

Andover Community Church

Annual Meeting

2024



January 28, 2024

Andover Community Church, 1 Chase Hill Road, East Andover, NH 03231,

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www.andovercommunitynh.org

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Opening Prayer

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Review and Acceptance of Last Year's (2023) Annual Meeting Minutes

The annual Meeting of the Andover Community Church was opened with prayer at 11:00 am on January 29, 2023.

Present: 24 members as well as clergy were present; a Quorum to hold the meeting was met. Minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting were read by Jeri Bacote. A motion was made by Lawrence O'Neil to accept these minutes as read and seconded by Beth Bellows. All were in favor.

Changes to the bylaws Article X Paragraph A were proposed and Linda McGrail made a motion to accept the proposed changes as written. It was seconded by Eric Faller. All were in favor. The nomination of three new Vestry members, Linda McGrail, Beth Bellows, and Alice Grover were accepted. A motion was made by Elizabeth Daneault and seconded by Virginia Newton. All were in favor.

Celebration of God in Our Midst with Ministry Updates and Testimonies.¹

Several ministry reports were heard, including reports from Junior Warden, Senior Warden, and Rector. A summary of the budget from 2022 with a real time balance of all of the accounts of the church was discussed, as well as a review and passing of the 2023 budget.

Respectively Submitted,
Jeri Silver-Bacote, Clerk

¹ All reports can be found in last year's annual meeting booklet upon request, or on our website under "church business."

Celebration of Ministries

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

1 Peter 4:10-11

Adult Formation

Jef DeMarie

Members: Bill Blomquist and Jef DeMarie.

Description: Adult Formation is offered to nurture the image of Christ in our adults, to challenge us spiritually and intellectually, as we grow into the mind of Christ.

Highlights: Several classes were held this year: New Members Class, Catechism, a Bible class on the Book of 1 Corinthians, Emotionally Healthy Spirituality, and an Advent series, *The Incarnation*. Missionaries John and Brook also shared their call as missionaries.

Dreams and Challenges: This Lenten season we will be having a class on Ignatian spirituality, as well as having two small groups on *Lecto Divino*. Each week, we hope to offer times when we can gather around the three streams of the church (Spirit, Sacrament, and Scripture). A new catechism class will be offered in August for those wanting to be received or confirmed by the Bishop on September 8, 2024.

Altar Guild

Alice Grover

Members: Alice Grover, Jane Walker and Darlene Tilton.

Description: The Altar Guild is a hands on ministry that cares for the altar, vestments, sacred vessels and the linens for the service. Altar guild members work behind the scenes to set up and clean up after the services including the Eucharist, Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings. The guild is responsible for all things pertaining to the service, including preparing the table, liturgical colors through the year, cleaning of the linens and robes, flowers and replenishing supplies.

Highlights: The Altar Guild isn't a huge commitment, but it is an important one, as it is involved in every service the church has. Each Sunday the altar is set up (by Jane) for communion. We check the church calendar to see what season we are in for the church. If you notice, the colors

of the altar and podium hanging will change depending on the season. This year we added the banners on the walls for the seasons of year.

Dreams and Challenges: This year we would like to order altar frontals to match the pulpit hangings (if this is something you would like to donate to please let me know).

I would like to send out a great big "Thank you" to Darlene Tilton for coming on board to take over the flowers for the altar guild. She and her granddaughter did such a beautiful job setting up the sanctuary for the Christmas season. It is her calling and her passion. Also again "THANK YOU" Jane Walker for all that you do. I know the job will get done by Jane.

If you would like to learn more about the Altar Guild ministry, please talk with Jane or myself. We would love to talk to you about it.

Anglicans for Life

Rita Rees

Members: Bill Blomquist and Rita Rees.

Description: We are a life affirming church and affiliated with Anglicans for Life, A Global Community Affirming the Sanctity of Life. We believe in celebrating, protecting and honoring life from conception to natural death.

Ministry Highlights: We joined in the 2023 March for Life in Concord NH. We had 9 join in the march together. Hand and foot warmers were distributed and the fellowship together kept us warm. It was a wonderful time together participating in this yearly event.

Dreams and Challenges: We continue to collect supplies in the entryway which have been donated to the Crisis Pregnancy Centers in Concord. In December we were able to take the proceeds from the clothing bin and donate that to the Anglicans for Life Ministry.

East Andover PreSchool Liaison

Jeri Silver-Bacote

Member: Jeri Bacote.

Description: The preschool liaison helps to build a bridge between the church and the Andover preschool. The preschool itself is a broad arm of outreach from the church to the community at large. The Andover Community Church owns the buildings and grounds the preschool stands on. The school offers affordable child care to the families in our community and the church plays a large role in making that possible. The liaison's responsibilities include attending the preschool's once monthly board meetings, reporting to the Vestry and Rector any needs or concerns presented by the preschool that pertain to the preschool buildings upkeep and maintenance, and also finding ways that we as the church can support the East Andover Pre-School.

Ministry Highlights: This year I have attended the preschool's board meetings and relayed concerns from the preschool staff to the Vestry. We have found a way to help support the school this year by contributing to one of their annual fundraisers. We provided dessert for their Spaghetti Dinner held on February 11, 2023. A big thank you to Donna Thompson, Linda McGrail, Beth Bellows, and any one else who has either given funds or their time and effort to make the desserts for the fundraiser. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated.

