

The Weekly Messenger for SAINT ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE

News and Announcements for the week of May 9, 2021

Dear People of Saint Anne's,

Fourteen months ago, we suspended in-person worship in response to the global outbreak of COVID-19. Since then, we have learned how to be the Church in a time of pandemic, developing new ways to connect online and through live broadcasts. Truly, throughout this journey, we have learned and grown and changed. We are not the same people we were in March 2020, and so we are not the same church. Although perhaps in different ways, all of us have been impacted by the Coronavirus. Many of us continue to feel the weight of it. Because the crisis is still very much with us, some of us cannot yet process our experience. Such healing work may need to wait until the threat of the virus diminishes further. Thanks to advances in science and medicine, we have access to vaccines, which are proving effective.

On this Sunday, May 9, 2021, we begin regathering for in-person worship. This next step is a source of hope and joy—hope that the world will continue to heal and joy that we can begin to come back together again. Right now, we have nine families registered for the 8:00 AM service (we have one space remaining) and one family registered for the 5:00 PM service (we have nine spaces remaining). Sunday is Mother's Day, which accounts for why so few people have signed up for the 5:00 PM service.

This week, in response to an announcement from the Governor, our Bishop has revised the Diocesan regathering guidelines. Effective Sunday, May 23, building capacity restrictions are lifted, six feet of social distancing is reduced to three feet, and congregations may sing. Mask wearing and keeping three feet of distance remains in effect (so no hugging or handshaking or fellowship hour yet). The Vestry and I meet on Wednesday, May 19, and we will review our *Guidelines for In-Person Worship*, announcing any changes we may make. Also, beginning in June, we are installing a new audio/visual system in the sanctuary to support our ongoing live broadcast ministry. Once this system is in place, the Vestry and I will discuss opening the Sunday 9:30 AM worship service for in-person worship. We are also discussing holding the Sunday 5:00 PM worship service outside at Old Saint Anne's Church, weather permitting.

And so, my friends, much has been done; much remains to do. I am grateful to Celeste, Damien, Nancy, Cindy, our Wardens and Vestry, and our ministers who continue to work so hard for our church and community. I am also grateful for your goodwill, generosity, and support. Everything we have accomplished, we have accomplished together.

Peace, *Russ+*

Sunday Forum

Following the 9:30 AM Sunday worship service, join by Zoom with Saint Anne's clergy and congregation members for fellowship and conversation. As well as chatting and catching up with how everyone is doing, we will also have time to discuss questions arising from the Scripture readings and sermon. Everyone is welcome. [Click Here to Join.](#)

Reservations for the 8:00 AM or 5:00 PM Worship Services

On Tuesdays, the Church Office will send an email that includes links to register for the 8:00 AM or 5:00 PM worship services. In the email, click on the service you want to attend and follow the instructions. Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Space is limited. Our sanctuary accommodates ten spaces, each of which seats one to four people. Thus, depending on the number of parishioners who want to attend in-person worship, we may need to take turns coming to church. As we take these next steps, we will need to continue to be patient, generous, and gracious with each other.

New Organ Matching Grant Opportunity

A Saint Anne's parishioner is offering the congregation a \$12,500 dollar-for-dollar matching grant toward the cost of the new organ. If we collect \$12,500 in donations for the new organ, this parishioner will donate an additional \$12,500. To capitalize on this generous gift, we are asking all of you, as you are able, to make a donation to Saint Anne's for the cost of the new organ. In the memo line of your check, please write "New Organ." All contributions to Saint Anne's are tax-deductible. If you have questions, please contact the church office. Thank you!



Food Bag Ministry



Please purchase food to donate while you are shopping for yourself; please do not make a special trip to the store. Items most needed right now are: jelly, canned pasta, canned soup, canned vegetables & canned or dried fruit. Other nice to have items: "instant style sides" such as mashed potatoes, rice, noodles. *Our next Food Bag distribution will be on Tuesday, May 11.* If you have questions, please call the church office. Please drop off food at the Church Office-located at the side entrance on S. Cox Street - Monday through Thursday between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. Thank you for your support in this important ministry to our community.



Everyone on Facebook be sure to "like" our Saint Anne's Church page.
[Click Here to go to the Saint Anne's Facebook Page](#)

Parish Prayers

We pray for Meta Barrow, Toni Crane, Donald Davis, Sr., Dan Fisher, Velma Johnson, Carolyn Lange, Barbara McGinnis, Jean McGinnis, Alena Quintero, Charlie Repp, Stan Ricks, Elizabeth Roberts, Anthony Smith, Diane Smith, Fern Toner-Horisk, Larry & Sue Osborn, Christine Tschampel, Alan White, Mark Woodward, Ray Woodward, Clare, Phyllis & Verna.

