

One hundred and thirty-third Annual Meeting of
ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Wellesley, Massachusetts



Photo: Peter B. Lull

2025 Annual Reports

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Wellesley, Massachusetts

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133rd Annual Meeting

January 25, 2026

11am to 12:10pm

Agenda

1. Singing of the hymn (page 2) 11:00am
2. Call to order and opening prayer 11:05am
3. Reading of the warrant
4. Quorum and election of parliamentarian
5. Filing of annual reports by title 11:10am
6. Report from the nominating committee,
Nominations from the floor and election 11:15am
7. Financial reports 11:25am
 - Finance chair remarks *Sam Burns*
 - Treasurer's report *Joe Hamilton*
 - Stewardship report *Madison Riley*
 - Presentation of 2026 operating budget *Sam Burns*
8. Rector's comments 11:45pm
9. New business 11:55pm
10. Closing prayer and blessing 12:05pm
11. Adjournment 12:10pm

Commissioned in celebration of the 25th anniversary of R. Harrison Kelton as Organist and Choirmaster
of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Wellesley, Massachusetts

for the Feast of St. Andrew

Descant

3. Sing of An-drew, bold a - pos - tle, who made the gos - pel known,

1. Sing of An-drew, John's dis - ci - ple, led by faith through ways un - trod,
2. Sing of An-drew, called by Je - sus, from the shores of Gal - i - lee,
3. Sing of An-drew, bold a - pos - tle, sent to make the gos - pel known,

faith - - ful to his Lord's ex - am - ple, made a cross his own.

till the Bap - tist cried at Jor - dan, "There be - hold the Lamb of God."
leav - ing boats and nets and kin - dred, trust - ing in that "Fol - - low me."
faith - ful to his Lord's ex - am - ple, called to make a cross his own.

So may we who prize his mem - ory hon - or Christ in our own day,

Stirred by hear - ing this new teach - er, An - drew, freed from doubt and fear,
When a lad's small meal fed thou - sands, when in - quir - ing Greeks found care,
So may we who prize his mem - ory hon - or Christ in our own day,

bear - ing wit - ness to our neigh - bors, liv - ing what we sing and pray.

ran to tell his bro - ther Si - mon, "God's A - noint - - ed One is here!"
when the Spi - rit came in bless - ing, An - drew faith - - ful - ly was there.
bear - ing wit - ness to our neigh - bors, liv - ing what we sing and pray.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr.

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Music: Wellesley's Kelton, James Woodman (b. 1957)

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Staff Reports

Report of the Rector



Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole

We give thanks to God always for all of you. . . remembering your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope.

—1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

THIS QUOTATION from St. Paul's First Letter to the Thessalo-

nians captures well the deep sense of gratitude I feel for the work and commitment shown by so many parishioners over the past year. Your generosity of time, talent, and treasure has made it possible for St. Andrew's to grow as a strong Christian community—one that seeks to bear witness to Christ's love and presence in the world. This annual report is, in many ways, a testimony to that witness.

The year 2025 has been another strong year for our parish. The previous year, 2024, saw significant growth—both in Sunday attendance and in the resurgence of parishioner involvement across our ministries. Looking back, it feels clear that much of 2024's growth was a post-COVID surge as many people returned to church life or sought out a church community for the first time. This year has continued to see growth but at a steadier pace. There is much to be grateful for, especially as we approach pre-COVID levels of participation.

One of the exciting challenges for the years ahead will be to gradually invite our new members to participate in helping with the many ministries outlined in this report. We are blessed with a strong cadre of long-term parishioners who provide dedicated leadership. But it is important for our leadership succession process that we begin to invite our newer members to participate in our ministries so that they will be well positioned to lead these ministries in future years. If you are new to St. Andrew's and would like to become more involved, please do not hesitate to speak with me, the wardens, or any of the clergy.

When we ask newcomers why they have made St. Andrew's their spiritual home, they consistently speak of the church school and youth programs,

the music, the adult education offerings, the outreach ministries, the strong sense of community, and the clergy team. The fact that St. Andrew's has the resources and congregation size to sustain such a breadth of ministries is a blessing we must not take for granted. In conversations with colleagues around the diocese, it has become clear that many smaller parishes can no longer offer the range of ministries—especially church school programs—necessary for long-term vitality. Our new bishop has spoken candidly about the need for smaller congregations to join together or face an uncertain future. For this reason, I believe it is important not only that we maintain our ministries for the nourishment of our own community, but also that we continue to offer a spiritual home to Episcopalians seeking a parish with robust programs and opportunities for growth.

In addition to the continued strength of our ministries, one exciting development this year has been the commissioning of a new stained-glass window for the west end of the nave, where the Porter window currently stands. The new Emerging Christ Window, designed by Lyn Hovey—one of America's leading stained-glass artists—will feature the central images of Christ and St. Andrew. Surrounding them will be four holy men and women from the Episcopal/Anglican tradition who have set an example since the founding of our parish in the 1880s. Each will represent a Christian virtue: C.S. Lewis, exemplifying faith expressed through the arts; Bishop Barbara C. Harris, representing courageous and charismatic leadership; the Rev. Hiram Kano, embodying steadfast faith amid adversity; and Florence Nightingale, representing faithful service. Work on the window will begin in 2026, with installation anticipated in early 2027.

I would like to thank all the clergy and staff at St. Andrew's who have worked so hard to make our parish thrive. This year I would particularly like to mention two of our longest serving staff members. The first is our sexton, Steve Killeen, who has served the parish for almost 38 years. Earlier this year Steve spent six months on medical leave. He was very much

in our prayers during his illness and treatment, and we were delighted to welcome him back to work in September. Many thanks to Bill Clover and Brian Clark for stepping into the sexton duties while Steve was away. The other important person to mention is Kate Clark who has been the parish administrator at St. Andrew's for the last 16 years and is retiring after Christmas. Kate has played a central role in the smooth running of the parish and in keeping us up to date with technological and communication changes. Hers will be very big shoes to fill. We wish her well in her coming retirement and we will miss her greatly.

I would also like to extend thanks to Wardie Mannix for her much-loved music ministry which lies at the heart of our worship. It has also been a blessing to have Benedict Hensley be the children's choir director for this second year. Thank you to Susan Jackson for her work with the children, and to Joanne Butler for handling so ably the church accounts. I would also very much like to thank my clergy colleagues. Thanks to the Rev. Karen Vickers Budney for her pastoral care to the congregation in

her role as pastoral associate. Many thanks to the Rev. Dr. Sarah Robbins-Cole for her leadership of our church school programs, the youth group, and the Soul Sisters ministry. Much thanks to the Rev. Margaret Schwarzer for her leadership of our engaging adult Christian learning ministry and for her work with the membership committee, which has helped welcome the many newcomers to our parish.

Finally, I would like to thank our vestry and our two church wardens, Ginny Snow and Tom Faust, for their work in helping to lead the parish. This has been Ginny's first year as a warden. She and Tom have made a very strong team helping to lead the parish and discern God's will for St. Andrew's as we move into the future.

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole

Report of the Associate Rector for Adult Formation and Membership



Rev. Margaret Schwarzer

THE YEAR 2025 has been a year of abundant community, kindness, and curiosity. We have had 35 newcomer and "seeker" families spend time with us this year and many have confirmed that they want to join our community and help support St. Andrew's financially with a pledge. Many of these newcomers have also remarked upon the generous, peaceful spirit in our sanctuary. I feel it, too. St. Andrew's continues to be a vital, vibrant community of spiritually curious Christians.

Adult Formation Advisory Committee

Our adult formation committee and I share in the mission of Christian education for adults at St. Andrew's.

Your feedback and interests guide the topics and programs we choose, so please share your interests and questions with me or a member of our committee. I am thankful for the service and creativity of our members who served in 2025: Pam Alexander, Laura Brown MacKinnon, Megan Burns, David Guydan, Carrie Hawley, Ansley Martin, Will Nystrom, Paul Shellito, and Sandy Warren. I'm also thankful for our warden, Ginny Snow, who has also participated in our meetings; she shares our strong commitment to engaging adult formation at St. Andrew's. I'm especially thankful for the leadership of our chair, Carrie Hawley, who brings her considerable enthusiasm, creativity, and love of teaching to our work. I'm thankful for her hard work and faithfulness during her three-year term as chair of our committee.

Adult Formation & Learning Programs

This year we continued to offer three Bible study options: monthly open Bible studies, a bi-monthly men's Bible study, and a weekly beginners' Bible study. These classes, taught by Adrian and me, collectively bring 30 people into Bible studies each month.

Another regular offering is our 9am Christian learning series, which brings together those worshipping at 8am and 10am, as well as Zoom attendees. Our 28 sessions in 2025 averaged 28 participants each, and more than 65 people attended at least one 9am Christian learning series class. We paid special attention to the study of *The Book of Common Prayer* this year, exploring liturgies, creeds, and the Catechism.

Our other adult formation offerings also include Faith & Practice classes and the last class of a special three-part series *Antisemitism from a Jewish Perspective*, taught by Eric Rosen, a member of Temple Beth Elohim, and had 41 participants. These classes are online, in person, or hybrid mode.

We held our Lenten program in person and online. Our Lenten potluck & program, *Being Disciples: Following the Living God*, had an average of 45 participants on each of the five Wednesday nights in Lent. On Ash Wednesday, Ansley Martin and I went to the train station and a neighborhood corner offering "Ashes-To-Go" to commuters. It was a true pleasure to serve as the facilitator and editor for the ninth Lenten Meditation Guide written by St. Andrew's parishioners. In 2025, we printed over 560 copies, mailing a copy to every household in our active parishioner list and sending a daily email to the 132 people who asked to get emails of the guide.