Dreams and Challenges: My hope for the coming year is that we as a church can continue to be a source of support to the East Andover Pre-School. I am praying that they will continue to have good success as a business and that they will continue to grow and expand. I am also praying that we as a church will have opportunities to plant seeds of love and light in the lives and hearts of the staff at the school, and also the parents and children that we serve.

Friendship Committee/Encouragement Cards

Ginny Newton | Althea Keyser

Members: Althea Keyser and Ginny Newton.

Description: We send notes to encourage others in the church and many times to others in need.

Ministry Highlights: The best thing to hear is how the notes came at just the right time! Our God knows!

Dreams and Challenges: This being a rewarding task, is to hopefully bring encouragement to those who might not be having quite a such a good time in life's journey. God helps our words, and leads us to better inspiration within ourselves. We grow and are enlightened by all that comes from writing to others, as members of ACC.

Godly Play

Rita Rees

Members: Cinnamon and Bill Blomquist, Nancy Phillips, Elizabeth Carpenter, Beth Lewis, Larry and Rita Rees.

Ministry Description: Godly Play is a creative, imaginative approach to Christian formation and spiritual guidance. It has a Montessori foundation with 40+ years of research and practice. Godly Play values process, openness, discovery, community and relationships. It models the worship life, stories, symbols and rituals of Christian congregations, and nurtures all those participating in their faith through wondering and play. Within Andover Community Church, Godly Play offers us an opportunity to have a program to nurture the Christian formation of our children and a way to welcome parents looking for a church home that will support them in their role of building up faith in God in their homes and young children.

Ministry Highlights: Godly Play had our second Storyteller and Doorkeeper training on Saturday August 5th with four people newly trained. We were trained in the how-tos of Godly Play, everything from "Storytelling" and "Door-keeping" as well as the foundation practices of "Wondering", "the Feast", and "Doing the Work via art and crafts". All participating had an opportunity for "hands-on" Storytelling practice in our Godly Play room. It was a special treat to be able to work in our own space with the training. We implemented the Ministry Safe program for the volunteers. This past Advent season marked our first full year. The Godly Play room is a wonderful space, it is fully equipped with stories and crafts for children pre-kindergarten-6th grade.

Dreams and Challenges: My dream for Godly Play would be to have children attending weekly experiencing all that Godly Play has to offer and Storytellers and Doorkeepers who are growing in their abilities and enjoyment of the Godly Play experience for all participants. If you're interested and would like to learn more, please let me know!

Thank you to the Vestry for supporting this program, for seeing the vision while we wait for the children to attend. A big thank you to the wonderful volunteer team of storytellers and doorkeepers. Thank you for joining in the wonder, learning the stories and the art of storytelling. Thanks also for the many hands that helped put together the shelving and organizing the room, removing "stuff" and making repairs to the closet. The room looks great! Thank you to those parents and grandparents who have encouraged their little ones to join in the Godly Play!

Grange Hall Renovation

Donna Thompson

Members: Bill Blomquist, Eric Faller, Donna Thompson.

Ministry Description: Seeing to the overall structure of the Grange Hall. Oversee the activities of the Grange Hall for church and community events. This is a real witness to the members of the community, as it is rare when non-church people enter our property and buildings.

Responsibilities Include:

- Coordination of events on the premises
- Renting out and collect fees for rentals
- Contact Sexton to unlock and secure building when empty
- Works in sync with the church calendar in scheduling events

Ministry Highlights: We are blessed to have the Andover Service Club renting the building 10 months of the year. Also the Andover coffeehouse holds their venue 10 months out of the year. This is a great way to get people onto our property. Also you all are invited to bring your talent to the stage. This is held on the 3rd Friday of the month. The money raised here goes towards the Grange Hall Renovations. From May to October we hold the Rummage/Pre-made meals.

This helps to raise money to help with repairs on our property. In August Normand Poliquin refinished the Grange Hall floor. What a difference this has made to the building a wonderful improvement! The ramp, front porch/steps and the side deck/steps were stained in September. *Dreams and Challenges:* We have many projects to look into. The committee will be getting together to look into what that project will be. We will continue to do fundraisers and accepting donations to continue on our journey.

There are so many people to thank but rather than missing mentioning someone. I would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who has helped in so many of our adventures. We could never get it done without you.

Grief Share

Deacon Nancy

Members: Carol Tuerk, Nancy Phillips, Linda Wickstrom, Kathy Winkfield.

Ministry Description: Grief Share is a ministry specifically designed to support and help people journey through the pain and loss they feel following the death of a loved one. Most people find it very healing to share their own experience of loss and identify with others in the group who understand the hurt and emotions that come with grief.

There are three key parts to the weekly sessions:

- A video that has encouraging information from grief recovery experts.
- Small group break-out sessions for sharing and discussion about the video content.
- Workbooks that provide further study and exercises that reinforce the video content and journaling.

This ministry has played a vital role in helping others with loss, not only to the members of our parish family, but to others in the wider community of Andover, New London, Danbury and Tilton.

