



# St. Anne's Episcopal Church

## Newsletter July-August 2019

SERVING CHRIST IN THE WORLD

## From the Rector

by The Rev. Lauren T. McLeavey

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Summer heat has arrived and our program has come to an end. You will notice that this newsletter is for July and August, and that there aren't too many activities happening.

This is the time when we plan for the program year ahead. To that end, there will be a calendar meeting Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup> after the 10am service (around 11am). If you have events to schedule, please try to attend. If we get the calendar for the whole year set up, we will avoid conflicts and be able to plan ahead.

We are in the season after Pentecost commonly referred to as "Ordinary Time" where we use green as our liturgical color. It is not a coincidence that we use green in the Summer months. Summer is a season of growth and change on the earth but also in our faith. Since we have a long period between major feasts, we are to use this time to study, learn, and

grow in faith. I think that is more than "ordinary."

So, whether you stay home this summer or go away, always remember God and St. Anne's. Try praying daily and maybe add to this practice by reading some articles or books about faith/theology. I recommend the daily reflections of Fr. Richard Rohr found at <https://cac.org/category/daily-meditations/>. If you prefer books, Marcus Borg is a great theologian as well as Julian of Norwich.

Please also remember that our expenses here at St. Anne's continue even if we are away, so do not forget your pledge in the summer months.

Keep reading to learn about the construction in the school building as well as the Diocesan grant we will soon receive!

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. 9am-3pm

Thrift Shop Ph: 978-667-6268

Email: [stannesbillerica@gmail.com](mailto:stannesbillerica@gmail.com)

Website: [stannes-billerica.org](http://stannes-billerica.org)

The Rev. Lauren McLeavey  
Rector

Mobile: 718-440-0811

Email: [rector@stannes-billerica.org](mailto:rector@stannes-billerica.org)

Blog: [therevlauren.com](http://therevlauren.com)

Vestry:

Ed Giroux – Warden

Michael Hopkins – Warden

Sue Geen – Treasurer

Jane Kotelly – Clerk

Russell Bent – 2020

Andrea Jeffrey – 2020

Janet Lyna – 2020

Lisa Carpine – 2021

Louise Boyce – 2021

Brenda Komarinski – 2021

Rosemary Kinser – 2022

Jose Torres – 2022

Michele O'Shea - 2022

Worship:

Sundays, 8am & 10am

## **FROM THE CO-WARDENS**

As the church year and many of the programs end, St. Anne's will remain a vibrant place during the Summer.

As I write this article, we had just had a successful Strawberry Festival. There were many vendors set up on our lawn and we hope they found the day to be worth their while. Our Thrift Shop was open as well and I hope they had a steady flow of customers.

The strawberry shortcakes were a hit as always. And although we had some technical issues with the grill; there were still plenty of hot dogs and hamburgers to go around. Many thanks to everyone for all the hard work, preparing strawberries, working in the kitchen cooking hot dogs and burgers, setting up and clean-up. Also, many thanks to Andrea for all the planning ahead of time!!!

Now, as we head into the summer, we'll be reminded of the flood from last Fall. As a result of that flood, many of the floor tiles were damaged and need replacement. The problem is that this work triggers asbestos remediation. Rev. Lauren and the Wardens are working with a contractor and our insurance carrier on the financial aspect of all this, but there is a lot of prep work that needs to be done.

On Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will have to begin to remove everything from the rooms and storage closets in the classroom building. All items will need to be removed from the walls also. Please join us as you are able. And if you have anything that is your personal property on a bulletin board or stored in a room, please remove it. The entire classroom building will be off limits while this work takes place.

Now this sounds like a large job and a huge undertaking, and it is. But it's also a way for us to revitalize these spaces that we have come to know and become complacent with over the years. We welcome your ideas for new programs to announce and new information to post on the bulletin boards when they return. What new information would you like to see?

This is our small chance to redirect the parish and use the space to its fullest potential. Please share your ideas with us!!

This is OUR parish home.

