



# St. Anne's Episcopal Church

## Newsletter Nov. 2016

SERVING CHRIST IN THE WORLD

## From the Rector

by The Rev. Lauren T. McLeavey

Hello Friends!

October was a very busy month for me. I had many meetings and trainings to attend, it seemed like I was never sitting still for too long. It was a little stressful, but also wonderful!

I have met so many great folks in our community, but also in the Diocese at large. I am looking forward to Diocesan Convention (Nov. 4-5<sup>th</sup>) where I will learn even more about our wonderful Diocese.

In October, the Billerica Clergy Association took a trip into Boston to the Christian Science Center. There we learned more about our Christian Scientist brothers and sisters, heard the organ played, and visited the famous Mapparium. The most moving part for me was the prayer service we attended. We heard readings, then there was time for the congregants to speak if they felt so moved. People stood up and shared stories from their lives and how God/prayer has helped them. It was a truly moving experience, and I wonder why we as Episcopalians tend to have a hard time sharing our faith with the world. We are called to go into the world and share our faith, that is how we grow and change. If you

ever get a chance to attend one of these services, I highly recommend it.

There are so many events happening at St. Anne's soon, one of extra significance is my installation! Bishop Alan Gates will be here to officially install me as Rector on January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. I hope everyone can make it (and that it doesn't snow).

I am also working closely with the Diocese to schedule a Safe Church training here at the church. Everyone in leadership and everyone who works with children must take this training, either in person or online.

I know we like to rush to Christmas, but don't forget Advent! Advent is a season to slow down, reflect, and prayerfully await Jesus' birth, stay tuned for more about Advent in the next issue.

Also, we are re-instituting the Thanksgiving Eve service, hope to see you at 7pm on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>!

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Lauren

### Contacts:

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### Vestry:

Ed Giroux - Warden  
Mark Komarinski - Warden  
Sue Geen - Treasurer  
Kathy Brewster - Clerk  
Susan Kennedy - 2017  
Lisa Lavoie - 2017  
Maureen Thibeault - 2017  
Marie Figenbaum - 2018  
John Kusnierz - 2018  
Lucy Anne Young - 2018  
Judy MacPherson - 2019  
Carol Lazott - 2019

### Worship:

Sundays, 8am & 10am

## **From the Co-Warden:**

Did you ever Wonder....?

No, I'm not the next Andy Rooney, (if you don't know who Andy Rooney was, I guess my age is showing!!) but the question fits:

Did you ever wonder:

- Why St. Anne's decided to raise money for an AED?
- How the annual budget is formulated?
- How much we give in scholarship money each year?
- What Rev. Lauren does when it's not Sunday morning?

In general, have you ever wondered how the business of St. Anne's is done? All these questions and more are answered during vestry meetings. The vestry, as many of you know, is a committee made up of lay people from the parish who decide how St. Anne's is run from the business side. We are in very good hands from a spiritual and liturgical perspective with Rev. Lauren. I encourage you to attend a meeting, just listen or ask questions. They are currently held on the third Monday evening of the month and are announced at services prior to the meeting. Meetings generally last around 90 minutes and all meetings are open to the congregation.

Even better than attending a meeting is to consider running for a seat on the vestry. That's right; I suggested that you "run" for a seat. The Episcopal Church is a very democratic organization. Everything that we do from a business or administrative perspective is voted on by the members of the church. From the annual budget to how best to mitigate the smell of a skunk. These have been topics of discussion at vestry meetings. At the end of 2016 we will have four seats that need to be filled. These elections are held at our annual meeting in January.

Now, I know many of you reading this are saying one of two things. Either "I wouldn't know what to do or what to say at a meeting" or "been there, done that". Am I right? For the members who have "been there, done that", your experience and insight could be invaluable. For newer members, a fresh perspective can be refreshing. All you need is an open mind. If you're interested, attend a meeting or two before January and find out for yourself how the business of St. Anne's is done. Speak with Rev. Lauren, Mark or myself with any questions you may have. We can explain the process in more detail.

In the last newsletter, I ended by talking about beginning the next chapter of St. Anne's. This is a great way to help write that chapter.

Ed Giroux

Co-Warden

## **From the Stewardship Committee:**

Dear Friends,

You should have received a letter from me and a new pledge brochure in the mail. If you did not, there are extra copies in the narthex of the church. I hope, as you have read our special Stewardship inserts, and heard the testimonies of your fellow parishioners, you have been prayerfully considering your pledge to St. Anne's.

