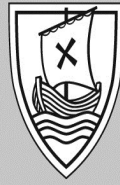


The Saltire



ST. ANDREW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

XX

Sept/Oct 2018

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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!

Parish Life.... Something for Everyone

By The Rev. Andie Wigodsky Rohrs

The temperature outside may still feel like summer, but at church, we are preparing for the fall and the program year ahead! As we plan, we try to be mindful of our identity as a congregation. Saint Andrew's is a vibrant and healthy church. Some members have been here for decades, while others are brand new. And our community is comprised of people at all ages and stages of life.

Because of this beautiful diversity, we are always looking for ways to help our congregants feel more connected to God, to this church, and to one another. We do this on a number of levels. Our greeters and ushers insure that everyone feels welcome the moment they walk into our sanctuary. Week after week, you are reminded to wear your nametags at coffee hour. And periodic newcomer events and inquirers' classes are held to help people become acclimated to St. Andrew's and the Episcopal Church.

Throughout the year, there also are numerous intergenerational parish life activities that enable us to gather as a community. Parish breakfasts, the Blessing of the Animals, the Flower Festival party, the chili supper and gift exchange, the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Rise Against Hunger, our parish picnic.... all of these are opportunities for us to not only have fun but to deepen our relationships with one another.

At the same time, in a parish of our size and diversity, it is important to provide opportunities for smaller groups, communities within our community. These allow for members to gather in more intimate settings, often with others who are at similar stages in life. Some of these groups are listed below, and if you are interested in learning more about them, please contact me.

See *Parish Life*, page 2

Blessing of Backpacks for a New School Year & A Prayer for Adults in their work

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

Join us, at our 10:15 a.m. service on Sunday, September 9 to be part this holy moment as we recognize youth in their new school year and adults in the work they do. ***Kids, don't forget your backpacks.***

Parish Life, continued from page 1

Our communal life as brothers and sisters in the body of Christ, lived out in our neighborhood church, is at the heart of all that we do. Our hope is that our varied parish life offerings allow opportunity for all of our parishioners to be involved in a way that helps us to deepen our faith and connections with one another. We look forward to a wonderful program year together.

Here are some of our parish life offerings for the year ahead.

The Breakfast Brigade – Our regular 8:00 and 10:15 a.m. congregations do not often have a chance to mingle. This wonderful group of volunteers provides parish breakfasts for special occasions and events. They are always looking for volunteers to make a casserole or simply pick up some muffins or juice.

Women of the Way – This women’s spirituality group meets every other month in members’ homes to discuss a book.

Weekly prayer list – Jesus said, “Where two or three are gathered in my name, I will be among them” (Matthew 18:20). Each Monday morning, I send a prayer over email so that our community is virtually gathered as we begin our week. This list is mainly geared toward women, but all are welcome to be added.

2 or 3 Fellowship – Based on the verse above, this young women’s group (20-40ish) gathers monthly for conversation and an informal book discussion.

Men’s Fellowship Breakfast – All men of St. Andrew’s are invited for these monthly meetings. Part of the time is simply conversation, and the half consists of hearing from a speaker.

Transitions in Life Group – This group focuses on a variety of topics including spiritual issues around aging, retirement, and end of life care for our loved ones and ourselves.

Pastoral Care Meal Ministry – Every few months, this group stocks our church freezer with meals to be delivered to parishioners going through difficult or joyful transitions.

2018 Flower Festival Update - Fresh Changes and Valued Traditions

St. Andrew’s Flower Festival Weekend has been a tradition of this congregation for over two decades. The weekend has taken various forms, particularly in recent years, but it has always been an opportunity for us to gather in fellowship, to welcome those from the larger community, and to honor the Feast of All Saints through beautiful worship enhanced by spectacular flowers and music offered to the glory of God.

Plans are underway for our 2018 Flower Festival (Nov. 3-4), and we want to update you on what to expect this year. Our weekend will be condensed, hopefully allowing for more people to participate and making it less taxing for our volunteers. The bazaar portion of Festival has been combined with the Books, Bargain and Bake Sale being sponsored by the Women of St. Andrew’s on the preceding weekend, Oct. 27-28. (Read about that elsewhere!).

In lieu of our community party traditionally held on Friday night, we are having a St. Andrew’s All Saints Sing-Along and Oyster Roast on Saturday, Nov. 3. The event will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary which, as always, will be beautifully adorned with festive flowers. There will be a brief service of readings and hymns. From there, we will proceed outside for a festive oyster roast with music, food (for non-oyster eaters as well) and drink, a silent auction, and time for us to enjoy one another. As has been the case for the last four years, the nursery will be open and there will be activities and food for children.

