

# ST ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - SMALL BUT MIGHTY



St. Anne's  
Episcopal Church

JUNE

2021

Newsletter

## Parish of St. Anne's ~

The last month has been one of those that I thought could not get busier, especially after Easter, but it did! We lost two dear members of our congregation, Al Westerlund and Richard Hyatt. Al was one month away from his 100th birthday that we had hoped to celebrate festively. Richard's pancreatic cancer came on suddenly and took him suddenly. Both men leave large holes in our community. Let us mention them often as we adjust.

The Covid-19 pandemic closures are easing thus causing another kind of business. Our Re-Gathering Team will meet tomorrow to make final plans for recommendations to the Wardens and me for the re-opening of our parish life. Look for their article about specifics.

Do you all remember the awkward hastiness of our shutting down a year ago? Well, starting back up will not be so hasty, but it will be as awkward. Each of us has our own opinions about how it should

happen, I am sure! How all the individual needs get met together in our community is a jigsaw puzzle to be completed with care and compassion.

In my Journal, I describe in detail an exciting opportunity St. Anne's had to contribute to a video prayer service made and broadcast by the national church agency Episcopal Migration Ministries and the Office of Government Relations. Look for photos and watch it on June 20th.

Finally, our parish is slowly beginning to roll out using Realm, the parish information management system. Finally, we have an efficient way to keep our records up to date if you wish to participate! Look for instructions coming from Rosemary Kinser and Linda Kusnierz. Your priest is extremely grateful for these two leaders.

As we move into summer's openness, remember to care for yourselves and each other. Each person is important in God's world.

With grace & gratitude,

Mother Jennifer

## Contact information!

St. Anne's Episcopal Church  
PO Box 134, 14 Treble Cove Rd.  
No. Billerica, MA 01862  
Office Ph: 978-663-4073  
Thrift Shop Ph: 978-667-6268

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

## Vestry:

Ed Giroux – Warden  
Michael Hopkins – Warden  
Sue Geen – Treasurer  
Marguerite Massey, – Clerk  
Brenda Komarinski – 2022  
- 2022

Rosemary Kinser – 2022  
Jose Torres – 2022  
Russell Bent - 2022  
Linda Kusnierz – 2023  
Dorothy Callihan – 2023  
Janet Lyna - 2023  
Marie Figenbaum - 2024

## Worship:

9:30 am Sunday

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**Mother Jennifer's Office hours are generally.**

Tuesdays 11-4 or later

Wednesdays possibly 11-4

Thursdays 2-5 or later PLEASE call or email her with any kind of pastoral concern.

If any pastoral concern arises, please do not hesitate for a second to contact your Priest.

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

*You don't have to be perfect*

*Having a bad day is ok*

*Small steps are also progress*

*Asking for help is strenght*

*People love and appreciate you*

## From the Wardens

Certainly, the big news this month will be re-gathering for services at St. Anne's beginning with the service on June 6th. The details are published in this newsletter. It's been a long time coming and I'm certainly looking forward to seeing everyone in church on a Sunday morning.

As we all know, we lost Al Westerlund and Richard Hyatt in May, both of whom were significant figures in the life of St. Anne's.

Al was at every Tuesday evening bible study and well into his 90's, managed to drive himself to the monthly men's breakfast. As church Sexton for many years, Al was involved in virtually every issue relating to the physical infrastructure of St. Anne's, from furnaces to roofs and everything in between. He kept the facilities clean and knew who to call for any problem. His care for the facilities was really a reflection of his care for and love of the people around him at St. Anne's.

When reading Richard's obituary, I was struck by his military service background. Having served in some of the same places and at similar times, I got to know many Marine Corps officers, none of whom would fit the character of the Richard Hyatt I knew at St. Anne's. Richard was a caring, thoughtful, and deeply religious man who always brought a scripture reading to the men's monthly breakfast. For a while, he took care of the emails announcing breakfast dates and locations and made sure we all had a spiritual moment before each breakfast. He played the flute at Sunday services when he could and attended coffee hour where he enjoyed hearing about how everyone was doing.

Both Richard and Al will be greatly missed at St. Anne's.

