



# INSPIRATION

OLD NORTH CHURCH IN MARBLEHEAD

CONGREGATIONAL / UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

DECEMBER 2009/JANUARY 2010

## “Light for the Road Ahead”

*“The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep  
darkness, on them light has shined.”*

Isaiah 9:2

I’ve used this space before to comment on how odd it is to reflect on the approach of Christmas before we’ve even celebrated Thanksgiving. No more odd, I suppose, than using this space last month to reflect on Thanksgiving before we had observed Halloween. So with a nod to the wrinkle in time, let’s look down the road a couple of weeks...

Even the most familiar road can be treacherous to travel at night, when darkness conceals the twists and turns and crossroads along the way. Fortunately, most roads are marked with well-placed signs to give directions and warn of danger. But rather than being lighted, most road signs are of the “high intensity prismatic” type, designed to reflect the light of approaching headlights for maximum visibility. Of course, since they are *reflective* and not *illuminated*, in the darkness they are invisible and consequently not of much use.

Scripture repeatedly makes the point that God means to guide us through life. All the signs are there – the dangers marked, the safe way pointed out – but to see the signs we need light. For Christians, “the light” is

the gospel of Christ, the good news that God chose to cloak divinity in human form. The signs, in other words, become visible as it dawns on us that God is in our midst.

The season of Advent, (from Latin: *ad venire*, “to come to”) is a time of spiritual preparation for Christmas. We need to make a special effort during this busy season so that the light can come to us, dawn on us, illumine the way for us. I urge you to not let yourself get caught up in the frenzy without also letting yourself get lit up by the Light. Consider practicing some kind of devotional exercise this season: keep an Advent calendar; begin and end each day with a Bible reading and prayer. Even lighting a candle and spending a few quiet minutes sometime each day can help focus the anticipation of these next few weeks. Whatever we do this Advent, let us be mindful that Christ is our Light. And let us make ready for our Light to come.

And by the way, have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

See you in church,  
Dennis

# Marblehead Ministerial Association



## Annual Community-wide Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service

Hosted by  
The Unitarian Universalist Church  
28 Mugford Street, Marblehead

Wednesday, November 25

7:30 pm

Followed by light refreshments

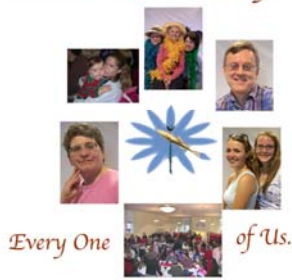
All are warmly welcome!



For more  
information,  
781-631-1215

The Association, from top left: Church of St. Andrew; Clifton Lutheran Church; First Church of Christ, in Marblehead; First Church of Christ, Scientist; Grace Community Church; Marblehead Counseling Center; Our Lady Star of the Sea; St. Michael's Episcopal Church; St. Stephen's United Methodist Church; Sufi Order International; Temple Emanu-El; Temple Sinai; Unitarian Universalist Church.

*It's About ALL of Us!*



## Stewardship Update

The Stewardship Committee is grateful for the response to our campaign for 2010. Our theme, "It's About All Of Us" is intended to convey the message that *every* pledge is important, no matter the amount, and that we need the participation of *every* member and friend of Old North Church.

Thanks to the generous response of the members of the Church Council, committee members and officers of the church, we are off to a strong start. As of this writing (November 19<sup>th</sup>), we have received 125 pledges totaling \$238,486. Our goal is to increase pledged support by \$100,000 over last year's total. At present, we are over halfway to that goal; pledges already received have increased by \$57,000. But as good as this news is, the fact is, we're not there yet! And we won't get there without every member and friend of Old North responding with the same level of commitment that has already been shown.

By now you should have received your pledge card for 2010, either in the mail or via email. For those who have already made your pledge, thank you for helping us get off to a strong start! For those who have yet to return your pledge, please do so on or before **Stewardship Sunday, November 22nd**.

We need you to help us to reach our goals of 100% participation and \$500,000 in pledges. If you are unable to attend worship on Stewardship Sunday, you can email your pledge to [office@onchurch.org](mailto:office@onchurch.org) or mail it to:

Stewardship  
Old North Church  
8 Stacey St.  
Marblehead, MA 01945

Thank you.

