

The Vine and the Branches

St. Anne's Episcopal Church
Mission:

**“Striving to Grow in Christ’s Love
and Share it With Others”**

June/July 2011

Why ECBF?

St. Anne's is currently participating in a financial planning process with the Diocese of Iowa and the Episcopal Church Building Fund (ECBF) to help us become more financially solvent. The main goal of this effort is for us to develop our own plan at St. Anne's and to build a business and/or income stream that will help us survive as a church and support our mission and outreach programs. We need to be willing to "think outside of the box" and be creative for this process!! We want to make ourselves more relevant to the community of Ankeny

and to provide a service or business that our congregation and our city can rally behind.

Many of us at St. Anne's might ask...."But WHY are we going through this process now? We seem to be doing okay... are the finances at St. Anne's really that bad?"

The unfortunate answer is - Yes, the finances ARE that bad right now. We have been experiencing several down-

ward trends over the past few years at St. Anne's:

1. **Our operating expenses have exceeded our operating income in nine of the past 13 years. In other words, we've had a deficit budget nine of the past 13 years, and we have either had to ask the**

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Timeline for the ECBF Process

This description will help everyone know what we have already accomplished during the ECBF process and what is yet to come in the next few months....

1. December 2010 – Open invitation from the Diocese of Iowa and the Episcopal Church Building Fund to learn more about the ECBF recast-

ing of building assets process

2. February 2011 – St. Anne's submitted application to participate in the ECBF process

3. March 2011 – Four congregations in Iowa were selected to participate in the ECBF process:

- a. St. Anne's in Ankeny

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We are a welcoming and diverse family united in Christ.

Calendar of Events

June

- 19-Father's Day
- 19-Trinity Sunday - International Youth Choir Performance
- 22-International Youth Choir rehearsal at 5:15 p.m.

July

- 6-International Youth Choir Rehearsal at 5:15 p.m.
- 12-Unfinished Business
- 17-Worship Service at Cherry Glen Picnic Area #2 at 10:00 a.m.
- 7/22-7/30-Pine Ridge Mission Trip
- 7/24-7/29-Diocese of Iowa Summer Camp
- 7/31-8/3-Vacation Bible School

For complete calendar, visit www.saechurch.org/calendars.html

Worship Service at Cherry Glen



On Sunday, July 17, St. Anne's will meet at the Cherry Glen Picnic area #2 for a worship service and cookout.

The worship service will start at 10:00 a.m.

We will eat at 11:00 a.m. Bring two dishes to share - main dish, vegetable, salad or dessert,

table service, and a lawn chair. Beverages will be provided.

Olympic games will start at 11:45 a.m.

The 8:00 a.m. worship service will be at St. Anne's as usual.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 31 through August 4 at St. Anne's. We will be hosting this year. Ankeny Christian and Ankeny Presbyterian will be assisting our volunteers.

Please contact Karen in the church office if you can help in any way. People are needed to help with teaching, crafts, recreation and preparing meals.

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF IOWA SUMMER CAMP

Episcopal Diocese of Iowa Summer Camp will take place July 24-29 at Pictured Rocks Camp, Monticello Iowa. Registration closes on June 24, 2011, or when the camp fills up.

Three age groups run concurrently throughout this fun week at camp, all exploring the dynamics of water and fire in our spiritual lives. Campers have an opportunity to learn archery, sail down a zip line, explore caves, and build friendships, all while living in an intentional Christ filled community.



Scholarships are available to assist with the cost of \$325/camper. Register online at http://iowaepiscopal.org/young_people/events.php#Summer_Camp

St. Anne's Financial Report

Total Income for May, 2011: \$12,975

Total Expenses for May, 2011: \$14,307

Total Average Weekly Income Requirement: \$2,558

May 2011 Weekly Average Pledge and Plate Income: \$2,595

2011 YTD Weekly Average Pledge and Plate Income: \$2,272



Recasting of Building Assets May 13-14, 2011

St. Thomas, Sioux City
St. Anne's, Ankeny
Grace, Charles City
St. Andrew's, Des Moines

What We Learned At This Meeting....