On another note, work on Realm and Quick Books continues. Realm has now been rolled out to vestry members and we hope to have it ready to go as a new electronic church directory in the next few weeks. The effort to get Quick Books running for accounting is going well and will make life much easier for the treasurer going forward. More on this work is coming later.

The Wardens Mike Hopkins Ed Giroux

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME

by Brenda Komarinski

The May Take-Home Sunday packets went out May 9. If you would like one, please email me at [bkomarinski@gmail.com](mailto:bkomarinski@gmail.com) and I will get it to you. We met Peter. The next person from the Bible that we will meet is Paul. And then we will have a summer break.

We've met Abraham who trusted God, then Moses who brought us the rules from God. Joshua and Rahab kept promises, then Ruth and Naomi were all about family. David had us looking in our hearts, and Solomon showed us wisdom. Daniel taught us about courage in doing what is right. Mary helped us be helpers and show our love for God in what we do. Peter taught us to care for ourselves and one another. I wonder what we learn from Paul.



The packets will be ready June 6. And June 6 is our Ice Cream Social (weather permitting)! Come and meet up outside the church at 1pm for some socially distanced ice cream sandwiches, popsicles, juice boxes, and games!

(Rain date is June 13).

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd lessons shared at our prayer table can be seen on St. Anne's YouTube page and on our website. There is a special Pentecost Celebration video up!



<http://stannes-billerica.org/sunday-school-videos/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChofaV8iieCG7h4zEBrDEoQ>

Please give them a watch.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

## Safe Church

Our Safe Church policy can be found on our website (<http://stannes-billerica.org/safe-church/>). We recommend everyone take the time to read it.

If you are interested in Safe Church training, please email [safechurch@stannes-billerica.org](mailto:safechurch@stannes-billerica.org) to get your username and password and then go to: [www.safeguardingonline.org](http://www.safeguardingonline.org).

If you have any questions about Safe Church, our Safe Church Policy, or the Safe Church training, please contact Brenda Komarinski ([bkomarinski@gmail.com](mailto:bkomarinski@gmail.com))



## St. Anne's Realm Connect Update By Rosemary Kinser

Your Realm Implementation Task Force has been busy since March getting ready to go live with our new on-line data management program. We are extremely excited to share our accomplishments.

- The Parish List has been imported into Realm connect – you will be invited to join Realm in late June with the anticipation of profile completion over the summer months.
- We have completed a Policy and Procedure and we will share it with you.
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) have been developed to assist you with this new program. The FAQs will guide you in developing your profile and provide you with information regarding any concerns you may have around privacy and security.



- We have completed a soft launch with the Realm Implementation Task Force, and we invited the Vestry for their review and feedback. In early June, we will work with the leaders of the groups to establish their profiles and provide them with the convenient tools to support the way groups connect and grow.
- All Church groups and locations have been added.
  - Examples of groups: Choir, Vestry, Altar Guild, Bible Studies
  - Examples of location: Nichol's Room, Bixby Hall, Rector's office
- As the parish profiles are completed, we will have a new on-line directory to keep in touch with our St. Anne's family and friends.

**Our Purpose:** To implement a centralized Church Management System and create efficiencies which will result in improved communication and long-term stability of our records.

- **Coming in the FALL**
  - *eGiving – an option that may be used by parishioners for donations*
  - *Pledge campaign*

*Accessing Realm and eGiving through the church website and Mobile APPS*

## Cursillo

**By Rosemary Kinser**

*The Theme of May 15, 2021 Zoom Ultreya “Change - Reflecting all the changes in our lives this Spring”*

### **Ecclesiastes 3:1-8**

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to



dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

Our Zoom Ultreyas occur the 3rd Saturday of the Month. Materials are sent out and posted on the MECM website ([www.MassCursillo.org](http://www.MassCursillo.org)) on Wednesday prior to the Ultreya. Peace, love, and kindness.

## A few words from the Re-Gathering Team

Re-gathering Team: Linda Kusnierz, Ken Kinser, Marguerite Massey, Kathy Brewster

**We are pleased to let you know that in person worship will resume on Sunday, June 6 at 9:30.**

The Re-Gathering Team met recently to discuss the **June 6 resumption of in person worship** and to review the May 20 Bishops Pastoral Letter with COVID-19 guidelines. "As signs emerge rapidly that many restrictions are no longer needed for those fully vaccinated, we feel it is time to entrust local leaders with wider latitude to make most decisions about the pace and scope of regathering<sup>1</sup>."

