

Glad Tidings

May 2020



ST. ANTONY OF EGYPT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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The Rev. Bill Fulton, Vicar
The Rev. Bill Thaete, Deacon



Vicar's Voice

The shutdown we're experiencing because of the coronavirus has been powerfully disruptive in all our lives. The isolation and social distancing, the changes in our daily routines, the loss of jobs and income, the changes to the economy – all of these have sent shock waves through our lives.

I've been thinking about what God is saying to us through all this. I don't believe God sent the Coronavirus as a punishment – it's just a fact of life, especially in a globally connected world. But I think that if we listen, we might perceive that God is speaking to us through the events of our time.

As I sit in my lonely office at church, I'm acutely aware of how much I miss you all. Meeting each other face-to-face brings us joy, and we're being denied that right now. Praying together in the same room, hearing each other's voices, sharing Communion – these are life-giving things. Could it be that God is reminding us how much we need church?

When I go to the grocery store, I'm reminded how much I rely on the grocery clerk who checks out my purchase, the trucker who brings the groceries, and all the other workers I ordinarily take for granted. Our essential workers are our lifelines now, and healthcare workers are heroes. Is God pointing out to us how much we rely on each other?

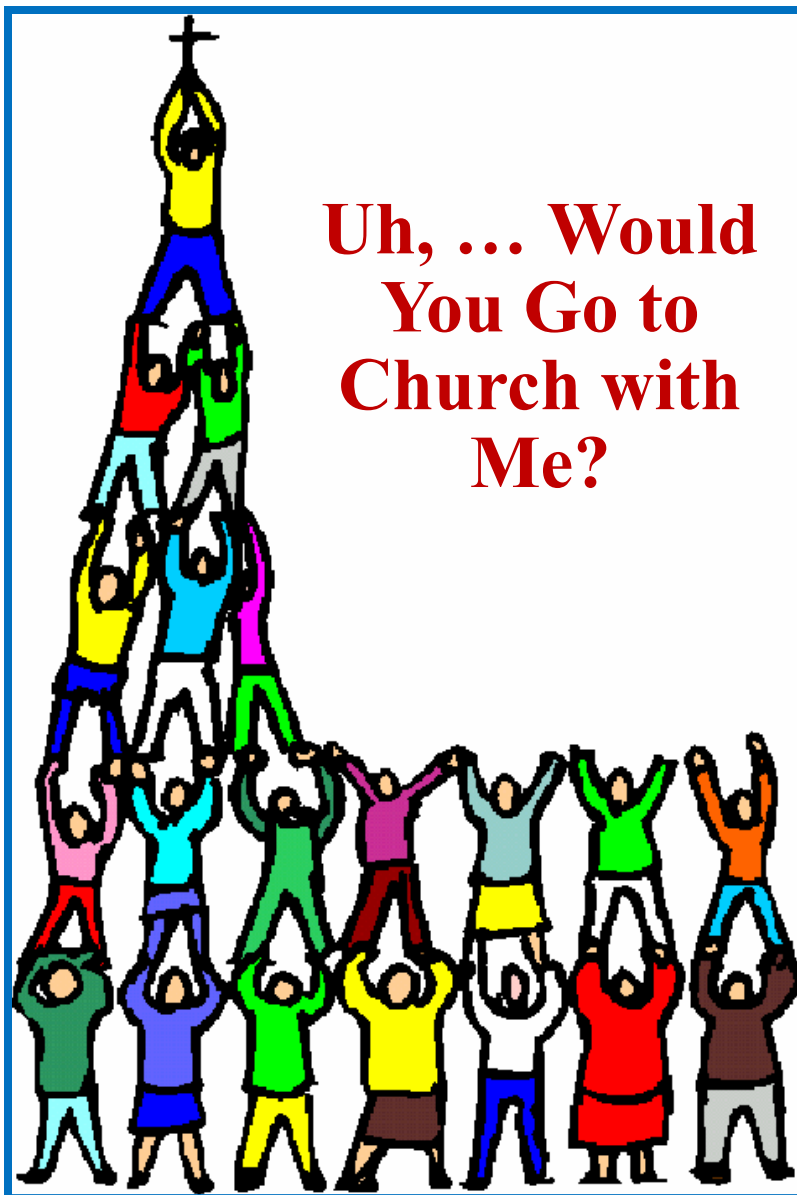
Sometimes I worry about contracting the virus myself and I'm suddenly aware how easily it spreads from one person to another, regardless of social class, national boundaries, or skin color. The virus doesn't discriminate; we're all vulnerable. Could God be impressing upon us our common humanity?