- This is a transparent process: you will be kept apprised of what we know.
- We asked to participate in this process and asked for the help; this is not being imposed on us.
- The Goal of the Re-Casting of Building

Assets process is to:

1. arrive at a plan for financial self-sufficiency and
 2. have permeable walls (have more relationship with those who are not now members)
 3. use the buildings to their full potential (good stewardship)
 4. be relevant to our community/town.
- There are 3 stages:
 1. The Past
 2. The Hallway – this is

where we are now. We need to linger here longer than will be comfortable to allow the new ideas to emerge. We will not rush to select a solution.

Whoa Pony! Let the process work.

(There is a list at www.ecbf.org of how other congregations are using their space; we can use it to stimu-

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PARISH HEALTH

Men's Health

By: Joann Olson, R.N., Ed.D.

"Long life to you! Good health to you and your household! And good health to all that is yours!" 1Samuel 25:6 NIV

Men can live healthier, longer lives just by knowing their health threats and how to work through those risks. Statistics show that heart disease is the number one threat with cancer, injuries, stroke, COPD (respiratory disease), diabetes, flu, suicide, kidney disease, and Alzheimer's making up the top ten. By listening to your body and adopting good lifestyle habits, you can decrease your risk for life-threatening health issues.

A healthy, balanced diet will greatly reduce the risk for five of the top ten threats: heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes, and kidney disease. Fruits, vegetables, and whole grains are heart healthy selections and can fight some cancers as well. They also help maintain a healthy weight which is necessary for the prevention of diabetes and kidney failure which is a complication of diabetes and high blood pressure.

Risky behavior can cut a man's life short and is easily preventable. Accidents from automobiles, falls, and the use of chemicals can be fatal or seriously debilitating so wear seat belts, drive

safely, use chemicals in a well-ventilated area, and use ladders carefully. Also, lose the smoking habit as it increases your risk of heart disease, cancer, and complications with respiratory disease and diabetes.

The three remaining health threats- flu, suicide, and Alzheimer's- can be decreased by being proactive, eating right, and avoiding risky behavior. Exercise, get an annual flu shot, don't smoke, and eat a healthy diet to prevent illness and stimulate your brain. Avoid falls which have an apparent link to Alzheimer's and avoid addictions to prevent suicides and self-harm. Get an annual physical to ensure early identification of disease. See a mental health professional if you feel depressed, or notice a change in your behavior.

Know your body, listen to its needs, and see your physician when things do not seem right. Your families want a future with you so look at your life and see what can be changed. Change is hard, but a few simple adjustments can give you better health and a longer and more productive life.

(Source: National Library of Medicine:

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/menshealth.html>



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late ideas, but not shop from it).

3.The Future

- The solutions will come from the congregation.
- We don't have the solutions yet.
- There is no silver bullet.

(Don't expect a 'one answer fixes it all' easy fix. There will likely be a variety of changes or new directions that together will create the financial self-sustainability).

- It won't be a turn-key solution.

(The solutions will require work to make it successful – the leadership group can't carry the responsibility for success, every parishioner is part of the team).

- We need to know everybody's fears.

(We will be asking you soon, give it some thought).

- We want to know "What is the thing (related to this congregation) that you can't live without?"

(We will soon be asking what you will do anything to ensure is preserved.)

- We are not alone in this situation.

(It is happening nationwide. Three Episcopal churches

close each month.)

- We are going to fight the trend, it is a fight worth fighting.

- We are going to talk about hard things; it'll get difficult.

- We had better be prepared to slaughter a few 'sacred cows'.

- Change IS happening to us; we can either steer it or have it happen TO us.

- We are going to stop hoping for change, and start changing so there is hope.

- We are going to map our future, and own our future.

- We intend to GO BIG, or go home.

- We intend to survive and thrive.

- We are forging new territory, creating new models.

(This will become normative throughout the next decade, we are at the beginning of the tidal wave.)

(He didn't die so we would have buildings. This process is about using our building assets, because the buildings are tools for our ministry.)

While the goal is financial self-sustainability of the buildings, so the buildings are not financial drains on

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Spotlight on the Vestry

Doug Karlen, Senior Warden

During the next six months, this section of St. Anne's Newsletter will provide you an opportunity to get to know more about each of your Vestry members. As we begin this series, the spotlight for June is on our Senior Warden Doug Karlen.

