



Give thanks to the LORD,
for he is good
- Psalm 107:1 NIV

St. Anne's Episcopal Church

Newsletter November 2017

SERVING CHRIST IN THE WORLD

From the Rector

by The Rev. Lauren T. McLeavey

Dear Friends in Christ,

Where did the Autumn go? It seems as if we have been in constant motion since the beginning of September (and we have!). We had our first Harvest Craft Fair, and it was a great success. Thank you to everyone who helped make it a great day.

Autumn is also the time to start preparing for the new year, and that means Vestry nominations, Annual Meeting planning, and of course, making a budget. Budgets are rarely a fun thing to do, but they are necessary. Much of our budget is paid by our fabulous Thrift Shop.

We had a Diocesan consultant visit and he said that we have the most successful Thrift Shop in the Diocese! That is something to be proud of and to celebrate. Remember, the Thrift Shop is not only a fundraising arm of the church, but also a mission of the church. By offering low cost (and often no cost) items for the needy people of Billerica and beyond, we are living out Christ's mission in the world. I encourage you to

get involved in this important mission of St. Anne's.

Thanksgiving is coming fast, and we have a lot to be thankful for. I am thankful for all the hardworking, faithful people of St. Anne's. I'll end with the Thanksgiving for the Mission of the Church from our Book of Common Prayer:

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself: We praise and bless you for those whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the Gospel to all nations. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors, and that in every place your servants call upon your Name; for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours for ever. *Amen.*

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Lauren

Contacts:

St. Anne's Episcopal Church
PO Box 134, 14 Treble Cove Rd.
No. Billerica, MA 01862
Office Ph: 978-663-4073
Office Admin Hours:
Tues. & Wed. 9am-1pm
Thrift Shop Ph: 978-667-6268

Email: stannesbillerica@gmail.com
Website: stannes-billerica.org

The Rev. Lauren McLeavey
Rector
Mobile: 718-440-0811
Email: rector@stannes-billerica.org
Blog: therevlauren.com
Vestry:
Ed Giroux – Warden
Mark Komarinski – Warden
Sue Geen – Treasurer
Kathy Brewster – Clerk
Marie Figenbaum – 2018
John Kusnierz – 2018
Lucy Ann Young – 2018
Judy MacPherson – 2019
Carol Lazott – 2019
Jane Kotelly – 2019
Russell Bent – 2020
Andrea Jeffrey – 2020
Janet Lyna – 2020
Worship:
Sundays, 8am & 10am

Some Friendly Reminders from Rev. Lauren

Dear Friends,

I thank you for all your well-wishes during my pregnancy. As the baby grows, so will my belly. I ask you to respect my personal space and please refrain from touching my belly (or my body in general). Additionally, comments about my weight, body shape, etc. (even if meant in a nice/endearing way) are not appreciated or welcome. Thank you for being supportive as my pregnancy progresses. We are very excited to welcome our little one in the New Year!

~Rev. Lauren

From the Co-Wardens

The Fall weather is here and as warm days turn into cool nights, the leaves on the trees are changing color. It's always around this time of year that St. Anne's is ripe with activity. We are anticipating our fall Harvest Fair and are preparing for the upcoming holidays including the Christmas Fair, ham & bean supper and several other FUN raising activities. Please keep an eye open for emails and feel free to contact a vestry member for details.

And, as the holidays approach, the end of the year follows right behind. As we prepare to say good bye to 2017, the finance committee has been meeting to prepare the 2018 budget. The church is embarking on a new campaign to increase giving in order to meet ALL of our financial obligations. The Very Rev. Frank Fornaro was here on Sunday 10/15 to discuss why St. Anne's is important to God and why it needs to be sustained. He asked us to think about this and commended us on the way we give our time, talent and treasure. But he focused on treasure.

The unfortunately harsh reality is that as an entity, St. Anne's is like most other organizations. We have a payroll to meet, vendors and utilities to pay and other financial obligations to meet. And, as with your household expenses, costs only rise. Adjustments have been made on the expense side to help make ends meet. However, sources of funding have stayed relatively flat over the last several years. We encourage anyone interested, to attend a vestry or finance committee meeting to learn about the finances of OUR parish. Also, please pray and look deep into your hearts to decide what you can do to help make 2018 a successful year for OUR parish.

Become involved; please attend one or more meetings. We all have a stake in this and together we can make 2018 a successful year!!

As always, thanks for reading.

Mark Komarinski

Ed Giroux

Co-Wardens

FUN - RAISING!

