



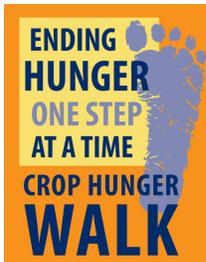
Annunciation of Our Lady

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Magnificat

Oct 2017

CROP Hunger Walk



Sunday October 15 12 Noon

Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty
This year's CROP Hunger Walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 15th. Registration begins at 12Noon, and the walk (10K and 5K distances) will begin at 12:30pm. Everyone is welcome to participate in whatever way they choose...be a walker, be a donor, be a cheerleader! TOGETHER,

we can work to reduce the impact of poverty and hunger in both our local communities (25% of the funds raised will be shared with local organizations to alleviate hunger in Northern Lake County)...and the remaining funds (75%) will be administered by Church World Services with other international agencies for disaster relief and development programs throughout the world. Sign up in the narthex, or contact Andy Hucker (ahucker1549@comcast.net) or 224.715.0729

Combined BOOK Club



On **Monday, October 16, 2017**, the two book clubs at Annunciation will have a combined meeting at the church. Parishioner and award-winning novelist Ruth Hull Chatlien will discuss her new book *Blood Moon: A Captive's Tale*.

The meeting, which begins at 7:00 pm in Strang Hall, is open to all parishioners and the general public. Feel free to invite friends and to post about it on social media. Light refreshments will be served.

SYNOPSIS

Southern Minnesota, August 1862. Smoke fills the horizon and blood soaks the prairie as the Sioux fight to drive white settlers from their ancestral homeland. Sarah Wakefield and her young son and baby daughter are fleeing for their lives when two warriors capture them. One is Hapa, who intends to murder them. The other is Chaska, an old acquaintance who promises to protect the family. Chaska shelters them in his mother's tepee, but with emotions running so high among both Indians and whites, the danger only intensifies. As she struggles to protect herself and those she loves, Sarah is forced to choose between

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doing what others expect of her and following her own deep beliefs.

ADVANCE PRAISE

Chatlien... writes with nuanced sensitivity, nimbly cataloging the horrors each side visits upon the other.... In addition, Chatlien's mastery of the historical period-especially the life and culture of the Sioux-is notable and creates a fictional atmosphere of authenticity. A subtle dramatization of the conflict between white settlers and Native Americans in the 19th century. - Kirkus Reviews



Richly detailed, Blood Moon is an intrepid tale of bravery and adventure in America's western frontiers. Perfect for fans of immersive historical fiction! - Stephanie Thornton, author of The Conqueror's Wife
An engrossing tale of struggle and justice-of friendship, mercy, and a rare, moving love. Ruth Hull Chatlien writes with great sensitivity and vivid yet subtle prose. Blood Moon is a must-read for fans of western novels, as well as women's historical fiction. - Libbie Hawker, author of Tidewater



October 15th, 5 pm

Full schedule and details on the website!

PADS BEGINS THIS MONTH



Begins October 20

The weather will change whether we liked it or not.

The grilled foods we enjoyed this summer will soon become a distant memory and will be replaced with chili, soups, stews and meatloaf. Hello Fall and hello Comfort Food! We all love comfort food and so do the Homeless.

I invite you to come help me in the kitchen to cook a hot meal for the next 7 months. If you can't participate directly by cooking there are other ways to help. You can make a monetary donation to help cover the cost of the meat each month, or you can sign-up to contribute to cover the other food items needed for that month's meal. We always need people to deliver the food to St. Mark Lutheran Church in Lindenhurst and to serve it.

An easel is located in the Narthex with all the information needed to help with this ministry. Every month a new menu is posted.

Please keep this important outreach ministry in your hearts and minds as we begin another year of feeding the Homeless. Thank you - see you in the kitchen.

Cheri Johnson

Welcoming a guest preacher on October 22nd:

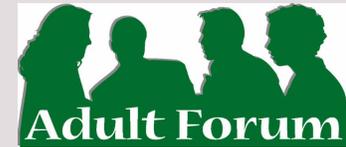


On Sunday, October 22, we welcome the Rev. Dr. Robin Currie as our guest preacher and presenter at Adult forum. Rev. Elizabeth and Pastor Robin (a retired Lutheran minister) worked together at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Glen Ellyn.

