoting their April "Walk Thru the Bible" event to St. Antony's congregation. Four parishioners from St. Antony attended.

Two Commission members attended a Silverdale Chamber of Commerce event to determine if it would be beneficial to join the Chamber in order to have increased church exposure from community involvement. Conclusion was that the cost, work load and chamber requirements at this time were prohibitive.

### **Special Service of Blessing:**

Tovi Andrews initiated the idea of a special "Service of Blessing" which Fr. Bill created and which was held in September at Rice /Fergus /Miller, Architects in Bremerton. Fr. Bill asked for blessings on all work partners and businesses, welcoming them as part of God's people to work together for our new church home. Special prayers were added, and a responsive time of Evening Prayer concluded the service.

### **Greeters:**

The "Guidelines for Greeters" handout was revised and shortened and is on file in the office. Five new greeters were added to the roster.

### **Pew Cards:**

Attempts were made to keep pew cards orderly (green music cards in hymnals, "For Our Guests" in the prayer book), but results were inconsistent.

### **Up-Dating Directory Information/Printing Needed Brochures:**

The Commission is indebted to Linda Robuck who, as a member of the Commission, gave unstintingly of her time in addition to fulfilling her responsibilities as church secretary.

### **Final Note:**

This report identifies specific activities of the Welcoming Commission. Much harder to document, but perhaps of even greater importance is the sense of comradery and community experienced by the members as we worked together to try to carry out our job description. We spent a lot of time brain-storming and had many interesting discussions - some rather far-ranging - where opinions were freely expressed. We prayed for guidance and direction and were blessed by answers to our prayers and the joy of working together to serve the Lord. We also appreciated the assistance of others, many of whom are mentioned here, who helped us accomplish our mission.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Campbell, Welcoming Commission Chair

January, 2016

## **Worship, Music and Liturgy Report for the year 2015 - Mark Westin**

We are privileged to have many dedicated parishioners who work very hard to assist our priests and staff in making our worship experience meaningful, fresh, and vibrant. I'd like to thank everyone who puts in countless hours of hard work supporting the several teams and groups in this effort. This includes our Priests, Lay readers & Servers, the Flower Guild, the Altar Guild, the Acolytes, the Organists/Pianists and other Musicians, the Choir and Choir Director who have all shared their talents and dedication. This year that effort also included attending many of the Architecture & Design meetings to give critical input for their functions in the design of our new Church Building.

We were fortunate and happy to have had Fr. Craig Vocelka with us as Assistant Priest for the full year. Now we are a little saddened for us, but mostly excited for him - as he leaves us now to serve his new call as Priest for Faith Church in Kingston. We are lucky that he will still be close by, and we hope to see him regularly as his time permits. Perhaps his parish can partner with us for a future event?

We thank Jeremy Dupea for his support as our Pianist/Choir Director this year until his departure this summer, and wish him luck in his new environs. We were lucky to quickly gain both Chris Eisenberg and Joanne Richardson as co-replacements - they will share the job as Organist/Pianist and Choir director going forward. We have certainly already been seeing the fruits of their considerable talent and experience thus far in our Music ministry. The choir is growing and sounding great.

Continued thanks also to John Stockwell, Shane Carlson and Mark Westin for our monthly guitar Sunday, and music for other special events - and of course thanks for the beautiful piano preludes regularly performed by Joan Willoughby.

The Altar Guild Team and Flower Guild continued to bless our worship experience with their dedicated service and beautiful results each week. We also welcomed the addition of Lay Eucharistic Visitors this year - a new team organized by Loretta McGinley to as required bring the Eucharist to those who cannot join us in person for worship.

Father Bill and our worship team meets monthly to plan future worship activities - and is still being very careful to pick hymns that go with the lessons of the day. Let us know any feedback or input...and you would be welcome to attend this meeting any time.

Submitted by Mark Westin

## **Youth Report for the year 2015 - Charles Smith**

The youth participated in two youth Sunday's in 2015. They also provided the annual Valentine Spaghetti Dinner (on Saturday February 14<sup>th</sup> in 2015).

In Advent, the youth group participated in the Christmas Angel program, adopting two youth, a boy and a girl. We also gathered to bake and decorate Christmas Cookies and sing Christmas songs. Parish Life sponsored a cookie exchange on the same day so we worked together and merged the two events into one. It went very well. This could be the beginning of a new St. Antony's tradition.

Submitted by Charles Smith

## **Bishop's Committee Candidate Biographies**

### **Beth Rohlfing**

Born in Spokane Washington in 1962. Raised in the Catholic tradition. Graduated University of Washington (BA Business Finance and Marketing) 1984. Married to Jim Rohlfing 1983. Moved to Kitsap 1992. Children Cara, born 1993, and Tess, born 1996.

I love hiking, trail running, kayaking, really anything outside and in nature.

Submitted by Beth Rohlfing

### **Sarah Rogers**

I grew up in the Episcopal Church, in upstate New York. My husband Rich and I were married in the Episcopal Church and after relocating to Washington found St. Antony's. Here we could not only serve God and our community, but raise our children Laurel (5) and Luke (3) to know the love of God.

I received a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from Ithaca College. I have work experience with cultural resource management (field archaeology), museum education and retail management. My husband and I are currently raising our two children (8 chickens, 2 cats and a puppy) and I am proudly serving as our family's domestic engineer.

In the two years our family has been attending we have jumped right in to the church community. I am currently serving as the Coffee Hour Coordinator and the Capital Campaign Chair and am a member of the Design Committee for our new church. Last year I was a part of a new Discernment Group formed at St. Antony's which helped us to explore God's desires for each of us. I have joined the choir this year and so enjoy the work that we are all doing.