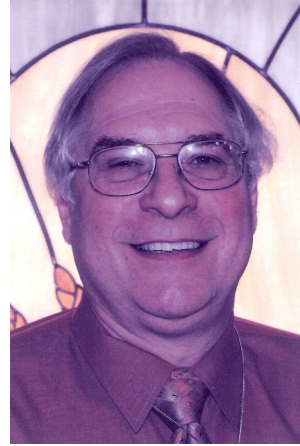
Doug is a Supervisory Research Soil Scientist and Research Leader for the USDA-Agricultural Research Service (ARS) at the National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment (NLAE), which is located in Ames. He conducts and provides oversight for research activities on soil, water and air resources with a personal research emphasis focused on determining how harvesting crop residues and other plant material for bioenergy production affects soil and water quality. Doug is a native of Wisconsin and has his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Wisconsin – Madison, Michigan State University, and Kansas State University, respectively.

Doug, his wife Lin, and their three children joined St. Anne's in 1989, shortly after they moved to Iowa from South Carolina. St. Anne's members were meeting in the Real Estate building on Ankeny Boulevard when Doug and his family made their first visit. As many members will report, "we were greeted by Dick Tripses" and many others because our family of five increased worship attendance from 30 to 35 people. We were attracted to St. Anne's because it was the only Episcopal Church in the Ames to Des Moines area where Sunday School was held between the 8 a.m. and 10:30

a.m. services. Our children had grown accustomed to participating in the service with us and we did not like having concurrent Christian Education and Worship services as was being done in the other Episcopal Churches that we had visited."

Through various spiritual gifts inventories, my leadership and communication abilities have been reaffirmed. I have used these gifts by serving as a Lector and Lay Preacher, the latter primarily for sharing the Consecration Sunday program with other churches in the Diocese of Iowa. I have been able to use my gift for leadership by serving on the Vestry while in South Carolina, as Chair for St. Anne's Building Committee, and most recently, by serving as your Senior Warden.

With regard to where God is leading the people of St. Anne's, it has been my observation that our church has a long history of having very talented and committed lay leadership. I am convinced that God will continue to be with each of our members as we, like all other traditional denominations, strive to move forward into the 21st century. Cyclic fluctuations in membership, weekly attendance and cash flow are not new challenges for us. The diversity (racial, gender, and age) of St. Anne's is a core strength that I feel God has entrusted us with to nurture and develop. The successful Roanridge Project, Pine Ridge Mission trips, and youth activities are examples of how all God's children – yellow, black, and white – are being brought together through God's hand within St. Anne's. The path will not be easy, but when there is



only one set of footprints in the sand, it will not be because we have been abandoned, but rather because God is carrying us through the rough times. Thank you to everyone for allowing me to serve as your Senior Warden.



DMARC

DMARC Receives Donations From Farmer's Market By: Deacon Kathy Tripses

DMARC has joined with Hope Ministries as a beneficiary of fresh vegetables and fruits from the Downtown Farmer's Market program, Meals from the Market Program. Now in its third year, the Meals from the Market Program offers vendors and patrons an opportunity to give back to the Greater Des Moines community by providing fresh food to people who are homeless or hungry.

The six months the market was open last season accounted for 71% of DMARC's FRESH distribution, a good portion of which was direct from the Saturday Markets.

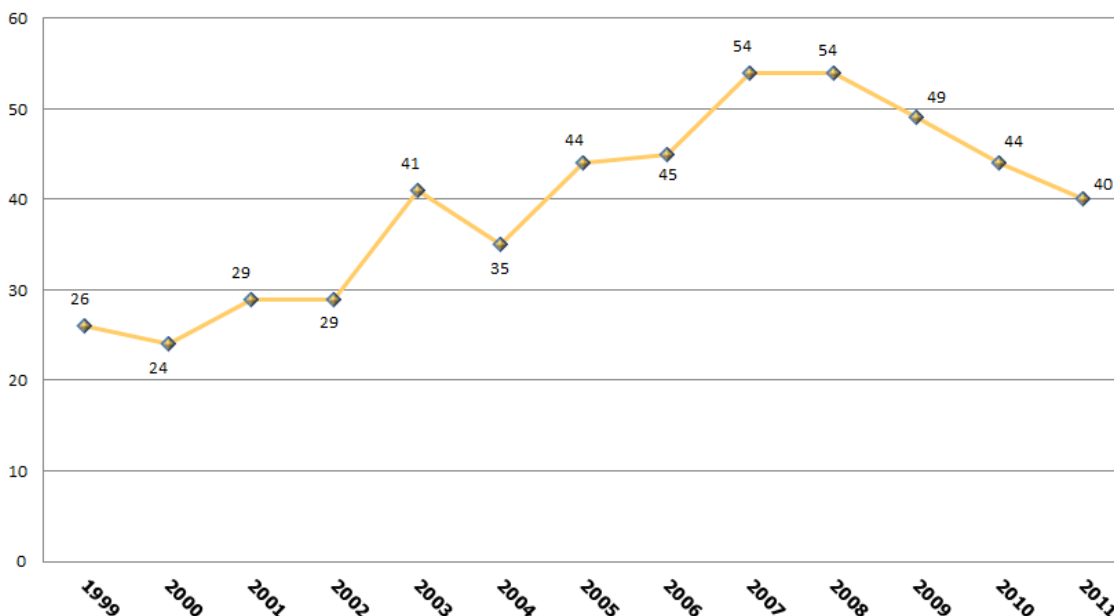
The Meals from the Market booth is open to collect donations from market vendors and patrons at Second Avenue just north of Court Ave. every Saturday through October.

