

The Saltire



ST. ANDREW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

XX

Sept/Oct 2017

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The Saltire is a bi-monthly newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Through feature stories, photographs and updates on events past and future, *The Saltire* provides a window into the vibrant life of our parish family. Historically, a "saltire" is the X-shaped cross associated with St. Andrew. For us, as for him, it is a symbol of faith and life!

Summer of Connection

By Doug Mitchell, *Senior Warden*

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as Sr. Warden during this past year. We have an amazing parish with amazing people. I am humbled beyond belief to know you all as friends and fellow believers in Christ.

In reflection, our Summer of Connection was a wonderful, consistent presence during a summer of turmoil in our world and country. The excitement and participation in our parish far exceeded my expectations and provided us all with a calming, accepting place to worship and bond with each other.

We absolutely missed John and Andie and their family, but their absence demonstrated the bonds that we have and the potential in our fellowship. We owe John and his grant writing team a huge thank you. Their vision, skill, and expertise helped John receive the grant and laid the foundation for our summer planning. The grant provided the planning and financial support for John and Andie, but also expected parish participation and support. None of this success would have occurred without the grant writer's contribution.

Your Vestry spent several meetings and a retreat planning to implement that vision in a meaningful way. Mike Whitehurst, Kristan Burch and Amber Pickrell provided the organizational framework and recruited the additional volunteers. None of this would have happened without their extra efforts. Thanks to each of the individual event organizers. You created new inclusive events to strengthen our bonds and we thank each and every one of you.

See *Connection*, page 2

A Ministry in September: Blessing of Backpacks and Cell Phones & Prayers for a New School Year and Your Work

By Harper Bathel, Director of Children's and Youth Ministry

It is important to celebrate special times throughout the year because it connects us with God in new ways. One of these celebrations is *Blessing of Backpacks* which is a special time that we mark in our community each year during our Holy Eucharist, Rite II service as we begin a new school year. We receive a "blessed" tag that we are invited to carry on our backpacks for the year to remind our children and youth that they are grounded by faith. Adults, you are invited to bring your cellphones to mark this occasion for the important work you do out in the world.

See *New School Year*, page 2

Connection, continued from page 1

I have received many positive comments about the summer. The theme of the comments included, we had a busy summer, I met new people, and I got to know people that I didn't really know before. I personally can't wait to see what is next.

It took the entire staff and many Vestry members to continue ministry that John and Andie typically handle themselves. We had Vestry members writing notes to visitors and making certain that those visitors felt welcome. Our pastoral visitation didn't miss a beat thanks to the efforts of Marguerite Ally. She and Dennis Sipes made certain that our parish had a comforting presence for our parishioners in need. Harper Lewis Bathel demonstrated her leadership and strength with a very successful Vacation Bible School and Youth Mission trip. All of the staff added additional duties to their plates to provide the consistency and support that was needed. Stephen Leist and Richard Rigg continued the fine music we have come to expect and pushed us to new methods of worship (chanted psalm) We owe them all a huge thank you for ALL that they do for us.

John and Andie expressed MANY times before their departure how thankful and blessed they feel to have had this opportunity. This article was written prior to their return. I am confident that gratefulness is a theme that we will hear from them many times upon their return. They really provided 12 months of leadership and ministry crammed into the 9 months that they were here this year. The thoughtfulness, planning, coordination, and attention to detail placed this parish in a position to succeed. John and Andie, mission accomplished. You did think of everything before you left!!!!

I do not see this as the end of a grant or a summer, but only a beginning. Your Vestry will consider the success of this summer as a building block for future planning.

Lastly, St. Andrew's proved that an Episcopal Church doesn't just shut down for the summer!!!!!!

New School Year, continued from page 1

Join us, during the 10:15 a.m. service on Sunday, September 10 to be part this holy moment as we recognize this new school and work year. **There will be an activity for children ages 4 – grade 5 in the Auditorium during the first part of the service. Meet us in the Narthex before the service begins with your backpacks.