This year, our Holy Monday Taizé-style service was held in church and broadcast, with 35 participants in person. The Advent Taizé-style service was held and broadcast with 40 people in person and over 85 people online. I want to offer particular thanks to the members of our Advent Taizé-style meditative working group: D.D. Alexander, Laura Brown MacKinnon, Elizabeth Clarke, Erica Gelser, Liz Parsons, Jenny Sawyer, Barbara Shellito, and Rob Brandt, our broadcast technician. Taizé-style services couldn't happen without your creativity and hard work. Our 2025 Blue Christmas service continued to offer space and

support for people who are facing significant loss or challenges during the Christmas season.

In November, the Wellesley Turkey Trot saw our St. Andrew's team of 60 participants between the ages of five and 80 win the "biggest team" award again this year. Many of us wore our red "St. Andrew's" hats as we pounded down the main streets of Wellesley. St. Andrew's also staffed a water table for the race at the one mile mark.

Faith & Practice classes, offered as forums for parishioners to share and reflect upon the practice of our daily faith, continue to be vital and engaging; participation ranged from seven to 30 members per class. Three were held in person this year, including a class on helping support people in grief, led by Wendy Haering. This fall, we considered the essential practice of forgiveness in a Faith & Practice class. Our fall field trip took 17 of us on a Sunday trip to the Islamic Center of Boston in Wayland.

Membership Committee

Once again, we have had a significant number of newcomers join us. In 2025, 35 new households came to us as seekers or newcomers. Our membership committee members welcomed them and helped them to learn about our parish. We ensure each newcomer receives an email or phone call from a clergyperson (me) and a lay member of our membership committee within the first few weeks of their arrival. We then follow up with other opportunities, including Kids' Place coffees and newcomer brunches, held in the fall and the spring. A Pimm's party is held at the rector's home each spring, for newcomers who have worshipped with us for two years and are transitioning into active membership. Each Sunday, we greet people at the start of each 10am service and several members stand in the narthex after the service to help register newcomers for our membership, Realm, and Constant Contact systems. We also encourage newcomers to attend coffee hour and answer their questions about St. Andrew's. Our membership committee also gives each newly baptized child a beautiful picture book celebrating their baptism at St. Andrew's.

Please join us in welcoming all the newcomers in our midst. If you see someone standing alone at coffee hour, please introduce yourself and help them to feel

welcome. Please turn to our membership committee report for more details about our work this year.

I enjoy being the clergy liaison for the vital work of our membership committee. My main responsibilities lie in welcoming newcomers by email or phone so that they have an immediate clergy welcome. I also meet with newcomers who would like to discuss their spiritual journey, and I help newcomers learn more about our parish. This year, I'm especially thankful for Amanda Curtis, chair of our committee. Amanda keeps track of all the details around membership, inspires us with her big-hearted, extroverted love of people, and ensures that we have lots of fun along the way. It is a joy to work with her and our faithful membership committee: Hope Aldrich, Travis Anza, Laurin Baldwin, Dana Brennan, Connie Barnes, Libby Botsford, Pam Byron, Elizabeth Clarke, Coryn Hall, Becky Hamlin, Carrie Hawley, Angie Johnson, Ntonhle Kekana, Sarah Klein, Lauren Murphy, and Betsy Veidenheimer.

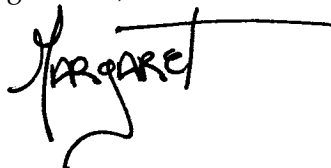
College Ministry

In 2025, college students continued to worship with us at our 8am, 10am, and 5pm services and some joined us online. College students and graduate students have sung in our adult choir and taught

church school, and several gung-ho students helped us prepare for our 2025 Bargain Haul. College senior Elizabeth Martin led a memorable class on Buddhism for our 9am Christian learning series. When you see Wellesley College and Babson college or graduate students during worship or coffee hour, please welcome them and help them feel at home. I have taken a few out to lunch or coffee, helping them feel welcome, exploring their faith, and letting them know St. Andrew's wants to support them.

Like all of us, I'm thankful for the continued vitality in our sanctuary and classrooms on Sunday mornings. Our community's Sundays are meaningful and engaging; we are growing in faith together. As always, I'm especially thankful to our rector, Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole, for his excellent leadership and I'm thankful for all my colleagues. It is exciting to watch our church grow in so many varied, purposeful, and meaningful ways.

In gratitude,



Rev. Margaret K. Schwarzer

Report of the Associate Rector for Youth and Family



Rev. Dr. Sarah Robbins-Cole

IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE I am writing my fourth annual report. When I arrived in July 2022, we were just emerging from the pandemic. It has been a joy to see church school grow and programming regain strength. The lingering impact

of the pandemic is still visible in our smallest cohorts—our middle school and confirmation classes—reflecting the years without in-person church school.

Church School

In 2025, we continued to offer Kids' Place, Godly Play I and II, and Upper School on Sundays, with

our usual vacation and summer breaks. Godly Play remains a wonderful way for children to explore the church year, scripture, and the lives of saints.

Upper School focused this year on the Episcopal tradition, especially baptism, and *The Book of Common Prayer* (BCP). The BCP, our guide to worship, sacraments, prayer, and the church calendar, gives students a tool they can use now and throughout their lives.

Here are some reflections from our Upper School students:

Every week, we always talk about *The Book of Common Prayer*. We have explored the Church's seasons: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, the Season after Pentecost, the Holy

Days, and the national and saints' days. We also learned that monks used to pray seven times a day, waking at 2am to do so! Now, *The Book of Common Prayer* includes morning, noontime, and evening prayers. We've also learned many prayers, about the Great Litany, and the meanings of numerous holy words.

Respectfully submitted by members of upper school.

Youth Programming

All youth groups now meet on Sunday late afternoons or evenings. Rite-13 (grades 6–7) follows the national Episcopal curriculum and remains one of our smaller groups, along with our confirmation class—another reflection of pandemic-era gaps.

Confirmation, which concludes in January, offers an Episcopal Church 101 and prepares students to join the youth group.

From the youth group:

The youth group meets every Sunday evening during the program year, except those that fall on long weekends or public school vacations. Before turning to the youth group report in their own words, I would like to thank Rob Brandt for his continual dedication as a youth group volunteer. He has chaperoned, organized, facilitated, and acted as executive chef helping the teens make dinner for themselves. I am so grateful for his dedication, wisdom, humor, and kindness.

Please read the youth group report below:

On a typical day of youth group at St. Andrew's, we learn new things that connect to our everyday life. We build community with one another along with those of misfortune. On Sunday, we get together for Bible study, make dinner, share with each other through "roses, buds, and thorns," go on trips, and play fun games.

We also partake in but not on a regular basis:

- Service trips (Agassiz Village, CityReach, *common cathedral*)
- Field trips (apple picking, La Salette Festival of Lights)
- Life-skills sessions (finances, organization, time management)

- Service projects (Wily Scholar Program's college care packages)

Respectfully submitted by Henry DeBevoise, Christian Lowe, Jason Lowe, and Ben Mahoney

Worship

This year, we continued our all-parish Eucharist program, inviting children to attend church with their parents six times a year. On these Sundays, the children's choir sings, and youth serve as readers.

We are also fortunate to have youth preachers. This year, veteran preachers Kara Eichelberger and Caroline Condon returned to the pulpit, and teens also read at other services, such as Advent Lessons & Carols. Seasonal gatherings have been well attended, matching or exceeding pre-pandemic levels. These events include the Ash Wednesday pancake supper and imposition of ashes, Good Friday interactive Stations of the Cross, the Allhallowtide Service, and the Little Angels' gift shop, and Cookies & Carols.

Soul Sisters

Soul Sisters, a group open to all women of the parish, concluded its inaugural program year in spring 2025, and its second program year got off to a strong start this fall.

In the winter, Wendy Haering led a discussion on caregiving and caregivers, and AnnG Kenney guided us through an interactive session on meditation and wellness. During Lent, we held two lively discussions on *The Let Them Theory* by Mel Robbins. Our final meeting in the spring featured dinner and a Yankee swap.

This fall, we began the year with a conversation on meditation with Kevan Gale. Next, Becky Hamlin led two separate book discussions on *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi, and we concluded the year with a discussion of Priya Parker's *The Art of Gathering*. Thank you to Heather Schaefer for her leadership and organization of this ministry and thank you to everyone who has enriched our program by your presence.

Here are some examples of the feedback we receive from attendees:

- I wanted to let you know what a terrific job you are doing with Soul Sisters and what a value-add it is. I really appreciate the subject matter. I love how

you run the meetings. The ladies are wonderful . . . It's been such a wonderful addition to my "new" chosen life at St. Andrews.

- As a new person to the church community, it has been such a pleasure to be included in these events. It's a lovely addition to my spiritual journey.
- Soul Sisters is always a thought-provoking, emotionally enlivening, and appetite-satisfying, experience.

Gratitude

I want to extend my sincere thanks to our church school teachers: D.D. Alexander, Emily Bacon, Veronica Bacon, Matthew Benfer, Becca Daws, Catherine Falcetti, Bianka Eichelberger, Kara Eichelberger, Caleb Farny, Deedee Griffin, Francesca Grossetti, Pamela Grossetti, Tad Heuer, Angie Johnson, Ntonhle Kekana, Blair Kenary, Tawanda Masiwa, Sophia Morris, Ashley McCaslin, Emma Pedrotti, Stephanie Mitchell, Liantsoa Ratsimbazafy, Emily Scott, Martha Sears, Allison Shirley, Ben Shirley, Elizabeth Svedlund, Emmy Svedlund, Katherine Svedlund, Lia Tron, Roberto Tron, Carolyn Urban, Coryell Urban, Ellen Wahls, and Anna Lee Wahls.

