



## Candlelight Caroling

Friday, December 19th, 5:00 pm

*It's a magical winter night of Christmas songs, celebration, and cheer!*

*Dress warm, there's no heat!*

*Our chapel is small and safety is our priority. Our door will open at 4:30 pm and seating will be available until our pews are filled insuring a comfortable and safe experience for all.*

# THE FISHERMAN'S NET

The newsletter of St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea

Winter  
2025

Volume 34, No. 2

30 CHURCH ROAD, RYE BEACH, NH ~ SERVING THE SEACOAST SINCE 1876



### Dear Friends,

**Special Greetings this Holiday Season!** We have so much to be grateful for as we reflect upon the many blessings this time of year at St. Andrew's.

**We are also fortunate** to have so many dedicated and committed volunteers who give of their time and service so all of us can enjoy the wonderful fellowship at St. Andrew's.

**A Special thanks** to our Chapel Committee members having served these last 3 years, Libby Kenney, Shelley Lord, and Kay Ruma. We are also grateful to our previous Sr. Warden, Anne Arnold for her 5 years of service, and especially to help lead St. Andrew's out of Covid and back to normal. We are also excited to welcome our new and returning Chapel Committee members – Mary Ellen Dalzell, Libby Kenney, Diane Koehler, Kay Ruma, and Shelley Lord.

**Coming Soon** – Our New Pavilion. Construction will soon start over the Gollidge Table. Special thanks to Greg Kann for his previous leadership and leading up to the impressive work J. Lord has done hurdling past quite a few obstacles to get the Pavilion recently approved. Very exciting to see this project move forward in time for next summer.

**150 Year Celebration – 2026** – We have a great Committee led by Lillian Kann and Penny Bartko already planning for St. Andrew's 150 year celebration. Please mark your calendars to help celebrate this historic event:

**Sunday, July 19 – Bishop Rob Hirschfeld** will be making his last visit (retiring) to St. Andrew's. We will have a special celebration for his wonderful service over these last 14 years and celebrate with HAVEN acknowledging his collaborative efforts and leadership with Christ Church Portsmouth, HAVEN, and work force housing with Portsmouth Housing Authority.

**In August, we will celebrate our 150th** with a special community celebration along with gather – providing critical food insecurities in our local communities. And more to come!!

**Candlelight Caroling – Dec. 19, 5:00 pm** – Mark your calendar – always a spirited time to enjoy the holidays. Let's enjoy another wonderful evening with family and friends as well.

*Wishing you joy and peace this holiday season, and in the New Year!,*

Gary Fincke, Senior Warden



St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea

An Episcopal Summer Chapel

[www.standrews-by-the-sea.org](http://www.standrews-by-the-sea.org)





## SHOULD YOU STOP?!

**One of my very favorite** activities occurs right here at Kittery Estates where I live. We have a ragtag choral group under the very patient direction of a resident who is a retired organist and choir director. We practice on Sunday afternoons for one hour and then perform a spring and winter concert for residents and two assisted living communities. It is pure unadulterated fun!

At a recent concert we performed a song made popular by Roy Orbison, one of my favorite vocalists of years ago. In 1964, Roy recorded a haunting song entitled "Pretty Paper". I was honored to sing the introductory solo as follows:

*"Crowded street, busy feet hustle by him,  
Downtown shoppers, Christmas is nigh  
There he sits all alone on the sidewalk  
Hoping that you won't pass him by*

***SHOULD YOU STOP, better not, much too busy  
You're in a hurry, my how time does fly  
In the distance the ringing of laughter  
And in the midst of the laughter, he cries."***

Should we stop?! That is the question as we approach yet another Advent season and prepare ourselves for the coming of the Messiah. Advent is that countercultural season that begins yet another church year on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Black Friday begins the pre-Christmas rush of crowded street and busy feet. Should we stop and reach out to that lonely person on the sidewalk? Of course, the answer is a resounding Yes! Do we always stop and reach out? Of course, the answer is a resounding No! Do we sometimes feel like that lonely person on the sidewalk? Maybe!

The world in which we live is clearly in need of people like you and me – people who are willing to stop instead of just passing by. Food insecurity is very high, abuse abounds, and the world peace for which we pray still seems to evade us. In this coming month of crowded street and busy feet, may that red octagon stop sign be a metaphor for us to stop – to think globally and act locally for the world that Jesus the Christ came to save.

