

Glad Tidings

December 2016



ST. ANTONY OF EGYPT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

10239 Old Frontier Road

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The Rev. Bill Fulton, Vicar



Vicar's Voice

The world around us is preparing us for the “hap-hap-happiest time of the year,” the season of Christmas, also known as the Holiday Season. For many people, Christmas is the best time of the year because it focuses on gift-giving, decorations, parties, heart-warming Christmas stories and songs, and nostalgia of days gone by.

But for many people, Christmas is not the best time of the year. For those who live alone, Christmas can be a depressing reminder of isolation and loss. For those who have broken relationships within their families or friends, Christmas only highlights the difference between the “perfect” family holiday and their personal reality of hurt and brokenness.

Celebrating Christmas when you’re dealing with divorce, cancer or Alzheimer’s disease is a struggle. For many people depression is their holiday companion. And for those who have suffered the loss of loved ones, Christmas can be empty.

When I was twenty years old, my father was killed in a car accident on November 8. Our family was stunned by the suddenness of the news. We walked through the funeral and burial ceremonies in a numb haze. By the time Christmas came, we were still in shock. We gathered as we always had, but that year Dad was not there to hand out the presents to each person in turn as he always had. We had to choose someone to take his place, but it just didn’t seem right. That memory still tinges my Christmas experience.

So if you or someone you know is experiencing a “blue Christmas” this year, it’s a good idea to remember that the meaning of Christmas goes far deeper than piped-in Holiday music and the mad rush of shopping. Christ was born to a poor peasant couple in a humble cattle shed. They weren’t a “perfect” family. The simplicity and humility of Jesus’ birth keeps us grounded in the love of God come to earth.

May Christ find a home in our hearts, however humble they may be, this Christmas.

Bill



*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!*

St. Antony's Youth group (S.A.Y.)

This year's Christmas pageant was developed by Benjamin W. and Aina Z. Rehearsal began 6 November and will continue through most of Advent. The pageant itself will be part of the 10 o'clock service on the 4th Sunday of Advent (18 December). Note: photographers wanted as the youth will be busy being part of the pageant. There is rumor that S.A.Y. has guests coming from a distance to join the pageant, whether they are angels from heaven or wise people from a distant land ... we will just have to wait and see.

S.A.Y. plans to participate in the Christmas Angels program. We also plan to participate in the Advent Cookie Exchange on the 10th of December. In preparation, we will be meeting Friday evening, 9 December to bake cookies.

The next youth Sunday is 29 January and our annual Valentines Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser is Saturday, 11 February.

In God's Peace,
Charles L. Smith

Communications

When I drive the long hours from Washington to Colorado and back, my mind often wanders from thought to thought. Someplace between Rawlins, WY and Estes Park, CO, I asked myself, "What is communication and how did God, "get the word out?"

In the Gospel of John, we hear about God communicating with us: John 1:1 - 5,

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

And, what should be our actions when we hear the WORD communicating with us? Our part is so simple: Listen and believe:

John 6:28-29 clears that up:

"Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the One he has sent ."

It is certainly true that the Shepherds during the first Christmas Season received wonderful and awesome communication as told in the Gospel of Luke:

Luke 2:8-14

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

It is apparent from that event that singing is also a marvelous form of communication and praise.

One more communication from the Communications Commissioner: MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Bill Demmon, Member, St. Antony's Bishop's Committee.

**St Antony's Neighborhood Ministry Group's
Combined Event**

Saturday, 3 December 2016

**Meet at St A's at 4:30 to Carpool to Discovery Baptist Church in Gig Harbor
- or meet us there at 5:30**

*Take a stroll through the village streets - and mix with the people of Bethlehem -
on that special night - the night when Christ was Born!*

It's a rain or shine outdoor event – so dress warmly

*Neighborhood groups are encouraged to plan some get together within their group
for after the event – or perhaps stop for dinner or dessert on the way home!*

**For more information contact Mark Westin or Sarah Rogers
– as well as your Neighborhood Ministry Group Leader**

**Living Nativity 2016
Discovery Baptist Church Gig Harbor**

December 3 & 4, 2016, 5-8pm (Peak Times are 6-7pm)

One of the greatest moments in all of history was the birth of Jesus Christ—the One who gave His own life so that we could be forgiven of our sins and receive the priceless gift of eternal life. Christmas comes to life on Gustafson Drive as you mingle with over 200 characters and real animals. Yes, you'll feel like you stepped right back in time... right into Bethlehem.

