

the CHIMES OF ST. ANDREW'S

December 20, 2017

Advent

DEAR FRIENDS,

We've got a shortened Advent in a way. As you all know, Advent 4 and Christmas Eve are the same day. Our regular Sunday services will take place in the morning followed by our three services for Christmas Eve. However, please note that on the following Sunday, December 31, we will only hold one service at 10:00 a.m. That service will be Christmas Lessons and Carols.

As you see me prepare the altar for communion each Sunday, you might note that I say some prayers over the elements. One of the prayers that I say is when the wine and water are mixed together in the cup: "As you participated in our humanity, may we participate in thy divinity." I think this prayer finds its origin at least in the fourth century with the church father Athanasius who said, "The Word of God was made human in order that we might be made divine. The Word displayed itself through a body, that we might receive knowledge of the invisible Father."

One of the themes of this season, intermingled with Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, is the notion of Incarnation. That mystery of the divine becoming human. The part that we "get" is the idea of God becoming flesh in Jesus. It is, after all, the essence of the season. How many of us, though, think of the reciprocation? We don't often consider humanity becoming divine. We have been taught that such thinking is prideful or even idolatry. But this is exactly what was on the mind of the early Church and in the mind of Jesus as he claimed us as heirs with him of eternal life. It is this idea that is carried into our Eucharist each Sunday.

Put in the right context, the contemplation of this reciprocation of the Incarnation theme might help us to understand our place as God's beloved children. The idea for me carries with it redemption and grace . . . that we may be flawed and sinful creatures, but in this notion, we are meant for something more than just to be forgiven. We are meant to participate in the creation itself. We are meant to participate in the redemption of this world.

While it might be humorous to think that God is hiring cheap labor for such a task, there is the sobering reality of the work that such a call entails. At the same time, I believe that participating in God's divinity is the source of

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CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Please join us for our Christmas worship services.



Sunday, Dec. 24 4th Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Christmas Eve

3:00 p.m. Pageant "The Angels, the Shepherds, and the Family from Nazareth," by Bob Franke, and Holy Eucharist
5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist—music 15 min. before
11:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist—music 15 min. before

Monday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, Dec. 31

There will be no 8:00 a.m. service.
10:00 a.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols



Holy Family
Alexander Gassel

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Dear Friends cont.

inspiration for the ministry and mission that we share in community, the fuel for the work of justice and peace. May this Advent and Christmas bring you to a renewed sense of mission for the work that we are called to share. May God give us the grace to fire the passion of love for the good of all!

See you in church,
Clyde+

LEADERSHIP TEAM: NOMINATIONS UPDATE

Chris Stockwell to Step Down as Senior Warden Seats Open for Vestry, Clerk

After five years serving on the leadership team at St. Andrew's, I have decided to step down as senior warden due to my very difficult travel schedule. Our wonderful junior warden, Steve Hahn, will run for the senior warden position at the 2018 annual meeting to be held in January. Thanks, Steve!

I am reaching out now to parishioners regarding other open positions, which include junior warden and three vestry seats with varying term lengths. In addition, Pat Brown has decided to step down as clerk of the vestry so that she can dedicate herself to her role as parish administrator. If you have interest in any of these roles, please contact me at cjstockwell61@gmail.com or 781-424-9932.

I have absolutely loved serving you during this past year as warden. I've done my level best to support our wonderful rector, Clyde. My fellow warden, Steve, has been so supportive of me. Filled with team players, our vestry inspires me. Each member listens with discernment, hearing what each has to say and considering the merits (including differing views) before expressing his or her views. This allows the Holy Spirit to be present—through each of us—as we deliberate in the best interests of our amazing community. We have each found our voice, and that makes our meetings productive, inspiring, and fun. I know that Steve will carry on this approach. If this sounds good to you, and you feel you can contribute and are ready to discover another path on your spiritual journey, please contact me, and I can explain more!

