



424 W. Market St.
Warsaw, IN 46580-2831



Christmas Eve Mass

December 24, 2022

7 p.m.

Christmas Day Mass

December 25, 2022

10 a.m.

**Our Vision Statement: We share the Light of Christ
by giving hope, bringing joy, and loving each other.**

**Our Mission Statement: Through the
Holy Spirit, we invite all to share the Gospel,
celebrate life, and serve the Lord in our
neighborhood, community, and the world.**

Our Beliefs:
We uphold the
Anglican tradition,
demonstrated
through the liturgy,
expressed through
the Nicene Creed
and the Apostles'
Creed, and
celebrated through
the sacraments.

We Value:
Shared ministry
between the clergy
and the laity,
development of
our youth,
diversity
and inclusion,
relationships
built through
fellowship.



Greetings in the name of the one who was and who is and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord!

You may have heard at one time or another that the church is counter-cultural, meaning that we actively oppose or refuse to conform to what the mass culture “outside” is doing. And yes, we do a lot of things in church that don’t get done much in the rest of the world. We have beliefs, rituals, and ceremonies that might seem a little strange to someone who’s never been to church before. And most notably, we adhere to a calendar that begins with the First Sunday of Advent, which always falls on either the last Sunday in November or the first Sunday in December.

But even more counter-cultural is the mood and meaning of the Advent season. As the world around us brings out the Christmas trees and decorations earlier and earlier (we can’t count on that being saved for at least after Thanksgiving), our spiritual emphases center on much different things – quiet contemplation and sobering Scripture texts about Christ’s return to judge the living and the dead. It is not until the Fourth Sunday of Advent that we are explicitly directed toward the birth of Christ.

The celebration of Christmas dates at least back to the fourth century; the earliest such celebration recorded was in Rome in 336, and it was in December. It wasn’t until the eighth century that the observance of Advent was widespread throughout the Church, despite it being observed in Gaul for several centuries already. The length of time prescribed to prepare for Christ’s birth varied, with some calendars observing a Lent-like forty days (pushing Advent far back into November); eventually, though, the widespread norm became four weeks and virtually all liturgical Western Christians maintain this today.

The influence of the Second Vatican Council (1962-65), however, has made Advent less of a “second Lent” by downplaying the emphasis on penitence and focusing instead on hope-filled anticipation of Christ’s coming. Vestiges of the observation of Advent as a penitential season carry on to this day in the Episcopal Church. While the austere, sparse aesthetics of the season – together with its often fiery Scriptural themes – would suggest penitence, it is, in fact not a “second Lent” because preparation, not penitence, is the proper posture for the season. However, if you choose to prepare for Christ’s birth with penitence, you may, but remember that there is no Way of the Cross or similar devotions for Advent.

Multiple theories about the date of Christmas have circulated for centuries, but evidence suggests that, prior to the widespread celebration of Christmas, the Church celebrated the Annunciation of Jesus’ conception by the angel Gabriel to Mary – the established date for which was March 25. Logic would dictate, therefore, that Jesus would be born nine months later, which gets us to December 25. Both dates’ proximity to the vernal equinox and the winter solstice, respectively, have resulted in speculation about the timing of Christian feasts being related somehow to earlier pagan celebrations. I prefer not to go there in a newsletter article such as this...

Where I will go, though, is toward encouraging you to be counter-cultural in some way, especially by keeping the spirit of Advent alive in your hope-filled and quiet (or quiet as possible) preparation for our Lord’s birth at Christmas. Whether Christ comes to us as Righteous Judge or New-born King, it really makes no difference, as God’s providential hand is at work in both. We pray that we prepare for and receive him with a hopeful heart and a peaceful mind, and proclaim his gracious benefits every day!



Advent and Nativity blessings,
The Rev. Ryan D. Fischer, Rector

THE VISITOR

Winter Issue 2022-2023



EVENTS IN FOCUS

SAMS & ECW ADVENT DINNER

On Sunday, December 4, following one service at 10 a.m. SAMS and ECW will host our Annual Advent Dinner. This is a family-friendly event. SAMS provides the meat, potatoes, vegetable and salad. ECW provides the desserts.

