



**AGENDA**

- I. Welcome, Opening Prayer & Appointment of Clerk and Approval of previous years Annual Meeting Minutes
- II. Rector & Wardens' Reports
- III. Election of New Vestry Members, Convention Delegate and Alternates & Recognition of Others– Vestry Gifts
- IV. Highlights of Ministry Reports
- V. Presentation of 2023 Operating Budget
- VI. Presentation of St. Anne's Men's Society
- VII. Presentation by the Episcopal Church Women
- VIII. Closing Prayer, Blessing & Dismissal

**ST. ANNE'S VESTRY 2023**

The Rev. Ryan Fischer, Rector  
 Jay Rigdon, Senior Warden  
 Dan Kuhn, Junior Warden

Gary Proietti, Treasurer  
 Pam Hester, Assistant Treasurer

**Through 2023**

Chuck Brindle  
 Cathy Carter  
 David Hummel

**STAFF**

Carol Bianchini, Parish Administrator  
 Bob Jarboe, Director of Music

**Through 2024**

Cheryl Hastings  
 Shavawn Parduhn  
 Pam Vosler

**Delegates to 2023 Convention**

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**Through 2025**

Sara Ellis Bauman  
 Miechi Petro  
 Bruce Shaffner

**Alternates**

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**Thank you to the following Vestry Members who have completed their service.**

Greg Ellis, Sr. Warden  
 Sandra Buchanan  
 Linda Francis  
 Pam Nichols, Clerk & Vestry Member  
 Mark Norris



This year, we were able to have the cheese delivered to St. Anne's which made a huge difference by not having to move the cheese on Sunday mornings. We had a lot of new faces at mixing and at rolling, that also made a huge difference.

If you read the Parish Life report, you may have read about the dinners after cheeseball rolling on Tuesday nights. They are a lot of fun and a great time of fellowship. Consider trying it out this fall. Thank you for your support and dedication to this awesome ministry. Let's keep it going!

Now for some fun pictures from 2022...



## RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rev. Ryan Fischer

We have survived another year in the post-Covid era, which is no small feat considering how the pandemic accelerated the decline of many institutions, churches included. I believe, however, that we still need to "live into" new realities governing the level of engagement of persons in the church, because those who worship with us online may be perfectly satisfied with that level of engagement. Our challenge, as the *in-person people*, will be to maintain and encourage their sense of connection to St. Anne's.

As an example of our commitment to this, in 2022 *everyone* in the St. Anne's directory received either a note or a phone call from both a Vestry member and the rector. Be assured that this will continue on in 2023. As a congregation of our relatively small size, we depend on and encourage the "personal touch," where a handwritten note or the sound of someone else's voice on the other end is something we can offer without extraordinary effort.

Thus, when looking back at 2022, we can look more deeply into the kind of congregation we would like to be in 2023 and beyond. We can begin with the things we do well. We are a faithful and proven supporter of nonprofit agencies and charities in our community. We welcome newcomers and visitors and share our gifts of hospitality joyfully. We promote our own *esprit de corps* with fellowship events like Open Mic Night and the Advent dinner. We build common purpose and camaraderie when we produced 5,500 cheeseballs for the holiday season. In my opinion, we have a robust sense of *who we are* and *what we do*, and now we can build on all of those good things and explore ways we can grow.

One phrase that comes to mind (and please forgive me if this sounds too much like a slogan for a small-town bank or other business) is *big enough to serve, small enough to care*. When we can offer the "personal touch" and still do as many things as we do, we have struck a healthy balance when it comes to being a lively congregation. By "lively," I mean that we are a place that is engaged in mission and builds off of the Sunday morning encounter of Word and Sacrament. We give the impression that we are not a place that has been forgotten or has lost its sense of purpose, so I would encourage us to make our witness one that shows others these ways in which we are God's people doing God's work.

We will have some opportunities in 2023 to work on our public relations and public witness, beginning with a workshop on February 5<sup>th</sup> involving our Communications, PR, Website, Newsletter, and Marketing committee; this event will be facilitated by Julie Kuhn and will empower a number of you to have ownership of the many ways we can *get the word out* about St. Anne's. We have also

been involved with other Episcopal congregations in the state of Indiana in the Church Buildings for Collaborative Partnerships initiative, which explores ways we can open our doors to the community through the use of our physical plant for meetings, groups, events, and the like. This is not necessarily direct evangelism, but is certainly a way for us to increase our visibility in the community.

