

ST. ANNE'S EYE

Proclaiming the Stories of God's Love

at St. Anne's Episcopal Church,
Trexlerstown, Pennsylvania

INFORM INVOLVE INSPIRE

Summer 2017

Continuing on our journey of discipleship

Throughout Lent and Holy Week, we have heard the stories of how the disciples and others misunderstood Jesus' message. Time and time again Jesus addressed the way the people misunderstood God's will. This culminated in the crucifixion. Even in his post-resurrectional appearances his closest friends failed to recognize him. It makes you wonder how the church ever got started.

Throughout the history of the church, its faithful members struggled with living Jesus' message as times and the world changed. Christians and Christianity have survived (and even thrived) despite persecutions, corrupt leaders, crusades, heresies, manipulation by governments, reformations, counter-reformations, schisms, divisions, etc. How is this possible?

The key to living our faith is simple. Recall what Jesus said before he ascended to heaven: "I will be with you always, to the end of the age" (Mt 28:20). God is with us. He is with us when we listen and follow him and even more so when we don't. He is very patient and loving. God has been with and guided the church as he promised. As times and people changed, his love remained constant. His message is relevant in every age. If we think of how society and people have changed in the past 2000 years and the fact that the church has grown using the same Scripture, we can be reassured that God is with us today.

Regardless of what is going on in the world, who is in power, what knowledge or technology is available, God is with us. He is guiding us. The real question is not: "Is God with us?", but "What is God saying to us?" How do we live as loving and faithful followers of Jesus today?

The only way to truly be faithful followers is to "follow" and be his disciples in this age. All too often we pursue "our faith" by doing and believing what pleases us. Essential to an honest discipleship is imitating Jesus. Using his words and treatment of others is the key to being a faithful follower. When we imitate Christ, we assure we are his true followers. We need to listen to the Word of God and focus on the actions of Jesus. Jesus puts the Word of God into action. That is why John acknowledges

Jesus as the Word of God made flesh. We need to listen to the Word of God and be faithful to God's direction.

In the coming months, we will focus on discerning the next steps we need to follow in our journey of discipleship. God is with us and will show us the way. Like many churches, St. Anne's is in a time of transition. We are invited to put our faith and trust in God.



St. Anne's mission states "As a family of Christian faith, we seek to be renewed and formed by the Holy Spirit. We worship and pray together. We share God's love and gifts with our neighbors far and near. We support and care for all of God's people".



Community outreach involves giving of one's time, talent and money to those less in need or fortunate than ourselves. God has given us all many different talents. That, as a Christian community, God has asked us to use, not only for our own benefit, but for the good of others. Our local communities have many people who are in need of help in many

different ways. We at St. Anne's give of our time and talents to help fill these needs. We give in our local community with things like the monthly Bread Run's (delivering bread and pastries from Giant to the Salvation Army), blood drives, collecting items for pediatric cancer patients or backpacks for the homeless, Meals on Wheels, Diaper drive, Advent Tree to name just a few. When a need is brought to the attention of the Outreach Team we do all we can to provide the appropriate services at the appropriate time.