Again this year, Steve Shelby crafted a beautiful brass wall hanging of a mother and child to raise funds for the Priest's Discretionary Fund. The drawing will be held at the Advent Dinner.



For a chance to take this home, please see Steve Shelby after services.

ADVENT GREENS AND CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS



If you would like to donate money towards our decorations, please place your donation marked "Advent/Christmas" flowers in an envelope. They are available in your offering envelope box or there is a stack of extra envelopes on the tile table in the narthex.

Also include if you would like your gift given in memory of or thanksgiving for someone or something. We will include this in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Please have all donations into the church office by December 20.

We will have arrangements of evergreens during the season of Advent. For the celebration of Christ's birth, we will have Christmas trees, beautiful flowers and greenery.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, December 11, following the 10:15 a.m. service we will decorate the church for the Fourth Sunday of Advent Lessons and Carols and Christmas Eve Mass. We need folks that can put the trees together, fluff them and make sure that the lights shine brightly. We also hang greens from the balcony and make our space joyful and festive. Please, if you would like to help, please sign up on the bulletin board. Following the decorating, we will go out for lunch.

ADVENT PACKETS

At the Advent dinner on December 4, we will have gifts for each person to take home. On an advent wreath the first purple candle reminds us of Hope and the promises God keeps to us; the second purple candle is for Peace that reminds us to prepare to receive God. The pink candle is for Joy that is for the joy that the season of Advent brings and the fourth candle is purple that reminds us that God loved us enough to send his only Son, Jesus.

There will also be a Christmas ornament for each person to remind them of the Christmas season.



CHEESEBALL MIXING AND ROLLING

Monday, December 4 and Tuesday, December 5 will be our last mixing and rolling for 2022. If you've always wanted to help but never have, this is the opportunity to try it out.

The mixing crew gathers in the afternoon between 4-5 p.m. to measure the ingredients and mix them together to be stored overnight in tubs in our walk-in freezer. The next morning they are pulled out to bring them to a nice temperature for the rolling crew to do their part.

The rolling crew gathers around 5 p.m. and consists of five or six tables of people. One takes a handful of cheese to roll into a ball and place it into a bowl. Another adds the parsley and nuts and places a lid on top.

We have folks that put the labels on the lids, others that keep the tables stocked with supplies. One or two take the containers of cheeseballs down to the freezer to store until they are sold.

The wonderful kitchen crew (usually a group of men), scrape the excess cheese out of the tubs and then run them through the dishwasher, dry and put them away until next time.

This is a great opportunity to meet fellow parishioners and you can purchase one of the freshest cheeseballs in the country made right here at St. Anne's.

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATES

- Gabbett, Polly: 1990 Southhampton Dr. Rm 87, Columbia, MO 65203 Phone: 574-267-8967
- Meyer, Deb & Stout, Lorrie: 10473 Echo Dock Loop, San Antonio, FL 33576
- Schmidt, Samuel & McKenna: 2507 Eugenia Ave., Nashville, TN 37211
- Victa, Shawn & Laurie, Sydney, Sutton & Hudson: 1614 Springhill Rd., Warsaw, IN 46580, email: laurievicta@hotmail.com phone: 434-607-9473

ST. ANNE'S VESTRY

Greg Ellis - Sr. Warden
gsske1@gmail.com

Dan Kuhn - Co-Jr. Warden
dfkuhn@embarqmail.com

Through 2022

Sandra Buchanan sbuchanan75@yahoo.com

*Pam Nichols pnicknola@gmail.com

Mark Norris norismm@grace.edu

Through 2023

Chuck Brindle brindle.igr@@gmail.com

David Hummel dmahummel@@hotmail.com

Through 2024

Cheryl Hastings bchastings6@comcast.net

Jay Rigdon aldenjr4@embarqmail.com

Pam Vosler pammermom@gmail.com

* Clerk of the Vestry

ST. ANNE'S STAFF

Revd. Ryan Fischer - Rector
rector@stanneswarsaw.org

Carol Bianchini - Parish Administrator
office@stanneswarsaw.org

Bob Jarboe - Director of Music
rjarboe@koshomecare.org

PARISH OFFICE

Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Phone: (574) 267-6266

Fax: (574) 268-0714

Email: office@stanneswarsaw.org

www.stanneswarsaw.org

TREASURER & ASST. TREASURER

Gary Proietti - Treasurer
gary_proietti@yahoo.com

Pam Hester - Asst. Treasurer
phester1023@gmail.com

WORSHIP

Sundays:

The Holy Eucharist: Rite I
8 a.m.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II
10:15 a.m.

