**BISHOP COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**March 2016**

**VICAR’S REPORT** Bill Fulton

**Sales Contract**

New Fellowship church is exercising their right of first refusal to buy our property. They have given us a signed sales agreement which has been sent to the diocese for the signature of Barb Fox, diocesan treasurer. Barb told me that the Board of Directors will approve it at their meeting on March 17 and she will sign it then. I sent the Seller’s Disclosure to Barb also as part of the sales agreement, disclosing potential problems with our building and grounds.

**Loan Application to Board of Directors**

I met with Pat McGuire, our liaison to the Board of Directors and we reviewed our loan application for a bridge loan of about $285,000 to cover our pledges from the capital campaign. She will present this application to the Board at their March meeting, and John Stockwell and I will meet with the Board at their April meeting for final approval.

**Parochial Report**

Linda Robuck and I have completed the first two pages of the annual parochial report which is sent in to the diocese and the national church. Jim Foley is completing the third page on our financial status.

**Tax Exemption form**

I completed the forms for keeping our tax exemption on the new property and sent them to Barb Fox to be filed with the County.

**BC Retreat**

I thought we had a good BC retreat on February 20, although it was cut short by the Berglind memorial service. I sent a thank you card to Bill Reeder in appreciation of him making this possible.

**2016 Goals**

Because we spent most of our time at the retreat discussing BC job descriptions, we didn’t get around to creating a new list of goals for 2016. Let’s put that on the agenda for our March meeting.

**Scholarship to Camp Huston for Christina Escue**

We’ve been asked to approve a one-third scholarship of $215 to the horse camp at Camp Huston for Christina Escue. I asked for a one-third scholarship from the diocese and it was granted. The family will also pay one-third the cost, the same arrangement we have used in past years.

**Barbara Berglind memorial service**

This month we lost Barbara Berglind, a strong matriarch and faithful member of many years. I was fortunate to be able to visit her several times in the days before her death. My thanks to Ruth Lindstrum for arranging the reception after the memorial service on February 20.

**Mutual Ministry Review (MMR)**

My thanks to Charles Smith for taking on the MMR for this year. Because we didn’t get around to doing one last year, we are due for one this year.

**Day of Art and Prayer and Clergy Lenten Retreat**

I attended two events the week of February 21-27. The Lenten Retreat at St. Andrew’s Retreat House focused on preaching, and the Day of Art and Prayer at St. Margaret’s, Bellevue, offered new ideas for worship.

**Vacation March 29-31 and June 13-14**

I’d like to take vacation Tuesday through Thursday, March 29-31 (just after Easter), while Katy is on Spring Break. Also I’d like to take a couple of vacation days when my son, Chad, receives his PhD at the University of Oregon June 13.

**Festival of Homiletics May 16-19**

For my 2016 Continuing Education, I’ll be attending the Festival of Homiletics in Atlanta, GA, Monday through Thursday, July 16-19. Nationally known speakers such as Walter Brueggemann will be there as well as preachers from all over the country. I asked Bishop Rickel for financial assistance and he agreed to pay $430, one-third of the cost. I will pay $300 and the parish will pay $500 from my Continuing Education budget.

**BISHOP’S WARDEN** Penny Whitney

No report.

**PEOPLE’S WARDEN** Charles Smith

Following the postings (news letter and parish hall bulletin board) of the BC Commission descriptions for 2016, I was asked ‘which commission will be leading the Mutual Ministry Review?’ I have asked for this question to be added to the BC meeting agenda for March.

**STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE** Jim Foley

No report.

**PARISH LIFE** Loretta McGinley

* Made a slight revision to the Parish Life role description, which appeared in the March Glad Tidings.
* Scheduled an LEV meeting 14 March at 1:00 p.m. to review how the program is going.
* Created and sent an April-June LEV schedule to Linda for the weekly church bulletin.
* A renewal of marriage vows ceremony will be planned on Saturday, 30 April, followed by a dinner at a local restaurant.
* I will write an article about the renewal of vows for the April Glad Tidings.  I will also highlight the Sonshine Fellowship breakfast gathering.

