

**St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church
Silverdale, WA 98303**

**Bishop's Committee Monthly Reports
For April 2025 BC Meeting**

Vicar's Report: Mother Hillary

Worship & Spiritual Life: Much of my time this past month was engaged with preparing and leading our Lenten soup suppers, our Lenten worship services, Episcopal 101, our Holy Week services, and our joyful Easter services! I have also continued to support our 12:30pm Thursday Bible Study and will partner with Esther to help lead the Bible Study when she has to be out for medical reasons. I also continue to enjoy praying with our New Beginnings contemplatives twice a month on Wednesdays at noon. Finally, I have also continued to support Marj by teaching some introductory confirmation prep lessons at our youth group meetings.

Pastoral Care: See Kathy Avery's excellent report. As you will have seen this week, Joan Willoughby passed away. I am working with Father Bill Fulton and others who knew and loved Joan to see about having a small service for her here at St. Antony's. This month, I also continued to visit those who are sick and those who are often confined to their homes.

Community Relationships: I continued to support the Diocesan-wide Youth Confirmation program by leading another session for them this month, this time on the sacraments. I also continue to work closely with the WSBA now that the bees are on site and their classes have begun! I also attended a pastor's breakfast with the Kitsap Habitat for Humanity along with The Rev. Arienne Davison from St. Paul's to explore volunteer opportunities with them. They are eager to work with churches in many different ways. We have also been approached to join in a county-wide Episcopal presence at Kitsap pride by sharing a booth at the July event with St. Paul's in Bremerton, Faith in Poulsbo, and St. Bede's in Port Orchard.

Parish Life: See the report from our Parish life co-chairs, Kathy G. and Chelsea! As Kathy G. was traveling, Chelsea R., Kathy A., and I met for the first Parish Life team meeting to discuss future events where our congregation can fellowship together. First on the list was to bring back Tony's Trekker's—there will be a potluck dinner and interest meeting this coming Wednesday evening. Many other fun events were discussed, and we also began planning for our annual church picnic, which will be Sunday August 17th after a joint 9:30am worship service, where I will lead an annual instructed Eucharist!

Administration: As you might guess, much of my administrative time this month has been spent on clean up, mitigation, and repairs following our plumbing back up early this month. Insurance has already sent us an initial payment on the claim so that we can begin the repair work. Other than that, the usual hours devoted to emails, committee meetings, and engaging with our tenants occupied my time this month. I am especially grateful this month for the work of Linda, our parish admin, and Joann, our music director, and all their help planning for Holy Week and Easter!

Bishop's Warden: Holly Foley

Nothing to report.

People's Warden: Marj Zantek

Report forthcoming

Buildings and Grounds: Dave Peterson

Nothing to report.

Communications: Sarah Rogers

Nothing to report.

Faith Formation: Sarah Bishop Dolbec

Adult Classes

A new class, Contemplative Book Study Group, will be held on **Wednesdays at 10:30 am** at the church. The first meeting scheduled for **April 23**. We need to connect with her for description and promotional purposes (and to confirm the time slot does not conflict with other meetings).

Godly Play

On **April 6**, we had a substitute Storyteller from Faith Episcopal (Poulsbo) because our **three storytellers were unavailable**.

VBS

The station leader for **Sticky Scripture has been filled!** Now we just need a few more teens to confirm. We are still collecting materials requests from most station leaders and awaiting signage estimates. We'd like to have those final lists in and purchases made by **mid-May**. We're still working with Treasurer to format and activate an electronic payment system for VBS on our church website. We'd also like to finalize that by **mid-May**,

so registration can go live May 15. We'll send out Save the Dates to last year's participants by **April 27.**

Outreach: Tim van As

The Outreach Commission has been formed. Members are Holly Hoxeng, Sarah Bishop Dolbec, and Tim van As. The Commission has set a monthly meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11am at St. Antony's. The Commission continues efforts to recruit additional commission members.

On April 1st, 2025, Holly Hoxeng traveled to Bremerton Foodline to deliver a check for \$1,000 from the Marilyn Brandenburg Fund to the Director of Development, Morgan Huffman. St. Antony's was able to make this substantial donation due to the inspirational service of two St. Antony's parishioners, Bryan and Peggy Roberts, to the Bremerton Foodline mission. The Outreach Commission will continue to highlight parishioners who serve our local community and seek opportunities to leverage the Marilyn Brandenburg Fund.

