

Addendum to July 2011 Newsletter

Bishop's Visitation Customary Planning Form

Date of Visit: July 17, 2011

Church: Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island

Contact: Bishop Craig Anderson
360-376-2352 (church)
360-376-7860 (home)
rector@orcsepiscopal.org
www.orcsepiscopal.org

Agenda of the Day:

Saturday, July 16 - 6 p.m. reception at Bishop Craig and Liz Anderson's home with members of vestry and their spouses, and the staff and spouses.

Sunday, July 17 - Combined service at 10:00 a.m. Bishop Rickel will be asked to preside and give the homily.

Sunday, July 17 - following the coffee hour after the 10 a.m. service, Bishop Rickel will meet with the vestry and staff. Lunch will be served.

Readings of the day: 5th Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 11

Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139: 1-11, 22-23
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Physical address of Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island

218 Main Street
Eastsound, WA

There are (hopefully) no issues, challenges, special recognitions, dedications or celebration planned for Sunday, July 17.

The following people request to be confirmed into the Episcopal Church:

Bronwen Courtney Jones
Douglas Schliebus

The following people request to be received into the Episcopal Church:

Sally Elliman
Karin Fuhring
Jenny Hovelman

Marilyn Parman
Judy Schliebus
Jack R. Titus
Linda Watts
Donald Jack Yerly Jr.

In addition, we are enclosing the following:

Vestry Report
Outreach 2010
Use of Church Facilities 2010
Three church newsletters: May 2011, January 2011, and October 2010

Next week, we will email a copy of the order of the service for July 17.

We will send in the Confirmation Record Form after the Bishop's visit with the names of those received and confirmed.

Please let us know if we have forgotten anything.

Karen Blinn & Noel Jeffrey
Parish Administrators
Emmanuel Episcopal Parish of Orcas Island

Vestry Report for Bishop's visit

Dear Bishop Rickel:

This report is a group voice, based on the following 12 questions which were delivered by computer one-a-day to all vestry members, followed by a group think, and integration of the thoughts of our rector, Bishop Craig Anderson, delivered before he departed for vacation:

1. What did Emmanuel do last year that you will remember?
2. Is Emmanuel a relevant voice in the mix of places people are looking for answers?
3. What is a core value to you, and is it practiced at Emmanuel?
4. What ministry would you like to see us begin at Emmanuel?
5. How does Emmanuel support
 - a. Your personal growth in the spirit
 - b. Your energy to serve and care for others
6. Our numbers are up. Our pledges are up. To what do you attribute that?
7. What are our accomplishments in the last three years?
 - a. Communication
 - b. Faith Formation/Worship
 - c. Outreach
8. What are your pressing concerns?
9. What are our challenges at Emmanuel?
10. Does Emmanuel have an identifiable vision? How would you define it?
11. What do you think we do best at Emmanuel?
12. Is there anything that is missing for you at Emmanuel?
- 13.

We report as follows:

We believe that our congregation, following a period of unrest and then a time of absence of a rector, has settled very nicely with our present rector and is enjoying a time of harmony. We are nourished by his leadership in worship, prayer life and study, by good lay leadership, and by our care for each other. We left behind us in 2010 a year of fond memories, accented by completion of the labyrinth and the blessing of the land by the Samish Elders. Our harmony is reflected in growth in numbers and a warm, embracing community which promotes and supports our many ministries.

We are able to claim these accomplishments of the last three years:

- Monthly Dinner Kitchen
 - Significant contribution to the Community Food Bank
 - Permanent labyrinth
 - New roof on the church and Benson Hall
 - Relationship with the Samish
 - Liaison for Northwest First Nation tribal affairs
 - Added opportunities for worship
 - Some innovation and creativity in our worship
 - A growing youth program
 - Rector's Forum (adult education)
 - Development of a new website
 - Expanded parish newsletter (now online)
- New team of acolytes
- Adding to and training Worship Leaders and Lectors
 - Mid-week Eucharist and healing service
- Through vestry retreats, continuing to work on goals for worship/liturgy, community development, spiritual formation and education, and pastoral care and intergenerational ministry

Addition of a part-time funded position of Coordinator of Family and Children's Ministries
 Contribution to relief in Haiti through the Noramise Project, founded on Orcas Island
 Expanded prayer and worship services such as Advent evening services, ecumenical
 Lenten soup and worship services, Choral Evensong, Easter Sunrise Service,
 expanded Holy Week worship
 Creation of position of Parish Chancellor for legal advice and establishment of
 bequests and planned gifts
 Establishment of Orcas Island Council of Churches with our rector serving as convener
 Starting an occasional "Thursday Night at the Movies" event with wine and cheese and
 open to the community
 In Search of Beethoven
 In Search of Mozart
 Pete Seeger
 Upcoming "Finding our Way"

To quote our Treasurer, financially we have had "several banner years," given increased pledges and income, correcting past financial irregularities, paying a past delinquent Diocesan assessment, developing new in-depth financial reports and ending 2010 with a slight budget surplus.