The team has carefully reviewed our previous protocols and identified restrictions that are no longer needed at this time. The Wardens and Mother Jennifer agree with the recommendations of the Re Gathering Committee. As always, we are mindful of the Diocese continued concern and guidance in all COVID-19 precautions for the most vulnerable.

### **Expectations Resuming in Person Worship – June 6**

- **We will resume a Morning Prayer Service on Sunday, June 6 at 9:30.**
- We are working towards resuming some form of a **Holy Communion** service.
- **Filming** will continue and will be available on YouTube, Facebook, and St. Anne's web site.
- **Masks** are to be worn by all worshippers.
- **Hand sanitizer** will be available at the entrance of the church and in the pews for use.
- **Bulletins** will be prepared in one format for the in-person service attendees and the online worshippers.
- **Pew seating** has been modified; every other pew will be available. Pews with the blue tape across the cushions are unavailable for seating. You are encouraged to observe physical distancing between households.
- When Holy Communion resumes, during the exchange of the **Peace**, remain in your pew, waive, gesture or nod to one another.
- **Singing** is allowed with masks and physical distancing.
- A **collection plate** will be available for donations at the entrance of the church and on the organ.
- Following the conclusion of the of the postlude the Ushers will indicate to the congregation to begin **exiting the church from the back pews first** and move down the rows to the front until all of the congregants have exited.
- The church will continue to use the **mister disinfectant** following services.
- **Coffee Hour** can resume, we will resume with beverages only at this time. More to follow on this from our Coffee Hour Host.

**Ushers** – Linda Kusnierz will contact ushers to restart a schedule. (The Re-Gathering Team are assigned to the first two weeks of resumed services.) Ushers will be scheduled in teams of two. Anyone interested in serving as an usher is to contact Linda Kusnierz (lkusnr@comcast.net) or speak with a member of the Re-Gathering Team.

**Lectors, Prayers of the People, and Acolyte's** scheduling will resume in July. If you are interested in serving send an email, (stannesbillerica@gmail.com) or call the church (978-663-4073).

As we navigate into re-opening we continue to advise if you are not feeling well to stay home and worship online. And too, those who are not vaccinated are encouraged to do so for your wellbeing and others who are not vaccinated.

The team will meet again at the end of June to review these changes and proceeding forward.

We look forward to regathering in worship with one another.

Peace be with you!

<sup>1</sup> Quoted from the May 20 Pastoral Letter.

## a note on music...

**By Peter Morelli**



*This is a busy time of the year, and I'm of course working hard to prepare the music for the Sunday services each week. I'm very much looking forward to re-gathering for in-person services! It's been a long time coming.*

*I'm very thankful for the help and support you all have been along the way this past year.*

*And I'm very thankful for the singing that Maria has been doing. Her singing has definitely helped lead and inspire these past months.*

*I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon!*

## Community Outreach

Any Billerica Resident who is Food insecure may receive, we all need a helping hand once in a while. Please register if you are in need, we are here for you. If you DON'T live in Billerica, we can help you find solutions, you are never alone.

I would like to say Thank you to St Anne's for allowing the Billerica Community Pantry to borrow space to store donations generous residents left at Market Basket. (We still have a few things at the Church, but they should be gone within the month) The Pantry had built a shed outside the main building. A tremendous THANK YOU to the St Anne's volunteers that have diligently collect donations and brought them back to St Anne's you can now bring directly to the shed. We do hope the Shed at the Community Pantry (the Thomas Talbot Lodge – next to the library) is helpful. Please place the donations retrieved from the store right into the shed – no sorting needed.

If you are able to pay it forward with Time, Talent or Treasure; I encourage you to look at the Billerica Community Pantry as an organization to consider worthy of your gift.



## St. Anne's Thrift Shop

**by Marguerite Massey & Kathy Brewster**

St. Anne's Thrift Shop has been open because of all the time and talent given by so many volunteers, both church members and non-church members alike. Kathy Brewster and I would like to thank all the volunteers who keep things running.

The Thrift Shop is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10AM until 2PM. If you have time during the week please stop by and see how great the shop is looking. Come and find a treasure you can't live without. Time also to stock up on books for summer reading for all ages.