Chris Stockwell
Senior Warden

PLEDGE NOTE

A big thank you to all 94 individuals and families who have gotten their 2018 pledges to us. Your generosity has brought our running total to \$230,000. And welcome to the nine who are new pledgers this year!

And a plea to the 35 of you who are still looking for where that darned card got to: please, please let us know your 2018 commitment. Send or bring in the card (if it turns up), send an e-mail to treasurer@standrewsmhd.org, or call the office to join the community in pledging support for our shared ministry and life at St. Andrew's in 2018. Cards are available several places in the church, or I will be glad to get one to you.

One last plea: please complete your giving for this year if there's still a little left to go to make that 2017 pledge. If you need a little reminder, I'll be happy to let you know the status.

Your faithful treasurer,
John Howard
treasurer@standrewsmhd.org
508-878-6921



OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING AND PARTICIPATION

At this time of year many are looking for ways to help others. To discover multiple ways to volunteer and participate at St. Andrew's, see www.standrewsmhd.org/volunteer.html.

Please note that the office will be closed from
December 25 through January 1.



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: NEWS FROM THE CENTURY CAMPAIGN

We have several years to go before the 100th anniversary of St. Andrew's Church, but the work of the Century Committee is already well underway and making progress.

A year ago, over 100 parishioners attended "cottage meetings" to share their dreams for our parish, ideas that form the impetus for the committee's work. Within the past year, the Century Committee has established sub-committees, studied parish suggestions, researched our needs, gathered information and estimates from experts, and collaborated with the vestry to investigate possible projects. Major areas under review are: the feasibility of hiring an assistant minister; improvements to the parking lot and grounds; the safety, care, and inclusiveness of our buildings; and parish communications. The final plan (coming later in 2018) will also include a proposal for outreach. The plan will reflect our shared religious values and will put additional supportive programs and projects into action to support our missions and ministries.

St. Andrew's mission statement remains the foundation for the committee's work and goals.

God calls us at St. Andrew's to grow spiritually and personally and to reach out to others as part of the global family. We will strive to respond to this challenge every day of our lives through:

- Worship that strengthens and inspires
- Love, mutual care, nurture, and fellowship in the community of faith
- Christian formation and teaching Christian discipleship at all stages of life
- Mission and outreach into the community and the world
- Faithful stewardship in gratitude for God's creation and gifts

Please plan to attend the annual meeting on January 28, when the committee will give an interim report to the parish. Opportunities for parishioners' responses will take place after that. Later will come a capital campaign so we can implement projects over the next years . . . aiming for a big celebration in 2024!

Members of the Century Committee: Peg Howard and Charlie Milner, co-chairs; Charles Ives, Elizabeth Muller, Christina Niles, Mark Rowe, Penny Stratton, Richard Stratton, Phoebe Wysor



CLOISTER GALLERY

"Two Artists En Plein Air"
Elaine Abrams and Susan Burgess
through January 11

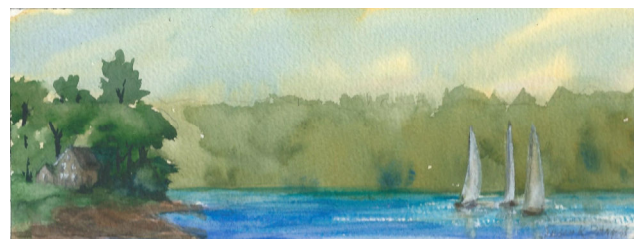
"Two Artists En Plein Air" is an exhibit of bold, sensitive watercolors by Winthrop artist Elaine Abrams and Marblehead artist Susan K Burgess. The show will run through January 11.

Prompted by a chance meeting during the Painting the Town event this past July, both artists soon discovered they had much in common: both try to capture the essence of the natural world by painting on-site in the plein air tradition; each has explored diverse landscapes in different parts of the world to challenge and broaden her vision of the natural world; and both pursue and study new techniques that give ever more profound meaning to their art—Abrams with brushstrokes in the Japanese Sumi-e tradition, and Burgess with abstract watercolor collages and monotypes.