Christian Formation

[grades K-6] Atrium III will meet during Holy Eucharist at 10:15 and join the worship service at the peace.

[grades 7 - 12] Rose Hall from September - May 11:20 a.m. - Noon

December 18, 2022

Advent IV

8 a.m. Advent Lessons and Prayers with Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m. Advent Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist

December 24, 2022

Christmas Eve

7 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass

December 25, 2022

Christmas Day

10 a.m. Mass

THANK YOU TO:

- ♦ Dan Kuhn for organizing a “Parish Life Event” to take a ride on the Dixie.
- ♦ Miechi Petro and Kathy Kallenberg for taking care of our beautiful flowers in the large flower pots.
- ♦ Those who mixed, rolled, bought or sold cheeseballs this year.
- ♦ Everyone who participated and signed up to serve at the “Stewardship Ministries Fair”.
- ♦ Our delegates, Sandra Buchanan, Pam Vosler and Pam Nichols who attended Diocesan Convention.
- ♦ The Special Events Committee, those who decorated, prepared food, performed their talent, and cleaned up for the Open Mic Night on November 4. It was a fun and festive stewardship celebration.
- ♦ All who gave donations and helped pack the Thanksgiving baskets for our November outreach.
- ♦ Mark and Ellen Wease for organizing the funeral luncheon for the Lindsay family after John’s service.

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

REFLECTIONS BIBLE STUDY Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. in the parlor.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING Second Sundays, following each service, December 11, January 8 and February 12.

SAMS & ECW MEETINGS Thursdays, December 1, January 5 and February 2, at 6:30 p.m. in Rose Hall.

ADVENT DINNER SUNDAY, December 4, following one service at 10 a.m.

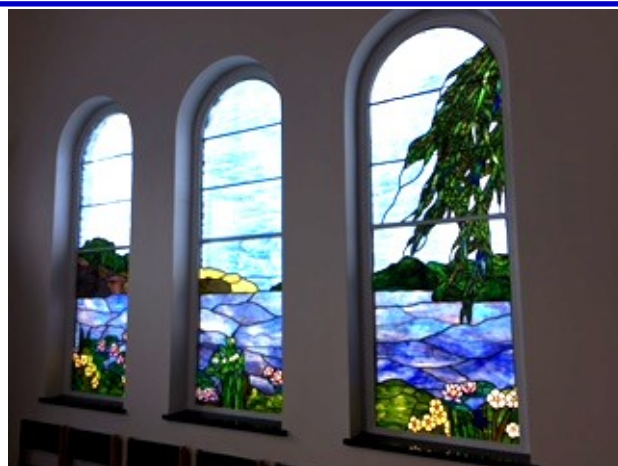
VESTRY MEETINGS December 15 at 6 p.m. in the parlor. January and February TBD.

LENT & EASTER The deadline for the next issue of “The Visitor” will be Wednesday, February 1. Please submit all articles for consideration to office@stanneswarsaw.org. Thank you.

OFFICE CLOSED The office will be closed Tuesday, December 27, through Wednesday, January 4 in observance of Christmas and New Years and staff vacations. **A year end deposit will be made for contributions on Friday, December 30 at 11 a.m. Please have all contributions that you wish to be in 2022 to the parish office by 9 a.m.**

GIFTING ST. ANNE’S IN YOUR WILL

St. Anne’s makes a difference in the lives of people. Your contributions help support the many ministries of our church to the wider community. Please remember St. Anne’s in your will. You can make a gift to St. Anne’s AND earn income for the rest of your life! Ask Brenda Rigdon how. Call Brenda at Kosciusko County Community Foundation at 574-267-1901.