## "Longest Night" Service December 21 at 7pm For Prayer and Inspiration

The Christmas season is a time of bright lights, cheerful songs and colorful packages. It can be joyful and beautiful. But it is also a difficult, painful time. Many people struggle through these weeks, with invisible burdens much heavier than the armful of shopping bags that passersby see. Some of us grieve for loved ones who have died, whom we miss deeply at the holidays. Some of us feel stressed over being unable to purchase the gifts we'd like to for our families and friends. Many people are lonely, and feel even more so when it seems like everyone else is enjoying a whirl of parties and festivities. We long for simpler times, happier families, lighter hearts.

In the dark days of December, we need to lean on each other and on our Christian faith. We can find strength and encouragement in our church community, even as we ponder the wisdom of a cycle of seasons that includes dying, dormancy, cold and darkness. In looking fearlessly and with compassion at the whole story of the Christmas season, we can honor our own, complex and imperfect stories, and find inspiration.

We hope that many of you who feel a yearning for inner peace at this hectic time of year will join us in the Sanctuary on Monday, December 21 at 7 pm, and experience a sense of true spiritual fullness in the midst of all the hoopla.

## Membership Committee

Membership Committee has had a good start to the year. We have sent letters of welcome to most people who have bought property in Marblehead in the first six months of the year.

We also hosted a fun Latino themed dinner party for new members who have joined Old North in the last two years. Feedback was very positive and we are now planning a bigger... and could it be even better... party in the Spring.

Last Sunday we were delighted to welcome eleven new Members to Old North. They were Patricia Flaherty, Thaddeus and Elizabeth Gillespie, Edward and Kathleen Jasaitis, Marion Keating, Karl and Deborah Person, Tom Schaefer and Michael and Alice Shepherd.

## BATTERS UP!

### Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> 8-10am



Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the Pancake (Breakfast). Don those aprons, dig out those spatulas; the annual Old North Pancake Breakfast is Saturday December 5.

Traditionally, this event is produced, directed, cooked, and served by the men of the Congregation. Why should women have all the fun in the kitchen?

The feast will begin at 8:00 and end at 10:00, featuring fluffy pancakes, savory sausage, and juicy ham, served with buckets of steaming coffee.

*If you are of the male persuasion, we need you to join this championship team. Call Tim Sheehy at (781) 631-6223 for more information.*

## Christian Service Committee Alternative Gift Program

Are you looking for a Christmas gift for the person who has everything? Here's the solution to your problem!

The Christian Service Committee will again this year provide you the opportunity to give something of immeasurable value to people needing help while at the same time giving a loved one a present that can be appreciated. Gift certificates to benefiting some great causes-Heifer, the Old North-Pholela Partnership, and the Salem Mission will be available in the narthex after the -after the 8 o'clock service and in the Parish Hall after 10 o'clock services during Advent.

Heifer International presents families with gifts of livestock that will provide them with an income and training in animal husbandry. After a period of time the family then passes on one or more of their animal's offspring to another family in need, thus perpetuating the gift of self-reliance. Heifer certificates allow you to participate by purchasing shares of an animal such as \$10 for a share of a goat. Or you can buy an entire pig for \$120!

The Old North-Pholela Partnership supports education, literacy, small business efforts, and health initiatives of Zulu villagers in remote parts of

South Africa. We will be selling crafts made by local women and certificates to support scholarships and other causes. You will also have the chance to buy certificates which purchase books for early readers and for the schools, many of which have no books at all. For every book purchased with your funds, the not-for-profit South Africa Partners will provide a second copy which will be brought to the villages by our friend Mrs. Nomsa Khabela.

For many years Old North has supported the Salem Mission's goal of providing shelter and feeding the hungry. Now the goal is to eliminate homelessness by providing housing, job training and supportive services for those trying to improve their lives. This year more than ever your support is needed because of a drastic reduction in funding by the state. We cannot allow the Mission's guests to go hungry, not have a bed on a winter's night, or do without needed training. Gift certificates benefiting The Salem Mission will be available for purchase, and donations are always welcome.

