

Annual Report 2021

St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church

Diocese of Olympia

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**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!**

Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, Diocesan Bishop

Vicar: The Rev. Bill Fulton 360-620-8086 / **Interim Vicar:** The Rev. Craig Vocelka

Secretary: Linda Robuck 360-698-0555 (Church Office)

Treasurer: Jim Foley

Bishop's Committee:

Name	Term Expires
Peter Stockwell, Bishop's Warden	January 2022
Penny Whitney, People's Warden, Pastoral Care	January 2022
Delores "Dee" Perreira, Clerk, Outreach	January 2024
Loretta McGinley, Outreach	January 2024
Julie Sherwin, Faith Formation, Youth	January 2024
David Peterson, Parish Life, Environment	January 2023
Emily Nickerson, Welcoming	January 2023
Chelsea Reeder, Communications, Parish Life	January 2022
Esther Osborne, Faith Formation, Adult	January 2022
John Stockwell, New Facilities	ongoing
No Youth Representative	
Marty Whitaker, Liaison to the Profile Committee 11/11/21	
Rev. Bill Fulton, <i>Ex officio</i> member	October 31, 2021
Rev. Craig Vocelka, Interim Vicar 11/1/21	

2021 Delegates to the Diocesan Convention:

Loretta McGinley

Julie Sherwin

Alternates:

Esther Osborne

Charles Smith

Note: Monthly BC Meeting Minutes, Treasurer's Reports, and the 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes can be found on the St. Antony's website under the tab, "About", and "Bishop's Committee."

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Interim Vicar's Report for the year 2021 - Rev. Craig Vocelka

January 7, 2022

Dear Beloved of St. Antony's,

First and foremost, I want to thank you for placing your trust in me to serve as the Interim Vicar during this transition phase in the life of St. A's.

Transitions in congregations are always a unique time, this is the third congregation I have helped with during their time of calling a new priest; but the first where it has been a full-time, long term (more than 3 months) call. Having been a bi-vocational priest until last fall, this is also the first time I've served in a full-time capacity. I am currently in the middle of completing training offered by the Interim Ministry Network to be an Intentional Interim Minister. In this training, I am learning about how we deal with change and specifically how congregations work through this process on multiple levels. In our diocese, the interim priest does not have input to the process; yet as your spiritual leader, I am here to help you both on a corporate (as much as I am permitted) and individual level as you, as we, go through this time.

As I look back on the past few months, I feel good about where we are. While I'm still trying to figure out all the technical/internet aspects of the job, I am getting more and more comfortable in my role and hopefully better communicating with you.

We had two wonderful celebrations in the fall – Fr. Bill's retirement dinner and the Stewardship gathering with Bishop Rickel.

Advent was a wonderful season; it was truly one of hope and anticipation and was a reminder to me that this coming year is an Advent in the history of St. Antony's as we wait (and work together) in joyful anticipation of the calling of your next 'stable' vicar. I ask each of you to be open, honest, and responsive to any request from the Profile or Search Committees that may come in the weeks and months ahead.

I am so thankful that we were able to gather in person for our celebration of the Nativity. I thought it was beautiful service and I thank everyone who helped make it so. I especially want to thank Gail and Mark, Ruth and Darrow, Heather, and Deacon Bill who all put up with my crazy ideas for decorating the church. I also want to thank Joann for all her ideas and help with the music.

And then we were singing *I'm Dreaming of a White Day After Christmas* ... and then we saw the beginning of the Omicron variant. As I write this, we are back to online only services in a cautionary measure to make sure that no one gets ill by attending church in person. There is no doubt that this is hard, the isolation is taking a toll on all of us but, once again, as I look at the numbers and read the current literature in the medical journals, I know this is the right thing for this time. The hopeful news is that this surge should be short lived by the prediction models [Omicron surge may peak in January, models predict \(beckershospitalreview.com\)](https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/news/omicron-surge-may-peak-in-january-models-predict) . Hopefully we will be once again meeting in person by the time you are reading this for the Annual Meeting.

Finally in reflection, we finished the year financially in a deficit. I am sure this will be addressed in other reports, but I cannot over stress the importance of your continued support of St. Antony's during these most unusual times. While we are having to do things a little differently, the bills – mortgage, utilities, salaries, -- keep coming in the usual and regular manner. Please continue to be as generous as you possibly can.