That said, the promises of the future may help us with the challenges of the past. As we are often discouraged by the low number of children in our midst and of pupils at Sunday School, we can look to the things we are doing to turn the tide of decline by building on the basics on which we are grounded – the good news of Jesus Christ, the worship we offer on the Lord’s Day, and the blessings we share in our life together. Let us take those things one step farther and *tell others about that* and *tell others about St. Anne’s*. For sure, God will give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6b).

Know, too, that we still serve those in our midst and not those we hope to attract; this is our *small enough to care* aspect. We have a Care Committee, headed by Cheryl Hastings, and we have Lay Eucharistic Visitors in addition to the Rector’s ministry of visitation to nursing homes, assisted living centers, and hospitals. On a personal note, I have been blessed with a few invitations over to your homes, which demonstrates a care for your Rector that is much appreciated. Chances are, when all of us are cared for and well, we will be even more empowered to serve God and witness to others. Our work on the *outside*, so to speak, always begins on the *inside*.

I cannot promise you a rosy future, nor will I foretell a bleak one. I can only trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to inspire and guide us amid the blessings and challenges of being the church in 2023 and beyond. With God’s help, I believe we can grow, provided we use the tools God gives us in worship, service, and life together. Recognize the hand of God at work in the hands of the members of St. Anne’s; wherever you see a blessing, remember to *be* a blessing.

My own blessings are many, but, in closing, I wish to thank all the people of St. Anne’s for their commitment, care, and understanding in 2022, with specific mention of our outgoing Senior Warden, Greg Ellis (a steady non-anxious presence, a gentleman, and a real Episcopalian), and our outgoing Vestry members – Sandra Buchanan, Linda Francis, Pam Nichols, and Mark Norris. These people have been a tremendous support to the Rector and have enhanced the ministries of St. Anne’s with their varieties of gifts. Those who will be elected to the Vestry at the Annual Meeting, along with our newly appointed Senior Warden, Jay Rigdon, will hopefully be able to build on the good work of their predecessors as well as inject new life into our church’s lay leadership. The staff of

Indiana University FW scholarship	\$ 500.00
Valparaiso University scholarship	\$ 500.00
Purdue University FW scholarship	\$ 500.00
Feed My Children	\$ 250.00
Animal Welfare	\$ 250.00
Dan Kuhn Advent Dinner	\$ 162.52
Mark Wease Advent Dinner	\$ 62.40
	\$ 3,963.17

Ending Balance \$ 8,723.96

## CHEESEBALLS

Cathy Carter

We had another successful cheeseball season this year. Thanks to all of you who mixed, rolled, purchased, and sold this year. We made approximately 5500 cheeseballs with a profit of over \$14,821 as of December 2022. All of the monies from the sales were not collected until January 2023. We will begin 2023 with a starting balance in outreach of \$4626.50 from the remaining sales in January. As of January 25, all 2022 cheeseball money has been turned in and accounted for. Wow! We even exceeded our projected profit that was budgeted! Therefore, we were able to donate additional money to many local organizations. This is in addition to the money we already donate with our regular monthly outreach projects. How awesome is that?! We made additional donations to the following organizations: Animal Welfare League, BABE, Beaman Home, Bishop’s Discretionary Fund, Fellowship Missions, CASA, Big Brother/Big Sister, Community Kitchen/Closet, Habitat for Humanity, Saint Margaret’s House, Salvation Army, Strengthening Families, Kosciusko Senior Services, all of the Title One schools which included, Madison, Harrison, Claypool, Jefferson, Lincoln and Leesburg and WCHS Student Closet. We sent funds to Episcopal Relief and Development and The United Thank Offering which helped the hurricane and Ukraine victims. We also supported Special Olympics again this year. I’m so proud of how many people in our community and a few outside of our community that we are able to help through our Cheeseball sales.

St. Margaret's House	June outreach	\$	100.00
Dave Baumgartner	Pay for football players	\$	300.00
St. Anne's	Truck rental-annual sale	\$	234.55
SAMS Club	1/2 of annual sale proceeds	\$	3,301.78
Soup Kitchen	July outreach	\$	100.00
Habitat For Humanity	August outreach	\$	100.00
WCHS Food Pantry	September outreach	\$	100.00
Feed My Starving Children	Donation	\$	250.00
Animal Welfare League	October outreach	\$	100.00
St. Anne's	Baptism Cake	\$	60.99
Thanksgiving Baskets	November outreach	\$	500.00
Hats & Mittens Tree	December outreach	\$	100.00

**INCOME**

Cash	Women attending Retreat	\$	275.00
Cash	Annual Sale proceeds	\$	10,543.11
Ending balance		\$	8,487.36

**SAMS**

Butch Schapson

Below is the 2022 Financial Statement for St. Anne's Men's Society.