Sincerely,

Co-Wardens,  
Mike Hopkins  
Ed Giroux

## **OUTREACH AND MISSION**

### **The Diocese is helping St Anne's Grow!**

Some of you may know we applied for 3 grants a couple months ago for 3 different projects (\$2,500 each). We didn't hold out hope because the number of applicants was so great, and the monies were limited.

Guess What? We prevailed and made our cases and received 2 out of the 3 which exceeded any expectation!

### **Project One – A Sign for our Parking Lot**

When our parish began in 1879 when parishioners of St. Anne's Lowell, who lived in Billerica, started meeting in homes as the St. Alban's Guild for men, and the St. Elizabeth's Guild for women. A church was built and consecrated in 1890 and St. Anne's remained a mission church until 1959. St Anne's opened a Thrift Shop over 40 years ago as an outreach to the community and a source of income to help the parish through difficult financial times.

Over the years, the parish grew, and a parking lot was needed. The church owned the land across Treble Cove Road and used it for parking. But no one knows that it's ours. The most common comment we hear from first time visitors is we couldn't find you. Even Bishop Gayle missed it when she was here for Rev. Lauren's installation. How did that happen? Simple.....there is no sign identifying it.

St. Anne's is more than a church; it is a gathering point for those in need. We are pleased and proud that AA, Al-Anon and NA hold regular meetings at our parish. Our building houses a budding pre-school; we have community members who rent space to teach classes.

Improved signage would help all these community members as well as potentially grow our own parish family. Other safety features we would hope to include are enhancements to our crosswalk area. The town repaints the lines on the cross walk, but that does little to slow people coming around the corner. You may have noticed a replacement sign was just installed from the town. Billerica is working with us to make our area safer. We will be adding a sign to the parking lot and hope to improve pedestrian safety.

### **Project Two - Talk Out Youth Project ~Where do I fit in?**

Billerica and the surrounding areas have many youths that are also part of the LBGTO community and have many questions on acceptance. We would like to offer a pilot program called "*Where Do I Fit in the World*".

This would be an exploratory program that would allow each youth to take the conversation in a direction that fits their personal experiences. We will bring a variety of public speakers from a myriad of paths. For example, we have had preliminary talks with a young gay Jewish Rabbi who is very eager to help and wishes someone had allowed him the safe space to discuss and explore. We will have film screenings with a discussion afterward. We will offer speakers and materials for the pilot program free of charge for the first year, for subsequent years we would have a nominal fee and a scholarship program for those in need.

This discussion program will run in conjunction with the school year with meetings at least once a month. The first year would limit the group to 15 participants **ages 12-21** due the sensitive material that could be discussed. This is a program that is needed in our community. We hope to provide an opportunity young people to share their experiences, their struggles, their victories with each other while in a safe environment.

St Anne's needs to confirm all 2018 obligations have been satisfied and the funding will be released. Would you like to be part of a task force to oversee parts of these projects? Please see me to chat.

Thank you,

Sandra Giroux

### **FUN-RAISING**

Thanks to everyone who came and helped out at Strawberry Festival - whether it was donating to BBQ, mashing strawberries, baking cookies, cooking, grilling, clean up, set up, or just coming and supporting the church, once more I'm reminded just what a great place St. Anne's is!

As for July and August - FUN Raising is looking at a couple of fun summer activities - including a St. Anne's Day at Panera - where a portion of every sale on a particular day will benefit St. Anne's.

We're also considering a St. Anne's Day at a Goat Farm in Georgetown called Goats to Go - where we can snuggle goats, maybe do a little yoga, and meet their little fainting goats! more details as this event evolves.

-Andrea Jeffrey

### **Scholarships!**

College scholarships from the Endowment Fund are available. Applications are available by the church entrance. Applications will be accepted until August 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Flood Update!**

Last Thanksgiving, we had a pipe burst in our school building attic that flooded almost all of the building. Bixby Hall, All Saints Alcove, the restrooms, and Rev. Lauren's office were the only rooms not flooded. The insurance claim has been processed and work is set to begin on replacing the damaged floors, ceilings, and walls on July 8<sup>th</sup>. The contractor estimates it will take around 4 weeks to complete work. This may seem like a long time for what looks like little to no damage, but that is the thing about water damage, you can't judge a book by its cover!