There are three people I must name to thank for all they've done to help. Linda Robuck who has patiently answered all my questions and kept me on track. Guy Fulton who has done so much to keep us connected with each other through his mastery of sending our worship services out to the world. And finally to Deacon Bill for his support and help on so many levels.

Living in hope, I look forward to the coming months. I look forward to once again having you back in church as we celebrate God's unconditional love for each of us. I anticipate the day we return to holding coffee hour outside in the beautiful pavilion surrounded by nature.

(Continues on next page)

God is good and the promise of always being with us is one we must never forget. As we move into the future let us always be thankful for this wonderful family of St. Antony's Episcopal Church. Let us grow, not only in our love of God, but in our knowledge of God's unconditional love for each and every one of us.

Again, thank you for allowing me to be your priest and for your trust in and your patience with me.

With love, with prayers, and with blessings,

fr. craig

Deacon's Annual Report for the year 2021 - Bill Thaete

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your deacon for the past year. It has been a strange period of time with the pandemic, Fr. Bill's retirement and serving in an empty church for part of the year before being able to reopen. This experience has opened my eyes to the blessings we have as a community. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in 2022.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Bill Thaete, Deacon

Bishop's Warden Report for the Year 2021 - Peter Stockwell

Commission Description:

Oversees the smooth operations of the church through regular consultation with the Vicar; is aware of the work of parish commissions and Diocesan events; actively participates in church functions such as welcoming visitors, making announcements and rotating attendance at both services.

This past year traversed a turbulent sea as we at St. Antony's endured the second year of closure because of Covid – 19. Guy Fulton and Bill Fagan provided the needed expertise to broadcast services through Facebook. We did return to welcoming parishioners and continued through the rest of the year wearing masks and distancing ourselves. Coffee hour was under the Pavilion while the weather cooperated. As Autumn commenced, we moved indoors and felt safe to interact until the Omicron variant compelled us to close the doors again in January 2022.

Other events at St. Antony's occurred through Zoom. At the beginning of the year, before opening the doors to our congregation, we had a coffee hour after the church service, a virtual Shrove Tuesday dinner, BC meetings, and committee meetings.

The budget ended the year in the red again, but the pledging was consistent, and our mission is solvent. The Stewardship dinner and message were clear. Bishop Rickel presented a positive theme from which our mission can and will promote the love and support we have for this church family and our community. Time, talent, and treasure provide the necessary ingredients for continuing God's work in Kitsap.

In May we participated in a joint service with New Fellowship. Father Bill joined the pastors at their church for a Facebook service. On Mother's Day, May 9, Father Bill and I expected opening the church for us to gather. Masking and distance protocols along with a sign-in sheet for tracing were implemented.

In March, I learned that Father Bill planned to retire at the end of September. The search for the next vicar began although an official announcement was not made until later in the summer. Bill and I met to write the Letter of Separation with guidance from Rev. Canon Arienne Davison. After Bill's announcement, I asked members of the congregation to become members of the two committees needed for a search. People willingly accepted. The need for an interim vicar prompted me to seek Rev. Craig Vocelka. After conversations with Canon Davison and Craig, a Letter of Acceptance (LofA) was proffered, and Craig agreed to become the interim through 2022. If needed after the year is finished, negotiations to continue may prompt an amendment to the LofA, or the search for another interim may commence. If our search for a permanent vicar is successful before the end of the year, Craig's LofA will terminate as of the date of the Letter of Acceptance with our next vicar.

Our building was closed to services after Christmas because the Omicron variant was rampant in Kitsap County. We have stayed the course, though, and we will prevail as 2022 continues to march us on through the year. Our faith in God and Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit guides us to stay a strong family and community lighthouse. We have attracted new members who feel the warmth of our love for each other.

At the same time, we have sent several members of the family to their heavenly reward, we have joined members in Holy matrimony, we have engaged in a retirement dinner for Father Bill and held our stewardship dinner. As this next year continues, we can hold with the idea that St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal is a thriving and growing mission strengthened by the Holy Spirit and the continuing support for each other.

