



The Correspondent

Monthly Newsletter of Saint Ann's Episcopal Church, Sayville, New York

Volume XXX
Issue 1

January 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editorial Page	2
Rector's Corner	3
Vestry Visions	4
Behind the Pole	7
Anniversaries/Birthdays	9
Calendar	11

WEEKEND SERVICES

(In Person and Online)

Saturday 5:00 PM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II

Sunday 8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II

Sunday 10:00 AM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II

(In person & online Only)

TUES-THURS

8:00 PM—Compline (online only)

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1 January, New Year's Day
- 2 January, *Office Closed*
- 8 January, Baptism of Jesus
- 16 January, Martin Luther King Jr./ *Office Closed*

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to spread the gospel of Christ in thought, word, and deed to our community and the world.

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ST. ANN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

Pursuant to the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island and the Religious Corporation Laws of the State of New York, notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of Saint Ann's Episcopal Church, Sayville, NY at 11:30 AM on

Sunday, January 22, 2022

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Welcome to 2023



Holy Spirit living within us, guide our hearts and minds, as we welcome this year all those who worship at Saint Ann's.

Give us discerning hearts so that everyone who crosses our threshold feels welcomed in the spirit of love. Help us recognize each person as an individual sent by you who will enrich our lives.

And most of all, O God, let this be a place of love and acceptance of all our children; this we ask in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

AMEN.



It's that time of year again when people like to make resolutions for the new year—like losing weight and saving money, and sending “only \$19 a month” to 175 of your favorite charities. It reminds me of a Jewish proverb: “Man plans, and God laughs.” Perhaps we need to be more realistic about what we are able to do and focus on that.

I read recently that most people would like the world to be more kind and less angry. I think this is an easy thing for individuals to concentrate on. Basically, do unto others as you would like others to do unto you. If you disagree with someone's ideas, you are free to say you disagree and to discuss it. You should not, however, yell at them in person or in CAPITAL LETTERS on Facebook and call them unprintable names. Nor should they get angry just because you disagree with them. People of good will often disagree! Just say “good morning”; hold the door; when a person apologizes, say “don't worry about it!” Cool it.

This year a cousin sent me a jar of jam which his sister makes on her farm in northern California. Their Irish mother was my father's sister; their father was a Russian immigrant to California. The name of the jam is Peace. I appreciate the sentiment written on the jar as much as the jam.

PEACE—My father was brought up within the Doukhobor tradition, pacifists of long duration who learned to live with all kinds of people from many different backgrounds. So, too, this jam. Cherries from Poland, berries from New Zealand, fruit from all over the United States and Canada, blending well, each in its own unique way. Can't we all?

Saint Ann's Office

262 Middle Road, Sayville, NY 11782

Email: office@saint-anns.org

Website: www.saint-anns.org

Phone: (631) 589-6522

Fax: (631) 589-6541



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262 Middle Road, Sayville, NY 11782
(631) 589-6522

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Editor: Rodney M. Dudley
Stanns_editor@yahoo.com

2021
Saint Ann's Episcopal Church

February Deadline

Friday, January 20, 2023

Clergy Staff

The Reverend Jeffrey Neal Stevenson, Rector

frjeff@saint-anns.org

(202) 309-5249 Cell phone

The Reverend Lilo Carr-Rivera, Curate

mtrlilo@saint-anns.org

Saint Ann's Staff

Minister of Music	Kathy Senese	589-6522
Parish Administrator	Lauren Merkel	589-6522
Finance Manager	Gayle Brady	589-6522
Treasurer	Tom Munkelwitz	589-6522
Cemetery Manager	Janet Croce	563-8203
Historian	Connie Currie	589-6522
Sexton	Lou Linbrunner	589-6522
Webmaster	Shin Chung	589-6522



