

BC Monthly Reports  
March 2020

**VICAR'S REPORT – Bill Fulton**

March 12, 2020

**Changes due to Coronavirus threat**

I informed the congregation of the Bishop's requirements by email. These include: no wine at Communion, no water in the baptismal font, no passing of offering plates, no contact during the Peace, and no Eucharistic Visitors. I called David to discuss the other items the Bishop mentioned, which included encouraging those over 60 or with compromised immune systems to stay away from church until the coronavirus threat is past. We agreed to follow the Bishop's advice including cancelling our Wednesday evening Soup Suppers and Program. Although some people may think we're overreacting, I believe that we need to do all we can to protect our members and our communities. Our attendance will be way down for some time, and this may have some negative consequences for our pledge income, although I hope people will honor their pledges even though they can't attend for a time.

**Bishop's Committee Retreat**

I thought we had a good retreat although only five of us were able to attend. I have some inserts for the BC Notebooks of those who were not present. I sent a thank you letter and a check for \$50 to St. Nicholas as a gesture of appreciation. I also sent a thank you note to John and Debbie Stockwell for providing us lunch.

**Clerk for our meeting**

We'll need to have a volunteer to take minutes at our meeting this Thursday. Please consider whether you would be willing to do this.

**New accounts at Timberland Bank**

Barb Fox, from the Diocesan office, sent me the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting authorizing our new accounts at Timberland Bank. I took the minutes to the bank, and they are ready for our signers to come in and give their information to the bank.

**Digital Monitor for Narthex**

John Stockwell, Sarah Rogers and I met to discuss the requirements for a touch screen monitor that will be placed in the narthex to replace the table with the signups. John has engaged a technician who is willing to set it up for us for free. More information will be coming.

**Lunch with new members**

I had lunch with new members Dave and Carol Wedeven at their home on Rocky Point.

**Legacy Society Plaque**

The Legacy Society plaque has been put up in the coffee/gathering room as we agreed at our last meeting.

**God's Garden**

I was pleased to see that we selected the north side of the church as the location for God's Garden, and I'm looking forward to hearing more about it. My thanks to David for leading this project.

### **Photo Board**

We need to find a person who is willing to take photos of our members and we need to make a display board to display them on.

### **Photo Directory**

The Life Touch company will come May 12-13 to take photos for a new photo directory. Linda will set this up, but we'll need volunteers to help on those two days. Linda will be looking for signups during the next few Sundays.

### **Dumpster pickup reduced to every two weeks**

I called Waste Management and arranged for them to pick up the trash in the dumpster every two weeks rather than every week. We don't generate very much trash for such a big dumpster.

### **New copier**

Our new copier is in place and working well. The lease costs are considerably less than with the old copier.

### **Preaching Excellence Program June 1-8**

I was accepted as a participant in the Preaching Excellence Program in Adamstown, Maryland June 2-5. The program is sponsored by the Episcopal Preaching Foundation, which pays all the costs, including registration, lodging, and travel, except for \$300. I'd like to use \$300 from my Continuing Education Fund to pay for this conference.

### **PEOPLE'S WARDEN AND PASTORAL CARE – Penny Whitney**

No report.

### **BISHOP'S WARDEN – David Wilkinson**

#### **2020 Goals Updates/Progress:**

- Complete the design of God's Garden: First design meeting was held on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Priorities for garden uses to be included in design effort were determined. Design rules were established. Lists for desired hardscape and softscape elements were compiled. Design team will begin researching plausible materials to be used for the garden paths and communal areas. Team will also begin collecting pictures and catalogs for hardscape and softscape elements. Next meeting is scheduled for April 2nd.
- Coordinate development of St. Antony's Growth Plan: First planning meeting was scheduled and then postponed. The meeting will be rescheduled once we are past the COVID-19 emergency.

- Promote growth of deeper relationships in church family through social events: No updates this month.

#### **Other Accomplishments:**

- Met with Norma Tipton and Father Bill to discuss the meeting I had with Ironman Ornamental Artistic Wrought Iron. This company would be able to design and fabricate the bread and fish door handles for the sanctuary. They will do a follow up call with us in the next few weeks. In addition to the door handles, we discussed sanctuary entry and exit banners that would carry the message and symbology of the fish and bread handles. Will work with Norma to develop a proposal for this project that we can take to the Memorial Fund committee for consideration.

#### **Tasks to Accomplish before April BC Meeting:**

- Assemble and install the Communications Bulletin Board
- Provide and discuss the Building Use Policies document with Emily Nickerson
- Facilitate next garden design meeting
- Ensure next adult education series is selected
- Continue research pertinent to church growth

#### **FINANCE – Jim Foley**

Ugly for the month, due to below budget giving, but better than expected YTD. We were helped out by a \$1000 credit on the water bill!

Thanks,  
Jim

#### **NEW FACILITIES – John Stockwell**

No report.

#### **OUTREACH – Blaine Morgan**

No report.

#### **ENVIRONMENT – Peter Stockwell**

No report.

#### **PARISH LIFE – Kristen Robuck**

I had planned a St. Patrick's Day Celebration for Saturday March 14th from 6-9 pm, but due to the corona virus going around, it got cancelled. I am planning a movie night in the very end of

April to beginning of May. I plan on having some popcorn for everyone who wants any and people can bring their own drinks. If we are able to do this, the movie is yet to be picked out.

I hope this virus going around gets under control soon. Prayers for everyone who's had this and to their families.

I look forward to seeing you all on Thursday.

### **COMMUNICATIONS – Chelsea Reeder**

No report.

### **WELCOMING –**

No report.

### **FAITH FORMATION – Bill Thaete**

When we were baptized, we were asked several questions. Two of these questions were: “Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?”; and “Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?” We answered to both of these questions, “I will, with God’s help.”

Baptism, as proposed in these questions, is all inclusive, not limited or restrictive; but complete and limitless. When we were baptized, we were received into the “household of God” with no exceptions or restrictions. God accepts all who believe with no restrictions. How can we then put man-made restrictions on anyone?

“Believe Out Loud” is a trans-denominational brand that’s being established as an identifier for people and churches that are willing to be vocal about their inclusive beliefs in support of our LGBTQ community. It is a statement of our Baptismal Covenant.

There is a six-step process for the discernment and acceptance to become a Believe Out Loud Episcopal Congregation.

1. Assess – Assess our openness and welcoming
2. Engage – Engage the entire congregation
3. Adopt – Adopt a welcoming statement
4. Register – Register our church with Believe Out Loud
5. Publish – Publish our welcoming statement
6. Continue – Continue to provide support in our community

I propose that we at St. Antony engage in this process.