This newsletter is full of tangible ways in which you can make a difference. Support Haven, donate to Gather, volunteer for St. Andrew's, and pray for peace. Or be generous to your year-round church, extend a warm smile to that grocery store cashier or give your friend that much needed hug!

Let us make a difference in this Advent season.  
Let us decide to STOP!

*Faithfully Your Vicar, David Holroyd*

**You read about it here for several years, and now our Pavilion project is becoming a reality.** Over the course of the late summer and fall we were pleased to gain the support of our Church Road neighbors and the approvals of the Rye Beach Village District Planning and Zoning boards. With our building permits in hand, we will start the structure's foundation; probably at about same the time as we go to print on this newsletter. Construction of the above ground Post and Beam building will begin early next spring 2026 and we look forward to putting our new pavilion to use throughout our 150th season of celebration and for many summers after that.

While all that was going on we continued to maintain our beautiful chapel and grounds as usual. The chapel will get closed for the winter after Candlelight Caroling and our Church Road and Chapel signs will come down for protection from the winter winds and weather. Our water heater has failed and that will be replaced before anyone even knows it was a problem.

Finally, on a "well, that is certainly full circle" note, several years ago there was the thought to move the Baptism font to the front of the chapel. To do that, a small, half pew needed to be removed. What to do with an extra chapel pew? Sell it on Face Book Marketplace, of course. And sell it did. However, this fall we were contacted by the new owners checking to see if perhaps we wanted it back. They had good intentions when they purchased it but never did anything with it. As they started to downsize, they concluded they would never use it. And we never did move the font. So here it is, full circle, back at St. Andrew's where it belongs.

*Wishing you a joyous holiday season,*  
**JM Lord, Junior Warden**

## Junior Warden's Report





**Please consider making an important contribution to St. Andrew's.** Please use the form below or donate by PayPal at [standrews-by-the-sea.org/giving](http://standrews-by-the-sea.org/giving).

*\*All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law*

**Please return form to:**  
St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea  
PO Box 555  
Rye Beach, NH  
03871-0555

*Thank you.*

*The celebrated poet  
Ogden Nash was  
St. Andrew's treasurer  
for 25 years.*

*Saint Andrew was a fisher  
In the Galilean sea.  
He left his nets upon the shore  
When his Lord said, "Follow me."  
Saint Andrew went rejoicing,  
He served without regrets,  
But in his namesake parish  
We sorely need his nets.  
Alas you who know Saint Andrew's,  
Now let your hearts be roused;  
The church must be in order set,  
The clergy must be housed.  
The parish we loved in summer  
In winter we forget,  
And therefore with this message  
I cast Saint Andrew's net.  
The yearly cost grows greater,  
The yearly yield is small.  
O Lord who blessed Saint Andrew,  
Send us one shining haul!  
(Ogden Nash*

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check: ☐ for \$\_\_\_\_\_ to St. Andrew's pavilion project

☐ for \$\_\_\_\_\_ Community Outreach to be shared fully to those listed in the newsletter.

I'd like to volunteer for ☐ Hospitality ☐ Altar Guild ☐ Eucharistic Minister ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please add me to the email list

## It's our 150th year at the chapel!

2026 will be a fun milestone year for St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea, as we will be celebrating 150 seasons of summer worship - our sesquicentennial. St. Andrew's doors first opened in 1876, with 150 consecutive years of summer worship. We will be sharing highlights of our history over the next months, and hope that everyone will be able to join us for several events to commemorate - Sunday July 19, 2026, will be a special service with an honored visit with the Bishop, and in August we will host a History Open House.

It's also a wonderful way to get involved in the St. Andrew's community. We are always looking for and are appreciative of anyone who would like to pitch in to help us execute our events. It's not a long-term commitment; just a few hours to make lighter work for all involved. Watch for opportunities to sign up. Or reach out to either of us at our email addresses below. Thank you!

Lillian Kann  
[lilliank@comcast.net](mailto:lilliank@comcast.net)

Penny Bartko  
[pennybartko@me.com](mailto:pennybartko@me.com)



## Treasurer's Message

Thanks to the generosity of all who attend and support St. Andrew's, we continue to be able to manage our finances both for the short and long terms. This season, our annual operating budget enabled us to offer a season filled with inspirational clergy sermons and glorious music provided by our talented guest musicians. Most importantly, we were able to increase our outreach budget to offer support to Seacoast organizations serving the ever-growing needs of our community.