I was blessed to serve as the Bishop's Warden during trying times. Thank you for being a wonderful church family.

Peter Stockwell
Bishop's Warden

People's Warden Report for the Year 2021 - Penny Whitney

Position Description: Serves as liaison between congregants, Bishop's Committee, and priest, and addresses concerns and suggestions of parishioners regarding church matters. The Peoples' Warden is responsible for conducting annually the Mutual Ministry Review. The Peoples' Warden also supports the following commissions/functions that concern activities of the congregation and outreach to the greater community: Outreach, Welcoming, Parish Life, Faith Formation, Youth, and Lay Pastoral Care .

For the past three years it has been my honor to serve as People's Warden for St. Antony's. Due to the Covid issue, most of the contact I've had with parishioners has been via telephone and get-well cards. When we could, our Pastoral Care team has provided meals to those who had need. During the past year I've contacted at least 19 folks to express care and concern and to determine if there was any help we could give.

During these times when we cannot meet in person, it can be very difficult to know who in our church needs help (or maybe just contact and an expression of interest and concern). By letting the interim vicar or people's warden know of a friend's need, you are helping us to do our jobs better than we could without your help.

Penny Whitney
Peoples Warden

Communications Report for the Year 2021 - Chelsea Reeder

Position Description: Coordinates our internal and external communications; such as publications, flyers, brochures, newsletter, bulletins, internal church publicity, advertising and website.

Communication was a good partnering committee to lead while doing Parish Life because to make announcements and make those in the church and community aware of events I just had to communicate it to myself.

Thank you everyone for supporting my time on the Bishop's Committee.

Chelsea Reeder
Communications Commissioner

Environment Report for the Year 2021 - Dave Peterson

Position Description: Coordinates the upkeep of the church facilities and grounds: maintenance, repairs, and cleaning. Procures supplies necessary for these activities, including kitchen and restroom supplies. Researches, solicits, and implements ideas of change to the physical environment which aid in the creation of a loving, welcoming space that is conducive to the personal growth in Christ and opening the congregation to the service of others.

We have had a crazy couple of years, 2021 was probably the craziest. When we went to on-line services and only had a few people were in the building, a lot of things got overlooked. We didn't have a lot of people here to work on our landscaping; it was mostly David Sorrell. When we got back in the building, things got noticed and we started working on things that needed extra work to get our property back in shape. Many thanks to the people who worked around the building; individuals and work parties that were organized. This last summer John Stockwell, Carrie Rivers, Mark Westin and myself got power out to the Event Shelter. We had several concerts and picnics held in the Event Shelter. Things we are working on: continue working on the landscaping, forming a landscaping committee, and more programs in the Event Shelter. I would like to give my support for the Playset that we are raising money for, it would be a good draw for young families that we need to have for our church membership

Dave Peterson
Environment Commissioner

Faith Formation (Youth) Report for the Year 2021 - Julie Sherwin

This last year has been one with continued challenges for the continuing goal to foster the growth of faith in our youth. I want to thank all the parents, guardians, aunts, uncles, and grandparents who have stepped up in helping guide our youth in their faith journey. I wish I could say that this next year will offer fewer challenges, but with the new variants of Covid-19 we must continue to remain flexible knowing that this too will pass. With Godly play on hold and the nursery temporary closed, I have focused on increasing our outdoor options to make a dedicated space for our youth. We are roughly halfway to our initial goal for a playset which will allow children to get some energy out before and after services. I am thankful for all the donations so far and know we will reach our goal slow and steady. This playset also will help advertise to the world what we already know, St. Antony's of Egypt is a place for youth!

Going forward, I have a few goals to help the transition of returning to church and keeping the church connection strong in our youth. I hope the weather and restrictions allow for an outdoor Easter egg hunt and picnic. I also hope that as summer approaches we look into outdoor fun to at least get the youth back at the church. Come summer, I would like to look at events such as family camping trips or mini retreat which can create a more meaningful experience for our adolescent youth. I also pray that come fall, we can re-open the nursery and godly play.