268 Middle Road,
Sayville, NY 11782
(631) 589-6220

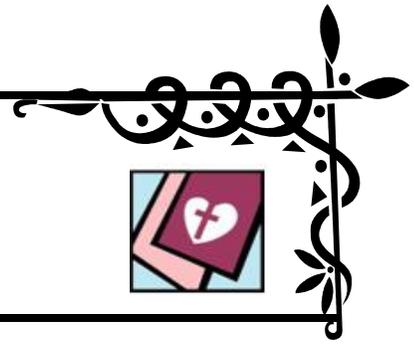
COME TO DONATE
COME TO SHOP
COME TO VOLUNTEER

OPEN

Wed, Thu, Sat 10AM to 2PM



A Word from the Rector Father Jeffrey Stevenson



Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." (Matt 2:2)

January 6 is the Feast of the Epiphany! Let me share this write-up from the Episcopal Church website about what this season is about:

A season of four to nine weeks, from the Feast of the Epiphany (Jan. 6) through the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. The length of the season varies according to the date of Easter. The gospel stories of this season describe various events that manifest the divinity of Jesus. The coming of the Magi is celebrated on the Epiphany. The Baptism of our Lord is observed on the Sunday after Epiphany. The gospels for the other Sundays of the Epiphany season describe the wedding at Cana, the calling of the disciples, and various miracles and teachings of Jesus. The Last Sunday after the Epiphany is always devoted to the Transfiguration. Jesus' identity as the Son of God is dramatically revealed in the Transfiguration gospel, as well as the gospel of the baptism of Christ. We are called to respond to Christ in faith through the showings of his divinity recorded in the gospels of the Epiphany season.

This year, Epiphany will include seven Sundays and will end the night before Ash Wednesday (22 February). As we make our way through this season of Epiphany, I encourage you to follow along with the Good Book Club as they read the books of both Ruth & Esther. You can get started with the Good Book Club [here](#).

I am excited to be visiting parish families and performing house blessings this weekend! If you haven't had a chance to request a blessing, let us know today (Thursday 1/5) either by contacting the office or signing up using this online form: [Sign-Up Genius](#)

I strongly encourage everyone to plan to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday 22 January. We will have a single service on that day (10am) followed by a Parish Brunch (thank you Don Hester & John Smith!) where church leaders and I will report on 2022 and share our goals for 2023.

We're back to our normal service schedule this weekend: 5pm Saturday evening, 8am & 10am on Sunday morning; and our next Family Service will be on February 5.

Blessings,

Fr. Jeff+

<p>Upcoming Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- 1/22 Annual Meeting -- 2/5 Family Service -- 2/21 Pancake Supper -- 2/21 Wednesday / Lent begins -- 2/24 Fish Fry Friday 	<p>NOTE: we will have a Lenten Program this year, based on the Rev. Adam Hamilton's book "Making Sense of the Bible."</p>
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Vestry Visions

Happy New Year! This is the time when people look back, take stock of the past year and make plans for the new one. And the Vestry is no exception. We have had quite an eventful 2022, with plenty of ups and downs. Mostly ups, but an occasional dip, here and there. For example, we have had many new families join our congregation. Fresh faces, more children, and smiling adults have begun to find their way to our beautiful church. It is a true blessing to have our numbers grow. We have had a tremendous increase in baptisms as well. This is a wonderful, celebratory sacrament in which we've all had the pleasure to take part. And there have been a good number of weddings. These are all sure signs of growth.

Our Christmas tree sale was a raging success, again! Many thanks to the wonderful folks who organize this ministry, The Smiths, The Schmittzehs, and Nicole LaFontaine. The Christmas Fair was back in 2022, restored to its pre-Covid status. It was well attended and people seemed really happy to have it back. A hearty thankyou to Nancy Koinoglou who ran the entire operation, the Pagels family who prepared and served the yummy lunch, the Thrift Shop volunteers, crafters, counters, and everyone else who made it all happen. This past year saw the return of a Craft Night. It was quite fun and very helpful to have these lovely crafts to sell at the fair. The Thrift Shop and Food Pantry are rolling along at a fast clip, helping our neighbors in need. Educational programs such as Mother Lilo's Taste and See have been quite successful. The Blessing of the Animals/Pet Adoption Event was terrific, despite the weather issues. We simply held it two weeks in a row! Last spring, we had an Easter Egg hunt on the grounds of the church. You never saw such a swarm of happy children, running, searching for the colorful eggs scattered all about.