Pastor Robin's adult forum topic is titled, "This is most certainly true: The life and legend of Martin Luther." or "How to Party like it's 1517!: A lighthearted look at 500 years of beer and brats." It includes how Episcopalians/Anglicans and Lutherans differ and adjust to one another.

Here's a brief bio of Pastor Robin:

The Rev. Dr. Robin Currie (Pastor Robin) lead the children's departments of midwestern public libraries, providing reference services and literacy

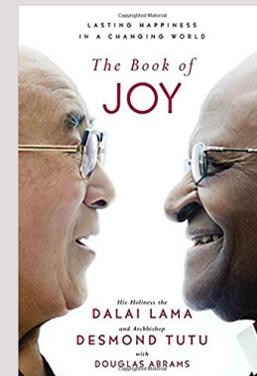


Adult Forum meets between the 8am and 10am services. Sessions are held in the adult forum room, just off the parish hall, near the kitchen. Everyone is welcome to attend, and no advance preparation is needed; just come with an open mind and a willingness to participate in lively discussion!

[2017 Adult Forum](#)

Rector's Study Groups

The Rector's Study Groups meet **Wednesday** at **10am** in the adult forum room, and the **Thursday** evening at **7pm** in the church office. This fall's book will be, *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by the Dalai Lama and Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu. The book's content comes out of a five-day meeting in 2015 between these two religious leaders, focused on the question, How do we find joy in the face of life's inevitable suffering?



For more information, or if you have questions, please contact Rev. Elizabeth.

Book Club 2017

foundations to the smallest patrons and supporting their parents. Mid-life, she was called to ordained ministry (Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, M Div, D Min) as a parish pastor and served Grace Lutheran Church in Glen Ellyn for "two capital campaigns and a major building project." In retirement she is Pastor Associate at St. Mark's Episcopal in Glen Ellyn. She volunteers annually in developing countries, most recently at a Syrian refugee camp in Greece. She is the author of Baby Bible Story Books for ages birth-3. Her next book "The Very Best Story Ever Told" will be published by Sparkhouse in 2018.

Scout Troop



As you start to think about your holiday decorating, hold off and support our Scout though the purchase of high quality Wreaths and Poinsettias. The Scouts will be in church to sell on **October 29th and November 5th**. Wreaths and Poinsettias will be delivered to church on Nov 26th and Dec 3rd.

Door/Keys/Locks update:



One of the projects that was part of Annunciation's Capital Improvements was replacing the front doors of the church, in order to make them more accessible, another aspect of our desire to be hospitable. Our new doors, which have been up and running for some months now, no longer have a center pole, and the left side door (as you're facing the church) is an electric opening door, activated by an exterior or interior push button/pad.

The automated/electric door system also allowed us to take advantage of another feature: opening the front doors with a programmable electronic fob, instead of a traditional metal key. The fobs can be programmed to allow access only on certain days/hours. (As an example, there's a nearby homeowner's association that uses the parish hall for their annual meeting each November, and we can give them a fob that works on that night only, for just the hours that they need access.) Additionally, fobs that are lost or misplaced can be deactivated (and a new one reissued at minimal cost), keeping our building safer and more secure; again, hospitality!

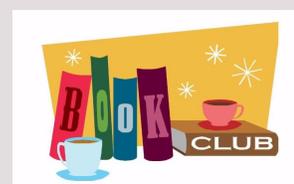
With the advent of the electronic fob system, we took advantage of that change to review our system of keys and door locks throughout the entire building, to make it as secure as possible. In the past couple of months, the locks to the doors into the office, the exterior door into the kitchen, and the exterior door into the education wing have all been replaced; a non-bypass lock was also installed on the kitchen door, so that it automatically locks when closed (this is the door that most frequently has been left unlocked accidentally). The Fire Department lock box has been updated with new keys, and a limited number of keys have been distributed (rector, B&G, etc.).

If your work in the church requires you to be in the building at times outside of regular worship or Diane's (our communications assistant) office hours, please contact Rev. Elizabeth or one of the wardens to request a front door fob.

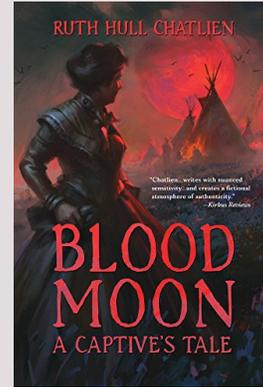
A "Toast" to our Veterans!

