

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

**BC Monthly Reports  
November 2022**

**INTERIM VICAR'S REPORT - Craig Vocolka**

November 9, 2022

Dearest Ones,

I write this with much on my mind. We are quickly approaching the end of my Letter of Agreement (LOA) concerning my time with you as your interim vicar. The agreement was that I would serve to the end of 2022 or to when the person you called to serve as your next vicar arrived. It is obvious that December 31st will arrive before the new vicar which leads to question – how do we go forward?

I am willing to continue in my current role with the understanding that Victoria and I have made plans for several trips which will cause me to be away more than the time allotted for vacations. The first trip I have planned is the Holy Land Pilgrimage with Bishop Rickel in January. We then have a trip in March for 10 days and then I will be gone for five weeks in May-June. I do not know of other plans at this time but do know that my brothers and I are trying to plan a Bro Reunion when we can find a time that works for all of us.

I'd like to propose that for the most, these times when I will be away will be Leave Without Pay (LWP). The one exception will be one week when I am in the Holy Land to compensate for the personal retreat time I have not used this year. If this arrangement is acceptable to you we can rework the LOA for these arrangements. I will do everything possible to arrange for clergy to cover the Sunday's when I will be away.

We will be able to discuss this in more detail with Arienne at the meeting on Sunday.

The next concern I have is financial. As you are all aware, we currently are not meeting budget and next year will be an even greater challenge. As I mentioned a few Sundays ago, I will not be asking for or accepting the Cost Of Living Adjustment (COLA) that was approved at Diocesan Convention. However, it will need to be included in the next vicar's salary as well as the medical insurance which I am not collecting from St. Antony's. I mention this to make certain that those of you who will continue to serve on the BC in 2023 are aware of these challenges.

Next, we must start now to find people to serve on the BC in 2023! This will be a most important year in the journey of St. A's as the BC will be the final step in calling your next vicar. You know how workload has increased this year with the vacant seats. I believe two people will be stepping down at the annual meeting which means we will need to fill 5 or 6 positions.

I was so happy to read Julie's report about the meeting last night! I pray this is a start of something big for St. A's!!

Regarding the next two months, we need to get a plan in place for the schedule. My plans are:

**Thanksgiving Wednesday Nov. 23.  
Join in Community Service at Central Valley Presbyterian**

**Longest Night** Wednesday Dec 21.

I am planning a Blue Christmas / Longest Night liturgy

**Greening of Church.** Thursday and Friday Dec 22 and 23

**Christmas Eve.** Saturday Dec 24

One or two services??? Time(s) ???

I'm leaning toward one with carols at 9:00p and Eucharist at 9:30p

**Christmas Day.** Sunday Dec 25

One service at 9:00a

**New Year's Day.** Sunday Jan 1

Regular schedule

**Epiphany.** Friday Jan 6

Thoughts???

As we look forward to Thanksgiving, I personally have so much to be thankful for this year. One of the things I am most thankful for is the opportunity you have given me this past year to be 'full time' vicar. I thank you for your patience with me as I have grown into this role.

The next several weeks will be busy as we finish the Church year and begin a new one with the Season of Advent on November 27th. Please take care of yourselves as we continue together on this blessed journey.

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**

No report.

**FAITH FORMATION – Julie Sherwin (Youth)**

The youth group met today (11-8-22) for the first time in a long time. The youth are calling it the inaugural meeting. There were two kiddos who showed (one represented another who couldn't make it) and they have a lot to say and a lot they want to do! They would like me to update the BC on returning to youth being in charge of the 5th Sunday of the month in every aspect they can get away with. This has been done in the past, so it's nothing new or needing approval. They know of course that the youth numbers are few and some help will be needed until more start to show up. They also want to supply cookies for Christmas Eve service. The plan is also to distribute some of those cookies

directly to the home of our members who are homebound. Possibly with some caroling if enough interest can be sparked. I'll fill in more details once I get the writeup from our youth emailed to me. This is a youth run group and we plan to facilitate their spiritual growth, active membership in the church, and help them grow into responsible adults.

Also, the playground equipment is here! We are waiting on the company for ground prep and everything. I'll let you know when John says it's time to go on having a 'playground raising party'.

Sherwin

### **FAITH FORMATION – Esther Osborne (Adult)**

The Bible Study continues to meet between services on Sunday, and we have concluded our study of Paul's letter to the Romans and are moving on to a couple of "interim" letters. On Advent Sunday, November 27, we will move to an Advent study by Walter Brueggemann called Names of the Messiah. All are invited to attend: There is a small book which can be purchased from Amazon for about \$6.00. Registration is not required, we meet at 9 a.m.

### **FINANCE – Jim Foley**

Good news is for the first time in a while, donations for the month exceeded the budgeted expectations, allowing us to be in the black for the month. We still have a pretty deep hole to dig out of for the year. This statement reflects the purchase of the playground equipment and making a deposit on the fence for the playground.

We are having out of town guests stay with us this weekend, who we will bring to the 10:15 service. However, I will not be able to stay long to answer questions at the BC meeting afterwards as a result. If you have any, please reply to this email and I will try to get it answered before the meeting.

### **OUTREACH – Loretta McGinley**

The Outreach Sunday speaker from Fishline on 30 October was very well received.

The annual Fall Food Drive will end 20 November, with donations split between the CK Food Bank and Fishline.

A donation of \$200 to the local ALIVE shelter was approved at the October Outreach team meeting. Advertising will begin later this month, requesting congregation support for the Coffee Oasis Family Christmas Project.

### **PARISH LIFE – Bishop's Committee**

No report.

### **STEWARSHIP – David Wilkinson**

No report.

### **WELCOMING – Emily Nickerson**

No report.

**Deacon Bill Thaete**

No report.

**Profile Committee Report – Marty Whitaker**

No report.