Compared to all the blessings bestowed upon us in 2022, most of the difficulties seem rather insignificant. There were a few big ones, but God saw us through. The absence of our wonderful Music Director for so many weeks was a real blow. But the Lord took good care of Kathy Senese and we are all thrilled to have her back with her incredible talent, ready smile, and ever positive attitude. Recently, our ancient church boiler decided to retire, just in time for that frigid cold snap before Christmas. For a while there, it was looking like we were going to have to huddle together under blankets for our Christmas services! However, we were saved once again by having a new boiler installed just in the nick of time. I am sure our loving Father was watching over us one more time. Covid has not left us, and we have had many parishioners and staff succumb to its miserable symptoms. We are continuing to have difficulty finding volunteers to help with our Sunday School program, Coffee Hour, Altar Guild, Food Pantry, Buildings and Grounds, etc. We certainly want to encourage your participation in helping our church, our home, to continue growing and thriving.

Ahead of us is the blank slate that is 2023. Our annual meeting is coming up on January 22, right after the 10:00 AM service. The delicious brunch provided by Don Hester and company will be served once again. Please consider coming to find out more about our lovely St. Ann's and what is in store for the future. Maybe you will find something that piques your interest and will consider joining our volunteer force. We hope to continue to build on our successes and become a beacon of love for all.

On a personal note, this will be my last month as a Vestry member. I have served you faithfully for over 12 years. Unfortunately, family obligations make it difficult to muster the necessary focus for the job. Thank you, Father Jeff, Mother Lilo, and my fellow Vestry members. It has been my honor and pleasure to serve you for so long. It is time to hand over the baton. I will continue to be very involved and volunteer as always. And I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Praying for a very healthy, prosperous, and joyful New Year for all,

Diare Miller-Magnani, for the Vestry

Food Pantry

Hello! And welcome to all of our potential pantry helpers!

First, I'd like to say I am grateful for whatever type of help you can give. If I haven't already, I will

contact you individually so we can discuss the things we need help with and what best fits your availability. Even if it is once a month or occasionally when you have time, everything is helpful!

We were so busy over the holidays, and now that things have calmed down again, let's get a good start in the new year! I look forward to chatting with you this month.

Thank you again for showing interest in this ministry, and I hope you had a joyful Christmas, and that we can all look forward to a bright and happy new year! Be well.

~Lynette Schulz



SAVE THE DATE:
TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

Watch for updates on the Senior Luncheon coming soon.

And remember to bring donations for the Food Pantry!



Saint Ann's Episcopal Church
January 22, 2023

Pursuant to the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island and the Religious Corporation Laws of the State of New York, notice is hereby given of The Annual Meeting of Saint Ann's Episcopal Church, Sayville, New York, at 11:30 AM.

Breakfast will be served!



Attention Cemetery Plot Owners:

Please be aware that when it snows only the Main Asphalt Road gets plowed. The other gravel/dirt roads will be plowed only if needed to conduct service for a new burial. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. **-Janet Croce**

MEMORIES OF THE CHRISTMAS FAIR



FOR THE NEW YEAR: PURSUE JESUS – AND YOUR PASSIONS

If you struggle with making and keeping resolutions, you're not alone. It can be discouraging to focus on what you're doing "wrong" and all the difficult changes in store. Yet January offers great opportunities to listen to God's direction. After all, Jesus came to give us abundant life and wants us to pursue him.

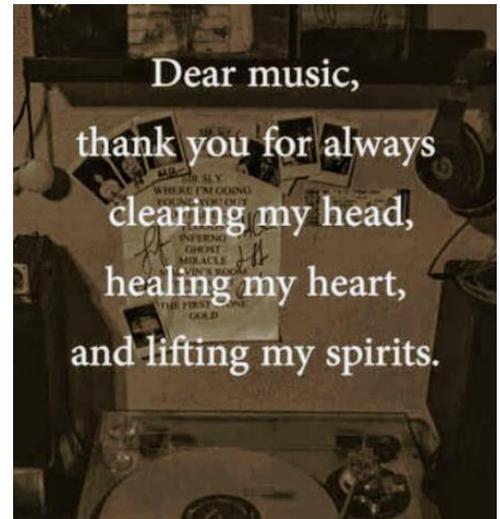
As you review the previous year, ask: What brought me joy? How did I grow? How did I help others? What did I do that no one else could have done? Whether your list includes spending time outside, mentoring or coaching young people, or making crafts to give away or sell, continue doing what brings you joy. God gives us each unique gifts and circumstances, so live passionately for him this year!

