



THE PARISH CIRCLE

MICHAELMAS TIDE NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING EVENTS

Program Year Kickoff

Sunday, Sept 15
10 a.m., Church Circle

Family Church

9 a.m., Parish Hall
September 15
October 20
November 17

Sunday Schedule

Children's Formation

Holy Moly, PreK-Grade 2
9:10 a.m., Church Circle

Connect, Grades 3-5

9:10 a.m., Rm 102, Parish Hall

Youth Group, Grades 6-12

9 a.m., Library, Parish Hall

Adult Forum

Faith in the Public Square

11:30 a.m., Parish Hall

September 29
October 6
October 13
October 20
October 27
November 3

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CLERGY EPISTLE, MICHAELMAS TIDE

**BY THE REV. DR. MANOJ MATHEW ZACHARIA,
RECTOR**

I have a special connection to St. Michael. The most significant connection is that my daughter, born on our parish patronal feast day, was born at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, Canada. Joelle and I welcomed Abigail earlier than expected on a day we were scheduled to move from our 312-square-foot apartment to a slightly larger place at university housing, coincidentally located on Charles Street. Our university housing was right next to St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto. At Trinity College (Toronto) and The General Theological Seminary of The Episcopal Church, we measured our academic terms by "Michaelmas" and "Trinity" terms.

Michaelmas is technically the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels and is observed on September 29. We are introducing a new communication



tool for launching the new program year for the parish during the Michaelmas term. Marking time is important in the Christian tradition. An often-overlooked part of the Book of Common Prayer is "The Calendar of the Church Year." This calendar follows a chapter entitled "Concerning the Service of the Church," which serves as a source for the general manner in which Christian worship is conducted within The Episcopal Church. Having The Calendar follow such an important chapter reinforces the significance of how we measure time. We measure time in the church not by hours, minutes, or seconds, but through a deep engagement in a rhythm and pattern of worship that seeks to inform our understanding of how to live in this world and provides guidelines on how to approach it.

Some theology...

The Hebrew word for "angel" is מַלְאָךְ (Mal'ak). What is interesting to me is that the Hebrew word for king or sovereign is מֶלֶךְ (Melekh). The angel, as derived from the Hebrew Scriptural and Intertestamental periods, is a messenger of the ultimate sovereign and functions as a guardian and messenger of divine revelation. Earthly messengers of an earthly king are clearly differentiated by the word שליח (Shaliach). A functional difference is that the earthly messenger does not seem to have delegated authority derived from the king. However, the term angel denotes a being endowed to represent the Almighty, as seen in the vision of Archangel St. Michael fighting the dragon. Rabbinic literature and commentary are replete with specifics and lore about angels, including the notion of a hierarchy of angelic beings. In the canonical Hebrew scriptures, we also read of cherubs and seraphim. One thing that has been transmitted to the Christian tradition is the role of angels in representing the voice of God. For example, Gabriel announces to the Blessed Virgin Mary the birth of Christ and offers comfort by assuring Mary of God's presence during this time.

One aspect of the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels that I am grappling with is the notion of "All Angels."

Does this feast also anticipate the transformation of even the fallen angels into angels that serve the Ultimate Sovereign Lord of Hosts?

While our understanding of angels and related subject matter is subject to the interpretive basis of the classic Anglican theological formula of scripture, reason, and tradition, we can safely state that the commemoration of the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels reminds us of the existence of powers and principalities beyond our physical perception. Moreover, this commemoration also impacts how our tradition marks time.

And so, as we commemorate what has been referred to as the "Program Year," perhaps we can shift our language and say, "Welcome to Michaelmastide."

Wishing you a blessed Michaelmastide,

Fr. Manoj



FAMILY CHURCH

**BY TEMPEST STRUNGE,
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & YOUTH**

Hello St. Anne's Family!

This Fall we will offer a monthly Family Church service from 9-9:45 a.m. in the Parish Hall. This will be a time for families of all shapes and sizes to share a meal, sing, read the word of God, use your creativity to explore the lessons, share what you are hearing with each other, and participate together! This is an opportunity for our families to be together, worship God with their whole bodies, and be in community with fellow parish families for an extended time.

