

Note from Rosalys Peel, Junior Warden for the People...

Hello Saint Barnabas Family,

For those that I have not had the opportunity to meet, let me introduce myself. I'm Rosalys (pronounce Rose Alice) Peel, long time member of St Barnabas and a member of the vestry for the past two and a half years serving as the People's Warden.

Your vestry has missed seeing you!

Zoom is fine, but not the same as a warm hug and friendly in-person chat. We want to connect in a more personal way and decided to send notes via our Saint B's news. I'm up first, so here it goes.

The vestry continues to meet monthly via Zoom and have now added an extra meeting to stay in touch during this challenging time. Vestry meetings are open and you are welcome to join us on the third Sunday at 1:00. Vestry meetings are via zoom and are published in the e-news, so feel free to join in!

Serving on the vestry has been rewarding in many ways, but most recently it gave me the opportunity to listen to Bishop Rickel speak about the phases of reopening. At our recent vestry meeting we spent some time assessing the feasibility of reopening and have formed the beginning of a group to focus on when and how we might accomplish the necessary steps to open when it is the right time. No decisions have been made at this time, however, we are hopeful that some summer services outside including our popular service Church on the Beach will be possible.

On a more personal level, I'm staying connected to the church by attending church via Zoom, seeing people at coffee hour, reading "Day by Day" and a monthly drop off pledge at the drop box outside the office. St B's grounds are beautiful right now. I enjoy the quiet walk to our memorial garden and a moment with my husband Mike whose ashes reside with other Saint Barnabas friends.

My two adult children and their families live nearby which makes it possible to see them often in a safe way. I'm in the over 65 age group and continue to follow the state guide of staying home and safe. Phase four is my time to come out----oh my that seems to be a long time from now. You can find me buying groceries in the early morning, taking walks at Fay Bainbridge, Battle Point Park, or West Port Madison during the day.

I have seen fellow Saint B members while out and about: Kirk Eichenberger in his driveway, Phil Fergusson who is a regular boater in the neighborhood, Laurie Fergusson in the driveway, Alice Reasoner driving on to sunrise, Lynn Whipple walking Hidden Cove, Larry Kehres walking the neighborhood, and many more on Zoom. While we are not gathering together right now I feel connected to our St B community in a new way. I hope you too are feeling connected in new-found ways.

In closing I want to welcome new members to our church community! We are all here ready to welcome you in a new way via: Zoom, email, or chat on the phone.

And last but not least, a big thank you to Rev. Karen and her little team of five that make it possible for us to attend church each Sunday safely at home----smile.

Please don't hesitate to contact me as a vestry member and People's Warden, or as a fellow parishioner who does not want to lose my connection with you.

Sent with appreciation for our church community,
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