

# *The St. Andrew's Xpress*

January 2009

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Dear People of Saint Andrew's,

It is hard to believe that with 2009 we enter the last year of the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. There were all sorts of predictions as we entered a new millennium about all our computer systems breaking down and being useless, which of course didn't happen. There were those who thought the millennium would usher in the Second Coming of Christ but as it turned out most of what was predicted didn't happen and what did catapulted us into war on two fronts and now, at the end of the decade, a financial crises that at this point is only overshadowed by the great Depression of the 1930s. Terrorism is a fact of modern life although not peculiar to this new century.

Is it all bad news? No, but for some of those who have lost their jobs, homes, incomes, or loved ones it can seem that way. The Gospel has always been set out against the background of a troubled world, and Jesus speaks of the violence, hunger, plague and natural disasters that form some of the landscape to which he addresses his words of hope and call to action for his followers. I think of the work of Episcopal Relief and Development, The Millennium Goals of the UN that our Presiding Bishop has committed this church to support or, locally, our involvement with Loaves and Fishes to meet very local needs.

January is also going to be an historic month with the inauguration of our first African American president on 20 January. No matter how you voted, we have to see that we have reached a new

milestone in this nation in moving past the long and sorry history of racism and institutionalized discrimination. This is Civil Rights Month with the celebration of Martin Luther King Day on 15 January. As one who was privileged to be present in Washington when Dr. King gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, it is gratifying to see that despite all the setbacks our presidency can reflect other faces from the diverse makeup of this nation and especially one of the most oppressed minorities. There is still much work to do and hate groups are actually proliferating as recorded by the important Southern Poverty Law Center, led by its courageous leader, Morris Dees. Go to their web site some time.

As followers of the One who came among us to reveal the love and justice of God, we are reminded of his words over and over again: "Fear not!" Jesus told his disciples he was sending them out as lambs in the midst of wolves. He also said that "In the world we shall have tribulation but to be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." So our job is to face squarely all the bad news with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our trust has to be in Him as He is the one who has told us He "will never leave us or forsake us." As the wonderful spiritual sings, "We are marching to Zion, the beautiful city of God."

Faithfully in Him,

*Fr. Alan*

(The Reverend) Alan B. MacKillop  
Priest in Charge

## *The St. Andrew's Xpress*

A monthly Newsletter serving the  
Central Massachusetts community

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in *The St. Andrew's Xpress*

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**NOTE:** Remember to mark your calendar for the  
February 2009 newsletter deadline:  
**Monday, January 19, 2009**

## Epiphany Pageant

On Sunday 4 January at 10:00 a.m., we will have our annual Epiphany Pageant incorporated into the Eucharist by our Sunday School. This celebrates the drama of our salvation with tableaus from the prophecies of the Hebrew scriptures to the Christmas story and the coming of the Wise Men, the first Gentiles or non Jews to worship Jesus Christ, proclaiming the universality of the Gospel. Epiphany is also the season of missions because of that. This is always a special day at Saint Andrew's, not only for the children but for all of us who are blessed by their presentation.

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## End of Year Report on Outreach

By Nicola Barlow, Chair

The Outreach Commission is pleased to report a successful year of fund raising, during which we raised over half our requested budget. The total amount raised from the tag sale and the Ferrillo concert was \$4,453.33, with \$85 still outstanding for a concert ad. We met on Sunday, December 7 to discuss the final payments to missions for our remaining budget. We were pleased to have been given an additional \$400 to spend, bringing our total remaining budget to \$4,000.

After discussion, we felt that the greatest need for our Outreach dollars was at Loaves and Fishes for \$2,000. We are in a global financial crisis and believe that feeding the poor, hungry and unemployed in our local communities to be of the greatest importance.

