

**St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church
Silverdale, WA 98383**

**BC Monthly Reports
July 2022**

INTERIM VICAR'S REPORT - Craig Vocelka

Dear Ones,

We come to midpoint of this year's BC. It has been interesting to watch and listen as the interim priest here.

It is my understanding that when we meet, you (the BC) will have met with the profile committee and the diocesan consultant and have insight to the survey results and work on the profile. I look forward to seeing the congregation proceed in this transition process.

I'd like to also share with you my thoughts on the discussion at last month's meeting about the playground. One of the statements that was made was about the 'architect's vision' for the physical plant at St. Antony's. One of the thoughts that have thought about and given prayer to these past few weeks is how sometimes we need to look with new lenses or from a different angle or perspective. We need to look at ourselves and be brutally honest in our description of where and what St. Antony's is at this point in time.

I was not involved in the planning of this building; but I remember the first time I stopped by and my initial thought was – this is weird for a church to be set so far back from the road and have the door hidden from sight. I have now learned that part of the 'architect's vision' was to have gardens and landscaped lawns in front.

Over the past few months in my letters to you I have raised the idea of community gardens and possibly putting up basketball hoops in the parking lot as ways for drawing people to St. Antony's where we could then introduce ourselves and invite people to join us in celebrating God's love for all. I can now see how this is in opposition to the 'architect's vision' yet there seems to be no progress being made in bringing that vision to a reality. Beautiful gardens would definitely be a draw for people to stop especially if there were places to sit and enjoy them. Perhaps including a labyrinth would be a great addition.

It is my experience from both as a Vestry/BC member during transitions and as a priest helping other congregations through transitions, we have a tendency to 'put things on hold' during these times. I do not believe that St. Antony's can afford to do this. I keep hearing how you want to bring in younger families and yet we are doing little to attract them.

One of my jobs as your interim is to raise issues you might not want to deal with and to ask difficult questions. This is of utmost importance as you call a new vicar. One of the biggest nightmares I have experienced was with a congregation that sold the picture of their 'glory days' in their profile and the priest they called did not fit the situation at the time at all.

As I look at St. Antony's I realize I'm one of the younger people here. That is a concern looking ten years ahead for this congregation. The bottom line of my message this month is that we cannot afford to put things on hold until the new vicar gets here. We must get serious in our planning for the fall and we must make decisions that will not only give new energy to the congregation but help make St. Antony's a magnet for all those who are seeking what we have

found and come to love and know. I urge you to look with new eyes, listen with new ears and be open to wherever and however the Spirit guides us as we move forward.

Always know your goodness, don't sell yourselves short, and never forget the words of Jesus: *remember that I am with you always, to the end of the age.* Matthew 28:20

With prayers and blessings,

craig

BISHOP'S WARDEN – David Wilkinson

No report.

PEOPLE'S WARDEN– Dave Peterson

No report.

COMMUNICATIONS – Dee Perreira

No report.

FACILITIES – Dave Peterson

Nothing worth reporting , except the work party last Saturday.

FAITH FORMATION – Julie Sherwin (Youth)

The playset committee met and will be sending in an updated bill of materials for purchase. John and Carrie are contacting some people to see if we can get a better deal than my original projections.

Movie night is moving forward in the pending stages with 6 August as the first evening. This day was recommended by those with our target youth-adolescence. We will be hosting it as a family movie night with Moana to encourage participation and our tooth to bring friends/invite other families. It's appropriate for littles and was recommended by our youth. Added bonus is it allows for themed snacks and a little fun creativity.

Julie Sherwin

FAITH FORMAION – Esther Osborne (Adult)

No report.

FINANCE – Jim Foley

No report.

OUTREACH – Loretta McGinley

No report.

PARISH LIFE – Bishop's Committee

No report.

STEWARDSHIP – David Wilkinson

No report.

WELCOMING – Emily Nickerson

No report.

Deacon Bill Thaete

No report.

Profile Committee Report – Marty Whitaker

No report.