Beginning Balance \$ 8,730.35

Income \$ 3,956.78

**Expenses**

Bank Fees	\$	60.00
Acey's Trophy	\$	28.25
Our Father's House	\$	250.00
Barb Martz prom	\$	250.00
St. Anne's Church	\$	100.00
Habitat For Humanity	\$	250.00
Salvation Army	\$	200.00
Ukraine Relief	\$	100.00
Colorado Christian University scholarship	\$	500.00

St. Anne's – Carol, our Parish Administrator, Bob, our Director of Music, and Jodi, from our cleaning service– deserve also my personal thanks for their faithful service and for being attentive to all our needs, including mine. Despite our many duties and challenges, I am truly blessed to be your Rector.

Deus incrementum dat (God gives the growth) – 1 Corinthians 3:6b

**SR. WARDEN'S REPORT**

Greg Ellis

Another year has come and gone at St. Anne's. I am always amazed at how much you all do for our church and community. We have continued with our monthly outreach projects with great success. Our annual sale although a lot of work, raised needed funds for SAMS and ECW outreach projects. We fed over 200 families with our Thanksgiving basket outreach and our cheeseball sales were the best ever. Thank you everyone for your efforts.

This will be my last Sr. Warden report. It has been a blessing being allowed to serve St. Anne's. I would like to thank Fr. Ryan and all of you for this opportunity to serve.

**JR. WARDEN'S REPORT**

Dan Kuhn and Bob Walmer

The condition of St. Anne's Church building overall is in good shape. Of course there are a few light bulbs which need to be replaced, and an occasional plumbing issue. But we are fortunate to be able to keep up with our needed maintenance.

Upstairs in St. Mary's Chapel, the lights which illuminate the four archangels have been replaced with new fixtures and LED bulbs. A great improvement. Thanks to Bob Jarboe for his help with that project!

In the Undercroft, we are working to bring some order to the room. The Christmas trees have been organized and clearly labeled for next year. Thanks to Julie Kuhn for heading up that project!

There is also a focus on cleaning up the main room, and taking old items to be recycled. Thanks to Dave Baumgartner, Curt Singrey, Greg Ellis, and Father Ryan for their help and support!

As always, if you find a maintenance need somewhere in the building, please contact me, or Fr. Ryan, to take care of it.

Thanks for helping keep our Church building in great shape!

## CARE COMMITTEE

Cheryl Hastings

As a Christian community, we strive to support and take care of one another. That is the mission of the Care Committee. In the past year we have helped parishioners get to doctors appointments, grocery shopped, and researched contractors to help parishioners at home. In addition, Fr. Ryan generally sets aside Thursday afternoons for pastoral visits. If you would like assistance from the Care Committee or would like a pastoral visit from Fr. Ryan, please call the church office. In addition, Fr. Ryan has open office hours every Wednesday from 2:30-5:30pm if you would like to stop in and discuss anything with him. In addition to the Outreach of the Month activities coordinated by ECW, highlights of St. Anne's outreach to the Warsaw community and the world included sponsoring a booth at One Warsaw's celebration of diversity and inclusion, sponsoring and filling a table at the Big Brothers / Big Sisters BIG Celebration, gathering supplies for Afghan evacuees who were resettled in Fort Wayne, and joining more than 3000 community volunteers to help pack almost 800,000 meals at the Warsaw MobilePack for Feed My Starving Children.

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Carol Bianchini

K-6 is currently meeting during worship in Atrium III with Marla Norris and someone to assist her. They are using the Whirl Lectionary which is designed to teach kids how the Bible is relevant to their lives. The goal is to make it easy for kits to make connections between Sunday School and the Church Year. The Jr. & Sr. High youth are meeting every other week. They talk about the readings and sermon, what's happening in their lives and plans for future meetings. They are planning some service projects in the future and the news we've all been waiting for...Episcopickles are coming soon!!!

## COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Julie Kuhn

2022 has seen some quiet progress in terms communication and PR efforts. Improved live streaming videos of the Sunday 10:15 service is notable. Scott Bianchini started the effort in the midst of COVID-19 and a small video committee is evolving to provide ever increasing quality videos of the church service. A podcast was initiated and is currently developing procedure for effective podcasting. The podcast, "Peace Be With You" can be found on the home page of the St. Anne's Website: [www.stanneswarsaw.org](http://www.stanneswarsaw.org). We look forward to

The Worship and Liturgy Committee seeks to maintain the integrity of our tradition and assure that your weekly encounter with the Divine is God-glorifying and authentic. In 2022, we held four meetings (March 9, May 4, August 3, November 2) to discuss concerns and objectives as they presented themselves. These included planning for the seasons of the Church Year and holy days, changes or modifications to the liturgy such as the singing of the Psalms or the Gospel Acclamation, and the selection of hymns for congregational singing. If these or any other things are of interest to you, please bring them to the attention of a committee member or, better yet, join the committee itself! *You* – apart from God himself – are the main ingredient here.