Growth in numbers and pledges:

Total Attendance:

2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
5886	5702	5843	5384	4726

Average Weekly Attendance:

90	89	95	89	74
----	----	----	----	----

Pledge Totals:

2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
\$146,823	\$137,677	\$131,216	\$123,313	\$71,324

Number of pledges:

89	72	74	68	54
----	----	----	----	----

Note: During this period 10% of pledged income was used to fund various organizations here on Orcas Island (see attached **Emmanuel Outreach 2010**) with an emphasis on grants in support of the Environment, the Elderly and Children.

In addition, as an important part of our outreach see attached **Use of Church Facilities, 2010**.

We acknowledge these challenges:

An aging congregation

Attracting new membership – all ages

An eventual change in rector

Financial preparation for a change of rector

Increase in stewardship

More administrative support with better use of technology

Better connection to Diocesan programs and assists

Ways to reach more young people

Increased coordination of pastoral care for the six months that Jan is away

Better and intentional use of Benson Hall, including the fund-raising for remodel

- Continue to develop programs for education, including an evening study group
- Continue to develop action regarding environmental issues on the island
- Better communication – vestry to congregation
- Some more contemplative opportunity – worship, retreats, quiet days
- Possible transitional housing
- Provide transportation to church
- Help those without a voice
- Sustained effort to reach the unchurched
- Expand ordained leadership

And we also acknowledge the concerns which some of our people carry personally:

- Deteriorating physical health
- Financial health in a deteriorated economy
- Well-being of children and grandchildren in a slow economy and changing environment

Our Mission Statement is:

As members of the historic village church, our mission is to love God and God's creation with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Through our series of questions and subsequent dialogue, we identified the fact that we, as a vestry, have not defined a vision. Our rector has articulated his vision:

“Historically, Emmanuel has been considered the “Village Church” in terms of its location, ministry and outreach to the community. Our vision is to expand both ministry and outreach on and beyond the island by providing leadership for increased ecumenical ministry in worship and social justice, providing leadership as an incarnational church in addressing environmental concerns as a Genesis Covenant parish and serving as a location for reconciliation for American Indian and Alaska native issues and concerns symbolized by Madrona Point.”

and we agree that we each probably have our own visions, but we have not discerned with our rector and congregation a vision for Emmanuel. In addition, part of our work must be to discern how the Diocesan Vision is being carried out at Emmanuel, and how to support our rector's goals in his discerned vision. But we are now aware of our need to articulate how WE envision the church in five years, in ten years. Certainly our vision must be an outgrowth of our mission statement. We also think we have pieces of what may become a vision statement: We are agreed that we like being known as the “Village Church,” reflecting relevant, intelligent thought, warm hospitality, good relationships with all our neighbors, ecumenical participation, leadership in matters of social justice and environmental concerns, a gathering place for youth, a place of reconciliation for First Nation peoples, and a source of care and concern for those in need. In spite of a formal vision statement, we support a broad outreach to the community which seems to emerge from an entrepreneurial spirit, some solo visions, a remarkable reserve of energy, and participation in our worship and communal spiritual life.

Areas of focus:

- To develop a vision statement
- To connect with the Diocesan Vision
- To understand and determine how to support our rector's goals as stated in his vision

To prepare, both financially and otherwise, for the eventual change of rector

We affirm the following core values around which our ministries are shaped:

- Worship first
- Religious tolerance, respect, and being a wellspring of reconciliation
- Communication
- Caring for each other and anyone in need

Community which is all-embracing
Priority of the family
Leadership inside and outside the church
Nourishment of the spirit through prayer and study

And we acknowledge and applaud:

A gifted rector
An inspired organist/choir director
An energetic family, children and intergenerational coordinator
An able office staff
A talented webmaster
A committed vestry
An extraordinary lay leadership
A trained and disciplined team of Worship Leaders and Acolytes
The plus of island-based supply clergy and substitute organists
And HOSPITALITY PLUS!!

We ask our Bishop

How we can support him and his vision
To consider our many questions

We ask our rector

What we can do to support the goals of his discerned vision
What we can do to support him personally

We agree that we are very happy with our present rector and we ask what he needs from us to continue with us as long as he desires to be in parish ministry

We ask you both:

What is a contemporary Episcopalian?

Most of our accomplishments seem to be about doing:
how do we measure and report spiritual growth?

In conclusion, we feel Emmanuel is at an important juncture in its ministry.

Any potential for growth or deepening of our ministry requires an awareness of the three congregations that make up parish membership: year-round residents, part-time residents, (second and third homeowners), and tourists

We are, as part of the whole church, in the midst of a paradigm shift, both in how we express ourselves theologically, in how we worship, and in how we interface with other denominations and other faiths.

Our growth and expansion will require strong clergy and lay leadership. We believe we have such leadership, as well as devotion, gifts, and participation, and can meet the challenges to which we are called.