Please mail in your pledge cards, or bring them to church and place them in the container by the piano. All pledges are confidential, the only people who will see these is myself and the pledge treasurer. Please return the pledges by November 27<sup>th</sup>, when we will honor and bless your commitment to St. Anne's.

Thank you for everything you do for Christ through St. Anne's!

~Rev. Lauren

## Upcoming Events

### **November 2016**

Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>: 10:00am Jar Filling Workshop for Christmas Fair.

Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>: 6:00pm Annacreons Pot Luck/Game Night

Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>: 7:00pm Vestry

Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>: 6:30pm Interfaith Thanksgiving service at First UU

Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>: 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eucharist at St. Anne's.

Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>: 9:00am Ladies Breakfast at Stellio's  
9:00am Men's Breakfast at Deli King

### Ongoing Activities:

Mondays: Al-Anon 7:30pm

Tuesdays: Bible Study 10am  
Bible Study 7:30pm

Wednesday: AA 8:00pm  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup>  
Craft Group 10am

Saturdays: 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Elizabeth's Guild  
4<sup>th</sup> Men's & Women's  
Breakfasts

Sundays: Choir Practice 11:45am

### LOOKING AHEAD

Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – CHRISTMAS FAIR

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> – 6:00pm Community Carol Sing at LDS on Concord Rd.

Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> - 1:00pm Caroling at Sunny Acres

Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> – Greening of the Church! 6:00pm Potluck, 7:00pm Greening -all are welcome!

Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - 1pm Silver Tea  
10:30pm- Carol Sing  
11:00pm- Midnight Mass

Jan 10<sup>th</sup> - 7:00pm Rev. Lauren's Installation.

## Announcements

### **Angel Tree**

The Angel Tree will go up soon, please keep your eyes peeled.

### **Thanksgiving Mission/Outreach**

For: Billerica Food Pantry and Central Food Ministry in Lowell, MA

When: Starting Sunday, 10/23 through Sunday 11/20

What to donate: Non-perishable goods: specifically, green beans, stuffing mix, turkey gravy, and cranberry sauce.

We cannot accept any items that are past the expiration date.

### **Rev. Lauren's Installation**

On Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm, Bishop Gates will be at St. Anne's to officially install Rev. Lauren as Rector. Please join us for this celebration of new ministry. More details are forthcoming, if you are interested in helping plan this event, please see Rev. Lauren or any member of the Transition Committee.

### **Prayer List**

Starting on Advent 1 (Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>) the prayer list will start over; all names will be removed. You must resubmit the names of your loved ones. Please do so by e-mailing the office

[stannesbillerica@gmail.com](mailto:stannesbillerica@gmail.com), calling the office, 978-663-4073, or by writing the name on the provided slip of paper (in the narthex) and add to the collection plate. The list will be renewed quarterly and all additions/subtractions should be done through the office.

### **AED Fundraising**

As many of you know, St. Anne's has purchased an Automated

External Defibrillator (AED). We have arranged for a qualified paramedic to conduct a training class for parishioners. There is no charge for the class, but there will be a charge (around \$20) for training books. Sign up sheets are available in the hall way. Class size is limited to 8-10. If there is enough interest, we may be able to get a second class set up. For more information, please see Ed Giroux.

### **Thrift Shop**

The Thrift Shop hours are as follows:

Wed: 2-6pm

Thurs: 10am-4pm

Fri: 10am-2pm

Sat: 10am-2pm

Thrift Shop Ph: 978-667-6268

We are always looking for volunteers, so drop by and sign up to help out!

If you can't volunteer during the week, you can help on Sundays after church! We need help after church putting the trash and recycle bins out on the curb for Monday morning pick up and also emptying the donation shed. If you would like to help with this after the 8am or 10am service, please find one of the Thrift Shop volunteers, a warden, or if can't find someone, speak to Rev. Lauren. Many hands make light work!

### **Annacreons**

The Annacreons is a social group that is open to everyone at St. Anne's for fellowship and fun. The next meeting is a pot luck dinner and game night, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board near the kitchen. All are welcome!

### **Tuesday Night Bible Study**

The Tuesday night bible study meets at 7:30pm.

The group will be discussing "The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul" by Adam Hamilton.

Please consider joining us. We meet every Tuesday evening at 7:30 and generally head home shortly after 8:30.