Come join thousands of other visitors and experience the real meaning for the season! Walk-through only, so dress warmly! No charge. Parking graciously provided across the street by Harbor Covenant Church.

Directions

- From Highway 16 take the Olympic Drive exit
- Follow Olympic Drive west for 0.6 miles
- Keep straight onto 26th Street NW and go 0.9 miles
- Turn right onto Gustafson Drive NW
- The church will be immediately on your left

CONTACT US

(253) 858-8990
info@discoverybaptist.org

LOCATION

4902 Gustafson Drive NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98355

People's Warden

Happy New Year. Advent (the church's new year) begins 27 November this year. A season of waiting and preparation. What? That's not what I am experiencing, how about you?

Here are some preparations that are underway, perhaps you know of others.

- The youth group S.A.Y. is preparing a Christmas Pageant for us.
- S.A.Y. will meet and nominate a youth for the Bishop's Committee.
- The building committee continues its work.
- Parish Life is preparing an Advent Cookie Exchange so you can have a variety of cookies for your parties without having to bake 11 different recipes.

Submitted by Charles Smith
People's Warden



Faith Formation

Faith formation continues to be active. Sunday School 2016-2017 is well underway. Be sure to ask our teachers what each class is working on when you see them at coffee hour. The discernment for what Sunday School will look like in our new facility is progressing forward. That discernment group is weighing the options and will be making decisions soon.

The vicar's bible study is also underway. Each meeting is designed so that anyone can come, even if they were not able to attend the previous meetings.

We also have another discernment group meeting. Please inquire with Fr. Bill if you are interested in knowing more about discernment.

St. Antony's continues to participate in Faith Formation outside of our walls too: Camp Houston, Come and See... Go and Tell, Kairos to name a few. Please contact Charles Smith or Sarah Rogers for more information.

Submitted by Charles Smith and Sarah Rogers

Operation Homefront

Operation Homefront will be hosting Holiday Meals for the Military 2016 on December 9th. The event will be held at Silverdale United Methodist Church from 2pm to 7pm. 500 local military families will receive dry goods for a holiday meal, a \$25 gift card for a protein of choice, toys, stockings and a visit with Santa. Home Depot will also have a clinic where children can complete a holiday project. The clinic was a big hit at the Backpack Brigade in August.

Volunteers are needed the day of the event and on Thursday December 8th from 12pm the 4pm setting up for the event. If you would like to volunteer please contact April Franklin, Operation Homefront organizer, directly at (503) 214-0767. If you have questions, contact Gail Westin at 360 813-3329.

Episcopal 101 Class

I am excited to announce this two part class will have its first session **December 11th at 11:45** after the 10 am Sunday service. While this class is geared toward our newest members I encourage everyone who has an interest in the history, liturgy, customs, traditions and new direction for the Episcopal Church to attend. This class, led by Fr. Bill Fulton will begin to give some insight as to what differentiates the Episcopal Church from other formal Christian religions - what makes us Episcopalians.

The second class in the series will answer this question on a much smaller scale; what makes St. Antony's special and what does our mission offer to both our parishioners and our community. The date for this class has yet to be set, but look for a date in late January.

If you have any questions please speak with Sarah Rogers, Welcoming Committee.

Building Committee

October 18th St Antony's received the "Comments Document" from the Kitsap County Department of Community Development-DCD. The document outlined some additions or needed clarification to the drawings provided by the Civil Engineers-MAP Ltd. I met with MAP and have they have been actively pursuing the work. There has already been a return site visit by the Geo-Tech firm that is working for MAP to investigate a comment about possible minor heating oil spill in one isolated location. (This is the location where a previous home was located until it burned many years ago. It is suspected that the limited amount of heating oil found in the soil came from the small tank on the side of the home.) The report from the Geo-Tech firm should be available very soon. MAP has committed to meeting the date set by DCD for comment answers and corrections to be returned. Due to the time taken by DCD for issuance of the comments and currently no permit in hand the contractor retained for the project is unable to secure sub-contractors for some of the key portions of the project. Work in Kitsap County is busy now and the subs are hesitant to spend time bidding on non-permitted projects. As soon as the permits are issued the subs will be willing to bid.