Our Sunday festivities will remain the same: a festive All Saints service at 10:15 a.m. and a Choral Evensong followed by a reception at 5:00 p.m. Stay tuned for more details and ways that you can be involved!

All welcome for our St. Andrew's Children & Youth Programs

A new Sunday School year begins Sunday, September 16

September is here and a NEW Sunday School year is beginning! Please join us as our children's ministries kick off as we grow in our faith and build 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 Bible story. 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 our nursery or children's classes. To volunteer, please e-mail Harper Bathel.

Would you like to give your time to this incredible ministry? We are looking for teachers to complete our amazing group of volunteers. Please contact Harper Bathel at hbathel@standrewsnorfolk.org or 622-5530 to find out more about this fantastic program!

Children's Calendar for Sundays in September and October:

September 9 at 9:15 a.m.; Welcome Back Breakfast and Activities Fair (stop by our Children's and Youth Booth)

& A Children's Activity at the 10:15 a.m. service the Blessing of Backpacks - Bring your backpacks and meet in the Narthex

September 16 at 9:15 a.m.; First Day of Sunday School

September 23 at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School

September 30 at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School

October 7 at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School

October 14 - *NO Sunday School* (Columbus Day Weekend)

October 21 at 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School

October 28 at 9:15 a.m.; A Special Outreach for "Thankful November" (Sunday School Wing)

*Please note, if you unable to come the day of ministry fair, contact Harper Bathel at hbathel@standrewsnorfolk.org concerning any children's offering questions.



Youth Corner: All 6th - 12th graders welcome!

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

A special welcome to our new 6th graders! We are thrilled to have you as part of our community.

EYC plays Putt Putt! Sunday, September 9, 4:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Join us for a fun evening of miniature golf and dinner. Our youth and youth leaders will have the opportunity to build community as we kick off this new year. We will enjoy a meal, fellowship, prayer, and have a lot of fun. Cost is \$10.

EYC Mission Project and Fellowship – Sunday, September 23, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in White Hall Come and gather for a night of building community, prayer, discussion, and games. Dinner will be provided.

EYC Fall Fun Fest - Sunday, October 7, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in White Hall

Join us for a night full of Fall Fest Fun as we play games, watch a fall movie outside, enjoy our favorite fall food, and more. Bring your favorite Fall snack to share.

EYC enjoys lunch and a hike! Sunday, October 21, 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Join us for a Mexican lunch and a hike at the Chesapeake Arboretum. Drop off and pick up will be at St. Andrew's.

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

- November 9-11 – **Happening #69** for grades 10-12
- November 16-18 – **November Weekend** for grades 6-12

Friends are always welcome to any of our programs! Questions or to R.S.V.P. for an offering contact Harper Bathel at hbathel@standrewsnorfolk.org or 757-622-5530. I look forward to an amazing year as we build community, share in mission projects, explore and grow in our faiths, and of course, have a lot of fun!

VBS 2018 Highlights



Recap of VBS:

Our theme: Peace Lab: Discover God's Way of Peace

Our verse: "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God." - Matthew 5:9

Over 50 children, youth, and adults gathered for a four day VBS that focused on peace the week of July 16. We learned through music, skits, scripture, prayer, crafts, and science offerings.

We created a peace garden made of painted rocks. It is located outside of White Hall for our parishioners and neighbors to visit anytime to share a prayer and to focus their thoughts on peace.

We made friendship soup. Each child was invited to give the soup to two neighbors that we wished to get to know better.

We created cards and fleece blankets that we will share with the YWCA to share with to people who need them.

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Men's Breakfast
Sept. 5, 7:30 a.m.

Kickoff Sunday, Sept. 9, with Parish Breakfast, Sunday School Registration, Activities Fair and the Blessing of Backpacks at the 10:15 service

2 or 3 Fellowship
Sept. 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Women of the Way
Sept. 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Adult Forum/Sunday School begins,
Sept. 16 at 9:15 a.m.

Sandwiches for the Catholic Worker Sandwich Ministry are due by Noon on Sept. 21.

St. Andrew's AIDS Cook-in,
Sept. 23 at 8:00 a.m.

Men's Breakfast
Oct. 3, 7:30 a.m.

