



Our first annual Thanksgiving Day dinner at Andover Bible Church went very well. An outstanding turkey dinner with all the fixings was enjoyed by all who attended. We fed 29 people (nine of whom were guests), and we delivered 18 meals. It was a worthwhile effort; an enjoyable time of food and fellowship.

Many, many thanks to all who contributed turkeys, money donations, cooked dishes, and their time. You all helped make this first venture a success!

Photo and caption: Pat Frost



Chrissy Gargulinski and three-month-old Kendra McGowan tend to one of the tables at the Andover Congregational Church's annual Christmas Fair. Staff photo: Bob Bussey

Andover Congregational Church

On Christmas Eve, the Andover Congregational Church is holding a food drive to collect canned goods and other non-perishable items for the New Hampshire Food Bank. The fundraiser is being held in conjunction with the church's annual Christmas Eve Service at 7 PM. The food drive will begin at the opening of doors at 6:30 PM and end with the service at 8 PM.

Reverend John Wagner, pastor of the Andover Congregational Church, hopes that the community will join together to make the food drive a success.

The event, he said, is "an opportunity to help out needy people in our community." He believes that Christmas is a fitting time of year to reach out to those in need, "considering the emphasis on love and giving that makes the Christmas season so special."

The evening will commemorate the holiday's spiritual underpinnings with the traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of carols, readings, and a message from the pastor. A collection area for dropping off food items will be located in the foyer of the church.

Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Reverend William E. Nelson, Minister
Stone Chapel of Proctor Academy, Andover

11 AM Worship
526-8213 • kuufnh.org



ANDOVER BIBLE CHURCH

Christmas Eve Service

December 24th
7 PM

Fellowship and light refreshments follow

Andover Bible Church
46 Main Street

HAPPY 90th
BIRTHDAY, MOM!

Love, Judy and Ron



December 20 at 6 PM

Christmas Caroling

By Judy Evans

Andover Congregational Church

Do you have memories of Christmas caroling when you were younger? Would you young people who are reading this like to have the opportunity to brighten peoples' lives at Christmas time?

My recollection of the earliest times I went caroling was when two hay trucks were filled with people of all ages – no matter what the weather was – and we went from door to door caroling. No, we didn't stay in the truck to sing; we got out at each house, and slowly walked together to each doorway.

It seemed like we visited any house that had lights on, not just the shut-ins or elderly. I'll never forget the smiles on wrinkled faces, and I remember feeling a sense of happiness when I saw a tired, old farmer put his arm around his wife's shoulder. It seemed like it was a very special time in their busy lives.

Before we sang each song, one of my older cousins with a deep, gentle voice would call out the page numbers of our seemingly very official little book of carols. "Page 23" was spoken in my ear by the quiet little voice of a child. We always ended – at each home – with *Silent Night*. Always *Silent Night*.

We were often invited into homes and treated to hot cocoa and home-

made goodies. After all, our friends and neighbors were expecting us. It was Christmas time.

We knew one lady would have popcorn balls; another, sugar cookies; and others would have their traditional sweets waiting for us. Oh yes, we continued to ride in the backs of those hay trucks, and when I was old enough I got to play the organ at the little chapel where we had a special service following the caroling, and more carols were sung as we were joined by many townspeople.

I remember so well the year that our daughter had been born on December 3rd. She sat in my lap as I played the organ, slowly, gently falling asleep.

You are invited by those of us at Andover Congregational Church to go caroling on Sunday, December 20. We will meet at the church parking lot at 6 PM.

No, we won't be riding in the backs of hay trucks, but there will be plenty of mini-vans and SUVs to transport us from house to house as we bring cheer to the shut-ins and elderly. We will be accompanied by guitars and perhaps a fiddle, also!

Do join us as we visit the homes of those who are expecting us, just as folks did long ago. After all, it is Christmas time.

ANDOVER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

On the hill, beside the road in East Andover

All members, ministers

John J. Wagner, Pastor • 735-5160

Christmas Sunday, December 20 - Service at 9:30 AM with special music. Childcare provided.

Christmas caroling Sunday evening, December 20 - Meet at the church at 6 PM.

Christmas Eve Candlelight service beginning at 7 PM.

Come as you are! All are welcome!