



This week at St. Andrew's

Thursday, November 28, 2024

Welcome to St. Andrew's Weekly E-mail Newsletter. In an effort to keep the congregation better informed we will be sending out this newsletter on Thursdays to cover events happening at the church through the following Wednesday. We hope you find it useful.



The Mission of St. Andrew's Parish is to worship God, grow in discipleship, and share Christ's love.
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2018



December 1, 2024

1 Advent

8:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman

Organist: Sean Fleming

Altar Guild: Laura Blanchard

Eucharistic Minister/Intercessor: Martha Elliott

Lector: Susan Emanuel

Ushers: Jim Swan & Susan Emanuel

Vestry Announcer: Laura Blanchard

The worship booklet for the 8am Sunday service is available by clicking [here](#).

10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman

Organist: Sean Fleming

Choir Director: Linda Blanchard

Altar Guild: Ann Kash

Eucharistic Minister/Intercessor: Ann Kash

Lectors: Jennifer Meade & Steve Ward

Livestream Operator: Bill Judd

Ushers: Kelley Kash & Jennifer Meade

Vestry Announcer: Kelley Kash

The worship booklet for the 10am Sunday service is available by clicking [here](#).

You can get to our Facebook page by clicking [here](#)
You can get to our Website by clicking [here](#)

First Sunday plate recipient for December: Stepping Stone Housing

Stepping Stone Housing is the recipient of this Sunday's loose plate offerings. SSH was founded in 2013 to address the need for affordable housing in Damariscotta and neighboring communities. SSH receives no government funding, but instead relies on donations to make up the difference between what renters can afford and what it costs to keep the properties going. SSH also maintains a facility on Biscay Road where they store and sell donated items to raise money for housing. Please support their work generously.

If you would like to donate other than cash into this Sunday's plate, you may make checks out to Stepping Stone Housing and place them in the plate or you may mail them to St. Andrew's Church, PO Box 234, Newcastle ME 04553 and we will get them to Stepping Stone. More information on Stepping Stone Housing is available on the ushers table.



Advent Wreaths and Christmas Flowers

If you would like to give thanks for or remember your loved ones with flowers at Christmas, there are envelopes available in the back section of each pew. Please drop the completed envelopes, with your donation (cash or check made out to St. Andrew's Church) in the plate. You may also drop them off in the office or mail to St. Andrew's Church, PO Box 234, Newcastle, ME 04553. Please contact the church office (563-3533) with any questions. The names will appear in the Christmas bulletins.



Christmas is coming! Pageant Helpers Needed!

We need a few adults to help get our kids costumed up before the 4:00 Christmas Eve pageant. You'll need to come at 3:15 to get familiar with what we have for costumes, then help the kids decide which character they want to be and find them a costume. The kids are supposed to arrive 3:30-3:45 but a few might come early. If you'd like to help, please contact Linda Blanchard. Thanks!



Join the Bell Choir for Christmas Eve!!

The St. Andrew's Bell Choir will begin rehearsals soon in preparation for the 6:00 Christmas Eve service, and we'd love to have you join us! Rehearsals will be either Thursdays at 6:15 p.m. or Sundays following the 10:00 Sunday service, depending on everyone's schedules. If you'd like to participate, please email Linda Blanchard.

Slow Gifting on December 8th

Have you ever heard of Slow Fashion? The Earth Keepers team would like to invite you to a Slow Gifting event at the coffee hours on December 8th. In the tradition of Slow Fashion, this is a way to regift something that is new, or nearly new, that you don't need or want anymore. All will be free for the taking, but we need you to bring in your items and leave in designated boxes in the Atrium during the week of December 2-7. The Earth Keepers will set up tables Saturday the 7th so you can peruse the wares at both coffee hours on the 8th. Please make sure you bring in items you think others would find as a treasure. We hope everyone gets involved and enjoys the fun and fellowship!



Family Christmas Caroling December 15

The kids and families of St. Andrew's are planning to visit Hodgdon Green in Damariscotta at 1:00pm on Sunday, December 15 to sing Christmas carols and would like to invite any other parishioners who might want to join in the fun. If you are interested, please meet at Hodgdon Green at 1pm (carpooling would be helpful). They may continue on to visit a few St. Andrew's parishioners in

A message from John Ward, representing St. Andrew's Stewardship Committee

We have been working from September onwards to help our church prepare financially for the coming year. We have been talking about our love for our church, our gratitude for the way it inspires and heals us, the richness of the music and liturgy that move us to understand and act on the gospel message. We are nearing the end of the campaign, and can see the finish line.

Last year the parish responded magnificently, with an all-time high of \$260,000 in pledges from 85 households. We hope to be able to report to the vestry that you all have again pledged enough to allow a balanced budget for 2025. Many, indeed, most of you have submitted your pledge cards – and we are grateful. But some have hesitated, or delayed sending them in, waiting for the right moment, the right circumstances, the financial security.

