

St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church
Jr. Warden Article for the December 2021 Newsletter
Submitted November 17, 2021

St. Francis celebrated its hard working and dedicated long term grounds care volunteers, March work party grounds volunteers, and sexton staff on Sunday, November 14, 2021. Junior Warden, Kristi Menix, expressed gratitude to each volunteer and sexton for their giving of time and talent and “living as the heart and hands of Christ in the world” (Mission of St. Francis in the Valley).

Deana Bond, Lead Sexton and Clarke Green, Sexton, distributed thank you gifts to the 10 long-term volunteers: green t-shirts with St. Francis logos and inscriptions and blue inscribed baseball caps for Chris Arundell, Mitch Ghoca, Reg Kahrmanis, Fred Keller, Gary La Barre, Joyce Remillard, Vince Remillard, Arlienne Stremming, and Ann Tenpenney. Craig Reid, the Church’s lead grounds volunteer, also received an inscribed, decorative stone showing appreciation for his 10 years of dedication in the “Garden of Weedin”! Additionally, appreciative words were directed to volunteers in the pews who made up a March 2021 grounds work party or made other ground care contributions: Barbara Bundy, Carol Wingereid, Cheryl Tardy-Albin, Fred Keller, Janie Hessong, Linda Hempel, Mitch Ghoca, Mark Eckstein and Sandy Eckstein, who also provided yummy refreshments, Nancy Tardy-Albin, Sue Wilson, John Colip, retired lead sexton, Julie Reppenhagen, Senior Warden, and Father Warren Leibovitch, Rector.

Following the appreciation event, St. Francis’s beautiful Memorial Garden buzzed during an all-parish reception. Bill Miller, Marie Miller, Thomasina Reid, Julie Reppenhaggen, Erik Ringkjøb, Carol Wingereid, Sandy Eckstein, and Mark Eckstein graciously handled the reception. Mark and Sandy complemented the usual coffee hour cookies with other celebratory goodies. Thank you, All, for your kind efforts to make the reception a great success in celebrating our awe-inspiring, and humble ground team!