

ST ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - SMALL BUT MIGHTY



St. Anne's
Episcopal Church

**JULY &
AUGUST**
(summer)

2021

Parish of St. Anne's ~

Summer greetings, dear
Parish of St. Anne's!

May you find rest this
summer, especially as you
reconnect with loved ones
and visit favorite places.
Remember that your
church is now open and
delighted to have as many
return as possible.

Your Vestry has taken
on more and more
leadership of your parish
as the year has unfolded,
and our June meeting was
full of activity. You will see
proof of that in this
Newsletter!

I thank all volunteers
who are assisting with
worship this summer.

I thank Janet Lyna for her
weekly help in our office.
She is streamlining the
part-time nature of our
staff. It's a big help, so,
thank you!

Gratefully,
Mtr 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 in person
- Weekly worship on our YouTube Channel
- Our services are replayed on BATV
- Check out our Facebook page for our services.
- Check our website for a link to the services.

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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.

From the Wardens

By Ed Giroux & Mike Hopkins

As I sit down to write this month's Warden's article for our newsletter, I am grateful that the latest heatwave of 2021 has broken. It is still rather humid, but thankfully, the temperature has moderated.

Why do I bring up a change in the weather? It is because we seem to be in a state of constant change. I think we can all agree that there is only one thing that has remained constant at St. Anne's and our world in general. What has been constant? In my opinion, only change has remained constant.

When thinking back over the last 16 or 17 months, a lot has changed:

- We had to close our doors to in person worship. However, we spent only one Sunday with no form of worship taking place on our altar. That was the very first Sunday, (March 15, 2020) when the pandemic was ramping up. Ironically, the Sunday prior to this (March 8) was the final Sunday that Fr. Brad was with us as our first Bridge Priest. As it turned out, March 8 was the final Sunday of in-person worship until the fall.
- We have established a new way to bring worship to our members and really anyone who would like to tune in and "participate" with us while worshipping virtually. The method by which we stream services has also changed tremendously since we began.
- At the beginning of the pandemic, St. Anne's had no clergy leading us in worship. We were extremely fortunate that Rev. Jonathan was willing to be our Priest for the beginning of virtual worship. In June of 2020, we were fortunate again to have hired Mother Jennifer as our second Bridge Priest.
- We re-opened our doors for in-person worship for several weeks in the fall as the numbers concerning the virus trended in a positive direction. But unfortunately, when the trends reversed, we closed again.

- The Vestry and Mother Jennifer agreed to a new Covenant of Ministry as the first ever Priest-In-Charge at St. Anne's.
- Vestry members and parishioners are taking on more leadership roles within our parish. Among the tasks underway is the addition of new technology to help us keep in touch with one another. By now, anyone with a known email address should have received an invitation to set up their account in Realm.
- Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have lost several members of our parish family. We already miss seeing their faces and hearing their voices, but we will always cherish the memories we have of each one of them.
- We have recently re-opened our doors for in-person worship. And we continue to provide our service virtually through the lens of two Point, Tilt, Zoom (PTZ) cameras and the self-trained "stream team". We could not have done this without them.

So, as I started, at St. Anne's, the only thing that has remained constant is change. I have outlined many changes and I probably missed several. Some change is good, and some is sad. As I look forward to the summer months, I hope that one thing that does not change is the enthusiasm that we are seeing from our parishioners to be back at church and take on new leadership roles. In the past, we wondered what the "new normal" will be like. I think it is here and I look forward to experiencing it with all of you.

The Wardens, Ed Giroux & Mike Hopkins



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 to get your username and password and then go to: 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)

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME

by Brenda Komarinski



Thank you to all who joined us for our Ice Cream Social on June 6!

At our event, we talked about trying something new for next year – Sunday School on a weekday after school.

I welcome anyone interested in helping shape and teach our program to call or email me. (978-663-0874)
bkomarinski@gmail.com

This past year was unusual, but we met many people in the Bible:

- Abraham (who trusted God)
- Moses (who brought us the rules from God)
- Joshua and Rahab (who showed us the importance of keeping promises)
- Ruth and Naomi (who showed us the importance of family and family doesn't mean blood relations)
- David (who had us looking in our hearts)
- Solomon (who was wise)
- Daniel (who was courageous in doing what is right)
- Mary (who helped us be helpers and show our love for God in what we do)
- Peter (who taught us to care for ourselves and one another)
- Paul (who showed us people can change and to go ahead and tell others about Jesus)

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd lessons shared at our prayer table can still be seen on St. Anne's YouTube page and on our website. <http://stannes-billerica.org/sunday-school-videos/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChofaV8iieCG7h42EBrDEoQ>

Don't delay – register for next year's Church School.

