



St. Anne's
Episcopal
CHURCH

December
Church 2019

SERVING CHRIST IN THE WORLD

From the Co-Wardens Mike Hopkins & Ed Giroux

As you may know, we've had another water pipe break due to below freezing temperatures in mid-November. This time, the pipe broke above the rector's office causing a considerable amount of water damage in the office itself and some water got into the hall, the adjacent classroom, Stacy's office and the conference room. The pipe has been fixed and most of the drying out process by Service Pro has been completed; however, asbestos was found in some insulation that came down from about the ceiling and in some joint compound used on the walls in the office. The process of dealing with the asbestos will be coordinated so that it won't impact the school or most church

activities. We believe the cause of the break was due to the temperature control in the closed office being set too low and that has been corrected. Church Insurance is covering the cost of clean-up and repairs.

For other property news, the gutters have been cleaned, the furnace below the church has been repaired, and the vestry has approved a contractor to fix the ongoing roof leak problem above the room where the new furnace is located. We hope to have the roof work completed before Christmas. Again, this shouldn't affect church activities.

On the transition front, we've signed a covenant with Rev. Brad Ingalls as a Bridge priest whose first service will be December 8th. Fr Brad is a retired Army Major and is originally from Texas. His

wife, Rev. Meg Ingalls currently serves as the Interim Priest at St Paul's in Newburyport, MA. He'll be with us through February (possibly longer) until the diocese can provide an Interim priest. The Interim priest will be at St. Anne's until a Priest In Charge is appointed by the diocese and approved by the vestry.

We would also like to Thank Rev Jonathan and Mother Jennifer for leading our worship. Their help with coordinating schedules was invaluable to us. Please note we are keeping their numbers on speed dial.

By now Thanksgiving is over, Advent has begun, and Christmas isn't far off. On behalf of the wardens and vestry, I'd like to wish everyone a safe, happy and blessed Advent and Christmas season.

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

Website: stannes-billerica.org

Worship:

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am

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

COMMUNITY OUTREACH CORNER

Each year St Anne's has generously supported those in need by providing a joyous holiday via the Angel Tree. This year we would like to Support **House of Hope in Lowell Massachusetts**. House of Hope helps 58 families that live in a shelter and more than 100 that are involved in the housing and stabilization program. We at St Anne's can help provide some presents for the children and parents during the holiday season.

Please participate by dropping off a **new unwrapped toy/gift** we can find it a great home. Items for teenagers are always in need, especially toiletries and small gift cards. The most requested gift cards are: Wal-Mart, Target, Visa, Simons Mall, Market

Basket, CVS, Rite Aid, Movie Tickets, Barnes and Noble, Dollar Tree, Five Below.

The shelter always has these general needs:

- Bath towels/Hand Towels/Face Cloths
- Twin/Full Sheets--- Twin/Full Quilts
- Plastic Food Containers (Large size)
- Rectangle laundry baskets
- Toiletries(full size bottles shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, hair brushes, bar soap, razors, shave cream, lotion, feminine products for men and women)
- Paper products (tissues, napkins, paper towels, toilet tissue, 7-12oz plastic cups, brown lunch bags, plastic baggies)
- Snacks (granola bars, fruit cups, fruit snacks, juice boxes, crackers, cookies etc)
- Coffee/sugar/nondairy creamer/Splenda/hot chocolate
- New adult clothing --- for adults and teens (sweat pants and shirts/pjs/package underwear/slippers/sneakers)
- Bed Pillows
- Diapers size 4,5,6 and wipes
- Silverware utensils- forks, spoons, butter knives
- Batteries—AA, AAA and D

We all need help at some point in our lives. We at St Anne's have a couple of ways to impact and help others. I do hope you will be able to help. Please start bringing your gifts in at any time, we are ready to receive your generosity. Any questions please contact Sandra at 978-621-1112 or SandraforStAnnes@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2019-2020 - Take Home Sunday School!