Outcomes of the monthly Outreach Commission meetings include:

- Decision to start a "minute for mission" announcement at least once per month during the 8am and 10:15am services. The goal of the Commission is to use this "tool" to INSPIRE the congregation to support the St. Antony Outreach mission. "Minute for mission" will be provided by a member of the Outreach commission or congregants that want to share stories about how they're engaging and supporting our local community.
- Creating an Outreach Calendar that communicates a schedule of quarterly outreach events to engage the congregation in outreach activity and provides the commission with a planning tool so it can prepare and execute the events in an organized manner.
- Brainstorming a "red shirt" event for early fall that allows the congregation to participate in a group outreach activity while wearing the red St. Antony's t-shirts. The goal is to provide the congregation an opportunity to ACT while creating a "vicarious connection" with the community that showcases St. Antony's commitment and compassion for our community.

Parish Life Co-chair: Kathy Gero

As many of you know I am gone for a month in Asia. I flew into Singapore where I met up with friends. After about four days we boarded Anthem of the Seas for a cruise stopping in Vietnam, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, and a few stops and one overnight in Japan. We then will travel all the way back to Seattle with an overnight in the city.

While I was in Vietnam I took an amazing cooking class. I would love to offer a Vietnamese cooking class to a workable size group at the church if any of you are interested. We all had so much fun cooking together and it made a great meal. Let me know what you think.

Parish Life Co-chair: Chelsea Reeder

Please see Kathy Avery's report below.

Pastoral Care: Kathy Avery

The Pastoral Care Commission members include Gail Ferguson, Holly Foley, Loretta McGinley, Peggy Roberts, Chelsea Reeder, Marj Zantek, Mother Hillary Kimsey, Karrie Wiley and Kathy Avery.

The commission discussed and/or supported 15 congregation members with visits, phone contact, cards, prayers, meals, requests for altar flowers after church services, or transportation to church events.

The following points from **Mutual Ministry Survey Results 2024** were reviewed and considered positive for the commission.

- *Within our church, do we learn from and support one another?*
 - Rides, flowers, caring, support
- *What do you love about St. Antony's?*
 - *My church family is there for me.
- *What was a highlight in our ministry this past year with one another?*
 - *ladies' socials
 - *Help with rides for each other
- *What areas of ministry at St. A's are going well and why?*
 - *Pastoral Care
- *What are the areas of our life together at St. A's that you feel can be improved and what suggestions would you give?*
 - *Can we bring back the telephone tree to check in on each other?
- *What are your dreams for the future of St. Antony's?*
 - *To always be welcoming and caring without being intrusive or pushy
 - *That we help people live a full life

The Pastoral Care Mission statement was reviewed which is: "**Pastoral Care offers compassionate support and practical assistance to our church community as it experiences transition, loss, struggle, anxiety, and joy; creating opportunities to deepen spiritually and enrich connections with others.**" It was decided to remain the same, but it was noted that we needed to focus more on the "joy" of our church community.

The telephone tree was discussed which was a suggestion from the Mutual Ministry Survey. It was decided that this is a function of the Communication Commission.

The Transportation Needs and Provider sign-up poster that Rev. Hillary displayed in the Narthex for a month had only two sign-ups to provide rides (Kathy Avery and Melanie Reeder) and no sign-ups for needing a ride. It was decided that the needs were specific to events and individual needs. Therefore, it was suggested that when special events are planned there be a column designated for needing rides/ride providers on the sign-up sheets. The Pastoral Care Commission will address transportation needs to church as the needs arise. Holly, Marj and Rev Hillary have started a map of where church members reside.

A Property Tax Relief Program for members who might qualify for the program has been scheduled for May 28th at 1:00. It is for seniors whose household income is less than \$65,000 a year.

Treasurer, Ex Officio: Jim Foley

Some expenses were larger than normal, but we received donations larger than normal to offset, putting us above breakeven on the month and in the rolling 12 month donations.

Welcoming: Melanie Reeder

Nothing to report.