Thank you so much for your generous donations for our, "Toast to our Veterans!". We collected: 34 toasters and toaster ovens and several bottles with filled with handwritten prayers and encouragement. We gathered \$891.00 in donations and our Outreach Committee donated

On



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The meeting, which begins at 7:00 pm, is open to all parishioners and to the general public. Feel free to bring friends.



Date:

Wednesday, Oct 25th

Time: 1:00pm-2:00pm

Location: Lunch gathering for women of the parish at 1 pm. Location will rotate and date will be 4th Wed of each month. For reservations contact Jane Schaefer at 224-372-7940 or at cs.js@comcast.net



Outreach Opportunities

Feed My Starving Children



an additional \$109.00 to make it an even \$1000.00!! Please remember our veterans and the Midwest Veteran's Closet, 2323 Green Bay Road in North Chicago when making future donations and in your prayers.



Our Veterans - Thank you for your service



for I was **hungry** and you gave me food...
Matthew 25:35

If you would like to be a part of this ministry of feeding the hungry please join us. Mark your Calendars ... Here are the Saturday dates,

9:00 am to 11:00 am
+Oct 28, 2017

Last Saturday every Month

God's Peace and Blessings!
text/call @ 847-340-3253
Linda.lutter@hotmail.com



NOTES FROM THE NURSE

Dale Sanders



GETTING OLD OR?.....

When a loved one seems more forgetful than normal, it's important to know the difference between age related changes and cognitive impairment, including Alzheimer's. Here is some help from the Alzheimer's Association:

SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER'S

- Poor judgment and decision making
- Inability to manage a budget
- Losing track of the date or the season
- Difficulty having a conversation
- Misplacing things and being unable to retrace steps to find them

TYPICAL AGE-RELATED CHANGES

- Making a bad decision once in a while
- Missing a monthly payment
- Forgetting what day it is and remembering it later
- Losing things from time to time
- Sometimes forgetting which word to use

NEW SUBJECT: IT'S TIME TO GET YOUR FLU SHOT!!!

Appalachia Service Project:



Appalachia Service Project:

In April 2018, Annunciation will embark on its fourth trip to Appalachia, to work with other Appalachia Service Project (ASP) volunteers to help make damaged/sub-standard homes "warmer, safer, drier" (ASP's tagline). If you think you might be

interested in joining this effort, please talk to Rev. Elizabeth or Mike Bill (3 year veterans) or any of the other Annunciation volunteers who have gone on previous trips (Deb Bill, Cindy Hibbard, Lisa Kleine, Cindy and Geoff Pullinger, Dave Schrunck, Tony Waynick, Dan Whipple). They'll tell you that not only is the work satisfying and appreciated, but it's also a great opportunity to connect with other volunteers, and

Prayer ministry - did you know?

Did you know that there is a trained prayer minister available available in the chapel every Sunday, during communion time, at each service? After you receive communion, you're invited to make your way into the church's side chapel (to the left, as you're facing the altar) and ask the prayer minister to pray with you - about a concern, a thanksgiving, or a tough decision you're facing. The prayer minister will anoint you with a blessed and scented oil (the same oil we use at baptism or to anoint the sick) and offer a blessing and prayers about whatever is on your heart. Information you share with the prayer minister is held in the strictest confidence.

Once every other month, in place of the Prayers of the People, we incorporate this prayer ministry into our worship services. After we collectively pray the Litany of Healing, prayer ministers take their place around the altar dais, and individuals are free to come forward to pray with one of the ministers, while music plays in the background to create a contemplative atmosphere.

homeowners with life experiences very different than what we experience suburban Chicago. (It's also great fun, too!!) Trip dates are April 14 thru April 22, and we'll be traveling to Jonesville, Virginia. Cost is \$325 + transportation costs (last year we chipped in to rent a 10 person van and trailer).

From Our Rector



Elizabeth Molitors

I read lots of things from lots of different sources, and so it gnaws at me when I remember reading/seeing something that caught my attention, but can't for the life of me recall where I read/saw it! So, I offer my apologies ahead of time for not being able to give proper attribution to where the following thought came from...

The article I read was talking about "bounded sets" vs. "centered sets." I can't remember (see above) why the author was introducing this concept, but I immediately thought about it in terms of our context, as a faith community trying our best to make God's beautiful kingdom a reality in the here and now.

