



# NETWORK NEWS

ST. ANDREW'S January—February 2016

**Jay's  
Say**

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I write this, having just returned from our Eucharist to commemorate the Holy Innocents.

A few weeks ago, it felt like a good idea to link our middle-schoolers' project on homelessness with Holy Innocents' Day on Monday, 28 December. The readings recall Herod's slaughter of babies in Bethlehem and the holy family's flight to Egypt as refugees. Christmas celebrates the coming of the one true light, but it's important to acknowledge the darkness. And who better to lead a discussion on homelessness than our own Nancy Rollins who directed community-based care in New Hampshire and is now state director of Goodwill?

But on this Monday morning, after seven Eucharists in the previous four days, I wondered whether it would just be Nancy and me around a makeshift altar in the parish hall in the evening. Faith Adventures, our middle-school youth group, is thriving under the leadership of Ellen Yenawine and helpers Gardner, Pamela Curran and Lisa and Billy Kelly, but surely the youngsters would prefer an evening in front of the television (or another device) rather than trooping back to church. The previous Monday evening I'd asked them to attend the Vigil for the Homeless in Newport organized by the Rev. Alice Roberts. So in the midst of Christmas revelry, I guessed that the attendance would be sparse at our Eucharist of the Holy Innocents.

In fact, nearly all the youngsters turned up, many of them with parents and/or siblings in tow, and so did several adult church members. Nancy played a segment from *60 Minutes* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2hzRPLVSm4>) and led a wonderful conversation about homelessness and child poverty.

In the Eucharist for the Holy Innocents we sang the *Gloria* and the *Sanctus*, and we chanted John Bell's wee Scottish song: *Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; seat your seal upon my heart and live in me.* The *Gloria* was sung by the Christmas angels, the *Sanctus* connects heaven and earth, and when we bid Christ to "live in me," we connect with Mary.

Luke's account of Christmas abounds in songs (a topic that Kelly will explore in our upcoming Lent course). Mary sings the *Magnificat*, Zechariah sings the *Benedictus* when his son John is born, the angels sing their "good news of great joy," and Simeon sings the *Nunc Dimittis* when he sees salvation in the Christ child.

(Continued on p. 8)

***From the Parish Register***

**Baptism**

*November 29*

***Scott Edmund Falato***

**Memorial Service**

*November 8*

***Elizabeth Otto***

**Tuesday Morning Crafts**

The Crafty Critters of St. Andrew's will begin meeting on February 9 to start working on projects for the Summer Fair to be held in July. We meet on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 in the parish hall.

We welcome all who are interested. If you are unsure if you are interested or not, come check us out. See who you know that is involved, enjoy some coffee and goodies and great fellowship. We are always open to suggestion and ideas of projects to make so please feel free to let us know your ideas. Questions? Contact Rosie Best or Barbara Smith.



Rebekka Almond	2
Janet Jones	3
Jenna Wheeler	4
Margarete Wasilieff	6
James Wassell	7
Deborah Lambert	8
Loa Winter	8
Jane Landenberger	9
Linda Miller	10
Richard Haines	12
John Jevne	12
Peter Machen	12
Edward Olney	12
Barbara Smith	12
Jane Hedley	13
David Marshall	16
Nancy Rollins	16
Tyler Harwell	21
Tina Colehower	23
Diane Caldwell	25
Linda Barnes	26
Kathryn MacLeod	26
Natalie Stark	28
Kent Woodger	28

***Parish Birthdays***



Evelyn Douty	2
Candie Reynolds	3
Sophia Snaith	3
George Jamieson	6
Natalie Davis	8
Bill Helm	10
Jack Liberman	11
Bill Sloan	11
Adele Warner	11
Sondra VanderPloeg	12
Judy Wallace	14
Gardner Yenawine	18
Bruce Avery	20
Lou Sawyer	20
Steven Schweizer	21
Sue Clough	24
Terry Smith	27



**Lent Course on Luke**

**Sundays from 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM in the Parish Hall**

14 February	<i>Luke: Historian, Teacher &amp; Preacher</i>	Rev. Jay MacLeod
21 February	<i>Journey to Jerusalem with Luke</i>	Rev. Pat Harris
28 February	<i>Luke &amp; Liturgy</i>	Rev. Kelly Sundberg Seaman
6 March	<i>Lucan Parables</i>	Rev. Kathleen Rusnak
13 March	<i>Looking at the Cross with Luke</i>	Rev. Jay MacLeod

### ***Sunday School – New Curriculum***

Sunday school participants have been enthusiastically engaged with the Advent section of our “Whirl” curriculum; we are celebrating this season of anticipation and joy as we welcome Jesus into our hearts. We have also been learning about the lectionary and enjoyed posing related questions to our congregation (and clergy!). The Whirl curriculum materials are relevant for all ages and focus on applying faith in daily life and addressing the questions and challenges of living out our faith.