Church School Registration

Family Last Name(s) _____ First Names of Parents/Guardians _____

Address _____ Phone # _____ (Cell or Home)

E-mail address _____

Child's Name	Date of Birth	List Primary way to contact adults (E-mail, Mail, Home Phone, Cell Phone, Text)	Allergies	Comments

Does your child receive Holy Communion? ___ Yes ___ No

() I give permission for _____ to have his/her picture or written work (with no name) in the newspaper or on the St. Anne's Website.

() I do not give permission to have photos taken or written work submitted anywhere.

Parent/Guardian Signature

St. Anne's Realm Connect Update

By Rosemary Kinser

****HELLO REALM!!!!****

By now, you should have received an invite, in your email, to sign on to St. Anne's Realm Connect.



Next Steps:

- Check your email for the invitation to join Realm
- Click the link contained in the email
- Follow the instructions to create a password
- This will bring you to your profile
- Once you are in your profile, please update your contact & personal information
- If you have any questions, please follow the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for updating profiles. FAQs are found by selecting Groups, choose St. Anne's Episcopal Church and the FAQs are located under Files.
- Explore Groups and Directory from the left side of your screen

IMPORTANT: To be part of the Parish Directory, you must set up your log-in.

If you didn't receive an invite, please contact the church office at 978-663-4073.

Thank you for helping us implement a centralized church management system and create efficiencies which will result in improved communication and long-term stability of our records.

If you have any questions, please contact Rosemary Kinser @ rlkinser@outlook.com or Linda Kusnierz @ lkusnr@comcast.net

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

by John Geen

This gathering at 10am on Tuesdays is a small group ministry in which we gather to study God's word and the elements of our faith in order to better understand God's wishes for us in our everyday lives.

We have just completed studying the Apostles' Creed and what it means to us with help from "Life Guide" booklets. We are taking a break for the Summer, resuming the first Tuesday in September. We will next be studying the Lord's Prayer.

It is inspiring to sit among folks sharing their experiences, examining their doubts, supporting each other, and reinforcing their faith. The group is open to anyone seeking good fellowship in an earnest wish to further their faith journey. If you would like to find out if it is what you are seeking then just come along and try it. You will find yourself welcome.

Education for Ministry (EfM) starting in the fall

Marguerite Massey

I just completed my first year of EfM. It was a wonderful opportunity to read and study with a small group of people from other parishes. In my first year I read the Old Testament while others in the group read the New Testament (year two), religious history (year three), philosophy (year four). Each group shared what they had read that week and we did a spiritual reflection as a group.

What is EfM you ask? It is a small spiritual community focused on studying your faith and exploring what the "priesthood [or ministry] of all believers" means to you as a layperson? EfM (Education for ministry) might be just the ticket! EfM is an ecumenical, Episcopal Church-affiliated program. The School of Theology of Sewanee: The University of the South has created this distance learning curriculum blending individual study, small group interaction, and worship. Thankfully, using Zoom has enabled us to have fruitful meetings throughout the pandemic and even brought some unexpected benefits of bringing people together from different locations in the area. As we recruit for the fall, we can say we are hopeful that conditions will permit us to mix in a few optional, in-person meetings, but it seems likely we will continue to use Zoom as well. For more information, contact Rosemarie Buxton at rosebuxton@yahoo.com, 978-886-1802, or Steve Taylor at sdtaylor.home@hotmail.com, 978-623-3385. Rosemarie and Steve are members at Christ Church Andover.

a note on music...

By Peter Morelli



There's much to be thankful for...experiencing St. Anne's together again this spring & summer, and the ever-diminishing day-to-day impact of the pandemic...are welcome changes!

Many of St. Anne's group leaders and parishioners have gone above and beyond with giving of themselves in service of St. Anne's to strengthen our future. It's collectively inspiring and it goes without saying that it impacts St. Anne's ability to meet current and future challenges.

For my part, I continue to work hard on the music so that it noticeably enhances the services. And of course, I greatly value being involved in St. Anne's community and endeavors.