Women of St. Andrew's Meeting,
Oct. 3 at 6:30 p.m., White Hall

Annual Blessing of the Animals,
Oct. 7 at 2:00 p.m.

2 or 3 Fellowship
Oct. 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Annual Stewardship Breakfast,
Oct. 14 at 9:00 a.m.,
White Hall

Annual Women of St. Andrew's Book/Bargain/Bake Sale, Oct. 27 and 28 at 9:00 a.m. in White Hall/Auditorium

Sandwiches for the Catholic Worker Sandwich Ministry are due by Noon on Oct. 26

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 you nametags during coffee hour so that we can all get to know one another better and build community.

Dr. Allan and Suzy Gunn and Children Graham and Audrey
1056 Heatherwood Dr.
VB, VA 23455

Jessica and David Livesey and children Lorelei and Matthew
3824 Nansemond Circle,
Norfolk VA 23513

Brigitte and Jason Rauch and son Dillon
107 Ashford Drive,
Suffolk, VA 23434

Vestry Updates



- At its July and August meetings, the Vestry heard updates on repair projects to the parish roof, on proposed landscaping projects for the front and side of the church, and on the move-in of the rectory tenants.
- At a separate August meeting, the Vestry met with The Rev. Canon Charles Robinson, the Canon for Transition on the diocesan staff. He was with us not to discuss any transition matters but rather to facilitate an annual mutual ministry review, which evaluates the shared ministry of the rector and Vestry. It takes the place of a performance review for the rector and couches it in terms of how we are doing in building relationships of trust, effective communication, and focused mission, so that we are leading the parish together in healthy ways. The Rector has similar conversations with our staff members on an annual basis.
- This August gathering was the last meeting for Molly Dey and Page Lea as our wardens, so we gave thanks for their wonderful leadership this past year. Page even served as Junior Warden two years running! We also thanked the outgoing Vestry members who had completed their three year terms: Judy Blevins, Susanne Council, Jim Kruger, Page Lea, and Andy Stephenson. Our upcoming Vestry meeting in September will be the first for the newly elected members, and is also when we elect new wardens for the year ahead.

Parish Prayers and Thanksgivings

Births: Elizabeth Ferebee Kitchin. Born Saturday, August 4.
Jemma Arabell Clark, the daughter of Jennifer and Jake Clark and the granddaughter of Terri and John Warren, was born on August 15

Deaths: Frances Martin Lindsay, mother of Bobby King who passed away Sunday, August 5.

PARISH NEWS AND NOTES

THE BOOK, BAKE, AND HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE IS COMING!

The WSA is merging its 11th Annual Book Sale with its bazaar. Over the years, the book sale grew to include the Church Mouse, a Bake Sale, and last year, we added some Fall-related crafts. This year we are very excited to merge this event with the bazaar activities of the past so that we will have one major event that will be held on Saturday and Sunday. That means no double-duty volunteering! It also means that if you cannot make the sale on Saturday, it will be here for you on Sunday. Come join us make this a hugely successful event. Remember that all profits from the sale will go to supporting the grants of the WSA, many of which are aimed at youth and other outreach programs. There are many jobs associated with getting this sale on the road: help sort books; help make our famous

cheese biscuits; bake a special cookie or cake recipe; donate books or a craft or gently used Christmas items or accessories. There are so many ways you can help during the weeks prior to the sale and during the sale and even after the sale. You may find guidance in donating items on the table outside of White Hall and on the web site. Want to help in other ways? Sign up sheets will be on the table outside of White Hall. And, last, but certainly not least, come shop. We'll have books, of course, and all sorts items for gifts. We'll be cooking up batches of Vegetarian Chili and Vegetable Beef soup plus there will be tasty ham biscuits and more to eat while you're there. There will be new merchandise plus sale items from our Church Mouse Gift Shop. We will have vendors and raffles and a door prize - well it is an event you don't want to miss. Hope to see you there.

...THE WORDS OF OUR MOUTHS AND THE MEDITATIONS OF OUR HEARTS...

A St. Andrew's Book of Prayer

Over the past several years, the church has published books of meditation which were sponsored and written by Education for Ministry students and graduates as well as members from other ministries and the church staff. Now, under the sponsorship of Adult Formation, the church is coordinating a book of prayer and we are asking for the congregation to participate.

There is no disagreement that prayer should be part of our daily faith practice. But for some of us, the questions about prayer are many. How should I pray; what should I pray; when should I pray are the simplest of the questions. The vision for this work is to share with each other our thoughts on prayer, the different ways we can pray, and prayers

that have been especially meaningful for us.

