

ST. DUNSTAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ELLSWORTH

TID BITS FROM THE TABLE ~ DECEMBER 23, 2022

Dear ones,

We've walked in faith this Advent in the knowledge we would celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas. It's nearly upon us! Tomorrow, many of us will gather on Christmas eve for our 5pm service (both Zoom and in person at church), where we'll enjoy special music (vocal and instrumental), light candles, and have Eucharist together as we celebrate. On Sunday, we'll gather at the usual 9:30 (ALL ZOOM) for a contemplative service of Holy Eucharist, with spiritual communion.

Aaron and I have just done a 'hard re-set' on the house after a big day (Thursday). For us, that means scraping wax from the menorot, putting away the rest of the toys, straightening up and hiding tomorrow's Hanukkah presents for Arthur and his best friend Ava. Tonight, as each night of Hanukkah, the kids lit the moose and the lobster menorot (presents I gave to Aaron for our first and second years of marriage), played dreidels, ate latkes, then opened the next bits of their Advent calendars (they each received Smithsonian gemstone Advent calendars this year plus chocolate calendars), chatted with me about Advent and Christmas, and said prayers for family and people they know could use some extra love this Christmas.

It's always interesting to me to see that these two kiddos engage with Judaism and Christianity in the same way they engage with everything-- with their whole hearts and whole minds. As we all prepare to welcome Jesus the holy infant, I wish us all a healthy helping of childlike wonder.

And so, as we prepare for Christmas, I wonder...what helps YOU begin at the beginning of Jesus' story each year? What memories of Christmastide do you hold most dear, and which Advent and Christmas traditions do you and your loved ones carry from one year to the next?

I look forward to being together this Christmas. God love you, and God bless you.
Yours, with love,
Carolyn+

Family News

We would love to hear about your news and for what you are thankful during this year.



Photo Credit: Marian Wells

Affirmation Prayer

God Calls me out of darkness to live in light,

God calls me out of falsehood to live in truth,

God calls me out of despair to live in hope,

God calls me out of fear to live in trust,

God calls me out of hate to live in love,

God calls out of war to live in peace,

I am called by God to fill my heart, my world,

my universe, with peace, peace, peace. Amen.



Be in the Know – Enroll in *The Dio Log* Today!

- *From Deacon Tracy*

Please remember that the bi-monthly electronic newsletter of our Episcopal Diocese of Maine, *The Dio Log*, can be as close as your email in box! To enroll, go to the diocesan website, <https://episcopalmaine.org>, select “Connect” on the top of the site and then

“Newsletter” in the drop down. The enrollment area is directly below. Here is the link to take you to the newsletter section directly so you can enroll even faster:

<https://episcopalmaine.org/newsletter/>.

This is the best way to keep up with all of the events and opportunities for engagement and learning being offered beyond our own parish. The staff also offers select Province 1 news and church wide information and opportunities as well through *The Dio Log*.

Happy Birthday to Dave Wells! Enjoy!



MY CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS for 2022

In thinking about how to express my thankfulness at this time of year for your love and support this past year, with all its ups and downs, I found a book, Experience God's Christmas Presence published by Zondervan Publishing in 1996. In this book there are 6 components with hymns to accompany them. It made me realize all the feelings that Christmas time brings, defined them to fit how I feel and chosen hymns to go with them. The book reminded me of what Christmas time helps us to remember all that God has given us through the birth of His son, Jesus.

JOY, that sense of happiness that gives you uplifting pleasure. How about singing "Angels We Have Heard on High" to experience JOY.

HOPE, that sense that everything will turn out for the better. Perhaps you could take time to listen to "The First Noel" to hear the HOPE.

COMFORT, to be at ease with all around you because God is here. Listening to "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" may give you that feeling of COMFORT.

PEACE, the feel of security and that all is well with circumstances and relationships. Listen to the hymn "Silent Night" to feel the calming PEACE.

LOVE, the caring and warm feeling that you have shown me and to remember that God shows us unconditional love. I suggest "O Holy Night" to show LOVE.

FAITH, the belief in God, Jesus and all that we can see and not see. How about "O come, O come Emmanuel" for the final hymn to proclaim our FAITH?

May your Christmas be all that you hope for and the New Year brings you many blessings.

With deep affection,
Dianne

We again thank many members of our parish for their personal support during the recent capital campaign to get the new Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry location ready for service.

We are now in our second month of operation at the location on Downeast Highway.

Happy Holidays!
Tracy+



Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for Christmas Day. We pray especially for all the children of the world.

We Pray Especially For: Mary Rita Mongato, Carol Yancey, Anna Mears, Mary Mitchell, Sam Navrat, Meg Stevens, Skip Stevens, Tony Rowan, and Larmie Knuesli for healing, strength, and comfort.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list or continue a name on the list, please let us know at stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com or leave a message at the church (667-5495). Prayer requests will remain for three weeks.

