

# The Saltire



ST. ANDREW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

XX

## November & December 2018

*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!

## In This Issue

<i>Sunday School</i>	3
<i>Youth Events</i>	3
<i>Flower Festival</i>	4
<i>Calendar Highlights</i>	4
<i>Vestry Updates</i>	5
<i>Newcomers</i>	5
<i>Prayers and Thanks</i>	5
<i>News and Notes</i>	6-7

## Worship in New Ways this Christmas

By The Rev. Andie Wigodsky Rohrs

As I write this before Halloween, it is hard to contemplate our upcoming Christmas worship services. However, holiday decorations will be up any day now, and it will be the first Sunday of Advent before we know it. As we think ahead about this busy time of year, we want make sure you are informed about worship opportunities throughout these holy seasons. Some of our services will remain the same. As always, our Advent Lessons and Carols service will be on the Third Sunday of Advent (December 16). On Christmas Eve, our traditional pageant will be at 4:00 p.m., and our Festive Christmas Eve Celebration of the Holy Eucharist will be at 10:30 p.m., preceded by choral music beginning at 10:00 p.m.

For the fourth year in a row, we will have a Blue Christmas service on December 16 at 5:00 p.m. The name suggests that this service is for people who might be struggling at the holidays, and that is true. Some of the prayers acknowledge that this season is particularly difficult for those who are grieving or going through other hard times. At the same time, this liturgy is appropriate for all of us. It is designed to be more contemplative, an opportunity for respite in the midst of the noise – both literal and figurative – that surrounds this season. The service feels more intimate, as the congregation sits in the choir stalls with candle

See *Worship*, Page 2

## Staff Changes Coming to St. Andrew's

By The Rev. John Rohrs

I want to share some news about several staff changes coming to St. Andrew's. Beginning in January next year, Dennis Sipes, our faithful and beloved Parish Administrator, will pare back his schedule a bit so that he is working 25-30 hours per week rather than full-time. This plan has been a while in coming and is happening at Dennis' request, so that he can devote more time to helping with his grandchildren before and after their school day. Blessedly, Dennis will remain in his usual role as Parish Administrator, maintaining the bulk of his duties and

See *Staff Changes*, Page 2

## ***Worship, continued from page 1***

light. We sing a few quieter Christmas hymns, and beautiful music is offered by the Caritas Consort, the a cappella group led by Stephanie Brown. Regardless of whether you are feeling “blue” this Christmas, please consider trying this service. I think you will find it to be a moving and much-needed reprieve from the craziness of the holiday season.

Several weeks later, there will be another opportunity for a new kind of worship service. As you may recall, we are experimenting with different kinds of liturgies in months that have a fifth Sunday. December falls into that category this year, and on December 30, our service at 10:15 a.m. will be one of Christmas Lessons and Carols. It will be a wonderful opportunity to fully celebrate the season and to sing our beloved Christmas carols together.

As the holiday season approaches, please mark your calendars for these worship opportunities – both old and new!

---

## ***Staff Changes, continued from page 1***

continuing as the friendly face at the front desk and voice on the phone. One tangible change will be a slight reduction in our posted office hours, which will likely shift to 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. three or four days a week and 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on the other day(s). We are still finalizing this plan, and we will be sure to give you advance and regular notice about this change when it happens.

The other related change is that Dennis will hand over communications-related duties to facilitate the drop in his hours. To fill this gap, we are looking to hire a part-time Communications Director to manage our parish communications - covering such things as maintaining our website and social media presence, publishing our newsletter, formatting our bulletins, and designing brochures and posters. The job will allow for a good deal of flexibility and minimal hours on site, while also giving us the benefit of someone who can focus exclusively on the ways in which we communicate with one another and share the story of our ministry with the greater community. It is an exciting opportunity, one that we hope is budget neutral, assuming we are able to maintain or continue to grow our levels of stewardship support.

Finally, we have one additional exciting announcement. Some of you have met The Rev. Dr. Connie Jones, who has been attending worship and programs here during the last few months. This summer, Connie retired after 12 years as the Associate Rector at Grace Episcopal Church in Yorktown. She had her start in Norfolk (she was ordained out of Christ and St. Luke's in 2003 and served there for three years), and she has continued to live here throughout her ministry. She previously taught American History in the Virginia Community College System for 30 years. Her late husband, Bill, taught Political Science at Virginia Wesleyan before dying of brain cancer in 2007. They have two children and four grandchildren.

