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ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WELCOMING · DIVERSE · PROGRESSIVE

RESTON, VIRGINIA · WWW.STANNES-RESTON.ORG

Access Our Website for Worship Links

Ingathering Sunday is this Sunday, November 22!

Joining Together in Gratitude, Faith, and Generosity





This Sunday, November 22, we celebrate Ingathering Sunday at St. Anne's! During our worship services, we will gather, bless, and give thanks for the financial commitments made by our parish family for the year ahead and for generations to come.

Thanks so much to those of you who have submitted your pledge. Our stewardship drive has received 37 pledges totalling $313,794; and our capital campaign has received 28 pledges, totalling $495,000.

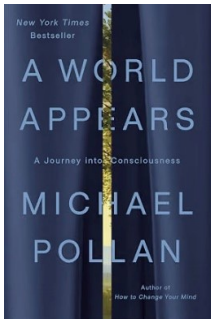
This year's Stewardship theme is *Plenty Good Room*, which reminds us that there is always room in God's house; we just need to make ourselves at home and invite others to join us. The ways we steward our relationships, resources, and responses to grow ministry and serve our neighbors connect our gratitude to our generosity.

Our Capital Campaign, themed *Enhancing Ministry, Expanding Mission*, invites us to invest in St. Anne's future. Through essential facility improvements, including expanding and renovating the Great Hall and surrounding areas, this effort ensures we have a welcoming, sustainable space for ministry, fellowship, and outreach for generations to come.

In addition to the mailing you should have already received, you may also make your pledge online by clicking here for 2027 Stewardship and here for the Capital Campaign.

St. Anne's Book Club: Tomorrow

Tomorrow, Friday, November 20, 9:00 AM via Zoom



We will meet by zoom on Friday, November 20 at 9:00 AM to discuss *A World Appears: A Journey into Consciousness*, by Michael Pollan.

Note: THIS IS A CHANGE FROM OUR USUAL MONDAY MEETING.
Any questions or need the zoom link? Reach out to Don.

Stargazing & S'mores: Tomorrow

Tomorrow, Friday, November 20, 7:00 PM, Parking Lot
Sign Up here



Join us tomorrow, Friday, November 20, at 7:00 PM for a fun evening of stargazing, s'mores, and fellowship under the stars!

Click here to sign up to attend or bring firewood to keep us warm!

If you've never joined us before, we hope you'll give it a try! It's a wonderful way to spend an evening enjoying the night sky, making s'mores, and sharing time with our St. Anne's family. We hope to see you there!

Due to the length of this e-news, it might be "clipped" or shortened, hiding the full content. If the message circled below appears in the lower corner of your screen, click "View entire message."

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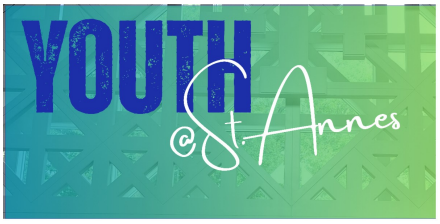
Youth @ St. Anne's: Seek First: Talking (and Listening) to God

This Sunday, November 22, 2:30-4:00, Room 1



What do our cell phones have to do with prayer? Doodling? Running? We'll explore different ways we can communicate with God, and think about the ways God communicates with us. Come prepared to share your favorite song about love.

Don't miss out on any youth group news! Join Youth @ St. Anne's Reston on the Band app by clicking here to sign up!

Adult Formation: Making and Praying with Anglican Prayer Beads

This Sunday, November 22 , 4:00 - 6:00 PM, Room 6
Requested donation of $5 per person please
Sign Up Here



Back for a third year! Join us in the sacred process of making Anglican prayer beads. Mother Anne Cooper will guide us through the holy purpose and prayer practices as we use beads 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! Please reach out to **Mtr Anne** or **Chris Cameron** with questions.