A core group of families of St Anne's have agreed to help us start this process, and we are excited to welcome more that want to see us grow and share the Love of God with everyone. Our first service will be September 15 at 9 a.m. in the Parish Hall. St. Anne's will serve breakfast and provide all the materials needed for this service. All we need is you! Bring your family and an open heart. We hope to see you there.



A Cup of Cold Water

**BY THE REV. DR. OLIVIA HILTON,
PATRICIA JENNINGS, AND JANICE
JOBSON**

**A NEW IMAGINING OF PASTORAL CARE AT ST. ANNE’S,
CARING FOR PARISHIONERS PERSONAL, EMOTIONAL,
AND SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING AND ENSURING THAT
PEOPLE FEEL SEEN, HEARD, AND LOVED
- VESTRY APPROVED**

In Greek, Egyptian, and Persian mythology, the phoenix was a magical, majestic avian creature that could be reborn by rising from the ashes of its predecessor. In the Hebrew Bible (Ezekiel 37:1-14), during the Israelites’ Babylonian exile, the prophet Ezekiel received a vision from God of a valley filled with dry bones that then come to life. The Christian faith is grounded in renewal and rebirth; through Jesus’ resurrection, we are an Easter people.

It is in this context that “A Cup of Cold Water” (ACCW) has emerged from the conclusion of the Stephen Ministry program at St. Anne’s after over a decade. When the parish’s remaining Stephen Ministers collectively decided in February 2024 to conclude the program, two parishioners who had served as Stephen Ministers for many years and are passionate about pastoral care -- Pat Jennings and Janice Jobson – offered a new vision for parishioner-to-parishioner pastoral care in the congregation. This ministry proposal is called “A Cup of Cold Water” after the passage from the Gospel of Matthew in which Jesus sends the twelve Apostles out into the world to proclaim the good news to all whom they encounter (Matthew, Chapter 10, especially verse 42).

“And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple -- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”
Matthew 10:42

Sixteen members of the congregation gathered for an initial meeting on April 23, about half of whom were former Stephen Ministers. They decided to form a working group to discuss ideas for an holistic, comprehensive umbrella ministry of parish pastoral care that would be less structured than the Stephen Ministry program. They created three sub-working groups to focus on developing the three “Lift” ministries described below. The sub-working groups met separately, with the working group reconvening June 11 and July 9 to finalize the ACCW proposal. The devotion and dedication of the ACCW working group members has been inspiring.

ACCW MISSION

The members of the St. Anne’s Pastoral Care Ministry, “A Cup of Cold Water,” offer Jesus Christ’s loving care to parishioners who are seeking ways to address challenges, gain new perspectives, and find peace.

ACCW VISION

The St. Anne’s Pastoral Care Ministry, “A Cup of Cold Water,” consists of teams of volunteers offering services to parishioners in need including “Listening Lift,” “Spiritual Lift,” and “Nourishing Lift.”



Members of the "A Cup of Cold Water" Ministry embrace the emotional and spiritual well-being of fellow parishioners by creating an environment where individuals feel seen, heard, and loved. Their efforts foster a sense of belonging and connection to the church family and the Lord.

"Listening Lift" – Lay Listeners are available to parishioners who are feeling disconnected or overwhelmed and desire the support and understanding of a confidential listener who acknowledges that God and the individual will find solutions.

"Spiritual Lift" – The Spiritual Lift team coordinates transportation to church or for parishioners' special needs (such as a ride to and from a hospital or outpatient surgery center).

"Nourishing Lift" – The Nourishing Lift team organizes meal delivery on a short-term basis to parishioners during challenging times in their lives.

These three new "Lift" ministries complement other existent and ongoing pastoral care ministries at St. Anne's:

The Lay Eucharistic Minister (LEM) program

Trained LEMs with travel communion kits visit parishioners at home, in the hospital, hospice care, assisted living centers, etc.

The Prayerful Knitting Ministry

Parishioners knit white baby blankets to be given to parents whose children are being baptized at St. Anne's, as well as colorful prayer shawls for homebound parishioners.

The Period Project

Launched in Summer 2022, this ministry places -- and frequently replenishes -- gratis sanitary pads and tampons in the three bathrooms in the parish house and one in the church. Baskets containing these items are also stocked with YWCA Annapolis cards offering help for victims of domestic violence, along with Anne Arundel County "warm line" crisis cards.

