

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

**BC Monthly Reports  
February 2024**

**VICAR'S REPORT – Mother Hillary**

**Worship and Spiritual Life:** The acolytes have integrated beautifully and are getting more and more confident. I'd like to schedule a refresher training for our Lectors next, especially with an eye toward Holy Week when great lectors are needed! I'll put that on the calendar for a Sunday in March most likely. Our Celebration service was beautiful--the Bishop and my fellow clergy were all still talking about it weeks later! They were so impressed and moved by the atmosphere here. Lenten Soup supper will provide more opportunities for fellowship, learning, and prayer, and I'll plan to try again with Bible and Brews and Tea and Theology in April! There was great interest and turn out-- the challenge is finding the right venue that is quiet enough to hear one another.

**Pastoral Care:** I wasn't able to reach Cynthia Worthington's family so I put a letter to them in her pledge statement when we mailed it out. Jean Mackimmie has moved to Clearbrook and is still waiting for her sons and care team to determine her next steps. She has been deeply grateful for visits from our church community. I'd like to revive the Eucharistic Visitor program as well, so that others can go out and visit our shut-ins with me.

**Community Relationships:** This Thursday I'm observing the Advisory Council meeting for the Bremerton YMCA and considering joining. I'm also working with one of our deacons on learning more about homelessness in our county and what the mayor and town council respectively are doing about it. I'd also like to host a booth with help from you all and other parishioners at a local event for military families.

**Administration:** Much of my time has been devoted to the ongoing insurance claim from the burst sprinkler pipe via phone calls and emails. I haven't yet seen bills arrive related to this event. I'm in conversation with Church Insurance and the Diocesan Altar Guild about how to claim our damaged altar frontal and fair linens as well. Other administrative efforts will go into updating our personnel manual, job descriptions, and set up regular one-on-one meetings with part-time staff, by phone or in person.

I will be gone this week from Thursday to Saturday while the Bishop Search Committee is on retreat with candidates. I will still be reachable by cell phone but I'm going to ask if Father Scott can be on-call for pastoral emergencies and if you all can be on call to assist Linda with any facilities or administrative needs since I won't be able to leave the retreat easily.

I'm so pleased with where we are and look forward to seeing where we go. Thank you for your service and prayers.

MH+

## **BISHOP'S WARDEN – Holly Foley**

Thoughts from the Bishops Warden

Nurture, that was my star word from Mother Hillary. It strikes me that that is OUR word for St Antonys Family. We do a most excellent job at nurturing each other while we worship together. This past month we have had a exiting start to the new year and with each activity and crisis from our floods to our Celebration of New Ministry, from passing members to new faces, each time we gather together, it is to nurture our love for God and each other. That is the spark that makes this a unique and welcome place to worship. Each new person who has joined us since Mother Hillary has been here has mentioned that they felt like they had found their church HOME. Isn't that great?

Thank you to the new members of the BC who have stepped in to help with the tasks of running our growing church. I look forward to seeing how each of you takes on these roles. Please remember your job is to gather a group of people to support you (time and talent survey?) And then to delegate and support them.

Holly Foley  
Bishops Warden

## **PEOPLE'S WARDEN– Tim van As**

No report.

## **COMMUNICATIONS – Cris McCarty**

No report.

## **FACILITIES & ENVIRONMENT – David Peterson**

No report.

## **FAITH FORMATION – Marj Zantek**

January began with the Youth Group providing Epiphany cookies for coffee hour after our Sunday celebration of the Feast of The Epiphany. On the Feast of St Antony of Egypt our Acolytes joined in the Celebration of the New and Mutual Ministry in our congregation. The next day Mother Hillary, Chelsea Reeder and I met to explore plans for Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer. We have selected a curriculum and penciled in the dates of August 19-23.

From January 22-24, I attended a FORMA Conference at St Andrew's House (retreat and conference center) in Union, WA with other Youth Ministry individuals from around the Diocese. In the coming year I hope to share many of the ideas and inspiration from the workshops and the networking.