It is important to us that the list be up-to-date and accurate. To everyone, please stay well and safe. Blessings to you all.

Almighty and merciful God, we ask in our prayers that the conflict in Ukraine and the others around the world can be resolved peacefully. Bless the people that have been affected by the unrest and grant them peace and justice. We also ask for the people in our own country that have been impacted by the hurricanes, violence and lose of loved ones as they grieve, pick up their lives. Grant them strength, comfort, and healing. All this we ask with the power of your love to all through Jesus Christ our Lord.

~ UPCOMING WORSHIP / EVENTS SCHEDULE ~

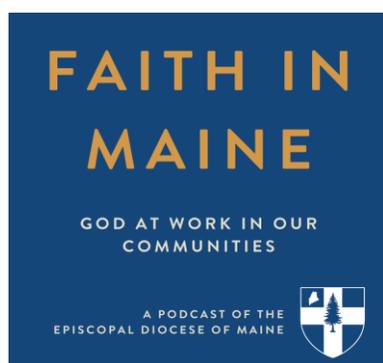
At this time the Sunday services will be both in church following safe practices and via Zoom. Compline is every Thursday at 7:00p.m via Zoom

The sanctuary is open for quiet reflection and prayer on Mondays 2-4.

December 24 ~ Christmas Eve Service: 5 pm

December 25 ~ Christmas Service: 9:30 am (Zoom Only)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88580659058?pwd=Z3A5T3VPNGhWVWtVTVZOU2RqRmRkZz09>



Faith in Maine:

This is a podcast produced by our Episcopal Diocese with various members of the clergy giving their thoughts and prayers. The podcast changes each week. Feel free to call and listen.

You can call 207-223-6402 at any time. They usually last approximately 4-5 minutes.

St. Dunstan's Church Christmas Greens and Flowers Dedications 2022

The beautiful greens and flowers this Christmas have been given to the Greater Glory of God by the following people:

- ❖ Lori Annis, in loving memory of Tasha Walker and Curtis Betts.
- ❖ Judy and Joe Stockbridge, in loving memory of their parents.
- ❖ Sarah Whalen, in loving memory of Susan Seavey.
- ❖ Tracy Shaffer and Barbara Glasgow, in loving memory of Robert Glasgow, Brian Glasgow and Kellie Crall.
- ❖ Tom and Jaci Hancock, in memory of loved ones, always in our hearts.
- ❖ The Chattin Family, in loving memory of the Very Reverend Mark H. Chattin.
- ❖ Selene Meeks, in loving memory of the Meeks family.
- ❖ Dianne and Harvey Kelley, in loving memory of Harvey Kelley, Sr., Louise Kelley, Helen Lancaster and Harold Lancaster.
- ❖ Carol Mason, in memory of loved ones, always in our hearts.
- ❖ Bill and Martha Thomas, in loving memory of Abbie, who rests now, in waiting, upon another shore.
- ❖ The Preble Family, in loving memory of Deacon Joan Preble.
- ❖ Jo and Don Cooper, in memory of beloved family Azaline and John Perkins, Edward and Bessie Callegari, Eric and Donnie Cooper, Robert Dunlap, and in thanksgiving for Shirley Baylis.
- ❖ Dan and Mary DeLong, in appreciation for all who work to make St. Dunstan's a place of worship, stewardship and fellowship.
- ❖ Marian and David Wells, in memory of loved ones, and pets, always in our hearts.
- ❖ Georgianna and Bob Pulver, in memory of Margaret and Seaton Reed and of Helen and PR Pulver.
- ❖ Barbara Clark, in loving memory of Bill Clark, Esther Bradley, and Elizabeth Swan.

St. Dunstan's 2022 Emmaus Adopt-a-Family

Date: December, 2022

From: Santa's Elves, The North Pole

To the Wonderful People at St. Dunstan's,
Ellsworth:

On behalf of Santa, Mrs. Claus and all of the
Elves, thank you so much for your continued
support of, and participation in, the Emmaus
Shelter's Adopt-A-Family program.

This year the Elves delivered Christmas Gifts
for 46 children THAT'S **FORTY-SIX**
CHILDREN - A NEW ST. DUNSTAN'S
RECORD!!! - to Emmaus thanks to the
generosity of our friends at St. Dunstan's.

Thank you for helping to make Christmas
morning brighter for 46 children in the
greater-Ellsworth community. We're already
looking forward to next year!!!

Merry Christmas, With Love, **Santa's Elves**



Priest - Rev. Dr. Carolyn Rosen
Deacon - Rev. Tracy Shaffer
Senior Warden - Dianne Kelley
Deputy Senior Warden - Liz Graves
Junior Warden - Kim Peterson

www.saintdunstansellsworth.org

You can contact us by leaving a message by telephone or email:

Phone: **667-5495** Email: stdunstansellsworth@gmail.com

Fred Beyer and Muffet Stewart: stdunstanstreasurer@gmail.com

Rain is in the church office Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 8 – 9 am