We pray for Erlene Jones who has died.

In the Episcopal Church in Delaware, we pray for Saint Anne's and Saint Andrew's Schools, and for Saint James' Church, Newport.

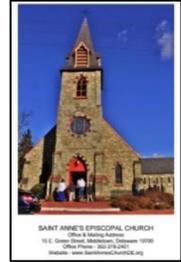
In the Anglican Communion, we pray for The Anglican Church of Kenya.

Online Church Directory

Stay connected with our church community by using the Saint Anne's Church password protected online church directory.

<https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com>

If you have any questions, please contact the Church Office, 302-378-2401.



Parish Staff and Leadership

Rector: The Rev. Russell Bohner, TSSF

Minister of Music: Damien Jones

Minister for Children & Youth: Mandy Catalfamo

Senior Warden: Gary Stover

Treasurer: Mark Cavanaugh

Priest-in-Residence: The Rev. Celeste Cox

Minister for the Office: Nancy Koenig

Sexton: Cindy Cruz

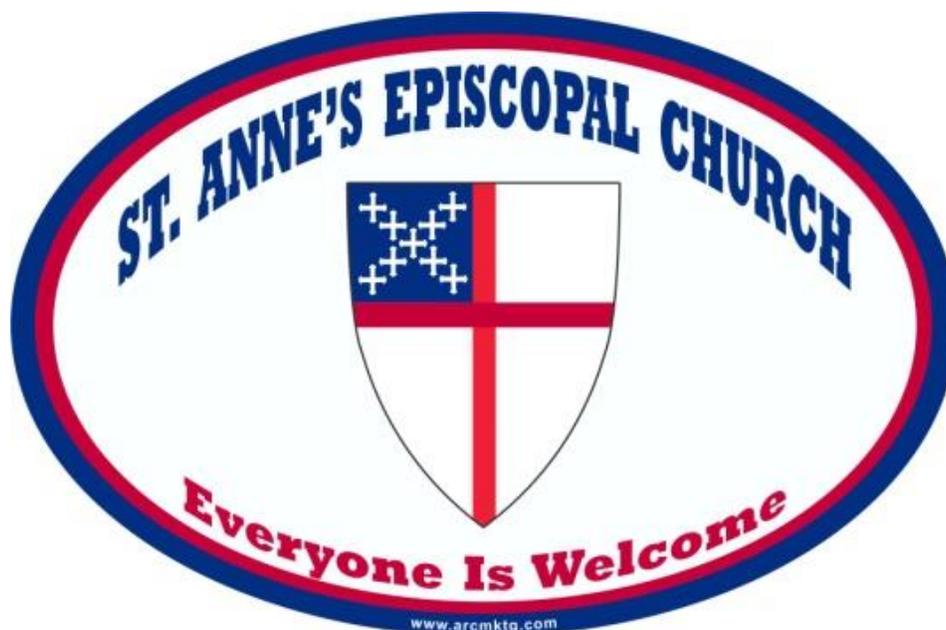
Junior Warden: Julie Quackenbush

Office & Mailing Address - 15 E. Green Street, Middletown, Delaware 19709

Office Hours - Monday through Thursday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Office Phone - 302-378-2401

www.SaintAnnesChurchDE.org



Church Calendar for the Week of May 9

www.SaintAnnesChurchDE.org

<https://www.facebook.com/saintannes1705/>

Sunday, May 9 - The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist: Rite I—8:00 AM

In-Person-Reservations Required

Sunday Children's Worship—8:50 AM

Broadcast Live through the Church's Website

Holy Eucharist: Rite II—9:30 AM

Broadcast Live through the Church's Website and Facebook Page

Sunday Forum—10:45 AM

Broadcast Live through Zoom [Click Here to Join.](#)

Holy Eucharist: Rite II—5:00 PM

In-Person-Reservations Required

Tuesday, May 11

Centering Prayer by Zoom—6:00 PM

Thursday, May 13

Bible Study by Zoom—8:00 AM

Bible Study LIVE—10:00 AM

The Daily Office of Evening Prayer LIVE—6:00 PM

Bible Study by Zoom—6:30 PM

Sunday, May 16 - The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist: Rite I—8:00 AM

In-Person-Reservations Required

Sunday Children's Worship—8:50 AM

Broadcast Live through the Church's Website

Holy Eucharist: Rite II—9:30 AM

Broadcast Live through the Church's Website and Facebook Page

Sunday Forum—10:45 AM

Broadcast Live through Zoom

Holy Eucharist: Rite II—5:00 PM

In-Person-Reservations Required

Youth Group 7th & 8th—6:00 PM

Youth Group High School—7:00 PM