The annual budget of \$2,500 given to Young Life for a considerable time was reduced to a total 2008 donation of \$1,500. Previously, \$1,000 has been donated to Outreach specifically for Young Life. This donation is no longer received and the donor has left St. Andrew's. Therefore, we have reduced our funding by said amount and sent them a final

installment of \$250. We are still committed to providing meals for the Young Life club meetings, but again, due to the lack of cooks we have to cut this back to once a month. The Young Life fundraiser dinner was attended by most of the Outreach team: Nicola and Brian Barlow, Rev. Alan and Erica Mackillop, Mark and Delores Loutitt, Phil Welton and Steve Titus.

We have also sent \$1,100 to Habitat for Humanity and \$100 to the Massachusetts Council of Churches.

We were able, as a result of the additional funds, to send a donation of \$550 to the St. Stephen's mission project in the South End, Boston. This is an Episcopal project reaching kids in need within our own diocese. We believe this to be a very worthwhile organization and will be happy to supply the Vestry with literature upon request. Earlier this year Fr. Alan sent \$200 to this project from his discretionary fund.

See the Outreach bulletin board for details on St. Andrew's ministries.

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## Thank you, Thank you!



I would like to thank all of the people who came to help me with my first attempt at making stew for the fair. So many of you came and peeled, chopped, stirred, served and cleaned, words cannot express how grateful I am for your help and support to try something new! It was a wonderful day, and the stew was terrific, thanks to all of you!!! -Marianne Welton

## Follow-up to the Fire

A letter from the Dean of the Cathedral,  
Jeb Streit

I am emailing to tell you that I learned that Billy McCarthy, a member of both our Sunday morning community and Ecclesia community (common cathedral) was arrested this week in conjunction with the fire at the Cathedral. He was charged with two felonies: arson in a church and a second felony charge related to an injury sustained by one of the firemen who slipped when investigating the fire. Of course it is distressing to learn that a member of our community is thought to be responsible, but I feel relieved that someone has been identified and so the speculation about who might have done this (and all the suspicion and worry that goes along with it) has ended.

The fact that Billy is homeless does not seem to me to be obviously relevant to this crime, as Jeff, the person who saw the fire and reported it (vastly limiting the damage) is also homeless. The unremarkable lesson from this is that people without homes are like people with homes, which is to say some are destructive and harmful, while others are helpful or even heroic. My experience is that most people fall in the latter grouping. I believe that Kathy McAdams, the priest for common cathedral, was able to be with Billy at his arraignment. She will be able to be spiritually supportive for him in ways that I obviously cannot, and so once again I am grateful for the partnership we have with her and Ecclesia ministries.

If you have been in the Cathedral recently you are aware of how quickly and thoroughly the cleanup has taken place. The fire damage in the Candle Room is being repaired, the room repainted. I think the physical cleanup may well be finished by Christmas, which I couldn't have imagined the evening of the fire. Of course the emotional and spiritual healing will take more time, but that seems to be proceeding in a good way as well. I

suspect that we will all be on slightly different schedules for that.

I promise to keep you informed as I learn further details. I am grateful for the concern and support we have received from many people and places. It is a living experience of the way we are in fact members of Christ's body.

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## Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 1, 2009

A gathering of the whole congregation will take place after the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist on 1 February when new members will be elected to the Vestry after the report of the Nominating Committee (nominations may be taken from the floor. There will be reports from the Clergy, Wardens and all commissions, ministries and organizations of the parish, the Treasurer's report with the Budget for 2009 and an opportunity to hear not only from the leadership side but also for the congregation to be able to ask questions or express views and concerns. Usually there is a potluck meal, but those details will be announced later. Members of the congregation are urged to come, be a part of the conversation about St. Andrew's moving into the future.

The Nominating Committee consists of Nicola Barlow, Chair; Mary Madeiros; Judy Venio; Fr. Alan; the Wardens and Jeanne Cassin, alternate.

