

December 2013

*HARBOR WATCH: A Harbor for God's Peace*



*Our Advent doors welcome you to worship.*



*Winter at Bank Street Beach*

**A newsletter of Christ Church Episcopal-Harwich Port, MA**

*Our mission is to invite all people to celebrate with us in our worship and service of God, so that together we may make Christ's love known in our world.*

## **The Skipper's Log: Rector's Reflections: Advent**

Perhaps many of you remember the Broadway play, *Godspell*, from the early 1970s with the music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz. The project was his master's thesis at Carnegie Mellon, and then it made Broadway. In the script, a series of philosophers enters and then John the Baptist arrives, blows three notes on the *shofar* (ram's horn used as a musical instrument in Jewish worship) to call the community to order, and then beckons them to "Prepare Ye (The Way of the Lord)". He then baptizes the company. In productions I've seen, John the Baptist comes down an aisle at the theater, singing "Prepare ye the way of the Lord." *Godspell* is a re-telling of the Gospel according to Matthew. Even some of the lyrics are from the Episcopal Hymnal.

Our Bible Study group has decided to study *Godspell* and the Gospel of Matthew during our Advent /Christmas /Epiphany sessions. You might want to join us on Wednesday mornings (9am) in December and January (no singing required!).

"Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord" is a traditional Advent hymn (we have a version in our own hymnal, # 65, "Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!"). We are called in this brief season to prepare our own hearts for the coming of Christ once more into our lives. We remember as well Christ's promise to return and gather all the faithful to himself. Jesus told the disciples he would prepare a place for them in heaven and that he would be with them always. I invite you in this short time to prepare your own hearts to slow down, to listen to the quiet, to meditate on the meaning of Advent and Christmas. I invite you to think of alternative giving from organizations like Episcopal Relief and Development's Gifts for Life Program, or Heifer International. The less time we spend shopping, the more time we have to reflect on our lives, our families, our friends, our blessings, our parish and the meaning of Christ in our lives.

I will offer two Advent Quiet Days (mornings) in December. The one on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> will be held at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Orleans and will focus on Japanese brush painting (*sumi-i*) with readings of Thomas Merton. It includes a hands-on time of trying out this painting technique and meditation time. You're welcome to join me there. The second Advent quiet morning will be the next day, December 14, here at our Church. We will share spiritual readings for Advent. I will provide some readings by Thomas Merton and I invite you to bring a favorite Advent reading to share. We will spend time writing or sketching in our journals (journals provided), sharing readings and prayers. Please come and have a quiet space in the midst of all your holiday preparations. I leave you with this passage from Thomas Merton for Advent:

Advent is the "sacrament" of the presence of God in His world, in the Mystery of Christ at work in History. . . This mystery is the revelation of God Himself in His Incarnate Son. . . The "last" things are already present and realized in a hidden manner. The Kingdom of God is thus already 'in the midst of us.' But the mystery can only be known by those who enter into it, who find their place in the Mystical Christ, and therefore find the mystery of Christ realized and fulfilled in *themselves*. (*Seasons of Celebration: Meditations on the Cycle of Liturgical Feasts* by Thomas Merton, Louisville, KY: The Abbey of Gethsemani, 1965).

I hope to see you on Christmas Eve for our wonderful candlelight services with choir and instruments. We will also celebrate Christmas on Christmas Day at 10am for carols and the Eucharist. I hope you have a blessed Advent and Christmas.

► *Faithfully, Mother Judith +*

## **ALTAR FLOWERS AND MINISTRY**

Our Altar Guild does so much for us. One aspect of their work is making sure we have lovely flowers on our altar for Sundays. New England Gardens delivers flowers each Saturday and the Altar Guild places them on the altar. These flowers are given by caring parishioners for memorials, thanksgiving and blessings. After the Sunday services the flowers are taken out to be enjoyed by others--to someone who is ill or unable to come to church, to someone celebrating a birthday or anniversary or perhaps to say thank you.

We have a team who takes turns delivering the flowers. Look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by the office if you wish to give flowers. The cost is \$45 per Sunday and may be shared by more than one donor. You can arrange to give the flowers automatically on the same Sunday each year. Please contact Elizabeth Salomé for further details. If you would like to help deliver the altar flowers, contact Sidney Coursen.