--Janna Firestone

VIEW FROM BEHIND THE POLE



MUSIC
IS A PIECE OF ART
THAT GOES IN
THE EARS
STRAIGHT TO THE
HEART



Christine Mulroy singing a solo for Lessons & Carols, a beautiful Advent presentation which took place the afternoon of Dec. 18.

CHOIR PREPARES THE COFFEE HOUR ON DECEMBER 11



can sign up on the list in the Parish Hall.

One of the great pleasures of church is attending the Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the church service! On the 2nd Sunday of December, the Choir took its turn and prepared enough food to feed the whole parish! We were happy to do it, but it doesn't take a whole choir to cover a coffee hour. Just a few—or a couple—of people can do it. Just provide a few breakfast snacks. The people make their own coffee in the Keurigs, so no coffee urns to clean up. It can be as simple or elaborate as you care to make it. And it is always appreciated! You

THE CHRISTMAS ALTAR

Thanks to the Altar Guild for holiday and all year-round devotion behind the scenes. For Christmas we brought in extra help-- give credit to Karl Auerwater of the Bayport Flower House, who arranged all the flowers and hung the greens in the church. [Photo: Laura Sanchez]



ALTAR GUILD PRAYER

Most gracious God who has called me your child; To serve in the preparation of your altar,
So that it may be a suitable place for the offering of Your body and blood;
Sanctify my life and consecrate my hands so that I may worthily handle those
Sacred gifts which are being offered to you.

As I handle holy things, grant that my whole life may be illuminated and blessed by you,
In whose honor I prepare them,
And grant that the people who shall be blessed by their use
May find their lives drawn closer to him whose body and blood is our hope and our strength,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. [The Right Reverend B. Don Taylor]

Fresh Starts

I suppose when we wake on January 1 the world will look the same. But there is a reminder of the Resurrection at the start of each new year, each new decade. That's why I also like sunrises, Mondays and new seasons. God seems to be saying, "With me you can always start afresh."

--Ada Lum

January						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Celebrating
An Anniversary This Month 



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

8	Charles & Barbara King	19	Roland & Lynne Russell	21	Anthony & Joan Palmieri
15	Kevin & Janet Adam	20	Donald & Stacy May	26	John & Carol Ann St. Lawrence
		21	Donald & Judy Hester		



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Juan Carlos Espinoza	10	Kyle Hughes	15	Daniel Limoli	24	Christie Clark
	Michael Hynes	12	Dorothy Benedict		Jeneane Patrovich	25	Sean Mattimore
2	Charles King		Donald MacKenzie	16	Carrie Whitehouse		David O'Donnell
4	Oliver Rivas		Theresa McGee	17	Kevin Adam	26	Ryan MacDonell
	Jennifer Rossi		Caitlyn Wolfe		Joseph Castelli	28	Mary Ann Davis
5	Aidan Donoghue	13	Brian Chalmers	18	Eugene DeMott		Jennifer Lembeck
	Diane Miller-Magnani		Ryan Lasko	19	Ryan Meinsen		Caryn Wells
	Chris McNamee		Zoe Lasko		Evan May	29	William Kraft
6	Stephanie Streek		Carol Ann St. Lawrence	20	Geraldine Hoek		Courtney Weeks
8	John Cerillo	14	Evan Meinsen		John St. Lawrence		Cassidy Weeks
	Richard Mugno		Grant Richards	21	Andrea Sanseviro	30	Christie Strecker
	Stephen Vander Borgh		Robert Sheppard	23	Jenny O'Connell		