How can you help? For those who like to write, **write a meditation.** The meditation may address your thoughts on prayer, an experience with prayer, the meaning of a specific prayer – it is your choice. Or, you may **submit prayers** that have had meaning to you or that you have traditionally used and loved; prayers that have been passed down in your family; prayers that you have written; prayers that you have found or heard. In order to give you a varied selection of prayers, we would like those that go beyond our BCP; however, do submit prayers from the BCP that are significant to you, particularly those prayers that are not said on a weekly basis. We are looking for all types

of prayer: morning and evening prayers, prayers of thanksgiving, prayers of confession, children's prayers, to name just a few. If you are interested in a little research, you can **write a short explanation of a particular type of prayer or way to pray.** An example would be the use of Anglican prayer beads. We are also interested in **sharing resources.** If you have a special book of prayers or an on-line resource, please let us know about it. They will be added to the book.

What should you do? Information on steps to take may be found on the table outside of White Hall or on the website. With everyone's participation, we hope to give back to you a meaningful book on prayer which you will use again and again.

An Active Year Ahead for our Choirs



Our choir programs have a busy year ahead. Earlier this year, the Parish Choir was

confirmed for two residencies in the cathedrals of Bradford and Lichfield in England for August 2020. What does this mean for us? The responsibilities are to provide daily Evensong for a week and a Sunday morning with a sung Eucharist. We have a lot of music to learn in preparation for that, and to start things off, we will be scheduling Evensong more frequently throughout the year. Our first service of sung Evening Prayer will be on Sunday, October 14, at 5 p.m. Please support our choir and enjoy this unique offering, and follow bulletin announcements for future services in March and May. These will be in addition to the Evensong that concludes the Flower Festival during All Saints' in November.

This November, we will be observing the 100th anniversary of the armistice which ended the First World War in 1918, and we will have special music in November appropriate to the occasion composed by famed British composer C. Hubert H. Parry, who died that same year. The music of Parry was a centerpiece at the annual conference of the Association of Anglican Musicians this past June, held in San Antonio, in observance of the centennial of his death.

I am particularly excited this

year to announce that Richard Webster will be the guest conductor and organist for Three Choirs Hymn Festival for Ascension that has become an annual event involving the choirs of St. Andrew's, Christ & St. Luke's, and St. Paul's Episcopal churches here in Norfolk. This collaboration gives our choirs the opportunity to sing larger-scale music and work with noted Episcopal Church musicians. Richard Webster is the organist-choirmaster at Trinity Church, Copley Square, in Boston, MA. Mark your calendars now for May 30, 2019, which is when Ascension falls in the coming year.

If I wasn't busy enough already, also at this year's San Antonio AAM conference, I was appointed to the position of Editor of the Journal of the Association of Anglican Musicians for a three-year term. Holding a national-level office will be a challenge and an opportunity to learn what is going on across the face of our church in liturgy and music. As always, anyone interested in joining the choir can speak with me at church or contact me at sleist@standrewsnorfolk.org. Rehearsals are Thursday evenings, 7:30-9 p.m. and Sunday mornings for the 10:15 a.m. service with warm-up at 9:30.

By Stephen Leist

2018/19 Children's Choir

The Children's Choir is an important part of the music ministry of St. Andrew's. Children from grade 2 (if a strong reader) through grade 6 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 this fall will be September 16. I hope parents will plan to have their child be a part of the music and fun as we learn about this crucial part of our Christian faith through a variety of musical activities and experiences. We already have several exciting plans in the works for our young musicians as they benefit from all music has to offer, such as development of reading comprehension, communication skills, social skills, math skills, positive work ethic, and more.

For more information about St. Andrew's Children's Choir, please contact Richard Rigg, Associate Director of Music Ministry, rrigg@standrewsnorfolk.org or 487-3655.

"Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us."

(Martin Luther)

By Richard Rigg



ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Web: www.standrewsnorfolk.org

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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

Molly Dey, *Sr. Warden*
Page Lea, *Jr. Warden*
Eddie Brown, *Register*
Larry Brett, *Treasurer*

Drew Anderson
Jeff Barnum
Judy Blevins
David Branch
Susanne Council
Kay Dahl
Bill Davis
Jon Hanbury
Jim Kruger
Penny Lewis
George Pegram
Andy Stephenson

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*