BLUE CHRISTMAS

As the holiday season approaches, do you find it difficult to be in the “holiday mood”?

Sometimes it’s hard to celebrate the birth of the Christ child if you are grieving over the loss of a loved one. If you are struggling to get through the holiday, Bob Jarboe, former spiritual counselor for Kosciusko Home Care and Hospice, began offering this service many years ago. He will again lead a “Blue Christmas” service here at St. Anne’s. It will be a time of remembrance of the loved ones who will not be with us this year. Traditionally held on the longest night of the year, December 21.

The service will begin at 7 p.m. in the chapel at St. Anne’s.

DIOCESAN WINTER YOUTH RETREAT

This year’s retreat for middle school and high school youth will be held January 13-15 at the Wawasee Episcopal Center in Syracuse, IN. Register on line at www.ednin.org or Facebook: Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana Sr. High Youth page. The cost is \$25 and medical forms are available on the gift counter in Rose Hall. If you have questions, contact Carol Bianchini.



2022 ANNUAL MEETING

On January 29, worship will begin at 9 a.m., followed by a carry-in brunch and meeting. Please sign up in Rose Hall to bring a dish to share.

Leaders Needed!

At our January Annual Meeting we will be voting on new Vestry Members. We will have five openings on the Vestry, three are for three year terms and one person will serve a one year term. A new Sr. Warden will be appointed.

If you feel that God is calling you to serve your church in a leadership role, please fill out the application form, available on the tile table by the ushers and turn it in to the Parish Administrator, either in her mailbox above the drinking fountain on the second floor, or if the office is open, drop it off to Carol directly. Biographies must be emailed to the Parish Administrator by January 1 in order to be posted.

The Vestry meets once per month, except we take July and November off. Every Vestry member is expected to serve on a parish ministry committee.

Committees are: Christian Formation and Education, Communications and Public Relations, Stewardship, Building and Grounds, Worship and Liturgy, Parish Life Special Events and Outreach. If you would like to see a description of the duties of these committees, email the parish office.

The Vestry works together, with our Rector, to take care of governance issues, set policies and achieve our mission. We approve the budget every December for the upcoming year. And we raise up the next group of leaders by asking them to serve on our committees with us.

We listen to the members of our congregation when they have an idea, issue or a problem and bring that information to the board.

It is rewarding work. It is not a major time commitment, although some months the load is a bit heavier than others. This is an exciting time to be a leader at St. Anne’s. Please prayerfully consider stepping up to serve.

MINISTRY NEWS

SENIOR WARDEN Greg Ellis, Sr. Warden

As we near the end of the year and prepare for the Advent season I want to thank everyone for all the time, talents and treasure you have given to the church and community. From the annual sale and the soup kitchen to all our monthly outreach programs. We aren't done yet as we wrap up our cheeseball project and get ready to prepare our Thanksgiving outreach. It's been a wonderful year for St. Anne's and I'm looking forward to an even better 2023.

Blessing to you all,
Greg Ellis
Sr. Warden

CARE COMMITTEE Cheryl Hastings

The Care Committee is available to provide rides to medical appointments, pick up prescriptions or groceries and provide other help as needed. If there is a task that we can help you with, please contact the church office.

In October, St. Anne's sponsored a table at the Big Brothers / Big Sisters BIG Celebration and eight members of St. Anne's learned more about the important work being done in our community by BBBS. If you are interested in becoming a Big Brother, Big Sister or lunch buddy please contact the church office.

Also in October, a team from St. Anne's helped pack **794,016** meals for hungry children through Feed My Starving Children's Warsaw Mobile Pack. These meals were recently shipped to non-profit organizations serving the needs of children and families in the countries of Haiti, Uganda, Nicaragua, Malawi and Lesotho. Thank you to everyone who helped pack meals or donated to feed hungry children around the world.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Children's formation began in November for K-6 grade with Marla Norris in Atrium III on the second floor on the west side of the skylight. They meet during the 10:15 a.m. service and join their family during the "Peace". Jr. and Sr. High Youth gather following the 10:15 service bi-weekly.