In addition to commonalities, each brings her own stylistic distinctions and personal background into play with choices of subject matter and presentation honed by many years at the easel. One thing that is evident throughout the exhibition is the abundance of love and respect—evidenced by both artists—for nature and the natural world in which we live.



Elaine Abrams



Susan Burgess



IF YOU ARE HERE, YOU BELONG— PUT A LITTLE LOVE IN YOUR LIFE

Peg and I met through Match.com in the summer of 2003. Match.com starts with an autobiographical “profile.” Answering the question about religion, I described myself as a cradle Episcopalian, very active but actively skeptical. I guess this intrigued Peg, because she sent me a note within minutes after I completed that profile and sent it to Match. We met three days later, went to church together on day five, and here we are in year fifteen, still coming to the traditional Episcopal church that Peg introduced me to, a little after that, the fourth Episcopal church of my adult life.

Since youth group in 1959, Episcopal churches have enveloped me in communities of people I love, not for what we believe together, but for who we are and how we care for each other and the world. Here, Clyde has eloquently stated our entrance exam requirements: “If you are here today, you belong here, and you are fully welcomed in our midst, to our shared Eucharist, to be part of our community.” We recite a creed together as part of our ritual, but I suspect if those present were polled, you’d hear a very broad range of how those statements of belief might be interpreted. But we all belong here.

Leaving my active skepticism for another time and place, let’s chat about “active” as a descriptor for my part within our community. It took a few years of passive observation before I felt ready to become more meaningfully involved in the life of this place. St. Andrew’s was poised to become healthy again, after a long period of turmoil in our spiritual and lay leadership. Clyde was discovered and called as priest, and both Peg and I wanted to support his ministry and help in the recovery of our community. Peg stepped up to vestry and then warden, and a year or so later, I offered to become treasurer, a role I’ve had in two previous churches. It’s a fair amount of work, but treasurer gets a vote in vestry, there’s not much competition for the job, and it’s the fastest way to get to know everything about the workings of the church.

But the more important “activity” came in building relationships all through the church, making a point of greeting new faces, remembering names and children’s names, getting to know as many people as I’m able to in this community. I sang with the Noteworthy’s and joined the choir, which opened another small group for me, and when the building manager left St. Andrew’s, I just kind of filled in.

So St. Andrew’s became a large part of Peg’s and my life together. I’m in the building a day or two during the week, rejoicing in the happy sounds of the Cooperative Nursery School kids filling the hallways while I do the treasurer job, or hang new lights in the Music Office, or fix a sticky door latch or window. I’m chatting with the crew folding Sunday bulletins, answering the phone, greeting someone who’s early and waiting for a meeting with Clyde, or signing checks while Rosemary White is writing them. I’m still balancing all this with my work work, designing medical devices.

Life can feel lonely sometimes for all of us, but the community of St. Andrew’s fills my life with people, with caring, with hugs and opportunities to know people more deeply. I’ve had the same experience at my previous churches, but I’m here now, and here has become a central and important place that enriches my life, and puts love into many of the otherwise empty corners of life.

-John Howard



SATURDAY NIGHT IN MARBLEHEAD

Join us at 8:00 p.m. on January 20 for our monthly Saturday Night in Marblehead concert! Arrangements were not final at press time, so please be sure to check the parish website, our SNIM Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/satnightinmarblehead/>), or the weekly e-mail for details. See you there!

BOOK GROUP



Date: **Sunday, Jan. 21, 2:00 p.m.**
Hosts: Jan and Craig McLanahan,
101 Brooksby Village Drive,
Thorndike Gardens #311, Peabody
978-854-5965
Book: *Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder, and One Man's Fight for Justice*, by Bill Browder

The cover of the book tells it all: “A real-life thriller about an American-born financier in the wild east of Russia, the murder of his principled young attorney, and his dangerous mission to expose the people responsible in the Kremlin.” Note from a book group reader: “A page-turner and a timely tale, an important part of the back story of Trump’s persistent adulation of the Russians.”