"Bounded" and "centered" sets - which have their roots in the world of math and science (think Venn diagrams and trying to classify plants and animals) - are about ways of understanding, categorizing, classifying and grouping. In a bounded set, there is some characteristic or criteria (a boundary) that must be met to belong to that group, i.e. all arachnids have eight legs, you must be age 50+ to be part of AARP, or have passed a driving test in order to be a licensed driver.

A centered set is defined a little more vaguely: there's something at the center, and the set is created by your relationship to the thing at the center - are you close or far? Moving in or moving out? Think of the centered set called Grateful Dead Fan. Are you part of that set at all? If yes, are you at the center or on the edge? If you used to follow the Grateful Dead around the country, attended every concert, and refer to yourself as a Dead Head, you're pretty close to smack-dab in the center. (I used to work for a boss who had a framed picture of Jerry Garcia - rather than one of his long-term girlfriend - on his desk; you can guess where he was in this set.)

Bounded and centered sets are, in and of themselves, neither good or bad; the problem comes about when we confuse or mis-apply one set or the other.

Take Christianity. For some, Christianity is meant to be a dear bounded set, with certain qualities or characteristics you must demonstrate in order to call yourself a Christian: adherence to particular doctrines or articles of faith, practicing your faith and living your life in a specific way. If Christianity is to be treated as a bounded set, then there will be some that fall inside the boundary and others that fall decidedly outside of it. And if it's important to define who's in and who's out, then a lot of time and energy is spent policing that border, testing the people trying to get in and monitoring the people on the inside to make sure they still belong there.

For others - and I count myself among them - Christianity is intended as an unbounded, centered set, with the incarnation of God in the person of Jesus firmly planted in the middle. To be a "centered set" Christian, then, means to turn our focus toward the attracting force at the center, allowing ourselves to be drawn in closer, and inviting people to move toward that center, as well. Evangelism becomes about telling the story of how we experience the center of our set, being curious about where others are, what the view of the center looks like to them, because they may see things

Another feeding ministry - did you know?

Three times each week, volunteers from Annunciation make their way to the Grand Ave. Starbucks location in Gurnee, to pick up excess food (baked goods, packaged sandwiches and lunch packs) donated by the restaurant, and redistribute it to various shelters and safe houses around Lake County (Salvation Army, Safe Place, Lake County Haven, etc.). This food, which would otherwise go to waste, instead goes to hungry people in need. Food safety is addressed with a clear, well laid out process for transporting the donated items from the Starbucks store to the shelters.

Besides getting food to those who need it, this ministry raises awareness of the problems of homelessness and domestic abuse in our community. If you're interested in participating in this ministry, or learning more about it, please see Rev. Elizabeth, Rev. Linda, Deb Gallinger, or Miriam Berry. Training is provided, and volunteers generally go out in groups of two or more.

Pet Blessing Sunday

In celebration of the Feast of St. Francis, we ask God's blessing on all the critters that we are charged with caring for, and which bring us companionship, love, and joy.



differently from their vantage point. With no outer boundary defined and no limit to defend, we don't need to be so worried or suspicious that someone who doesn't "belong" may have breached the confines of "our" set.

The life of Jesus, as described in the gospels, was the embodiment of what it means to be a centered set. Jesus was forever broadening the definition of who were God's beloved, and railing against the religious elite of his time, not because he was anti-Judaism (he was, after all, a devout Jew and a recognized and respected teacher of the faith) but because the leaders were turning what had been a dynamic God-centered faith - we are Jews because God is with us and has called us God's people - into a snarling, petty, bounded set, more concerned about the letter of the Law rather than its Spirit, about who's in and who's out.

For us as Episcopalians, our way of staying focused on the center of our set is summarized in our baptismal vows, which remind us to love and serve God by loving and serving and standing up for all of God's people. At Annunciation, we are working to create and maintain a community in which everyone - no matter how near or far they find themselves from that center - can pray, worship, learn, question, and explore. We are here to encourage and take care of one another, and bear witness to the world, in word and action, about the life-giving presence we proclaim rests at the center of our set, and why we desire to move ever closer.

From Our Seminarian

Shay Craig



Hey, big news, Annunciation friends: I ENJOYED A CHURCH PICNIC.