Faith at Home: Children & Youth: A Prayer for A New School Year

Dear Loving God, today is my first day at a new school, a happy, exciting, and anxious day. We pray that my teachers will be wise, generous, fair, and kind. I pray that new true friendships may be found for my classmates and for me. Especially I pray to keep myself safe and well. Open my heart and mind to a world of learning and may this be the first of thousands of days in which I know the depth of love and constancy of your care. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Adapted from the Resource: [Changes](#)

Adults: A Prayer for Your Work

Dear Generous God, it is September, work will be bringing new opportunities and challenges for all of us. May I assist in building a healthy, collegial community. On days that I am happy allow me to share my joy with others. When I am excited help me to celebrate with those around me. When I am anxious give me the wisdom to name that to someone that I trust. Be with all of those in leadership roles that they are wise, generous, fair, and kind. Open my heart and mind that I may know the depth of your love and grace in Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

For our St. Andrew's Children & Youth A NEW Sunday School Year begins Sunday, September 17

September is here and a NEW Sunday School year is in our midst beginning in September! Please join us for these great ministries for our children as we explore our faith and build our community.

Our children grades K-5th will explore their faith through learning about our Episcopal roots and exploring a different Bible story each week. These interactive lessons that are Bible focused will include opportunities for singing, prayer, crafts, outreach, cooking, and more. Our program will be offered from 9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in the Sunday School wing.

Nursery School is offered for ages 4 and under will hear the Gospel story for the day and share in an interactive activity and coloring sheet that relate to the Gospel. Our program will be offered from 9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in our Nursery.

Youth (grades 6 – 12): You are invited to participate in our Adult Forum in the Auditorium or volunteer to work with one of children's classes. To volunteer, please e-mail Harper Bathel.

Would you like to be part of this incredible ministry? We are still looking for teachers to complete our amazing group of volunteers. Please email Harper

Bathel at hbathel@standrewsnorfolk.org or call 757-622-5530 to find out more about this fantastic program!

Children's Calendar for Sundays in September and October:

September 10 at 9:15 a.m.; Welcome Back Breakfast and *Sunday School Registration along with Activities Fair & at the 10:15 a.m. service the Blessing of Backpacks - Bring your backpacks and meet in the Narthex

September 17 at 9:15 a.m.; First Day of Sunday School

September 24 at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School

October 1 at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School

October 8 - NO Sunday School (Columbus Day Weekend)

October 15 at 9:15 a.m.; A Special Outreach for "Thankful November" (Sunday School Wing)

October 22 at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School

October 29 at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School

*Please note, if you unable to come the day of registration, you may register your child by contacting Harper Bathel at hbathel@standrewsnorfolk.org.



Youth Corner: Open to grades 6th – 12th *Fellowship ... Faith ... Prayer ... Mission ...*

EYC Kick Off: Sunday, September 17, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Will we escape? Our youth and youth leaders will head to the Escape Room in Virginia Beach for some great community building as we begin the year. Join us for prayer, fun, and fellowship. Dinner is provided.

EYC – Sunday, October 1, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Come and meet at White Hall for a night of building community, prayer, discussion, games, and more. Bring your favorite snack food to share. Friends are welcome.

EYC goes to Howl-O-Scream at Busch Gardens - Sunday, October 15, 3:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Join us for this fun night exploring Busch Gardens. Bring money to buy dinner or a snack at the park. Drop off and pick up will be at the church.

AND... Mark your calendar for the Diocesan Youth Weekends at Chanco!

November 10-12 – **Happening #67** for grades 10-12

November 17-19 – **November Weekend** for grades 6-12

Contact Harper Bathel with questions (hbathel@standrewsnorfolk.org or 757-622-5530) about any of these events or for more information. I am looking forward to an amazing year of building community, mission, and exploring and growing in our faiths' together!

Summer Connection Photos



CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Men's Breakfast
Sept. 6, 7:30 a.m.

Kickoff Sunday, Sept. 10, with Parish Breakfast, Sunday School Registration, Activities Fair and the Blessing of Backpacks at the 10:15 service

Young Adult and Family Potluck,
Sept. 10, 5:00—6:30 p.m.

Adult Forum/Sunday School begins,
Sept. 17 at 9:15 a.m.

Sandwiches for the Catholic Worker Sandwich Ministry are due by Noon on Sept. 22.

Annual Women of St. Andrew's Book/Bargain/Bake Sale, Sept. 23 at 9:00 a.m. in White Hall/Auditorium

St. Andrew's AIDS Cook-in,
Sept. 24 at 8:00 a.m.