### Flowers on the Altar:

Flowers on the altar in Advent are lovely greens and flowers for Christmas are lovely poinsettias. We are happy for you to contribute to the Christmas flowers. Pick up a flower envelope (with a picture of poinsettias) at church or call the office. Let us know whom we can remember this season.

### Flower Delivery Schedule

The distribution of Christmas flowers will be shared by our team of flower ministers. On December 29, the flower minister is Ann Brown.

### Altar Guild Schedule

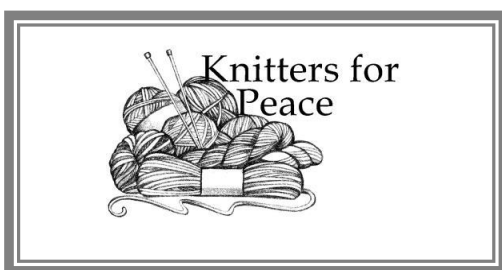
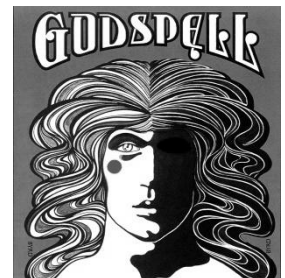
<b>November 20 - December 3</b> Betty Decker, Lydia Bell	<b>December 4 – 7</b> Elizabeth Salomé
<b>December 8 – 17</b> June Bissonette, Boo Lewis	<b>December 18 – 23</b> Sheila Moss-White, Deborah Aylesworth
<b>December 24 @ 5:00pm</b> Boo Lewis	<b>December 24 @ 9:00pm</b> Elizabeth Salomé
<b>December 25</b> Sheila Moss-White	<b>December 26 – 31</b> Sheila Moss-White, Deborah Aylesworth

**December Birthdays:** Please let us know yours or write your name beside the date on the birthday calendar on the bulletin board by the offices.

December 3	Lynne Sampson	December 21	Suzanne Lee
December 5	Haley Currie	December 26	Stephen Shuart
December 12	Susan Salomé	December 31	Anne Lawson
December 17	Louise Wells		

### **BIBLE STUDY IN ADVENT: GODSPELL**

*Godspell* is a musical by Stephen Schwartz. It opened off Broadway on May 17, 1971, and has played in various touring companies and revivals many times since, including a 2011 revival which played on Broadway from October 13, 2011, to June 24, 2012. Several cast albums have been released over the years and one of its songs, "Day by Day" from the original cast album, reached #13 on the *Billboard* pop singles chart in the summer of 1972. It recreates the Gospel according to Matthew in a contemporary setting. During Advent and in January, we will study the show and the Gospel of Matthew. All are welcome: Wednesday mornings at 9am until 10:30am in December (4, 11, 18) and January (8, 15, 22, 29). Free coffee.



**Knitters for Peace** are knitting prayer squares (thanks to Jane Romer for this new project). Each knit 2x2 square has a cross attached and is paired with a card. Kindly take one or more and give to one who needs a token of love. The cards and squares will be on a table in the parish hall. I carry my prayer square in my purse as a reminder of God's continual love. I thank my sisters who are here Tuesdays at 2pm knitting for others. (Lucille, Jane, Lynne, Anne, Sidney, Betty H., Jeanne, Sheila, Dottie & Betty D.) Our ministry is open to all, one stitch at a time. Peace, Lydia

#### **Come to the Advent Party at Church December 15, 3-5pm**

Appetizers, beverages, cookies, carol sing, Yankee Swap and Holiday Trivia Games.  
Come one, come all. AND, if you're brave, go caroling afterwards to a few places to cheer up homebound parishioners (dress warmly for that and bring a flashlight).