Join Us for the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

This Tuesday, November 24, 7:30 PM, United Christian Parish



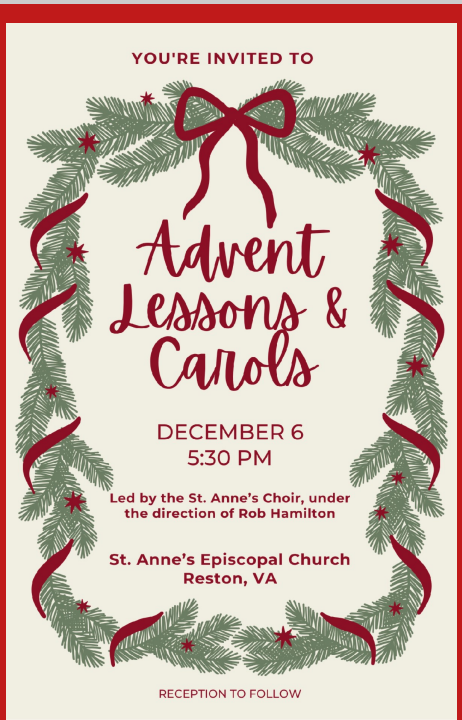
United Christian Parish in Reston is delighted to once again host the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 24, at 7:30 PM. This year it will be connected to the faith250 and our own Mtr Kara will be participating!

If you are not able to attend in person, you may **watch the livesteam here**. You can also find more information at that link.

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

Two Exciting Seasonal Events





St. Anne's Holly Jolly Christmas Party

Saturday, December 5, 6-9 PM, Great Hall

Sign up here to attend, bring a potluck item and/or volunteer in another capacity

Come join your St. Anne's family for a festive, family-friendly evening filled with food, games, music, and plenty of Christmas cheer!

We'll have a potluck dinner, Christmas carol sing-a-long, children's activities including decorating Christmas cookies, and making Christmas ornaments to decorate the Narthex Christmas tree!

In order to have a spectacular event, we could use some extra elves to help:

Are you creative? Do you like to decorate? If so, please **reach out to Eve Angerosa**.

We are also in need of people to provide unfrosted Christmas shaped sugar cookies for the children to decorate. If interested, please **contact Suzi Jones**.

Love to cook? Bake? Would you like to contribute to the potluck? **Sign up here to attend, volunteer, or bring a potluck item**.

Advent Lessons & Carols Service

Sunday, December 6, 5:30 PM, Sanctuary

As we prepare for the birth of Jesus, join us for this memorable seasonal service. Readings from the Holy Scripture, hymns, and seasonal choral music by our very own St. Anne's Choir, led by Music Director, Rob Hamilton, proclaim the coming of the Promised One, on Sunday, December 6 at 5:30 PM.

A special reception will follow the service and Java Junction is seeking volunteers for setup, hosting, and cleanup. **Sign up here** if you can help and/or bring an item to share.

Let's come together to make this a festive and memorable evening for everyone!

Gift Cards for the Holidays for Cornerstones

Deadline is Sunday, December 6



This year Cornerstones is requesting $25 gift cards from Walmart, Target, or Visa that will be distributed for children's gifts, for seniors, and for residents of the Embry Rucker Shelter. Note that this is a change from previous years when you could sign up for certain people/children and stores. This year, they've simplified it and there is no need to sign up before purchasing the gift cards.

Gifts cards can be placed in the offering plate or handed directly to Angie in church or in the office by December 6.

What an Incredible Pantry Sunday!

The St. Anne's Food Pantry was highlighted in our campaign ministry moments, volunteer recognition, and prayer during both services last Sunday, November 15.

Glen Corso and Bernadette Capelle shared a wonderful presentation in the library after each service and described the many layers of this amazing ministry, from ordering and securing food, weekly activities, outreach, volunteerism, to our big monthly Thursday distribution, and more.

In addition, an extra special Java Junction of tea sandwiches featuring food prepared with items we regularly distribute at the pantry were shared.

Don't miss this informative video created by Bernadette that highlights the many layers of our amazing pantry ministry!