Annual Blessing of the Animals,
Oct. 1 at 2:00 p.m.

Confirmation with The Right Rev. James "Jay" Magness, Bishop Assisting, Diocese of Southern Virginia,
Oct 15

Annual Stewardship Breakfast,
Oct. 15 at 9:00 a.m.,
White Hall

Women of St. Andrew's Meeting,
Oct. 18 at 6:30 p.m., White Hall

Sandwiches for the Catholic Worker Sandwich Ministry are due by Noon on Oct. 27

Annual Flower Festival,
November 4-6

Welcome to our Newcomers!

Please welcome our newcomers and help them feel at home. It helps to remember this rule of thumb for coffee hour and other parish events: spend the first three minutes introducing yourself to someone you don't know!

Also, remember to please wear your nametags during coffee hour so that we can all get to know one another better and build community.

Ryan Blevins

Kenneth and Krista Payne

Vestry Updates

- At the July meeting, the Vestry discussed the Summer of Connection activities. All events in at or below budget. Resounding feedback that everyone is enjoying the events and most seem like they want them to continue after the sabbatical.
- Reviewed our Safe Church Policies. Harper Bathel reviewed the recommendations from the Dioceses. In person training good for 5 years, online training for 3 years.
- Choir Room/Classroom repairs have begun and nothing of note has been found to date. Hoping the project will be completed by the end of August.



Parish Prayers and Thanksgivings

Births: Christopher Patrick Bower, born on Sunday, June 18. Parents are Keith and Darby Bower.
Vivien Rita Boren, born on Wednesday, August 16. Parents are Caroline and Duane Boren and grandmother is Mary Lou Crifasi.

Deaths: Steve Beeghly brother of Dan Beeghly, June 9.
Charles L. Brewer, father of Stephen Brewer, July 4.
Frank Haselbauer, father of Ann Larkin, July 19.
Jane Thumm mother of Ginny Thumm Mayfield and Susan Paxton, July 20.
Arthur Cleveland Bowdoin, father of Vickie Bilisoly, July 27.
Henry "Hank" Allen Hargreaves father of Heather Barnum, July 27.
John A. Rigg brother of Richard Rigg, July 21.

PARISH NEWS AND NOTES

Breakfast Brigade



Breakfasts at St. Andrew's have always been fun and there's something new cooking in the kitchen ~ **"The Breakfast Brigade"**. With the newly formed "Breakfast Brigade" regular breakfasts for our congregation are being scheduled ~ in fact the first breakfast will be **Sunday, August 27th** as

we welcome back John, Andie, Anna, Tom and Will! RSVPs for these breakfasts are important ~ so look for the reservation sheet in White Hall starting this Sunday and be sure to sign up.

If you're interested in being part of the Breakfast Brigade please e-mail Kacky Bryant at kbryant5@cox.net or Becky Ruffin at wkruiffin@aol.com

The St. Andrew's Breakfast Brigade promises to stir up good fun, good food and good fellowship!

We're Celebrating our 10th Anniversary! Come Join the Fun!

The WSA is holding its 10th Annual Book Sale. Over the years, it has grown to include the Church Mouse, a Bake Sale, and this year, some Fall-related crafts. Come join us. There are a lot of jobs associated with getting this sale on the road. Come **help sort books**. Spend a couple of hours on Saturday helping to sort books. **Bake something**. Have a special cookie or cake recipe? Bake it and bring it in. **Help during the sale**. There are lots of places to help during the week prior to the sale and during the sale. **Bring in Books**. A list of what is acceptable is on the table outside of White Hall. And, last, but certainly not least, **Come Shop**. Come the day of the sale. We'll have books, of course, and all

sorts of paper items. We'll be cooking up a new batch of 6-Bean Chili plus there will be tasty ham biscuits to eat while you're there. The Church Mouse will have lots of new, deeply-discounted merchandise from our Church Mouse Gift Shop. Don't wait until Sunday, the opportunity to pick up a bargain may not last beyond Saturday. Sign up sheets are on the table outside of White Hall.



St. Andrew's Children's Choir

The Children's Choir is an important part of the music ministry of St. Andrew's for children in grades 3 to 6. Members learn important skills and grow spiritually through music, practicing weekly immediately after the 10:15 liturgy (approximately 11:30 to noon) in the auditorium. Coordinating with other ensembles in St. Andrew's Music Ministry, the Children's

Choir shares their musical offerings with the congregation at various times through the year.