NEXT POETRY NIGHT JANUARY 28

Because of the Christmas holidays, there will not be a Poetry Night in December. We will all be home reading “A Visit from St. Nicholas” instead. The next Poetry Night is **Saturday, January 28**, the fourth Saturday of the month, at 7:00 p.m. in the Guild Room. All are welcome to come and bring a poem—or be an appreciative listener.

WEDNESDAY NOON EUCHARISTS

Come to a peaceful place on Wednesdays at noon to celebrate Eucharist for a brief respite from the hectic holiday pace.

TOY SALE THANK YOU



Thank you to everyone who participated in the successful Toy Sale in December. Special kudos to Santa Jim Santoro and his elves and all the people who donated toys. Affordable gifts were purchased by appreciative families, toys were donated to local shelters, such as the MA Coalition for the Homeless and Inn Transition, and St. Andrew’s received several hundred dollars. A win-win for all!

NEW DATE FOR AUCTION—APRIL 7

Save the date of Saturday, April 7, as the new date for the auction. It was postponed from fall to give the church ample opportunity to devote the time necessary to make it a success. Please notify Chris Stockwell if you would like to be on the planning team—there are roles for a wide variety of talents. Past auctions have been notable not only for their success, but, more importantly, for the fun and camaraderie engendered.



MY BROTHER’S TABLE

Come be part of a team to help serve dinner the first Tuesday of every month at My Brother’s Table, Lynn. **January 2 is the next date.**



If you can help, please contact
Tim Parker at 781-631-5335.

THANK YOU

There are so many people to thank for making the holiday season so meaningful, festive, and beautiful:

- First and foremost is our rector, Clyde, who planned services that touch our hearts and souls, and will go from Advent blue to Christmas Eve white during lunch hour on a day with five services.
- Mary Jodice and the choir, who practice many hours to float beautiful notes throughout our sanctuary during services, including Lessons and Carols for both Advent and Christmas, and who will be singing almost every hour on December 24 (perhaps gift cards to a Trappist retreat in their stockings?).
- Shauna Le Blanc, who orchestrated events for children and youth with oodles of good humor and flexibility, coordinated the parish-wide Advent wreath making, and led several outreach efforts, in between teaching Sunday mornings.
- Our sexton, Stephen Ruoff, who wears roller skates during this season to keep up with the setups and take-downs of all the events, and who hangs wreaths and greens and moves furniture, all with a smiling face and unflappable manner. And to Michael Michaud, who drives in circles in the wee hours of the morning to keep snow and ice off pathways and parking lots.



- The Altar Guild, who polish the vessels, ensure clean and pressed linens, supply the communion wine and wafers, and arrange for greenery and memorial and seasonal flowers to beautify the sanctuary. And Phoebe Wysor and the Lay Weeders for the beautiful planters and kempt gardens.
- The many congregants who participate in the services as ushers, chalice bearers, acolytes, lay readers, and hospitality providers. The other volunteers who worked on the Toy Sale and the St. Nicholas Night.

- Thank you to the many office volunteers who fold and staple, but never spindle, with special thanks to Penny Stratton, Peg Howard, Roy Young, and Alison Fowler, who get the holiday word out through a variety of vehicles and keep us weekly updated, press released, websited, and Facebooked.
- To the people who really count: treasurer John Howard and his band of merry people who keep us solvent and track the flurry of end-of-year financial treasure.
- Finally, and as a bookend first and foremost, thank you to the office administrator, Pat Brown, who has been running a leaflet production line that rivals Ford Motor Company, while answering phones, responding to friends and visitors who drop in the office, and dealing with lost contractors wandering in the hallways, all with a welcoming smile and cheerful lilt to her voice.

And to the unsung many who assist with willing arms and hearts to make the St. Andrew's community a gift to all of us. On behalf of the entire parish, thank you!

Merry Christmas!



SAVE THE DATE!

**Parish Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 28**

Mark your calendars to attend the annual meeting on Sunday, January 28, following the 10:00 a.m. church service.

HAVING A MEETING?