Ministry Highlights:

1. Carol Turke joined our team! Being a participant in 2022 Carol felt called to help others by being vulnerable, sharing her own experience of loss, allowing others in the group to feel comfortable in connecting and identify with their own grief that allowed for healing.
2. Linda Wickstrom also joined our team by hosting a Monday afternoon grief share group in her home! Linda having the gift of hospitality invited other women from the Hemlock community in Tilton who have also experienced loss of a loved one. Having Carol and Linda join our team allowed us to have two groups going last fall. One at the Andover Hub and one in Tilton extending our ministry to the wider community.
3. Inviting new co- leaders and running two groups was something Kathy and I wished and dreamed for in 2023.

Kathy and I also worked to condense the program from 13 weeks to 8 weeks which we

did successfully! Another wish or dream we had for 2023. Thank you, Kathy!

Dreams and Challenges for 2024: We want to keep growing! While we will continue to run grief share in the fall, we will look at the possibility of running grief share later this winter and early spring as well.

We would like to invite others to join our team, those who have gone through grief share as a participant and feel called to help others by sharing their own journey of grief.

Hospitality/Fellowship

Members: Beth Bellows., Eric and Judy Faller., Alice Grover, Kathy Kelly, Darlene Tilton, Sandy Miller, and Judy Evans.

Description: Creating hospitality and a warm environment for fellowship to happen after church and for special occasions. We have limited the amount of food (and tables) set out on Sundays to promote a more invitational atmosphere for guests, however pot luck lunches will continue through 2024 on every fifth Sunday.

Highlights: This year we were very busy - Sunday morning fellowship, Easter breakfast, and making birthday blessing cupcakes! We also had outside fellowship when the weather permitted. The addition of the Epiphany Party is sure to become a long-standing tradition.

Dreams and Challenges: We hope to continue providing snacks on Sunday mornings and provide times when members and visitors can get to know each other.

Thank you to all who contributed, set up tables, electrical cords, the tent, and helped with the parish picnic last year.

Intercessory Prayer

Beth Bellows

Members:

- Prayer Hive Team: Father Bill, Beth Bellows, Linda Wickstrom, Linda McGrail, Melissa Leintz, Jef DeMarie.
- Phone Prayer Chain Team: Ginny Newton, Beth Bellows, Sandy Miller, Bernice Nowell
Judy Evans

Description: Intercessory prayer involves actively praying for the healing needs/strongholds in other peoples lives to line up with Gods word. Paul reminded the Church to pray in the Spirit at all times and every occasion, stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere (Ephesians 6:18), Jesus prays for us (John 17: 20), and God works with Abrahams Intercession (Genesis 18:16-3).

Ministry Highlights:

- Prayer Hive: Once a week the Intercessors come together on Tuesday mornings at 8 am on zoom to pray and intercede for our brothers and sisters of Andover Community Church, their families, friends and community.
- The Phone prayer chain is headed up by Ginny Newton, she faithfully intercedes and passes the prayers on to her team.

I want thank Father Bill, Linda W., Linda M.Melissa Lenz, Jef DeMarie, Ginny Newton, Sandy Miller, Bernice Nowell., and Judy Evans. I want to give a special thank you to Father Bill for his wonderful work on the Prayer Hive page on our website.

If you are interested in joining in with us please contact Father Bill or Beth Bellows. I thank the Lord for his loving us, he is the healer, comforter and he cares for our every need.

Junior Warden

Larry Rees

Description: Supervision and maintenance of all of the buildings and grounds.

Ministry Yearly Highlights:

- Tactical Pest Management continues quarterly to keep rodents out of buildings.
- Fire extinguishers were serviced.
- Church vestry and members participated in spring and fall grounds and building cleanup.
- The issue of the church foundation continues to be monitored and discussed by the vestry.
- Acer Landscaping maintains our lawns, plows, and sands.
- Portable stairs were installed and removed on the outside of the Grange Hall.
- The Grange Hall's floor was repaired and refinished.
- Drone aerial footage of the buildings and campus for website promotion.
- The roof was replaced, and the office and preschool building chimney was rebuilt.
- Covers were built to protect the Grange Hall propane tanks.
- Huckleberry performed maintenance on the furnace.
- The heater fan motor in the Grange Hall was replaced. It was under warranty.
- Estimates were obtained for tree removal and service on campus in the spring.

Lay Readers

Melissa Leintz

Members: Allison Barry, Larry Rees, Linda McGrail, Beth Bellows, Jane Walker, Erick Faller, and our newest members, Seth & Beth Lewis.

Description: Scheduling and training of Sunday morning readers and other events as needed. Posting updates, calling each member to enhance abilities and to strengthen our bonds with one another as we grow together in Christ our Lord.

Ministry Highlights: We had dedicated readers for all Sunday mornings, including special events. Each team member has taken on the responsibility to know when it was their turn up at the podium.

Dreams an Challenges: I would like to see each member call on the next one to pray together and get them prepared for their turn. I would like to see more reading material on how to practice reading out loud. I would like each reader to perfect their abilities.

Thank you to everyone who has prepared, prayed and practiced in order to be the best reader of God's word that you could be. Thank you for being willing to switch schedules around, jump in and cover for others, and support one another for another successful year.