Old North continues its tradition of filling Christmas stocking with personal care items for guests of the Mission. Items such as toothpaste, hand lotion, shampoo, can be brought to the Parish Hall during our Alternative Gift Giving Sundays.

Learn more about these activities at [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org), [www.ourfriendsinafrica.org](http://www.ourfriendsinafrica.org), [www.sapartners.org](http://www.sapartners.org), and [www.salemmision.org](http://www.salemmision.org)



## Wreath Auction

The Fellowship Committee invites you to our annual Wreath Auction. We are expecting a dozen beautifully decorated wreaths to be part of the silent auction. We would like to thank all the decorators who have generously donated their talents to create these beautiful holiday wreaths. Bidding will begin on Sunday, November 29, 2009 and **all bidding will close at noontime** on Sunday, December 6, 2009. Start your holiday decorating early by bidding on a wreath. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact: Gigi Breed at 781-631-6067

## Church School News

### Christmas Stocking Event!

The children of Old North Church are invited to participate in a volunteer opportunity to help out the organization "Someone Else's Child." SEC is a local non-profit that helps children who are less fortunate.

- **What?** Decorating stockings and bags for children and making some holiday crafts to put into the stockings
- **When?** Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to noon (following pageant rehearsal)
- **Where?** Old North Church Parish Hall

This is **not** a drop-off event, parents need to accompany children. Refreshments will be served. If you are able to volunteer to help set-up or clean-up please let me know.

### Christmas Pageant:

The pageant will be on Sunday December 20<sup>th</sup> at the 10:00 service. There will be a dress rehearsal on Saturday December 19<sup>th</sup>. **IT IS NOT A DROP OFF!** Your child should be bringing home the flyer telling the dates and times and the music they will be singing. If your child has a speaking part please be sure to help them run through it a few times. As always we need help with various tasks. If you would like to help you can contact Deb Tyrrell at 639-2654.

### Angel Tags:

We are once again participating in the Salvation Army's Angel tag program. This allows us to provide Christmas presents to less fortunate children on the North Shore. The tags will be available November 29<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup> on the tree in the Narthex. Gift Sunday will be on December 13<sup>th</sup>. If you are not able to attend church on Gift Sunday, we ask that you deliver your gifts to National Grand Bank by December 18<sup>th</sup>. **Please DO NOT leave gifts at the church or office.** If you have questions please contact Melissa MacDonald at 631-1407.

### Christmas Eve Service:

The Church School committee is busy planning the 5:00pm Christmas Eve family service. We put together a "mini pageant" while telling the story of Jesus' birth interspersed with carols. It has a little something for the children as well as a lovely Christmas message for the parents. It is not to be missed if you have little people in your house or you just can't stay up for the late service!

As always, if you have any questions regarding Church School you can reach me at [melgeo6@yahoo.com](mailto:melgeo6@yahoo.com) or 631-1407.

Sincerely,  
Melissa S. MacDonald, Church School Director



## Stocking Stuffing for Salem Mission

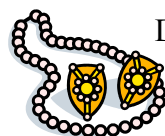
Enjoy the holidays more by giving and helping homeless folks in shelters to obtain life's basic supplies! It's not too late! Please bring any personal care items: toothbrushes, tooth paste, soap, razors, shaving cream, wash cloths, lotion, dental floss, combs, brushes, Kleenex, cough drops, lip gloss, socks, gloves, scarves, hats, pens, pencils, note pads, drawings, Christmas cards, and other small items, (please no mouth wash with alcohol) to the church office by Thurs. Dec. 17, 2009. There are more men than women. Please contact Christie Parker (978-744-5804 or [christiemp@comcast.net](mailto:christiemp@comcast.net)) to let me know if you are donating a large quantity of a particular item so that I can better keep track of what is still needed.

On Thurs, Dec. 17 at 7:30pm you are invited to join us- a jolly group of elves - to stuff Christmas stockings with the items which you have so thoughtfully donated. The stockings were sewn by the home economics students at Marblehead High School.