During retirement, Connie has decided to hang her hat at St. Andrew's and join us as a Priest Associate, which is a common title given to retired clergy who affiliate as part of the clergy team in a congregation. We are delighted to welcome Connie, and we look forward to sharing in ministry with her. You may see her join us at the altar or as a preacher from time to time, and she also may find a role as an occasional teacher and small group leader, given her gifts and passion for adult formation and pastoral care. Connie will introduce herself further in the January/February edition of the *Saltire* newsletter; in the meantime, please help us welcome her to St. Andrew's! We are so fortunate to have a tremendous staff and leadership team at St. Andrew's. Thanks to all of you for your support, and for sharing in ministry with us!

## Children's Ministry (grades K – 5<sup>th</sup>)

**A great Sunday School year is underway!**

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

Our Sunday School is off to a wonderful start as we explore learn a new Bible story and learn Episcopal terms each week! Our focus this Fall has been on Old Testament stories. We have explored the books of Exodus, Joshua, and 1 Kings so far. Our children on Stewardship Sunday also packed 80 snack bags which will be shared with our Laundry Love ministry.

**Would you like to be part of this incredible ministry?** We are still looking for teachers to complete our amazing group of volunteers for this fantastic program. To sign up visit the bulletin board outside of White Hall or contact Harper Bathel at [hbathel@standrewsnorfolk.org](mailto:hbathel@standrewsnorfolk.org) or 757-622-5530.

A special thank you to Amber Pickrell, Charlie Hirsch, Emily Goodman-Scott, Marguerite Alley, Melis-

sa Reese, and Savannah Dunlap who have taught our ages 4 – 6<sup>th</sup> grade offerings!

**Children's Calendar for Sundays in November and December:**

**November 4** NO Sunday School (Flower Festival Weekend)

**November 11** at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School

**November 18** at 9:15 a.m.; Cooking offering Sunday School in White Hall **November 25** NO Sunday School (Thanksgiving Weekend) **December 2** at 9:15 a.m. Advent Wreath Making and Breakfast in White Hall; All ages invited!

**December 9** at 9:15 a.m.; Advent Lesson & Pageant Rehearsal at 9:15 a.m.

**December 16** NO Sunday School – Pageant Rehearsal after the 10:15 a.m. service

**December 23** NO Sunday School, Pageant Dress Rehearsal after the 10:15 a.m. service

### Youth Corner

*Fellowship ... Faith ... Prayer ... Mission ...*

Open to grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>



**EYC: Sunday, November 4, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**Program: Saints All Around Us and Mission Project for GAM**

Our youth and youth leaders will meet in room 207 for a night of prayer, discussion, fellowship, a mission project for GAM, and fun. Teens, bring a snack or favorite drink to share.

**EYC goes to November Weekend at Chanco – November 16 – 18**

A diocesan faith retreat weekend for teens grades 6 – 12 is being offered at Chanco. The cost is \$135. Scholarships are available. To register, for more details, or for a scholarship reach out to Harper Bathel.

**EYC Christmas Party and Mission Project: Sunday, December 2, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Join us for this fun night of prayer, fellowship, Christmas fun, and more. Dinner will be provided.

**Mission of the Holy Spirit Christmas Party: Sunday, December 9, 3:00 – 6:30 p.m.**

All youth are invited to come and create a night to remember for the members of Mission of the Holy Spirit as we gather for a Christmas celebration in White Hall. Join us as we create Christmas cheer, prepare and serve a home-cooked meal, have a visit from Santa, and share a gift with their children. Earn service hours!

**AND... Register for these great Diocesan Youth Weekends at Chanco!**

November 9-11 – **Happening #69** for grades 10-12

Contact Harper Bathel with questions and to R.S.V.P. for an event - [hbathel@standrewsnorfolk.org](mailto:hbathel@standrewsnorfolk.org) or 757-622-5530. Each month, we are building a deeper community, sharing in mission projects, exploring and growing in our faiths, and of course, always having fun!

## All Saints Hymn Sing and Oyster Roast

Faith • Family • Fellowship • Festive • Friendship

### All Saints Hymn Sing and Oyster Roast Saturday, November 3, 2018 4:30-7:00 p.m.

- ◆ Our festivities will begin with an old-fashioned Hymn Sing featuring the Children's Choir and the Gospel Lights.
- ◆ We'll have a festive oyster roast on the front grounds of the Church.
- ◆ Plenty food for non-oyster eaters!
- ◆ Local beer, wine, and hot apple cider
- ◆ Silent auction
- ◆ Children are free!
  - Ages 3 & under – childcare and dinner
  - Ages 4-12 – Activities, movie, and pizza
- ◆ Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased in the church office or at Coffee Hour.

### Sunday, November 4 All Saints Sunday

- ◆ 8:00 a.m., Celebration of the Feast of All Saints
- ◆ 10:15 a.m., Festive Celebration of the Feast of All Saints
- ◆ 5:00 p.m. Choral Evensong *Followed by a Reception in White Hall.*

## Calendar Highlights

Men's Monthly Breakfast, White Hall,  
Nov. 7, 7:30 a.m.