Packets are available for ages 0-3, 3-6, 7-12, and 13 up. If you have a child, grandchild, niece, nephew, or young friend that you want to share your faith with, please take a packet. If the age that you need has been all taken, let me know and I'll make up a packet for you. December's theme is Advent. We will be gathering in the Sunday School room on December 8 during the 10:00 service. You do not need to attend to have a packet.

If you have any questions, please email me at bkomarinski@gmail.com

In God's Grace, Brenda Komarinski

Church Lessons



On Sunday, November 24, 2019, the services were presented with the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd lesson on God's Salvation History. This lesson is entitled the Fettuccia presentation because of the long ribbon used to visual show the amazing history of God's Creation, Redemption (now), and the future time of Parousia (when God will be all in all). Ron Desmarais presented at the 8:00 service and Brenda Komarinski presented at the 10:00 service. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program was designed for children, but we have found it to be formational for adults as well. If you have any questions about the program, please see Ron or Brenda.

Homemade Holiday!



Thank you all for your wonderful homemade ornaments and for those that helped decorate! You can see (and try to win) St. Anne's tree at the Billerica Library through December 15 when the Billerica Holiday Festival draws the winner!

All the trees and baskets can be viewed any time the library is open. Raffle tickets may be purchased at specific times listed in the Library.

FUN-RAISING

As I write this, we are just past Thanksgiving - a day to remind us of our blessings. I hope as you receive this newsletter you are thinking of how you might share those blessings with others, perhaps at our beloved Christmas Fair, happening on December 7th.

Whether you are providing a baked good, washing dishes, setting up tables, buying handmade items and raffle tickets, working at a table, serving lunch, donating a basket, or just showing up and sharing fellowship - these are all ways we can all share our church with each other and the community. I hope to see many of you at the Fair, and I am grateful to have my church family in my heart.

Andrea Jeffrey

A Follow-up Note on Music...

Please consider picking 1 or 2 hymns or songs that you would be up for rehearsing a few times with the choir after the 10am services and then singing at a 10am service with the choir as well.

I wish you peace and happiness in the holiday season and in the coming year!

Sincerely,
Peter Morelli

Deanery Update

On Saturday, November 2nd Cindy Hopkins and I attended the 234th annual convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. This year the theme is "The Way of Love" which was presented to the convention via a video of Bishop Curry's sermon on the Boston Common. As spelled out in the convention handbook "The Way of Love is a way of life. It is more than a program or curriculum; it is a return to the ancient pathways and Rules of Life that followers of Jesus have observed for centuries." Bishop Gates spoke more about this concept in his address.

A report was given by the 20s and 30s Task Force. Younger parishioners spoke about the issues they experience finding a parish and becoming part of a congregation after college.

A report was also given by the Diocesan Youth Council as the youth prepare for the EYE20 convention. This youth convention is held every 3 years. It is a three-day event bringing youth from all over America. In 2020 the event will be held in Washington DC. "The youth are not just the future of the church they are the church."

The handbook given out contained a report from the committee on compensation and benefits. I was interested to see information on clergy in part-time positions and supply clergy. The committee plans to work more in 2020 on guidelines that are more flexible and user-friendly for part-time clergy.

Elections were held for clerical and lay deputies to the 2021 General Convention; clerical member of the Standing Committee; and members of the Board of Directors of the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center. Several resolutions were voted on by the delegation to: create an advisory committee to oversee the work of engaging young adults fully in the life of our church; support Massachusetts legislation guaranteeing the opportunity to seek parole review after 25 years of incarceration for all persons currently serving life in prison sentences or those sentenced in the future; call all clergy and lay members to take the Creation Care Pledge; and have the Diocese of Massachusetts become a Safe Haven Diocese.

The 2020 budget was also presented. The budget handbook breaks down the assessments by parish with charts showing the prior year assessment and the 2020 assessment. It also goes into detail the expenses of the diocese.

Attending the annual convention encourages those who attend with prayer, presentations, and Holy Eucharist. You have the opportunity to hear what other parishes in the Diocese are doing. During the break there is information available from various vendor booths. If you have never had the opportunity to attend the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts convention in the past, ask to be the delegate to the deanery and the convention for 2020 where you will learn a great deal about the larger church.