Together, these six ministries -- under the banner of "A Cup of Cold Water" -- offer parishioners a wide variety of support and a comprehensive approach to life's challenges. In the future, other pastoral care-oriented ministries that enable parishioners to feel seen, heard, and loved may emerge and would be included under the ACCW banner.

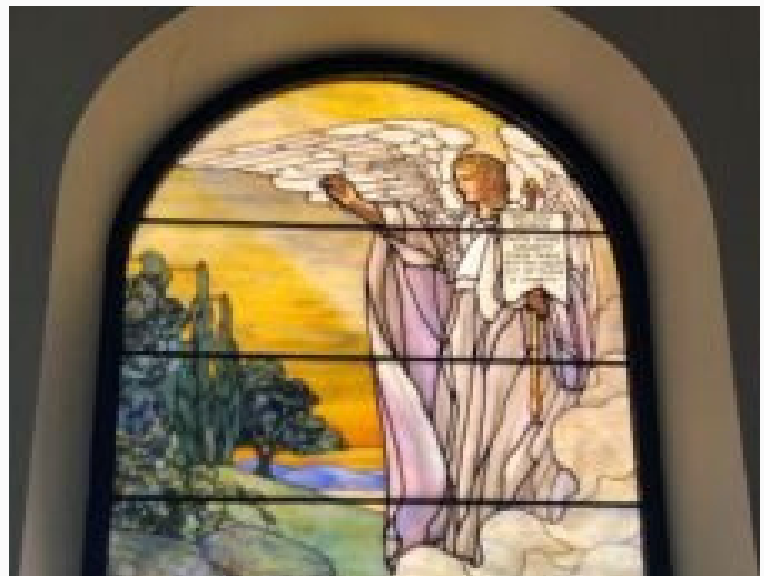
DOCENT MINISTRY

BY JAY THOMAS, DOCENT

The docent group is part of the parish's Outreach Ministry, with particular focus on visitors to Annapolis who come to see our church. Docents share information on our beautiful church building and its predecessors. These discussions can lead to conversations about the long history of our parish in the colony and state of Maryland, and about the history and practices of the Episcopal Church.

Docents are typically in the church on weekdays to serve drop-in visitors. Occasionally there are more formal tours. In all cases, docents respect and support the motivations of our visitors, whether they are looking for information about the church, hoping to enjoy our air conditioning on a hot day, or seeking a quiet place for prayer or reflection.

The docent group is in the process of articulating a shared vision for our ministry, considering different modes for sharing information with both external and internal audiences, identifying helpful resources for docents, and increasing our numbers. We look forward to expanding our ability to tell the story of St. Anne's Parish and church building with visitors and parishioners alike!





FAITH IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE

**BY THE REV. M. DION THOMPSON,
SENIOR ASSOCIATE**

With the national election on the horizon, this fall's Adult Forum begins with a six-week series exploring the intersection between faith and civic responsibility. Is there a dividing line between faith and politics? Should there be one? Given the many faith-based voices vying for attention, can there even be said to be a distinctly "Christian" witness? These questions have been with us for centuries and are again a crucial part of the national discussion. Our schedule is as follows:

SEPTEMBER 29

The Rev. Manoj Mathew Zacharia will offer insights on the challenge of being political, without being partisan.

OCTOBER 6

The Rev. Ken Brooker Langston will examine how our Christian ethics can inform our political decisions.

OCTOBER 13 AND 20

Open discussion and reflection

OCTOBER 27

The Rev. Joseph Walker-Lenow will bring the ancient lessons found in St. Augustine's City of God into conversation with our contemporary concerns. (Don't worry, you won't need to read Augustine's tome. We will have a wonderful pamphlet and study guide published by The Trinity Forum available in early September. Let us know if you'd like a copy.)

NOVEMBER 3

Jo Tetlow will discuss the sacred nature of politics, kings, and presidents from antiquity through the modern age and ask: How does democracy fit in with our tendency to desire a divine king or president?

These presentations, along with ample time for discussion and reflection, will provide an excellent opportunity to share and consider the critical role Christian faith plays in the public square. The Adult Forum meets in the Parish Hall at 11:30, immediately following the 10 a.m. service.

