

Senior Warden Report- 2020

Jill Rosier, Senior Warden

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2019 was an exciting year at CGS. On July 1st we welcomed our new Rector, Michael Greene, his wife Hope and children Aidan and Miriam to CGS. This was the culmination of a 2 year transition since Pastor Odie's retirement in 2017. Pastor Mike quickly settled in, he didn't have much choice as Pastor Kate was called to be Rector of Grace Episcopal and to form an Episcopal ministry in Franklin NH departing CGS the 1st week of August. I feel Pastor Mike has done an amazing job in these 6 months juggling all the responsibilities of being Rector and learning about all the goings on here at CGS and getting to know parishioners.

Looking back on 2019, I want to thank all of the parishioners for continuing to support Church of the Good Shepherd actively volunteering in the many roles available and necessary, continuing your financial support and continuing to worship in this beautiful space. The thing that is most evident to me is that over the past 2 years and in the past 6 months especially as Mike settles in, people have stepped in and continued to keep the many programs and ministries at CGS humming along. In my humble opinion we have not missed a beat in keeping the so many programs going during all of the clergy transition. As is typical of a time of transition, we have had some dips in attendance and giving but we are now trending back up. I am confident under Pastor Mike's guidance and leadership we will continue to grow and strengthen our many programs.

In May 2019 we said goodbye to Pastor Alanna, Franklin and Nora, after 9 wonderful years as assistant, associate and interim Rector. Pastor Alanna was a gift to CGS and we were blessed to have her leadership during the transition. I know that she was instrumental in keeping this place humming along for the 2 year interim period.

I would be remiss not to thank the Rector Search Committee, Vestry and Executive Committee for every minute they devoted to calling our new Rector. Thank you! Job well done!

Our children and youth education programs continue to thrive under Mary O'Reilly and Nancy Madiera with immense thanks to all of the Sunday School teachers and Youth advisors. The Music department also continues to provide us with beautiful music at services. In 2020 we can look forward to a concert series on select Sunday afternoons. Many thanks to Brett Greene, and to Hope Greene for stepping in to lead the Handbell Choir this fall.

There are two people that are unsung heroes here at CGS. Since we do not see them on Sunday mornings it is easy to overlook all of the hard work that happens Monday through Friday in the office by Abbie Law and Laurie Ascani. And especially this year with the departure of 2 clergy and the arrival of our new Rector, Abbie and Laurie have done an amazing job of helping Pastor Mike get up to speed on all the ins and outs of CGS, and keeping CGS running. My simple thanks seems not nearly enough in recognizing dedication to this parish.

Thank you to everyone for all you give to CGS; time, money, food, companionship, worshipping, that continue to make this parish a vibrant, active and strong community. It is the people of this parish that make CGS what it is.