Missions

Linda Wickstrom

Members: Donna Thompson, Linda McGrail, Father Bill Blomquist and new member Jef DeMarie.

Description: Our church membership giving sacrificially over and beyond our tithe to work with others to fulfill the great commission as well as provide aid and relief for those experiencing lack or hardship often brought on by natural or manmade disaster and calamity and thus share the love of Christ.

Highlights: Here is a list of the different missions we supported in 2023.

- Clothing Shed : Proceeds sent to Anglicans for Life (Thank you Rita Rees!)
- February: Aid to Syria/Turkey after devastating earthquake through ARDF
- John and Brooke Bryant (Wycliff Bible Translators), Serene Shake (The Navigators), Alicia Shedd (Camp Maranatha)
- Aspire Women's Center in Laconia: Baby Bottle Blessing from Mother's day in May to Father's Day in June
- Maui Wildfires: August/September ARDF
- Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes through Samaritan's Purse, October/ November: 123 boxes sent!! Great Job!
- Donna Thompson and fastest box stuffer ever, Terri Moore! Thanks to all who helped this fun global mission!
- Twin Rivers Food Pantry in Franklin: Ongoing food collection in our box in the lobby and extra help for the food baskets that they deliver to needy families for Thanksgiving.
- ARDF: collection for victims of the war in Israel helping victims from all faiths in Israel, Palestine and Gaza.

Dreams and Challenges: With your blessing and help we feel strongly led to do a water project over the course of the entire year to help bring clean safe water to a village in Africa that now

has none. Perhaps we could partner to dig a well or provide a collection and filtering system (on top of roofs for rainwater). More to follow on that.

We want to thank all of you for your support and generosity! Special thanks to Donna for the fine job she has done leading the Missions Board most of last few years. The goal is to keep on helping those on the mission field and those in need!

Music

Fr.Bill

Members: Jeri Silver-Bacote, Pam O'Neil, Bernice Nowell, Seth Lewis, Cinnamon Blomquist, Judy Evans, Bruce Thompson, Don Towle, Cheryl Polson, Raul Carpenter and Bill Blomquist.

Description: The music ministry serves the church on Sundays and special services (weddings, funerals, holy days) with music which encourages the congregation in worship.

Highlights: The music ministry has been faithful in serving the congregation in amazing ways. It's our joy to reach into past and present and present songs, hymns, and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19) that bring the church into a deeper awareness of the love of the Lord.

We have a broad range of age and musical preference in our church. A verse that is always at the back of my mind while choosing music is Matthew 13:52: He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures (ie. songs!) as well as old." 2023 has been a year of creative and numerical growth for the team. We have repositioned ourselves to better see and lead the congregation. An electric drum set was donated to the church. Music stand lights, percussion, and outstanding dedication to the ministry has been the highlights of our year. Each week the team (which has increased by four members since last year) rehearses, worships, and prays together for the upcoming Sunday service. A true "worshipping community" has developed among us and we also have a lot of fun!

Dreams and Challenges: Last year our dreams were to include a bass and additional guitar. Those prayers have been answered - so much so is that our biggest challenge is scheduling people in the ministry in ways that everyone has a chance to play! Dreaming ahead we believe the Lord is forming our music into a powerful avenue of anointing and Presence, where the Spirit is free to inhabit the praises of his people.

I want to thank each member of the music team for their loyalty to the Lord through this ministry, and the sacrifices it takes to be there ready to go each time we play. Discipleship is happening, new leaders are emerging, and our church is becoming known for rich music that reaches the hearts of the worshippers.

Outreach

Linda McGrail

Members: The Outreach dreaming team is Linda McGrail, Linda Wickstrom, Donna Thompson, Pastors Bill and Cinnamon, Tyrene, Alice Grover, and Cheryl is also joining us this year. There are others that have dreamed and organized with us but, this is the team that formulates and prays for what happens.

Description: We are always open to ideas and will help support someone with a plan for outreach. So please come to one of us with ideas. It takes a whole church body to reach out. Our church has been very busy this year reaching outside the church and dreaming about what we could be doing in the future. So many members have volunteered this year for each and/or one outreach event. It has been very exciting to watch others using their own gifts to reach out. I have seen evangelism, hospitality, interceding, praying for miracles, for health, and the love of Jesus shine down on some we have prayed for. I have seen teaching, and pastoral care. Through events I have seen us take care of the widows, feed the poor, cloth the needy, care for the children, raise the young men and women up in the church., share the love of Jesus, pray for others....the list is long.

Highlights: The events that have taken place this year are:

- Franklin Ministry
- Advent Wreath Making
- Neighbor Helping Neighbor
- Visits to the Peabody Home
- Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast
- Grief Share
- Franklin Community Days
- Fourth Of July
- Andover Coffee House
- Fund raising events at the Pre school
- Some events like the Advent Wreath Making and Grief share have happened at the Andover Hub. The Lord has given us favor there and I am hoping we can do more with the Hub in the coming year. Also Linda Wickstrom hosted a Griefshare in her home as well.

