



ST DAVID OF WALES

Episcopal Church

Shelton, WA

PARISH NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2020

JULY is gone and AUGUST is here already . . . I always plan to have this newsletter out to you before the beginning of the next month but guess I was asleep at the switch! I sincerely hope you are all hanging in there for the duration - which is beginning to look as if it will be some time yet. As for the church, Fr. Steve made plans to open it up again to the congregation. After two services, he had to close it again because of the increase in Covid-19 cases in Mason County. He is now able to have more participants in the presentation of the service so this is a step in the right direction. We will continue to stream the service as long as the funding holds out and hope we will be back in church before too long.

By now you have all received the letter from Senior Warden Mike Callaghan and Vestry members expressing appreciation for your patience and understanding. The Vestry is managing to do business as usual.. One thing exciting is that **Bishop Rickel is planning a Zoom meeting with us on August 30th.** Those of us with computers will be able to join it from home and those without computers will be able to participate via computer from the church. Face masks and social distancing will be the order of the day, of course. By now we are all used to wearing masks so it should be no problem. **And** with a little luck, **Bishop Rickel is planning an in-person visit with us on February 21, 2021.** It has been some time since a Bishop has had an actual visit - we will be looking forward to both visits.

VESTRY NOTES . . . The June 30th meeting was held via Zoom with eight members attending with regrets, the resignation of Peggy Hosford was accepted and it was voted to not replace her at this time. A thank-you was extended by Fr. Steve to Patti Case and Kelsey Barnes for their dedication and participation during the streaming of services. Help is still needed for the Community Dinners on Tuesday nights.

Jr. Warden, Cheri Ratay reported some lighting issues in the church. Beth Johnson has been very helpful and will meet with Cheri and Fr. Steve to correct the problem. A plexi barrier will be installed to protect Kelsey from the singers and congregation. Also, building policies need to be updated for the use of the church building by outside groups. Keys are still an issue with members with keys loaning them to someone not assigned to have one. The church is not open to outside groups for use at this time. Discussion was held to determine if we should purchase the equipment to live-stream our services in the future.

The Saints' Pantry is serving about 100 more families a month than before the pandemic but seems to be holding its own. Cheryl Allagree is looking into adding St Davids to the **Amazon Smile** nonprofit account. The **Safeguarding God's People** online course has received good response. There is a Spanish version available as well. The Vestry meeting scheduled for July 26th was cancelled and will be rescheduled.

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE PANDEMIC we have lost some members and have been unable to schedule memorial services for them. They will not be forgotten. Please include them in your prayers - **Terry O'Hara, Jack Krause, Betty Eager and Shirley Beelik.** All have been long-time members of St. David's and memorials will be held when it is safe.