**► December 2013 Sunday Ministries – 8 AM Service**

**Dec. 1**

**Greeters:** June Bissonette  
**Ushers:** Asa Decker, Phil Foster  
**Lectors:** Woody Price, Anna Andolina  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Robert Lawton  
**Prayers:** Jane Romer, Robert Lawton  
**Coffee Hosts:** Jane Barter

**Dec.8**

**Greeters:** Sheila Moss-White  
**Ushers:** Andy Ross, Brian Ladley  
**Lectors:** Elizabeth Salomé, Karen Alexander  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Jane Romer  
**Prayers:** **Robert Lawton:** Robert Lawton, Jane Romer  
**Coffee Hosts:** Bill Hendricks, June Bissonette

**Dec.15**

**Greeters:** Earl Beardsley  
**Ushers:** Asa Decker, Phil Foster  
**Lectors:** Elizabeth Salomé, Anna Andolina  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Andy Ross  
**Prayers:** Karen Alexander, Andy Ross  
**Coffee Hosts:** Betty Decker

**Dec. 22**

**Greeters:** Asa Decker  
**Ushers:** Andy Ross, Brian Ladley  
**Lectors:** Karen Alexander, Anna Andolina  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Betty Decker  
**Prayers:** Robert Lawton, Betty Decker  
**Coffee Hosts:** Nancy MacDonald

**Dec 29**

**Greeters:** Sheila Moss-White  
**Ushers:** Earl Beardsley, Asa Decker  
**Lectors:** Elizabeth Salomé, Anna Andolina  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Jane Romer  
**Prayers:** Betty Decker, Jane Romer  
**Coffee Hosts:** Betty Decker

**Christmas Eve, December 24th 5:00 PM**  
**Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup> 9:00 PM**  
**Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10 AM**  
**participants to be determined**

**ALTAR GUILD**

Altar Guild welcomes Deborah Aylesworth to the Altar Guild team. Deborah is a great addition to the team. The team now consists of Deborah, Betty Decker, Lydia Bell, June Bissonette, Boo Lewis, Sheila Moss-White and Elizabeth Salomé. If you would like to learn more about this wonderful ministry that prepares the altar for our worship services, please contact Mother Judith or any member of the Altar Guild. **► Elizabeth Salomé for the Altar Guild**

\*\*\*\*\*

**OUTREACH**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our first Blood Drive on November 21. The Blood Drive was sponsored by Cape Cod Healthcare. They were very pleased with our first effort and we plan to do another Blood Drive next year. All of the donated blood will stay right here on Cape Cod helping to save the lives of our Cape Cod friends and neighbors. Thank you!

Christ Church is supplying snacks for the Habitat for Humanity crews working on the second Thursday of each month. In November, Mary Ellen Eichmann and Lydia Bell brought snacks to the Orleans Apostle Build for 20 crew members.

Christ Church is participating in the U.S. Marine Corp Reserve’s Toys for Tots and the “Stuff a Bus” program this year. If possible, please bring a new, unwrapped toy to church between now and December 8. We will then bring all of the donated toys to the Harwich Police Station. They will bring them to Hyannis, sirens blaring! On December 10 to participate in the annual “Stuff a Bus” program. All of the toys will stay on Cape Cod, where they will be donated to children in need of Christmas gifts. **► Elizabeth Salomé for the Outreach Team**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Pastoral Care Update**

Visits to homes and nursing homes continue through the efforts of members of the *Friends in Faith* ministry. Telephone calls are frequent to our church members and/or their families. We are grateful to Christ Church’s *Knitters for Peace*, who frequently give Prayer Shawls to our Friends who are either recovering from surgeries or whose health is weakened in any way. Recently, we learned of a young woman who following open heart surgery asked her husband “to be sure to bring me that prayer blanket to hold on to.”