We meet on the second, third (and, in January only, the fourth) Sunday of the month through June. When Sunday school is in session, children leave the worship service at the end of the Gloria or first hymn and proceed to the Parish Hall to sing with Nicole; then join in the Collect before going downstairs to their respective classes. We will continue to celebrate All-age Worship on the first Sunday of the month, and the children will sing with Nicole Densmore on the last Sunday of the month to help prepare them to lead the singing during the All-age Worship.

The younger group is composed of children in kindergarten through third grade and the older group includes children from fourth grade up plus any children not yet confirmed. The children in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades who are not yet confirmed are encouraged to help out with the younger children and be “shepherds in training.” Children who have been confirmed are encouraged to attend the church service. Children in preschool and younger go to the Nursery. – *Ellen Yenawine*

### **Faith Adventures**

We are very proud of our Faith Adventures middle schoolers. They made a wonderful presentation at the annual convention in Concord; their talk included a video of the summer visits with the students from the Phillips Brooks House.

In addition, they have enthusiastically participated in a Homeless project with the middle school youth group at the First Baptist Church. To promote awareness and raise money for the homeless, young and older adults from both churches constructed cardboard boxes and, on the frigid night of December 5th, slept out on the lawn of the First Baptist Church. This project was noted in the following televised link: <http://ycnnow.com/2015/12/09/residents-sleep-in-cardboard-houses-for-homeless/>. Those who participated in the event earned more than \$6,000 and will decide how to use that money to support the homeless.

Our students’ focus on homelessness and how they might make a difference included joining with others at the Homeless Vigil in Newport on December 21; they also participated in the commemoration of the Holy Innocents December 28 by remembering the flight of the holy family into Egypt and recognizing how innocent children suffer. On January 18, Martin Luther King Day, our Faith Adventures group will join with the middle schoolers at First Baptist Church to travel to The Haven in White River Junction, VT, where they will be introduced to the services provided there and engage in an interactive program that acquaints them more directly with the challenges faced by the homeless. Our young people will also help prepare macaroni and cheese for the Friendly Kitchen in January.

We will return to our regularly scheduled Faith Adventures meetings, 4-6 PM on the third Sunday of the month, in February. – *Ellen Yenawine*

## The Curate Considers: Priesting

I can't remember, now, the first time I heard what had always been a noun ("priest") transformed into a verb ("priested"), but it was long enough ago that it doesn't sound odd any more. In fact, there was a run of weeks in late November and early December when it felt like every third or fourth sentence out of Jay's mouth begin with, "Once you're priested . . ."

Thanks be to God, that did happen as it was supposed to, on December 21, the Feast of St. Thomas, and I am so deeply grateful to all of you: many, many St. Andrew's folks worked hard (right in the midst of Christmas preparations) to plan, and decorate and welcome those who attended and took part in the service. I'm so very grateful for the support of this parish through (as the ordination announcement puts it) your prayers and presence.



The Rev. Dr. Guy Collins, rector of St. Thomas Hanover (my home parish) preached the ordination sermon; even if you heard it once, I'd encourage you to visit St. Thomas's website and read it, not the least for its reminder that by virtue of our Baptism, we all share in the priesthood of Christ. We are called to make the presence and love of Christ known to each other, to our neighbors, to the world.

None of that changed at my ordination to the priesthood. What has changed (besides the way I wear my stole) includes the ways I participate in liturgy and sacraments. Priests bless and absolve, and so you'll see me declaring God's forgiveness when we confess our sins, presiding at the Eucharist, and pronouncing God's blessing at the close of worship. It's also true that once ordained a deacon, always a deacon, so you'll see Jay and me taking turns in the deacon's role in worship, particularly reading the Gospel and setting and clearing the table.