FRESH donations are taken to Hope Ministries to bring local flavor and also to the 12 DMARC Food Pantry Network sites. In 2010, these individual pantries distributed enough food to provide 1.6 million meals in 2010.

If you would like to help gather donations at the Farmer's Market on Saturdays, call the DMARC main phone number at 277-6969. Don't forget you can donate and bring your surplus fresh vegetables and fruits from your home garden and trees to the main Food Pantry site at 3816 36th St., Des Moines.

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Number of St. Anne's Pledging Families



congregation for more money or borrow money to meet our obligations.

2. Our membership and number of pledging families has been declining recently. Since 2008, we have lost 14 pledging families (see the chart to the right). The unfortunate truth is that this trend is not isolated to St. Anne's. This decline in membership is reflected across the National Episcopal Church as well.

3. For 2011, St. Anne's budget requires that we bring in an average of \$2,558.35 each week to meet our financial obligations – including salary payments, utility bills, and general operating expenses. However, our ACTUAL average Year to Date weekly income is only \$2,086.12... which means that we are \$472.23 short every week.

4. Finally, with the current economic downturn in the overall US economy, all of us are dealing with financial hardships. Because of the uncertainty of when and how this economic situation will be resolved at the national level, we must also face the difficult truth that this will continue to impact our personal and church finances for the foreseeable future.

Now for some good news: We are doing what we can at St. Anne's to help alleviate our current

financial situation! We have taken several steps to try to counteract these difficulties and find solutions to our problem.

We have initiated several short-term solutions for this problem. St. Anne's Vestry and Finance Committee have worked very hard the past several years to trim our spending and create the most efficient budget as possible. In addition, by renting a portion of our building space to St. Luke's Catholic Church, we are bringing in more funds each month to help alleviate our budget shortfall for 2011. Also, the generosity of everyone who has contributed to the current "Burn the Mortgage" campaign is greatly appreciated. This effort is helping us pay down our primary mortgage debt and will lead to smaller monthly payments for the building. All of these initiatives are helping to solve our short-term financial issues...however, if the declining income and membership trends listed above continue, we need to find a more permanent solu-

tion.

This is where the ECBF process comes in. The National Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Iowa recognize that Episcopal Churches across the nation are facing similar financial difficulties as St. Anne's. The decline in National Episcopal membership has made many people realize that simply working on Congregational Development and hoping for increased church membership will probably not be enough to save churches financially. Therefore, this ECBF initiative will help us develop a new long-term solution to help supplement our income and ensure the ability for St. Anne's to weather these financial trends. We are reaching out to organizations, leaders, and businesses within Ankeny so that we can develop a business plan for St. Anne's that will generate income and fit a need within our community.

The National Church and the Diocese of Iowa are sup-

porting us through this process. They are both committed to making sure that by October 2011 we will have a solid business plan in place to start implementing. The good news is that St. Anne's is not alone, and that we are in charge of our own future. We are taking a pro-active step by participating in the ECBF process to ensure that we don't slowly continue to decline financially.

We will need the input and help from EVERYONE at St. Anne's to make sure that we consider all possible options and making the best decision for us. Please keep us in your prayers and continue to ask questions about the ECBF process!

Thank you!