## ► December 2013 Sunday Ministries – 10 AM Service

### Dec. 1

**Greeters:** Sandra & Lee Josselyn  
**Ushers:** Jim & Meg Pappas  
**Lectors:** Greg DeLory, Lucille Whipple  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Deborah Aylesworth,  
 Bill Walsman  
**Prayers:** Betty Sadler  
**Coffee Hosts:** Cathy Walsman, Diana Landau

### Dec.8

**Greeters:** Pat Kennedy, Lucille Whipple  
**Ushers:** Betty Hadfield, Bob Neese  
**Lectors:** Rue Siegel, Jim Pappas  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Deborah Aylesworth,  
 Porter Lewis  
**Prayers:** Beau Coursen  
**Coffee Hosts:** Lydia Bell, Elaine Gray

December 17th, 11:30 am Healing Eucharist & Nursing Home Luncheon, LEM: Porter Lewis

### Dec.15

**Greeters:** Mary Sparrow, Juliette Levesque  
**Ushers:** Julie & Vince Kraft  
**Lectors:** Mary Ellen Eichmann, Kathie McDowell  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Deborah Aylesworth,  
 Karen Butler  
**Prayers:** Ric Ferri  
**Coffee Hosts:** Susan Crowley, Sidney Coursen

### Dec. 22

**Greeters:** Darwin & Grace Price  
**Ushers:** Jon Robertson, Sidney Coursen  
**Lectors:** Jan Robertson, Scott Daniels  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Deborah Aylesworth,  
 Bill Walsman  
**Prayers:** Grace Price  
**Coffee Hosts:** Nancy & Dave Truesdale

### Dec. 29

**Greeters:** Rue & Carl Siegel  
**Lectors:** Betty Sadler, Sidney Coursen  
**Prayers:** Ann Brown

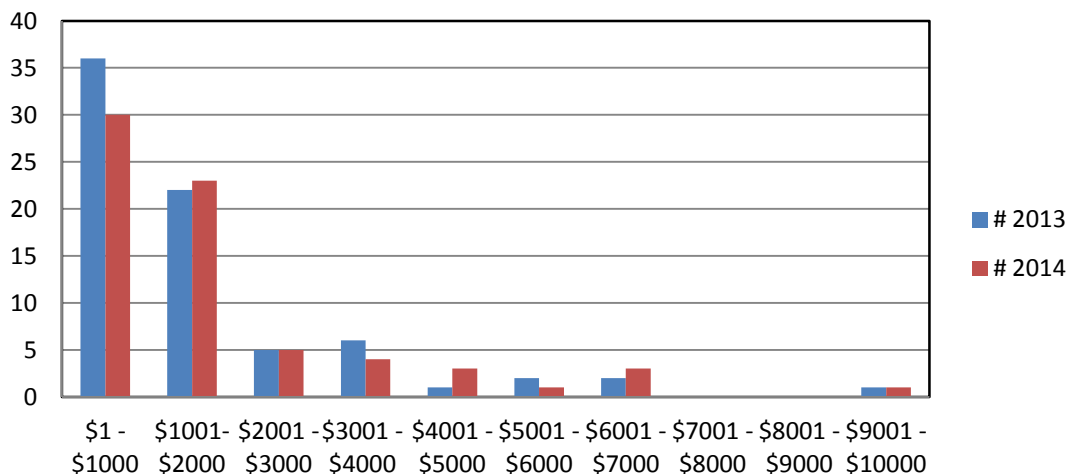
**Ushers:** Julie & Vince Kraft  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Karen Butler, Porter Lewis  
**Coffee Hosts:** Jean Bertrand, Betty Hadfield

## ANNUAL PLEDGE DRIVE REPORT

At the Fireside Chats we shared a bar graph indicating the range of levels of our annual pledges for 2013. Here are the 2014 levels of pledging alongside those of last year. There are still a few pledges that have not yet been returned. For those who prefer a different way of recording the results, there were: 3 pledge cards returned with no pledge, 38 increased pledges, 8 reduced pledges, 21 remained the same, 5 new pledges for a total of 75 pledge returns. The total pledge to date is \$123,972 with an average pledge of \$1,721.83. Thank you Asa for all your work. Thank you all again for the successful fireside chats and your continuing support.

