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ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WELCOMING · DIVERSE · PROGRESSIVE

RESTON, VIRGINIA · WWW.STANNES-RESTON.ORG

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Stewardship Ingathering is this Sunday, November 23



Our stewardship season is coming to a close and we are SO CLOSE to our goal! Thank you to those that have submitted a pledge. For those that haven't, there's still time. We ask that you prayerfully consider pledging a portion of your income to support the mission and ministries at St. Anne's.

We are so grateful to those that have submitted their pledge, which puts us at 75% of our goal of \$795,000 as of this morning!

Let's keep the momentum going in these last few days! You may [make your pledge online by clicking here](#). Any questions please [contact the church office](#).

Envisioning the Future of St. Anne's: Final Session This Sunday

*This Sunday, November 23 - Sign up required please! **This is the last in-person session!***

Developing a vision for our parish is a parish-wide effort, not the job of a small committee. To this end, we have been holding facilitated visioning groups to brainstorm ideas. The ideas will be collated and analyzed for trends in opinions, or even a possible consensus, on the direction in which God is leading St. Anne's.

Envisioning the Future of St. Anne's

November 9, 16 & 23

Join in the discussion on the direction in which God is leading St. Anne's!

[SIGN UP NOW TO ATTEND](#)



To participate, [click here to sign up for one of the available 90-minute brainstorming sessions](#) on **November 23rd - the last Sunday for the sessions**. Sign-ups will be broken up into small groups and we will meet in the various classrooms.

In addition, we are looking for folks to bring an item for the "mini brunch" during the session to help keep empty bellies full. Potato salad and fruit salad are especially needed but please [click here for the full list and sign up](#). Thanks in advance for your donation!

Join Us for the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service This Tuesday

This Tuesday, November 25, 7:30 PM, United Christian Parish in Reston

United Christian Parish is delighted to once again host our annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 25, at 7:30 PM. ***Our own Mtr Kara will be participating!***

We hope this gathering will truly reflect the spirit of community and gratitude. If you are not able to attend in person, you may watch the livestream. The [livestream link can be found here](#).



Let's come together in thanksgiving, unity, and hope!

Gift Card Drive Still Needs Sponsors

Due by Sunday, December 7

There 17 children on the list who still need a sponsor

Our annual partnership with Cornerstones continues with our Gifts for Kids drive. THANK YOU SO MUCH to those of you who have already signed up to provide card(s). The need is great.

There are still children to sign up for. Please [click here to supply a gift card](#) for one of our younger neighbors in need. Once on the sign-up, choose the child or (children) you would like to purchase the gift card for.



The gift card wishes are either \$50 or \$75 depending on the age of the child.

Once you've purchased the gift card(s):

- Write the amount of the card on the top right of the card in permanent ink.
- Place the card in an envelope with the child's name and number on the front of the envelope (you will see the number to the left of their name in the sign-up)
- Put the envelope in the offering plate or mail/bring it to the church office (**please mark the outer envelope with "kids."**)

Cards must be in by **Sunday, Dec. 7** (this deadline is not flexible—Cornerstones will start distribution that week). Thanks so much for your generosity!

Adult Formation: Making and Praying with Anglican Prayer Beads

Sunday, December 7, 4:00 - 6:00 PM, Library

Requested donation of \$5 per person please

Back by popular demand! Join us in the sacred process of making Anglican prayer beads. Mother Annie Cooper will guide us through the holy purpose and prayer practices as gifted bead artist Mary Ann Rich teaches us how to put beads together to create unique and beautiful pieces of art to enhance our connection to God.



[Click here to sign up](#) so we can be sure we have enough materials for everyone. We are requesting a donation of \$5 to cover materials.

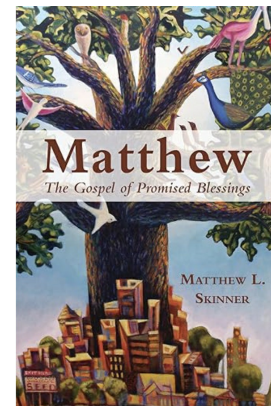
Please bring cash or a check made out to St. Anne's on the day of the class.

There is no charge if you want to come and make beads for use by our priests for pastoral calls!

December Book Club

Monday mornings via Zoom

The book club started a new book last Monday but it's not too late to join. The book is ***Matthew The Gospel of Promised Blessings*** by Matthew Skinner. This six-part exploration of an enigmatic Gospel takes readers into the themes, topics, and tensions at the heart of Matthew's story about the life and work of Jesus. Chapters focus on blessing and comfort, judgment and retribution, the meaning of discipleship, Jesus' vision for the Church and world, conflicts and complaints, and how the Gospel of Matthew speaks to believers today.



There are 5 more weeks of discussion and then the entire 6 video comments by the author will be replayed. If you would like to participate or have questions, please [reach out to Jane Smith](#).

Diocesan Convention Follow-Up

As a follow-up to our November 7 e-news about the Diocesan Convention in Fredericksburg, Mtr. Jess wanted to be sure you received the [convention recap, available here](#). Centered on the theme "Telling Our Stories—Sharing Our Gifts," the 231st Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia (November 6–8, 2025) fostered meaningful connections across our diocesan community.



St. Anne's was well represented by Mtr Jess, Mtr Kara, and Fr David, along with lay delegates Suzi Jones, Margaret Light, Chris Cameron, as well as Shon Cooper participating via Zoom. Throughout the convention, participants cast votes on resolutions, elected new leaders, and celebrated clergy and laypersons recognized for their significant contributions both locally and globally.