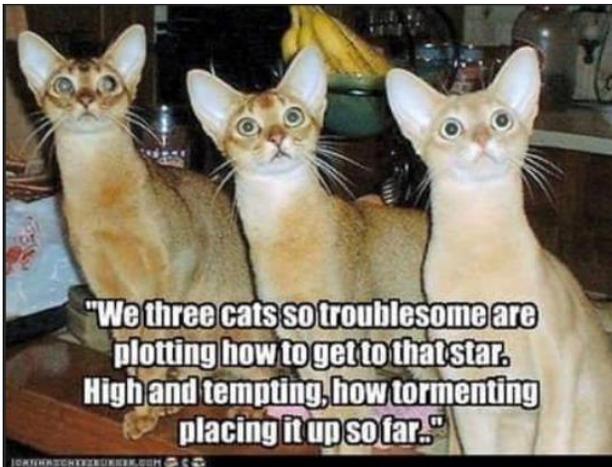
THE WISDOM OF MLK
Born January 15, 1929



I am convinced that love is the most durable power in the world. It is not an expression of impractical idealism, but of practical realism. Far from being the pious injunction of a Utopian dreamer, love is an absolute necessity for the survival of our civilization. To return hate for hate does nothing but intensify the existence of evil in the universe. Someone must have sense enough and morality enough to cut off the chain of hate and evil, and this can only be done through love.

—**Martin Luther King Jr.**

MEMES of WISDOM for JAN 2023



Reading **20 pages per day** is 30 books per year.

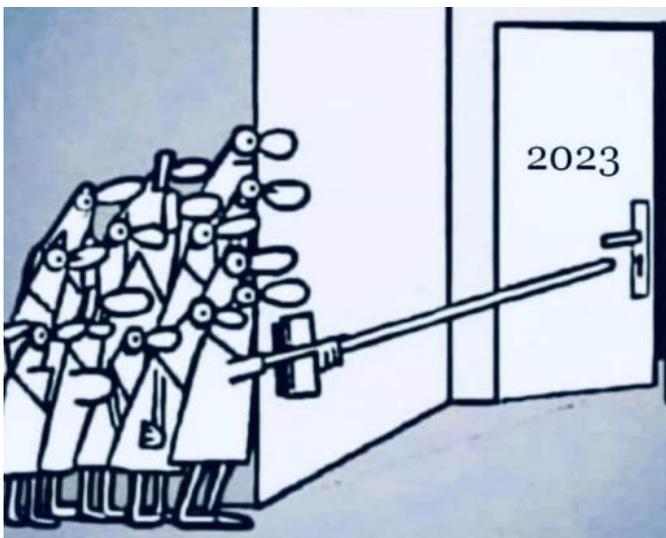
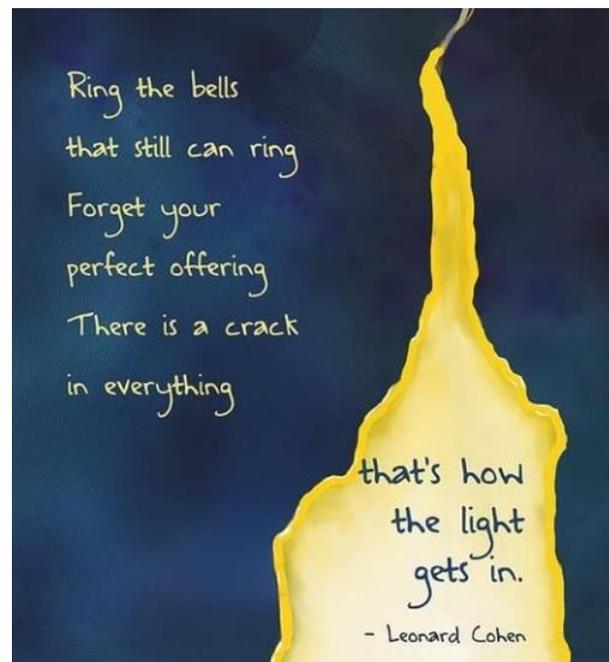
Saving **\$10 per day** is \$3,650 per year.