The Theme of June 19, 2021, Ultreya was "Transition" – Grief, Fear, Trust

Hosted by the Secretariat

Grief: A Talk was given on Elizabeth Kubler-Ross's Five Stages of Grief, (Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, Acceptance), reflecting our experiences during the pandemic.

Prayer: O Faithful God, we ask you to guide us in our time of transition. We need your wisdom, that we might be receptive to change, conversion and growth. We need your grace to redirect our hearts so we may be willing to offer ourselves in joyful service. Do not allow fear, ignorance, or pride to limit the work of your Spirit. Amen

Our Zoom Ultreyas occur the 3rd Saturday of each month. Materials are sent out and posted on the MECM website (www.MassCursillo.org) on Wednesday prior to the Ultreya. The next Ultreya is on July 17th.

SAVE THE DATE: National Ultreya - August 21, 2021 - Bishop Curry and five other bishops will participate. The National Committee will be sending out announcements regarding this special event.

Peace be with you, Rosemary

St. Anne's Thrift Shop by Marguerite Massey & Kathy Brewster

The thrift shop will be open all summer. Come and visit us for Christmas in July starting Wednesday, July 11 through Friday July 30. Open Wednesday through Friday 10AM until 2PM.



A few words from the Re-Gathering Team

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

The Re-Gathering Team met on June 30 to review our current in person worship protocols. Some adjustments are being made as we continue to see improved conditions in our community and more persons fully vaccinated. Billerica, as of the June 24 reporting, is now in the grey status designation with less than or equal to 10 total active cases in the last 14 days and a percent positivity of 0.47%. The percentage of those individuals fully vaccinated is 57%.

In Person Worship as of July 11

- **9:30 Morning Prayer Service** will continue through the summer months.
- **Filming** will continue and will be available on YouTube, Facebook, and St. Anne's web site.
- **Wearing of Masks will be optional.** Please follow CDC recommendations for mask wearing. Masks are available at the entrance of the church.
- **When singing, please wear a mask,** if you are not wearing a mask, sing with your heart.
- **Hand sanitizer** will be available at the entrance of the church and in the pews for use.
- **Bulletins** will continue to be prepared in one format for the in-person service attendees and the online worshipers.
- **All Pews will be available for seating.** You are encouraged to observe 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 the congregants have exited.
- The church will continue to use the **disinfecting mister** following services.
- **Holy Communion** will resume on **Sunday, Sept 5** beginning with distribution of individual self-contained wine and wafer.

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR FEEDBACK AND OPINION

Mother Jennifer, the Wardens and the Re-Gathering team are discussing the possibility of resuming two services, the 8:00 and the 10:00 in the fall.

- Please respond to the Re-Gathering team and indicate if you would prefer the choice of two services on Sunday mornings?
- If interested, please indicate which service you would attend; the 8:00 or the 10:00.

Please respond to:

Linda Kusnierz lkusnr@comcast.net
 Marguerite Massey mammassey@aol.com

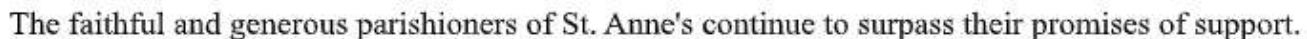
Kathy Brewster dandkbrewster@comcast.net
 Ken Kinser kenkwk@outlook.com

The team will meet again in early September as we continue moving towards better days in community together.

Pledge Report

by John Geen

St. Anne's Pledge Status 2021

[illegible]

Community Outreach

Sandra Giroux

The pantry is putting a cookbook together and needs your help. Cookbooks will be given to our clients and will also be for sale at Yankee Doodle weekend (**Sept. 18, 2021**) with any profit going back to the pantry. We are looking for quick and easy recipes (think limited ingredients) using some of the items our pantry provides. All recipes are greatly appreciated! We cannot however promise every submission will be used if for example, we have 10 apple pie recipes. For bragging rights, please include your name or initials and town. Or if you wish, note anonymous. Get your friends and family involved and don't forget those fruits and veggies!

We also will be including business card advertising at \$25 per card. If you submit a recipe and a business card, we will do our best to put them together. \$25 business card size ads are the only size we can fit. Anyone, not just businesses, is welcome to make a donation of \$25 or more. You will be included on the sponsor list in the cookbook.

We kindly ask that you email recipes and/or business cards to billericapantryinfo@gmail.com or if you prefer, drop off a hard copy at the pantry office during business hours **before July 16, 2021**.