Ministry Commissions

Clergy and Staff

- **Rector** - Fr. Bob Kem
(rector@saechurch.org)
- **Office Manager** - Karen Carter
(secretary@saechurch.org)
- **Deacon** - Rev. William Magie
(wwmagie@aol.com)
- **Deacon** - Rev. Kathy Tripses
(ktripses@msn.com)
- **Music Minister (Adults)**-Kevin Purscell
(KJCDM5@yahoo.com)
- **Music Minister (Youth)**-Natalie Steenson
(sofa4@msn.com)

Administrative Commission

- **Sr. Warden** - Doug Karlen,
(linanddoug@mchsi.com) Finance/
Personnel

Buildings and Grounds

- **Jr. Warden** - Lorene Harris
(LandRHarris@mchsi.com)

Liturgy/Worship Commission

- **Altar Guild** – Erica Lamb
(lambone1@mchsi.com)
- **Chalice** - Steve Hanson
(stevehanson@q.com) and Heidi Schleicher
(Heidi_schleicher@msn.com)
- **Greeters** - Dan Kem
(Daniel_kem@yahoo.com)
- **Lectors** – Dick Tripses (tripses@msn.com)
- **Music/Sound** – Kevin and Julie Purscell
(KJCDM5@yahoo.com) and Tyler Schleicher
(schleichertyler@johndeere.com)
- **International Youth Choir** - Natalie Steenson
- **Acolytes** - Ken Finch (KHFinch@mchsi.com)
and Phil Hedges
(phrunswithdoes@yahoo.com)

New Members

- Heidi Schleicher
(Heidi_schleicher@msn.com)

Christian Formation Commission

- **Andi Baker (Youth)**
(andi.baker@mchsi.com)
- **Nursery Coordinator** (nursery to age 3)
– Jessica Carlson
- **Godly Play** - Mary Gjullin
(marygirlsailor@msn.com) and Sarah
Eichhorn
(saraeichhorn@davisbrownlaw.com)
- **GP Extreme** (grades 3- 5) – Joel Baker
(andi.baker@mchsi.com)
- **Rite 13** (grades 6-8) – Andi Baker and
Joel Baker
- **J2A** (grades 9-12) – Fr. Bob Kem
- **Adult Formation** – Doug Karlen, Lorene
Harris and Heidi Schleicher
- **Kerygma Bible Study** – Fr. Bob Kem
- **Order of St. Luke (OSL)** – Andi Baker, Fr.
Bob Kem

Fellowship and Parish Life Commission

- Erik Gjullin (egjullin@mindspring.com)
- **Epicurean Dinner Groups** - Heidi Schleicher
- **Coffee Hour and Kitchen** – Joann Olson

Human Needs

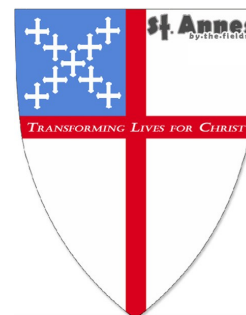
- Mary Oliver (mmo492@q.com) and
Audrey West (awest1305@aol.com)
- **Little Roses** - Connie Skinner

Pastoral Care Commission

- **Pastoral Care** – Lin Karlen
- **Prayer Chain** – Lin Karlen
- **Mill Pond/New Horizons** -Andi Baker
- **Parish Health Ministry** - Joann Olson
(jolson@dw.com)

Finance Commission

- Ron McCartney
(ron.mccartney@mchsi.com)



Birthdays and Anniversaries

June Birthdays

6/2-Komuri Lejukole
6/6-Mary Oliver
6/7-Jellyn Bacdayan
6/7-Rudy Harris
6/9-Isabelle Bete
6/9-Kimberly Kem
6/12-Robert Kem
6/12-Miles Kem
6/13-Phil Hedges
6/14-Sam Eichhorn
6/25-Brandon Sawhill
6/26-Paige Carlson
6/29-Melissa Canova
6/30-Alexis Hergenreter
6/30-C. J. Sutton

June Anniversaries

6/9-Lin and Doug Karlen
6/15-Ann and Dan Kem
6/17-Ronda and Bob Wissink
6/20-Kathy and Dick Tripses
6/20-Anja and Joel Armitage
6/27-Bill and Donna Hendrick
6/27-Kimberly and Andrew Kem

July Birthdays

7/4-Bill Hendrick
7/7-John Kem
7/14-Bill West
7/17-Julia Bacdayan
7/17-Dan Purscell
7/19-Arvid Oliver
7/20-Gatwech Nam

July Anniversaries

7/3-Heather & Shane Morris



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b. St. Andrew's in Des Moines

c. Grace Church in Charles City

d. St. Thomas in Sioux City

4. March 2011 – May 2011 – St. Anne's ECBF team was established from volunteers and worked towards the first ECBF assignment: to create a summary of St. Anne's current finances and gather information about the community of Ankeny.

