Vicar’s Greeting

Why Church?

I get this question more than most people I suspect, but I believe it deserves an answer and definitely deserves thoughtful consideration especially by those of us fall into the category of church-goers.

What is your answer or answers to this question? Why do you come? I encourage you as you wander your way through this Advent season to make some time to ponder and answer this question for yourself.

One of my answers is that I need people. That may seem cliché or somehow trite, but nonetheless it is true. Church is not a building to me but people. And church is a collection of people that in most of my experience might have very little to do with each other if they did not go to church. One of my friends said it well when she said, “Church is the most difficult place for me to be a Christian.” She said this with a smile and a chuckle, but I think it is true for many of us.

Much of our lives are lived in silos…or bunkers. We are separated by gender, age, socio-economics, politics, worldview; the list goes on and on. Church breaks these barriers when we do church well. It brings together a motley crew of people who are willing to ask the big questions together. Church is one of the last places in our society where people of all ages gather together regularly. That is no small thing, and in my opinion it is priceless.

That same friend who said church is the most difficult place for her to be a Christian sent me a YouTube sermon that was, for me, a great answer to “Why Church?” Dr. Brené Brown preached it in the Washington National Cathedral https://youtu.be/ndP1XDskXHY, or simply search for “Brené Brown sermon Washington Cathedral”

I am grateful St. Andrew’s-by-the-Sea is a Church community that values our differences and sees them as strength, that we value kindness and people over the “product” and that we imperfectly seek to share God’s deep love with the entire world.

Faithfully, your Vicar,
Rob Stevens, Jr.

Happy Holiday and Seasons Greetings!

So much to be grateful for at St. Andrew’s and the many blessings in our St. Andrew’s community. A special thanks to all who volunteered and gave their time and service in so many amazing ways. It is truly inspirational how much we can accomplish by all working together in fellowship and service to others.

To our Chapel Committee members these last three years, thank you! Armand Francoeur, Shelley Lord, Liz Madison, Anne Nettleton (one yr.) and Sandra Pagel our Treasurer – we so appreciate all of your dedicated service!

Once again, we are reminded how fortunate we are to have such wonderful visiting ministers celebrate with us each Sunday. For the first time Music-by-the-Sea summer concerts brought some beautiful music to St. Andrew’s, thanks to Anne Arnold and our wonderful volunteers and concert committee.

Our holiday tradition of Candlelight Caroling will be Friday, Dec. 21. So please come, spread the word, and invite family and friends.

In these shortest days of the year, let us be mindful of our community that continues to empower us to share the light in the world as we look forward to another beautiful summer season at St. Andrew’s. Wishing you all the joys and peace this holiday season, and in the New Year!

Gary Fincke
Senior Warden

Mission Statement

St. Andrew’s-by-the-Sea is a historic seasonal chapel that strives to provide inspirational and inclusive worship, fellowship, and outreach support in the greater community.
WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS
Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer, meet new people, and become an integral member of the St. Andrew’s community?

Hospitality & Volunteers Welcome
8:00 Service  10:00 Service
Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who gave their time and talents in 2018. The numbers were high this summer so congratulations for rising to the occasion. Volunteering for hospitality is a rewarding experience that gives back to our chapel community. Please let us know if you can help out for a Sunday in summer 2019! Contact Liz at: lizmrm101@gmail.com
Liz Madison, Hospitality Chair

Junior Warden Report
The slate roof replacement was originally scheduled for this fall (slate has been purchased), however due to the roofer’s medical issue; the project is now scheduled for this spring.

In August our bell (forged 1877 by Holbrook, East Medway, MA) was inspected and the fittings greased. Good news, the bell, clapper, rope and supports are all in good shape. Rock Crest Garden reset the sump pump discharge line just in time for all the rain this past fall. High humidity this past summer gave our organist some challenges, so a dehumidifier was installed and an organ technician inspected the organ.

Did you know St. Andrew’s is on the Rye Historic Society Trolley Tour? We provided tours of our chapel on Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Labor Day.

Greg Kann, Junior Warden

Altar Guild Volunteers
St. Andrew’s Altar Guild is looking for help! Preparing the altar for Sunday services, scheduling two volunteers for each weekend, the time spent is minimal and shared among members of the Altar Guild. We are looking for volunteers of all ages, and are delighted to provide details and training for this rewarding opportunity to be a part of our wonderful summer chapel.
To learn more, please contact: Lillian Kann 603-770-9272 lilllank@comcast.net or Libby Kenney 617-543-0083 libbethk@verizon.net
Altar Guild Chairs

Wedding Volunteers Needed
This past year was very busy for weddings at St. Andrew’s with sixteen couples exchanging vows. Brides who get married in our beautiful, historic chapel get very special care by “volunteers” on our Wedding Committee. Volunteers offer to attend the rehearsal and the wedding day to assure things run smoothly for the wedding party and guests. To learn more about this special wedding ministry, please send an email to sgavutis@gmail.com. We need and welcome you!
Sandy Gavutis, Wedding Committee Chair

St. Andrew’s financial activities provide for Sunday worship, special services, weddings, outreach to our local and beyond communities, and the preservation and care of our historic chapel.