Checks can be mailed to: **P.O. Box 285, Billerica MA 01821**. We also have Paypal and Venmo on our website: www.billericacommunitypantry.com. Please add a comment that it's a cookbook/ad donation, both online and on the checks.

Thank you for supporting our cookbook endeavor and the Billerica community! Sincerely,
The Billerica Pantry Cookbook Committee



Jennifer's Journal

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

In the month of June, our Diocesan cycle of prayer named parishes in our deanery. What a feeling to know the whole Diocese prayed for us on June 6th.

Prayer List norms

As we come back together again, both Parish Administrator Jayleigh and I are learning new ways of doing things. To put a name on or take a name off our prayer list, please call or email the office. About every six months, we will review the names and remove ones we haven't heard about recently.

My custom regarding those who have died is to keep their names in our prayers for about three weeks after the funeral or burial.

Making Announcements

I like inviting individuals to stand and make announcements in the church because of the visibility that gives to all the members of the community. But, unfortunately, it does not work for our listeners at home. So, please write down your announcement and hand the piece of paper to me before the service starts. Or, send in your announcement to our church office before Wednesday evening for printing in the following Sunday's bulletin. Thank you.

July Fourth

For the Nation (BCP p. 207)

Lord God Almighty, who hast made all the peoples of the earth for thy glory, to serve thee in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with thy gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

This year, may we pray this prayer fervently, especially the part about using "our liberty in accordance with thy gracious will". Seeking God's gracious will is the goal of our life together. May it be so.

Worship Leadership

When I take vacation in August, we will have lay-led services on some of the Sundays. Canon Martha Hubbard suggested this good option for churches with part-time clergy. She hopes to see more of it in the future. Would you like to attend trainings for leading worship and preaching? Speak to me or to Mike Hopkins or Ed Giroux.

Cemeteries and Episcopal relations

As we begin to come back to church after the pandemic shutdown, we are burying the ashes of too many people who died during the closures. In June, Jonathan and I buried the partial ashes of John and Dinah Holman at Fox Hill Cemetery. (Also, they are both in St. Anne's Columbarium.) Additionally, I buried Donald Needham and his youngest son, Timothy. Donald and his sister, Pat Cregg, are two of the four children of Everett and Betty Needham who lived and worshipped among us many years ago. At their family site in the Carlisle cemetery, I recognized the names on the stones beside the Needhams as another Episcopalian family who attends Trinity Church, Concord. What blessing to see our interconnectedness.

Gratitude for our Thrift Shop Volunteers

You have allowed a thriving ministry in our post-lockdown North Billerica. So many are so glad for what you offer our community! Thank you.

Virtual Worship Committee / Technical Committee



Mark, Sandra, Brenda, Ed, Peter, Maria, & Mike

Yet another busy month. We've had a few weeks of in-person worship complete and things are looking good. The church is set up so that aside from the cameras that are mounted in various locations you wouldn't know we have a full streaming setup going on. The Streaming Crew is now around the corner in the microphone room setting up camera angles and making sure the sound is good. With the new network cable run into the room we can now broadcast to YouTube and Facebook at the same time. This allows everyone to watch the same service at the same time and removes the step of having to upload later on. With summer now started, work on an additional team has started and we'll spend the next few weeks with trainees looking over our shoulder to see what we're doing and eventually let them take over. To do this I've been frantically documenting the steps to put on a service and so far it's taken up much of a page – and that's only part of the detail.

On the technology side...we have a new copier. It doesn't sound like much but this one includes color. Those of you that get this mailed to you will see the pages like they were meant to be. Well not this page as it's all just text in black and white. But using color can make things look better. We were able to negotiate a good price for a new copier with the extra feature and in the long run it will save the office staff time and money.

Mark Komarinski ~ Virtual Worship/Technical person

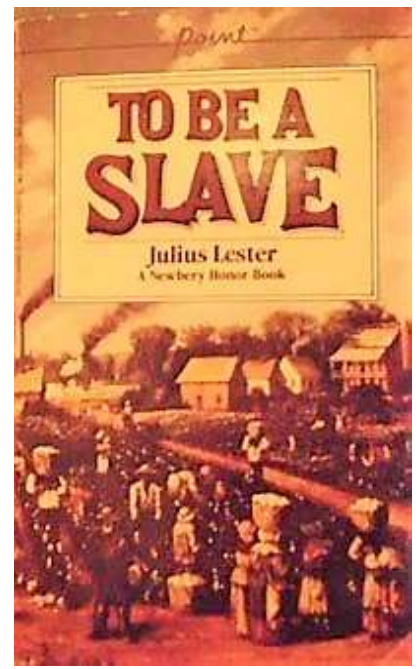
Want to Join a Book Club?

