

## **Treasurer's Message for The Holidays**

I love that we all find joy in this season—through lights, laughter, music, family, and giving. It's a time when the best parts of our humanity come forward, and that's something certainly worth celebrating.

At the heart of it all, I personally believe in the sacred event that began it—the birth of Christ. I know not everyone shares that belief, but I also know that without it, the holiday we now call Christmas would not exist.

The values we cherish this time of year—hope, peace, generosity, love—they didn't arrive out of nowhere. They took root in a story that inspired people to live differently, to see others of all stripes as worthy of compassion, to forgive, and to give beyond reason. Whether or not we all see it the same way, I hope we can all remember that traditions survive when their meaning is remembered, not just repeated. And even if belief differs, reverence can remain.

Wishing you a season full of joy—and reflection on the deeper goodness that brought us here.

In the spirit of this Season please enjoy this gift of poem:

In candlelight and carols sweet,  
In quiet snow and busy street,  
We gather close, we give, we share—  
A season softened by love and care.

But deeper still, beneath the cheer,  
A story old still draws us near:  
Of starlit skies and shepherds' gaze,  
Of sacred birth in humble place.

I believe that child was more—  
A gift of grace we can't ignore.  
Though not all hold that tale as true,  
Its echoes still are felt by you.

For kindness, hope, and peace each year  
Were planted first in manger's sphere.  
And if we lose that root, that flame,  
The tree may stand—but not the same.

So celebrate with joy and mirth,  
But pause to ponder where came worth.  
For Christmas lives, not just because—

But why it came, and what it was.

—Wishing you love, light, and the quiet wisdom of the season,  
With love,

David Hansen, PM  
Treasurer