Franklin Ministry: Linda Wickstrom, Father Bill, Beth Bellows, Tyrene Perry, and Alice Grover continue setting up tables, food, and offering prayer for any who are in need ministry on Wednesday evenings at the Central Street Laundromat (winter location) and The Trestle View park (summer location).

What do we do? We provide sandwiches, coffee, water, cookies, sometimes warm food. We have prayed, listened and loved on those that come.

Through the year we have been praying for God to expand our/ His territory in Franklin. We have had some ups and downs this year. First we had to leave the Laundromat early in the spring for state food service requirements. So we found ourselves back in the park during the early days of March. Cold but dry. Praise God! Serving in the cold made us pray for more shelter for the ministry. Through the Baptist Church Father Bill and I were able to secure the use of one of their buildings. We were excited to say the least and felt that this was definitely something that The Lord was showing us. But, as we started cleaning and prepping the building for paint so we could ready to open the doors by October. We found, with the help of Travis, that the roof was allowing all the rain to run down an inside wall. After some lengthy talks and realizing that God was shutting that door as swiftly as he opened it we knew we needed to find a new place again for the winter. But God always has a plan and has always provided for His ministry in Franklin.

We knew he would again. Desiree, the owner of the laundromat, had finalized the approval with the state to allow food to be served and now that is where we find ourselves again. We are still praying for the Lord to expand the territory in Franklin. Through the ministry we have met some people of peace that help and provide for the ministry.

Dreams and Challenges: We continue to pray for more for the citizens of Franklin, whether homeless or not. We are praying for more boldness on our parts to speak more of Jesus into the lives of the people we serve.

The outreach ministry challenges as always is for new visions for what could be and how to serve our communities. We are praying for Andover and The Proctor Campus and what outreach could look like there. Is there someone who feels like maybe they have an idea or really feels like they are called to Andover. Please let someone know on the team so we can start praying and dreaming with God together. Another thing I would like to see is to have intercessors praying through the time of an event. This could help with the walls that have been built around an area. We could see more signs and wonders during events. Who knows what God has planned but, what we do know through experience when people pray things happen. Could you be one of those people???

Thank you to everyone who has helped prepare, serve, prayed and planned this year. I love that the list of volunteers is so long that it is to numerous for me to type the names. You know who you are and you also know the gratitude I have for each and every one of you. Thank you!!!!

Prayer Ministry

Rev. Cinnamon

Members: Alice Grover, Bob Grover, Rita Rees, Tyrene Perry, Cheryl Polson, Linda McGrail, Linda Wickstrom, Jeri Bacote, Jane Walker, Bill Blomquist, Beth Bellows, Kathy Winkfield, and Cinnamon Blomquist.

Description: Healing Prayer Ministers pray in pairs, offering healing prayer for anyone seeking physical, emotional, and spiritual healing, as well as deliverance, participating in the ongoing Gospel ministry of Jesus. Team members offer prayer after church on Sundays and during healing services, or by appointment.

Ministry Highlights: In the first half of the year we met a number of times and Pastor Bill has been teaching and coaching us on the "5 steps," a model which empowers us to rely on the Holy Spirit to direct our ministry. We saw a number of physical healings and spiritual breakthroughs during the noontime healing services during Lent, the 5th Sunday healing services, and after church prayer ministry sessions, both scheduled and spontaneous. In our desire to take this ministry outside the walls of the church, Pastor Bill taught an introductory session at Mountain View church and brought some team members to minister there. In addition, 5 team members participated in the Unbound Conference held at Boscawen Congregational Church. Some team members have been involved in healing prayer as "power evangelism" in the Franklin Outreach and other community events.

Dreams and Challenges: Within the next year, we hope to partner with Incarnation Anglican Church in Manchester in putting on an Encounter Weekend in New Hampshire. We want to continue to build a Gospel culture in our church, "walking in the light" and seeing the Lord bring the healing and freedom that flows from the Cross of Jesus Christ to us and through us as God brings revival to our region through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Rector

Fr. Bill

I am deeply grateful to the Lord for my call to serve the church here in Andover. We are uniquely formed to be a people of authenticity, poised to see the "dust" of heaven materialize as we worship and empowered to do "the work you have called us to do" in the surrounding communities.

This year the Lord added to his work by increasing our numbers. People uniquely gifted to step into ministry include:

- Raul (Baptized and Confirmed) and Elizabeth (Confirmed) Carpenter
- Seth and Beth Lewis (Both confirmed)
- Jeanette Messer (Received)
- Allison Moffat (Received)
- Bob Moulton (Confirmed)
- Cheryl Polson (Confirmed)
- Travis O'Mara (Member)
- Eric Vasquez (Received)

Statistics

- Number of Services Performed (including weddings, gravesides, Lenten midday services, and memorials): 68
- Numbers of people in attendance: 2636
- Numbers of people in attendance on ZOOM and FB Streaming: 1317
- Total numbers: 3951