Many of you know that I am (as is our leader of song, Dent Davidson) a member of the Bishop's Staff. In this position, I am privileged to be able to visit congregations across our diocese as well as in

other diocese. I go to Vestry meetings and attend finance committee meetings. I do trainings in other "great halls" and worship in congregations of every stripe.

And there is nothing, absolutely nothing I like less than a parish picnic. So, let me reiterate the news: I ENJOYED A CHURCH PICNIC! OUR'S!! And here is why:

People were welcomed back after a summer away as if they had been gone for four years! I have never seen so much joy in the faces of people who, let's face it, live within a mile of one another. Is it just that we are meeting in a special place? Is it that the relationship you have with your neighbors is different from the relationship you have with your church family? Whatever the reason, you have not been greeted until you have been greeted at Annunciation.

Everyone has something to eat! Walking along the food line there was something for vegetarians and vegans, for gluten free and sugar free and even people like me who just don't dig chocolate. Part of being a congregation that says "Yes!" is being able not only to welcome but adapt to all kinds of people and their needs. There were even LEFTOVERS for every foodie group!

No one sat alone! This seems obvious, doesn't it? It's a church picnic so you would think that no one would be left out. That's because you're Annunciation folks! YOU would never let anyone sit alone who didn't want it.

There were games! Like sitting alone, it is amazing to me how many parish picnics plan elaborately for the adults and leave the younger - or just younger at heart - folks out of the equation. There were cool and thoughtful and wonderful and fun games for everyone, and though I didn't play, the music of laughter wafting into the tents brought me almost as much joy as if I had.

I was in the pictures! I am not a member of your congregation, really,



Berkeley: "Dad what a great day! I need to sleep a little while, but can we do that again??? I made so many friends with 2 legs and 4 legs and I felt so, so welcome."



and yet I am in several of the photos of the event. One of the characteristics of an unfriendly congregation in my mind is if the pictures are of the same five or six people. Our picnic photos were of every person there, as far as I can tell. There was no "newcomer" photo or "people looking left out" in any photo. These were photos of a community being community and its gorgeous. There were DOGS! Everything is better with dogs there. Enough said. Thank you for being such a warm and welcoming and genuine and authentic and fun and fabulous congregation. And for breaking my parish picnic streak. I am so glad to know that I can actually ENJOY A CHURCH PICNIC after all.

From Our Sr. Warden

Deb Gallinger



We are now back to worshipping at two services on Sundays, the adult forum, book studies and Sunday Night Live have returned and the winter PADS, crop walk and other outreach programs have resumed. We have initiated new outreach programs to help our veterans and we are looking at opportunities to help local shelters. Plans for the annual cookie walk fundraiser have begun. The capital projects, including the construction of the communication wall and replacement of the lighting in the parish hall are underway or beginning shortly. For those of us who have been part of the parish for a while, this seems like normal fall activity, and I have been told more than once that we are quite an active parish. We can be proud of the efforts we make to experience inspirational worship, provide generous outreach to our community and benefit from enlightening and uplifting spiritual education. And the members of our congregation who participate in these activities know how worthwhile that participation can be. But I submit that we have not been completely effective in communicating either the details of those activities or the fulfillment that comes with volunteering and participating to less active members of the parish. I suspect that sometimes people may hesitate to become involved in various outreach, educational or parish maintenance efforts because they don't know about the needs, are too busy with other parts of their lives, or are unsure that they are qualified to contribute to an effort. It is very important for those of us who are active in the parish to encourage less connected parishioners to join us in our various endeavors and share the satisfaction that comes with working together to accomplish important things in our community. To help with this effort, I am proposing that we capture the details of each volunteer opportunity in a way that makes clear exactly what help is needed, the amount of commitment required and the qualifications the opportunity needs. Over the next few weeks I hope to work with some of the other leaders in the church to create a collection of "How Can I Help?" leaflets so we can all find ways to become involved in the parish. There are a myriad of tasks and activities around the church that need to occur to maintain Annunciation as the welcoming and generous parish we are and together we can lighten the load and accomplish even greater things. Please look for ways to offer your help and know that your presence and involvement will be welcome and greatly appreciated. THANK YOU!

From Our Jr. Warden

Mike Bill

The year is in its last quarter and notices of Cookie Walks and Christmas Decorations at Sam's Club remind us of our upcoming tasks. I have



compiled a list of things that we all must keep in mind.