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I would like to suggest that at the end of each BC meeting, we take a little time to write notes of caring to parishioners who have been ill that month or are dealing with the recent loss of a loved one.

I could provide the cards.

**WELCOME COMMITTEE** Beth Rohlfing

Sarah and Beth are in the process of recruiting committee members and should have a meeting within a month.

A decision was made to suspend participation in Military Appreciation Day for this year. This activity did not increase membership in the prior year and may not be a useful vehicle for those who are looking for a church home. St Antony’s is hosting the Military baby shower which may be a more successful type of activity for raising interest in the church. We would like to explore other options to welcome new members of the community.

**ENVIRONMENT** Beth Rohlfing

Carrie Rivers will continue to purchase supplies, such as toilet paper, paper towels, light bulbs, etc. She indicated this was not the job of the Environment Committee and suggested it be removed from the description.

I spoke with David Sorrell about planting some flowers around the church entry before Easter. He noted that the daffodils are blooming and we agreed that we probably will have enough spring flowers for the occasion. Also, David suggested we consider a walking labyrinth on the grounds of the new church site. Kathy Little knows a labyrinth designer we could contact when we are at that point in developing the grounds.

**FAITH FORMATION**  Charles Smith

Vacation Bible School: We have gone two years (2014-2015) without a Vacation Bible School. No one has been identified to lead it for 2016 either.

Planning has begun for Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2016. As of this writing the following are being considered:

* Hold VBS the week after the Barn Sale so that we don’t conflict with set-up for the Barn Sale
* Evening program because we would like those who work to be able to help with the program
* New Fellowship Church will provide the VBS Director
* Both St. Antony’s and New Fellowship Church will provide support
* Program for ages 3 through 18
* Potential timeline
	+ 5:30 Dinner
	+ 6:00 lesson and activity
	+ 7:15 return to large group
	+ 7:30 closing

**ST. ANTONY’S YOUTH** Charles Smith

The youth group will be meeting on Palm Sunday, following the service to finalize plans for the Easter Day Egg Hunt. We plan to provide over 20 dozen eggs for the youth visiting St. Antony’s, the youth of New Fellowship Church and the youth of St. Antony’s to search for.

Upcoming events:

* Youth Sunday in May
* Father’s Day coffee hour

**BUILDING COMMITTEE**  John Stockwell

**OUTREACH** Liz Haney

No report as we do not meet until the 14th.

**COMMUNICATIONS** Bill Demmon

As we start the new Bishop's Committee year, I was looking for a fitting communication topic for the March 2016 Communications Report for the first regular meeting :  I was led to the topic  "Miscommunications."

Do we always agree on everything during BC meetings?  No, Not always.  Spirited debate and an airing of issues and points of view are parts of the communication process in any BC meeting.  It is, however, hoped that as we, as part of the St. Antony community and as fellow BC members, usually communicate civilly and politely, but misunderstandings and disagreements may come up. Now what?  How do we respectfully communicate our confusion?  We may communicate our Internal thoughts through our Body Language, or more directly through inquiry for clarification on a point. Questions are always helpful and and as necessary, apologies and possibly a reframed statement offered to clarify the issue. Also the whole group can participate and assist in insuring communication around the table and between everyone was clearly understood.

I also looked in the Bible for advice:

Matthew 5:23-24

   “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift."

Romans 12:18

       "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

It is common in Bible commentaries to point out on this topic, that Jesus calls on us to immediately take the first step toward pursuing peace with others.  Therefore, our leadership examples of effective communication before, during and after BC meetings, will establish a model to emulate for effective communication among the entire ST A's community.

Happy Communicating.

**WORSHIP, LITURGY, MUSIC** Mark Westin

No report.

**LONG RANGE PLANNING**  John Stockwell

No report.