Julie Sherwin
Youth Faith Formation Commissioner

Faith Formation (Adult) Report for the Year 2021- Esther Osborne

In October we began a Bible study at 9 a.m. on Sunday, between the 8:00 and 10:15 worship services. Beginning with the earliest letters of Paul, less than a generation after the Resurrection, we moved on to a study of the two different birth narratives during Advent. Beginning on January 9, the class will begin a study of Genesis, utilizing the New Collegeville Bible Commentary. Leadership will rotate among class members.

Adult Faith Formation would like to determine whether there is interest in either a midweek Morning or Evening Prayer session, or an in depth discussion of a contemporary issue such as the church's response to climate change or a Christian response to social inequality.

Esther Osborne
Adult Faith Formation Commissioner

Outreach Report for the year of 2021 - Loretta McGinley & Dee Perreira

In the midst of the ongoing pandemic, St. Antony's continued to provide support to a variety of organizations outside our church doors. A committed group of parishioners met monthly via Zoom and approved donations to the following organizations:

Coffee Oasis (including support of their Back to School Program and Family Christmas Project)

Kitsap Community Resources (monthly support to their Kinship Program)

Chaplain's on the Harbor

Kathleen Sutton Fund

ALIVE Shelter

Episcopal Relief and Development

FISHLINE

Fall Food Drive in support of the ***Central Kitsap Food Bank***

Kitsap Rescue Mission

Charles Smith for his mission work via his support agency, CTEN

In addition, Outreach supported the Mission to Seafarers ministry through participation in their Ditty Bag Project, which was a wonderful collaborative effort of many of our church members.

Guidance for appropriate use of the Brandenburg Fund was developed by the Outreach team and approved by the Bishop's Committee. The Outreach Team recommended approval of a \$1000 donation from that fund in support of the local Salvation Army, and it was approved by the BC.

One of the Outreach goals identified this year was to learn more about local needs and organizations that provide support. The Outreach Team met with representatives from Mission to Seafarers, the Kathleen Sutton Fund and Faith Episcopal Church, and arranged for speakers from the Coffee Oasis and Mission to Seafarers to speak during church services. Finding ways to collaborate with other churches in providing Outreach to the community was identified as one of our goals for 2022.

We are appreciative of the many ways our members provide outreach to others, and look forward to continued ways to serve in 2022.

Sincerely,
Loretta McGinley and Dee Perreira
Outreach Co-Commissioners

Parish Life Events Report for the year 2021 - Dave Peterson and Chelsea Reeder

Position Description: *Plans, coordinates and provides information about parish social activities, such as: Neighborhood Ministry Groups, Sonshine Fellowship, Lenten Soup Suppers, Tony's Trekker's, Epiphany potluck, Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, summer picnic, Christmas Cookie Exchange, retreats, and special events. Helps with provision of lay pastoral care through, (1) oversight of the Lay Eucharist Visitor program, and (2) oversight of the Pastoral Care Team, scheduling monthly meetings to respond to pastoral care needs of the congregation (e.g. calls, visits, care cards, meals, transportation).*

When I took over Parish Life as part of the Bishops Committee it seemed only to make sense to plan events to get our church family back together and in a safe way. I enjoyed the evening events under the event shelter as I know many of you did, too. We kicked it off with a southern styled potluck! Those who came enjoyed reconnection through conversation and good food. The Parish Life hosted many evening events, I think the greatest hit was the Luau with the very special treat of Dee's Hawaiian Hula performance. I also organized Father Bill Fulton's Farewell Dinner. I had that event semi-catered by Monica's Waterfront Bakery in old town Silverdale, they made the food while the Parish Life and other volunteers served, set-up, and helped in clean up. The farewell was an honor for me to organize and create such a memorable event for all who attended. The Trunk Or Treat had the best turn out that St. Antony's has had in previous years. Thank you to all who decorated their vehicles and passed out candy. We could tell the community had much fun!

Thank you everyone for supporting my time on the Bishop's Committee, it's been grand.

Chelsea Reeder
Parish Life Commissioner

Welcoming Report for the Year 2021 - Emily Nickerson

Position Description: **Coordinates aspects of how we greet every person to our church, especially inviting, orienting, incorporating and transitioning newcomers to fully active members. We follow up with guests, provide welcome bags, coffee hour, pew cards, greeters and coordinate newcomers' events.**

The Welcoming Group has been in a "wait and see" year due to COVID. As welcoming as St. Antony's is, it's a lot harder with masks on and six feet apart or ZOOM. So we have had to think outside the box.