THANKS to everyone who made Pantry Sunday possible!






Thanksgiving Boxes THANK YOU



Thanks so much to everyone who donated food and their time to our Thanksgiving Box Drive! On Sunday, members of our youth and other supporting adults processed our boxes and gift cards to make them ready for our delivery on Wednesday.

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

Thanks especially to Nate and the Cissel family, who spearheaded the project - we appreciate you so much!

Scouts Needed for Peace Light on December 6

Sign Up by Friday, December 4



The Peace Light from Bethlehem is a continuously burning flame, originating from the Grotto of the Nativity in Bethlehem, Israel. It is meant to promote peace, harmony, and unity among people of the world regardless of race, ethnicity, or religion.

For several decades the International Scouting movement – both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts – has actively promoted global peace and harmony through the distribution of the Peace Light, which has allowed the light to travel to over 30 European countries and the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

The Peace Light will arrive at St. Anne's at the 8 AM and 10 AM services on December 6. We are looking for Scouts to volunteer to help present the flame from Bethlehem. If you are a Boy Scout, Girl Scout, Cub Scout, or Brownie, we would love to have you join us in uniform to assist with the presentation. Please **contact Jim Hunter** for more information and to sign up.

Confirmation/Reaffirmation/Reception

Information Session: Sunday, December 6, following 8 & 10 AM services; See below for class dates



We are offering a course to prepare for the rite of Confirmation Reaffirmation Reception, which will take place on Feb. 21, 2027. The Rt. Rev'd Gayle E. Harris will preside.

All who are interested are invited to attend an information session on December 6, following both 8am and 10am services.

Classes will be held on the following dates:

- Jan. 10, 11:30am-12:30pm
- Jan. 24, 11:30am-12:30pm
- Jan. 31, 11:30am-12:30pm
- Feb. 7, 4:00pm-8:00pm (Retreat session)
- Feb. 14, 9:00am (with donuts!) - Final session

The Diocesan guidelines specify that, in general, high school is a good time to prepare for Confirmation. Our class is open to people in 8th grade and older.

Mother Kara and **Martha Furniss** will be leading the course. Please chat or email with either one of them if you have any questions.

Vestry Nominations

Due by Sunday, December 6



We're looking for the next slate of St. Anne's leaders! Could that be YOU? The Vestry serves as the legislative authority for St. Anne's parish. They oversee parish finances, care and maintain parish facilities, choose parish leadership, and assist the Rector in the nurture and extension of Christ's Church.

St. Anne's Vestry consists of 12 people in addition to the executive committee. Vestry members serve a 3-year term. Each year 4 people rotate off, and 4 new members start their 3-year terms. As a result, we are officially starting the process of accepting nominations for our 2027 Vestry. If you or someone you know would like to submit their name for consideration to the Nominating Committee, please do so by December 6th to **Mother Jess** or **Margaret Light**.

The nominating committee consists of outgoing Vestry members, the Rector, Associate Rector, and Wardens, and they determine the slate of Vestry candidates.

Centering Prayer

Wednesdays, December 2, 9, 16, 23; 8:00-8:45 AM, Family Chapel



Slow down for Advent, and join us for **Centering Prayer**. This meditative practice is a way of being aware of God's presence within us, and of seeking union with God beyond words, thoughts, and emotions.

We will meet from 8:00 am to 8:45 am in the Family Chapel on Wednesdays, December 2, 9, 16, and 23. This four-week series will serve as an introduction to the practice, so newcomers are particularly welcome.

O Come All Ye Faithful — It's Pageant Time Again!



Get ready to shine in the 2026 St. Anne's Christmas Pageant!

Join us as we bring the story of Christmas to life at the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve service — a beloved tradition here at St. Anne's filled with music, laughter, and holiday spirit!

It's not too late for your child/youth to be a part of the magic! **Register your child here and view the full rehearsal schedule**!

Come be part of the joy, the costumes, and the carols — and help make this Christmas Eve one to remember!