Marguerite Massey

"History is not just facts and events. History is also a pain in the heart and we repeat history until we are able to make another's pain in the heart our own." This quote is on page 8 of the book *To Be a Slave* by Julius Lester.

Over the past year the United States has been struggling with the Covid pandemic and the awaking of social issues. The Episcopal Church leadership is putting the topic of social injustice as a focal point. I have been struggling with this issue and started to read books on this topic. I want to start a book club at St. Anne's to examine America's racial history. This is a large, complex, and challenging topic to open our minds, eyes, and hearts to the racial history in America. The first book I thought we could start with is *To Be a Slave* by Julius Lester. It is a Newbery Honor Book written published in 1968. It is written for junior high students. It isn't very long but it is an eye-opening book regarding slavery in America.

If you are interested in joining in my journey to explore America history please contact me via email at mammasssey@aol.com or via Realm so the group can determine the best time and day to meet.



From the Desk of the Parish Administrator – by Jayleigh

As St. Anne's has re-opened for in-person worship on Sundays, my role in preparing for weekly services has expanded. I still send out the bulletins by email, but now, in addition to making sure the film crew has what it needs, I also place paper copies of the bulletin in their proper locations in the church. (Shoutout to Janet Lyna, whose steady assistance with stapling the bulletins each Thursday afternoon has made this task immeasurably easier!)

I have never entered St. Anne's through the narthex, but I enjoy spending time in the area, imagining what a parishioner or a visitor sees and feels when walking through those doors. As I place a fresh stack of bulletins on the ledge, I envision those who will pick them up in a few days, ready to pray through the words on their pages. I look at the shelves above, with their booklets and cards, wondering which ones are useful, which ones are visible. (Suggestions are welcome!) I look at the sunlight refracted into rainbows by the windows and wonder what it is like on Sunday mornings, whether it seems to bless the space as much as it does in the quiet of a Thursday afternoon.

Then I go to the lectern, where I place special copies of the bulletin for those who will be serving as lectors and readers of the Prayers of the People. One of my new duties this month has been to schedule volunteers for these roles, and as I place bulletins with these individuals' names in the place where they will read from them, I imagine the words coming to life in their unique voices (although I have not heard everyone's voices, I can imagine!).

Once the bulletins have been placed, I return to the office, freshly aware that mindful preparation is a type of prayer.



St. Anne's Prayer List:

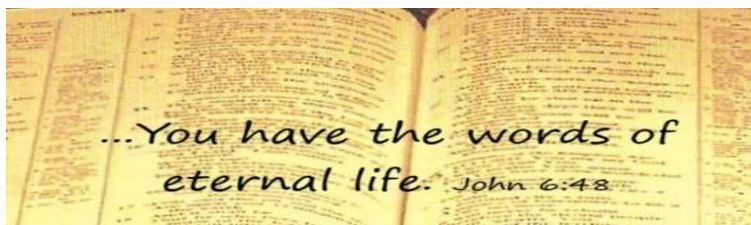
Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd of the sheep, you gather the lambs in your arms and carry them in your bosom: We commend to your loving care this child (Name). Relieve their pain, guard them from all danger, restore to them your gifts of gladness and strength, and raise them up to a life of service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



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			
Cyndi Hopkins	6/3	Jennifer+ Beal	8/1
Jonathan & Carol McKenzie	6/3	Neil Hopkins	8/2
John Geen	6/26	Dorothy Callihan	8/3
John & Linda Kusnierz	6/29	Peter Morelli	8/5
		Mark & Brenda Komarinski	8/5
Suzanne Geen	7/3	Lisa & David Carpine	8/8
		Lisa Higgins	8/8
		Mark Komarinski	8/15
		Jane Clark	8/19
		Ed Giroux	8/23
		Camryn Stockton	8/24
		Mark Figenbaum	8/31

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. We had to start somewhere, please let me know name and dates. **If you don't tell ME.....I can't include.**