Activities

- Admin (website, scheduling of master calendar, music team scheduling, choosing music, rehearsal)
- Liturgy (special service planning, creative seasonal changes, deacon gatherings, sermon preparation, preaching, etc.)
- Music (team scheduling, choosing and rehearsing, learning and performing with team)
- Men's Breakfasts
- Peabody Home Care (currently on "pause" and seeking where to go from here - either continued services and studies, or hymn sings one Sunday afternoon a month)
- Pastoral visits (with ministry leaders, special circumstances, mentoring and ministerial brainstorming)
- Prayer Hive Intercession (weekly)
- Franklin Outreach (weekly)
- Vestry Meetings (monthly)
- Diocesan Clergy Wellness Team (eight priests)
- Spiritual Direction group (Monthly meetings. Currently I am not "directing" anyone.)
- Diocesan Mission Planning for the church w/team (annually)
- Prayer Days (monthly)

Challenges

Time and off-loading things that others can be doing is always a challenge. After four years of shepherding I feel like I'm becoming more in sync with the pace of the church and community. Most challenges have to do with "growth." One challenge that is related to negative growth is the apparent barrier between our people and families in the community. We have a wonderful and open atmosphere that is kid-friendly but have yet to see growth in these areas. I know it will come, in the Lord's perfect timing.

Vision

I am encouraging each member of the church to set aside designated time to attend a small group, once a week for 90 minutes, during the season of Lent. There are two small group locations to choose from: New London on Tuesday evenings, and Andover on Thursday mornings. These small groups will be gatherings wherein time will be designated to hear the Lord's voice for you through the reading and re-reading of Scripture - in this case, the Book of Philippians. More on that to come.

In addition, Sunday morning Adult Discussion group will be learning about St. Ignatius will continue during lent.

Charge to the Vestry

By this time next year I hope to have a church mission statement. A good part of our vestry retreat will be about doing the work of creating a statement and, later in March, the vestry will be meeting up at the Diocesan Center with Josh Vanada where we will focus our work. With the completion of a mission/vision statement we will be able to make decisions and plan events with intent and greater anointing, knowing we are working within our God-given parameters.

Thanksgiving

It takes a full team - committed and excited - to make all that we are doing happen. Each one of us brings to the plate a specialized facet of giftedness and skill needed for the whole to happen. I am deeply grateful to our clergy, Deacon Kathy Winkfield, Deacon Nancy Phillips, and Reverend Cinnamon Blomquist for the passion and gifts they bring to the Andover Church Community.

The real ministry happens on the ground level, and thus I want to extend gratefulness to each ministry leader: Jef DeMarie, Alice Grover, Ginny Newton, Althea Keyser, Rita Rees, Donna Thompson, Beth Bellows, Jeri Silver-Bacote, Deacon Nancy, "The Linda's," Rev. Cinnamon Blomquist, Melissa Leintz, Larry Rees, Bill Blomquist, and Bruce Thompson.

The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:24

Also thanksgiving for the time and sacrifice for our vestry: Beth Bellows (Clerk), Donna Thompson (Treasurer), Jane Walker, Linda McGrail, and Alice Grover - and look forward to working with you for at least another year.

So long and farewell to outgoing vestry members Larry Rees (Junior Warden), and Jef DeMarie.

My greatest thanks and blessing goes to our Senior Warden Jeri Silver-Bacote. Her heart for Jesus and skill have led this year's vestry through waters smooth and stormy. Her gentle authority has spoken deeply into our hearts and her leadership has been fruitful at every turn of the corner. Thank you Jeri... (massive applause here).

And you may be wondering... Who will be our church's new Senior Warden?

The envelope please.....

This concludes the Rector's Report.

Senior Warden

Jeri Silver-Bacote

Team (Vestry): Larry Reese, Beth Bellows, Donna Thompson, Jef DeMarie, Alice Grover, Jane Walker, Linda McGrail.

Description: The senior warden is the primary lay leader of the congregation, and serves as a principal liaison between the parish and the rector, sharing candidly with the rector insights, concerns, and issues which may face the Congregation. As a Vestry we have sat in small spaces-held heated discussions and debates, prayed over each decision and really sought to follow God's heart for our church and our community.

In the past year we have made decisions and created two new positions of employment and have hired Jane Walker as our church Sexton, and have provided a small salary to Cinnamon Blomquist. In addition, we replaced a blower on the furnace in the church. The church and grange hall got new keys. We have supported the Andover Softball League. We were sponsors for the East Andover Preschool 5K. We participated in the Andover 4th of July celebration and participated in Franklin's Community Day. We replaced the roof on the preschool and replaced the floors in the Grange hall. We fixed a leaking toilet. We confirmed and welcomed 9 new members. The Grief share program was offered this year in two locations: the Hub and also Linda Wickstrom's home in Franklin. We participated in the Beacon Fest. We have met every Wednesday evening for Franklin Ministry. We have continued to minister at the Peabody Nursing Home. We have held several rummage sales and for the first time since *Covid 19* disrupted life held our very own Neighbors Helping Neighbors. We co-created a lease agreement with the East Andover Pre School. This year we started holding Testimony services. Our worship team has expanded. We have consistently provided Godly Play for the children who attend our services. We have lost members who have walked and served beside us. We have also blessed and released others as they have chosen other places to worship. This year has been full of ups and downs. I say this for me personally and also for us collectively. It's been a year of seeing the goodness and faithfulness of our God. We have also seen His provision in unusual ways- i.e the preschool roof.

