



The Quilt

Stitching together the fabric of our faith

All Saints' Episcopal Church Newsletter | September, 2026

Father Jim's Reflection

I thought it would be a good idea to write a bit about our relationship with our Kenyan congregation, known as All Saints Goshen. Shortly after I came here, Fr. Paul Karume came to a service. He wanted to know if he could use our space for his own congregation. Over the next few months I and the Bishop's Committee talked this over with diocesan officials and Bishop Greg. We were excited to receive them, effectively providing an entirely new place of worship for a fine group of people.

For the first few years they were essentially renters. That relationship changed at our last diocesan convention. There are several African congregations in the Diocese of Olympia, generally split between Sudanese and Kenyan. They had been designated as "mission stations" by Bishop Greg. Last year a new diocesan resolution designated them as "missions," the same status held by our All Saints.

This is a good thing, but it changes our relationship with Goshen. We are now both missions in the Diocese of Olympia. Fr. Paul's group will begin paying diocesan assessment next year as we do. He will have the dubious pleasure of filling out an annual report in January, and we are faced with many issues to resolve. Who pays the bills which we now share and how should we divide them? How do we handle scheduling of the facilities?

I've been interested in a.i. since I watched Star Trek while in high school. I envied Spock his tricorder but never thought I'd have one. Now I do, more or less, with my folding smartphone. It carries an AI, Gemini,

which I'm finding useful (not in writing sermons or articles!). I asked Gemini about two missions sharing the same facility. She (a knowledgeable friend informed me that insiders refer to AI in the feminine, although others consider this a dangerous humanization of a machine) found some, and also uncovered a "memorandum of understanding" which defines how that works. It's been approved by our b.c. and Fr. Paul has expressed satisfaction with it. It now needs to be approved by the diocesan chancellor and probably other people, but I think it will work. I've included it in the next segment, below. Ask me any questions you might have and please let me know what you think.

—The Rev. Dr. James Warnock

Memorandum of Understanding

Parties: All Saints' Episcopal Church (Tacoma) & Goshen Anglican Mission

I. Purpose of Partnership

Both All Saints' and Goshen Anglican Mission are recognized missions of the Diocese of Olympia. This covenant establishes a framework for sharing the sacred space at All Saints' to ensure both communities flourish in their unique cultural and liturgical expressions.

II. Stewardship of Shared Assets

Contribution of Space: All Saints' provides the consecrated sanctuary, parish hall, and grounds for the primary use of both communities.

Contribution of Labor: In lieu of a commercial lease, Goshen Mission provides the stewardship of the grounds (yard work) and the interior cleanliness of the facility. This is recognized as a Mission Offering to the upkeep of the diocesan property.

Quarterly Review: A “Stewardship Liaison” from each mission will meet quarterly to review the maintenance schedule and adjust labor needs based on the season.

Operating Costs: All Saints Goshen agrees to assist with the operating costs of the facilities currently being paid by All Saints. This includes, at a minimum, utilities, telecommunications and insurance. Prior to January 1 each year the Parties will agree on the monthly assistance amount for the upcoming calendar year. For the period June 1 to December 31, 2026 the amount is \$1,000 per month. Payment is due the fourth Sunday of each month.

IV. Cultural and Liturgical Autonomy

Sacred Space: Each mission maintains full autonomy over its worship style, language (English/Kikuyu), and cultural traditions.

Mutual Non-Interference: Both parties agree to a “Covenant of Hospitality,” where the internal theological and social teachings of one mission are respected as the private domain of that specific community.

Conflict Resolution: Any disputes regarding the use of space that cannot be resolved locally will be referred to the Archdeacon for Congregational Development.

IV. Governance & Communication

The Mission Council: A joint committee of four (two from each mission’s leadership) will manage the shared calendar and facility logistics.

Joint Witness: While maintaining separate

identities, the missions may occasionally collaborate on community outreach (e.g., food drives) where goals are purely humanitarian and missional.

Holy Cross Day, September 14



The historian Eusebius, in his *Life of Constantine*, tells how that emperor ordered the erection of a complex of buildings in Jerusalem “on a scale of imperial magnificence,” to set forth as “an object of attraction and veneration to all, the blessed place of our Savior’s resurrection.” The overall supervision of the work—on the site where the Church of the Holy Sepulchre now stands—was entrusted to Constantine’s mother, the empress Helena.

In Jesus’ time, the hill of Calvary had stood outside the city; but when the Roman city which succeeded Jerusalem, Aelia Capitolina, was built, the hill was buried under tons of fill. It was during the excavations directed by Helena that a relic, believed to be that of the true cross, was discovered.

Constantine’s shrine included two principal buildings: a large basilica, used for the Liturgy of the Word, and a circular church, known as “The

Resurrection”—its altar placed on the site of the tomb—which was used for the Liturgy of the Table, and for the singing of the Daily Office.

Toward one side of the courtyard which separated the two buildings, and through which the faithful had to pass on their way from Word to Sacrament, the exposed top of Calvary’s hill was visible. It was there that the solemn veneration of the cross took place on Good Friday; and it was there that the congregation gathered daily for a final prayer and dismissal after Vespers.