The Stewardship Committee

Comparision of Pledges between years 2013 - 2014



  
*A Special*  
**THANK YOU**  


Thank you all so very much for your thoughts and prayers...your calls, your cards, your notes, your foods, your flowers and your most needed donations to the Family Pantry. I stopped there yesterday and found an extremely busy operation trying desperately to provide food and clothing to those in need. We chose the Family Pantry for memorial donations because it is just one piece of what Mac was all about...supporting the needs of others and hoping to “unlock the gates of heaven so that everyone, no matter who they are or what they do – can come in.” (Drew)

Each one of us never knows the extent to which we touch others’ lives. We know that Mac touched many lives in need. That was the purpose of his own life. (Chip)

Recently, Chip had begun to talk to Mac about visiting Selma, Alabama for the 50th anniversary of the march for voting rights...this, in an era where the assurances of many of these rights are ironically and cruelly being rolled back. The struggles for social justice do continue. Chip may still make that trip to Selma without Mac...I wonder who else may go.

In a theme shared by our daughter Meghan...when we think of our lives together many pictures creep into our minds. Pictures that belong to each of us... pictures that evoke feeling, meaning, guidance, and support along with lots of love, fun, and booming laughter. Our pictures will sustain us all.

Callan’s (Drew and Lauren’s oldest) kindergarten class had been watching and waiting for a caterpillar to spin its chrysalis. On that Wednesday, at 2pm, while Mac was making his final journey, Callan’s class was singing songs...songs of joy and thanksgiving...and that caterpillar was starting its metamorphosis into a Monarch butterfly.

Stories and pictures and the hope of the resurrection are shared by all who support the values that Mac and all of us hold dear...the hope of the resurrection exemplified so well in the life cycle of that butterfly. Your support of all of us is so very special and so cherished and we truly thank each and every one of you. We love him and we miss him.

Kathie, Chip and Ali, Drew and Lauren, and Meghan and Martin

# DECEMBER

## THRIFT SHOP SCHEDULE

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> Nancy Macdonald, Dottie Callaghan, Betty Decker, Scott & Sue Daniels	<b>4</b> Sandra & Lee Josselyn	<b>5</b> Nancy & Dave Truesdale	<b>6</b> Lucille Ward, Pat Kennedy	<b>7</b> Nancy Macdonald, Jane Barter
<b>10</b> Nancy Macdonald, Dottie Callaghan, Betty Ann Waldo, Scott & Sue Daniels	<b>11</b> Sandra & Lee Josselyn	<b>12</b> Mary Sparrow, Ann Brown	<b>13</b> Lucille Ward, Peg Blackburn	<b>14</b> Nancy Macdonald
<b>17</b> Nancy Macdonald, Dottie Callaghan, Betty Decker, Scott & Sue Daniels	<b>18</b> Sandra & Lee Josselyn	<b>19</b> Nancy & Dave Truesdale	<b>20</b> Lucille Ward, Jane Romer	<b>21</b> Nancy Macdonald, Juliette Levesque
<b>24</b> <b>The Thrift Shop will            be closed until            January 14, 2014</b>				