The water seeped into the walls and under all the floor tiles causing damage that we cannot see. This will just get worse over time; therefore full replacement is the only option. Additionally, much of the tile is original to the building (built in 1969) and contains asbestos. These tiles are not dangerous as they are, but when they are pulled up, the dust will be very dangerous, which is why the process is so long. The school building will be completely off limits during the work. Unfortunately, this means that the church will not be handicapped accessible during construction. The Church, Sacristy, and Nichols Room will be open. We will set up a makeshift office in the Sacristy. We thank you in advance for your understanding during this time.

The work is covered by insurance (with a \$1,000 deductible), but here are the figures if you want to know just how much damage was done by the flood:

Replacement of broken pipe: \$176.98  
 Clean up by Service Master immediately after flood: \$11,316.83  
 Asbestos removal, new floors, other repairs, painting: \$76,913.47.

This list does not include the loss of property, we are still waiting for that reimbursement, but it is estimated to be around \$800-\$1,000.

### **Paving Project**

The Vestry has approved funding some needed pavement improvements around St. Anne's that will include repairs to the driveway and the handicap parking area, plus additional pavement in front of and behind the Thrift Shop. This will be scheduled to be done during July when the Thrift Shop is closed.

The work was quoted in 3 parts as follows:

1. Repair and improvement of the drive where it meets Treble Cove Rd. by the handicap parking area plus additional pavement to the handicap parking area between the existing pavement and the road. Total cost for this project will be \$1,880.
2. Add pavement to fill the area between Thrift shop donations shed and driveway, an area which is currently not paved. Cost for this will be \$350.
3. Add pavement to the path behind the Thrift which will extend from the end of the existing paved path, through the gates to the paved driveway area. This will include a path leading to the area used for donations to the Epilepsy Foundation. The new pavement will be a total of 55 feet long by 4 feet wide and will allow easy access to the storage sheds behind the Thrift Shop. Cost for this job is \$1,760.

The above totals \$3,990. Prices for paving quoted in items 2 and 3 above are valid only if all three pavement jobs are done together. The work will be done by A.J. Proia & Son, a Billerica business.

### **THRIFT SHOP**

The Thrift Shop will be closed Saturdays beginning June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The shop will be closed for Summer break July 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> and will reopen Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm for a special CHRISTMAS IN JULY SALE!! Please be sure to come by!

## Upcoming Events

### July 2019

July 8<sup>th</sup>: Work begins on school building.

July 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>: THRIFT SHOP  
CLOSED for Summer break

July 11<sup>th</sup>: 2pm-6pm Billerica Community Pantry distribution at 70 Concord Rd.

July 13<sup>th</sup>: 10am-2pm Thrift Shop  
**Christmas in July Sale!**

July 14<sup>th</sup>: 11am Calendar Planning Meeting in Nichols' Room

July 27<sup>th</sup>: Men's and Ladies' Breakfasts

### August 2019

Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>: 2pm-6pm Billerica Community Pantry distribution at 70 Concord Rd.

Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>: Men's and Ladies' Breakfasts

### Ongoing Activities:

Mondays: Al-Anon 7:30pm

Tuesdays: Bible Study 10:00am  
Bible Study 7:30pm  
(2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tues.)

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

Saturdays: 4<sup>th</sup> Men's & Women's  
Breakfasts  
NA 6:30pm

### Announcements:

#### **Thrift Shop**

The Thrift Shop hours are as follows:

Wed: 2-6pm

Thurs: 10am-2pm

Fri: 10am-2pm

CLOSED SATURDAYS starting June 22<sup>nd</sup>

Closed July 1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

Special Christmas in July Sale July 13<sup>th</sup>  
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 on Summer Break!

-Tuesday evening Bible study meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 7:30pm (except in Lent).

#### **Men's Breakfast**

The Men's breakfast takes place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month at 8:30am 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 or someone you know doesn't even need to be a member of St. Anne's. But, someone has to tell her about it. 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 or your friends' 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:**

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS are  
Tuesdays 9:00am-3:00pm.

#### **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](mailto:stannesbillerica@gmail.com)