

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

**Bishop's Committee Monthly Reports
For February 2026 BC Meeting**

Vicar's Report: Mother Hillary

Worship and Spiritual Life

It has only been a couple weeks since our Annual meeting, but since then, Episcopal 101 has restarted confirmation prep for any interested teens and adults at 9am, and we are turning our faces toward the approach of Lent! For the Lent Soup Supper program, I'll be doing some teaching from a book called Braving the Thin Spaces: Celtic Wisdom to Create a Space for Grace by Julianne Stanz. This will be for everyone who is interested, and will be especially meaningful as some of us prepare to go on pilgrimage to Iona and other famous "thin places" in Scotland this October. I also recommended the new Archbishop of Canterbury, Bishop Sarah Mullaly's book Rooted in Love to you for individual devotional use during Lent, and I'm excited to hear our Thursday Bible study may be reading it. Worship continues to be a highlight each week with our wonderful musicians, excellent altar team and lay readers, and warm atmosphere. Soon, we will be offering refresher trainings for new and current altar team members.

Pastoral Care

I continue to check in with our members who are homebound, as do the members of our excellent pastoral care team. The frozen food supply in our kitchen has been a great tool, and I am also very grateful to those of you who have been giving members a ride when they need help getting to church.

Diocesan & Community Relationships

Since our last meeting, I have had a chance to shadow some of the other Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue chaplains on calls as I continue the onboarding process. One call was a fairly low stress, while the second was very tragic. My role with the Commission on Ministry for the Diocese of Olympia has also begun. We have also begun advertising our Scotland pilgrimage to people outside of our two churches, to the wider diocese and denomination to fill the last few spots.

Welcoming & Parish Life

We added over 50 new members in 2025! Can you believe it? One of my priorities for 2026 is to print new brochures for St. Antony's, as our pews are nearly empty of them and they could use a refresher. Since our last BC meeting, we have already enjoyed a couple fun parish events-- the paint party and the card-making camp. Thanks to everyone who made these possible!

Administration

I am happy to report we have new tenants moving in at Apiary Acres. They will be slowly moving in over the whole month of February. They are a multigenerational family and have been great to work with so far. Most of the interface with them will be through our Property Managers, Kitsap Home Rental Services, but you may get a chance to meet them if they visit a church service.

This month is also Parochial Report month, so Jim, Linda, and I have been working on crunching various financial and parochial numbers. Our average Sunday attendance has gone up yet again, from 86 in 2024 to 96 in 2025, which includes average online attendance.

Administratively, one of my 2026 priorities is to refresh our website!

As always, grateful to you all, and excited to work with our new team members!
MH+

Bishop's Warden: Kathy Avery

Nothing to report.

People's Warden: Marj Zantek

Nothing to report.

Buildings and Grounds: Dave Peterson

Continued to work with Jim Foley on the rental house.

Communications: Sarah Rogers

Nothing to report.

Faith Formation: Sarah Bishop Dolbec

Nothing to report.

Outreach: Holly Hoxeng

We've had good interest in and feedback on the outreach-arama display in the narthex. I will modify it slightly tomorrow in preparation for SOUPer Bowl on Sunday, all food collected on Sunday will go to Central Kitsap Food Bank.

This BC meeting is early in the month so outreach hasn't met yet (meeting is on 2/11). We are working on our calendar for 2026. Also, Sarah B-D mentioned she has an idea for a red-shirt event for Habitat in March - if she's at BC meeting she might give you a preview, even though outreach hasn't heard about it yet.

I will not be at BC on Sunday, a trip planned before my election to BC.
Go Seahawks.

Parish Life Co-Chair: Kathy Gero

Nothing to report.

Pastoral Care: Karrie Wiley

Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Foley

Happy to report the rental house is ready to rent. The soonest that can happen the better for our cash flow.

Since we've been bleeding cash due to the increase in mortgage interest and not having the rental house income, the bank accounts have taken a beating. I'd like to propose we withdraw \$30k from the DIF Operating Reserve to put us back in a more comfortable position and to have some ready reserve in case of emergency repairs, etc.

We had above expected donations in November, putting us in the black on the month. YTD is not as pretty because I was informed by Melo this month that a contribution of \$10k that was made in October was intended to be applied to their 2026 pledge. That negatively impacted the YTD revenue and bottom line.

The good news is the pledges received to date for next year total \$181,700 for general operating and \$8,790 for the Building Fund, versus \$143,419 last year for the General Operating and \$8,220 for Building. That increase was worked into the budget for next year, but with the cost increases expected, we still look to be operating in the negative.

A thought that came to mind as a possible solution for the mortgage issue, was why not sell the rental house and apply that to pay off the mortgage? It would also reduce expenses for property taxes and insurance, as well as future maintenance expenses. Food for thought

Welcoming: Chelsea Reeder

Nothing to report.

Submitted by Cris McCarty, Clerk of the Bishop's Committee.