1. We put together a new pamphlet that introduces everyone to St. Antony's. It is in the pew backs and talks about our local history as well as the story of St. Antony. We gathered every similar pamphlet from every Episcopal Church that we could find and put together the what we felt were the best pieces of all: Gather, Grow and Go in terms of worship services, study opportunities, and outreach.
2. We are revising the newcomer information sheet to get more information about a family's or individual's interests, skills and previous areas of participation in church activities, and most important, their needs.
3. With the New Year Sylvia Campbell has kindly offered to do a short biography of parishioners for the Glad Tidings each month. We have slips of paper with everyone who is in the 2021 Directory and Sylvia will draw one and contact that person to learn more about them. We are hoping that learning more about our congregation will lead to more connections.
4. Our biggest project is the creation of a new "in-house" photo directory. Peter Stockwell has offered to help photography and format. He will be at the church for several Sundays and can take family or individual pictures. However if you have a picture that shows you with a project, hobby or pets, that would be great. The directory hopefully will show who we are a member of St. Antony's and as a church.
5. Since we are thinking outside the box we welcome ideas from you. At least COVID has forced us to be a little more creative and every idea is important. Speak to Emily Nickerson, Sylvia Campbell, Kathy Avery, Penny Whitney, Carolyn Sorrell, and Tovi Andrews. And if you would like to be a part of this group, please feel free to join. Emily Nickerson, Welcoming Commissioner.

Youth Report for the year 2021

Position Description: Coordinates youth activities, as well as announces diocesan activities such as Junior High Youth Churchmen, High School Youth Churchmen, and Episcopal Youth Churchmen.

There was no youth representative for 2021.

Ministry: Mission Work in Uganda Report for the year 2021 - Charles Smith

Ministry: Mission Work in Uganda

What has God called me here to do, and what am I doing to fulfill that call?

God has called me here to support prison ministry. The interest in prison ministry continued to grow during 2021 by the grace of God. My role has been to be a stable, predictable influence in an unstable (covid) time. God has shown me how to encourage the team and provide direction based upon the experience He has given me through Kairos Prison Ministry. Others are getting excited about what we are doing, and God has inspired them to share that with those around them, which is growing the ministry. We are growing individually and as a team. I am eager to see how God will use us when we can go back inside the prison.

God continues to use my training and experience in computers. Both computer skills classes in Entebbe graduated (together) in 2021. The first computer skills class in Mugujaï also graduated in 2021. The new class in Mugujaï, and the classes in Ombachi (north Koboko) and Birijaku (west Koboko) are on pace to graduate in 2022. There is interest in the community, a desire for the program to grow. In Mugujaï, some of the graduates are helping teach which is one of the goals.

What were the major ministry accomplishments last year?

- Continuing the Bible study for the prison ministry.
- Continuing to meet as a prison ministry team despite being locked out of the prison. A similar ministry by another faith-based organization but in southern Uganda has effectively gone away (no team left to resume the ministry) because they are not meeting. I am in northwest Uganda.
- Completing a study of the foundations of our faith with the prison ministry team.
- Following through on God's leads so that we maintained contact with the officers in charge of the prison, earning their trust.
- Sixteen computer skills graduates.

Looking forward, what are the major ministry goals for this year?

- Re-entering the prison. Currently predicted for January (after this report is due), but with Omicron that remains to be seen.
- Finish writing the Bible study plan for the gospel of Mark (focused on use in the prison).
- Coordinating with Kairos regarding growth of prison ministry in Uganda.
- Coordinating with prison ministry Zambia. The leader of that program is focused on crusades and want to conduct one in Uganda in 2022, but he has no plans for follow-up. That will be the role of the prison ministry I am helping to develop in Uganda.
- Helping to revive the Hope for Restoration Initiative (H4RI) prison ministry in southern Uganda.
- Graduating three more classes in computer skills and involving them in making this a sustaining ministry (where they instruct while I encourage).

Anticipated (ministry) changes within the next 12 months.

Nothing beyond what is noted in 'looking forward' above.