Submitted by Marguerite Massey

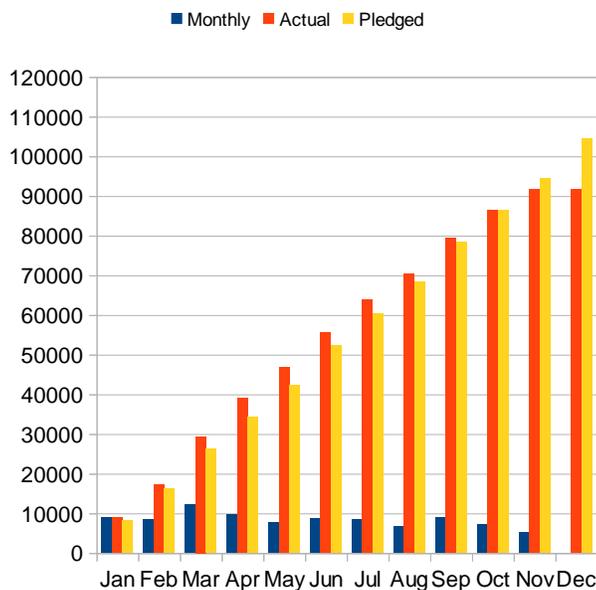
Pledge Update

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Advent is here again and a new church year full of hope and promise for St. Anne's. During the advent season we will be allocating the new pledge tracking numbers for 2020 and distributing the books of pledge envelopes so that they can be used immediately in January. We can only buy the envelope books in a consecutive number block. So, we must change the numbers of some folks to avoid buying many more books than we need at \$2.50 each. A few years ago, we were buying about 200 books and had to waste the majority. This year we have bought just 60. Anyone who has not pledged but needs a tracking number so that we can generate a tax receipt at the end of 2020 please contact me, or better still pledge! The envelopes will be laid out in the narthex, as usual. Please pick them up when you come to church as they cost about \$3.50 each to mail. Here is the pledge status chart up to the end of November. Historically, October and November have been "low" months for the pledge but the total has always come back closely to the pledged amount in December.

Here's wishing you a peaceful advent and a love filled Christmas,

St. Anne's 2019 Pledge Status



John Geen, Pledge Treasurer

Christmas Services

- Greening of the Church will take place on December 15th at approximately 11:15 am (following the 10am service & coffee). All are encouraged to help.
- St. Elizabeth's Guild invites everyone attend the Silver Tea on Tuesday, December 24th. This event is held after the 1PM Christmas service. Come and enjoy fellowship, tea and treats with old and new friends.
- Christmas Eve night service – time to be determined

Upcoming Events

December 2019

Dec 5th 7pm Wreath Decorating

Dec 5th 7pm Fin Com Meeting

Dec 6th Faire Set Up

Dec 7th St Anne's Faire

Dec 8th Father Brad Ingalls' first Service

Dec 8th Interfaith Community Concert

Dec 12th Mobile Food Market @ Marshall Middle School (Billerica Residents Only) 3-5pm

Dec 15th 11:15 Greening of the Church

Dec 24th 1pm Silver Tea Service

Dec 24th evening service TBD

Dec 30th Billerica Community Pantry Distribution 2-5pm

Vestry – 3rd Tuesday (new proposal)

Ongoing Activities:

Mondays: Al-Anon 7:30pm

Wednesday: AA 8:00pm

1st, 3rd, & 5th

Craft Group 10am

Announcements:

Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop hours are as follows:

Wed: 2-6pm

Thurs: 10am-2pm

Fri: 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!

Meetings resume on Sept. 3rd.

-Tuesday evening Bible study meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:30pm.

Meetings resume on Sept. 10th.

Men's Breakfast

The Men's breakfast takes place on the 4th 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 4th 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

Father Brad Ingalls will be setting a contact policy for pastoral Please e-mail at rector@stannes-billerica.org, and we will arrange for a visitation at time of your

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.)

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

*******Note to all - ANNUAL REPORTS will be due in early January. I implore you to NOT wait until the last minute. Please start thinking about NOW*******