January 31st Chelsea and I joined with others in the congregation for the first Theology on Tap with Mother Hillary to discuss Lent. Friday, February 2nd Youth and enthusiastic adults set up the Sanctuary for the Spaghetti Dinner the following night. Thank you to Tim van As, Carrie Rivers, John Stockwell, and Dave Peterson for all your heavy lifting! Carrie did a beautiful job

decorating all the tables with a delightful Valentine theme. We served over 60 friends at a very well-attended event, and donations exceeded \$700.

On February 4th Michael Wentworth began a twice a month Sunday education opportunity for our youth 13 and up. A couple of youth have also attended Mother Hillary's Episcopal 101 class between services that began on January 7th. Our Tweens and Teens will also be given a Lenten booklet, "Lent is on the Way". It is an individual devotional, but hopefully will encourage some discussion at our next meeting.

Our Youth have been invited to participate in Easter music. Stay tuned!

Marj Zantek  
Faith Formation—Youth

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

The Bible Study class has outgrown the Godly Play room, and will be meeting in the gathering room on Thursdays: the Lenten series on Listening to the Heartbeat of God will be exploring the Celtic church's view of our common faith. We will be sharing insights with the Wednesday meditation group about the interface between spirituality and brain science. We have enjoyed having Mother Hilary attend, as her schedule permits.

I would suggest the formation of a Faith Formation committee which would include youth faith formation, meditation, Episcopal 101, and any other members who want to carry out faith formation activities at St. A's.

### **FINANCE – Jim Foley**

No report.

### **OUTREACH – Tim van As**

Outreach Commission partnered again with the St. Antony Youth Group for a very successful food drive in January.

Results as follows:

- On Tuesday, February 6th we delivered to the Central Kitsap Food Bank (CKFB) a total of 370 POUNDS of food donations.
- In addition to the food donations, the church contributed cash donations totaling \$305.

Terrific results and reflection of our congregation's on-going commitment to serve those in need in our local community. "For I was hungry, and you gave me food..."

Combined with our food drive in November prior to the holidays, St. Antony donated almost 1,000 POUNDS of food and over \$800 in cash the past couple of months to the Central Kitsap Food Bank supporting its important mission PRESERVING THE DIGNITY OF THE CLIENTS WE SERVE.

The Outreach Commission plans to organize more food drives throughout the year (see schedule below). More to follow as the commission identifies the specific food banks we plan to

serve as we expand the reach of St. Antony’s generosity to other deserving food bank missions in Central Kitsap county.

**Food Drive Schedule**

	Who	Announce	Collect Week of...	Blessing Date	Deliver to FB
1/1/2024	CKFB	Sunday, 1/21	1/22 and 1/29	Sunday, February 4th	Monday, 2/5
3/1/2024		Sunday, 3/17	3/18 and 3/25	Sunday, March 31st	Monday, 4/1
5/1/2024		Sunday, 5/19	5/20 and 5/27	Sunday, June 2nd	Monday, 6/3
7/1/2024		Sunday, 7/21	7/22 and 7/29	Sunday, August 4th	Monday, 8/5
8/1/2024		Sunday, 8/18	8/19 and 8/26	Sunday, September 1st	Tuesday, 9/3

**PARISH LIFE – Holly Foley & David Peterson**

No report.

**PASTORAL CARE – Kathy Avery**

The following is a mission statement that the Pastoral Care commission wrote to help guide their activities:

“Pastoral Care offers compassionate support and practical assistance to our church community as they experience transition, loss, struggle, anxiety, and joy; creating opportunities to deepen spiritually and enrich connections with others.”

Discussion of activities that the commission has done in the past and would like to continue included: visits; phone calls; greeting cards; meals; flowers after church along with a signed note card; shopping assistance; prays and prayer chain; assistance with tasks when requested and feasible; Lay Eucharist (before COVID)

Plans were made to explore restarting the Lay Eucharist program, continuing the prayer chain upon Carolyn’s move, Care Giver Support, women social get-togethers, opportunities for congregation to sign cards that are being sent to members, bulletin board, and prayer box.

Four members of our community who currently need support with visits, phone contact, cards and/or prays were discussed and assigned to commission members.



Kathy Avery

Pastoral Care Commission

**STEWARDSHIP – Bishop’s Committee**

No report.

**WELCOMING – Melanie Reeder**

-I would like to propose a follow-up email to those new to St As and those who have visited St. A’s.

-We need to schedule our next New Comers Coffee