

St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church

Silverdale, WA 98383

Bishop's Committee Monthly Reports

September 2024

VICAR'S REPORT – Mother Hillary

Worship and Spiritual Life: Choir started back today, and we are in the midst of the September Season of Creation! Worship this month will feature a focus on nature and creation care and will feature some special readings approved by the House of Bishops. We are also scheduled to host the Community Thanksgiving Eve service here at St. Antony's! This service will be in our style of worship this year with a combined choir with singers from our sister Lutheran and Presbyterian churches here in Silverdale. Episcopal 101 has finished the catechism and will keep going; Esther's Bible study started back up this week; and New Beginnings in Contemplative Prayer is growing! I am working on plans for a 2 night retreat at St. Andrew's sometime in early 2025 most likely, and I hope to offer a Saturday Advent Retreat in November and a fall book study/spiritual formation option for youth and adults once I'm back from the Civil Rights Pilgrimage in October. Also in conversation with the Bishop-elect's office to schedule the 2025 bishop visit.

Pastoral Care: See Kathy Avery's excellent report. The Pastoral Care team continues, under Kathy's leadership, to care for the individuals and families in our community facing health changes. One note: please help me share the word if anyone would like to be visited in the hospital or be blessed in the service prior to a procedure to please let me know! It's my practice not to initiate an in-church blessing unless an individual requests it, since some people are more private about their medical care than others, and I don't want to put anyone on the spot. I also can't visit a parishioner in the hospital if they don't tell me they're going to be there! :) I am more than happy to do hospital visits (emergency not required) and pre-surgery blessings, so please encourage folks to ask for them by reaching out to Linda or to me directly, and I'd be so glad to do it.

Community Relationships: Rentals for recitals continue to be our main source of rental income so far. I'm also working with other priests on the peninsula to plan an End of Life Planning regional event, similar to a half-day conference, where we will have a chance to engage with others in the community and local business and organizations too. We are also finalizing the agreement between St. Antony's and the WSBA for hosting their apiary on our property and hope to host a Bremerton Chorale concert in the future.

Parish Life: The joint service with instructional Eucharist and annual picnic was very well attended, as was VBS! We ran out of parking on joint service and picnic Sunday! Upcoming events include a Wednesday evening talk from Loretta, Kathy, and Marj on their Camino pilgrimage with sangria (both with and without alcohol) and very light tapas on Wednesday September 25 4:30 to 5pm, as well as Blessing the Animals on Sunday September 29th during both services. In October, we'll have the Trunk or Treat!

Stewardship: Chris Crowson left us a bequest of \$15,000 dollars, which is such a gift as we work on the major septic repair project! Because of his gift, this is a fantastic time to talk about planned giving as we begin to gear up for our fall stewardship campaign. Melanie kicked off our first ministry highlight talks this past Sunday, thank you, and we will continue those. Let's also begin to discuss who else from the parish we'd like to invite to participate in the Stewardship drive.

Administration: On my mind this time of year as we gear up for Stewardship is planning for the 2025 Budget-- I'd like to prioritize a raise for our musicians in addition to the annual COLA and am working on a proposal to this effect. Additionally, I'd like to update our church phones to devices that can actually easily transfer calls and see what options we have for emailing the text of church voicemails to dedicated emails, like mine and Linda's. Occasionally, people leave time sensitive messages and a way to access these would be great. I'll get some estimates from our provider.

Thank you all! May God continue to bless our community with energy and joy in each other.

MH+

BISHOP'S WARDEN – Holly Foley

8/13/24 -Pastoral Care meeting

8/15/24-Mother Hillary and I met at Costco to purchase food for Picnic and delivered to church

8/16/24- Shopped and collected materials for VBS station REEF REC

8/18/24 - ANNUAL CHURH PICNIC :). And BPOD and set up for VBS

8/19-23/24- Ran REEF REC station for VBS 8 am- 12:30 pm

8/25/24 - Sign meeting after church to start design process.

8/26/24 - Bell tower installed

PEOPLE'S WARDEN– Tim van As

Nothing to report.

COMMUNICATIONS – Cris McCarty

Nothing to report.

FACILITIES and ENVIRONMENT – David Peterson

The annual picnic went well. Thanks to all: setting up, setting up the tents, getting the grill (Tim), cooking (Jim and Tim), and putting everything away (eventually). Emily's bell got installed, things just keep on going – a lot of hard effort put in all over.

We have a green cleaning day on Saturday, we'll see what we can get done – I keep telling everybody that they can come up here and work any day of the week, not just the 1st Saturday of the month.

FAITH FORMATION – Marj Zantek (Youth)

Nothing to report.

FAITH FORMATION – Esther Osborne (Adult)

Nothing to report.

FINANCE – Jim Foley

Looking great due to the posthumous donation from Chris Crowson.

We have \$175 donated for the daffodil planting.

We've received two security deposits for building use this month.

OUTREACH – Tim van As

Nothing to report.

PARISH LIFE – Holly Foley and David Peterson

Nothing to report.

PASTORAL CARE – Kathy Avery

The Pastoral Care Commission members include Sylvia Campbell, Gail Ferguson, Holly Foley, Kay Kellogg, Loretta McGinley, Peggy Roberts, Maggie Scott, Janet Steller, Marj Zantek, Mother Hillary and Kathy Avery.

Lay Eucharist: Mother Hillary will offer a 2nd Lay Eucharist training on September 29th after the 10:15 service. People that are trained or interested in being trained include: Loretta McKinley, Esther Osborne, Marj Zantek, Holly Hoxeng, Jason Kimes, Penny Whitney, and Kathy Avery. Peggy Roberts volunteered to be a companion the Lay Eucharist Visitor.

Prayer Chain Report: Mother Hillary has taken the responsibility for the Prayer Chain. Links to it are on the St. Antony website and in the Happenings.

Women's Social: Many suggestions from the Summer Women's Social was reviewed at the August meeting, and it was decided that the next women's event will possibly be held October 19th. Details for this event will be discussed at the next Pastoral Care meeting on September 10th.

The commission continues to support several congregation members with visits, phone contact, cards, prayers, meals, requests for altar flowers after church services, and transportation to church.

Pastoral Care Commission

Kathy Avery

STEWARDSHIP – Bishop’s Committee

Nothing to report.

WELCOMING – Melanie Reeder

Nothing to report.