Their dedication, creativity, and care continue to inspire and nurture our students.

I am also deeply grateful to our school committee members: D.D. Alexander, Catherine Falcetti, Pamela Grossetti (our chair and vestry representative), Angie Johnson, Blair Kenary, Stephanie Mitchell, Heather Schaefer, Elizabeth Svedlund, Coryell Urban, and Anna Lee Wahls. Their guidance, organizational talent, and joyful spirit are invaluable to the life and success of our church school.

Lastly, I want to express my deep gratitude to Susan Jackson. Her extensive institutional knowledge, unwavering dedication, sharp wisdom, sense of humor, and exceptional organizational skills have ensured the smooth and effective running of our children's and youth programs for nineteen years. I could not ask for a more supportive and capable colleague.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rev. Sarah Robbins-Cole

Report of the Music Minister



Helen Ward Mannix

IN JUNE OF 2025, I completed my eighteenth year as music minister at St. Andrew's.

The heart of our music program is our wonderful choir.

We now have eight paid section leaders: Laura Cervinsky and Sofia Chandler-Freed, sopranos; Rebekah Daley and Vanessa Moya, altos; Chao Ma and Alex Schneider, tenors; and Benedict Hensley and John Tavera-Lim, baritones. John joined us this year.

He is from Nebraska and did his undergraduate work at the University of Nebraska and received a master's degree from Shenandoah University in Virginia; he is presently pursuing post graduate studies at Boston Conservatory. We have increased the appearance pay of our section leaders from \$85 to \$95 to remain com-

petitive. The fact of the matter is that nowadays there is an ever-smaller pool of these qualified young section leaders and many churches in the Boston area are competing for them. The fact that we are located outside of Boston makes it even more difficult to hire them.

We need more congregation members to join the choir. As is the case with many church choirs, our members are quickly aging out. I do not have enough praise and thanks for their dedication and conscientious work over the years I have been here. They have been the backbone of this choir, but it is time for others to step up. As of now, we don't have enough members to replace them. I have heard from the people I have tried to recruit that one of the drawbacks of joining the choir is commitment. I have tried and will continue to try to make clear that a weekly commitment is not essential to joining the senior choir. One of

the reasons we have paid section leaders is to ensure that we have four parts on any given Sunday so we can sing four-part music. Our congregation is one that travels often for work or pleasure but that should not preclude participation in our choir. So, I would urge people to give the choir a try in the New Year. No audition is necessary.

A review from the beginning of 2025,

- On January 7, we lost our longtime and beloved choir member Lane Johnson. We sang a memorial service for him on February 8 with 31 people in the choir.
- On January 31, Luisa Hunnewell, who was a huge supporter of the music at St. Andrew's, died. Her memorial service was on February 28.
- Our Lenten Choral Evensong was March 2. The featured piece was *O nata lux* by Morten Lauridsen. We also sang John Rutter's *Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace*, and *Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in G major* by Charles Villiers Stanford. We had 27 singers.
- Easter was Sunday, April 20. James Mosher and his brass quartet accompanied the *Hallelujah Chorus* and played along with our hymns as well as preludes as postludes. The choir sang the *Hallelujah Chorus* by Handel and *Dic nobis, Maria* by Giovanni Bassano. We had 31 singers in our choir.
- Our last choir Sunday was June 8: we had 28 singers.
- The choir was reconvened on Thursday, September 4.
- We celebrated St. Francis Day on October 5 with John Rutter's *Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace* and *For the beauty of the earth*. Jennifer Velázquez accompanied on the organ. We had 24 in the choir.
- On All Saints' Sunday, November 2, the choir sang Benjamin Britten's *Festival Te Deum* accompanied by Jennifer Velázquez. We had 25 in the choir.
- St. Andrew's Day was observed on Sunday, November 23. Iain Massie returned to play the pipes.

Jennifer Velázquez was our guest organist and accompanied the choir on Parry's *I was glad when they said unto me*. We had 25 in the choir.

- On December 7, we held our Advent Lessons & Carols Service with a choir of 31 singers and Thomas Handel playing the organ.
- The children's Christmas pageant, directed by Benedict Hensley, was on Sunday, December 14.
- The Christmas Eve Service at 10pm welcomed 30 singers, many of whom were returning. A string quartet led by Rafael Popper-Keizer, cello, played Corelli's *Concerto for Christmas Eve* before the service and accompanied our anthems.

Our bass section leader, Benedict Hensley, is in his second year as the children's choir director. He has fostered a real bond with the children, and they are learning and enjoying it! He holds rehearsal every Thursday from 5pm to 5:45pm followed by dinner. He is following the Royal School of Church Music curriculum which promises to foster musical skills in our children.

We continue to have Wellesley College chamber music ensembles under the direction of Jenny Tang play for preludes and postludes in various services. Wellesley College organ students continue to use our organ weekly to practice. Various groups continue to use our sanctuary for musical presentations. Jonathan Ambrosino takes care of our Juget-Sinclair organ, which is in excellent condition and should serve us for many years to come. Anthony McKenna tunes our pianos.

Respectfully submitted,



Helen Ward Mannix

Wardens' Reports

Wardens' Letter



Tom Faust



Ginny Snow

Giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ —Ephesians 5:20

THE ST. ANDREW'S PARISH has much to be thankful for as 2025 draws to a close. While other churches struggle to maintain membership and the vitality of their faith communities, St. Andrew's is thriving in all dimensions. Our Sunday attendance is strong, our community is active, engaged, and growing; our finances are sound; and the worship experience, Christian education, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach programs offered by St. Andrew's fulfill the spiritual needs of seasoned parishioners and new members alike. The vibrancy of our faith community is especially enriched by the many families with young children who have chosen to make St. Andrew's their spiritual home.

A thriving church community like ours does not just happen. We are fortunate to be served by exceptional clergy and staff. Our music minister Wardie Mannix and children's choir director Benedict Hensley lead an extraordinary program of sacred music that so enriches our worship experience throughout the program year. We are indeed blessed by the leadership of Wardie and Benedict and by the talent and commitment demonstrated by our faithful group of choristers, both volunteer and professional.

Our education programs are ably led by Christian learning coordinator Susan Jackson, Associate Rector for youth and family Sarah Robbins-Cole, and Associate Rector for adult formation and membership Margaret Schwarzer. Families with school-age

children and adults new to St. Andrew's regularly cite our high-quality educational programs as among the offerings that most attracted them to St. Andrew's and keep them coming back. This year saw significant growth in youth program and pre-confirmation church school participation.

Our parish administrator Kate Clark and finance administrator Joanne Butler ensure that St. Andrew's is managed professionally and efficiently, with Kate maintaining responsibility for parishioner communications and Joanne working with our treasurer to manage the day-to-day financial affairs of St. Andrew's. Kate announced this fall that she intends to step down from her position in early 2026 and a search for her replacement is now underway. As she prepares to depart, we thank Kate for her nearly 16 years of dedicated service to St. Andrew's.

The buildings and grounds of St. Andrew's are well maintained by longtime sexton Steve Killeen and assistant sexton Bill Clover. We are grateful to Bill for stepping up this year while Steve was out on medical leave and we are especially thankful that Steve is now back and has resumed his regular responsibilities at St. Andrew's.

The Rev. Karen Budney provides exceptional service to St. Andrew's as a volunteer pastoral associate. We are blessed by Karen's longtime St. Andrew's ministry and her dedicated leadership of our pastoral care program.

One of the greatest strengths of St. Andrew's is the preaching and liturgical leadership provided by Rector Adrian Robbins-Cole and associate rectors Margaret and Sarah. Sharing preaching responsibilities over the weeks, our clergy continually deliver sermons that educate us and inspire us to live our lives in service to God and with gratitude for life's many blessings. More than just outstanding preachers, Adrian, Margaret, and Sarah provide exceptional leadership in all aspects of the life of St. Andrew's. We are awed by their dedication and deeply grateful for their service to our community.

Beyond our clergy and professional staff, St. Andrew's is supported by a large cohort of parishioners who dedicate countless hours to serving the church's many ministries—from church school to Bargain Haul and beyond. Many of these ministries are overseen by members of the St. Andrew's vestry, which serves as the standing committee of the parish to help clergy and staff carry out the mission of St. Andrew's. We are grateful to each of them for their dedicated service and particularly recognize those vestry members who will complete their terms of office in January 2026: Pamela Grossetti (youth formation and learning), Carrie Hawley (adult formation and learning), Madison Riley (stewardship), and Sam Schaefer (property). Well done, thy good and faithful servants!

As warden, it has been my distinct pleasure to work with Megan Burns, whose term ended in January 2025, and Ginny Snow, who stepped in at that time to replace Megan. Both Megan and Ginny have been wonderful partners to Adrian and me in overseeing all aspects of parish life. We are fortunate to have such dedicated and capable leaders of the parish.

The many programs in which the St. Andrew's parish community is engaged and the milestones and accomplishments achieved in 2025 are described in detail in the reports that accompany this letter. I commend them to your careful consideration.

In closing, I would like to highlight two new initiatives that exemplify the thriving vitality of St. Andrew's. First, we have commissioned a stunning stained glass window to anchor the west wall of our sanctuary and project our mission and values to passersby on Washington Street and to the world beyond. Second, we have launched a facilities master planning project for our Denton Road properties, which we expect to culminate in upgrades to our worship and community spaces over the coming years to better serve our faith community in the decades ahead.

These are exciting and gratifying times at St. Andrew's. It's my distinct privilege to serve as your warden.