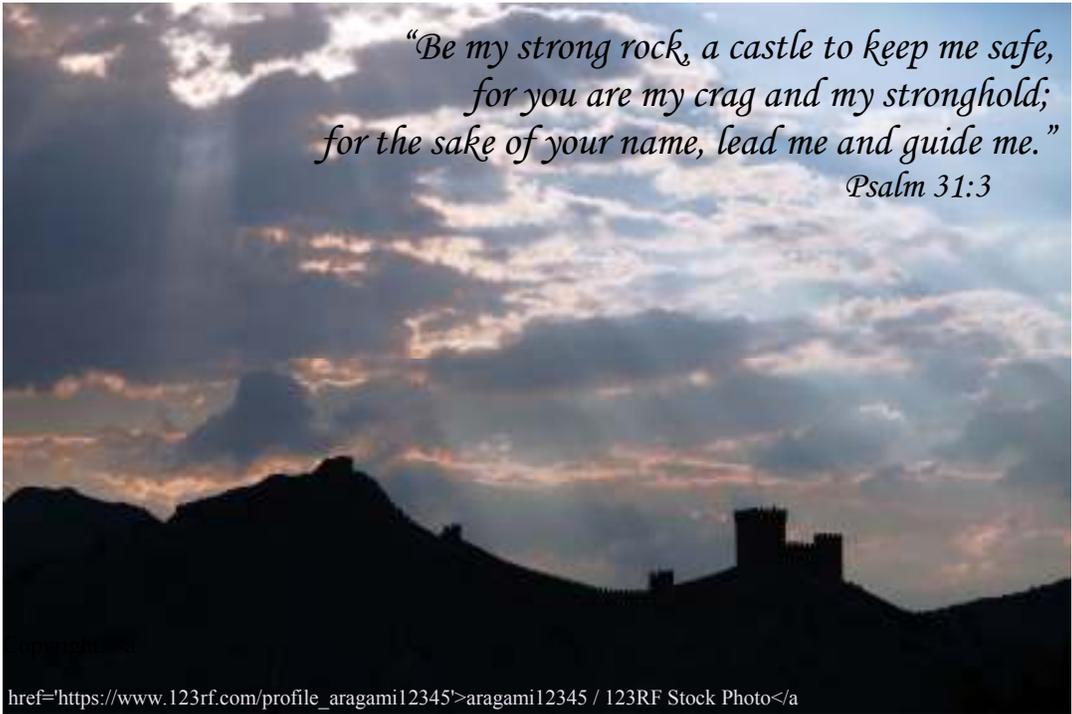
... the Sharing of God's love and gifts

As per our mission statement, we not only look to our local community, but to global needs of other communities. We do this in conjunction with Episcopal diocese through the United Thank Offering, cell phones for soldiers, Doctors Without Borders, Pediatric Cancer Foundation of the Lehigh Valley, Mary's Shelter, Salvation Army, Church World Services, Episcopal Relief and Development, Wounded Warrior Project, New Bethany Ministries, Jefferson School Christmas, Crop Walk, Souper Bowl of Caring, African Palms, Numerous local food banks, LVCC soup kitchen, Trinity Episcopal Bethlehem (toiletries and non-perishables), Sole Hope and many more.

Our parishioners are one of our main sources for identifying needs inside and outside our community. They give their time and talent to a variety of projects and charities and through them we find ways to help. The Outreach Team looks to them as a constant source of new ideas and needs in our community and abroad.

Jesus spread the need for looking outside ourselves and using our time and talents to help those in need. Per Matthew 25:40 ... "I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these followers of mine, you did it for me".

"Seeking our Lord's guidance in identifying those in need and using our prayers and resources to fill those needs is the "Path Our Faith Takes".



*"Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me."
Psalm 31:3*

*In recognition of
Fr. Don Knapp's
60th Anniversary
of Ordination
May 27, 2017*

*Our hearts are full of
thanksgiving for you
and your
loving service to
St. Anne's Family
Congratulations!*

Capital Campaign Update

The following are updates to the four remaining Capital Campaign projects:

1. Upgrades to the bathrooms:

A meeting was held with the architect in December where we discussed the project and shared church drawings. The architect proceeded to make inquiries regarding permitting requirements and assessed project feasibility. In January, we agreed to proceed with the architect's proposal to develop two or three design options. Design options should be completed in March for our review. Once a selection is made, the architect will proceed to develop detailed plans and drawings for the construction phase. Construction is targeted to start sometime in late spring.

2. Improvements to the landscaping:

The landscaping scope was finalized in December. A landscaper was selected and a purchase order signed in January. Details regarding specific plant and shrub selection are currently under development. Work will begin early in the spring, weather permitting.

3. Installation of an electronic programmable sign:

A scope was developed and two bids have been received. We are proceeding to secure a bid from a third supplier. Once all three bids are in they will be compared and one selected. This option will be shared with the congregation for comments prior to proceeding. Construction is scheduled for late spring.

4. Refurbishment of the playground equipment:

Due to cost constraints, we are attempting to secure near new, but used playground equipment from the East Penn School District. The Cambridge School building on Lower Macungie Road is being sold. The school district is assessing whether to relocate some (not all) of the existing playground equipment at the site. Once their decision is finalized, we would be able to secure the remaining equipment from the new owner.

Further updates will be provided as these projects continue through their execution phase.



AUGUST 7 - 11, 2017

This summer our camp theme is "Hero Central: Discover your strength in God!" At VBS Hero Central, the children will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they discover their strength in God. They will become Heroes and explore how to serve God and God's mission for their lives.

Camp is once again open to children ages 4 - 11. Half day sessions run from 9am - noon. Youth ages 12-17 may volunteer to help as a Counselor-in-training free of charge.

Registration forms are available online and at church. Sign up early! Space is limited!



18087
ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
P.O. BOX 368, TREXLERTOWN, PA

IN MEMORIAM

Margaret Krick, March 6, 2017

Elvire "Elfie" Maniatty, March 6, 2017

Thomas Buskaritz, March 12, 2017



CALENDAR

June 9: Iron Pigs Game

June 10: Blood Drive

June 11: Kids Craft Sunday

June 16: Family Service

June 17: Golf Outing, Iron Lakes Country Club

June 25: Parish Picnic, Lone Lane Park

10:00 a.m. Eucharist in the park

August 7 - 11: Vacation Bible School

www.stannesepiscopal.net

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This newsletter is published quarterly
by St. Anne's Episcopal Church.

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Paul Persico, Senior Warden

Colette Shepherd, Administrative Assistant

Virginia Knapp, Music Ministry

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SERVICES

Sundays: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. The Holy Eucharist and
Sermon

10:00 a.m. Church School

September - May