As I write this, we are looking forward to our Harvest Craft Fair, which I hope will have been a successful Autumn event. As you read this, we are already turning our attention toward our popular, annual, Christmas Fair, which is happening December 2nd. All the St. Anne's traditional favorites will be there; with only a sprinkling of familiar vendors.

So that the hard-working folks at Christmas Fair can have a rest, we've decided to try moving the Ham and Bean Supper and Evening of Giving to the following Saturday, December 9, at 6 PM. Many thanks to Maureen Thibeault and family for offering to cook another wonderful meal, and many thanks to Sandra Giroux for organizing the Party Book/Evening of Giving.

As November rolls on, we will be providing information on the Angel Tree, as well as other Advent and Christmas events. Thank you for all the ways you show your love to this church. If you would like to be a part of the Christmas Fair please feel free to reach out to me. My email is craftyandi@yahoo.com, or my cell is 978-888-7316.

Fondly,
Andrea Jeffrey - craftyandi@yahoo.com

Ken MacPherson is selling beautiful, hand-made (by Ken himself) Nativities and crosses as a fundraiser for the church. The Nativity is \$25.00 and the Cross is \$7.00.

To order e-mail Ken at kmacp1@verizon.net or call at 978-408-3019



Upcoming Events

Nov. 2017

Nov. 4th: Diocesan Convention

Nov. 4th: Annacreons see a play

Nov. 14th: 7:30pm Evening Bible Study resumes

Nov. 16th: 7:00pm Vestry

Nov. 18th: 6:00pm Ultreya

Nov. 19th: COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Nov. 21st: 6:30pm Community Thanksgiving Service hosted by First Parish UU

Nov. 22nd: 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Service

Nov. 25th: 9:00am Ladies' Breakfast at Stelio's

9:00am Men's Breakfast at Deli King

Ongoing Activities:

Mondays: Al-Anon 7:30pm

Tuesdays: Bible Study 10:00am

Wednesday: AA 8:00pm

1st, 3rd, & 5th

Craft Group 10am

Saturdays: 4th Men's & Women's Breakfasts

NA 6:30pm

Announcements:

New Group Meeting

We have a new group meeting at St. Anne's, Narcotics Anonymous. This is a much-needed group in our town right now and we are glad to host them. They meet Saturday nights starting at 6:30pm in the Davis Room (conference room). Let's make our neighbors feel welcome and support the group as it grows!

Cursillo

We are planning to hold an Ultreya at St. Anne's on Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m. on November 18th. This will be hosted some of the people of St. Anne's who have previously attended a Cursillo weekend. Everyone is welcome to

join in this evening of praise music, a short witness talk, a bit of sharing and a worship service followed by refreshments. Please come and join us and share in the joy of the Lord!

Prayer List

Submit the names of your loved ones. Please do so by e-mailing the office stannesbillerica@gmail.com, calling the office, 978-663-4073.

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!

Tuesday Bible Studies

-The 10am study resumed on Sept. 12th, continuing with the book of Acts. All are welcome!

-Tuesday evening Bible study will be on the second Tuesday of the month, beginning November 14th at 7:30pm.

Men's Breakfast

The Men's breakfast takes place on the 4th Saturday of the month at 9:00am at the Deli King restaurant located at 885 Mains Street in Tewksbury. The men's group is simply anyone who wants to show up for a good breakfast and little socializing. Everybody is welcome.

Women's Breakfast

Ladies – Let's get together for breakfast on the last Saturday of

the month at 9:00am at Stelio's in North Billerica. It's a good time to reconnect and plan activities. Please come.

Choir

Our choir is now rehearsing on Sundays from 11:30am-12:30pm. Please consider taking part in the rehearsals, and singing in the choir at the services on Sundays. All ages and voices are welcome. There are options with time commitment availability and singing / music reading experience. With choral projects, your participation in preparing and singing any anthem is valued. If you're interested or have questions about the choir or the music program, please feel free to contact me at morellimail@msn.com or at (617) 480-9775.

If you can sing joyfully, you are welcome. God hears your song!
Sincerely,
Peter Morelli

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, 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.

Suggested donation is \$25 per arrangement.

St. Anne's Craft Group

St. Anne's Craft 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, followed by lunch. One does not have to know how to knit,

crochet, or any other type of needle work. 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. Please include details, as well as the end date for the announcement. Please submit announcement to Stacey at: stannesbillerica@gmail.com

Save the Dates:

Dec. 2nd, 10:00am-2:00pm – Christmas Fair!

Dec. 9th, 6:00pm – Ham and Bean Supper/Evening of Giving

Jan. 7, 2018 – Bishop Gates' Visit

Jan. 21, 2018 – St. Anne's Annual Meeting (snow date Jan. 28th)