Upon completion of this task, some of us will deliver the stockings to the Salem Mission Shelter for the homeless folks to enjoy on Christmas!

Come and be a part of this heart-warming project! Shelter guests truly appreciate your caring efforts! Merry Christmas

## Old Jewelry Needed!



Do you have old, out dated jewelry cluttering your bureau or jewelry box? Not sure what to do with it? Well, Fellowship can help you out! The Fellowship Committee will be selling recycled jewelry during the Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact: Gigi Breed at 781-631-6067.



## Music Committee

Dear Friends:

*December is a wonderful time to join the Senior Choir! Immediately following the Annual Festival Chorus Christmas concerts (taking place on Saturday, December 5, 2009, at 8pm and Sunday, December 6, 2009, at 7:30pm), the Senior Choir will gather on Wednesday evenings—December 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>—to prepare for Gift Sunday, the Christmas Pageant, and the traditional December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve service at 8pm, preceded by a prelude of carols at 7:30pm. **NOTE:** *There will be extra notebooks with musical scores provided for college students or other interested singers who may enjoy singing with the Choir at the 8pm service on Christmas Eve.**

All interested singers are encouraged to join the Senior Choir at any time. It's always a thrill for the Choir to welcome new members; not only do we appreciate and value your commitment, but joining the Senior Choir inspires warmth and fellowship, which naturally occurs through the challenge and joy of making music together.

I hope the following Senior Choir schedule will help with your planning:

### DECEMBER

- Wed. Dec. 2 7:30 pm Rehearsal in Sanctuary
- Fri. Dec. 4 Festival Chorus in Sanctuary  
7:30pm, sharp!  
DRESS REHEARSAL
- Sat. Dec. 5 Festival Chorus in Sanctuary  
6:15pm Warm-up rehearsal  
8:00 pm CONCERT
- Sun. Dec. 6 OFF (morning)
- Sun. Dec. 6 Festival Chorus  
6:15 pm Warm-up reh. in Sanctuary  
7:30 pm CONCERT
- Wed. Dec. 9 7:30 pm Rehearsal in Music Room
- Sun. Dec. 13 Gift Sunday  
Sanctuary 9am & 10am
- Wed. Dec. 16 7:30pm Rehearsal in Music Room
- Sun. Dec. 20 Bell Sunday & Pageant  
Sanctuary 9am & 10am
- Wed. Dec. 23 OFF

Thurs. Dec. 24 *Christmas Eve Services:*

- 5pm Family Service (no choir)
- 7pm Senior Choir/soloist warm up
- 7:30pm Pre-service Carol Concert
- 8pm Lessons and Carols
- 10:30pm Pre-service Carol Concert (soloists only)
- 11pm Lessons and Carols (soloists)

Sun. Dec. 27 OFF

Wed. Dec. 30 OFF

### JANUARY

No Wednesday rehearsals until January 27, 2010

Sun. Jan. 3 OFF

Sun. Jan. 10 9 & 10am Rehearsal & Service

Sun. Jan. 17 9 & 10am Rehearsal & Service

Sun. Jan. 24 OFF

Wed. Jan. 27 7:30pm Rehearsal in Music Room

Sun. Jan. 31 9 & 10am Rehearsal & Service

### **KALEIDOSCOPE CHAMBER ENSEMBLE CONCERT, Saturday, January 30, 2010, 8pm**

Finally, please consider purchasing a Festival Chorus CD! These are not only wonderful keepsakes, but very high quality CDs to add to your collection. While we are not licensed to sell these [archival] recordings commercially, as part of the Old North family, you can feel free to purchase a Festival Chorus CD at anytime. The purchase of Festival Chorus CDs helps us to balance the Festival Chorus books, which, in turn, enables us to work on future concert and recording projects! Please contact Jane Kraybill at 781.631.4832 if you'd like to purchase a copy of this year's (or a previous year) concert CD.

