

Bishop Committee Reports

February 2017

VICAR'S REPORT – Bill Fulton

Welcome new members

Welcome Olivia, Heather, Tovi, and Aina! This is my monthly Vicar's Report that I send out before each Bishop's Committee meeting. In my report I try to communicate the important things I've been doing, important things going on in the parish, and plans for the future.

BC Retreat

I look forward to seeing you this Saturday for our BC retreat. Tentative agenda:

- 9:00 Gather
- 9:30 Team Building
- 10:30 Commissions
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Goal setting
- 2:00 BC Meeting for February
- 3:00 Adjourn

Please note that we will need to elect one of our members to serve as Peoples' Warden, and we'll need to assign the commissions, so please be thinking about how you would like to serve this year.

Our landlord, New Fellowship Church

David Sorrell and I are meeting with the leaders of New Fellowship Church tonight to discuss several issues including the question of extending our time in our building after our rental agreement runs out in June. Possibly they'll ask for new lease terms. We'll also discuss how we can share our church calendars to eliminate overlapping events.

Godly Play workshop

On February 4, Mary Zabinski and I attended a workshop at St. Thomas, Medina, on the Godly Play program. Godly Play is a way to help children grow spiritually through Biblical storytelling, play, and art. A discernment group led by Sarah Rogers studied the Godly Play program and decided it would be a good choice for us to implement this fall. Before then, we'll need to have teachers trained and materials bought. I'll have more on this later.

Diocese joins lawsuit

I sent out an email to the parish informing them of the lawsuit the Diocese has joined against the federal government's ban on refugees and immigrants and invited people to a discussion at the Wednesday program on February 15. I hope this will be a healthy way for us to deal with this issue.

Tense Political Climate

We seem to be living in a very tense political climate where people are highly sensitive to political language. Bp. Greg sent out an invitation to clergy to meet for a discussion on how to survive as a clergyperson in these contentious times. I try not to be political in the pulpit and other one-way venues, but I hope you can appreciate how difficult it is now for clergy to speak the truth while keeping the peace.

Lynda Loveday, rest in peace

I was present with Lynda in the afternoon before she died later that evening. I'm sad that she is gone but grateful for her life with us at St. Antony's. I officiated at her memorial service on January 28.

Liturgy Workshop for EMs and Readers

On March 18, there will be a workshop for Eucharistic Minister, Readers, and Preachers at Emmanuel, Mercer Island. I plan to go, and two others have indicated they'd like to join me. I think this is an excellent way for us to improve the quality of our worship (not to mention meeting the requirement for continuing education for Ems and readers).

Vacation plans

I'll be on vacation February 21-23 to visit my mother in Colorado, and March 25-31 to visit our son, Chad, and his wife, Brittany, in Washington, D.C. Fr. Dick Scott has agreed to cover in my absence.

BISHOP'S WARDEN - Charles Smith

I am looking forward to the excitement that this year brings. With the permit process well underway we can look forward to digging, pouring a foundation and building new walls for a new sanctuary.

Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Psalm 127:1

The LORD has already built the church. We are the church. We must continue to strive towards the mission God has called us to as the community called St. Antony's. We cannot let the excitement of building take away from the day to day activity of St. Antony's. We must continue to be the church in this place, at this time.

How do we do that? This is the underlying question that the agenda of the Bishop Committee's retreat will seek to address. I am looking forward to the retreat. I hope you are too.

PEOPLE'S WARDEN - Charles Smith

Announcements were made at both services following the annual meeting of the election results. Unfortunately not everyone made it to one of the services on the

29th of January. The question of who was elected continues to be asked. We need to make sure the results are communicated in the newsletter too.

We also need to include articles in the newsletter that reflect the work that will be done at the Bishop Committee retreat. I hope every Bishop's Committee member will help with that.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Jim Foley

More people donated their pledge for the entire year right out of the gate. I adjusted the monthly income budgets accordingly. We are off to a roaring start! See minutes from BC meeting for more details.

FAITH FORMATION – Charles Smith

Vicar Bible Study: continues to meet

Book Studies: none at this time

Sunday school: The discernment group has made its decisions for the 2017 Sunday school program. We will be utilizing the Godly Play program for our younger grades and Rite 13 for our teenagers.

Vacation Bible School: Planning for 2017 has not begun - yet.

Rite 13: Our rite 13 group continues to meet.

Contemplative Prayer: Continues to be offered periodically. Please see the announcements for the next offering.

Nursery: Please see the Vicar's report.

Wednesday night program: Please see the announcements for the current program theme.

Spiritual Direction: Nothing to report.

Discernment: The discernment group for Sunday school has concluded its work. Please see "Sunday school" above. The discernment group for ordination continues to meet.

Little Sisters of St. Clare: Nothing to report

Come and See: The next Come and See...Go and Tell weekend has been postponed to the fall of 2017.

Kairos: Charles has been invited to be part of the team for Kairos 60 in Monroe, April 27-30, 2017.

EfM: Education for Ministry (EfM) is well into their program year; however, they are always eager to answer questions. Kathy & Larry Little are participating this year. Please see Kathy Little for more information.

ST. ANTONY'S YOUTH – Charles Smith

Our annual Valentine Spaghetti Dinner, youth group fundraiser will follow the Bishop Committee retreat on February 11 this year. I hope you will be able to come.

Upcoming youth events:
Egg hunt

More events will be planned in the near future.

COMMUNICATIONS – Tovi Andrews

Since I am new to the Bishop's Committee this year I will be listening to my team mates the first couple of meetings to catch the mechanics of their committee work and leadership. I anticipate a calm productive year.

BUILDING COMMITTEE – John Stockwell

No report.

PARISH LIFE – Loretta McGinley

There was a Pastoral Care Team meeting on 21 January. Gail Ferguson invited a guest speaker, Mari Van Court, from the Citizen's Advisory Council on Aging who spoke to the group about caregiving. A presentation on caregiving will be planned for our congregation within the next 1-2 months. There was also discussion and planning to meet care needs of specific parishioners.

There was a Lay Eucharistic Visitor meeting 30 January to review how this ministry is going. The program has been up and running since September with a rotational schedule. Olivia Stalter may return to this ministry again.

Our soup suppers begin again on 8 March. Suppers will be held on Wednesday evenings following a Eucharist service at 5:30 pm. There will be five suppers held on 8, 15, 22, 29 March and on 5 April. I will write a bulletin about the Soup Suppers to appear on Sunday, 26 February, and will include information in the March Glad Tidings.

WELCOMING – Sarah Rogers

No report.

ENVIRONMENT - Beth Rohlfiing

No report. Beth will be changing to Outreach for 2017.

MUSIC, WORSHIP AND LITURGY

No commissioner.

OUTREACH - Beth Rohlfiing

New to this commission.