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	<b>2</b> 4:00 PM Weight Watchers	<b>3</b> 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 12:00 PM Book Group @ Melrose 2:00 PM Knitters for Peace 7:00 PM Property Meeting	<b>4</b> 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist/Breakfast/Discussion 9:00 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Finance Committee 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 4:30 PM Good Grief @Church 6:00 PM Boy Scouts meeting	<b>5</b> 10:30 AM Sabbatical Meeting 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 5:30 PM Choir	<b>6</b> 9:00 AM Artful Parishioners 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 3:00 PM Yoga	<b>7</b> 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 2:00 PM Ann Patterson's Memorial Service 7:30 PM AA Meeting
<b>8</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 3:00 PM Lessons and Carols	<b>9</b> 9:30 AM GHA Board Meeting 4:00 PM Weight Watchers	<b>10</b> 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 12:00 PM Book Group @ Melrose 2:00 PM Knitters for Peace 5:00 PM Vestry	<b>11</b> 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist/Breakfast/Discussion 9:00 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 6:00 PM Boy Scouts meeting	<b>12</b> 9:00AM Worship Team 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 4:30 PM Outreach Meeting 5:30 PM Choir Good Grief with CHS	<b>13</b> 9:00 AM Artful Parishioners 9 AM Advent Quiet Day (CHS)* 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 3:00 PM Yoga	<b>14</b> 9:00AM Advent Quiet Day 10:00 AM Fellowship Meeting 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 7:30 PM AA Meeting
<b>15</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist 3:00 PM Advent Party	<b>16</b> 4:00 PM Weight Watchers	<b>17</b> 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 11:30 AM HE & Luncheon Nursing Home Residents 2:00 PM Knitters for Peace	<b>18</b> 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist/Breakfast/Discussion 9:00 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 6:00 PM Boy Scouts meeting	<b>19</b> 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 4:00 PM Stewardship Meeting 5:30 PM Choir	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM Artful Parishioners 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 3:00 PM Yoga	<b>21</b> 11:00 AM Thrift Shop 7:30 PM AA Meeting
<b>22</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	<b>23</b> 4:00 PM Weight Watchers	<b>24</b> Thrift Shop Closed 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service 9:00 PM Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> 10:00 AM Christmas Day Service and Carols	<b>26</b> Thrift Shop Closed	<b>27</b> Thrift Shop Closed	<b>28</b> Thrift Shop Closed 7:30 PM AA Meeting
<b>29</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist	<b>30</b> Thrift Shop Closed 4:00 PM Weight Watchers	<b>31</b> Thrift Shop Closed	<b>1</b> New Year's Day Holiday - Office closed Thrift Shop Closed 7:30 AM Holy Eucharist/Breakfast/Discussion	<b>2</b> Thrift Shop Closed 5:30 PM Choir	<b>3</b> Thrift Shop Closed 9:00 AM Artful Parishioners 3:00 PM Yoga	<b>4</b> Thrift Shop Closed 7:30 PM AA Meeting

**Notes:** Ann Patterson's Memorial Service, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm.  
 CHS=Church of the Holy Spirit; the first Advent Quiet Day is there from 9am to noon on December 13.  
 The second Advent Quiet Day is here on December 14 from 9am to noon.  
 Good Grief will join the bereavement group at the Church of the Holy Spirit for a joint dinner at the Jail House Restaurant on West St. in Orleans on December 12 at 5:00pm with a Yankee Swap (\$10 maximum).  
 The Sunday after Christmas will be Christmas lessons and carols with The Holy Eucharist.  
 Bible Study and Book Group will resume on January 7th and 8th.  
 Sunday, January 5 will be celebrated as the Feast of the Epiphany.

<b>Counters' Schedule December</b>	
<b>Dec.1:</b> Beau Coursen, Lucille Ward	<b>Dec. 8:</b> Asa Decker, Bob Neese
<b>Dec. 15:</b> Lynne Sampson, Bill Hendricks	<b>Dec. 22:</b> Matt Ellis, Julie Kraft
<b>Dec. 29:</b> Betty Decker, Vince Kraft	

**Christ Church Office (508) 432-1787**  
**Web page: [www.christepiscopalharwich.org](http://www.christepiscopalharwich.org)**

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Judith Davis  
Minister of Music: Joan Kirchner  
Senior Warden: Jane Romer  
Treasurer: Asa Decker

Assistant Treasurer: Vince Kraft

Parish Administrator: Kerry Lotti  
Sexton: Todd Woolley  
Junior Warden: Bill Hendricks  
Clerk: Lee Josselyn

**Vestry 2014:** Deborah Aylesworth  
**Vestry 2014:** Elizabeth Salomé

**Vestry 2015:** Diana Landau  
**Vestry 2015:** Lynne Sampson

**Vestry 2016:** Matt Ellis  
**Vestry 2016:** Jan Robertson

You may e-mail articles or items of interest for the newsletter to [christchurchharwichport@comcast.net](mailto:christchurchharwichport@comcast.net). We especially want updated email addresses. The deadline for articles for the newsletter is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Submissions may be edited for clarity and style. The photos on page 1 are by Judith Davis.



**LIKE US on Facebook: Christ Church in Harwich Port**

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Christ-Church-in-Harwich-Port-Massachusetts/55448192078>

**CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL**  
**671 Route 28**  
**Harwich Port, MA 02646**

**FIRST CLASS**

**A digital COPY is on the web**  
**[www.christepiscopalharwich.org](http://www.christepiscopalharwich.org)**

To