We are thankful for and appreciate the great generosity of all who attend and consider St. Andrew’s a very special place. As reported at the Annual Meeting the 12-month period September 2017 to August 2018 the operating results were essentially break even (net income of $540). By operating on a break-even basis, we are able to use some of the return on investments for needed annual capital repairs and improvements, and outreach throughout our communities. The summer concerts, thanks to our very generous sponsors and donations, resulted in charitable contributions to the Piscataqua Maritime Commission and Safe Harbor Recovery Center of $3,483. In this season of giving, we hope St. Andrew’s will remain high on your giving priority to sustain our buildings and grounds both now and for generations to come. As ever, thank you for your continued generosity.
Chris Nettleton, Treasurer

Treasurer’s Report

3rd Annual Candlelight Caroling
Mark Your Calendar!
Friday, December 21, 5 - 6 pm
Join us for what has become a St. Andrew’s Christmas tradition. Sing the songs of the season with us in the winter splendor of our beautiful chapel.

All are welcome! St. Andrew’s by the Sea
Candlelight Caroling in our Historic Chapel
Friday, Dec. 21, 2018 at 5pm
Donation at door, 50 Church Rd, Rye Beach, NH
www.standrews-by-the-sea.org
Music-By-The-Sea 2018, a Huge Success

Our first foray into community partnerships to bring music to the Seacoast at St. Andrew's was a great success. With invaluable Concert Committee help and numerous volunteers, we hosted the Chamber Players of the Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra and the Overtones, a Portsmouth Pro Musica capella group.

Both concerts had huge turnouts, and at-the-door donations brought in about $1200 to each of our partner nonprofits, the Piscataqua Maritime Commission’s Sea Challenge for at-risk youth, and Safe Harbor Recovery Center, assisting those with addiction issues.

All of this could not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors: Citizens Bank, Carey and Giampa (Patrick Carey), Old Porte Properties (Jen Stevens), Rock Crest Gardens, RiverWoods, Mrs. Roberta Golledge, Caldwell Banker (Anne & Chris Nettleton): CR’s the Restaurant, Tate and Foss (Ned Tate), G&N Flooring by Design, Seacoast Financial Planning and Holloway Electric.

Many thanks to our Concert Committee: Anne and Chris Nettleton, Darleen Chadwick, Ned Tate and Lillian Kann. We look forward to another summer of beautiful music!

Anne Richter Arnold, Concert Series Coordinator

Memorial Garden

St. Andrew’s had 5 internments this summer, and 8 stones remain with 6 inquiries to purchase. Would someone like to join me as Co-chair? This is a very heart-warming service to the chapel.

Carol O’Leary, Memorial Garden Chair

Community & Outreach

St. Andrew’s continues the great ministry of outreach. Thankfully, because of the continued growth of our endowment we were again able to extend our ministry beyond the walls of our chapel and support the following organizations for women, children, and families in our communities: GATHER, End 68 Hours of Hunger, Seacoast Family Promise, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church Summer Enrichment Program, Coos County, Trinity Episcopal Church Food Pantry, St. John’s Choir School, Christ Church Summer Theatre Workshop, Thistle Farms, HAVEN, Seacoast Women’s Giving Circle, Barbara Harris Summer camp scholarships. For more information, go to www.standrews-by-the-sea/outreach.

Lizzie Bristow, Outreach Coordinator

Finance Report

St. Andrew’s Endowment is for the long-term preservation of the chapel through capital preservation and is being managed accordingly. The strategy, funds and allocations remain consistent, and continue to grow in value with highly diversified and excellent funds while maintaining low management costs.

Carol O’Leary, Finance Chair

We very much appreciate your support to help preserve our historic chapel today, and for generations to come! Please consider making an important contribution to St. Andrew’s.

Name(s): ________________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________________________________________

Email: ___________________________________________ Phone(s): __________________________

Comments: ______________________________________________________________

Please check: ☐ for $__________ to St. Andrew’s buildings and grounds

☐ for $__________ Capital Appeal to help replace our 142-year-old roof

☐ I’d like to volunteer ☐ Please add me to the email list  *All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law

Please return this form to St. Andrew’s-by-the-Sea, PO Box 555, Rye Beach, NH 03871-0555
2019 Worship Schedule
Sundays from
June 16 through September 1

8:00 am Rite I Holy Eucharist
10:00 am Rite II Holy Eucharist with Music

For more information and upcoming announcements, please visit our website at: standrews-by-the-sea.org