As always, there is a need for more laity (especially children) to get involved in worship. On a personal note, I served as an acolyte during my teenage years and I consider that to be a significant determinant of my vocational path to priesthood. From the standpoint of the Worship and Liturgy Committee, it would be a pleasure to have volunteers come forward and be trained to assist at our Sunday services. Please keep this in mind as you or your children seek to become more involved at St. Anne's.

"Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth" (Psalm 96:9).

## ECW

Sandra Buchanan

### ECW Year End Treasurer's Report for 2022

Beginning balance \$ 6,584.89

#### EXPENSES

Beaman Home	January outreach	\$ 100.00
Fellowship Missions	February outreach	\$ 100.00
Wawasee Retreat Ctr.	Rental for retreat	\$ 65.10
Forward Movement	Day by Day booklets	\$ 164.00
Carol Bianchini	Retreat expenses	\$ 10.59
St. Anne's	Bishop visit & retreat exp	\$ 63.66
BABE	March outreach	\$ 100.00
Sandra Buchanan	Cupcakes-Bishop's visit	\$ 34.97
CASA	April outreach	\$ 100.00
Salvation Army	May outreach	\$ 100.00
Kos. Co. Fair Association	Building rental	\$2,500.00
Cash	Change for annual sale	\$ 330.00

increase recommended due to Covid, a 5.9% salary increase for employees was made to the Vestry by the Finance Committee. In their October meeting, the Vestry approved a 4% increase for our Rector. In their November meeting the Vestry approved a 10% increase for our Parish Administrator and Director of Music. Those salary increases and associated payroll expenses are reflected in the 2023 budget.

Although the 2023 Budget did not receive a unanimous vote for approval from either the Finance Committee members or the Vestry, it was approved. The Budget provides a worst case scenario that we believe can be greatly improved upon by relying upon the continued generosity of our St. Anne’s family and by continuing to be good stewards of our operating expenditures. After the first of the year we received an additional seven pledges for a total of \$4600 making our total pledges \$238,125.

My thanks to our Finance Committee members Father Ryan, Greg Ellis, Eric Satterley, Pam Hester, Bob Hastings and Carol Bianchini for their help, discussions and advice over the past year. And my thanks to you, our St. Anne’s Family for keeping us so viable, giving and impactful. Please have a very Safe, Happy and Healthy 2023.

## WORSHIP & LITURGY

Fr. Ryan Fischer

We are sent forth from worship every Sunday with these or similar words: “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,” to which the congregation responds, “Thanks be to God.” In seminary it was drilled into me that the Church was grounded in Word and Sacrament – the Gospel preached and the Sacraments celebrated. Without these precious means of grace, there is little to keep us from being indistinguishable from a service organization or social club, so before we get to “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,” we receive our Lord in our regular encounter with him on his Holy Day. Where else would we find our call and inspiration to do the Lord’s work?

That said, we place a high priority upon matters of liturgy and worship. We aim to provide a weekly encounter with the Divine that feels truly sacred and transcendent; of the things that drew me to the Episcopal Church as a previously life-long Lutheran, this would be chief among them! We have received many new members from other traditions into our congregation for this very reason, as well. But I would add that the main ingredient in worship – apart from God himself – is *you*. One could argue that the Prayer Book makes an error when it refers to me as the “celebrant,” because *you* corporately are the celebrants. *The people* celebrate, the priest presides.

2023 as a good time to increase efforts on effective website, podcasting practices.

## OUTREACH DOLLARS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Carol Bianchini

Due to the generosity of St. Anne’s parishioners, the sale of cheeseballs and the funds given to the Rector’s Discretionary Fund, we were able to give the following funds as well as items collected for each one.