I understand. For years as a younger man, I somewhat thoughtlessly sent in my pledges, more or less on time, more or less as much as we could afford, trusting that all would be well in the church. And so it seemed. But as the years passed, and I grew a little wiser, I came to realize that my pledge wasn't just a personal or financial decision; it was about the life of the church and the faith we profess. St. Andrew's is always in a questing mode, striving to do its work, work done by parishioners and priest alike, making choices every day on questions of funding and viability (can we afford to do this holy task? can we support this worthy mission?). Like it or not, we cannot serve the church without adequate resources. And so we must conclude this stewardship effort successfully. We are close, but not there yet. For those who have yet to pledge, please take the plunge, take a deep breath and increase the generous pledge you made last year.

Stewardship update:

Our annual giving campaign continues. As of November 27, St. Andrew's has received 71 pledges for a total of \$242,016. We thank those who have pledged for your generosity and financial commitment to St. Andrew's. St. Andrew's is a blessing to our community and to each of us. Thank you.

There are additional pledge cards and envelopes on the usher's table in the back of the church if you have not yet received one or you may contact the church office (563-3533)

Holy Women, Holy Men

James Otis Sargent Huntington Monastic and Priest

On almost every day of the year, the Episcopal Church honors faithful followers of Jesus who went before us. Every Wednesday at St. Andrew's during our Healing Eucharist, we remember one of more of these Holy Men and Women. We take time to remember these people for three important reasons. First, they deserve to be remembered. The people chosen for our calendar are remembered because they were particularly remarkable followers of Jesus. The second reason we remember them is because in remembering we are connected to Christians throughout time. And last but not least, we remember them because in remembering we can learn how to be better followers of Jesus in our day and time.

This week we remember James Otis Sargent Huntington. Please click [here](#) to learn more about him.



St. Andrew's Church Calendar

St. Andrew's Church calendar is available online. If you would like to access it, please click [here](#)

Weekday Worship

Compline: Monday-Friday 8:30 PM
Zoom Meeting

Wednesday Healing Service: Wednesdays at 11:30am

Please note: The next luncheon after this service will be on Wednesday, December 4

Meetings

Benedictine Group: 10:00 AM Wednesday
Zoom Meeting

Please note: The Benedictine Group will not meet on the following Wednesdays: 11/27 (the day before Thanksgiving), 12/25 (Christmas Day) and 1/1 (New Year's Day).

Knitting Group: 2-4pm Fridays
All welcome: knitters, non-knitters and everything in between.
Meeting in the Undercroft unless otherwise announced.

St. Andrew's Choir Rehearsal: Thursdays at 7:00pm. Please contact the choir director, Linda Blanchard or the organist, Sean Fleming if you are interested in more information about the choir.

Upcoming Concerts in December

Sheepscot Valley Chorus Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 1 at 3:00pm at the Boothbay Harbor Congregational Church
Tickets \$20 (free for children and students)
Tickets are available at Treats in Wiscasset, Sherman's Coastal Maine Book Shop, Damariscotta and online at sheepscotvalleychorus.org/tickets

If you would like to read more about the concert, please click [here](#). If you would like to view the poster for the concert, please click [here](#)

Boston Camerata Christmas Concert A Medieval Christmas: Hodie Christus Natus Est

Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 3:00pm
Lincoln Theater, Damariscotta
Tickets: \$35 in advance online; \$40 at the door
BOSTONCAMERATA.ORG

To view the poster, please click [here](#)

St. Cecilia Chamber Choir: A Concert of Lessons & Carols

Saturday, December 7 at 3:00pm at Damariscotta Baptist Church
Saturday, December 14 at 3:00pm at Bowdoin College Chapel
Tickets \$20
Tickets are available at the door, Sherman's Maine Coast Book Shop, Damariscotta, or online at ceciliachoir.org

If you would like to read more about the concert, please click [here](#). If you would like to view the poster for the concert, please click [here](#)

Intercessory Prayer List

"The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words." (Romans 8:26)

We pray for those who are ill or with special needs:

Rob & Irma Hargreaves, Alan Hargreaves, Phil Bartley, Val Gorrill, Tom Belanger, Dick, Tyler & Christine,

Bruce & Julie, Cynthia Troxel, Nathan Hargreaves, Janice Roman, Shelby Owen, Beth, Dennis C., Drew Havens, Emily Goodspeed, Anne Ogden, Tony Sousa, Joanne Sousa, Ian J., Emily Goodchild, Jean Donaldson, Lee & Mike.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
PO Box 234, 11 Glidden St.
Newcastle, ME 04553
(207) 563-3533

E-mail: stasnew@tidewater.net
Web site: standrewsnewcastle.org

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman
Senior Warden: Sara Sandberg - Junior Warden: Kelley Kash
Clerk: Terry Marsh - Treasurer: Mark Freese
Organist: Sean Fleming - Choir Director: Linda Blanchard
Parish Administrator: Ann Kash
Ministers: All Members of the Parish

[Visit our Website](#)

St Andrews Church | P.O. Box 234, 11 Glidden Street | Newcastle, ME 04553 US

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