I think the virus has made us more aware of our solidarity with all human beings on the planet. The struggle to contain the virus is a global struggle, one that affects us all. We all benefit when any country or area of the world is able to defeat the virus, and the goal is to stamp it out everywhere so that it can't come back from even the most remote part of the globe. Is God trying to point out to us that we're all connected?

I'm also more aware of the importance of healthcare for everyone. The virus doesn't care whether you have health insurance or not, and we can't eradicate the virus if only some people receive healthcare. Is God hinting to us that some kind of basic universal healthcare coverage is essential so that we can all stay healthy and protected from pandemics?

Trying to interpret what God is saying to us is a risky business, and I don't want to go too far. But in this time of disruptive changes, I think we should be listening as carefully as we can to what the Spirit is saying to us. I'd love to hear your thoughts about what you think God is saying in these tumultuous days. Let me know with an email, text, phone call, or letter. 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!*



Uh, ... Would You Go to Church with Me?

In April's article on church growth, the point made was that we must examine why as a church we desire to grow. That for success, the reason must be "God" centered. We must follow what Jesus commanded us to do as a church and as disciples. To do that, our intent should be to simply tell others about our Salvation through Jesus Christ; and to teach those who believe how to be disciples of Christ. All plans and programs should lead back to these objectives.

This month, I want to discuss two success strategies used by growing churches. The first strategy is "personal invitation." The second is "refusing to settle for the mediocre."

"Personal invitation" Seems straight forward and simple. If we do not invite people to our church, they probably will not come on their own. To not take this approach of active invitation is relying on the mantra used in the movie Field of Dreams: "build it and they will come." Possible? Maybe? Realistic? No, not really.

To become an active strategy in growth, everyone has to actively participate. It has to be something we discuss, think about throughout the week, and actually seek to act on during our week. We should really pray as a community to give us courage and opportunity to make the invitation to family, friends, and strangers. I'm not talking about knocking on doors and passing out literature. I'm talking about relational situations that open the path to make the invitation.

"Refusing to settle for the mediocre" is a bigger, and believe it or not, an even more difficult strategy. But, it goes hand in hand with "personal invitation." This strategy requires us to examine our worship service and ask, "could it be better?" Just because we have done something the same way for years does not make it the "best" for now. Does the style of service connect with current day people? Does the service excite and uplift you? If you were a new person coming through the doors for the first time, would you be compelled to return or just feel that it was a "nice" event?

By not settling on mediocrity in our worship, we begin to explore the world of what attracts others. By examining how or why we do the things we do in our service, we open ourselves to what we feel during worship. If we don't gain or grow from the experience, then is our program optimal? If we do not have a moving experience, then how would strangers? And, if we are not having a moving experience, why would we invite new people?

Next month, I will continue sharing strategies for church growth. Please remember, these newsletter articles are not meant to be St. Antony's plan for growth. They are meant to explore the topic of growth and encourage thought and prayer. I look forward to the time when we will be able to discuss face to face. Until then, please feel free to send me any feedback or ideas you may have on growth for St. Antony.

David Wilkinson
Bishop's Warden

Outreach

Good morning.

I'm sitting here writing my article and thinking of all the changes that have happened. I worry about my family and friends and how they were going to deal with everything! However so far they are coping and they are working to find a way ahead. They are dealing as well as can be expected with the common anxiety of not knowing that we all feel. I personally have found myself becoming a recluse, I have not been returning emails or phone calls and found myself focusing on things that I don't have anyway of directly changing. No Surprise Outreach for me went on the back burner. So I turned off my computer, started on working on a backlog of home projects, started to return messages and got back to the business at hand.

The previous paragraph is not by any means a list of excuses! Its a statement to the fact that life sometimes gets in the way of what we have planned, however then we have to regroup to move on. I know that not everyone is looking beyond their front door on how to help their community or even their church family and that is understandable considering where we are and what we have on our plate today.

But we are going to take this time and look at the church's outreach program and change where change is needed. You are going to receive an email in the next few days giving directions on how to have a teleconference on Zoom and the subject will be "What's important to us for our outreach program and how do we get there" How we can use our new building, How we have done outreach in the past and do we need to change direction, and how are you going to get personally and physically involved. I hope to hear your thoughts and suggestions. So make some notes and watch you email box.

Blaine Morgan
Outreach Commissioner



Connections

Our telephone tree seems to be working pretty well as a means of keeping in touch with one another these days, and I have enjoyed getting to know those with whom I've been in contact. I've had wonderful conversations, shared laughter and stories of "making do" under the restrictions we are currently facing.