# Jennifer's Journal

World Refugee Day on June 20th

This year, St. Anne's will be seen across the nation since our film crew and sanctuary were used for a portion of the service to be broadcast on June 20 at 7pm. You will find it here <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/publicaffairs/episcopal-migration-ministries-offers-virtual-prayer-vigil-for-world-refugee-day/>

I am deeply grateful for the willingness and hospitality of our film crew to support our Diocesan Office for Multicultural and Immigration Ministries (MIM). Our contribution makes me very proud of St. Anne's!



Our Diocesan Office of MIM will offer Zoom celebrations on June 19th at 4:30pm and June 26th at 2pm. Email [jbntagengwa@diomass.org](mailto:jbntagengwa@diomass.org) for further information or ask your priest.

Our Bishops Gates and Harris sent out new Pandemic Guidance on May 20  
<https://www.diomass.org/news/diocesan-news/may-20-pastoral-letter-covid-19-guidelines>

Their two main points are: Changing Realities: An In-Between Time; Local Decisions: Trusting One Another, Protecting One Another. They conclude with these words: As we continue to live through this in-between time together, we are enormously proud and grateful for your own adaptive, creative, and committed ministry during these challenging months. May the Spirit descend upon you and your congregations anew to fill you with God's grace and strength!

Faithfully,

The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates, Bishop Diocesan  
 The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris, Bishop Suffragan

We're the Episcopal Church! That means..... We follow the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) as our unifier, and not a confession of doctrine (as in other Protestant churches). In the BCP, we find community and individual rituals and prayers for all occasions (especially beginning on p. 814. <https://www.bcponline.org>).

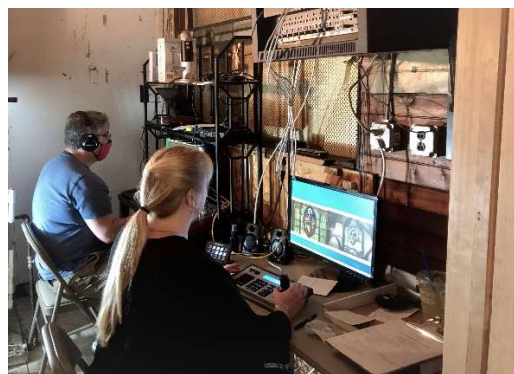
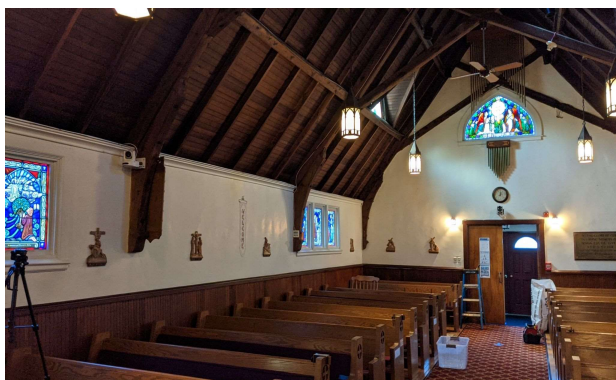




## Virtual Worship Committee

### Mark, Sandra, Brenda, Ed, Peter, Maria, and Mike

Those of you that have been following streams for the past few weeks have hopefully seen some big changes. Our cameras are finally mounted in their permanent locations! Along with this, all of the cables run into the 'microphone room' where we have a computer, three monitors, and a stack of audio gear. We've been able to take the tripods down and the table that was in front of the first pew are now gone so it looks almost like it did before the pandemic hit and forced us to go online. This has been a goal we've had for a while and is a crucial step to ensure that everyone is that much safer when the doors open back up. There are no more cables running along the floor to make a tripping hazard and you can go into the Nichols Room.



There was a fear that maybe the camera now mounted over the doors in the back of the church would be too far back but imagine our surprise when we could zoom all the way into Jesus' face! The camera in the back is great to see processions and recessions, and the side camera can focus on various spots on the altar or get a great view of Peter's playing skills. From a technical perspective we had to connect these cameras using a different method that we had never used before and was quite expensive but the job that the electrician did with the wiring had both cameras online on the first try! It's truly a rare occurrence when that happens.