We have sought to follow the vision that God has given and to obey His calling individually and collectively. It's amazing to look back and see all that is accomplished by the hard work and generosity of God's people. Couple that with God's provision and favor and truly nothing is impossible. " We are incredibly broken people but through the power of the Holy Spirit we can accomplish amazing things."

As I step down from this year of service I just want to encourage you to hold fast to the hope and the promise you have in Jesus, run this race with patience, continue to pray for and encourage each other. Belonging to Jesus does not make us immune to trial and hardship but it does give us the courage and grace to continue to stand. Remember He who began a good work in you is faithful to complete it. Trust Him. Follow Him. Serve Him. Love Him. Live For Him.

Technology

Bruce Thompson

Members: Donna Thompson, Bruce Thompson, Jeanette Messer and Jef DeMarie.

Description: Manage and maintain the church's computers in all buildings, audio and video components and related equipment to help provide an immersive experience during services and events.

Ministry Highlights: Acquired cabling and adapters for the praise band and other ministries as needed.

Continued Zoom presentations Sunday to Sunday to "Zoomers" until we transitioned to Facebook Live. A camera was acquired and brought "up and running" for our move to Facebook Live. An audit was conducted on the church office computer and assessments were made with respect to protecting our data and ensuring that our equipment is performing to our full expectations. The bookkeeping software for the Treasurer's office has been transitioned from a standalone package to an online package with multiuser capabilities. The band's bass guitar was given a much-needed tuneup and repair.

Dreams and Challenges: Assistance is always welcome as it lightens the burden of helping the congregation and visitors see and hear the message and music during the service or event. Thanks to Donna Thompson for providing ongoing assistance over the course of the year with monitoring and adjusting the audio mixer and for taking over the presentation of lyrics and scripture when I need to attend to other activities and to Jeanette Messer and Jef DeMarie, too, for making their areas of expertise available to the church.

A great big thanks to those who have made contributions (monetary or other) toward the purchase or acquisition of some of the technology that keeps things moving in the right direction.



A Prayer for Continued Service

O Lord our Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served, but to serve. We ask you to bless all who, follow in his footsteps, give themselves to the service of others, grace them with wisdom, patience, and courage, that they may strengthen the weak and raise up those who fall and being inspired by your love, may worthily minister to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy, for the sake of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Election of 2024 Vestry Nominations

This year we are thankful for the time and sacrifice of all our vestry, and give special thanks to the work of Larry Rees, Jef DeMarie, and Jeri Silver-Bacote - as their commitments are now coming to an end. Special gratitudes for Jeri, Jef, and Larry their years of dedicated service. As they step down from vestry, it is the job of the church to vote on others called to serve the church for the next three years.

Current vestry

Jeri Silver-Bacote: Vestry Senior Warden (0 yrs remaining)

Larry Rees: Vestry Junior Warden (0 years remaining)

Jef DeMarie: Vestry (0 years remaining)

Jane Walker: Vestry (1 years remaining)

Beth Bellows: Vestry Clerk (2 years remaining)

Alice Grover: Vestry (2 years remaining)

Linda McGrail: Vestry (2 years remaining)

Donna Thompson: Vestry Treasure (100 years remaining)

Comment. There are currently three vacancies in the vestry, two of which have named nominees. Each vestry term is for three years. In lieu of a third nominee, two people will be voted in, with the third open space retired until next year.

The following people have submitted their names to be nominated for the vestry 2024.

___ Jeanette Messer (3 year term)

___ Eric Faller (3 year term)

___ (Vacancy)

A motion, a second, discussion, and vote ensues.

A short vestry meeting will be immediately after the parish meeting.

Vote and Approval of 2024 Budget

2024 Budget Worksheet Page 1

Budget Item	Budget 2023	Spent	Under Budget	Over Budget	Budget 2024
STAFF					
Priests					
Rector Fr Bill					
Salary	26,499.96	26,499.96			26,499.96
Social Security	3,356.25	3,356.25			3,356.25
Housing	19,920.00	19,920.00			19,920.00
Health Insurance	4,721.24	4,721.24			4,721.24
Life Insurance	373.36	373.36			373.36
Retirement	4,896.00	4,896.00			4,896.00
Auto Mileage	1,000.00		1,000.00		500.00
Continuing Education	800.00	392.80	407.20		800.00
Assistant/Priest Cinnamon					
Salary	4,160.04	4,160.04			4,160.04
Deacons					
Deacon Kathy					
Retreat/Conference	250.00	129.00	-121.00		150.00
Mileage	250.00		-250.00		100.00
Deacon Nancy					
Retreat/Conference	250.00		-250.00		150.00
Mileage	250.00		-250.00		100.00
Sexton					
Jane Salary	4,160.04	4,160.04			4,400.04
Workman's Compensation	810.00	651.00	-159.00		700.00
MINISTRIES (Inreach)					
Altar Guild	850.00	602.26	-247.74		850.00
Discipleship	600.00	38.70	-561.30		600.00
Godly Play	2,000.00	2,629.65		629.65	700.00
Hospitality	1,000.00	133.80	-866.20		500.00
Lay Readers	100.00	12.99	-87.01		100.00
Music					350.00
Technology	500.00	401.87	-98.13		500.00
(Outreach)					
Franklin Ministries	800.00	132.59	-667.41		800.00
Outreach (Local)	800.00	1,044.52		244.52	800.00
Grief Share	500.00	122.66	-377.34		150.00
Marriage Course					100.00
Divorce Care	300.00		-300.00		150.00