Warm wishes for a happy, healthy and peaceful holiday season,

Maria vanKalken, Minister of Music

## **Budget Meeting**

The 2010 Annual Budget Meeting of the Church has been scheduled for Sunday, January 31, 2010 at 11:00 AM (directly following the 10 AM church service). The meeting will be held in the church sanctuary. All church members are encouraged to attend and vote—a privilege and responsibility of membership in the Old North Church community!

## Handbell History

Handbells have been ringing for 15 years at Old North Church. The original gift was made by Donald Peach in 1993 in memory of his wife. We started with 37 bells (3 octaves), the tables and a small amount of music in the fall of 1994. Since then ringers and their friends have contributed 7 new bells (2 very large and 5 very small) and 2 octaves of chimes in memory of loved ones. In addition ringers also contributed music and the smaller tables used in the balcony.

The present group has been ringing together for a number of years, with the occasional help of former ringers who fill in when we need them. But we always welcome new ringers - it gives us a chance to use the very low and very high bells which greatly add to the effectiveness of our ringing. We ring at least once a month for worship, annually in the Festival Chorus concert and occasionally for weddings and funerals.

Consider becoming a ringer! No experience necessary! And it's fun! Contact Sandy Barrett, Director, at [smb195@gmail.com](mailto:smb195@gmail.com)

## Nominating Committee News

Don Merrigan, our present Church Historian, has found it necessary to resign from his position. The person serving as historian must be a member of the church and have an interest in organizing and maintaining church records and files. Attention to detail is a must. Past historians have dedicated one morning a week to working in the archives room.

If you have an interest in serving as this church officer, please contact Ellen Nash at [ellen.nash@comcast.net](mailto:ellen.nash@comcast.net) (781-631-1098).

## The Salem Mission Rebranding Project Overview

**PURPOSE:** The success of The Mission's programs encourages us to become a leader in the expansion of those programs on a regional basis. To end homelessness, our programs need to be applied beyond the boundaries of Salem. While we honor our historic relationship with the Crombie Street Church and many other faith-based organizations, and continue to offer individuals an opportunity to live their faith, today we are a federally recognized public charity. We believe we need a brand that is

more indicative of our current structure and purpose.

**PROCESS:** In September 2008 The Salem Mission initiated a partnership with **Salem State College** that led to a four-month practicum for the school's senior graphic design and marketing students, led by two instructors and overseen by the President's office of External Affairs. The Mission worked closely with the students to orient them to The Mission and guide their aesthetic and branding proposals. The Board of Directors and The Mission's senior management all agreed that Lifebridge was the most appealing and appropriate brand for the organization. The Board voted to approve the transition, beginning with a public announcement in November and becoming effective in January 2010.

**PRODUCT:** The final product of the **Salem State** partnership is Lifebridge, and the current buildings constitute the Lifebridge Campus. We chose this brand for the following reasons:

- The word "life" denotes the seriousness of the work conducted on our campus. *We truly Do change lives.*
- The word "bridge" connotes the process and activities in which we engage clients. We recognize that each client is moving from one "place" in life to another and we are central to that life transition.
- The word "campus" suggests an institutional, professional, and residential setting that includes many components. The word also connotes an educational setting, which is an area we wish to expand upon as our supportive services evolve.

The logo is a better representation of the culture we have created within the organization. The colors are energizing yet still conservative. The fonts used in the logo are professional, contemporary, and presented in an innovative design.

We are grateful to **Salem State College** and the talented instructors and students whose creativity and commitment to ending homelessness are helping us to better communicate who we are today and where we are going in the future.

### For More Information:

Mark A. Cote, M.ED, Executive Director  
978.744.0500 | [M.Cote@salemmission.org](mailto:M.Cote@salemmission.org)  
Andrew Oliver, President of the Board  
781.631.1223 | [ajoliver47@comcast.net](mailto:ajoliver47@comcast.net)