Finally, when asked in Question #12, "Is anything missing for you at Emmanuel?" the predominant answer was "NO". That sums it up!!!

Submitted by Catherine Clemens,
Sr. Warden

**USE OF CHURCH FACILITIES
2010**

Episcopal Services

Two Episcopal services on Sunday
Rector's Forum & Eucharist (weekly)
Altar Guild meetings
St. Agnes Guild
Music Committee meetings
Worship committee meetings
Brown Bag Book Club (monthly)
Brown Bag Concerts (weekly in July and August)
Lenten services
Evensong
Lessons and Carols
Choir rehearsals
Weddings
Memorial services

Other regular meetings and services

Lutheran church services
AA, Al-Anon groups (9 meetings per week)
OA (Overeaters Anon) (weekly)
Labyrinth (ongoing)
Dinner kitchen (monthly)
Assistance at Food Bank (weekly)
Funhouse Board meetings (monthly)
O.I. Realtors Assoc. (monthly)
A Cappella rehearsals
Tai Chi classes (weekly)
Latin class (weekly)
Music performance group (bi-monthly)
Salon de Orcas (monthly)
Grief recovery group meetings
Music recitals

School Functions (intermittent)

OASIS School
Montesorri School
Salmonberry School
School of the Salish Sea
Baccalaureate services
Graduation events
Fundraiser events
Soccer, basketball banquets

Miscellaneous (intermittent)

Noramise (Haiti fundraising project)
OPAL fundraiser dinner
Fire Fighters banquet
Orcas Community Foundation meetings

Orcas Choral Society rehearsals
Island Sinfonia rehearsals
Homeowners` Association meetings
Community Church KindlingFest functions
Movies (Mozart, Beethoven, Seeger)
Concensus training meetings
,

Library

Retreat
Author reception
Planning meeting

Orcas Center

Chamber Music Festival workshop
Children's workshop

OUTREACH 2010

The Outreach committee determined we had about \$13,000 of funds to distribute this year based on a tithe of our parish income. For clarity, we also decided to add a category of NEED to our previous three focus areas of Environment, Elderly, and Children. With this in mind these are our suggestions.

Orcas Island Community Foundation	\$1,000	
Environment		
Indian Island Marine Health Observatory	500	
Morning Star Farms for Food Bank	500	
Friends of Moran		500
SeaDoc Society	500	
Orcas Animal Protection	500	
Elderly		
Hearts & Hands		1,000 (given by St. Agnes Guild)
Senior Services		1,000 (given by St. Agnes Guild)
Children		
Orcas Recreation Little League	400	
Kaleidoscope		1,000 (given by St. Agnes Guild)
Fun House		1,000
Children's House		1,000 (given by St. Agnes Guild)
Need		
OPAL		500
Food Bank Lunch		500
Food Bank Building		1,000 (given by St. Agnes Guild)
Mercy Flights		1,000
Domestic Violence		1,000 (given by St. Agnes Guild)

How We Serve: A Vision for the Diocese of Olympia

We envision the Diocese of Olympia as one of the healthiest places in the Episcopal Church, growing and moving through the opportunity and challenge that come with being situated in the “None Zone” of the largely unchurched Pacific Northwest. We are a diocese on solid footing, with open communication and a resolve to live together in Christ and with Christ. We see our differences as blessings and we are committed to sharing those blessings with the world around us.

We believe the core purpose of a diocese is building up the Body of Christ. The Diocese of Olympia works to fulfill that commitment in our congregations by focusing on three areas: congregational development; concentrating on those 35 and under; and stewardship of all our resources.

Congregational development – We believe that developing healthy congregations is central to that call. To that end, we have a clear strategy and ethos of development and health in all our congregations, no matter what the size or context. We assist congregations in facilitating clear expectations and in developing leaders—lay and clergy—who are given the skills and have the understanding to take responsibility for development. We believe that congregational development means far more than numerical growth, but when development is done well, numerical growth is often an outcome.

Concentrating on those 35 and under – We believe that the Church has a particular call to reach out to and attract people under age 35, many of whom are the second and third generations to have no knowledge of Christ and the Church. We believe that if we, the Church, cannot discover how to reach, feed and attract people under 35 that we may well lose the tremendous leadership and spirituality this generation offers the Church. Therefore, our mission field is wherever we find this generation. We must engage with, listen to and commit resources toward all those who are 35 and younger. We equip congregations to relate to younger people and build ministry with them, and we do the same work on a diocesan level.

Stewardship of all our resources – We believe Christianity is a faith of abundance and blessing. Becoming a people truly in touch with this reality makes us stewards of all of our resources—human, financial, material and spiritual. At Creation, God gave us responsibility for the care of the earth. More than ever before, we are aware that what we do affects those in the next generations. Jesus teaches us that when we live for others we have abundant life. We assist congregational leaders in strengthening the stewardship of all resources in their congregations, and we practice this at a diocesan level.