Now that the cameras and streaming hardware are in their permanent positions, we can stabilize how the audio and video are set up and we can now start training anyone who wants to be a second, third, or fourth team. Having these teams will be critical in the next few months as the current recording team really needs a break. If you're interested in helping out and haven't contacted us yet, please contact us for a training session.

As we get back to the point where we can worship together, we'd be happy to show anyone the setup we have but ask you to do so after the service is over. Before the service we're busy trying to get everything set up and we will likely have the door closed.

For those of you that have been watching via BATV, our contact recently moved to a new job, and we need to find out who the replacement is so we can resume sharing our services that way.

## News from the Merrimack Valley Deanery by Marguerite Massey

The Merrimack Valley Deanery met via ZOOM on Wednesday, May 5th. The agenda included a Bible reading and discussion; awarding of Deanery Grants; an update from the Lower Merrimack Valley Collaborative; and words from Regional Cannon Martha Hubbard. Annually the deaneries have two grants to vote on at the May meeting. The Sending Serving Grant supports programs that enhance the outreach ministries of congregations. The House of Mercy Grant supports projects and programs that serve women and children in need. Grants are awarded by vote of the deanery assemblies. This year Trinity Church in Haverhill and St. John's in Lowell split the grants.

The Lower Merrimack Valley Collaborative continued to meet even during Covid with joint vestry meetings, programs such as Sacred Ground, confirmation classes, Easter Vigil, and meetings of administrators and musicians.

Martha Hubbard mentioned the upcoming Warden's Retreat on May 22nd.



## From the Desk of the Parish Administrator – by Jayleigh

May has been an eventful month in the St. Anne's office, with several important organizational projects continuing to move forward, plus preparation for a return to in-person Sunday worship.

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to look through our set of old parish registers, temporarily brought out of storage, to begin a rough catalog of their contents. The oldest register available contains sacramental entries from as far back as 1913, with some transcribed records even older than that. (The very first parish register, alas, is currently missing.) I felt as though I was meeting some of the church's former rectors through their patterns of record keeping!

While looking at historical records, I also glanced through documentation of the process the St. Anne's leadership undertook in the 1980s to establish the memorial garden and columbarium, complete with vestry minutes and planning diagrams. How wonderful it would be to compile these and other artifacts in a way that accessibly tells their story, as well as ensures that story will be available to future generations of parishioners. I welcome any volunteers who would like to work with me on this!

Speaking of volunteers, our return to in-person worship also means a change in the rhythm of bulletin preparation. We will be printing and folding paper bulletins each week as well as sending them out electronically. As I learned through last week's process of preparing funeral bulletins (a great honor—and a learning curve!), volunteer assistance is critical in getting the job done. If you enjoy being part of the behind-the-scenes care that goes into our Sunday morning hospitality, please consider joining the folding team! You can email me with any questions or to let me know of your availability. (Many thanks in advance.)



### **St. Anne's Prayer List:**

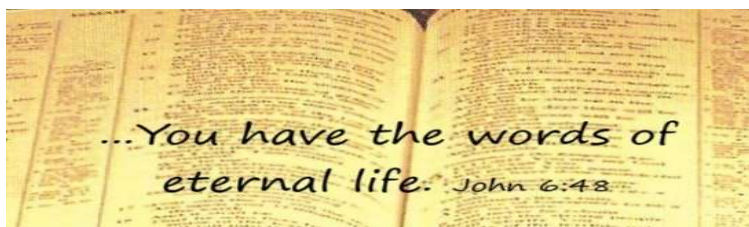
Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd of the sheep, you gather the lambs in your arms and carry them in your bosom: We commend to your loving care this child (Name). Relieve their pain, guard them from all danger, restore to them your gifts of gladness and strength, and raise them up to a life of service to you. Hear us, we pray, for \_\_\_\_\_. Amen.

### **Let us pray for our own needs and those of others:**

Barbara Rogers, Cathie & Greg Harper, Cyndi, Dianne Brown, Donald Fudge, Donald Sutton St., Elaine Howland, Elaine McLaughlin, Fred Brown, Greg D., Irene Mouradian, Janet Lyna, John Phillips, Jose Torres Sr. Joseph Pleva, Joshua Young, Kathy Change, Linda E., Marie Figenbaum, Mary Hyatt, Mary Lander & daughter Christine, Norm & MJ Zarella, Pat McCleave & family, Patricia Mobley, Paul Hamner, Sally DiRocco, Sarah Komarinski, Susan Fader, Vicki Mahoney.