# Advent & Christmas

## Service and Event Calendar

Sunday, November 29	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent Angel Tags are available!
Saturday, December 5	Pancake Breakfast – 8-10am Festival Chorus Concert – 8pm
Sunday, December 6	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Communion Sunday Festival Chorus Concert - 7:30pm
Sunday, December 13	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Poinsettia and Gift Sunday <i>Please bring your Angel Tag gifts to church.</i>
Wednesday, December 17	Stocking Stuffing Event 7:30pm in the Great Room
Sunday, December 20	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Pageant and Bell Sunday <i>Bring your bells to ring!</i>
Monday, December 21	Longest Night Service 7pm in the Sanctuary
Thursday, December 24	Christmas Eve 5:00 - Family Service 7:30 - Pre-service Carol Concert 8:00 - Lessons and Carols 11:30 – Pre-service Carol Concert 11:00 – Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 27	Worship Service at 9am <i>**Note: One service!</i>

## Milestones

### Funerals

November 13 Vera Hooper

### New Members on November 15

Patricia Flaherty

Thaddeus and Elizabeth Gillespie

Edward and Kathleen Jasaitis

Marion Keating

Karl and Deborah Person

Tom Schaefer

Michael and Alice Shepherd

◆ ◆ YOUTH RANTS ◆ ◆

Welcome to **Youth Rants**—a page devoted to Youth News, Events & Reflections. Look here for upcoming events, new ideas, exciting announcements & much more.

Junior Youth Jabber

**Grades 6-8**

Junior Youth continues into the new year! Check out the holiday schedule and look for the Spring calendar in the next newsletter. Remember, friends are always welcome! Be on the lookout for Evites from “Youth Ministry” for details on each event.

**Movie Night**

Come by the church for some snacks and a good movie on Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>. Look for the email/evite for movie details.

**Nightwatch/NYC Trip\*\*\***

The weekend of Feb 5-7, we will gather folks to head to NYC for our annual Nightwatch overnight. It is an opportunity to see a little bit of New York City, visit St. John The Divine cathedral, and have a faith-filled evening with other youth from across the nation. More info to come. Check out Nightwatch online: [www.stjohndivine.org/departments\\_nightwatch.html](http://www.stjohndivine.org/departments_nightwatch.html)

\*\*\*Please note: Youth must have attended at least 4 prior Junior Youth events to be able to participate. If you have any questions, please contact Heather Ramsey-Mabrouk.

**Salem Mission in January**

As you may know, the Senior Youth cook and serve dinner at the Salem Mission every month. Occasionally throughout the year, this event is open to junior youth, senior youth & senior youth alums. January 3<sup>rd</sup> is one of those rare occasions (summer being the other time during the year). Meet in the parking lot of Stacey Street at 4:30 and return by 7:30. A permission form signed by a parent is required to participate.

- All youth will be picked up by their parents at the church parking lot unless the Youth Committee member leading the event is notified in writing of other arrangements
- Youth who meet the group at the location must be accompanied by an adult into the building.
- Youth must wear proper shoes for cooking—close-toed shoes only.
- All youth will wear seatbelts in the cars and only sit where there is a seatbelt available.

*Do you know someone interested in Junior Youth? Have them contact Heather Ramsey-Mabrouk ([heather@onchurch.org](mailto:heather@onchurch.org)). All are welcome.*

**Calendar of Events**

<b>December 18</b>	6-8:00	Church Parlor (ONC)	Movie Night
<b>January 3</b>	4:30-7:30	Salem Mission	Cook & Serve with Sr. Youth
<b>January 17</b>	6:00-7:30	Youth Room	TBD
<b>Feb 5-7</b>	-----	Nightwatch Trip to NYC	----- Details to come

◆ ◆ YOUTH RANTS ◆ ◆

High School Hype

**Evites are now appearing on Facebook.** If you have a Facebook page, be on the lookout for the evite on Heather Ramsey-Mabrouk's Old North page. Be sure to friend request "Heather OldNorth" today! Traditional Evites, emails, and other communication will continue for those who are not on facebook.

**Congratulations!**

Thank you and congratulations to all the youth who helped with the Spaghetti Dinner and Talent Show. The food was great, the talent was awesome and the service was outstanding. We raised about \$1500! With our expenses taken out, it means a whopping **\$1300** will be put towards the Habitat Trip to NC in 2011. Way to go!!