One more thing that's not changing: I'll continue to serve as curate here at St. Andrew's and at Epiphany Newport for a good long time, as we made a mutual commitment of at least two years, which began when I arrived back in September. I still have much to learn from you all, and the people of Newport, from the Rev. Alice Roberts, Rector of Epiphany, and from Jay. May God continue to bless the work we are all doing together.

Here's the link to the ordination sermon: <http://www.saintthomashanover.org/sermons.php?text=2015-12-21>

Peace, Kelly



*Photos courtesy of Great Island Photography.*

*Left and right, the ordination procession.*

*For additional photos please see following pages and <http://www.greatislandphotography.com/-/galleries/kelly-sundberg-seaman-ordination>*



## Outreach Corner



Friendly Kitchen is the only soup kitchen in Concord and serves three meals a day to anyone who is hungry. Dinners each night average almost 100 guests.

Our next visit will be Friday, January 22. We will serve our famous macaroni and cheese, ham, green beans and a homemade dessert. Watch for the sign-up sheet early in the month to see how you can help.

Many thanks to our November servers: Gail Goddard, Ellen Schauff, Lisa and Emily Kelly, Alice Perry and Anne Hall. — *Judy Ackroyd*

### Help Re-Stock the KLS Community Food Pantry



**January: Canned fruit**

**February: Large juice (especially low sugar and 100% juice)**

Paper towels, toilet paper, coffee (regular and decaf) and peanut butter are always welcome.



### *The Parish Nominating Committee*

At its December meeting, the St. Andrew's vestry approved the slate of names for parish leadership positions beginning in 2016, which will be presented to the parish at the annual meeting on January 24. This year's slate included nominations for four places on the vestry, and for three regular delegates to the annual convention of the Episcopal Church in New Hampshire. We also named an additional youth (voting) delegate to convention, who is "a [confirmed] communicant . . . less than 26 years of age." (*Please see "The Warden's Words" on p. 6 for additional information.*)

Behind that slate was the good work of the parish's nominating committee, a group established by the parish's bylaws. Made up of parish members appointed by the vestry with the advice and consent of the rector, the nominating committee included this year's retiring vestry class of Bill Sloan, Gail Goddard, Theresa Quinn and Carolyn Lockhart; parish at-large members Lin Potter, Barbara Smith and Chuck Thompson; and Kelly as clergy. In assembling that group, the vestry looked to make up a nominating committee representing various age groups and worship services, who collectively are familiar with many parishioners, and who have the gift of discerning others' gifts, talents and abilities. We worked together, with much intention, thoughtfulness and prayer to create a pool of potential parish leaders who are themselves broadly representative of parish demographics and who we believe will be faithful leaders of the Church of St. Andrew. — *Kelly Sundberg Seaman*

## The Wardens' Words

At high noon on December 21, we had the privilege of witnessing and supporting the ancient rite of ordination to the priesthood for our own Episcopal Curate of Sunapee, the **Reverend Kelly Sundberg Seaman**. The service, led by Bishop Rob Hirschfeld, was enhanced by ceremonial music, the pomp that surrounds this rite, and a visit by the Holy Spirit. After the ordination, attended by a full church of witnesses – Kelly's family and friends from St. Thomas/Hanover as well as many clergy colleagues and parishioners from both Church of the Epiphany in Newport and St. Andrew's – we enjoyed a joyful reception. Even before ordination, Kelly has made her presence felt at both St. Andrew's and Epiphany, whom she serves as well. We welcome Kelly into our parish and into our hearts. Our mission is thus strengthened.

At our Annual Meeting (January 24 between the services) we will elect vestry and officers for our parish. The nominations process involves search and screening of candidates by a composite group of retiring vestry members and parishioners. The slate that they present this year is:

For vestry:

Bruce Avery  
Lisa Kelly  
Judy Wallace  
Mark Kellett

For convention delegates:

Gail Goddard  
Mary Bayerl  
Christine Kellett  
Peter Koumrian (youth delegate)

Peter Ruth for treasurer  
Becky Rylander for warden

Great thanks for their years of service on the vestry go to retiring members Gail Goddard, Theresa Quinn and Carolyn Lockhart, and to Bill Sloan, treasurer!

As we write, the stewardship campaign comes to a happy ending! We are very close to our goal of \$375,000 and pledges are still floating in. The campaign, led by Rink and Nonie Reynders, and featuring a lot of thought, time and effort on the parts of many of us, has also resulted in increasing our pledging parish members by about 30, a different dimension to our show of support!