The Class on the Emerging Church will resume on 7 January in the Peabody Room to conclude its study of Anthony Robinson's book, *Transforming Congregational Culture*, before looking at the writings of Brian McLaren, the foremost writer on the subject of the Emerging Church, who will be the featured speaker of the bishop on the Saturday in March when the parishes will gather in a diocesan-wide educational event that is sure to be a great inspiration as well.

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## 2009: 116 Years of Services at St. Andrew's Church, Ayer

By Louise Rogers

This year, 2009, will be St. Andrew's 116th year of professing God's Word, teaching the lessons of Jesus, and carrying out His commands as best we can. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church first started as a mission of Groton School in 1889. Occasional services, in the Protestant Episcopal Church of America tradition, had been held in previous years by the Diocesan Missionary and others, but no effort had been made to establish an Episcopal Church in the town of Ayer. Groton School took advantage of the opportunity that seemed to be offered and Rev. Dr. Endicott Peabody, founder and headmaster of Groton School, sent one of its masters, Rev. William G. Thayer, to begin this new ministry.

The mission Services were held in Ayer Town Hall for three years, mostly on Sunday evenings, with attendance averaging about sixty-five. Groton School paid for the hall rental and payment of the choir. On the evening of Trinity Sunday, June 1, 1890 about five hundred people attended a service in the upper town hall. The preacher was the Rev. Leighton Parks of Boston and the choir was assisted by the Groton School choir and orchestra. On the following Sunday evening a similar service was held with as large a congregation. The Rev. Wm. Lawrence of the Episcopal Theological School of Cambridge (later to become Bishop of MA) was the preacher.

In 1891 the Right Reverend Phillips Brooks, Bishop of Massachusetts, renowned as a composer of hymns and the former rector of Trinity Church in Boston, came to preach. Almost nine hundred people attended the service and the enthusiasm generated by this event convinced everyone that the mission was successful enough to warrant building a church.

On Christmas day 1892, one hundred sixteen years ago, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church celebrated its first service in our

beautiful stone church. At that time, Ayer was a very busy train center but, once built, St. Andrew's could be reached by a crossing from Main Street by the Town Hall across to Faulkner Street. The first rector of the church



(Circa 1907) From left to right: The First Baptist Church (now St. Andrew's Parish Hall); the Vicarage (now referred to as the Rectory); vestibule and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Note the crossing from Main Street by Town Hall to Faulkner Street.

was Rev. Dr. Endicott Peabody. He was Franklin Delano Roosevelt's headmaster at the Groton School and officiated at his marriage to Eleanor Roosevelt. Roosevelt said of Rev. Peabody, "As long as I live his influence will mean more to me than that of any other people next to my father and mother." Members of Rev. Peabody's famous lineage include grandson, Endicott Peabody, Governor of Massachusetts from January, 1963 to January, 1965. His great-granddaughter, Frances FitzGerald, author and journalist, was acclaimed for her outstanding coverage of the Vietnam War. Another great-granddaughter, actress Kyra Sedgwick and wife of actor, Kevin Bacon, was honored in 2007 with the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in the Dramatic TV Series, *The Closer*.

Rev. Thomas Legate Fisher, Vicar of St. Andrew's from 1900–1910, designed the rectory and moved into it, with his family, on Christmas Day in 1901. It also served as the Parish House for the congregation where meetings and events were held.

## **Weaving for Fun and Profit**

By Lynn Ferrillo

Have you ever thought it might be fun to learn to weave but feel that, if you took a course, you might not be able to attend all the class dates or finish the project? If so, consider joining St. Andrew's Weavers, which currently has room for two more weavers. Our small but enthusiastic group has met for the past three years on Thursday afternoons at my house in Harvard from 12:20 p.m. for about two hours.

The benefits to you are that the cost is unusually reasonable, plus you may work completely at your own pace. I provide all the equipment you ever need as well as the yarn for the first project. We are the St. Andrew's Weavers so I ask that you eventually donate, if possible, at least one of your finished works to our annual Holiday Fair. So far we have donated a table runner, scarves, bookmarks, a jacket and a shawl! Thank you Louise Rogers, Jim Western, Lee Burton, and Linda Kaferle!