**Salem Mission Cooking.** Over the past year and a half, we have had a blast getting to know each other better while serving those who have fallen on hard times. We have also had some interesting chats with the guests of Salem Mission and found out more about the plight of the homeless and under housed on the North Shore. These folks still need your help. Bring a friend and join the ol' veteran cooks and first time servers from ONC as we continue this monthly Senior High Youth Ministry tradition **ever first Sunday of the month.** Meet in the parking lot of Stacey Street at 4:30 and return by 7:30. A permission form signed by a parent is required to participate—pick up one that covers the whole year! *December 6<sup>th</sup> is a Senior Youth Only; January 3<sup>rd</sup> will be open to all youth, including college students who are home on break!*

**The RSVP is so important** because it helps the adults in charge figure out how many drivers we need, so please, please, **please** RSVP on the evite! However, we recognize that some folks discover they are able to attend at the last minute. We don't want you to miss out, so if this happens to you, please have your parent stay in case we need more transportation. **Any adults who are willing to help** should contact **Jan Foss (janicehf@msn.com or 781-631-6823).**

**Community Service Opportunity**

On **December 19<sup>th</sup>** there will be a special Church School hosted community service project. Following the Pageant rehearsal, the children will be making and stuffing Christmas Stocking for the less fortunate in the Marblehead area with an organization called Someone Else' Child. We will need folks to help set up the tables and supplies and then help the kids with the crafts (**approx 9:15-11:45**). Setup is 9:15-10:00 and the activity is planned from 10:00-11:30. If you are interested in helping the church help the community while earning up to **2.5-3 hours of community service**, please let Heather Ramsey-Mabrouk know or look for the evite.

If you are not receiving evites or you have feedback, suggestions or questions about the evites, please email Heather ([heather@onchurch.org](mailto:heather@onchurch.org)).

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL  
*Old North Festival Chorus*  
**CHRISTMAS CONCERTS**

Saturday, December 5, 8pm

Sunday, December 6, 7:30pm

Old North Church, 35 Washington Street, Marblehead

Program to include works by:

*Jan Dismas Zelenka, Michael Praetorius,  
James Woodman & Ariel Ramirez*

Old North Festival Chorus, Soloists & Orchestra  
Maria van Kalken, *Director*

Holly Cameron, *soprano*; Megan Roth, *mezzo-soprano*  
Kevin O'Sullivan Hayden, *tenor*; Marc DeMille, *baritone*

Special appearances by the Parrish Singers, *Rebecca Kenneally*, Director  
and the Old North Bell Choir, *Sandra Barrett*, Director

**Tickets: \$25 in advance or at the door**

Available in the Parish Hall after Sunday services starting in November, at the door on concert evenings, on line at: [www.oncmhd.org](http://www.oncmhd.org) or in advance at the following Marblehead business locations: Arnould Gallery, D.S. Designs, Crosby's Marketplace

Information: 781-631-4832  
[www.festivalchorus.com](http://www.festivalchorus.com) or E-mail: [festivalchorus@comcast.net](mailto:festivalchorus@comcast.net)

*Old North Church is accessible for the physically challenged.*

Each year, the Old North Church Festival Chorus presents two beautiful Christmas Concerts during the Christmas Walk, as a gift to the Marblehead community. Enchanting Marblehead and Old North Church offer the perfect backdrop at holiday time for the popular Festival Chorus Christmas concerts—appropriate for the entire family to enjoy! This season—our 29<sup>th</sup>—Festival Chorus concerts take place on Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6 in Old North’s beautiful sanctuary.

Our concerts will feature: *Magnificat in D* by Jan Dismas Zelenka; *Puer Natus in Bethlehem* by Michael Praetorius; *The Midwife’s Tale* by James Woodman; and *Navidad Nuestra* by Ariel Ramirez, all with full orchestral accompaniment. As always, musical delights presented by the Youth Choirs and Bell Choirs of Old North will top off the holiday celebration. Featured soloists include: *soprano Holly Cameron*; *mezzo-soprano Megan Roth*; *tenor Kevin O’Sullivan Hayden*; and *baritone Marc DeMille*. The Old North Festival Orchestra, soloists and one hundred-voice (100) Chorus will be led by **Maria van Kalken**, Choir Director & Organist at Old North Church. In addition to a selection of carols of the season, the public will be treated to a special appearance by The Parrish Singers and other young singers from the community, directed by **Rebecca Kenneally**, as well as an appearance by the Old North Bell Choir, directed by **Sandra Barrett**.