5. May 13-14, 2011 – the first Face to Face ECBF meeting hosted by St. Thomas in Sioux City, IA. Participants included teams from all four congregations, the ECBF President and Vice-President, and representatives from the Diocese of Iowa. The teams introduced themselves to the group and summarized their individual financial and community situations.

6. June 2011 – July 2011 – St. Anne's ECBF team is working on the next set of assignments for this process:

a. Gathering comments and input from St. Anne's congregation

b. Surveying the community of Ankeny to see what residents know about St. Anne's

c. Interviewing and building relationships with organizations, businesses, and community leaders within Ankeny to see what needs exist in our community and if St. Anne's can help develop a role to help meet these needs.

7. July 22 -23, 2011 – the second Face to Face ECBF meeting will be hosted by Grace Church in Charles City, IA. Each team will evaluate the responses from the congregation and community interviews and create a list of possible solutions including:

- a. Cost savings ideas
- b. Revenue producing ideas
- c. Ideas on new ways of operating / being for St. Anne's

Then, criteria will be developed for evaluating the list of ideas so that the ECBF team, St. Anne's Vestry, and St. Anne's Congregation can make a final decision.

8. July 2011 – September 2011 – St. Anne's ECBF team, Vestry, and Congregation will narrow down the list of ideas. We will determine a single idea to rally behind, and we will work towards seeking appropriate advice to help implement the plan. We will be

working with: ECBF Leaders, the Diocese of Iowa, Tax attorney, Developers, Ankeny Leadership / Partners. We will also work towards a project timeline, resource list, etc. for the implementation of our plan.

9. September 30, 2011 – October 1, 2011 – Final Face to Face ECBF meeting will be hosted by St. Anne's in Ankeny, IA. Each ECBF team will present our business plans. We will use advice from the ECBF Leadership and Diocese of Iowa to adjust and finalize our plans. Finally, we will launch our plan and begin the REAL work!!

(Continued from page 3)

our ministry budgets, if done well, this process will effect growth, our worship experiences, our programming, and our relationships in town. This is not a process for congregational development, but the higher profile, new relationships, and external focus may lead to new members.

- How can we as a congregation serve our greater community? (How can our real estate asset help us do this?)
- The process will be helpful to see worship - meaning. The whole congregation can expand the notion of what worship looks like.
- We will talk honestly with each other.
- This is going to be a long jour-

ney.

(The facilitated process is over within a year, but this will be just the beginning.)

- We gathered data so our decisions will be based on reality rather than perception.

At this meeting we evaluated who we have been and who we are now (attached):

1. A parish timeline of events that have shaped us.
2. A survey of our property grounds and buildings, their condition, assets and drawbacks.
3. A time use survey of how we use our grounds and buildings, by whom, and how often the space is used.

4. We painted a picture of our local demographics

5. The key learnings from our parochial report (Average Sunday Attendance, marriages, baptisms, funerals, etc.)

6. Budget: charts our income and how we spend it.

- We want this group experience to be positive, not just firing, or divisive, so:

o we will set behavioral norms for our meetings and work; and

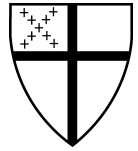
o we will clarify how we as a congregation make big decisions, well before we need to make one.)

• We projected how long the congregation will survive if nothing changes.

• We have assignments for the next stage in the process; you are invited to take a role.

St. Anne's Episcopal Church

2110 West 1st Street
Ankeny, IA 50023
515-964-5152



We're on the web:
www.saechurch.org

Worship Services

Sundays:

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. - Little Blessings Nursery (nursery to age 3)

9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. - Adult Class Forum

9:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. - Godly Play 1 (4 yrs to Grade 2)

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - Rite 13/J2A (Grades 6-12) (During school year)

Wednesdays

9:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist / Healing

Thursdays:

7:00 p.m. - Contemplative Prayer Group

Church office email: secretary@saechurch.org

Phone: 515-964-5152

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.