

A Reflection from The Rev. Ben Robertson October 2, 2024

Last month, our Vestry gathered next door at Roslyn for a brief retreat. We enjoyed their hospitality and each other's company, we discussed a few of the potential capital projects on the horizon, and we reflected on our focus as a parish. Our intention was not anything lofty, like a mission statement or strategic goals. But for now, we wanted to ruminate on the [joys that many of you shared over the summer](#), and then name some foci for the foreseeable future (say that three times fast!). We chose three: worship, fun, and volunteering.

Worship is something we already do well. Under Scott's excellent leadership, our long-standing tradition of fine Anglican music is thriving. Our space is beautiful and, thanks to our Altar Guild, Acolytes, Flower Guild, LEMs, and Ushers, our liturgies are splendid. Your preachers will attempt to keep pace.

Volunteering is important in any community, especially a community of faith. We need not only the worship volunteers I mentioned above, but folks to go out into the world and do the holy work that God calls us to do, like donating to the Welborne Food Pantry or Anna Julia Cooper School or the Human Needs Fund, or the notes, casseroles, and college care packages coordinated by our Congregational Care Committee. On Sundays beginning soon, check the bulletin for the Volunteer Opportunity of the Week, or as you are praying over your pledge this month, flip it over and pledge some of your time and talents as well. We want and need you to be part of the work of the Saints!

And finally FUN! We want to have fun with our fellow Saints. Are you a young person? Try out Youth Group with our new and super awesome youth minister Nick Brata. Looking for some fun with your kids? Check out the Children's Church during the 10:30 service, our playground, one of Miss Anne's music classes, or come to one of our Children and Family events this autumn. I'm especially looking forward to Trivia Night on Friday, 11 October. Or join the Ladies who Lunch, the Men's

Group, the Rascals, or Bunco Night. We pray well and we serve well, and we should have fun too.

How should we employ these foci? How could we improve or diversify our worship, fun, and volunteering. Please let me know! I look forward to implementing these foci for the foreseeable future along side you.