### **Men's Breakfast**

The Men's breakfast takes place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month at 9:00am at the Deli King restaurant located at 885 Mains Street in Tewksbury. The food is good and the price is right (typically around \$10.00). The men's group is simply anyone who wants to show up for a good breakfast and little socializing. Everybody is welcome.

Directions are as follows: Coming from Tewksbury center, it's on the LEFT about a ½ mile from the center on Main St. (Rt. 38) going towards Rt. 495. Coming from Rt. 495 it's on the RIGHT just before you get to Tewksbury center.

### **Women's Breakfast**

The Women's breakfast is the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month at 9:00am at Stelio's in Billerica. Join us!

### **Choir**

We're looking to form a special, larger choir for Rev. Lauren's installation on January 10th. This choral project is in celebration of the ministry begun by Rev. Lauren at St. Anne's, and also of the work by the wardens, search committee, vestry, and congregation over the past two years.

Please consider taking part in this. We welcome all ages and all

voices! We rehearse on Sundays from 11:45-12:45, though we can focus on the music for the Jan. 10th installation from **11:45-12:15**.

If you can sing joyfully, and perhaps can't participate in the choir year-round, now is the time to sing, please feel free to contact Peter Morelli at [morellimail@msn.com](mailto:morellimail@msn.com) or at (617) 480-9775.

### **Pastoral Visits**

Rev. Lauren warmly encourages visitations at home or hospital bedside. You don't even need to be a member of St. Anne's. But, you need to take the first step and invite her. Please give Rev. Lauren a call at 718-440-0811 or e-mail at [rector@stannes-billerica.org](mailto:rector@stannes-billerica.org), and we will arrange for a visitation at a place and time of your convenience.

### **Altar Flowers**

If you wish to donate altar flowers to Saint Anne's, please fill out one of the flower request forms and return it to Stacey in the office.

### **St. Anne's Knitting Group**

St. Anne's Knitting Group meets the first, third and fifth Wednesdays of the month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Nichols Room. Then we go to lunch nearby. Most everything we make is for the Christmas Fair. One does not have to know how to knit, crochet, or any other type of needle work. Just come and gab with the rest of us. Please contact Marie Figenbaum (714-585-9744, cell, or 781-275-7294 home.)

### **Administrative office**

Administrative office hours are Tuesday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and Wednesday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

### **Bulletin Announcements**

Announcements for the weekly bulletin must be submitted to the office by the Tuesday before you wish the announcement to appear. Please include details such as contact person and phone number/e-mail, dates and times, as well as the end date for the announcement. Please submit announcement to Stacey at [stannesbillerica@gmail.com](mailto:stannesbillerica@gmail.com).

## CHRISTMAS FAIR

Hi folks!

First I want to say thank you for all the support thus far. Fair plans are well underway!

We're having a jar filling workshop November 5<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm: if you would like to donate ingredients or gift cards or cash we'd be most grateful.

Ticket sales for raffles and ham & bean supper are also underway and can be purchased at the thrift store or after the 8 and 10 services from Andrea Jeffrey, Marie Figenbaum, Kathy Brewster, and Jackie Ripley. Barbara Weisensee is also selling day raffles.

We're having a Cookie Contest! For an application please speak with Andrea Jeffrey or pick up an application on the bulletin board near the kitchen.

Are you or someone you know interested in being a vendor at the Fair? Please see Andrea Jeffrey for more details.

Please reach out with any questions or donations.

Thanks again!

Andrea

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### New features @ St Anne's Fair

As St Anne's posted on their Facebook page Sunday night; The most dangerous phrase is "We've always done it that way". The same holds true for the Christmas Fair.... we are trying something NEW - a Silent Auction the evening of December 3rd at the Ham & Bean supper.

What do you need to do? It's quite simple - if you choose to donate an item, a bottle, a gift card, or whatever, we have elves combining donations making up auction baskets.

During the day we will be displaying the elves' work and accepting bids. The auction will be closing during the dinner, so make your early bids count. Payment will be anticipated before receipt of the auction item.

There is serious consideration being given to a 50/50 raffle. You do not need to be present to win. What I do recommend is you bring preprinted labels with your phone number. Save your hand and benefit St Anne's.

Any donations, questions, ideas or volunteering elves please contact me directly at [Sanedbec@yahoo.com](mailto:Sanedbec@yahoo.com).

Thank you,  
Sandra