How exciting the next three years will be for St. Antony's; with the building of a new church and all the outreach plans for the community the new building will afford. I am honored to be considered to serve on the Bishop's Committee and look forward to seeing all that the future holds for myself, my family, St. Antony's, our local community and the Episcopal Church.

Submitted by Sarah Rogers

## ST. ANTONY'S ENDOWMENT FUNDS STATUS

12 January 2016

**Fund for NEW building upkeep/maintenance.** Totals as of 31 Oct 2015  
("Endowment Fund" is in the Diocese Investment Fund (DIF))  
Initial principle given in Nov 2002 was \$2,000.00

Value of fund in DIF as of 31 Oct 2014: \$5,301.36  
Principle amount as increased by CPI's: \$2,759.29

**Amount over principle available: \$2,542.07**

**Fund for Outreach.** Totals as of 31 Oct 2015  
("Outreach Endowment Fund" is in the DIF)  
Initial principle given in Dec 2004 was \$15,000.00

Value of fund in DIF as of 31 Oct 2015: \$26,841.10  
Principle amount as increased by CPI's: \$18,855.35

Amount over principle: \$7,985.75\*  
\*Does not reflect \$1,200.00 donation  
to The Lord's Neighborhood Diner

**Amount over principle available: \$ 7,985.75**

Consumer Price Indexes (CPI) used:

2.3% for year ending 31 Oct 2012

0.6% for year ending 31 Oct 2013

2.1% for year ending 31 Oct 2014

**1.2 % for year ending 31 Oct 2015**

**Please consider leaving a bequest in your will to St Antony's  
where your gift will keep on giving in your memory.**

(Bequests are not just for the wealthy. Large or small, each bequest provides for future ministries that contribute to a stronger faith community at St. Antony's.)

*Chris Crowson*

*For Endowment Board (Chris Crowson, Jean Mackimmie)*

***"For where your treasure is, there will be your heart also."***

Luke 12:34

## 2015 ALTAR GUILD FUND REPORT

**Checking Account Balance 12/31/2014** **\$1301.99**

Contributions \$2838.56

**TOTAL** **\$2838.56**

### Expenditures

Altar Flowers & Supplies 1190.74

Lilies / Palms 205.75

Poinsettias 219.04

Worship supplies (wine, candles, etc.) 358.50

Calendars 40.48

Diocesan Altar Guild Donation 100.00

Error Corr. Transfer to General Fund 171.00

**TOTAL** **2285.51**

**Checking Account Balance 12/31/2015** **\$1855.04**

Diocesan Investment Fund (last report 11/30/15) \$3991.21

Respectfully submitted

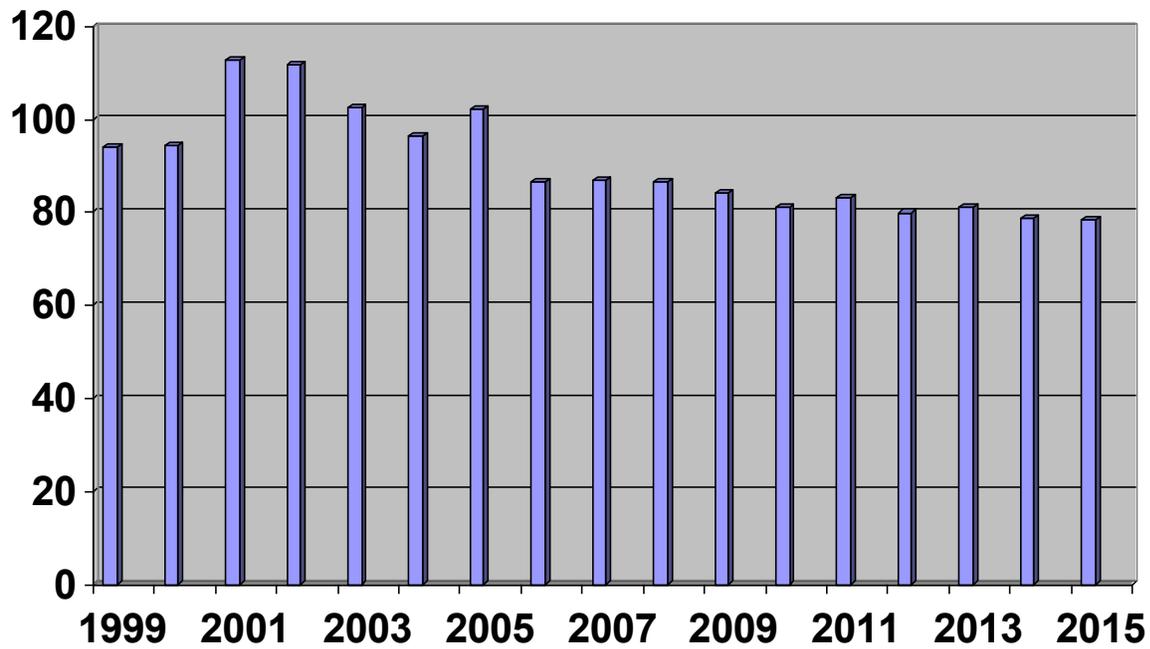
Ruth Lindstrum

Altar Guild Fund Manager

*As always, it is a pleasure to thank you for your generous contributions to St. Antony's Altar Guild. We have a dedicated and talented membership, but are always open to adding to our numbers...please don't hesitate to ask Fr. Bill or any other member if you would like to learn more. It is truly a humbling and rewarding service. Also, we thank two generous parishioners who donate supplies and time toward the making of our Communion bread.*

*In appreciation on behalf of the Altar Guild,  
R. Lindstrum*

# Average Annual Attendance Chart St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church



Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Attendance	93.9	94.3	112.8	111.8	102.5	96.5	102.1	86.5

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Attendance	87.0	86.4	84.1	81.0	83.1	79.9	81.2	78.6	78.4