With that said, I find myself wondering why I don't feel that this is enough. I really miss church and the interaction we have with one another. There is something intangible which binds us together when we worship with one another. Is it energy? Is it just seeing one another?

Concern and caring can come through in the telephone calls which are made, but there's just something about being there that makes a difference, at least to me.

And since I can't quite figure it all out, I'm going to decide that it is God's presence and love which is the binding factor in our face-to-face contact with one another which brings the warmth, love, and happiness at being together.

Let's hope we will be back together again soon.

Penny Whitney
People's Warden



Charles Mission News

April 7, 2020

Getting Settled

Visa: I came to Uganda with an e-mail saying that my visa had been approved. I was permitted to enter on a temporary (or tourist) visa. That visa is only good for 30 days. I was directed to go to immigration to get my missionary visa. It was Saturday and the office was closed. On Monday, after their computer system came back up, I received my residency card (yes, it is green) and the 3-year missionary visa is now in my passport.

Koboko: Travel in mid-February was un-eventful. I came by bus to Arua and then traveled the last 50 plus kilometers to Koboko by car (taxi). It was uneventful. In mid March, public transport was restricted and in late March shut down because the social distance requirements of CoVid-19 could not be maintained.

Supplies: I am staying in a room in a comound near the Rays. My first few days were shopping for supplies. Now I wish I had, but I didn't take any pictures of shopping for a bed, mosquito net, water jugs, soap, cups, etc.

House: I knew shopping for a house would take time. I also knew I wanted a house, not a tookel. I found (with help!) a



Tookels



Ray's house



For rent

house near the Rays that would suit me. That's my landlord, Stephen, in the picture. We finished negotiations and signed a rental agreement before I had been here a month. It will take another month to finish construction on the house and compound. I should be able to move in just in time for Easter.

Prison Ministry

I was able to join with three others and go into the Bugutu prison for bible study my first week in Koboko. We go in on Thursday afternoons, or we did until CoVid-19 restrictions were implemented in Uganda on the 19th of March. We were leading a bible study on both the men's and women's side; however, when we divided into two groups they might be different passages. Also there was no consistency from week to week. After I had a turn to lead, on both sides, I was asked to develop a plan so we would have some consistency. I had just started the gospel of Mark, so we are now working our way through Mark.

I was helping with some of the missionary work the Ray family was leading, namely discipleship in Alipi and Mugujai.

Health

First, I am healthy.

Next, Uganda came late to the list of countries where CoVid-19 is present. Even before it arrived (21 March), the president of Uganda implemented CoVid-19 restrictions in an effort to keep it out of Uganda and to limit its spread if it did arrive. Unfortunately, an infected person arrived by plane just a few days later and many on that flight have tested positive. They have been quarantined, and are far away from here. Our biggest limitation is the shutdown of public transport and now, private transport.

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Giving link: www.cten.org/charlessmith
Blog: <https://charlesofsta.wordpress.com>

IS GOD'S WORK IN YOUR WILL?

Even people who already have had their wills written often overlook four important considerations:

1. **Naming an alternate personal representative.** If your personal representative (executor or executrix) cannot serve when needed, the court will have to appoint a replacement. You would probably rather make that choice yourself.

By naming an alternate in your will, you take care of this possibility. You might want to name the trust department of your bank, your attorney, or your accountant.

2. **Naming a guardian for minor children.** Some parents assume they are too young to need wills. Farthest from their thoughts is the possibility that some tragedy could disable a parent or result in a loss of one or both parents at once.

It is wise for couples with children to discuss this possibility frankly, and make decisions about who will be the guardian of their children. Then it can be discussed and agreed upon with the proposed guardian(s). The court will look with favor on the person(s) you name. Often it is satisfactory to work out a mutual agreement with an other couple whose children also would need guardians in a similar situation. These plans should be stated in the wills of all parents involved.

3. **Naming final beneficiaries.** If your will names only immediate members of the family, be aware that in many cases, every beneficiary named in a person's will has died.

What happens then is usually a happy surprise for distant cousins, for example, who sometimes were not even known by the deceased! Instead, you may want to consider our parish to receive part of your estate for its work, in the event your heirs predecease you.

4. **Including the parish in your will.** You may have primary interest in the church while you live...and it need not be forgotten when you die. If your heirs are not needy, or if you have no immediate heirs, you may want to consider including the church as one of the recipients of your estate.

Many parishioners could probably name their church as residual beneficiary for part or all of the estate after other bequests are fulfilled.

How about your will?

You can share your faith beyond your lifetime by making your will now, and enjoy the satisfaction of knowing whatever you do not need in this life will bring blessings to many others.