Looking ahead to Advent, we will explore the joy, fear and wonder of the Incarnation as presented in the gospel stories of Matthew, Luke and John. Also, Brother James Dowd, a Benedictine monk and scholar, will join us over Zoom on Wednesday evenings for a teaching series on the three great canticles of Advent: The Song of Mary (The Magnificat), The Song of Zechariah (The Benedictus), and The Song of Simeon (The Nunc Dimittis). More information will be forthcoming.



THROUGH THE EYES OF A PRESCHOOLER: THE MAGIC OF FALL

**BY KATRINA STEWART,
DIRECTOR OF PASA (PRESCHOOL
FOR THE ARTS AT ST. ANNE'S)**

As the leaves begin to change and the air turns crisp, fall becomes a season of wonder and discovery, especially for our little ones. Through the eyes of a preschooler, fall is a magical time filled with vibrant colors, new experiences, and endless opportunities for exploration.

Colors Everywhere: To a preschooler, the world transforms into a kaleidoscope of colors. The reds, oranges, and yellows of the leaves are like a painter's palette, each tree a masterpiece. They marvel at the way the leaves flutter to the ground, creating a crunchy carpet perfect for jumping into.

Nature's Treasures : Every walk outside becomes an adventure. Preschoolers eagerly collect acorns, pinecones, and the occasional feather, each one a treasure to be examined and cherished. They watch squirrels scurry about, gathering food for the winter, and wonder at the busy preparations of nature.

Cozy Comforts : Fall also brings a sense of coziness. Preschoolers delight in the warmth of their favorite sweaters and the comfort of snuggling under a blanket with a good book. The smell of pumpkin spice and the taste of apple cider are new and exciting sensations that make fall feel special.

Festive Fun : The season is filled with fun activities. From pumpkin patches to hayrides, every event is an opportunity for joy and laughter. Preschoolers love the excitement of Halloween, dressing up in costumes and experiencing the thrill of trick-or-treating.

Learning and Growing : Fall is a time of learning. Preschoolers observe the changes in their environment and ask endless questions. Why do leaves change color? Where do the birds go? These moments of curiosity are the seeds of a lifelong love of learning.

Through the eyes of a preschooler, fall is not just a season; it's a magical journey filled with discovery, joy, and wonder. As we guide them through this beautiful time of year, we are reminded to see the world with fresh eyes and to cherish the simple, yet profound, beauty of God's creation.



PLANNED GIVING

BILL DAVIS, PLANNED GIVING CHAIR

"And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."

2 Corinthians 9:8

God has blessed each one of us with talents and treasure. Our baptismal covenant calls us to serve God and use these resources to his glory. Our spiritual journey is defined by the many ways we give of our hearts to his glory. The gifts we share are a light for others to see and know God's presence. When we share the gifts that God has given us, we receive joy in sharing our time, talents, and treasure in the service of God.

We all make prayerful choices about how to support God's mission and to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world. Planned Giving is one of these choices. How might you plan a final large gift of your treasure? How could your legacy continue in the life of this parish? How could this lasting gift nourish the parish that has loved you, seen you, and developed you as the child of God you are? How might you serve this community of faith well after you are gone? St. Anne's invites all who pledge to prayerfully consider pledging the ultimate, nourishing gift that ensures their legacy at St. Anne's forever.

On September 29 at 6:30 p.m., St. Anne's will host a dinner for our Legacy Circle members. The Legacy Circle are those who have committed to make an enduring donation to St. Anne's Parish and ensure their legacy as a faithful and sustaining steward of this parish. St. Anne's is blessed to have faithful Legacy Circle members in our parish family.

We look forward to a parish celebration honoring the Legacy Circle at the 10 a.m. worship service on Sunday, September 29. St. Anne's welcomes anyone into the Legacy Circle who has pledged a deferred planned gift to the church. Please notify the parish so you can be properly acknowledged. For more information, contact Bill Davis, Planned Giving Committee Chair at williamddavisjr@gmail.com.



MUSIC MINISTRY

BY J. ERNEST GREEN, LARRY MOLINARO, KATHERINE HILTON

Music is an important and vital part of life at St. Anne’s, lifting spirits, soothing souls, and building community. For all those shared moments, we plan the hymns, anthems, instrumental selections, and special programs to support these three goals, which are part of St. Anne’s overall mission to build, engage, evangelize, and form disciples of Christ:

- (1) Build community through the shared experience of music within our parish liturgies;
- (2) Support Christian formation through participation in choirs as well as educational activities; and
- (3) Invite the wider Annapolis community into the church with creative programs that bring new people into the space.