Our first practice for the fall will be September 17. We have several exciting plans in the works for our young musicians as they learn and grow spiritually through music and benefit from all music has to offer, such as development of communication skills, social

skills, math skills, reading comprehension, work ethics, and more.

For more information please contact Richard Rigg, Associate Director of Music Ministry, at: rrigg@standrewsnorfolk.org

"Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." (Martin Luther)

Music Highlights for the 2017-2018 Season



Although the summer has been time for rest and reflection, it has also been a time for

planning the coming season for the music program of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. There are several things that will be happening this coming year that have me looking forward to the official start in September.

I am very pleased to announce that we will be presenting Dr. John Cummins in an organ recital on the evening of October 13. John has been a personal friend for many years, and for about the past 10 years, he has been the organist-choirmaster at St. Paul's in Winston-Salem NC, where John and Andie were married, and before that at Christ Church Cathedral in Lexington KY. He has been featured on convention programs of the Organ Historical Society as well as recorded on the Pro Organo label, most recently on the famed Schoenstein organ at First Plymouth Congregational Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. John is also a past Region IV chair of the Association of Anglican Musicians. John is a graduate of the University of Alabama and the Eastman School of Music as a student of Warren Hutton and David Craighead.

Choral Evensong for All Saints', which concludes our an-

nual Fall Festival, will continue with exciting music appropriate to the occasion, featuring works by Stanford, Philip Moore, and Gabriel Faure'. Christmas Eve music will include music by William Mathias, a dynamic modern British composer whose premature death from cancer 25 years ago we remember this year. Due to organ and building renovations at Christ & St. Luke's beginning early in 2018, we will be hosting the annual Hymn Festival for Ascension, which will be Thursday, May 10, 2018, and includes our companion choirs at Christ & St. Luke's and St. Paul's churches. Our guest conductor will be Walden Moore, organist-choirmaster at Trinity Church-on-the-Green in New Haven, Connecticut. As we move into 2018, we will begin to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death C. Hubert H. Parry and the 50th anniversary of the deaths of Healey Willan and Leo Sowerby. Willan and Sowerby left a substantial mark on Anglican church music in the mid-20th century as well as our 1940 Hymnal. Look for seasonal offerings from the "canonical" pieces among their prolific work.

To facilitate more participation in our children's choir, Richard Rigg has been collaborating with Harper Lewis Bathel to coordinate rehearsals and themes with weekly Sunday School. Look for future announcements from Rich-

ard and Harper with more details.

I have the honor to have been appointed Associate Editor of the Journal of the Association of Anglican Musicians, beginning this summer. At the conclusion of the current editor's term at the next annual conference in San Antonio in 2018, I will begin a 3-year term as The Journal's full editor, succeeding Mark Howe, organist-choirmaster of St. Paul's Cathedral in Burlington VT.

— Stephen G. Leist, Director of Music Ministry



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*A neighborhood church with
a heart for the world.*

LABEL HERE



St. Andrew's Mission Statement

St. Andrew's is a parish of worship, spiritual growth, acceptance and healing centered in the Eucharist. We reach beyond ourselves, striving to allow God to work through our hands as Christ's own. As a place of hope for all people, we celebrate with joy through grace our oneness in Christ.

St. Andrew's Officers and Vestry

Doug Mitchell, *Sr. Warden*
Page Lea, *Jr. Warden*
Molly Dey, *Register*
Larry Brett, *Treasurer*

Drew Anderson
Judy Blevins
David Branch
Eddie Brown
Kristan Burch
Susanne Council
Jon Hanbury
Jim Kruger
Amber Pickrell
Sheri Searing
Andy Stephenson
Mike Whitehurst

St. Andrew's Staff

The Rev. John Rohrs, *Rector*

The Rev. Andie W. Rohrs
Associate Rector for Parish Life

Dennis Sipes
Parish Administrator

Stephen Leist
Director of Music Ministry

Richard Rigg
Associate Director of Music Ministry

Harper Bathel
*Director of Children's and Youth
Ministry*

Ashlee Erestain
Nursery Coordinator

JonMichel Sipes, *Sexton*