From the Diocese of Olympia Wills Awareness Booklet
Chris Crowson



Meet your Bishop's Committee



David Wilkinson
Bishop's Warden



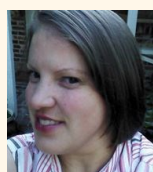
Penny Whitney
People's Warden
Parish Life -
Pastoral Care/LEV



John Stockwell
New Facilities



Blaine Morgan
Outreach



Kristen Robuck
Parish Life - Events



Dave Peterson
Environment

Chelsea Reeder
Communications



Peter Stockwell
Welcoming

Whenever you have a need or concern, please talk to one of them. They're here to help.

Home Aid Bread

Planting a small garden in my back yard this year has been a real questionable situation with the weather. Is it too early to plant tomatoes or carrots? Some days the soil is 70 degrees during the day and drops to 56 during the night. Several of the seed varieties need real stability to sprout, so the outcome is unknown and it is not good to waste heirloom seeds. Time will tell if the seedlings will grow.

Have you ever noticed how our own lives can be somewhat thought of as a garden? The plot of land we are given can be our home, family and friends, strangers and work buddies, the trips we take, shopping and sports involvements. Everything has its spot in the garden of an individuals life, and the size of our "land use" can expand, or become smaller each year. In God's eyes we are called stewards of the Life He has given to us. Our personal realm, or garden, is to be tended and nurtured according to goodness and mercy.

For us the cultivating of our life's work can be joyful and bountiful. For each of us we have little seeds of love to give away. It is never too early to forgive someone, never too early to respond in kindness with all things, never too early to be available to pray, and, never too early to say "I love you."

Tovi Andrews





May Birthdays

| | |
|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Easton Wright |
| 3 | Peter Dawson |
| 10 | Jane Stockton |
| 11 | Michael Wentworth |
| 17 | Stacey Scalf |
| | George Baxter |
| 19 | Rich Rogers |
| 23 | Peter Stockwell |
| | Ruth Lindstrum |
| | Sean Rivers |
| 24 | Amy Wentworth |
| | Toby Martin |
| 25 | Betty Fabry |
| 26 | Mackenzie Wagner |
| | Sandy Martin |



May Anniversaries

| | |
|----|------------------------|
| 18 | Benny & Cheryl Wright |
| 22 | John & Jane Teller |
| 26 | Bob & Joann Richardson |
| 28 | Robert & Jane Stockton |

Deadline for the June Glad Tidings is
Tuesday, May 26th at 10 am.
 Please send all submissions to:
stantonysilverdale@gmail.com. Thank you.

| Financial Report | | | Account Balances | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| March **Preliminary** | | Year-to-date | | |
| Operating Income | \$16,536.37 | \$53,484.96 | Local Checking | \$78,895.01 |
| Operating Expenses | \$13,890.18 | \$54,919.75 | Local Savings | \$17,156.54 |
| Net in March | \$2,646.19 | \$(1,434.79) | Diocesan Investment Funds | \$173,918.27 |
| | | | Total | \$269,969.82 |

| May 2020 Schedule | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| JOB | May 3 Fourth Sunday Of Easter | May 10 Fifth Sunday Of Easter | May 17 Sixth Sunday Of Easter | May 24 Seventh Sunday Of Easter | May 31 Pentecost |
| EM 8 am | Elizabeth Moorhead | Ruth Lindstrum | John Teller | Elizabeth Moorhead | Donna Hilton |
| LC/OT & NT 8 am | John Teller | Elizabeth Moorhead | Donna Hilton | Ruth Lindstrum | Norma Tipton |
| GREETER 8 am | Donna Hilton | Darrow Lindstrum | Pam Morton | Darrow L. | John & Jane Teller |
| | | | | | |
| EM 10 am | Peter Stockwell | Shane Carlson | Cris McCarty | Lee Halkias | Peter Stockwell |
| LC/OT 10 am | Jim Foley | Sarah Rogers | Stu Smith | Michael Wentworth | Jim Foley |
| LC/NT 10 am | Cris McCarty | Michael Wentworth | Shane Carlson | Cris McCarty | Sarah Rogers |
| ACOLYTES 10 am | Cris M. | Chelsea R. Caden C. Laurel R. | Benjamin W. Christina W. Mason W. | Cris M. Caden C. Laurel R. | |
| GREETER 10 am | Suzanne Brock | Tovi Andrews | Nancy Ladenberger | Carole Nau | Liz Haney |
| USHER 10 am | David & Carolyn Sorrell | Mark Westin | Shane Carlson | Dave & Jan Peterson | David & Carolyn Sorrell |
| COUNTERS | Jim Foley David Wedeven | Bill Cleveland Norma Tipton | Heidi F-Wilson David Wedeven | Jim Foley Maggie Scott | Bill Cleveland Chris Crowson |
| COFFEE HOUR | Carol Wedeven | Men's Group | Barbara Hart | Amy & Christina Wentworth | The Foley Family |
| Eucharistic Visitors | Beth | Penny/Olivia | Beth | Loretta | Dave |
| BPod | Kristen Robuck | Penny Whitney | | | |
| 1st LESSON | Acts 2:42-47 | Acts 7:55-60 | Acts 17:22-31 | Acts 1:6-14 | Acts 2:1-21 |
| PSALM | Psalms 23 | Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16 | Psalms 66:7-18 | Psalms 68:1-10, 33-36 | Psalms 104:25-35, 37 |
| 2nd LESSON | 1 Peter 2:19-25 | 1 Peter 2:2-10 | 1 Peter 3:13-22 | 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 | 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 |
| GOSPEL | John 10:1-10 | John 14:1-14 | John 14:15-21 | John 17:1-11 | John 20:19-23 |