The optimistic time line that had been developed previously has now shifted. With the winter weather upon us it is not wise to begin digging in the dirt. So it appears that upon receipt of permits construction will begin in very early spring. Planning for the first service in the new church will begin as construction dated are firmed up. Please remember to keep the entire Building Committee and the Sub-Committees in your prayers as this wonderful project continues forward.

John Stockwell-Chairman
Building Committee



From the Altar Guild

We have ordered poinsettias for the Altar for Christmas! Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex on Nov. 13th. Although the prices for flowers and plants have been going up every year, we want to keep the amount for a poinsettia at \$ 15.00. The final date to sign up will be Dec. 20th. The Christmas Eve bulletin will have your name listed. Thank you very much!



Caroline Hoag

Cookie Exchange

You are invited to our Christmas cookie exchange and sing-along on 10 December from 2:00-3:30 p.m. in the church hall. Please bring 2 dozen cookies to exchange, and enjoy a relaxing afternoon of fun, fellowship and music!



Men's Breakfast



Men's Breakfast and Gift Exchange
8:00 AM
Saturday, December 17

All men of St. Antony's are invited to come to share a hearty breakfast and participate in the gift exchange.

**Bring a gift of less than \$10
and be ready to be surprised!**

Making of the Garland

After the Men's Breakfast, come join us in making the garlands for the greening of the church. This event starts at 10:00 am. Be sure to bring gloves and clippers to help.





December Birthdays

1	<i>Jackie Vincent</i>
2	<i>Carolyn Sorrell</i>
5	<i>Elisabeth Demmon</i>
7	<i>Gregory Demmon</i>
13	<i>Gail Campbell-Ferguson</i>
22	<i>Bill Reeder</i>
24	<i>Carol Smith</i>
28	<i>Daniel Ferguson</i>



December Anniversaries

11	<i>Larry & Nancy Sinnock</i>
16	<i>Stan & Moonyeen Marks</i>
19	<i>Ed & Carolyn Segreist</i>
28	<i>Ken Stephens & Loretta McGinley</i>
30	<i>Mark & Gail Westin</i>

Deadline for the January Glad Tidings is
Monday, December 19th at 10 am.
Please send all submissions to:
stantonysilverdale@gmail.com. Thank you.



December 2016 Schedule



JOB	December 4 2nd Sunday of Advent	December 11 3rd Sunday of Advent	December 18 4th Sunday of Advent	December 24 Christmas Eve 5:00 pm	December 24 Christmas Eve 10:30 pm	December 25 Christmas Day 10:00 am
EM 8 am	Donna Hilton	Ruth Lindstrum	Elizabeth Moorhead			
LC/OT & NT 8 am	John Steller	Lynda Loveday	Ruth Lindstrum			
GREETER 8 am	Jim Smith	Darrow Lindstrum	Rod & Marin Mash			
EM 10 am	Mary Zabinski	Carolyn Segrist	Shane Carlson	Ruth Lindstrum	Carolyn Segrist	Peter Stockwell
LC/OT 10 am	Kathy Little	Jim Foley	Larry Little	Gail C-F		Norma Tipton
LC/NT 10 am	Gail C-F	Stu Smith	Carolyn Segrist	Ruth Lindstrum	Carolyn Segrist	John Steller
ACOLYTES 10 am	Kate Z. Aina Z. Collin H.	Heather C. Drew W. Mackenzie W.	Benjamin W. Christina W. Jason W.	Christina E. Carleton M. Aina Z.	Aina Z. Kate Z. Carleton M.	
GREETER 10 am	Tovi Andrews	Carole Nau	Nancy Ladenberger	Darrow Lindstrum	Ed Segrist	
USHER 10 am	Rich & Sarah	Allison & Shane	Carolyn Sorrell	Rich & Sarah	Chris Crowson	
BPOD	Penny Whitney ♻️	Beth Rohlfing	Bill Demmon ♻️			
COUNTERS	Bill Demmon Jacque Walker	Bill Cleveland Nancy Ladenberger	Heidi F-W Norma Tipton		Nancy L.	
COFFEE HOUR	Allison Carlson	Elizabeth Flagg	Westin Family	Loretta McGinley	Loretta McGinley	
EUCARISTIC VISITORS	Beth Rohlfing	Tovi Andrews	Kathy Little			
1st LESSON	Isaiah 11:1-10	Isaiah 35:1-10	Isaiah 7:10-16	Isaiah 9:2-7	Isaiah 9:2-7	Isaiah 52:7-10
PSALM	Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19	Canticle 15 The Song of Mary	Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18	Psalms 96	Psalms 96	Psalms 98
2nd LESSON	Romans 15:4-13	James 5:7-10	Romans 1:1-7	Titus 2:11-14	Titus 2:11-14	Hebrews 1:1-12
GOSPEL	Matthew 3:1-12	Matthew 11:2-11	Matthew 1:18-25	Luke 2:1-14-20	Luke 2:1-14-20	John 1:1-14

Roster of Volunteers for Services

If you cannot serve on your assigned Sunday, please call someone from this list.
(A strike through a name means they are not available now but will be back.)