—Tom Faust, warden

Montessori School Report

THE WELLESLEY MONTESSORI SCHOOL is proud to celebrate its 51st year of service to our community and is delighted to continue its longstanding relationship with St. Andrew's. We remain deeply grateful for the ongoing support of St. Andrew's, which has made it possible for us to provide a high-quality, nurturing program for young children for more than five decades.

Over the years, our school has thoughtfully evolved to meet the changing needs of local families. Our program offerings have expanded, and we are now able to serve children from three months of age through kindergarten, ensuring continuity of care and education during their most formative years.

Access to a strong, community-based early childhood program is more important now than ever. As

families navigate an increasingly complex world, they seek environments that are safe, consistent, and developmentally supportive. In response, our dedicated teachers and staff continue to implement innovative and authentic Montessori practices that honor each child's natural development and curiosity.

We would also like to remind St. Andrew's parishioners that a scholarship fund is available exclusively for church members.

On behalf of the entire Wellesley Montessori School, I extend heartfelt thanks to the clergy, vestry, and to Katharine Clark, Joanne Butler, Susan Jackson, Wardie Mannix, Steve Killeen, and Bill Clover for their steadfast partnership and support.

—Vanessa Larkin, M.Ed.,
Wellesley Montessori School director.

Parish Register

Baptisms Mary Goddard Brennan, Nina Grace Boschetti, Lily Alexandra Burpee, Eleanor Jane Ferguson, Charles Harrison Gallup, Pierce Kunkler, Clyde Nash Parker, Dean Lincoln White, Sloane Lianna Lane White, and Henry Thomas Meyer

Burials Christopher (Kit) Barrow, Sally Benjamin, Christina Wilson Clothier, Stephen Hopkins, Luisa Hunnewell, Deborah Scott Johnson, G. Lane Johnson, Jr., William Blake King, Suzanne Palmer Lee, Marshall McKee, James Peters, and Marie Trigg Puffer

Confirmations Bennett Warren Farny, Benjamin Maxfield Mahoney, Ashley Katherine McCaslin, Elizabeth Amory Rankin, Andrew Christian Shirley, Amelia (Emmy) Crow Svedlund, Katherine Liv Svedlund, Ellen Claire Wahls, and Eric William Cigan (received)

Marriages Ethan McGinnis Faust and Lauren Olivia Lastres; and Margot Manning and Grant Steele

Nominating Committee Report

2026 St. Andrew's Slate of Nominees

Tad Heuer, Clerk (2-year term)

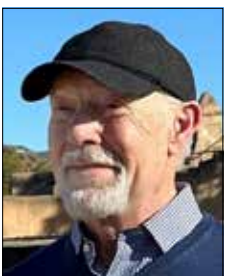


Tad Heuer

TAD AND HIS FAMILY live around the corner from St. Andrew's on Cottage Street and have been members since 2012. Tad has sung in the choir, served on the membership committee, and taught church school. He and his wife, JoLynn, were married

at St. Andrew's and his daughter Imogen was baptized at St. Andrew's. Tad is a partner and the chair of the appellate practice at Foley Hoag LLP, where he practices land use and administrative law. He is a Wellesley town meeting member and was previously the chair of the Wellesley Historical Commission.

Joe Hamilton, Treasurer (2-year term)



Joe Hamilton

JOE AND FAMILY have been members of St. Andrew's since 1995. While a member, Joe has served as church school teacher, adult chaperone for overseas missions, and lay Eucharistic minister (LEM). Since 2017, he has coordinated all LEMs and readers. More

recently, Joe has served on the stewardship committee, and participated in a mission trip to El Hogar.

Joe had experience as a vestryperson before moving to Wellesley. The Hamilton children, Lydia and Ted, were both confirmed at St. Andrew's and grandchildren are now beginning to attend when in Wellesley.

Joe has been a board member and chair of corporate boards and advisory councils, and for 15 years the treasurer, director, and chair of Oxfam America, the international aid and relief organization. He retired in 2016 after a career in international insurance and reinsurance, working and living in the US, Europe, Latin America, and Asia. When he and Luisa are not in Wellesley, Joe looks forward to time spent with his children and grandchildren in Washington, DC and Pennsylvania, friends overseas, and international travel. He is actively pursuing long held interests in ancient American cultures, especially the Maya.

Laura Brown MacKinnon, Vestryperson for Adult Formation & Learning (3-year term)



Laura Brown MacKinnon

LAURA BROWN MACKINNON married into the third generation of St. Andrew's Church members (Moorheads & MacKinnons). She and her husband Bruce came to St. Andrew's in 2005 with their very young children, Isabella and Henry. She is a grateful occupant

of the second from-the-back-row pew with multiple generations of the MacKinnon family. At St. Andrew's she's had the chance to serve in the following ways: teach church school and serve on the church school committee, work at Bargain Haul as well as lead it, serve on altar guild as well as lead it, serve on vestry as the worship committee chair, and as a member of the adult formation committee.

Originally from southern California, and a Presbyterian, Laura worked in theatre in New York for many years. Now she teaches stage management to graduate students at the David Geffen School of Drama at Yale University and in the Theater Studies Department at Columbia School of the Arts. She spends her spare time chasing down her young adult children to commit to family vacations together.

David Guydan, Vestryperson for Stewardship (3-year term)



David Guydan

DAVID AND HIS WIFE ELIZABETH, residents of Wellesley since 1985, have been members of the St. Andrew's community since 2020. Their daughter, Kate, lives and works in New Jersey. David serves as a member of the adult formation advisory committee, publisher of The Call, and a member of the communications committee. David is co-founder, President, and CEO of TheraNetrix, Inc. a new digital health technology company employing AI and predictive computer simulations for pain management treatment. His business career spans 40 years with senior management industry experience in biotechnology services, institutional investments, and information services in organizations ranging from start-ups to money center banks. David holds a BA degree in economics from the University of Pittsburgh and an MBA from Harvard Business School. He was an officer in the U.S. Navy with service in Vietnam. David was formerly Trustee of The Winsor School, where he and Elizabeth co-chaired the Annual Fund. He enjoys sailing, golf, and spending time with family and friends. He is a native of Charleroi, PA, where he was baptized, confirmed, and raised in the Episcopal Church.

Sam Schaefer, Property (3-year term)



Sam Schaefer

SAM, WIFE HEATHER, and two children Norah and Coley have been attending St. Andrew's since moving to Wellesley from Chicago in 2011. Norah and Coley were both confirmed at St. Andrew's and Heather currently serves on the altar guild. Sam has been in the commercial real estate business for over 25 years and currently leads the Trammell Crow Company's Boston office where he oversees all development and acquisition projects for the local team with a focus on the office, multi-family, life sciences, and industrial sectors. Sam previously served as president and CEO for Hobbs Brook Real Estate, and prior he served in several roles at Tishman Speyer during his 18 years with the firm, most recently as the managing director, global head of leasing, corporate outreach and property management. Schaefer holds a BA from DePauw University and serves as the chair of the board of directors of Good Sports. In his free time, Sam loves being on the water and the ski slopes, walking the family dog, and supporting all of Norah's and Coley's theatrical and sporting endeavors.

Anna Lee Wahls, Vestryperson for Youth Formation & Families (3-year term)

ANNA LEE AND HER FAMILY have been members of



Anna Lee Wahls

St. Andrew's since 2016. She and her husband, Justin, and two children, Ellen (15) and John (11), live in Wellesley. Anna Lee serves as a church school teacher and has been on the church school committee since 2022. Outside of St. Andrew's, she serves as co-chair of the Dexter Southfield Parents Association and is active in the Wellesley chapter of National Charity League.

Vestry Committee Reports

Report of the Vestryperson for Adult Formation

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT 2026 has arrived and my 3-year term as vestryperson for adult formation has come to a close. I have been honored to serve on our vestry, representing our vibrant committee, and working closely with our dynamic leader, Rev. Margaret Schwarzer. Over the last several years, our committee has evolved into a "well-oiled machine," working fluidly together, always curious, seeking interesting and relevant sources of inspiration, gathering to brainstorm and debate, and consistently finding ways to help our congregation pursue deeper meaning and to grow in relationship to God.

Our 2025 offerings grew on the strength we had developed in 2024. Our 9am Christian learning series consistently attracted around 30 parishioners each week. Our three bible studies—open Bible study on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of each month, men's Bible study on Saturday mornings, and beginners Bible study every Thursday at noon—are all well attended and thriving. Our Faith & Practice series provides an option for personal growth at 11:30am on select Sundays. Our programming is diverse and gives our community an opportunity to access various ways of deepening their personal faith journey. We paused on our popular Inquirers' class in 2025 and look forward to offering it once again in spring 2026.

Our spring adult formation offerings included the Lenten Meditation Guide, a Faith & Practice class on *How to Acknowledge Grief in Others*, our Lenten suppers, and our Easter week Taizé-style service. The Lenten program theme "Being Disciples: Following the Living God" featured *Dietrich Bonhoeffer: The Cost of Discipleship*; Christian Vows of Discipleship with guest Edie Dolnikowski, canon for ordained and lay vocations; *Following Christ: A Servant Ministry of Action & Renewal*; *Get Yourself a Teacher, Find Yourself a Friend* with special guest Rabbi Rachel Saphire from Temple Beth Elohim; and *The Beatitudes—A Guidepost*. The potluck dinners continue to be a big draw for parishioners, helping to feed our souls as we walk through the Lenten season together.

