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ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WELCOMING · DIVERSE · PROGRESSIVE



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A huge THANK YOU to all who made our wonderful Christmas services possible! We truly celebrated the gift of Immanuel, God with us, this Christmastide.

A special thank you to Angie for her tireless work on the beautiful bulletins, to Rob and the choir for sharing the powerful gift of song, to Shannon for directing a phenomenal Christmas pageant, to Sophia for leading the youth handbells, to all the children, youth, adult volunteers, and families who supported the pageant, and to all who served throughout the Christmas season!!

St Anne's is truly an amazing community and outpouring of Christ's love. Enjoy these photos from Christmas Eve, taken by Martha Furniss.

If you missed us, you can still [visit St. Anne's website](#) to view any of the beautiful Christmas Eve services.





Epiphany Star Words

On Sunday we received star words as part of our worship. This has become a tradition for us – to claim a word as a gift from God and a guide in the new year.

If you weren't able to make it to St. Anne's on Sunday, or would still like to receive a star word, you can [click here to go to a website](#) created by The Rev. Sarah Kye Price, Formation Director of the St. Phoebe School for Deacons. Once there, click on one of the stars in the graphic to receive your epiphany star word!



The word is meant to be your word for the year - a word to reflect on, a word to strive for, a word to challenge you, and a word to inspire you.

Following are some questions to help you in your journey:

- What synonyms are there for your word?
- Where can you find your word in Scripture? Which Scripture passage is your favorite? Do any of these passages make you cringe?
- What is the antonym for your word, noting that it is important to understand the void that exists when your word is not present?
- How does your word help you to understand the sacraments of communion and baptism?
- What hymn embodies your word?
- How does your word enhance worship, devotion, spiritual formation, and discipleship?

Star Words Prayer:

God, we acknowledge that we are not always ready to receive your best gifts for us. You have given us an epiphany word in order that our searching will bring us to you. It is often our habit to turn aside, stumble over, or even reject experiences and encounters that we later understand to have been precious gifts. Help us to be open to the gift that you offer us now through our star words. We acknowledge that we do not fully understand what this word might mean for our faith, but we receive it from you with gratitude and pray that your Spirit will enable us to live into our word with intention and faithfulness. Amen.

Movies That Make You Think: **Cooked: Survival by Zip Code**

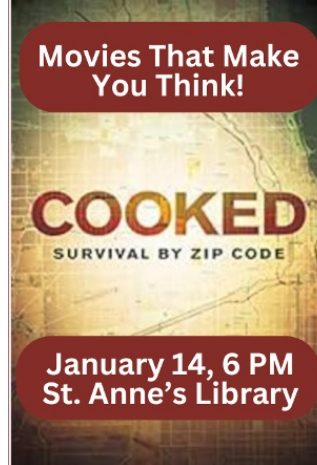
*This Tuesday, January 14, 6:00 pm, Library
\$5 donation appreciated for pizza*

[SIGN UP BY MONDAY JANUARY 13 HERE](#) (Note some of you already signed up when it was previously going to be held in November. Please remove your name if you no longer plan to attend. Thanks!).

Gather with fellow parishioners to munch on pizza (\$5 donation per person appreciated) and more on Tuesday, Jan 14, starting at 6:00 PM, and then we'll view together a thought-provoking movie, with discussion afterwards.

Cooked: Survival by Zip Code, is a documentary about the people most affected by natural disasters and the politics involved.

To ensure we have enough pizza and goodies, please [click here to sign-up](#) and we will look forward to seeing you.



DONATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Donations from members of the congregation make a huge difference for the Food Pantry to be able to get its job done. One example – generous and anonymous souls save the paper bags they get from the various grocery stores they purchase food from and donate the bags to the Pantry. Each month the Pantry uses approximately 125 paper bags for the groceries we distribute to our food challenged neighbors. Paper bags cost approximately \$40 for 125 paper bags. So each year the Pantry would have to spend nearly \$500 per year on paper bags alone. Instead we purchased 250 bags in mid-2022 and we still have about 80 bags left, thanks to the donation of bags from members of our congregation.



So to all the members of the St. Anne's Congregation who donate items to the Food Pantry and who pledge to the Church, we **thank you very much for your generosity**. Without it we could not do the job for our food-challenged neighbors that we are able to do.

The diaper ministry served 43 families in December with 69 packages of diapers. Size 6 was the most requested. We distributed 29 packages of 6. The next most frequently requested size was 5, 15 packages were given out. That is an illustration of why size 6 is always the safe size if you are buying to donate to the pantry. We also need sizes 5, 3, and 7. We gave out the entire supply of wipes.

Thank you again for your continued generosity!

Adult Formation: Sermons by Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 12, 19, 26, 4:00 PM, Library

The adult formation committee is sponsoring three discussion sessions on various sermons by Martin Luther King, Jr. as a way of celebrating not only the MLK, Jr. Day but as an educational endeavor to understand through his sermons the themes, illustrations, and rhetorical powers of Martin Luther King, Jr. Most of us understand him as a Civil Rights leader, but King is worth studying as an outstanding preacher.