The dedication of the buildings was completed on September 14, 335, the seventh month of the Roman calendar, a date suggested by the account of the dedication of Solomon’s temple in the same city, in the seventh month of the Jewish calendar, hundreds of years before (2 Chronicles 7:8-10).

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world unto himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen

—Lesser Feasts and Fasts, 2000

Bishop’s Committee Meeting Minutes

Treasurer’s Report

The committee reviewed the treasurer’s report. No significant concerns were raised, and receipt of \$5,000 from the Diocese was noted. Motion: To accept the treasurer’s report as submitted. Passed unanimously.

Junior Warden / Property and Facilities

Routine maintenance around the church was

reported. A safety concern was raised regarding the front steps and wheelchair ramp at the parish hall. One step is badly deteriorated, and the ramp decking also has a rotted area. Because the building remains in use, safe emergency egress was identified as the priority.

Preliminary material estimates were approximately \$150 for the most limited repairs and approximately \$400 to replace all front steps and the wheelchair-ramp decking, with an allowance for additional costs if hidden damage is discovered.

The condition of the porch/landing was also questioned. Rather than authorize partial work before the full condition is known, the Junior Warden will inspect the porch/deck and return next month with a more complete assessment and recommendation.

The committee agreed that repairs should focus on safety rather than appearance, particularly because the existing parish hall is expected eventually to be replaced.

The electrical supply to the outdoor sign will also be checked after a report that some wires are not delivering power.

Memorandum of Understanding with All Saints Goshen

The draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) governing the relationship between the two missions was reviewed. The document addresses shared operating costs and proposes a small joint Mission Council to address matters affecting both congregations.

The MOU has been sent to the Diocesan Chancellor for legal review. The Canon to the Ordinary is also seeking examples from western dioceses where two missions share a building. The hope is to have a more complete document available by the next meeting.

Discussion focused on how joint decisions should be

made. It was clarified that the proposed joint group would consist of a small number of representatives from each congregation, would meet only when a shared issue requires discussion, and representatives would report back to their respective committees.

All Saints Goshen was encouraged to share any proposed changes to the governance approach with the Canon to the Ordinary while the MOU is under review.

Shared repairs and facility expenses, such as work on the porch, were identified as the type of issue that would appropriately go through the joint process once established.

Vimeo / Sermon Archive

The church's Vimeo service for sermon archiving has been renewed for one year. The annual cost was reduced from approximately \$300 to \$119. Sue reimbursed Trey for the current year and offered to cover the cost. The account/service has been turned over to the church so the archive remains under church control.

The committee will review the expense again when renewal comes due next year. Sermons will continue to be recorded, posted to the website, and maintained in the online archive for members and others who cannot attend services.

Website Coordination

All Saints Goshen currently does not have its own active website and asked whether its information could be incorporated into the existing All Saints website rather than building a completely separate site from scratch.

A possible approach would be to place a clear All Saints Goshen link or section on the church's main page, directing visitors to Goshen-specific information. Trey will be consulted regarding the best technical approach.

Audio/Video Screens and Sound Project

All Saints Goshen reported receiving proposals for installation of screens and related audio/video equipment. The selected company's estimate is approximately \$7,375.

The congregation has raised approximately \$3,000 toward the project and plans additional fundraising. The work will not begin until the full cost is covered; the congregation does not want to incur debt for the installation.

The current concept uses two side screens rather than a center screen so the altar and liturgical space are not obstructed. The screens would be stationary.

The project may also include changes to the drum/sound arrangement to create additional altar space. Installation will proceed only after sufficient funds are raised and the final configuration is confirmed.

Future Parish Hall

All Saints Goshen reported discussing the future parish hall with the Bishop's office. Because the congregation cannot finance a replacement hall on its own, Diocesan participation, potentially including a church loan and assistance from the Diocese's property/building staff, will be needed.

A possible revised layout was discussed that would extend the new hall in an L-shaped configuration, preserving the kitchen and restroom areas while improving access, storage, and use of the property.

No authorization to proceed has been given. A preliminary design and cost estimate will be needed before further decisions are made.

Joint Evangelism / Neighborhood Mailing

All Saints Goshen proposed a joint neighborhood outreach mailing through the U.S. Postal Service. The mailing would promote both

congregations and their worship opportunities, including the English and Kikuyu services, and invite neighbors to fellowship after worship. All Saints Goshen will cover the mailing expense. The committee expressed support for the idea and appreciation for being included.

Next Meeting / Quorum

Several members noted possible absences at the next Bishop's Committee meeting. Based on the expected attendance, the committee anticipated that a quorum should still be available.

—Larry Talbert



Birthdays

September 28, Bette Mazzola



In Memorial

6, Meliss Howarth, 2018
6, Geoffrey Reed, 1996
7, Mina Timbal Garman, 2023
9, Barbara Young, 2014
10, Henry Sousley, 1987
18, Larry Iverson, 1991
18, Elizabeth Zubitis, 2014
21, Rosemarie Finkhouse, 2011
27, Helen Miller, 2000

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Normal Sunday Service Schedule

9:30am, Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30am, After Mass Coffee Social

Bible Study

10am, Wednesday

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