Mtr. Jess shared that Bishop Stevenson's keynote address was both riveting and deeply inspiring, and that the various sessions throughout the convention were rich with valuable information.

Thanksgiving Box Thank You

Thanks to everyone who donated food and their time to our Thanksgiving Box drive. On Sunday, eleven members of our youth group and seven supporting adults processed our boxes and gift cards to make them ready for delivery on Wednesday. When they were all ready to go, our talented captain of the drive, Nate Cissel, led us in prayers for the people who gave the boxes and those who would receive them.

We are so grateful to everyone who set time and money aside to make Thanksgiving a time of celebration for our neighbors.

Thanks especially to Nate and the entire Cissel family, who spearheaded the project with such skill and confidence. We appreciate you!



☐ Sunday's Key Kids Moment ☐

On Sunday, Jack and Owen told us about Jonah, aka "the guy in the whale," and showed us the bags they decorated for this Thursday's food pantry distribution.

Try making your own [Jonah and the Whale!](#)



Honeydew Honey

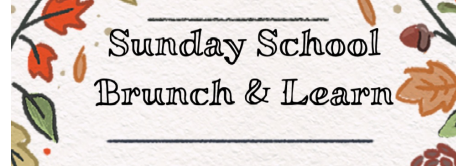
As a result of the invasive spotted lanternfly St. Anne's was blessed to have a 3rd honey crop in the 2025 season! And, as it turns out, this honey is almost as medicinal as manuka honey. As much of a nuisance as the spotted lanternfly may be, the "tap" that it creates on the outside of trees (think maple syrup) attracts honeybees. They bring this sap or "honeydew" into the hive, and as result of their processing, it converts to honey. This honey does not have the same amino acids that traditional honey has, so in the beekeeping community we've been encouraged to refer to it as "honeydew," but it is honey all the same.



To learn more, check out this great article, [The Unexpected Sweetness of the Spotted Lanternfly](#) and this [PDF from Penn State and the University of Texas at San Antonio](#).

Additionally, if Eileen emailed you about there being a jar of honey for you reserved in the office, please pick up the honey by November 30 so that we can open our wait list for holiday gift giving.

Sunday School Brunch & Learn Fellowship



On Saturday, eleven of our Sunday School teachers gathered for brunch, planning and feedback, and to talk about how to handle the Bible stories that are tricky to teach.

Mtr. Kara shared resources and led a discussion about looking more closely at the Bible stories that make us uncomfortable, so that we can find the truth below the surface and keep making Sunday School a place of love, belonging, and joy!

Mary Poppins is Making a Stop at St. Anne's!

*Sunday, February 15, 2026, 3:00 PM **SAVE THE DATE!***

Join us on February 15 at 3PM, when Mary Poppins flies into St. Anne's for the afternoon! Mini Musicals on the Move will perform *Mary Poppins* as a benefit for the St. Anne's Food Pantry. The show will feature our own Daria Antonucci as Mary Poppins, and her husband Larry Travis as Mr. Banks! The show will include sing-alongs for the audience so it's perfect for families (or as Mary Poppins would say....it's "practically perfect in every way!").



Admission is free, but donations to expand the reach of the St. Anne's Food Panty will be gratefully accepted. Put it in your calendar now because you won't want to miss this fun performance for all ages!

Seen Around St. Anne's...



Susan Schreiner and Bernadette Capelle gratefully accept a food pantry donation from Dana Jordan and Crystal Hogan of L3Harris. St. Anne's is deeply appreciative to L3Harris's remarkable generosity and continued support.



Angie Gray and our trusted Naicon rep, David Christopher, gave Naomi—yes, our copier has a name!—some much-needed TLC this week. Thanks to their teamwork, Naomi is back up and running and ready to produce our Sunday bulletins without a hitch.



Our dedicated Flower Guild is thoughtfully preparing for Bruce Boston's funeral and for Sunday's services. We extend heartfelt thanks to Bernadette Capelle, Margaret Light, Terri Cox, Dagny Wilcox, and Martha Furniss for their creativity and generous spirit in helping to beautify the church.



Today (Thursday, Nov 20) is Pantry Day and we are so excited to welcome our neighbors! Take a look at all those eggs and full grocery bags. We are so blessed to have a community that cares about feeding our food insecure families.

St. Anne's Vestry

Daria Antonucci, James Brooks (senior warden), Sarah Brummett, Bernadette Capelle, Rosie Horn, Carol Leos, Christian Pelfrey, Clifton Poole, Suzanne Robinson, Nancy Santoro, Charlie Saunders (junior warden), Cat Tucker, The Very Rev. Jessica Holthus (rector & chair), The Rev. Kara Laughlin (associate rector for discipleship)

Contact Us

[The Very Reverend Jessica Holthus](#), Rector
[The Reverend Kara Laughlin](#), Associate Rector for Discipleship
[Robert Hamilton](#), Music Director
[James Brooks](#), Senior Warden
[Sheri Schaffer](#), Parish Administrator
[Angie Gray](#), Office Administrator

Our offices are open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. We are available by phone and email at other times. We check the office voicemail at (703) 437-6530 regularly.

The **deadline to submit an announcement for enews is 12:00 pm on Tuesdays** [Email it to Sheri](#). In addition to the text of your announcement, include any graphics, photos and links in your email.

To **reserve space at St. Anne's for an upcoming meeting/event**, [email Sheri](#) with the date, time and number of people you expect in attendance.





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