If you are interested in learning to weave, please contact me any time at the parish office or after church, or call me at home 978-772-1898. We meet on Thursdays, but switching to a more convenient day or time for the group is possible.

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### **Coming Up at the Diocese**

Bishop Gayle E. Harris and the Rev. Ted Gaiser will lead a Mission Pilgrimage to Palestine and Israel beginning June 20-30, 2009. Letters of application, describing why you want to participate, what you hope to gain and how you will share the experience with your faith community, are welcome through Jan. 31. The tour will include many of the important holy sites and mission projects in the Diocese of Jerusalem. The anticipated expense will be \$3,500 per person, with an initial deposit of \$600 required with each application. Application letters and deposits should be

mailed to the Rev. Ted Gaiser, c/o Office of Bishop Suffragen Gayle E. Harris, Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, 138 Tremont St. Boston, MA 02111. For more information, call The Rev. Ted Gaiser at (617) 782-1577 or [gaiser@diomass.org](mailto:gaiser@diomass.org): [www.missiongoal.org](http://www.missiongoal.org).

The Christian Formation Community of Practice, a gathering of those working in education and formation in the diocese, will meet with Bishop Bud Cederholmn on Tuesday, January 27 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the diocesan offices at 138 Tremont Street, Boston. The group will be discussing the "Christian Formation Charter" to come before the Episcopal Church's General Convention in July 2009. A copy of the charter is available by contacting Amy Cook at (617) 482-4826, ext. 645 or [acook@diomass.org](mailto:acook@diomass.org). This conference is open to any leader in the diocese, clergy or lay, who is working in a parish and has Christian formation as a primary ministry focus. For more information, contact Becky Taylor, All Saints Parish, Brookline (617)738-1810 or [reled@allsaintsbrookline.org](mailto:reled@allsaintsbrookline.org).

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### **Thanks - Giving To ...**



Kim Lindo and Margaret Polities for sacrificing worship attendance in order to stay with Caitlyn and the nursery children so parents may attend church.

Louise Rogers, who takes the donations over to Loaves & Fishes every week.

To Kyle Bertulli and the Choir, the servers and the Altar Guild who worked hard to make our Christmas Services so beautiful.

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As part of the commemoration celebration of the contribution Martin Luther King, Jr. made to the fabric of American life, the MLK Coalition in Manchester, New Hampshire sponsored a contest for middle school children, asking them to write, draw or otherwise illustrate Dr. King's theme, "Shifting Focus from Things to People." One of the entries was a poem by an 8<sup>th</sup> grade girl at the Oyster River School. I thought it was so well done that I asked her permission to share it with you here. – Fr. Alan MacKillop

### **A HOPE**

A hope  
A most rare vision  
A dream.  
A hope for people  
People together.  
A change  
A shift  
Away from material possessions  
Away from money  
Guns  
Bias  
Based on race  
Gender  
Religion  
Class.  
A movement  
A step  
Towards people  
Towards acceptance  
Towards help for all.  
A revolution  
A new world  
Where anyone  
Can be cured of deadly illness  
Can graduate in cap and gown  
Can lead us all into the future.  
Because of what we give them  
Not from selfishness  
From our hearts.

## A Letter from the Dean of the Concord River Deanery

I don't know if you have experienced Ana Hernandez, but I have and she is terrific. Here is an opportunity for all of us to enjoy her work and to learn from her. Ana is coming to St. David's, Pepperell on January 10 and 11, 2009. On Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> she'll lead a workshop from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. She asks that we assure people that it's okay to arrive late or leave early. Come for any part that you can. We'll take up a free will offering. She will also join us for worship at St. David's at 10:00 am on the 11<sup>th</sup> and will work with the congregation on making music without the organ.



*The Healing Spirit of Rhythm* – Why do almost all of the icons of Teresa of Avila contain a tambourine? What was she doing banging around in that chapel? Why don't we use more rhythm in our chapels now?