Now that the holiday programming season is upon us, it is important for everyone using the building to have a schedule of events and meetings. Please notify Pat Brown in the parish office if you are scheduling a meeting or event and let her know the time and room preference. Depending on the time of the event, there may be need to make arrangements to open the building. Thank you.

FOOD DONATIONS

Baskets for **food donations for the Marblehead Food Pantry and Lifebridge** are near the Parish Hall entrance. The next time you shop, get an extra can of applesauce or jar of peanut butter, and drop it in the basket. Nonperishable food is always appreciated!



LAY MINISTRY PARTICIPATION

Are you interested in becoming a reader, a chalice bearer, an acolyte, a provider of hospitality, or a member of the Altar Guild? Please contact the church office; we welcome your participation and will arrange for training.

DAYTIME BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday morning Bible study, 9:15 a.m.
All are welcome to gather in the Guild Room.



If you have questions, please contact
margareteckman@comcast.net.

PASTORAL CARE

DRIVERS needed. Please contact the church office if you are able to provide occasional rides to parishioners for medical appointments, etc.

For a pastoral visit, please contact the rector, Clyde Elledge, directly at rector@standrewsmhd.org or at his cell phone (see below).

In case of pastoral emergency, please call Clyde's cell phone, 781-576-0329.

NEW CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES

The church office has new e-mail addresses. Please use the following:

- Clyde's office e-mail: rector@standrewsmhd.org
 - Office: office@standrewsmhd.org
 - Shauna Le Blanc:
churchschool@standrewsmhd.org
 - John Howard: treasurer@standrewsmhd.org
-

LOTIONS AND POTIONS



Please save your hotel-sized toiletries and drop them in the basket in the Guild Room. Diana Isbrandtsen is making beautiful holiday gift baskets of these items to deliver to local shelters, such as Inn Between, Inn Transition, HAWC, and Lifebridge. Thank you.

CHIMES SCHEDULE

***The Chimes* is published monthly.**

(Please e-mail articles to lakeloreyn@aol.com.)
Articles submitted past the deadline may have to be published in the next issue.

January 17—Wednesday
February 16—Friday



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C. Clyde Elledge II, Rector	781-631-4951 x102
Mary Jodice, Music Director	617-513-8747
Shauna Le Blanc, Dir. of Christian Form. 781-631-4951 x103	
Janet Cook, Director, Altar Guild.....	781-596-7030
Kathy Loveland, Altar Guild Treasurer.....	781-631-7394
Pat Brown, Parish Administrator.....	781-631-4951 x101
Stephen Ruoff, Sexton.....	781-631-4951
Gail Power, Nursery School Director.....	781-631-5543
Dorothy Foley, Historian.....	781-631-4951
Laura Tufts, Cloister Gallery Coordinator.....	781-631-4679
Elizabeth Muller Reynolds, <i>Chimes</i> Editor	781-593-6275
Chris Stockwell, Senior Warden	781-424-9932
Steve Hahn, Junior Warden.....	978-423-7914
Pat Brown, Clerk	802-282-9043
John Howard, Treasurer	508-878-6921
Tori Caldwell, Vestry	781-631-4951
Marsha Cassidy, Vestry.....	781-990-3741
Deanna Karwowski, Vestry.....	781-631-4951
Eleanor Mancusi-Ungaro, Youth Vestry	781-631-4951
Billie Phillips, Vestry	781-631-4951
Richard Stratton, Vestry	781-581-3032
Kate Swanson, Vestry	781-639-1453
Claire Wahl, Vestry	978-744-6186
Nat Wysor, Vestry.....	781-990-3527

Mission Statement

God calls us at St. Andrew's to grow spiritually and personally and to reach out to others as part of the global family. We will strive to respond to this challenge every day of our lives through:

- Worship that strengthens and inspires
- Love, mutual care, nurture, and fellowship
- Christian formation and teaching Christian discipleship at all stages of life
- Mission and outreach into the community and the world
- Faithful stewardship in gratitude for God's creation and gifts