As we begin the program year, we’re looking forward to sharing these musical events with you:

Showcasing our musical family

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 15

The St. Anne’s Parish Choir will be robed and ready to support the singing at the 10 a.m. service for the coming year.

SEPTEMBER 22

Our wonderful St. Anne’s “acoustic ensemble” will provide music for the 10 a.m. service. You can hear it again at the 5:30 p.m. service on October 6.

OCTOBER 6

Youth Music Sundays begin on October 6 at 10 a.m. when we engage our younger members in making a joyful noise.

OCTOBER 27

Our Bach+ Partnership with Live Arts Maryland begins a year of amazing events on October 27 at 7 p.m., with the annual screening of Lon Chaney’s classic “Phantom of the Opera” (1925), complete with a live improvised accompaniment on St. Anne’s fantastic Freiburger organ.

NOVEMBER 3

Commemorating All Souls on Sunday, November 3 at 7 p.m. St. Anne’s Choir will join voices with the Annapolis Chorale Chamber Chorus for a powerful performance of Dan Forrest’s beautiful “Requiem for the Living.

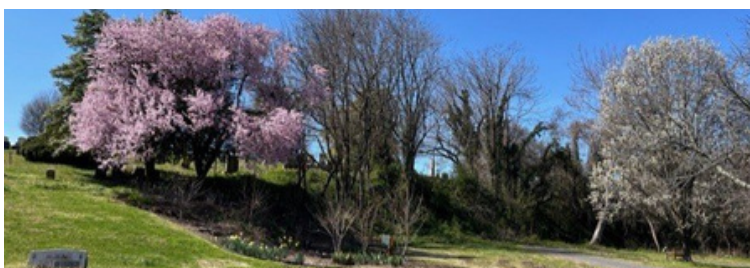
Because music lifts up all souls, we invite and encourage you to join us – by singing in the choir, playing an instrument, singing loudly from your pew, or by just listening and being transformed by the power of music in service of discipleship.

ST. ANNE’S CEMETERY: BUILDING A GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

BY GINGER DELUCA, CO-CHAIR ST. ANNE’S CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Three years ago, St. Anne’s Vestry entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Nature Sacred, a non-profit organization, to create an enclave of peace, reflection, and remembrance in St. Anne’s Cemetery.

A steering committee was formed with members from St. Anne’s, the mayor’s office, and the Clay St. community. Together with landscape architects from Floura-Teeter, which were provided by Nature Sacred, we began to discern what the Garden of Remembrance might look like. Over the next year-and-a-half, we held two charrettes, one at the Stanton Center for the Clay Street Community and one at our parish hall for St. Anne’s parishioners. Their purpose was to collect ideas from the people who we hope will enjoy our garden. Armed with the feedback from these gatherings, the Floura-Teeter architectural team created a detailed landscape plan, which St. Anne’s is now ready to build.





As of mid-August, St. Anne's vestry has contracted with Bay Ridge Lawn & Landscaping to install our Garden of Remembrance. The garden will have a brick entrance into a circular, brick plaza with a raised planter in the center. A Nature Sacred bench will be provided for respite and journaling. Brick pillars will form a half circle around the plaza connected by reclaimed iron fencing. These pillars will house plaque that will contain the names of those who are buried in our cemetery but have no gravestones to identify them. Native ornamental trees and bushes will provide a backdrop to the plaza with gardens of native perennials extending well beyond. The backdrop for the other half of the plaza will be a much-anticipated columbarium, which will begin at our plaza and extend to our Scatter Garden, which is already in place.

St. Anne's is excited to announce a ground-breaking ceremony for the Garden of Remembrance and Peace at St. Anne's Cemetery on Sunday, September 22 at 4 p.m. This sacred space is being developed as a partnership between St. Anne's Parish and Nature Sacred, with the goal of providing a serene and meaningful place for reflection, remembrance, and peace.