Blog: <https://CharlesofStA.wordpress.com/>

Charles Smith

2020 ALTAR GUILD FUND REPORT

Checking Account Balance 12/31/2020 **\$4,499.32**

Contributions	\$1995.48
TOTAL	\$6,494.80

Expenditures

Altar Flowers and supplies	\$463.17
Lilies/palms	66.25
Poinsettias	366.04
Worship supplies	266.41
Sanctuary Candles	241.54
Diocesan Dues & Gift	100.00
Gift for Fr. Bill Fulton	262.81
TOTAL	\$1,766.72

Checking Account Balance 12/31/2021 **\$4,728.08**

Diocesan Investment Fund (last report 11/30/2001) **\$7,093.40**

Respectfully submitted

Ruth Lindstrum, Altar Guild Fund Manager

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

As I read through my report from a year ago, I could almost just “ditto” it. However, on behalf of the Altar Guild / Flower Ministry, I do need to express my gratitude, thanks and appreciation for so much during 2021. We journeyed through changes and I know this pattern will continue but we are stronger and more resilient because of them; our faith is the guiding light.

As we bid a fond farewell to Fr. Bill, and welcome Fr. Craig as our Interim Priest, we continue to serve in our worship, be it in-person or virtually, with Thanks to God for the guidance and leadership provided. Deacon Bill has been a great source of help in taking care of Communion set-up between services when no member is present, thereby eliminating the need for a member to return between services to do this.

Our Flower Ministry has provided beautiful flowers for our altar and we thank everyone who has contributed in many forms. Your donations are most welcome to defray our costs as well as those made toward the Sanctuary Lamp each Sunday. Linda Robuck does marvelous work in maintaining the sign-ups and listings which are on a table in the Narthex. When we returned to “proper” bread for communion, Deacon Bill and Sarah Rogers stepped up to be the bakers of same. Thank you!

As always, please feel free to contact Ruth Lindstrum if you have questions, and especially if you are considering joining one of our guilds. We are delighted to welcome new members!

Blessings and thanks,

Ruth Lindstrum

Annual Report for the St. Antony Profile Committee: October 2021 to January 2022

What is a Profile Committee? A profile committee is the early stage of a process to seek and select a new vicar/rector for an Episcopal Church congregation. That process includes gathering data which will describe who we are as people of God; what our Mission/ Vision statements say about our basic focus as a worshipping body; the organization of the church's governing body, in our case the Bishop's Committee and its members; and, the ministries within our congregations. We are also accumulating information for our demographic profile, which includes information about the community to which one will be called.

St. Antony's is a Mission church, under the oversight of our Diocesan Bishop. We are, therefore, guided by instructions (when necessary) that come from the diocesan level. One of those instructions involves working with the bishop's office as we seek a new vicar.

The Profile Committee was formed by early October. Its members are Marty Whitaker, Cris McCarty, Maggie Scott, Christina Wentworth, and Rich Rogers. We have been assigned a consultant who works with the diocese, Maeve Wyatt. We had an organizational meeting with her October 18, 2021, and the groundwork was laid out for our task. We could not begin our data gathering until the Rev. Bill Fulton was fully retired, which occurred at the end of October.

Our first business meeting was held on November 8, 2021. (All of our meetings are currently on Zoom.) The meetings are opened and closed with prayers from our chaplain, Christina. The discussions that evening were focused on the sample profiles from other churches, which Maeve had provided. We also decided that we will use another consultant to work on a later aspect of the profile.

We have had four meetings since that first one, the latest one being on January 10, 2022. The intervening time included holidays and some administrative problems with electronics, primarily in setting up a Zoom account. The committee chair accepts full responsibility for that!

The work stated above will continue. The committee agreed, as has the BC, to hire a separate consultant to work with us to develop a survey for the congregation. This is a firm that was recommended by the diocese and which is experienced in organizational work, including churches. You will be hearing more about this later. We have been told by these consultants, as well as others, that this process should not be rushed; we take it one step at a time; and, it could take 6-9 months.

In the meantime, St. Antony's will be having its Annual Meeting, new Bishop Committee members will be elected and, in early February, they will form the BC and its plan for the coming year. The Profile Committee is continuing to move forward to do the work we are called to do.

Maggie Scott, Profile Committee Chair