2024 Budget Worksheet Page 2

Budget Item	Budget 2023	Spent	Under Budget	Over Budget	Budget 2024
WIDER CHURCH					
Missions (Bryants, Shake, Shedd)	3,000.00	3,000.00			3,000.00
ADNE Tithes	12,600.39	1,011.44	-11,588.95		12,837.10
OFFICE SUPPLIES					
Printer Lease	3,000.00	2,987.50	-12.50		3,000.00
Postage/PO Box Lease	225.00	133.00	-92.00		200.00
Misc Supplies	663.00	523.05	139.95		663.00
Phone/Internet (Wix, Web, Zoom, Proclaim)	3,500.00	3,675.84		175.84	4,000.00
CCLI	450.00	441.00	-9.00		450.00
Power Church Online					455.00
BUILDING AND GROUNDS					
Property Insurance	5,000.00	5,718.50		718.50	6,266.00
Mowing, Plowing, Sanding	3,500.00	1,700.00	-1,800.00		2,500.00
Pest Control	700.00	600.00	-100.00		700.00
United Safety Services	250.00	205.00	-45.00		250.00
Furnace Maintance	400.00	720.52		320.52	1,000.00
Building Maintance	2,300.00	2,356.87		56.87	2,500.00
Sexton Supplies	750.00	387.72	-362.28		750.00
UTILITIES					
Sanctuary					
Heat	3,000.00	3,366.27		366.27	3,200.00
Electric	2,300.00	2,305.87		5.87	2,500.00
Pastor Office					
Heat	700.00	243.63	-456.37		500.00
Grange Hall					
Heat	1,500.00	753.93	-746.07		1,400.00
Electric	1,400.00	1,478.38		78.38	1,500.00
EAVP					
Heat	4,000.00	4,144.34		144.34	4,300.00
Office/EAVP					
Electric	2,100.00	2,315.43		215.43	2,400.00

Commissioning of Wardens and Members of the Vestry

Sponsor (Jeri)

I present to you these persons to be admitted to the ministry of Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Clerk, and vestry members in this congregation.

Antiphon (Congregation)

The Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity.

V. (Fr. Bill) I am your servant; grant me understanding:

R. (New Vestry) That I may know your decrees.

Let Us Pray. (Silence)

O Eternal God, the foundation of all wisdom and the source of all courage: Enlighten with your grace the Wardens and vestry of this congregation, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek your glory and promote the mission of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In the Name of God and of this congregations, I commission you [N.] as Warden (Member of the Vestry) in this church; in the Name of the Father, the So, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Congregational Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear our prayers, and grant that in this congregation the pure Word of God may be preached and the Sacraments duly administered.

Strengthen and confirm the faithful, protect and guide the children, visit and relieve the sick, turn and soften the wicked, arouse the careless, recover the fallen, restore the penitent, remove all hindrances to the advancement of your truth and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy church to the honor and glory of your Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Appendix i: Members and Non-Member Lists

Members. Names below are members of the church. Names followed by a "+" are members and confirmed Anglicans.

1. Allison Barry		35.Rita Rees	+
2. Beth Bellows	+	36.Lorna Rogers	+
3. Raul Carpenter	+	37.Cheryl Polson	+
4. Elizabeth Carpenter	+	38.Jason Silver	+
5. Alvin Curtis		39.Jeri Silver-Bacote	+
6. Carol Curtis		40.Bruce Thompson	+
7. Jef DeMarie	+	41.Donna Thompson	+
8. Brenda DeMarie	+	42. Darlene Tilton	
9. Brenda Dubois		43.Carol Tuerk	+
10.Judy Evans	+	44.Eric Vasquez	+
11.Eric Faller	+	45.Jacob Wagner	
12.Judy Faller	+	46.Jane Walker	+
13.Tom Forbes		47.Linda Wickstrom	+
14.Bob Grover	+	48.Kathy Winkfield	+
15.Alice Grover	+		
16.Meredith Grover	+		
17.Steve Kelly			
18.Kathy Kelly			
19.Althea Keyser			
20.Melissa Leintz			
21.Seth Lewis	+		
22.Beth Lewis	+		
23.Linda McGrail	+		
24.Jeanette Messer	+		
25.Sandy Miller			
26.Alison Moffit			
27.Bob Moulton	+		
28.Virginia Newton			
29.Bernice Nowell			
30.Travis O'Mara			
31.Lawrence O'Neil	+		
32.Pam O'Neil	+		
33.Tyreen Perry	+		
34.Larry Rees	+		

Frequent Visitors

1. Cindy Benson
2. Diane Benson
3. Maya DuBois
4. Christian Celetanio
5. Jason and Jesicca Loose
6. Terri Moore
7. Rihanna, Randy, M'Hina
8. Don Towle
9. Elizabeth Towle

Clergy

- Kathy Winkfield
- Nancy Phillips
- Cinnamon Blomquist
- Bill Blomquist