In the Spring we will have an even bigger ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the gardens. This is an exciting time for our 234-year-old cemetery as we work to execute the vision to transform this portion of the cemetery into a beautiful Memorial Garden Complex for all to enjoy.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Acoustic Ensemble

Sept. 22, at 10 a.m., Church Circle

Ground-Breaking Ceremony

Sept. 22, at 4 p.m., St. Anne's Cemetery

St. Anne's Dinner for Legacy Members

Sept. 29, at 6:30 p.m.

Parish Hall

Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, Oct 5, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

St. Luke's Eastport

Pumpkin Patch for The Lighthouse

Friday, Oct 4, 2-6 p.m.,

Saturday, Oct 5, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., 2-6 p.m.

St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Youth Music Program

Sunday, Oct. 6, at 10 a.m., Church Circle

PASA Admissions & Tours

Wednesday, Oct 9, at 9:30 a.m., PASA

PASA Greenery Sale

Mid-October, Parish Hall

Silent Movie:

Phantom of the Opera

Sunday, Oct. 27, at 7 p.m., Church Circle

Blessing of the Acolytes

Sunday, Oct. 20, at 10 a.m., Church Circle

All Saints Celebration

Sunday, Nov. 3, at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and 5:30 p.m.

Church Circle

Choral Evensong for the

Feast of All Souls

Sunday, Nov. 3, at 7:00 p.m., Church Circle

PASA Admissions & Tours

Friday, Nov. 15, at 9:30 a.m., PASA

Christ the King

Sunday, Nov. 24, at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Church Circle

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, Nov. 28, at 10 a.m., Church Circle



"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

1 Peter 4:10:

The Stewardship Committee is charged with creating a Culture of Stewardship at St. Anne's by placing all its wonderful ministries and good works within the context of God's Words on Stewardship. A Culture of Stewardship is the important foundation for our parish mission to reflect the love of Christ by building, engaging, evangelizing, and forming disciples of Christ. The ministries of St. Anne's and their good works are an outpouring of God's love from the hearts of our parish members. As instructed in 1 Peter, sharing the gifts you have received to serve others is the definition of being a faithful steward. We have been blessed by God with gifts of time, talent and treasure. Sharing the abundance of these gifts for the glory of God is our life's work as baptized Christians.

STEWARDSHIP AT ST. ANNE'S

**JOHN POULTON,
STEWARDSHIP CHAIR**

St. Anne's is excited to announce the formation of the St. Anne's Stewardship Committee, led by John Poulton, Stewardship Chair and member of St. Anne's Vestry. After prayerful consideration, almost a dozen St. Anne's parishioners have agreed to serve on this committee. The committee was commissioned on Sunday, August 18 at the 10 a.m. service. St. Anne's is blessed to have the guidance of these faithful stewards.

A significant component of any Culture of Stewardship is the annual pledge campaign that enables the parish to perform God's work here on earth. Our theme this year is Walk in Love, and it calls us to remember that our greatest gift in community is how we align and come together in purpose and mission. When we walk in the same direction, we can do so many things. This year, our stewardship campaign, Walk in Love, will run for the month of October. Please prayerfully read the stewardship materials, the stories of how fellow parishioners have walked in love, and carefully discern your gratitude for all God has provided to you in your pledge to St. Anne's.

PASA UPCOMING EVENTS

**KATRINA STEWART,
DIRECTOR OF PASA**

PASA is excited to announce the offering of Admission Tours this fall and winter. The tours are on Wednesday, October 9, Friday, November 15, and Monday, January 13, at 9:30 a.m. The tours begin in Parish Hall and proceed throughout the school. Please RSVP using the link below.
<https://preschoolforthearts.org/admissions-morning>

In mid-October, PASA will host a Greenery sale as part of their annual fundraising efforts. Contact Krissy Harrison, PASA Business Manager at kharrison@preschoolforthearts.org for more information.





St. Anne's Episcopal Church

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Kirsten Chapman
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Lauren Dana-Evans
Phyllis Everette
Jaclyn Houser
Emily Langston
John Poulton
Thomas May
William Silva
C. Edward Hartman III, Parish Chancellor
(non-Vestry member)

The Parish Circle

Next edition: Advent/Christmas
Email articles by Friday, November 8
Submission requirements

- Length: 300 to 500 words
- Format in Microsoft Word or in email
- Submit a photo as a .jpg or .png file
- Email to cmiller@stannes-annapolis.org

Questions? Contact Claire Miller,
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