LECTORS	EUCARISTIC MINISTERS	GREETERS	COUNTERS	USHERS	ACOLYTES
8 AM	8 AM	8 AM	Bill Cleveland	Shane and Allison C.	Heather C.
Donna Hilton	Donna Hilton	Donna Hilton	Chris Crowson	Chris Crowson	Carleton M.
Ruth Lindstrum	Ruth Lindstrum	Darrow Lindstrum	Bill Demmon	Ray Flagg	Christina E.
Lynda Loveday	Elizabeth Moorhead	Lynda Loveday	Jim Foley	Pete Morris	Chelsea R.
Elizabeth Moorhead	Bill Reeder	Rod & Marin Mash	Nancy Ladenberger	Rich & Sarah Rogers	Drew W.
John Steller	Charles Smith	Jim Smith	Norma Tipton	Dave & Jan Peterson	Mackenzie W.
Norma Tipton		Jacque Walker	Jacque Walker	Dave & Carolyn S.	Benjamin W.
Mardi Dawson (sub)			Heidi Feenstra-Wilson		Christina W.
10 AM	10 AM	10 AM			Jason W.
Gail C- Ferguson	Carolyn Segrist	Tovi Andrews			Aina Z.
Elizabeth Flagg	Shane Carlson	Allison Carlson			Kate Z.
Jim Foley	Kathy Little	Ray & Elizabeth Flagg			
Kathy & Larry Little	Charles Smith	Liz Haney			
Carolyn Segrist	Peter Stockwell	Nancy Ladenberger			
Stu Smith	Mary Zabinski	Carole Nau			
Mike Wentworth		Malcolm & Sylvia C.			
		(substitutes)			

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Noon Vicar's Bible Study 7 pm Building Committee Mtg.	2 Vicar's Day Off	3 1-6 pm Writing Group 4:30 pm Neighborhood Groups to Live Nativity
4 8 & 10 am Holy Eucharist Nursery/ Sunday School 5 pm Contemplative Prayer Service	5 9 am Morning Prayer 5 pm Tony's Trekkers Plan/ Potluck	6 7 am Sonshine Fellowship 11 am Welcome Committee Meeting 6 pm Scouts	7 5:30 pm Holy Eucharist 6:15 pm Potluck 7 pm Program	8 Noon Vicar's Bible Study 6:30 pm Bishop's Committee Meeting	9 Vicar's Day Off 5:30 pm S.A.Y. Cookie Bake	10 1-6 pm Writing Group 2 pm Cookie Exchange
11 8 & 10 am Holy Eucharist Nursery/ Sunday School 11:30 am Episcopal 101 Class 5 pm Contemplative Prayer Service	12 9 am Morning Prayer 4:30 pm Outreach Team Mtg.	13 7 am Sonshine Fellowship Standing Committee	14 5:30 pm Holy Eucharist 6:15 pm Potluck 7 pm Program	15 Noon Vicar's Bible Study	16 Vicar's Day Off	17 8 am Men's Breakfast Gift Exchange 10 am Making of the Greens 1-6 pm Writing Group 
18 8 & 10 am Holy Eucharist Nursery/ Sunday School Christmas Pageant 5 pm Contemplative Prayer Service	19 9 am Morning Prayer 11 am Witty Knitters	20 7 am Sonshine Fellowship 10 am Newsletter Deadline 1 pm Worship Planning Mtg.	21 5:30 pm Holy Eucharist 6:15 pm Potluck 7 pm Program	22 Noon Vicar's Bible Study	23 Vicar's Day Off	24 Christmas Eve 5:00 pm & 10:30 pm Carols, Candlelight & Communion
25 Christmas Day 10 am Carols & Communion 	26 9 am Morning Prayer	27 7 am Sonshine Fellowship 6 pm Scouts	28	29	30	31

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