HIV/AIDS Cook-in White Hall,  
Nov. 11, 8:00 a.m.

No 8:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, Nov. 18 because of the road race scheduled in Ghent/West Ghent. Sunday School and 10:15 a.m. as normal.

FORKids Annual Angel Tree  
Collection begin, Nov. 26

Advent Wreath Making with Parish  
Breakfast, White Hall,  
Dec. 2, 9:15 a.m.

St. Nicholas Day Children's Activities,  
White Hall, Dec. 9,  
following the 10:15 a.m. service

Advent Lessons and Carols Service,  
Dec. 16 at 10:15 a.m.

Blue Christmas Service,  
Dec. 16 at 5:00 p.m.

This service is intended to be more meditative, featuring periods of silence, and the Caritas Quartet will sing.

Christmas Pageant,  
Dec. 24, 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Late Night Mass,  
Dec. 24, 10:30 p.m. (preceded at 10:00 p.m. with choral music)

## 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 wear your nametags during coffee hour so that we can all get to know one another better.

Brent Bemlien

Christine Herbert

The Rev. Dr. Connie Jones

## Vestry Updates

- ◆ At the September meeting of the Vestry, we welcomed incoming Vestry members and signed up for committee representation. We also elected Eddie Brown as the Senior Warden and Drew Anderson as the Junior Warden. Penny Lewis agreed to serve as the Register. We are fortunate to once again have such a great team at the helm!
- ◆ At the September and October meetings, the Vestry discussed the planned reduction in hours of Dennis Sipes, and the corresponding effort to hire a part-time Communications Director. That job search process is underway. We are so fortunate that in his 20th year at St. Andrew's, Dennis will continue to function in his role as Parish Administrator, albeit with slightly fewer hours each week. We look forward to bringing someone on board to focus on our communications, which should benefit us all.
- ◆ The Vestry received updates on the plans for the All Saints Hymn Sing and Oyster Roast, as well as plans for landscaping changes pending after All Saints weekend. The guild room will also receive renovations and updates in November.

## Adult Offerings

The Men's Fellowship Breakfast will meet on Wednesday, Nov. 7 and Wednesday Dec. 5 from 7:30-8:30 a.m. They will welcome City Councilwoman Courtney Doyle as the speaker in November and Dr. Ramon Virasoro from Physicians for Peace as the speaker in December.

Women of the Way, the spirituality book group, will meet on Wednesday, Nov. 14 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the home Joyce Swindell (Harbor's Edge).

## Parish Prayers and Thanksgivings

Baptisms: Emmalin Marina Funes and Lucas Alan Moody on Sunday, October 7.  
Evelyn Monroe Rogis on Sunday, October 21.

Births: Mae Lawrence Pappas, the daughter of Nancy and Alex Pappas and the granddaughter of Kacky and Larry Bryant, born on October 21.

Deaths: Debbie Collier, sister of Jose Neilson, died October 9 in Rhode Island.

Marriages: Leslie Caughell and Michael Hipps on Saturday, October 13

## PARISH NEWS AND NOTES

### Annual Angel Tree Will Benefit FORKids



In the coming month, we once again will collect new, unwrapped toys under an Angel Tree. See the list at the information table in White Hall or under the Christmas tree on top of the piano. The gifts will go to children affiliated with FORKids, a local service organization that works with homeless and at-risk children and their families.

Please place your gifts either in White Hall under the Christmas Tree on the piano or look for the little red wagon in the Narthex of the church beginning Monday, Nov. 26. Each Sunday the collected presents we be brought in front of the pulpit as a symbol of offering during the 10:15 service.

***Please note that all presents and food need to be in by December 10.***

### Mission of the Holy Spirit Annual Christmas Party Sunday, December 9

Have you ever thought ... *I sure wish there was some activity I could participate in that would help my children understand the true meaning of Christmas''? Well, friends, we have the perfect activity right here at St. Andrew's! It will warm your heart and offer your children a lasting reminder of the true heart of of the holiday!* This year, St. Andrew's will again host the family Christmas dinner and party for the families at the Mission of the Holy Spirit on the afternoon of December 9. The children and families there look forward to this event each year. While many children might

consider gift giving to be the highlight of Christmas, for most of the children and families at MOHS it is the family meal at the table. Their afternoon begins with carol singing in the church. They then have Eucharist celebrated by our own Andie Rohrs. After the worship service they come to White Hall for a wonderful traditional Christmas feast.