| 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 | EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS | GREETERS | COUNTERS | USHERS | ACOLYTES |
| 8 am | 8 am | 8 am | Bill Cleveland A | Shane and Allison C. | Caiden C. |
| Donna Hilton | Donna Hilton | Donna Hilton | Chris Crowson B | Chris Crowson | Carleton M. |
| Ruth Lindstrum | Ruth Lindstrum | Darrow Lindstrum | Jim Foley A | Ray Flagg | Cris McCarty |
| Elizabeth Moorhead | Elizabeth Moorhead | Pam Morton | Maggie Scott B | Dave & Jan Peterson | Christina M. |
| John Teller | Bill Reeder | Jim Smith | Norma Tipton B | Ed Segrist | Chelsea R. |
| Norma Tipton | John Teller | John & Jane Teller | Jacque Walker B | Dave & Carolyn Sorrell | Laurel R. |
| Mardi Dawson (sub) | | Jacque Walker | David Wedeven B | Mark Westin | Mackenzie W. |
| | | | Heidi Feenstra-Wilson A | Barb Hart - Substitute | Benjamin W. |
| 10 am | 10 am | 10 am | Marj Zantek B | | Christina W. |
| Shane Carlson | Shane Carlson | Tovi Andrews | | | Jason W. |
| Gail C. Ferguson | Lee Halkias | Suzanne Brock | A - computer | | |
| Elizabeth Flagg | Cris McCarty | Ray & Elizabeth Flagg | B - non computer | | |
| Jim Foley | Chelsea Reeder | Liz Haney | | | |
| Cris McCarty | Peter Stockwell | Nancy Ladenberger | | | |
| Sarah Rogers | | Carole Nau | | | |
| Ed & Carolyn Segrist | | Malcolm & Sylvia (substitute) | | | |
| Stu Smith | | | | | |
| Michael Wentworth | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

May 2020

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|---|---|--|--|---|------------------------------|------------|
| | | | | | 1 Vicar's Day Off | 2 |
| 3 8 am Holy Eucharist 10:15 am Holy Eucharist | 4 | 5 7 am Sonshine Fellowship | 6 5:30 pm Evening Prayer | 7 Noon Vicar's Bible Study | 8 Vicar's Day Off | 9 |
| 10 Mother's Day 8 am Holy Eucharist 10:15 am Holy Eucharist | 11 | 12 7 am Sonshine Fellowship | 13 5:30 pm Evening Prayer | 14 Noon Vicar's Bible Study 6:30 pm Bishop's Committee Meeting | 15 Vicar's Day Off | 16 |
| 17 8 am Holy Eucharist 10:15 am Holy Eucharist | 18 10:30 am Witty Knitters | 19 7 am Sonshine Fellowship 1:00 pm Worship Planning Mtg. 10 am Newsletter Deadline | 20 5:30 pm Evening Prayer | 21 Noon Vicar's Bible Study | 22 Vicar's Day Off | 23 |
| 24 8 am Holy Eucharist 10:15 am Holy Eucharist | 25 Memorial Day | 26 7 am Sonshine Fellowship | 27 5:30 pm Evening Prayer | 28 Noon Vicar's Bible Study | 29 | 30 |
| 31 8 am Holy Eucharist 10:15 am Holy Eucharist Nursery/ Godly Play | | | | | | |

***St. Antony's Episcopal Church
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