Year to date, our investment accounts, both those managed through the Diocese manager as well as our smaller self-

directed account, have made performance gains in line with the markets. While we are not immune to the ups and downs of the market, thankfully we have a diversified portfolio of assets with a longer-term horizon.

We are grateful to all within the St. Andrew's community for your generous support. Thanks to you we can fulfill our mission of maintaining our historic chapel for worship, celebration, and providing outreach care to those in need.

**Ken Hooper**, Treasurer



## Get involved with The Altar Guild

**Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer, meet new people, and become an integral member of the St. Andrew's community?** St. Andrew's Altar Guild is looking for help. The Altar Guild prepares the altar for Sunday services, and often helps with baptisms, weddings and memorials. To learn more about this meditative and rewarding opportunity to be a part of our wonderful summer chapel, please contact:

**Lillian Kann**  
603-770-9272

[lilliank@comcast.net](mailto:lilliank@comcast.net)

**Darleen Chadwick**  
or 603-379-2147

[dchad21396@comcast.net](mailto:dchad21396@comcast.net)

## Planned Giving

Please consider making a gift to help ensure our chapel, the place you have enjoyed and supported for so long, is here for generations to come. If you would like to learn more about making a gift through a will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance to St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea please reach out and our Vicar, David Holroyd, [dholroyd0219@comcast.net](mailto:dholroyd0219@comcast.net) or Treasurer, Ken Hooper, [treasurer@standrews-by-the-sea.org](mailto:treasurer@standrews-by-the-sea.org) will be happy to speak or meet with you.



## It's called a what???

**The wooden gate at the entrance to our churchyard, common in English churches but rather unique in the country, is called a lychgate.**

"Lychgate" is an old English word with lych meaning 'corpse'. Lychgates sometimes have small seats on either side of the gate (ours does not). The tradition of a lychgate dates back to the 16th century. When someone died, they were wrapped in a shroud and carried to the lychgate to await burial. Depending on the location, some people might stay there to guard against body snatchers. Later they were used to set down the coffin before the service, awaiting the clergyman.

*Taken in part from the "Yorkshire Treasures" Face Book page. Lychgate located in the Yorkshire Dales, England.*







## Community Outreach 2025

The Outreach committee's focus for nonprofits was to help mitigate the growing needs among our neighbors, both home and abroad.

We addressed the SNAP funds issue, and the ever-growing hunger and food insecurity in our country. Some of the other important issues were concern for immigrants among us, agencies we have historically funded, HAVEN (domestic and sexual assault services), and other local, national and international agencies doing critical work to help support children, women and families.

We are so grateful to be part of a community that values giving back to those in need in our communities where we can make a difference in so many people's lives. We are proud that in 2025 St. Andrew's able to support the following organizations with our donations:

\$5,600	GATHER
\$2,350	Hampton Trinity Food Pantry
\$3,350	End 68 Hours of Hunger
\$2,850.	Common Table at St. John's (2/3rds Thurs. lunches & 1/3rd Mon. Breakfasts)
\$2,750.	Seacoast Family Promise
\$2,100	World Center Kitchen
\$2,500	Thistle Farms
\$6,500	HAVEN
\$1,000.	International Institute of New England/Refugee resettlement program in Manchester
\$1,000	Episcopal Relief & Development
\$1,000.	Nature Conservancy
\$1,000	NH Legal Assistance
\$1,000	NH Conference, UCC Advocacy & Mission
<b>\$33,000 TOTAL</b>	

*Best,*

**Gary Fincke**, Senior Warden and Chair, Outreach



## Fellowship

This summer was another wonderful year of fellowship around the Golledge Table made possible by our dedicated hospitality volunteers. We are very grateful to all who provide the food and drink that graciously appears on our fellowship table every Sunday. We are looking forward to our 150th anniversary season next year and hopefully we will be gathering under our new Pavilion.

Anyone who might be interested in helping with hospitality and fellowship next summer can reach out to me via the volunteer form in this newsletter or by emailing at [info@standrews-by-the-sea.org](mailto:info@standrews-by-the-sea.org).

**Dana Hooper**  
Fellowship Chair





**The Blessing of the Pets was enjoyed on a beautiful fall afternoon by more people and animals than ever before.**