1. Change your furnace filters and have the furnace checked out.
2. Put your gardens to sleep for the long winter.
3. Give Thanks on this upcoming Thanksgiving, invite a sailor if you can.
4. Get ready for our pledge campaign by assessing your blessings and your income.
5. Volunteer for making a meal for PADS.
6. Volunteer for helping in the capital campaign by being a worker if your health is good or your support by cleanups and financial support.
7. Invite a friend and or a neighbor to attend church.
8. Enjoy the season of Fall and Winter as nature shows it wonderful colors, harvest of foods, and a deep sleep to prepare for the rebirth of life in the Spring.
9. Make sure that your Christmas has Christ in it and not Xmas.
10. Consider and pray if being a member of the vestry, Warden, or Committee member is for you, we need to grow in our faith and this is perfect act of love as an outward sign of your dedication.
11. And as Jesus instructed us: Love One Another.

Our church plan is to have the Parish Hall completed prior to December 1 but that depends on a substantial amount of volunteer help. Be on the lookout for lists and dates of tasks available in the upcoming weeks.

If volunteer response is low we may have to postpone the work until after Christmas.

At the last Vestry Retreat, we the vestry, evaluated the following questions: "What I want From the Vestry" and "What the Vestry Needs from Me" our review created lists of what we do well, who in the parish lives or owns that action, and how we can improve on that element. I with others were tasked to have more activities for men. We in the past have had several attempts for Men's Group, it has been a collection of sport outings, card playing and Building and Grounds committee. The only remaining group B&G; not solely for men, as we have had women involved in B&G committee before. So, with the help of the men of the Parish I am going to try an experiment for us to self-design an Annunciation Spiritual Men's Group. What I propose is a Saturday morning breakfast that we start with prayer, discuss our problems and strengths from a man's perspective. We all have unique life experiences and we can share what we've faced, failed, and conquered these concerns. I feel that open discussion and responses to these trials are both beneficial to the listener and the speaker. The only rules I have in mind is confidential respect of each other's stories, no politics, we start with prayer, end with prayer, and break bread together. The Women have done a good job on their "Women's" meeting SIS, lunch bunch, book clubs, and knitting group. Let's get together and explore our spiritual nature. Look for a personal invitation coming to you soon.

From Our Vestry



Ramblings from the Clerk
Charles O'Morchoe

It is often said about the typical organizations, especially ones that are made up primarily of volunteers, that 20 percent of the people do 80 percent of the work. On September 10th at both the 8:00 am and 10:00 am services Rev. Elizabeth recognized everyone who participates in one or more of all the various ministries at Annunciation. She asked parishioners to stand as she listed all of the ministries and activities. Rev. Elizabeth started with the Altar Guild and Acolytes, readers, Prayer Ministers,

Lay Ministers, choir/music, coffee hour hosts, teachers both for children and adults, building and grounds, committee members, Vestry, outreach, etc. The great thing here was that, by the time she was done, everyone at both services was standing up or, if they were unable to stand, were recognized. Everyone is a participant at Annunciation. Now I know that there are some people who are involved in many activities and others who do what they are able and have time to do, however everyone participates in some way as they are able in the life of our Parish. I do mean our Parish, because as everyone participates it makes us owners of Annunciation.

By having everyone participating, we can do all the great things that happen at Annunciation every week of the year. From picking up unsold food from Starbucks and delivering it to several volunteer organizations, bringing communion to parishioners at home who cannot make it to church on Sundays, participating Pads, Adult Forum, Coffee hour, and special activities like the recent parish picnic etc. to all of the things that need to be done around the church whether on Sundays or during the week we make things happen.

Over the past couple of years, we have seen a number of physical changes to the church building including updating the kitchen, the new communication center in the Narthex, the new communications wall in Strang hall, the name tag closet, the new window in the parish office, the safety windows in many of the doors in the building and the upcoming replacement of the lights and ceiling in Strang Hall. All of these improvements to the building were done by volunteers from the Parish saving us labor costs and getting more people involved.

All this activity by everyone in the parish helps to make Annunciation such a great and vibrant place to gather and worship. Some are very visible, but many more are behind the scenes and often go unrecognized which is why we need to stand up and be appreciated, which is ok because we are all standing.

See you on Sundays!