As we graduate into 2016, we all are blessed!

*Becky and Richard*



## Voices in Counterpoint

Dear Friends,

The Parish Choir. And now, the Parish *Choirs*. An exciting development.

What is the role of a choir in the Anglican tradition? And we might well ask today: How is that tradition being transformed to meet the needs of worship at the Episcopal Church of Saint Andrew in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? At the beginning of this new year, I invite you to consider these questions and help us continue to develop our music program at Saint Andrew's.

Setting apart and training a body of singers to lead in worship has a long tradition.

*Now these are the singers, the heads of ancestral houses of the Levites, living in the chambers of the temple free from other service, for they were on duty day and night. These were heads of ancestral houses of the Levites, according to their generations; . . . these leaders lived in Jerusalem. — 1 Chronicles 9.33-44*

In a real sense, our choirs today are descendants of the ancient Levitical singers. Around 1,000 B.C.E. King David appointed Asaph, descended from Jacob through his son Levi, to be chief singer and composer in the organization of the first Temple at Jerusalem. Asaph is credited with composing Psalms 50 and 73-83.

Nicole Densmore and I are your appointed parish musicians. We work in the tradition of Asaph to train our choirs to sing God's praises in worship today. And through these choirs, we lead and support the song of the greater choir.

The "greater choir" I refer to here is you, the congregation of St. Andrew's. And you are part of an even greater choir comprised of our sisters and brothers around the world as well as those who have gone on before us and now sing around the throne of God.

And what is our main musical work at St. Andrew's? It is just this: to train, lead and support the singing of "psalms, hymns and spiritual songs" at Eucharist and other worship services of the church. Through our song we are connected to the great choir which sings at the throne of God, who is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier.

Today at St. Andrew's we have need of more singers who will commit themselves to be partners in this ministry of song. In addition to the Parish Choir, we are developing a new choir of young singers, ably led by Mrs. Densmore. Details about this new program which will begin in February will appear soon.

Expanding the Parish Choir into two sections: We now need leadership at both the 8 and 10 AM Eucharist each week. We invite new singers in all voice parts to join this ministry of song. Some may wish to sing at one or the other service - or both. If you currently attend at 8 AM, we have special need for new singers there. Rehearsals will continue on Thursday evenings, 7-8:30. Speak to David if you are interested in joining us. You may also email him at [almondkc@gmail.com](mailto:almondkc@gmail.com)

I'll have more to say about our Anglican choral tradition and how it is alive and well in this parish in my next article.

Peace and Love,

david



*Jay's Say . . . Continued from p. 1*

For me, one of the most moving scenes in the *60 Minutes* segment was seeing how singing lit up the face of fifteen-year-old Ariel. I was reminded of Mary singing that God will upend the powers that be, reverse the fortunes of an unjust world, and lift up the lowly. When their backs are to the wall, many people sing.

Those living in the shadow of the Berlin Wall knew this. In 1989 protesters in Leipzig gathered on Monday evenings to sing by candlelight around St. Nikolai Church (the church where Bach composed many of his cantatas). At first the meetings (part prayer and part protest) were attended by fewer than a dozen people. By Monday, 23 October, three hundred thousand people (over half the city's citizens) were singing songs of hope and protest and justice. Their song shook East Germany and changed the world. The leader of East Germany resigned and on 9 November 1989 the Berlin wall came down amid scenes of jubilation.

Later, explaining why the East German secret police did not ruthlessly crush these protests like they had so many others, a *Stasi* officer said that they were ready for most anything, "but we had no contingency for song."

Our worship at St. Andrew's is immeasurably enriched by our music, and I can't praise David Almond, Nicole Densmore and the choir highly enough. The choir's ministry now extends to our 8 o'clock Eucharist. I believe that this could prove crucial for our continued growth in the long term, and the immediate result is wonderful worship.

The boys' quartet was a hit over Christmas, and on top of her work with the Sunday school, Mrs. Densmore hopes to develop a youth choir this spring. The young people would rehearse after school for two six-week blocks and enrich our worship over Eastertide and Christmastide. Now that is something to look forward to in 2016.

The great thing about singing is that it connects us across lines that too often divide. This evening we sat on the floor with a coffee table for an altar in the parish hall. We remembered children who died long ago in Bethlehem. And when we raised our voices in song, we didn't start from scratch. We joined our voices to theirs and to all the saints in the heavenly choir around God's throne.



