



# The Piedmont Messenger

June 2022

Dear friends in Christ,

If you are anything like me, your emotions in the aftermath of Tuesday's mass shooting in Uvalde, Texas have been all over the map. I am not sure I can even articulate them, but I want to try.

My heart can scarcely hold the sadness I feel over the loss of young lives in such a senseless act of violence. When I think of those suffering parents who have lost their babies, I fall to my knees.

I am never sure that playing the blame game gets us to a better place. I am not in love with rifles such as the one used in Uvalde. I support our Second Amendment right, but recognize that they were not imagining the sale of such weapons on our city streets when they penned that amendment. No, I do not think we as a country have adequately responded to the mental health issues that have pervaded our country and particularly our young adults. Often it appears we sit and wait for just such moments of terror like this to open our eyes to the vast number of people who carry trauma and emotional instability around with them wherever they live and wherever they go.

I suppose right now my heart and soul have become acutely aware of the power of love. Love can heal anything and the lack of love can open a hole wide enough for hate and the desire to execute violence to seep inside. I can only assume that Salvador did not know love and had not experienced the warm embrace of another human being that told him he was worthy and divinely made by a God of unconditional love. I am convinced that only a person who does not know or feel love could commit such a violent act.

For me, I know prayers are not enough. Prayers are needed, welcomed, and heard. May our prayers drive us to actions of love, made stronger by our God whose power, working in and with us and through us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.

This very day know how much you are loved and don't hesitate for one moment to share love with others.

With deep love, Anne

**Anne is moving in !!!!!!!**

***Due to some necessary remediation and renovation work that had to be done in the Parish House we are renovating the undercroft to be a rentable apartment. The Vestry at Piedmont offered me the opportunity to be the first renter. I took them up on the offer. It will be nice to be in the neighborhood of Piedmont Church, closer to Grace Church and a nice savings on my rent cost. After I have had time to settle in I plan to host an open house so you can see my new digs.***

This and That.....



The Election of the 14<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia

Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> Anne West, Kathryn Thoma, Brad Jackson and Lay Delegate Karen Czar will travel to Alexandria Virginia to place our votes for the next Bishop. If you have not had a chance to meet the candidates you can go the Diocesan website: [www.thediocese.net](http://www.thediocese.net) to get a good introduction to each candidate. We continue to ask the Holy Spirit to hover close as we discern the direction and future of this Diocese.

Come Holy Spirit, Come!

June 5<sup>th</sup> is Pentecost Sunday. Dig out all your red attire and come celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.



The Madison  
Day Team  
2022