

Vicar's Report

This month has been a busy one; it's hard to believe Advent is just around the corner! Sarah, Ruth, Darryl, and I retrieved the Advent decorations from the attic-- it will be here before we know it!

Worship and Spiritual Life:

Our average Sunday attendance numbers are going up, both in worship and in Godly Play! This is very exciting. Keep being your warm and welcoming selves to all the new faces joining us Sunday mornings for worship. We had an All Hallows Eve service of evening prayer on October 31st with seven attendees and this Saturday, we will have Vivian Durfee's memorial service. The Rev. Deacon Bill Thaete will join me in leading her service and preach the homily. Contemplative Prayer and Bible Study continues on! I hope to begin an Episcopal 101 (Newcomer's Class) between services in January to prepare any parishioners who may be interested in confirmation at Cathedral Day in the spring. I'd also like to have a special coffee hour on January 7th to get to know some of our new members.

Pastoral Care: Barbara Steadman is back home, for which she is very grateful, and Liz Haney is now moved into Christa Shores. Thank you to the van As family for helping Liz with moving her furniture around! We will all continue to be mindful of those beloved members of our community who are having surgeries, who may be going through memory loss, or who may have other health concerns. We will continue to join them in prayer and in practical assistance, helping wherever we can. Thank you to the Pastoral Care team for their diligent work!

Community Relationships: Next week, we will join several neighborhood congregations for a community Thanksgiving Eve service. They've asked me to preside over communion and Joann has been invited to play. We'd love to have a good representation of St. Antony's parishioners there. I've also connected with the Kitsap Sheriff's Office and they will join us on Tuesday, 12/12 for a presentation about spotting and avoiding fraud and phishing schemes.

Administration:

Sarah has done an excellent job filling in for Linda during her vacation. For administration, I am focused on several areas. First, staffing--I'd like us to seriously consider giving our part-time staff a raise, and accurately and fairly compensate people for the work they are doing and the skill they bring to that work. I'd like to update job descriptions (or create new ones where necessary), and begin an annual review process with part-time staff as well. Second, building use. Continuing to build upon the building use plan we have in place by ironing out details will be a great help to the next's Bishop's Committee!

Our **Celebration of New and Mutual Ministry** (formerly called an installation service) will be on the Feast of St. Antony: Wednesday evening, January 17th, 2024 at 6pm. The Bishop will be presiding, and I've invited my most recent mentor, The Rev. Canon Britt Olson of St. Luke's in Seattle to preach.

The Rev. Hillary B. Kimsey, Vicar

Bishop's Warden Report

In two separate mailings, a Stewardship letter and follow up Pledge card and letter were sent to the congregation. Many thanks to Bill Reeder, Chris Crowson, Linda and to Sarah for their help with this. Request has been made to return pledge cards by 19 November, In-Gathering Sunday.

There was a meeting with Mother Hillary, Holly, myself and Joanne to discuss the musician role at St. Antony's. There will be follow up work to both develop the job description and to propose an increase in compensation.

There have been more requests for use of the church building, and a need to ensure good communication about planned uses.

There's been good feedback about the small welcoming groups with Mother Hillary. Many thanks to all involved - Cheryl Wright, hosts, participants.

Outreach Report

Outreach and Youth Group partnership to coordinate a food drive with the Central Kitsap Food Bank has resulted as of 11/12 in a total 325 lbs and 370 items of food donated to the Food Bank. Food drives ends Sunday, 11/19 so we look forward to donating even more before the drive ends. We'll look to schedule more food drives in the future as an important way to support our local community.

In addition, a group of adults and youth from St. Antony's volunteered on Friday, 11/3 at the Central Kitsap Food Bank to package meals for 600 families that will be provided for Thanksgiving.

REMINDER: I will not be at BC meeting Sunday as our family is in Maryland visiting family.

Environment Report

Benny is out of town this Sunday and unable to attend this week's BC meeting.

Welcoming Report

Melanie is out of town this Sunday and unable to attend this week's BC meeting.