Singing transports us even across the frontier of death. Or rather, the Christ child does.

*Welcome all wonders in one sight!*

*Eternity shut in a span.*

*Summer in winter, Day in night,*

*Heaven in earth, and God in man.*

*Great little one whose all-embracing birth*

*Brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.*



### *Buildings and Grounds Update*

This winter we expect to reap the benefits from our new glass enclosure at the main church entrance. Thanks to the generous donation of labor and material from Chris Heyl, we now have a glass wall to block wind, snow and rain from our front door. This is an experiment to help reduce the damaging effects of water and ice that builds up after each storm and blocks the door. Early results show promise.

You may have also noticed the new fenced enclosure around the gas bottle and garbage container near the front door. We again thank Chris Heyl for his carpentry and painting expertise in creating a more attractive enclosure.

The choir room now has a new custom-made bookcase. This should help organize paperwork for David and give choir members a place to store books, music and other items.

Building and Grounds will also work to improve overhead lighting in the choir section in church. Additional track lights will be installed to direct lighting for the choir but away from the congregation.

Under the category of "going above and beyond," we used a portable lift system to diagnose problems with our bell and actuator in the steeple. The bell has not operated for months and we have identified the problem part after the aerial examination. The manufacturer of the equipment confirmed the necessary replacement part from a photograph we sent. With winter upon us this repair will be put off until spring 2016. -- *Harvey Best, for the Buildings and Grounds Committee*

### Calendar of Events

#### January:

- 6 (Wednesday) - **Feast of the Epiphany**, Carol sing and potluck supper, 5:30 PM
- 13 (Wednesday) - Novel Theology, 1:30 and 7 PM: *Marie Blythe* by Howard Frank Mosher (Rob Freitas)
- 17 (Sunday) - Review of proposed budget for next week's Annual Meeting, 9 AM
- 24 (Sunday) - Annual Meeting, 8:45 AM (*see p. 6*)



#### February:

- 3 (Wednesday) - Novel Theology, 1:30 and 7 PM: *The Yiddish Policemen's Union* by Michael Chabon (Jay MacLeod)
- 9 (Tuesday) - Crafty Critters resumes, 9:30 AM (*see p. 2*)
- 10 (Wednesday) - **Ash Wednesday**, Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes, 8 AM and 7 PM
- 14 (Sunday) - Lent course on Luke commences, 11:45 AM (weekly through March 13 (*see p. 2*))

### ... More Events ...

**Monday to Friday** 12 Noon Midday Prayer ▼ **Mondays** 6 PM Meditation  
**First Tuesdays** 8 AM Pastoral Care Coordinating Team ▼ **Tuesdays** 9:30 AM Craft Group  
**Wednesdays** 10 AM Music & Memory  
**Thursdays** 10 AM Thursday Tots, 7 PM Choir Rehearsal

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in New London, NH****P.O. Box 294****52 Gould Road,****New London, NH 03257****Parish Office****Office 603-526-6344****Fax 603-526-8623****Email [standrews-church@tds.net](mailto:standrews-church@tds.net)****Rector****The Rev. Jay MacLeod****Curate****The Rev. Kelly Sundberg Seaman****Director of Music****David Almond****Director of Music for Children and Youth****Nicole Densmore****Verger****Anne Hall****Parish Administrator****Shelly Boucher****Resident Clergy****The Rev. Patricia Harris****The Rev. Canon Jim Ransom****The Rev. Kathleen Rusnak****The Rev. Charlie Tirrell****The Vestry****Wardens****Richard Haines (through 2016)****Becky Rylander (through 2015)****Vestry Members****Term Expires Jan. 2016****Gail Goddard****Carolyn Lockhart****Theresa Quinn****Bill Sloan, Treasurer****Term Expires Jan. 2017****Martha Barron****Harvey Best****Nancy Rollins****Term Expires Jan. 2018****Marni Eaton, Clerk****Peter Ruth****Ellen Yenawine****Committee Chairpersons****Altar Guild****Judy Ackroyd****Rosie Best****Buildings & Grounds****Lyman Smith****Craft Group****Rosie Best****Barbara Smith****Communications Coordinator****Marni Eaton****Eucharistic Ministers****Anne Hall****Finance & Investments****Bill Sloan****Newsletter****Alice Perry – Editor****Outreach****Nancy Rollins****Stewardship****Rink and Nonie Reynders**