

# Andover Congregational Church **Andover Libraries**

By Judy Evans

## Andover Congregational Church

"Come, ye thankful people, come..."

Folks gathered at the Andover Congregational Church on Thanksgiving Eve to sing praises to God and worship together. Even in these troubled times, we all have much for which to be grateful and the signs of God's love and fellowship with family and friends are among our most precious blessings.

Our annual Christmas Fair was well attended and we thank all who supported the church in any way.

Sherri Dow has organized a group who "tour," singing together and sharing God's love in music. We will visit the Peabody Nursing Home in Franklin on December 11 to sing Christmas carols. It's a joy to see some of the residents join us in singing! We have been invited to sing at the Sunday night worship service that evening at the Bristol Baptist Church. Please contact Sherri if you are interested in participating with us.

Our traditional Angel Tree has been set up from which people can take names of children and what they would

like for Christmas. Gifts will be bought and given to these children in the names of parents who are in prison.

The Sunday School will present their program on December 18 during morning worship. That evening we will meet at the church at 6 PM to go caroling around town. We invite you to join us in this special event. It's always so inspiring to sing to shut-ins and the elderly. This will be followed by fellowship and refreshments.

The annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be begin at 7 PM. You are invited to come for this time of singing of carols and hearing from God's word the story of Jesus' birth.

"Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!"

Come as you are and worship with us. We welcome everyone to all the services and wish you a Merry Christmas. May God bless you and yours at this time and throughout all the new year.

*Sunday morning worship, Sunday School, and childcare begin at 9:30 AM. For information on outreach programs for teens and adults please contact Pastor John at 735-5160.*

## Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

By Sally Bergquist

### Kearsarge Unit. Univers. Fellowship

On Saturday night, November 5, the Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship held their first annual auction at the New London Historical Society's Meeting House. The festivities began with a potluck dinner at 5 PM, followed by the auction at 7 PM.

The items auctioned ranged from one week's summer use of a condo in Vail Valley, Colorado; a singing Val-

entine to be performed by a barber-shop quartet; a ride on Pleasant Lake in a restored electric boat, *The Tortoise*; to homemade soups, pies, and breads.

The auction was an experiment for the congregation, which meets every Sunday at 11 AM in the Fowler Learning Center of Proctor Academy. It was a great success as well as being a lot of fun for all, and they are looking forward to doing it again next year.

## Pemi Choral Society Holiday Concert Series

The 120-plus voice Pemigewasset Choral Society has scheduled its 2005 holiday concert series in three communities around the Lakes Region for early December. This year's program includes a variety of choral music and two guest artists, Kenda Corcoran, oboe instructor at Plymouth State University, and Eddy Quinn, a traditional vocalist from Prince Edward Island.

The concerts begin with a 7:30 PM performance on Thursday, December 8 at Our Lady of The Lakes Church in Lakeport and continue at 7:30 PM on Friday, December 9 at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Franklin. The third and final performance will be at 3 PM on Sunday, December 11 in the Silver Center for the Arts in Plymouth. All concerts are open to the public with admission by donation.

Titled *Joy*, this December series features a variety of sacred, secular, classical, folk, jazz, and contemporary choral music, each piece reflecting a different celebratory aspect of the holiday season and other moments of great happiness.

The Pemigewasset Choral Society,

now in its 33rd year, is based at Plymouth State University with members from throughout central New Hampshire. New members are welcome. Call 535-2787 for additional information on the Holiday concerts or 535-2366 for information on the Pemigewasset Choral Society.

### ANDOVER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*On the hill, beside the road in East Andover*

All are ministers  
*John J. Wagner, Pastor*

#### Christmas Eve Service, 7 PM

Sunday morning worship & Sunday School at 9:30 AM

Childcare provided.  
Fellowship following the service.

*All are welcome!*

735-5160

By Ray Mitchell  
For the Beacon

December is a busy month for most people. You may not be looking for a good book for a quiet evening by the fire.

Still, a visit to the library may be just what you need to help you through this time of year. Before you get dragged along with the usual pre-Christmas merry-go-round, think about some options that might make your holiday more peaceful and enjoyable.

You may get an early start with *365 Ways to Prepare for Christmas*. If you would like to know more about the way you and your neighbors celebrate there is *Christmas and Its Customs*. These will get you to think about what you want to do and why it is important.

You will have plenty of encouragement to shop and spend for the holidays (and to use credit cards for that January hangover). Have you thought about making gifts or decorations? If you are looking for ideas, the Andover libraries

have books that will give you suggestions and directions. Some will not take much time. You might enlist the help of children or other family members.

Here is a list of books with resources for the already crafty and for the beginning crafter:

*Joy to the World: A Treasury of Christmas Crafts*

*1900 Christmas Crafts*

*Christmas Craft Sourcebook*

*Two Hour Christmas Crafts*

Two books that are directed specifically to children are *Rainy Days Christmas Activities and Projects* and *501 Activities for Kids*.

The Christmas story is in the Bible in Matthew 2 and Luke 2. Other Christmas stories you may enjoy are *The Gift of the Magi* by O. Henry and a story adaptation of Tchaikovsky's ballet *The Nutcracker*. For children there is *The Little Drummer Boy*, *The First Noel*, and *The Family Christmas Tree Book*.

May your holidays be peaceful and joyous!

## Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Reverend Emily Burr, Minister  
Stone Chapel of Proctor Academy, Andover  
11 AM Worship  
526-8213 • kuufnh.org

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