The Festival Chorus gathers Old North’s Senior Choir together with enthusiastic singers—amateur to professional—from many neighboring communities and churches in Marblehead. Each season, the Festival Chorus welcomes new voices while maintaining a devoted ensemble from previous years. Encouraged by a love for music and a reputation as one of the North Shore’s most spirited and talented volunteer choirs, the Festival Chorus & Orchestra has been lauded for its outstanding performances of major choral works each year.

The cost of promoting and presenting these exceptional concerts considerably exceeds the income from ticket sales alone, so, with this flyer, we should like to invite you, as well as your friends and families, to join us in becoming a *Festival Chorus Friend, Patron, Benefactor, Guarantor, or Festival Angel*. Without your gifts of financial support, and your attendance at our concerts, it would be a tremendous challenge to maintain the caliber and uniqueness of these cherished annual events; *please know how grateful we are for your consideration at any level*. Simply fill out the form below and return to: **Festival Chorus, OLD NORTH CHURCH, 8 Stacey Street, Marblehead, MA, 01945**.

Please mail your check (made out to *Old North Festival Chorus*) and ticket order form as soon as possible, but no later than December 1<sup>st</sup> so that we may process your ticket order; *thank you* for your support!

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I/We wish to support Old North’s Festival Chorus in the following ways:

<u>Donation</u>		<u>Amount</u>
Festival Angel *	\$ 500 or more	_____
Guarantor *	\$ 250 to \$499	_____
Benefactor *	\$ 100 to \$249	_____
Patron *	\$ 50 to \$99	_____
Friend *	\$ 10 to \$49	_____

Tickets: Saturday, December 5 # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 25 = \_\_\_\_\_

Tickets: Sunday, December 6 # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 25 = \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

(\* *please print your name or business as you wish it to appear in printed programs*)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

*over, please*

Old North Church  
8 Stacey Street  
Marblehead, MA 01945-3565

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**CHURCH OFFICERS**

Senior Minister, Dennis B. Calhoun  
Moderator, Tim Sheehy  
Clerk, Sally Sands  
Treasurer, C. Stow Walker  
Financial Secretary, Sandra Barrett  
Treasurer, Christian Service, Richard Thibedeau  
Historian, Donald Merrigan

**CHURCH STAFF**

Associate for Youth Education and Family Life, Heather Ramsey-Mabrouk  
Minister of Music, Maria van Kalken  
Office Manager, Lisa Nahatis  
Administrative Assistant, Carole Vale  
Church School Director, Melissa MacDonald  
Bell Choir Director, Sandra Barrett  
Youth Choir Director, Rebecca Kenneally  
Sunday Sexton, Hannah Sands  
Wedding Sexton, Marsha Christensen

**BOARD/COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Trustees, Marilyn Smith and Steve Haskell  
Diaconate, Michael Perez  
Nominating, MaryAnn Main and Ellen Nash  
Stewardship, Eliza Cushman  
Christian Service, Virginia Healy-Kenney  
Church School, Jean Sheehy and Deb Tyrrell  
Music, Susan Stone  
Membership, Lynda Hare  
Youth Fellowship, Janice Foss  
Fellowship & Funding, Gigi Breed  
Pastor-Parish Relations, Dave Cross  
Flower, Priscilla Burnaby  
Open and Affirming, Sue Benua  
Safe Church Advocate, Dave Hostetter

**Old North Church** Phone: 781-631-1244  
**8 Stacey Street** Fax: 781-631-7238  
**Marblehead, MA 01945** Email: [office@onchurch.org](mailto:office@onchurch.org)  
Website: [www.onchurch.org](http://www.onchurch.org)