These 60-90 minute discussions will be held at the church on January 12, 19, and 26 at 4:00 PM. Each session is a "stand alone discussion" with different sermons discussed for each session. Two sermons will be examined at each session. Don Boileau (Emeritus Professor of Communication at George Mason University) will provide summaries of the sermons as well as lead the discussion about how King's ideas influence our spiritual lives

today. Don will be assisted by Gerald Chapman and Deacon Nancy Searby.

- Jan 12: Early Period: "Rediscovering Lost Values" & "Loving your Enemies."
- Jan 19: Middle Period: "Guidelines for a Constructive Church" & "The Three Dimensions of a Complete Life"
- Jan 26th: Later Period: "The Drum Major Instinct" & "Remaining Awake Through a Great Revolution" [given at the National Cathedral]

Sacred Ground Circles

Tuesdays @ 7 PM, starting on January 14 (see below for all dates), Zoom



The Ministry for Racial Justice and Healing in the Diocese of Virginia is pleased to be offering two Sacred Ground Circles starting in January. [Sacred Ground](#) is a sensitive, prayerful resource that creates space for difficult but respectful and transformative dialogue on race and racism. It holds at its center a vision of Beloved Community where all of God's children are honored, protected, nurtured and flourish.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, please [contact Chris Cameron](#), Sacred Ground facilitator and member of the Ministry for Racial Justice and Healing.

Dates are over Zoom:

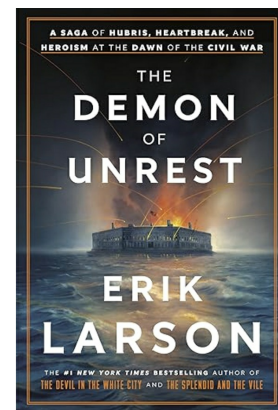
- Tuesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:45 pm: Jan 14, Jan 28, Feb 11, Feb 25, Mar 11, Mar 25, Apr 8, Apr 22, May 6, May 20, June 3, June 17

Space may be limited so [SIGN UP HERE](#).

St. Anne's Book Club

Monday, January 20, 9:30 am via Zoom

St. Anne's next book club read will be *THE DEMON OF UNREST: A Saga of Hubris, Heartbreak, and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War*, by Erik Larson (491 pages of text). Book can be purchased [here](#).



Master storyteller Erik Larson offers a gripping account of the chaotic months between Lincoln's election and the Confederacy's shelling of Sumter—a period marked by tragic errors and miscommunications, enflamed egos and craven ambitions, personal tragedies and betrayals. Lincoln himself wrote that the trials of these five months were “so great that, could I have anticipated them, I would not have believed it possible to survive them.” Drawing on diaries, secret communiques, slave ledgers, and plantation records, Larson gives us a political horror story that captures the forces that led America to the brink—a dark reminder that we often don't see a cataclysm coming until it's too late.

The book club discussion is held via Zoom. The Friday before our meeting (on Jan. 17), Don Boileau will send the link out to current members. New members should [contact Don](#) for the zoom link.

Coats Needed

Now through March 16, 2025

We're truly blessed and grateful for the coats we have received thus far and we pray that you'll

continue donating to this need as the temperatures dip and the need increases. Your generosity and kindness goes a long way and is appreciated.

Help provide a warm, fresh start to those who are newly released from prison. OAR (Opportunities, Alternatives and Resources) of Fairfax needs gently used, clean, washable, water-resistant coats in sizes AS to AXXXXL for men and women. They cannot use dressy, long wool coats that need to be dry-cleaned.



An OAR labeled box for donations is available in the Narthex through March 16. Together let's bring warmth to our neighbors and to our hearts and make the world a better place through our collective actions.

Please feel free to [email Shon Cooper](mailto:shon.cooper@stanne.org) if you have any questions or interest in volunteering to this ministry.

Seen Around St. Anne's...



Martha Furniss & Terri Cox prepping for Christmas Eve.



Christmas Elves, Eileen Ellis and Shon Cooper, getting treats ready!

St. Anne's Vestry

Kathy Boileau, James Brooks (senior warden), Sarah Brummett, Bernadette Capelle, Sandy Chamblee-Head, David Egge (youth representative), Peggy Hobler, Christian Pelfrey, Clifton Poole, Suzanne Robinson, Nancy Santoro, Charlie Saunders (junior warden), Christine Skitol, The Very Rev. Jessica Holthus (rector & chair), Rev. Dr. Nancy D. Searby (deacon)

Contact Us

[The Very Reverend Jessica Holthus](#), Rector
[The Reverend Dr. Nancy D. Searby](#), Deacon
[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 at administrator@stannes-reston.org. 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 at administrator@stannes-reston.org with the date, time and number of people you expect in attendance.



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