**Volunteers are needed to:**  
**(3pm)** set up and decorate White Hall with the EYC,

(6pm)take down and clean up after the event, (2pm)help prepare food, (4:30)help serve food, (5pm)sit at the dinner table with small children so their parents can relax and enjoy their meal, (5pm)offer children's activities during and after the meal, (2pm)childcare during the worship service, join the caroling before the worship service. **Donations are welcome** . Please contact Deacon Marguerite (margueritesr@gmail.com) if you have any questions, suggestions or you would like to help!

### College Care Packages

The Women of St . Andrew's send care packages twice a year (at exam time) to our undergraduate college students. Contributions of cash (for postage) and goodies are greatly appreciated. Individually wrapped baked goods, nabs, granola bars, nuts, candy, hot

cocoa mix, cookies, microwave popcorn, gum and Pop Tarts are all popular.) Please put your contributions of goodies in the church kitchen no later than Monday morning, November 26. **PARENTS: Please call or email the church office with**

**your student's mailing address, or call or email Ann Dodson, 635-0488 or ann.dodson@cox.net!** If the address hasn't changed, let us know that as well. **We don't want to leave anyone out!**

## Adult Forum (Nov/Dec)

**November 4:** No Adult Forum (All Saints Sunday/Fall Festival)

**I was sick and you cared for me...**

**November 11:** Carolyn Weems, the founder of Caitlyn’s Halo (a local organization that provides education and resources related to opioid addiction) will join us to talk about the opioid epidemic and how congregations and communities can help reduce stigma and increase support for people and families impacted by addiction.

**I was hungry and you gave me food...**

**November 18:** Tom Weiglein, the Chief Strategy Officer for the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia, will share the new strategies and vision of the Foodbank as it seeks to expand its partnerships and innovation in addressing hunger and poverty in Hampton Roads.

**November 25:** No Adult Forum (Thanksgiving weekend)

**December 2:** No Adult Forum

(Advent Breakfast and Wreath-making for all ages in White Hall)

**Advent Reflections: Finding the Light of Christ in Ourselves and Each Other**

**December 9 and 16** On these two Advent Sundays, The Rev. Andie Wigodsky Rohrs will lead a series of reflections on how to seek the light of Christ in ourselves and in each other during this holy season.

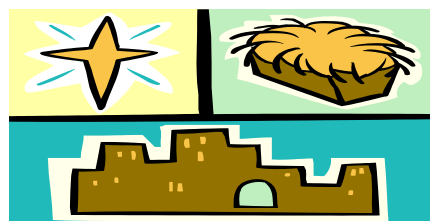
## Christmas Flowers/Greenery Orders are due by Dec 14.

To donate flowers or greenery in memory or in honor of loved ones, please make your check payable to St. Andrew’s Church for \$10.00 per name.

Flowers/Greenery given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory or in honor:

Given by:



**It’s time for our annual Christmas Pageant Monday, December 24, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Calling children and youth (ages 3 – 18)**  
**Roles:** Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, Gabriel, Inn-keeper, King Herod, Wise Men, Big Angels, Scribes, Shepherds, Little Angels, and Youth Choir

**Rehearsal dates and date for issuing costumes** to be publish via Weekly Happenings and Sunday Bulletins at a later date.

**QUESTIONS:**

Contact Charlotte Zito at [czito@norfolkacademy.org](mailto:czito@norfolkacademy.org)



# ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Non-profit Org  
US Postage Paid  
Norfolk, VA  
Permit No. 1635*

1004 Graydon Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23507  
*Mail:* 1009 W. Princess Anne, Norfolk, VA 23507  
*Phone:* (757) 622-5530 | *Fax:* (757) 622-0812  
*Email:* [dsipesstandrewsnorfolk.org](mailto:dsipesstandrewsnorfolk.org)  
*Web:* [www.standrewsnorfolk.org](http://www.standrewsnorfolk.org)

Follow us on *Facebook* (@standrewsnorfolk) or  
*Instagram* (standrewsnorfolkeyc) Include #standrewsnorfolk  
when sharing photos or stories  
**Office Hours:** Monday – Thursday 8:30 – 4:30 and Friday  
8:00 – 2:00

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

**LABEL HERE**



## **St. Andrew's Mission Statement**

***St. Andrew's is a vibrant, in-  
clusive parish, formed in the  
fellowship of Christ.***

***We strive to be a place of  
hope for all people, to reach  
beyond ourselves,  
and to manifest God's love in  
the world.***

## **St. Andrew's Officers and Vestry**

Eddie Brown, *Sr. Warden*  
Drew Anderson, *Jr. Warden*  
Penny Lewis, *Register*  
Larry Brett, *Treasurer*

Jeff Barnum  
David Branch  
Kay Dahl  
Bill Davis  
Jon Hanbury  
Pat Garris  
Nancy King  
Jim Kruger  
Jay Lasley  
George Pegram  
Derris Raper  
Deane Sobol

## **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*