In our spring 9am Christian learning series, we studied Christian theology, history, art, and liturgy by asking: What is essential to our faith? How do scripture, baptism, Eucharist, and prayer help us grow in Christ? How do Christians understand death? The semester was organized into four parts: *Our Book of Common Prayer; How Has Our Christian Tradition Understood Death*; our Lenten book; and *Living our Faith: Insight, Devotion, and Adventure*. Part one included classes on *Our Book of Common Prayer; Comments, Questions and Discoveries; Transformational Changes in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer*; and the 1549 *Book of Common Prayer*. Part two featured *Death and Burial in the Early Church* with Dr. Caroline Johnson-Hodge from Holy Cross College, followed by *Remembering our Death Through Art and Ritual*. Part three's group study of our Lenten book *Being Christian: Baptism, Bible, Eucharist, Prayer*, by former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, supported us through the Lenten season. It included *Preparing for Holy Week and Easter: Traditions and Practices*, and a discussion about former Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby's tenure. Part four closed out our semester with *How Good Are You: Claiming Your Gifts; a Visio Divina* studying Images of Mary, the Mother of God; and *Exploring Tibetan Buddhism & The Mind-Body Connection* with Elizabeth Martin.

Our fall 9am Christian learning series invited the congregation to reflect on personal faith, study historic figures and *The Book of Common Prayer*, consider Christianity in the modern world, and prepare for Christmas. Part one, *Personal Faith and Discipleship*, featured fascinating discussions on *Vice and Virtue: The Whole Imperfect Person*; *Talking with Atheists*; and *Personal Faith in Challenging Times: Hooker and Bonhoeffer*. Part two, *The Book of Common Prayer and Ancient Saints*, looked at *Confession of Sin: Modern People Finding Freedom*; *Eucharist Prayer A: Sacrifice and Resurrection*; *Who is Mary Magdalene?* and *Morning Prayer: Start with Grace*. Part three, *Modern Faith in a Modern World*, reflected current times with *Modern Saints Near & Far*;

Inside Prison Walls: Healing & Hope, our fall book *Inner Excellence*; *St. Andrew: Claim Him for Your Own*; and *God & Science: Early Scientists*. Part four, *Preparing for Christmas*, allowed us to lean into Christmas with a *Visio Divina*; *Bible Study of Luke: Chapter 2: 1–20*; and a *Christmas Meditation*. We were also delighted to have the opportunity to tour the Islamic Center of Boston in Wayland in October.

It is truly fulfilling seeing newcomers turn into regular attendees of our programming, and this inspires us to continue to design compelling offerings that support our congregation's spiritual growth and curiosity.

I applaud our enthusiastic and supportive committee who work behind the scenes all year to ensure that adult formation programming is meaningful and reflects what our congregation needs to grow together in God: Pam Alexander, Laura Brown MacKinnon, Megan Burns, David Guydan, Ansley Martin, Will Nystrom, Paul Shellito, Ginny Snow (warden), and Sandy Warren. This team is vibrant thanks to Margaret's passion, wisdom, and kindness. We are truly thankful to serve St. Andrew's.

—Carrie Hawley

Report of the Vestryperson for Communications

Streaming Services

The streaming of our services has become an important element of our regular worship services, as well as our special services. A special thanks goes to Rob Brandt and his team for their dedication to enabling the participation of those who are unable to join in person. In addition, the clergy conduct online morning prayer at 8:30am Monday through Thursday on Facebook Live. Adult Christian learning at 9am on Sundays is also available to a remote audience on Zoom. Links for all services can be found on the St. Andrew's website.

Realm

Realm continues to be a hub for events, the primary church directory, and a mechanism for making online gifts to the church. Parishioners can either use the Realm app or gain access via our website.

Social Media

We use Instagram and Facebook to promote St. Andrew's happenings, such as outreach projects, programming, and activities for family, children, and youth. Many thanks to Peter Lull, our church photographer, and to Kate Clark and Sarah Robbins-Cole, who keep our social media and website up to date.

e-Pistle

The e-Pistle is emailed every Friday as an electronic version of the weekly Sunday bulletin.

The Call

We distribute the The Call four times a year, in both paper and digital formats. It features columns from each of the clergy and the wardens, as well as articles on people and issues of interest to the parish. We thank David Guydan for serving as publisher of The Call.

New Parish Signage

Sandra Rigney and Lynda Sperry are responsible for new temporary signs around the church buildings that are consistent, aesthetically pleasing, and, most importantly, provide clear directions to various areas of the church campus.

The communications committee includes our three clergy members, Kate Clark, and parishioners Rob Brandt, David Guydan, Peter Lull, Caren Parker, and Sandra Rigney.

—Betsy Veidenheimer

Report of the Vestryperson for Fellowship

ST. ANDREW'S FELLOWSHIP EVENTS were well attended by our enthusiastic parishioners throughout the year.

On Sunday, January 5, we celebrated the Epiphany with a beautiful fireside service followed by a hearty supper.

In early March, we held a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Terri Rawson-Wakefield led a cheerful group of volunteers who flipped pancakes and fed about 50 guests. The guests enjoyed the Mardi Gras themed breakfast for dinner.

Later in March, parishioners enjoyed a magnificent Lenten Evensong service followed by a lovely reception hosted by Margaret Zusky and Wendy Haering.

May brought Bargain Haul, which was a terrific success. The event benefits many of our outreach partners and offers numerous opportunities for fellowship throughout the week. On Friday night, the eve of the big sale, we hosted parish night. Folks shopped, socialized, and enjoyed refreshments.

In early June, 25 parishioners joined Frank Hunnewell at the Hunnewell estate for a garden tour. Participants were treated to a lovely and informative tour of the grounds.

On September 14, we held our parish picnic on a glorious late summer Sunday. Jenny Sawyer led the event, coordinating all the details for this wonderful fall kick-off. Members of our youth group helped with activities and face painting.

October was busy with two successful events. The first was a speaker luncheon hosted by St. Andrew's on October 21 in collaboration with Village Church. Members from both churches were treated to lunch and a thought-provoking presentation by Sarah Robbins-Cole. Ginny Snow organized all the details for the luncheon.

Later that week, we hosted over 80 attendees in the parish hall for St. Andrew's Homecoming. The evening event was lots of fun. Parishioners and guests mingled, enjoying tailgate fare, cold beverages, and dancing.

On Thanksgiving Day, our team had lots of runners—many wearing St. Andrew's red fleece hats—in the Wellesley Turkey Trot. Once again, Margaret led the team. Again, St. Andrew's sponsored a water table near the one-mile mark. Participants enjoyed a beautiful morning while raising money for local nonprofits.

The following Saturday, we held the Gathering of the Greens. Linda Lull coordinated the morning. An enthusiastic group gathered loads of greens and brought them to the parish hall, where they were laid out for use in Advent wreath making during coffee hour the following morning.

On December 7, we hosted a lovely reception after Advent Lessons & Carols. Guests gathered in candlelight to enjoy hors d'oeuvres and fellowship after the 5pm service.

All our fellowship opportunities, from the weekly coffee hours to the fall fellowship evening, are made possible by the enthusiasm of the St. Andrew's community and the work of the incredible fellowship committee members. Many thanks to Miranda Chapman, Caroline Conlin, Zebby & Al Dubé, Wendy Haering, Emily & Frank Hunnewell, Linda & Peter Lull, Hillary Madge, Debbie Osborn, Terri Rawson-Wakefield & Michael Wakefield, Sandy Rigney, Jenny & Mark Sawyer, Ginny Snow, Lynda Sperry, and Kris & Michael Vanin. A special note of gratitude to Joanne Butler, Kate Clark, Bill Clover, and Steve Killeen for their patience and support of these events behind the scenes.

—Sarah Harris

Financial Report and Budget (see insert)

Report of the Vestryperson for Human Resources

THE HUMAN RESOURCES (HR) ROLE on the vestry supports the rector and wardens in addressing matters concerning the church's paid staff. Key responsibilities include developing and maintaining position descriptions, updating the employee handbook, reviewing and proposing salary adjustments, evaluating employee benefits options, and assisting in the recruitment and hiring processes. Though this role may seem more administrative than other vestry positions, it is essential for aligning the church's staffing efforts with its mission, vision, and goals.

This role emphasizes: recruitment, compensation planning, benefit assessment, and delivering well-researched guidance to the rector. By managing these functions effectively, the HR position helps create a positive and productive environment that supports the church's broader objectives.

The work of the HR vestryperson varies considerably from year to year, depending on the personnel

needs of the parish. In 2025, this role proved to be particularly demanding due to the retirement of our parish administrator, Kate Clark, at the end of the year, after 16 years of dedicated service to St. Andrew's. The parish administrator position is central to the smooth and effective functioning of parish life, and the search for Kate's successor was therefore a matter of great importance. To cast a wide net and attract candidates with the necessary skillset, the parish engaged a professional recruitment firm, Beacon Hill Associates. A search committee was formed, comprised of individuals with in-depth knowledge of the responsibilities and daily work of the parish administrator: Laurin Baldwin, David Guydan, Caren Parker, Adrian Robbins-Cole, Ginny Snow, and Lynda Sperry. In addition to the search process, another significant project undertaken during the year was a comprehensive review of the St. Andrew's employee handbook.

—Laurin Baldwin

Report of the Vestryperson for Membership

THIS YEAR, ST. ANDREW'S HAS CONTINUED to be blessed with many new people attending our services each Sunday. In 2025, we had 33 new households engage us and ask to receive regular communications from our parish. In addition to attending services, many have also become actively involved in church school, parish communities, and other activities, including two who have joined our membership committee. Please make a point of introducing yourself to some of the many new faces among you. Most have permanent name tags now. We have made a push for all parishioners to get and wear their name tags this year, as there are so many new faces.

Our committee hosts various events to bring newcomers together. We also line up weekly welcome greeters and serve as exit greeters after the 10am Sunday service. We welcome visitors, see if they would like to be on our mailing list, and answer any questions they may have. If interested, we lead them to our coffee hour. We have also created a printed card with a calendar of St. Andrew's events for the year,

which we give to interested visitors. Once we collect information, Margaret reaches out directly to make a personal connection, followed by a phone call or email from someone on our membership committee. We have found this makes newcomers feel immediately a part of our community.