Beaman Home Pajamas & Monetary	\$745
Fellowship Missions & toiletries	\$1295
Beds & Britches Etc. & Baby supplies	\$1175
Catholic Charities	\$150
CASA & games for children	\$1295
St. Margaret’s House shelter needs	\$1345.44
Salvation Army Food Pantry & food	\$1695.11
FUMC Soup Kitchen	\$785.56
Habitat for Humanity home building	\$2420
WCHS food & toiletries pantry	\$1055
Animal Welfare League & supplies	\$1310
Thanksgiving Basket Outreach	\$8953.93
Title One Schools – Hats & Mittens	\$1200
Feed My Starving Children	\$750
Episcopal Relief & Development	\$750
Big Brother/Big Sister	\$800
Shrove Tuesday Drive Through Donuts	\$77.45
One Warsaw—bracelets for children	\$34.22
Bishop’s Discretionary Fund	\$500
K-21 Strengthening Families	\$500
Kosciusko Senior Services	\$500
United Thank Offering	\$250
Special Olympics	\$120
Ice Cream for Summer Camp	\$67.44
Food & Gas gift cards for Addy	\$300
Automobile assistance	\$170.01
Rental Assistance	\$2102.50
Gas for a stranded persons	\$89.70
Gift cards for graduates	\$152.69
Nipsco & REMC	\$551.50

Gift cards babies/weddings/gifts                    \$250  
Total Outreach & Assistance                    **\$31,390.55**

## **PARISH LIFE**

Carol Bianchini & Cathy Carter

Parish Life began the year in February with a “Game Day”. It included games for all ages and we had a great turnout. In March, 34 parishioners gathered at “The Bowling Alley” for the afternoon to bowl. In July, we had our Celebration of Holy Eucharist remembering our patron saint, St. Anne and St. Joachim, the grand-parents of Jesus. To celebrate the end of summer, about 25-30 parishioners took a ride on “The Dixie”. The Dixie was built in 1929 and is Indiana’s Oldest Sternwheel Excursion Boat. The trip around Webster lake was about 75 minutes and no one ended up stranded on an island. It was great fun! We were not able to participate in Trunk or Treat this year due to lack of enough cars, but there’s always next year. In December, our parish family shared a meal on the first Sunday of Advent. SAMS & ECW prepared the meal and we had a great participation.

Following each night of rolling cheeseballs those who wish to go out for dinner are welcomed at whatever restaurant we pick for that evening. We have anywhere from 6 or so, to 20 of us join in those meals. Not officially “Parish Life” events but it is fellowship with parishioners. Plan to join the group next fall.

## **STEWARDSHIP: More Than Enough**

Brenda Rigdon

St Anne’s utilized the TENS (The Episcopal Network for Stewardship) materials again this year for our stewardship campaign. The fees for accessing these wonderful materials is covered by the Diocese, and for that we are grateful.

The pew bulletin inserts help convey the messages about the biblical roots of stewardship, and the templates provided for the letters are very well done.

The end of our stewardship campaign was celebrated with our enthusiastically supported Open Mic Nite Celebration. The theme this year was Harvest Moon, to celebrate our bountiful abundance of gifts from the members of our parish.

Thank you to everyone who share time and talent at this celebration, from our

Chefs and servers to our emcee and entertainers, this was once again a highlight of the church year.

## **TREASURER’S REPORT**

Gary Proietti, Treasurer

Because of your generosity and support, our St. Anne’s family greatly exceeded our Pledge and Plate Offerings by over \$15,000 in 2022. The incredible income from Cheeseball sales and amazing charitable Outreach income allowed us to more than double our budgeted giving for Mission, Ministry and Outreach for the second year in a row. Thank you so very much.

### **The 2022 Balance Sheet:**

As we review our Balance Sheet we note a loss in the value of our Investments. On February 24th, with the invasion of Ukraine, our investments through the Episcopal Church Foundation and managed by State Street Global, shed any and all Russian-held assets. This action coupled with increases in oil, snarled shipping, product shortages and world-wide inflation, caused our investments to lose (13.5%) of their value for 2022.

### **The 2022 Budget Report:**

A review of the Budget Report again shows the incredible increases in income. Overall Operating Expenses came in under budget. There were expected increases in Utilities as gas prices rose, and in the areas of Computer Expenses, Parish Life and Office Supplies. We reduced the Budget Deficit by over \$27,000 due to the increases in Pledge and Plate Offerings and closely managing our operating expenses. A special thanks to our Jr. Warden Dan Kuhn for all of his hard work this past year in keeping our facility in very good repair and minimizing costs wherever and whenever possible.

### **The 2023 Operating Budget:**

In October the Finance Committee began drafting the 2023 Operating Budget by filling in known variables, conservatively projecting income and realistically and pessimistically projecting operating expenses. Our structure and equipment continues to age and with that comes added expenses for maintenance and up-keep. Those added expenses are reflected in the 2023 budget.

For 2023 the Diocese recommended an 8.9% 2 year salary increase for employees. As we increased salaries 3% last year where there was no Diocesan