Our bodies are regulated by rhythm in many ways: heartbeat, breathing, brain waves, metabolism, and circadian rhythms (24-hour cycle), infradian rhythms (several days or weeks), selenian rhythms (28-day cycle), etc... We are governed both by cycles within us and cycles over which we have no control (like the effect of the moon on the ebb and flow of the tides, or the effect of a dance on our feet). Everything we do is affected by rhythm, and different rhythms affect different aspects of our lives.

This workshop uses drumming, meditation, and chants to illustrate the connection between rhythm and consciousness, and will show how rhythm might be used to enrich our worshiping communities. Feel free to bring hand drums, ritual bells and any other small instruments you'd like to find a use for.



**January 2009**

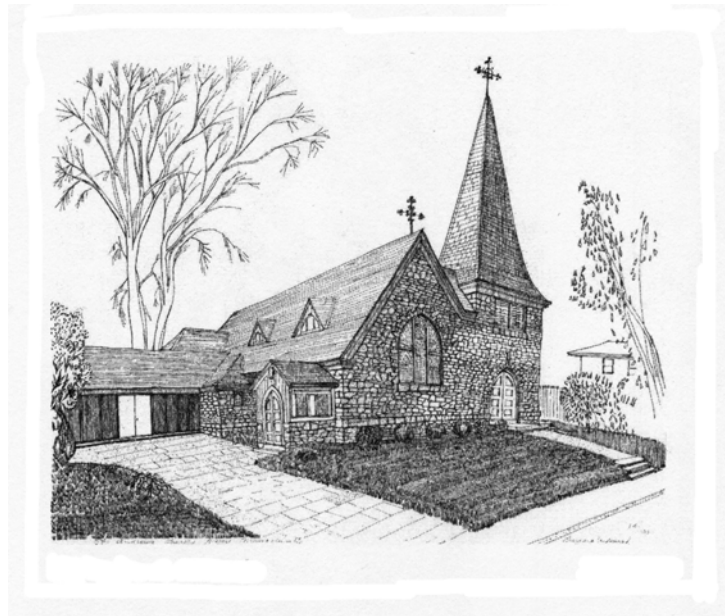
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
				1. New Year's Day  Office Closed	2.	3.
4. 8:00 am HEI 10:00 am HEII 1:00 pm Bethel Korean Service	5. 9:30 am Bible Study	6.	7. 12:00 noon HE with Healing Prayer 7:15 pm Emerging Church Class 6:30 pm Boy Scout Leaders	8. 12:20 pm St. Andrew's Weavers 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm AA	9.	10.
11. 8:00 am HEI 10:00 am HEII 1:00 pm Bethel Korean Service	12. 9:30 am Bible Study	13.	14. 12:00 noon HE with Healing Prayer 7:15 pm Emerging Church Class 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	15. 12:20 pm St. Andrew's Weavers 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm AA	16.	17.
18. 8:00 am HEI 10:00 am HEII 1:00 pm Bethel Korean Service	19. 9:30 am Bible Study  Xpress Deadline  Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	20. 7:30 pm Vestry Meeting	21. 12:00 noon HE with Healing Prayer 7:15 pm Emerging Church Class	22. 12:20 pm St. Andrew's Weavers 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm AA	23. Search Committee and Vestry Retreat	24. Search Committee and Vestry Retreat Continued
25. 8:00 am HEI 10:00 am HEII 1:00 pm Bethel Korean Service	26. 9:30 am Bible Study	27.	28. 12:00 noon HE with Healing Prayer 7:15 pm Emerging Church Class	29. 12:20 pm St. Andrew's Weavers 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm AA	30.	31.

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

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**Expressing Faith, Community, and Love**

*The St. Andrew's Xpress is a monthly newsletter for the St. Andrew's parish family and friends. Comments, suggestions, and photographs are welcome. If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please check the box.*