We are grateful to those who have volunteered to be welcome greeters before the 10am service as it sets a warm and friendly tone for all those entering our church. It's also a fun way to see familiar people, get to know new ones, and welcome everyone to worship. If you are interested in being a greeter, please reach out to the membership committee.

This year, our committee organized one newcomer's brunch, in the fall, as we have found it better to have one very well attended brunch versus two smaller gatherings. We had 20 new families attend, one of the best groups we have had in the past few years. The brunch provides a wonderful opportunity for new members to socialize with our clergy, wardens, choir master, and membership committee in an

informal setting after church. Providing childcare and food in the Kids' Place room proved helpful.

We held two Kids' Place coffees in the spring and fall, which provided an opportunity for families with babies and toddlers to gather on the playground after the 10am service. They were both well attended by several young families, who loved being able to connect with each other and have playdates for their young children.

In the spring, the committee hosted the adult Pimm's party at the rectory for newer active members who have been part of St. Andrew's for a couple of years. This event helps these members feel connected and part of our growing parish. The Pimm's party is a big hit and we thank Adrian & Sarah for opening their home to us.

We enjoyed a vibrant Homecoming Sunday at St. Andrew's this September, followed by a well-attended parish picnic the following weekend. Membership once again hosted a table with sign-ups for name tags, welcome greeters, Coventry suppers, and coffee hour hosts. We also hosted a table at the ministry fair on September 21.

Another inclusive and fun tradition that membership helps organize is the Coventry suppers with groups of eight to 10 members in each. This is a wonderful way to stay connected with one another outside of church and to get to know other parishioners across multiple generations. This year, we had 79 parishioners participate, divided into nine groups.

A sincere thank you to the membership committee for their hard work, enthusiasm, and support in 2025: Hope Aldrich, Travis Anza, Laurin Baldwin, Connie Barnes, Libby Botsford, Pam Byron, Elizabeth Clarke, Becky Hamlin, Carrie Hawley, Angie Johnson, Ntonhle Kekana, Sarah Klein, and Betsy Veidenheimer. We also welcomed three new committee members: Dana Brennan, Coryn Hall, and Lauren Murphy. Tom Faust is our warden representative. We also extend a heartfelt gratitude to Margaret Schwarzer, our clergy representative, who is a warm and thoughtful presence to all newcomers, and who serves as an enthusiastic and supportive sounding board to our membership committee.

— Amanda Curtis

Report of the Vestryperson for Outreach

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

—Matthew 25:40

The primary objective of the St. Andrew's outreach ministry is to help our congregation put our Christian faith into action. In addition to the programs outlined below, St. Andrew's pays an annual assessment to the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts (\$172,000 in 2025 and 195,000 in 2026), and nearly 75% of this funding is directed to outreach-related programs.

The outreach team has focused on communicating about our partners and the work they do by increasing our types of communication. In addition to the regular announcements in the weekly service bulletin and e-Pistle, we have the beautiful "tree of outreach," created by Al Dubé, which is displayed in the office corridor, and we participated in the vestry ministry fair in the fall.

This year we said very fond farewells to two longtime outreach stalwarts who moved away. Joanna Horobin (now in Duxbury, MA) and Margaret Zusky (now in Montana) leave big shoes and will be sorely missed! Highlights of our outreach work for 2025 follow:

2025 Outreach Highlights

1. Family Meal-Packing Event

On Sunday, March 23, 75 parishioners—old and young—gathered in the parish hall and worked together to pack over 15,000 nutritious meals. Some dried high-protein macaroni and cheese dinners were gratefully received by the food pantry at the Pearl Street Cupboard & Café in Framingham, and the rest were sent to California for wildfire relief efforts. Many thanks to Cam McCormick for her leadership and to members of the planning committee: Zebby & Al Dubé, Greg Hunter,

Nancy Jones, and Doug Mizzi. The meal ingredients and supplies were funded by \$5,550 donated by generous parishioners.

2. *Bargain Haul*

In early May, we coordinated with the Bargain Haul team to collect many clothing and household items from the incoming donated goods that could be given directly to select outreach partners for distribution to their clients. Recipients included St. Stephen's Youth Programs, Family Promise Metrowest, Agassiz Village, Circle of Hope, and others. In addition, unsold items were contributed to various nonprofits, including St. Francis House and Cradles to Crayons, after the sale. We gratefully note that the net proceeds from Bargain Haul are indirectly a major component of our annual outreach funding.

3. *Alternative Gift Fair (AGF)*

The AGF provides parishioners with the opportunity to support our outreach partners and grant recipients by making donations in lieu of tangible Christmas gifts. As of this writing, the 2025 AGF is off to a good start with \$6,400 donated. The final tally for 2024 was over \$19,000, donated by 49 participating parishioners. The team (led by Cam McCormick) provides cards that parishioners can give to their loved ones to inform them of the donation.

Local Outreach Partners and Activities

1. *Wellesley Food Pantry*

St. Andrew's outreach continues to support the efforts of the pantry in helping our neighbors who are experiencing food insecurity. We held the annual Souper Bowl food drive to support WFP in February and collected many bags of food to donate. The Wellesley Food Pantry received financial support from St. Andrew's in the sum of \$4,000 from the budget and will also benefit from the 2025 AGF.

2. *Circle of Hope*

New this year, St. Andrew's gave the Needham-based Circle of Hope (COH) site \$1,300 from our budget, as well as donations received from the AGF. In addition, we have collection boxes in the building for new and gently used coats, jackets, and other clothing items. COH provides cloth-

ing and other necessities to infants, children, and adults experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity in Greater Boston, as well as Welcome Baby bundles for new moms and Get Set bundles for homeless college students. Emily Caspersen has helped coordinate this effort.

3. *Discretionary*

We have allocated \$500 in discretionary funds from our 2025 budget to local food pantries, in response to the recent upheavals in federal food benefits (SNAP program).

4. *Family Promise Metrowest*

Our relationship with Family Promise Metrowest (FPM), a cooperative interfaith partnership helping families with housing insecurity through safe transitional shelter, meals, and case management, continues to be a positive opportunity to live our faith. While there are limited opportunities for volunteers, we continue to support FPM financially and through gifts in kind. Our outreach budget gave \$3,000 this year to Family Promise Metrowest. FPM will also benefit from the 2025 AGF.

5. *United Way*

We donated \$2,000 to the United Way in Framingham from our budget, in support of the Pearl Street Cupboard & Café and shelter.

Urban/Boston Outreach Partners and Activities

1. *St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and St. Stephen's Youth Programs*

St. Stephen's Church in Boston's South End is our sister parish.

- Cam McCormick and Karen Pekowitz organized our volunteering for the B-SAFE summer enrichment program. We hosted youth at St. Andrew's on August 1, and our volunteers organized several different activities including arts and crafts and karaoke. The highlight of the day was the Whalemobile presentation on whales and ocean ecology inside a near life-size inflatable whale set up in the parish hall. The kids enjoyed delicious bag lunches. We also provided bags of non-perishable groceries for delivery to St. Stephen's Youth Programs (SSYP).
- Cam McCormick has also restarted our "feeding ministry" of regular cooking sessions to supply

healthy meals to the families participating in SSYP and potentially other partners. Two sessions were held in November and another in December.

- In November, parishioners donated over \$2,500 to supply holiday dinners and gift bags for seniors at St. Stephen's. Herb Manning and Debbie Osborn shopped for the turkeys and food, and we were delighted by the enthusiastic volunteer corps that helped pack the bags for 100 holiday dinners and helped with delivery to St. Stephen's. Zebby & Al Dubé and Jack & Jill Whiting prepared Christmas gift bags for seniors at St. Stephen's, which included beautifully knitted items provided by St. Andrew's stitchers and Christmas cookies baked by parishioners.
- During Advent parishioners donated toys, sporting equipment, and clothes requested by SSYP families to place under The Giving Tree.
- St. Stephen's received additional financial support from St. Andrew's in the sum of \$10,200 (less our food and other related expenditures) from the budget. The food pantry for families in SSYP will also benefit from the 2025 AGF. We allocate an additional \$5,000 from our budget to support our B-SAFE and meals/feeding programs.

2 *Agassiz Village*

In collaboration with our youth ministry and youth group, we have added this summer camp for underprivileged kids, mostly from the Boston area, to our list of outreach partners. The camp is in Poland, Maine, on the lovely shores of Thompson Lake, and provides campers with friendships, leadership, and life skills that will improve their futures in many ways. In addition to providing a \$5,000 outreach grant (see below) to restore additional cabins (to expand their capacity), we have had two overnight service trips with youth and adults to work on cabin improvements and have provided additional camping and clothing items through Bargain Haul and AGF donations. Rev. Sarah Robbins-Cole has led the effort, with support from Adrian, and Zebby & Al Dubé and others.

3. *Bridges to Moms Initiative at the Brigham and Women's Hospital*

This program, founded by Dr. Roseanna Means, brings ante-natal and post-natal medical care to

homeless pregnant women and new mothers, and early childhood development oversight to their children. St. Andrew's volunteers assisted at the annual "Day of Beauty" for these moms just before Mother's Day and organized a "Pampers diaper drive" as part of the Giving Tree. Parishioners provided financial support through the 2025 AGF, plus \$800 from our budget.

4. *common cathedral*

An outreach ministry of Ecclesia Ministries to underhoused/homeless people in the Boston area, *common cathedral* is a weekly worship service held by Brewer's fountain on Boston Common. Under Cam McCormick's leadership, St. Andrew's parishioners join members of the community in worship and provide lunch several times a year. Parishioners provided financial support through the 2025 AGF, plus \$1,000 from our budget.

