

**St. Antony of Egypt Episcopal Church
Silverdale, WA 98303
Bishop's Committee Monthly Reports
For March 15, 2026 BC Meeting**

Vicar's Report: Mother Hillary

Worship and Spiritual Life

Since our last meeting, we have settled into the Lenten season for 2026. Our worship services have been using the penitential order from the BCP at both services, and we have been going through Gospel readings from Matthew as well as John. Our Thursday Bible study group has been reading *Rooted in Love*— a collection of daily devotions edited by the new Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullaly. The Wednesday night Lent soup suppers have been going through a book called *Braving the Thin Spaces* by Julianne Stanz, both in preparation for the October pilgrimage to Scotland and to explore the thin places and moments in our own lives. The conversations have been incredibly personal and meaningful. Episcopal 101 and our youth group continue to work through topics appropriate for confirmation preparation, with Cathedral Day coming on April 25th!

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care team and I continue to collaborate on caring for our members when they suffer illness and injury of the body or soul. Rev. Linda Logan has also gone on some visits with me. While we don't have a large number of members who are shut-ins, we want to continue loving, supporting, and including those we have.

Diocesan & Community Relationships

The Outreach Team is doing an amazing job of building relationships with local NPOs and giving us opportunities to support them. The BC continues to prioritize giving away the loose plate offering once a month, primarily to local NPOs here in Kitsap. I continue to serve as a new volunteer chaplain with CKFR, as a member of the Diocesan Commission on Ministry, as well as our 2027 delegation to General Convention. Many of your BC members participated in the Congregational Leadership Conference via Zoom—in fact, St. Antony's leaders made up 20% of the online attendees!

Welcoming & Parish Life

Since we last met, the church has hosted a card-making party, the Youth Spaghetti Dinner, a moving lecture and recital from Chris Eisenberg, and this Saturday, we will host another private piano recital group. Chelsea Reeder aims to convene a Welcoming Team in the coming months, and some of our 2026 goals include updating our parish brochures and pew cards, and creating a process for welcoming and integrating new members.

Administration

The BC retreat at St. Paul's on Saturday February 28th left me feeling inspired about what we have done together and what we can continue to do together! Additionally, our parochial report was submitted on time, and the time is nearly upon us to begin preparing to work on the yearly church audit. Once we have our feet under us with Realm, our new database and finance software, we can take further steps on some of our administration/organizational goals, such as a new website.

As always, grateful to you all,
MH+

Bishop's Warden: Kathy Avery

Due to my daughter's extended visit during the last month, I have had limited involvement in the church's activities. Although I missed those activities, I greatly enjoyed my daughter's visit. Now I have on St. Patrick's Day to attend my granddaughter's wedding in Illinois but will be back in a week.

I did attend the Bishop's Committee retreat at St. Paul's and the Congregational Leadership Conference by Zoom from which I learned a lot. Other church activities I have been able to participate in are Vacation Bible School planning and Pastoral Care Commission meetings.

I appreciated all who have reached out to me to express their gratitude for accepting the Bishop's Warden position and have already received suggestions to bring to the Bishop's Committee. Also, I have finally cancelled my home phone but can still be reached by my cell phone.

Respectfully, Kathy Avery

People's Warden: Marj Zantek

I've been remiss in timely reporting of my activities; this approximates a quarterly update. I have endeavored to attend most activities here at church, and I am delighted to see so many regular faces as well as new ones becoming dedicated regulars. Intentional welcoming and hospitality are a truly positive and loving force! I try to attend both services as often as possible, especially the two Sundays each month I am the second adult in Michael Wentworth's Teen Bible study. I also miss the beginning of the 10:15 service when I assist as Shepherd in Godly Play. We will need a concerted effort to recruit new adults to assist our young learners each Sunday as several of our faithful Storytellers and Shepherds have moved, are about to move, or are managing life challenges. I pray we can all seek to recognize the gifts of our congregants, and encourage them to join in ministries for which they have interest/ability. We have very successful Stewardship with respect to treasure, and now we much focus on time and talent. 😊

In addition to almost all regular worship and fellowship events, I participated in very well-attended Paint Party organized by Chelsea and the 20-30 something group. What a fabulous experience! Don't miss the next one on May 9th! I regularly attend the Pastoral Care meetings, the Landscape committee meetings and work parties, I drop in whenever I can to see the Witty Knitters, and Linus Project, and am a regular at Thursday Bible Study. Oh! And Youth Group twice a month, and Counting plate collection on a regular basis. ZimZum has been fascinating, as have our Wednesday Soup Suppers. I enjoyed our Tony's Trekkers planning potluck, and have been trying valiantly to keep the church kitchen under control, especially since Carrie Rivers has been out of the country.

Buildings and Grounds: Dave Peterson

I'm working with Kathy Avery to get the information on the recent floor repair so we can do more areas.

I'd also like the BC's help in getting volunteers to assist with landscaping. I do have some volunteers now but will need more

Communications: Sarah Rogers

No report at this time.

Faith Formation: Sarah Bishop-Dolbec

No report at this time.

Outreach: Holly Hoxeng

The Outreach Committee is working on its next project, which is providing lunch for college students who are participating in a Habitat for Humanity building project on March 20th. After that, there will be a food drive by Kidzz Helping Kidzz (We have participated in their holiday toy drive for the last two years), which will benefit the Bremerton Backpack Brigade. They send food home with students each weekend. Collection boxes will be delivered March 29th and be available until May 3rd. I will do a Minute for Mission talk on March 22nd about Bremerton Backpack Brigade and the food drive.

Parish Life Co-Chair: Kathy Gero

On Friday, February 20th, I led the first hike for the New Year. We did the Bridge-to-Bridge hike, which is an enjoyable urban hike. After the hike we had lunch at The Boat Shed.

On Monday, March 9th, the Parish Life Committee hosted the Tony's Trekker's planning meeting and a potluck to plan our 2026 hikes. The potluck was very delicious and the three of us enjoyed our meal. With only three members attending, we discussed whether the group was aging out of hiking. Gary Hicks is thinking about setting up an April hike.

I will be gone for about two months and when I return, I'll be setting up another Bunco Game towards the end of May.

Pastoral Care: Karrie Wiley

I have an awesome group of ladies in the pastoral care group. Members are Peggy Roberts, (my assistant in transcribing meetings), Heidi Hood, Gail Campbell- Ferguson, Holly Foley, Marj Zantek, Maggie Scott, Marty Whitaker, Esther Osborne, Hillary Kimsey and Kathy Avery. We sent eight cards to people in need in the last 2 months.

Cris McCarty attended a beekeepers' training with the West Sound Beekeepers Association in Febuary. They will be serving as a liaison between WSBA and the parish.

Heidi Hood and Rev. Hillary Kimsey are working on the grief support group. They sent out a survey to the congregation, seeing if people would participate. They are now working on training some members of the Pastoral Care Group and interested parish members. They are figuring out dates.

The card-making event on February 7th went really well. We will be doing another one in the fall for the holidays.

We will be buying St. Francis medals for the Blessing of the Animals in October.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Foley

No report at this time.

Welcoming: Chelsea Reeder

Before I left for Italy, I started to create pew cards and welcoming brochures and hope to have them printed before Easter Sunday. The congregation history brochures will take priority after. If any St. Antony members want to share the church's history with me, that would be immensely helpful. As I am getting myself organized in this new role, I appreciate your patience and support.

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