I DON'T KNOW THAT HYMN! Bob Jarboe, Director of Music

One of the difficulties music directors (or pastors for that matter) have is selecting music for the worship service. There are thousands of hymns (or music appropriate for use as hymns) out there. Selecting hymns that are appropriate for the service is a daunting task and as a result, there are times hymns are chosen that the worshiper does not know. In all my years as a pastor and now as a music director, I continue to receive feedback regarding unknown hymns. I have heard of one situation where a music director, upon hearing that the hymn is unknown in the congregation, has torn that page out of the hymnal so that it would not be used again. How tragic! I hope that we understand that hymns are put in a hymnal for a purpose. One is that the committee forming the hymnal believe that the hymn text is important enough to be included. Another is that the hymn is relevant to the lectionary or the church season. Another is that traditionally and historically, the hymn is loved by the worshiper. Then also, they need to look at its singability. I would not want to be on the committee to choose 700+ hymns out of thousands to be included in a book for worship!

There is one hymn in the United Methodist hymnal about which I have asked, "Why in the world is this hymn included?" The words are totally depressing and it is one of the most difficult to sing. I encountered one of the pastors who was on the hymnal committee and asked him why it was included. His answer, "Well, you just had to be there...then you would understand." I didn't understand!

When a hymn appears in the service that you do not know, what do you do? I have heard that some just sit in their pew in defiance with the hymnal in their lap---shut. I hope this is not what you do.

I challenge you to do this. When this situation occurs, open your hymnal and look at the hymn. Ask yourself, "Why was this hymn chosen?" As the hymn is being sung by those who do know the tune, follow along reading the words. How do the words fit the lectionary...the sermon...the church season...the place in the worship service? Usually the hymn has about four verses. After two verses, try to sing along...who knows...you may like it!

FALL PHOTOS



Left: Emma Bauman serve as a Gift Presenter with her grandparents Greg & Syd Ellis.



Right & Below: Volunteers for Feed My Starving Children.



Left: FMSC It was fun to be a part of making a difference.

Right: Carol presented AWL with a check and donations of items.



Left: Congratulations to Fritz and Annie Maxwell on their marriage.

Right: Graham Longenberger was baptized at the Feast of All Saints.

Below: Congratulations to Samuel & McKenna Schmidt on their marriage.



STEWARDSHIP

Brenda Rigdon

More Than Enough

I think every Mom has at least one super power. My Mom’s was the unfailing ability to make sure there was always enough food on the table—even if someone unexpectedly showed up right at dinner time. An extra pork chop and baked potato would seemingly magically appear just in time. I have been a Mom for over 30 years myself now, and I still can’t figure out how she did it. How she made it work.

Sometimes it feels like funding the church budget requires super powers too. Relying on plate offerings during the Covid age is stressful for the church staff and our volunteers Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

That makes it even more important for everyone to prayerfully consider filling out a Pledge/ Promise card and turn it in to the office. You can mail it in, drop it off, or place it in the offering plate at the back of the church.

When we have a more concrete idea of the financial support we can expect to receive over the course of the next year, it makes it so much easier to plan our programming, our staffing and our on-going maintenance projects in this wonderful aging building we call home.

So, in the spirit of this year’s Stewardship Campaign Theme of More Than Enough—I am asking you to make a written commitment to support the work of the Body of Christ in this place, St. Anne’s Episcopal Church. May God bless you abundantly this Thanksgiving season.

OUTREACH DOLLARS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Thank you for giving generously to our outreach ministries! In September, October and November, St. Anne’s gave:

- \$1920 to Habitat for Humanity
- \$750 to Feed My Starving Children
- \$800 to Big Brother & Big Sisters
- \$1055 to Warsaw Community School for their Student Pantry needs.

Continued

- \$872.82 was spent to purchase groceries for the Salvation Army Food Pantry.
- \$227.38 was spent to purchase towels, washcloths and clothes baskets for St. Margaret’s House.
- \$810 along with pet supplies was given to the Animal Welfare League to support their ministry with pets.
- \$578 in rental and utility assistance was given to those in need in our community.
- On November 20 we will be giving away 200 Thanksgiving Baskets to those in need in our community. Along with the food items that we are giving, we are also giving each family a \$35 Food Only voucher to purchase the meat and other food items that they need for their family. Please hold each of these families in your prayers as you celebrate your own thanksgiving.

PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Are you receiving our e-mail “Prayers & Concerns”? If not, please send a note to the office with your e-mail address and the request to be on the “Prayers & Concerns” list. This e-mail shares information about those who have asked to let our parish family know that they need prayer. We are also sending written copies of “Prayers & Concerns” to all parishioners who are homebound.

There are also cards on the gift counter for parishioners to send to other parishioners that are on your mind. It’s always nice to know someone is thinking about you. If you’d like to include a prayer request for a certain person in our parish family, please get their approval first, then submit it in writing to the church office by e-mail or call.

2023 ALTAR FLOWER CHART

Did you know that you can sponsor the flowers that adorn the altar each Sunday? The 2023 Altar Flower Chart is posted in Rose Hall on the bulletin board.

VESTRY NOTES

Pam Nichols, Clerk of the Vestry

December is right around the corner and the busy holiday season is upon us. Your Vestry will be approving the 2023 budget at our December meeting. When the budget is presented at the Annual Meeting, it is just a report since the Vestry has already approved it. I guess you could call that a "fun fact" about how the Episcopal Church conducts business! You, as voting members of St. Anne's, elect new Vestry members each year at the annual meeting. Three new members are elected each year to serve 3 year terms. Six Vestry members continue their service for one or two years so that there is always some continuity. If you would like to learn more about how the business end of the church works, consider running for the Vestry and becoming an active participant!

Having served on Vestry more than once I can tell you that it is rewarding service to consider and be involved in the inner workings of the day to day operation of our beloved St. Anne's. By reaching out to parishioners and hearing their concerns and suggestions, you learn to care even more about carrying on our ministries and programs.

Now is the time to prayerfully consider throwing your hat in the ring! You must be a confirmed/ received pledging member of St. Anne's in good standing and at least 16 years old. January 1 is the deadline for declaring your intention. If you have any questions, speak to Fr. Ryan or any Vestry member.



Above: Chuck Brindle & Jay Rigdon



Below: Marc Vosler & Fr. Ryan pay a few tunes



Left: Joy Craig stole the show singing “I’m Just a Girl Who Can’t Say No”.



Right: Dan Kuhn hiding behind the music stand.

Below: Bob Jarboe

Cathy Carter

SAMS donated funds to Feed My Starving Children and to the Animal Welfare League. Did you know that they also have a commitment to offer college scholarships. It was reported that their scholarships were paid.

On December 4 following one service at 10 a.m. SAMS and ECW will host our Annual Advent Dinner. This is a dinner that is for the whole family. Please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board and let us know if you will be attending. The menu is scheduled to be pork loin, baked potatoes, green beans and a salad to be provided by SAMS and ECW will provide the desserts for the meal. Steve Shelby has crafted a beautiful piece of art. See Steve to see how this could be yours.



TREASURER'S REPORT

As we slip and slide into the Holiday Season and our Stewardship Drive is well underway, it is important that we take a moment and remember the many gifts, talents and blessings of our parishioners at St. Anne's.

If you haven't yet completed and returned a Pledge Card for 2023 and would like to do so, you can either mail it or bring it to the church office or place it in the offering plate on the table at the rear of the sanctuary after Sunday services.

We wish you Peace and Joy!

BORROWING THINGS FROM ST. ANNE'S?

Part of stewardship is taking good care of the things God has provided. In order to best keep track of and maintain the items of the church, we now have a "Property User Agreement" form. Whether you are using a coffee pot or chairs for a reception at home, please see Carol, the Parish Administrator, in the church office during office hours. There is a quick and easy form we are asking everyone who borrows anything from the church to complete. Thank you very much!

- Diapers—sizes 3, 4, 5 & 6 and Baby wipes
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Fruit snacks, finger foods, fruit cups or jello cups
- Zip-lock bags quart and gallon size
- Coffee
- Coffee filters for Bunn coffee maker
- Cream and sugar packets
- Milk
- Kleenex
- Travel size shampoo & conditioner, soap
- Deodorant
- Feminine supplies