Running **1 mile per day** is 365 miles per year.

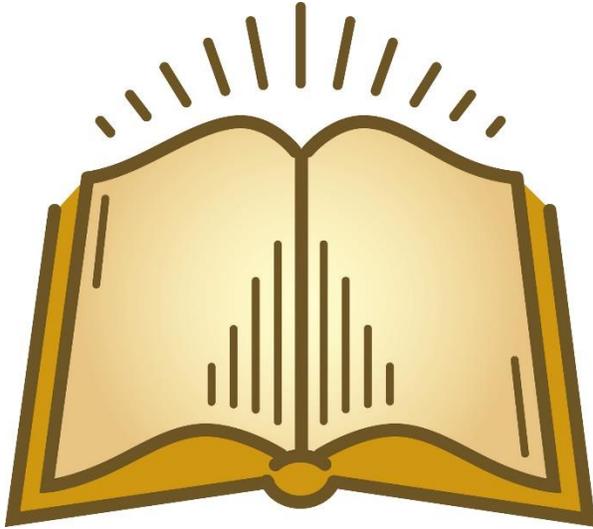
Becoming **1% better per day** is 3.7% better per year.

Small habits and consistency are underestimated.

Fractal Enlightenment



+Christian Symbol+



OPEN BOOK

A book symbolizes the Bible, the written Word of God. When shown open, a book represents truth or revelation. Apostles and saints are often pictured holding an open book, understood as the New Testament writings of the early Christian church.

**AROUND SAINT ANN'S
Monthly Schedule**

See Correspondent pages and Bulletin for changes/cancellations.

Check out the website at: www.saint-anns.org

Sundays

8:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
9:00 AM---Sunday School –During 10:00 service
10:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
7:30 PM—AA Meeting

Mondays

10:00AM—12:00 PM Food Pantry
6:00 PM—Vestry Meeting—January 9
8:00 PM—AA Meeting

Tuesdays

8:00 AM—Men's Group
7:00 PM—Adult Choir

Wednesdays

9:30 AM—12:00 PM Operation Hope
10:00 AM-2:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open

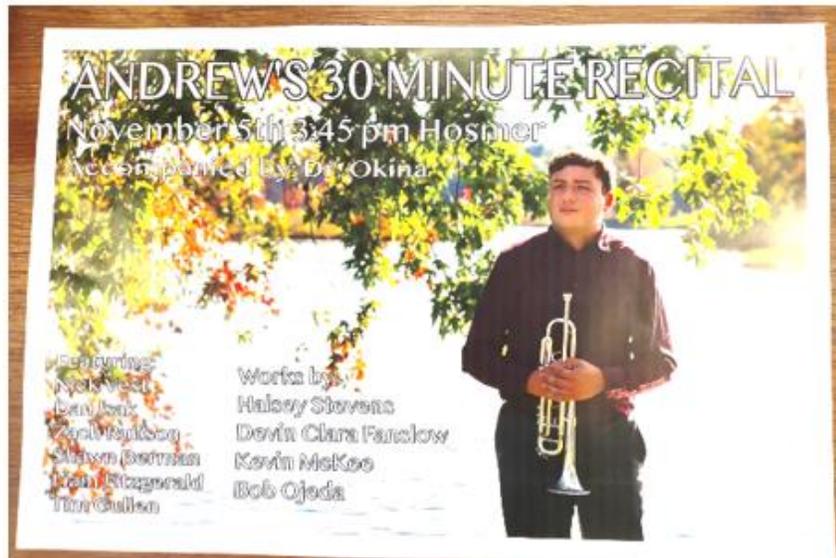
Thursdays

10:00 AM—AA Meeting
10:00 AM-2:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open
8:00 PM—AA Meeting



BRAG BOX

Congratulations to Marge Rogers' grandson, Andrew Scheibler, an accomplished trumpeter who has recently given a recital. If Andrew looks familiar, you may have seen him accompanying the St. Ann's choir on Christmas or Easter with fellow brass players.



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St. Ann's Episcopal Church
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This is a wish
for all the people
of the world



to know
what it is
to be safe
and loved.