We provide sustenance in the form of food, but the constancy of this congregation fuels our faith.

5. *The Sox Box*

We no longer have the collection box, but we continued to supply large white athletic socks (which people living on the streets need for health reasons) and tee shirts, funded by an annual grant of \$700 from the outreach budget. The socks and shirts are distributed periodically to homeless shelters and *common cathedral*.

6. *St. Andrew's Stitchers*

Donna Kell coordinates the St. Andrew's stitchers who work at home to make beautiful knitted and crocheted goods such as shawls, hats, scarves, blankets, cotton washcloths, and baby clothes. Since this ministry began in 2006 thousands of items have been lovingly crafted. The shawls are given to parishioners in need by the pastoral team and other items are distributed to many of our outreach partners, such as the clients of Bridges to Moms and members of the *common cathedral* congregation. These hand-knitted items are also eagerly anticipated items in the Christmas baskets for the elderly of St. Stephen's. In 2025 multiple shipments were sent to Ukraine, including sweaters, hats and blankets for infants and toddlers, and hats and neck-warmers for soldiers. The St. Andrew's stitch-

ers are generously funded by parishioner donations through the AGF, plus \$1,000 from our budget.

7. *The Wily Network*

This organization provides a critical safety net for area college students without family support. We support this work through the AGF, plus \$1,500 from our budget.

8. *CityReach*

In November a group of 10 teens and four adult chaperones spent an overnight at The Cathedral Church of Saint Paul, across from Boston Common, and spent time learning about and observing homeless people in area streets and shelters, and handing out supplies donated by parishioners. CityReach is an organization that runs these events, to educate teens and adults about the issues homeless people face in our midst.

International Outreach Partners and Activities

1. *El Hogar, Honduras*

For more than 40 years, El Hogar has been transforming the lives of children from vulnerable situations by providing access to high quality education and technical training. Bianka Eichelberger, who serves on the Board of El Hogar, acts as St. Andrew's liaison to this partner. During 2025 El Hogar continued to offer their school programs to over 200 children, both those residing with their families in the community and those at the residential schools. St. Andrew's provided \$5,000 in financial support from the budget and El Hogar will also benefit from the 2025 AGF.

2. *Emergency Relief/Episcopal Relief and Development*

We provide a grant of \$4,000 from our budget.

2025 Outreach Grants

In 2025 grants totaling \$30,000 were distributed to the following organizations. One grant resulted from an application submitted by the confirmation class; the other six resulted from parishioner applications.

1. *Agassiz Village Summer Camp* in Maine for underprivileged youth, mostly from the Boston area.

The funds helped the camp expand their summer capacity by restoring some older cabins for reuse. Sponsored by the 2025 confirmation class. (Awarded \$5,000)

2. *STEP: Science Training Encouraging Peace, Graduate Training Program*. Sponsored by Mary Scanlon. STEP, a charitable organization based in Boston, encourages peace in the Middle East by bringing together Israeli and Palestinian science scholars in a team, building trust and understanding between the two groups. (Awarded \$5,000)

3. *Wellesley Food Pantry*. A novel transportation initiative to provide rides to enable residents to better access the services of the WFP. Sponsored by Susan Kemp. (Awarded \$5,000) Note: This is novel and thus different from our usual support of WFP for food, etc.

4. *Remember Us: Golden Age Project* to provide vital medicines to elderly people caught in the war in Ukraine. RememberUs.org is based in Needham. Sponsored by Julie Koeninger (with strong support from Donna Kell), (Awarded \$5,000)

5. *The Mayhew Program, Summer Camp and Mentoring* in New Hampshire for at-risk NH boys. Sponsored by Jill & Jack Whiting. Mayhew challenges and helps at-risk NH boys to believe in themselves, work well with others, and find their best. They accomplish this mission through a year-round program comprising a residential summer program and regular school-year mentor visits. Boys may participate, tuition-free, for eight years. (Awarded \$5,000)

6. *The Nantucket Island Youth Orchestra (NIYO)*. Funds to support two complementary initiatives that remove barriers to music education and youth engagement on Nantucket. Their Free Instrument Rental Program provides students from working-class and low-income families with annual instrument rentals (\$200 per student) at no cost, ensuring equitable participation in school and community music programs. The After-School NIYO program offers structured arts enrichment and mentorship for elementary and middle school students during the academic year, bridging the gap between school and home for families working extended hours. Sponsored by Carol Spinelli. (Awarded \$5,000)

Parishioners are strongly encouraged to sponsor an outreach grant application. Materials are available on the St. Andrew's website; speak to

any member of the outreach committee for more information.

Parish Survey on Outreach

Led by Madison Riley, we distributed a survey to parishioners in 2025 to assess how well our outreach ministry was understood by parishioners, and what things we might do differently to respond to the changing world and our growing parish. We received nearly 100 detailed responses, many with added comments, and the highlights are as follows:

1. We sense that most (not all) parishioners have a good view of our outreach partners and what we do, but there is definitely room for improvement on publicizing our work and recruiting folks for volunteer activities.
2. We will try to make it easier for volunteers by focusing on bite-sized projects that don't require much time or travel, such as the meal-packing project held on one day in our parish hall.
3. We will shuffle our funding a little bit to make room for new efforts such as Circle of Hope (collecting clothing and other items for those in need) in Needham, Agassiz Village camp (Maine summer camp for underserved youth), the Massachusetts

Correctional Institution (MCI) prison literacy effort, and maybe others. This will involve some budget reductions for some existing partners, but nothing too dramatic in 2026.

4. We may scale back the budget for outreach grants, moving some funds to line-item budgeted outreach partners.

The many and varied opportunities to put our faith into action are what make St. Andrew's such a vibrant and caring community. The year 2025 continued to be an economically challenging year for our outreach partners but I am grateful for the generous response of our parish and thank the outreach committee members for their coordination of our efforts: Emily Caspersen, Joy Denomme, Zebby & Al Dubé, Bianca Eichelberger, Jennifer Hanley, Joanna Horobin, Ann Johnson, Donna Kell, Peter Lull, Anne Manners, Paige Manning, Cam McCormick, Debbie Osborn, Karen Palmer, Karen Pekowitz, Madison Riley, Mary Scanlon, Jack & Jill Whiting, Margaret Zusky (communication liaison), warden representative Ginny Snow, and clergy representative Adrian Robbins-Cole.

— *Herb Manning*

Report of the Vestryperson for Property

THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE oversees the upkeep and repair of the building and grounds of St. Andrew's. This includes the church building, the rectory, the residential building at 7 Denton Road, and the parking lot. In 2025 we completed several major projects. A new security system was installed at the entrance to the parish offices, including video surveillance cameras and mobile access control. Repairs were completed at the bluestone entryway to the narthex. A new heating control system including new thermostats were installed. Additionally, the boiler pumps have been repaired and replaced. As we embark upon 2026, preparation will begin for a new 10-year capital plan.

We are fortunate to have such a capable and dedicated sexton, Steve Killeen, who steadfastly manages the execution of this work, engaging vendors as needed. Although Steve often works independently, the property vestryperson plays a consultative role for major projects and is in regular conversation with him. A great deal of property management is preventative, managing projects and maintaining systems with the goal of preventing problems. We appreciate the opportunity to listen to, and collaborate thoughtfully with fellow members of the vestry, as well as other interested parishioners, to ensure our role is executed well.

— *Sam Schaefer*

Report of the Vestryperson for Stewardship

THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE began planning the 2026 campaign in June of 2025. Our planning effort included linking up with the finance committee to better understand how the current fiscal year was unfolding for St. Andrew's (through six months of 2025) to align stewardship's goal setting for 2026. During that finance review, we discussed the increasing costs of the parish: healthcare for staff, higher utility costs, building maintenance, continued general economic inflation, and a significant increase in St. Andrew's allocation to the diocese.

As a result, we decided to raise our goals for 2026. The committee set the 2026 campaign goals at \$1,300,000 and 300 pledges versus \$1,200,000 from 280 pledges set for 2025. An 8.3% and a 7.1% increase respectively.

In June, we also defined our 2026 campaign theme *Stepping Up for St. Andrew's*. The theme acknowledges with gratitude the way members "step up" generously in support and indicates the need for each of us to increase our pledge by "stepping up" from amounts committed in prior years. During the campaign, we also reminded members that stewardship determines funding for the parish's annual operating budget.

And with St. Andrew's increasing costs, this year the committee felt it was important to help the congregation better understand those financial pressures. We explained that the diocesan assessment would be \$195,000 for 2026 versus \$172,000 in 2025—a 13.3% increase. We also pointed out additional building costs: boiler replacement, a new security system, pavement

and walkway mending. Each cost is important to sustaining our wonderful parish life.

The 2026 campaign began on September 28 and concluded with "Commitment Sunday" on November 2. During that time, we had seven testimonies, four written and published in the bulletin, and three spoken testimonies in the sanctuary—all of which were compelling expressions of commitment to our parish.

We continued the weekly publishing of an alphabetical listing of those supporting 2026 in our Sunday bulletin "St. Andrew's Cheerful Givers" which is an important way to recognize and thank those who have made a pledge of support.

As we wind down the campaign, I am pleased to report that (through 12/5/2025) we have raised \$1,167,914 from 252 pledges, approximately 90% of our dollar goal. We expect we will continue to receive pledges throughout the winter.