### **For those in nursing homes or with ongoing illnesses:**

Marie Horgan, Joshua Young, Christine Lander



Our Brother's in Christ have been called home:

*Alden Westerlund*



**Al Westerlund**

June 24, 1921 – May 16, 2021

*Col. Richard Hyatt*



**Col. Richard Hyatt**

September 25, 1933- May 19, 2021

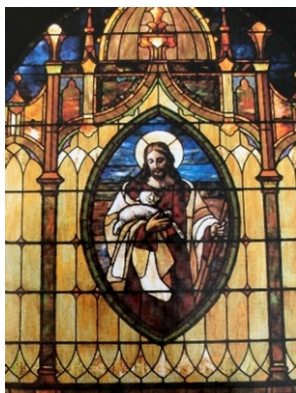
O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servants Alden and Richard, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

**From Laurie Holman:**

Friends of **John and Dinah Holman** are invited to attend a Graveside Burial at Fox Hill Cemetery Billerica on Friday June 11<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. (Fox Hill Cemetery - 130 Andover Road Billerica, MA)

**Gratitude from family of Al Westerlund:**

To St. Anne's parish, Al's family says, "Our father loved St. Anne's Church and all the people who are the church. He was blessed by the love, care, and friendship he received from so many."



## Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

O God our times are in your hand; Look with favor we pray, on your servant \_\_\_\_\_, as he/she begins another year. Grant that he/she may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen his/her trust in your goodness all the days of his/her life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES					
Ed & Sandra Giroux	5/5	Cyndi Hopkins	6/3	Suzanne Geen	7/3
Ken Kinser	5/5	Jonathan & Carol McKenzie	6/3		
Elaine & Matthew Guzzetta	5/7	John Geen	6/26		
Maria Martin	5/9	John & Linda Kusnierz	6/29		
Ken MacPherson	5/22				
Ken & Rosemary	5/22				
Marie Figenbaum	5/25				
Lisa Lavoie	5/28				



### 2021 Graduations

**Julie Komarinski** child of Mark & Brenda graduated BMHS; will be attending Suffolk University.

**Julia Martin** child of Maria graduated BMHS; will be attending Salem State University

**Joshua Knowles** child of Doreen graduated Shawsheen Tech; plans to be determined.

**Boston Bergeron** child of Valerie graduated from Shawsheen Tech; will be attending Regis College.

**David Carpine** earned his Bachelor of Science Information Technology University of Ma Lowell

### 2020 Graduations

**David O'Shea** child of Michelle graduated BMHS; continuing studies at a program in Lexington.

**Nicole Knowles** child of Doreen graduated BMHS; continuing studies at Salem State University.

**Aiden Martin** child of Maria graduated BMHS; continuing studies at Middlesex College.

If you or a loved one are celebrating a birthday or special occasions like graduations and want in the following newsletter, please let me know [SandraForStAnnes@yahoo.com](mailto:SandraForStAnnes@yahoo.com). We had to start somewhere, please let me know name and dates. **If you don't tell ME.....I can't include.**



Weekly announcements will continue to be listed in the bulletin for those who are unable or not ready to return to in-person worship. Our services will continue to be streamed on YouTube and posted to both our website and Facebook page.



If you need help finding our Channel (YouTube) and Page (Facebook) please let us know.

We can set it up with you, so you receive alerts when new content is posted.



Mysteries, Yes!

by Mary Oliver

*Truly, we live with mysteries too marvelous  
to be understood.*

*How grass can be nourishing in the  
mouths of the lambs.  
How rivers and stones are forever/  
in allegiance with gravity  
while we ourselves dream of rising.  
How two hands touch and the bonds will  
never be broken.  
How people come, from delight or the  
scars of damage,  
to the comfort of a poem.*

*Let me keep my distance, always, from those  
who think they have the answers.*

*Let me keep company always with those who say  
"Look!" and laugh in astonishment,  
and bow their heads.*

From a nearby church at this point in the pandemic:  
We will all feel frustrated at something, but hopefully, no one will be angry at everything.