Kids Key Moment



This week our Sunday school students told us the story of God giving manna to the Israelites in the wilderness, because there were no grocery stores around. We also heard about how Abraham and Sarah had a baby and named him Isaac, which means laughter. And our oldest classes did a beautiful retelling of how Elisha helped to cure Naaman's leprosy, almost in spite of himself.

Diaper Ministry

Click here to purchase from our diaper wish list



In order to meet the needs of our clients with babies and young children we need size 5 and 6 diapers. Why do we always need so many size six diapers? Babies and toddlers slow down their growth rate and they stay in the large sizes much longer. Our data show that we usually give out more packages of size 6 then all the other sizes combined.

We are currently behind on our stock of diapers and we need many more cases of size six. We are also experiencing an uptick of people who come by during the week to pick up food and diapers. They may feel safer coming to the church on off days.

Thank you so much for your continued generosity!

Volunteer with The Closet

Volunteer with The Closet, a well-run thrift store that gives back to the community in countless ways. Its success depends on dedicated volunteers, and every helping hand is truly valued.

Volunteer Dates Assigned to St. Anne's

- Tuesday, December 1
- Saturday, December 26

In addition, don't miss out on the Winter Market, happening December 12!

If you and/or a friend might be interested in volunteering, please give it a try! You won't regret it! Please feel free to **reach out to Rita Smith** if you have any questions or would like to join the fun!

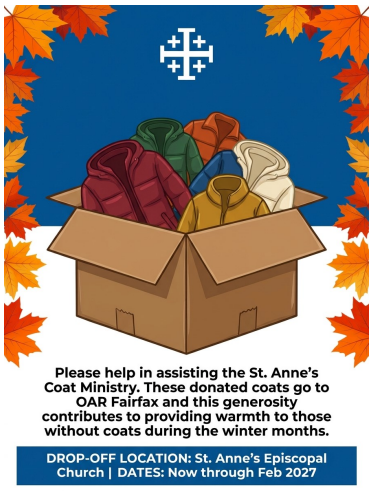
Help Provide a Warm, Fresh Start

Now thorugh Sunday, February 7, 2027

Your generosity can help provide a warm, fresh start for people who are newly released from prison.

OAR (Opportunities, Alternatives and Resources) of Fairfax is collecting gently used, clean, washable, water-resistant coats in sizes AS through AXXXXL. Please note that OAR cannot use dressy, long wool coats that require dry cleaning.

An OAR-labeled donation box is available in the Narthex now through February 7, 2027.



We are also looking for volunteers who can help pick up donated coats and deliver them to OAR in Fairfax. If this ministry speaks to you and you would like to donate coats or help with transportation, please **contact Shon Cooper**.

To learn more about OAR and the important work they do in our community, **click here**.

Seen Around St. Anne's



A beautiful expression of care and service! Terri Cox and Lee Hobrla worked their floral magic, creating lovely arrangements for last Saturday's funeral and



Bernadette Capelle preparing bags on Tuesday



Our St. Anne's youth dropping off the boxes at

Sunday's worship services. We are so grateful for our Flower Guild and the many committees and volunteers who generously share their time and talents to keep St. Anne's thriving. Thank you for all you do!

in prep for Thursday's Pantry Day. We are so grateful to Bernadette, Glen Corso, and all of our amazing pantry volunteers that help feed our neighbors in need.

Cornerstones yesterday. Thanks again to everyone who made this possible!

Have an article for next week's e-news? Please send it to Sheri no later than Noon on Monday, Nov 23, as the e-news will go out on Wednesday instead of Thursday due to Thanskgiving.

St. Anne's Vestry

Daria Antonucci, Sarah Brummett, Bernadette Capelle, Marian Egge, Rosie Horn (Jr Warden), Brandon Huffman, Margaret Light (Sr Warden), Christian Pelfrey, Suzanne Robinson, Nancy Santoro, Matt Scott, 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
Margaret Light, 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.

Have an announcement? Need to reserve space?

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 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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