I wish to thank all of St. Andrew's for their continued generosity and support of the parish. We are a blessed community with so many committed members and an exceptional clergy. I also thank each member of the stewardship committee for their time, talent, and energy in making the 2026 campaign a success. Stewardship has four new committee members: Laurin Baldwin, David Guydan, Dave Murphy, and Rob Veidenheimer. They join existing members: Connie Barnes, Tom Faust, Joe Hamilton, Ann Johnson, Lou Madge, Pam Byron, Michael Vanin, and Adrian Robbins-Cole.

—Madison Riley

Report of the Vestryperson for Worship

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SERVICE at St. Andrew's? The busy, triumphant 9am Easter service? The quiet chanting of the Taize-style services? The dark mystery of Tenebrae? The plaid and the bagpiper on St. Andrew's Day? Or, the music and candles of Evening Song? I love these special services, both those that are full of joy and those that provide space for peace and reflection. But most of all, I like the 10am Holy Eucharist on Sundays. Time to be still, to sing or listen

to beautiful music and be challenged, in a gentle way, to invite God into my weekly life on a regular basis. These services ground me and capture my soul. Is that true for you? We are so lucky with our clergy and staff at St. Andrew's. Thank you to Adrian, Margaret, Sarah, Wardie, Kate, and Steve!

And, behind the scenes, volunteers do a lot to make our services seamless. Have you been to church in the summer when Adrian asks for coffee hour volunteers

for the next week? What if we had to do that every Sunday? Luckily, the members of the worship committee recruit, train, and schedule volunteers for services throughout the year. Our teen acolytes lead our worship procession, providing exuberance and commitment. Lay readers read the Old and New Testament lessons leading us in prayers. Ushers help direct us up to the railing for communion with both grace and speed, and our lay Eucharist ministers faithfully help our clergy serve us wine. Flower guild volunteers show creativity in their flower arrangements. Members of the altar guild quietly prepare for and cleanse from every service at St. Andrew's throughout the year. The audiovisual team makes sure you catch as much of the service as possible, constantly tweaking things to make the user experience better. Even on ordinary Sundays, Wardie and the choir move us with their music. It takes a team, no, it takes multiple teams, to make worship at St. Andrew's special and meaningful.

- Terri Rawson-Wakefield and her 26 ushers
- Benedict Hensley and his nine small singers
- Suzy Littlefield and her 21 chalice bearers and 14 readers
- Elizabeth Clarke and her 33 altar guild members
- Wendy Barry and her 13 acolytes
- Wardie Mannix and her 20 to 30 senior choir members, including eight paid section leaders
- Rob Brandt and his five video technicians and
- Katie Barrack and her 23 flower guild members

We lean into excellence in tradition in our services at St. Andrew's, but we also like to try new ideas. This year, we repeated some successful new services we first tried in 2024 bringing back the Thanksgiving eve service and the popular Christmas day service in the Hunnewell barn. Thank you to everyone who participates in our worship, we are truly grateful for all your time and talent. If you want to be more involved, join us. We are always looking for more helpers.

—*Erica Gelser*

Memorial Rose Garden Report

SINCE ITS CONSECRATION ON JUNE 14, 1998, there have been 67 burials in the Memorial Rose Garden. We are deeply grateful to Wardie Mannix, who has been tending to the roses with the assistance of our sexton, Steve Killeen. In addition to thanking Wardie for her skilled and faithful care, we also extend our gratitude to everyone in the congregation who has contributed to the creation and ongoing maintenance of this beautiful garden.

We invite all members of the congregation to learn more about the Memorial Rose Garden. My thanks go to the garden's administrators: Tom Faust and Ginny Snow (wardens), Joe Hamilton (treasurer), Sam Schaefer (vestryperson for property), and Katharine Clark (parish administrator).

Burials in 2025 Marshall H. Cannell, Valentina V. Cannell, Deborah Scott Johnson, James Peters, and Azalea Valentina Will.

—*Adrian Robbins-Cole*

Report of the Vestryperson for Youth Formation

2025 WAS A YEAR FULL OF EXCITEMENT AND GROWTH in youth formation. We have had the privilege of continued leadership from Rev. Dr. Sarah Robbins-Cole as Associate Rector for Youth and Family, and Susan Jackson as Christian Learning Coordinator to support the church school and youth programs. We extend heartfelt gratitude to them for their work over this past year. Our passionate committee of D.D. Alexander, Angie Johnson, Blair Kenary, Elizabeth Svedlund, Coryell Urban, and Anna Lee Wahls has dedicated many hours, for which we are most grateful. Lastly, we also are indebted to our many church school teachers who make it all possible.

Over the course of the year, we have happily seen the number of children in our educational programs grow substantially, including many families new to St. Andrew's. We are seeing increased participation in our programs and events. For church school, we hold two Godly Play classes each Sunday: a pre-kindergarten through first grade classroom, and a second and third grade classroom. Both classes are quite full, and we may form an additional classroom in the coming year. Our upper school for fourth and fifth graders, Rite-13 for sixth and seventh graders, and confirmation class for eighth grade students also continue to flourish. While attendance in these classes is some-

what lower than the younger age groups, these classrooms are filled with learning, connection, and faith.

In addition to our regular programming, we held our beloved St. Andrew's traditions each season. The Good Friday Stations of the Cross, All Hallowtide, Little Angels' gift shop, and Cookies & Carols were incredibly well attended and were truly extraordinary events.

We were pleased to see that the new programming launched from our committee's initiatives is thriving. This includes Soul Sisters, which offers programming for all women of the parish to grow in their faith, and the children's choir, directed by Benedict Hensley.

For our high schoolers, youth group is a vibrant, engaging community of teens, meeting weekly and participating in exciting events like the service weekend at Agassiz Village and CityReach in Boston. Youth group members have formed a wonderful community where all members supports one another.

St. Andrew's youth are an essential part of our parish. We depend upon the many who volunteer every week to teach and mentor them. Thank you to all who give their time to this important ministry. A detailed report of specific programming has been submitted by Rev. Dr. Sarah Robbins-Cole.

—Pamela Grossetti



Photo: Peter B. Lull

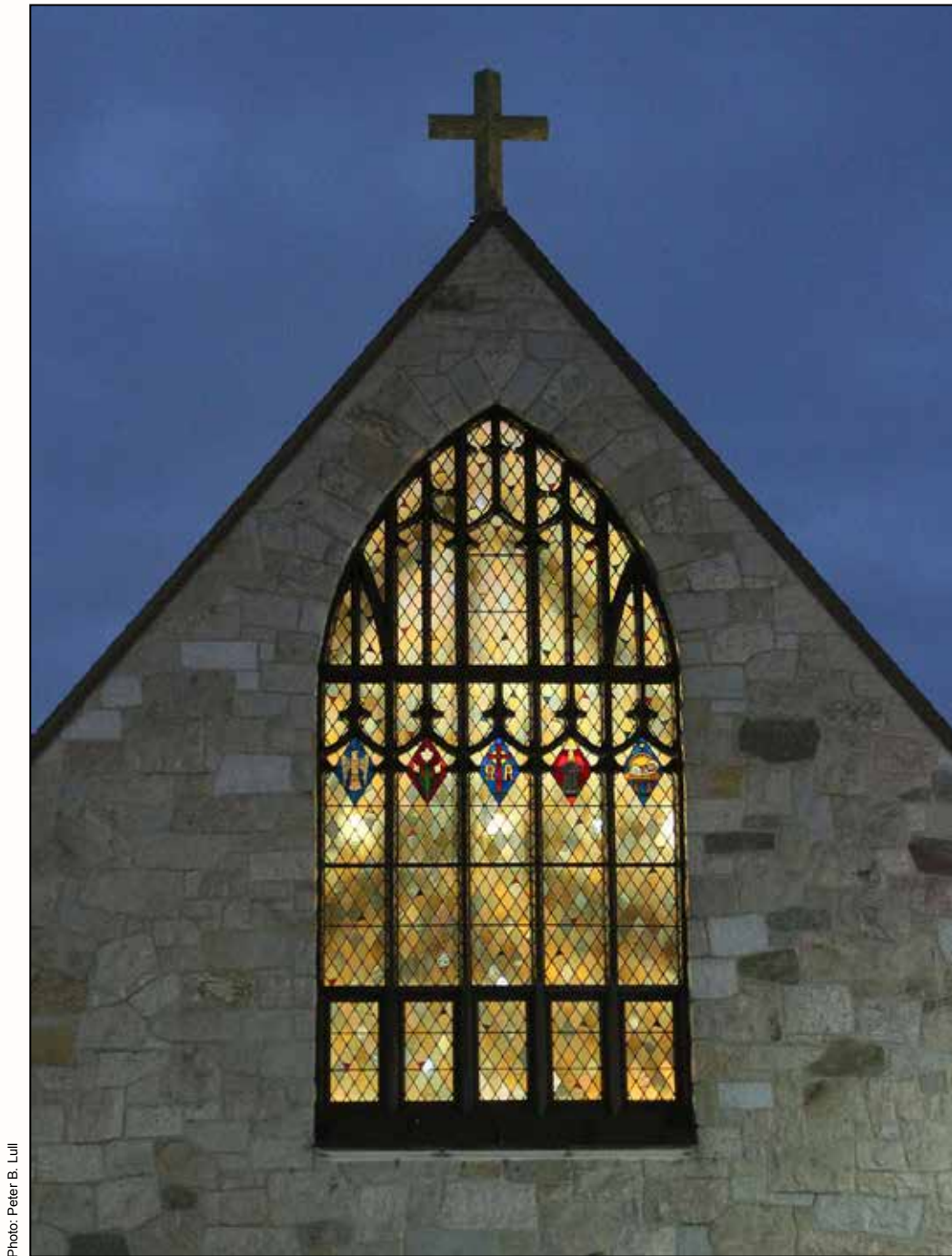


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