



**March & April
2014**

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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!

12,000 Meals in an Hour? Yes!

St. Andrew's comes together for Stop Hunger Now Event

By Betty Wade Coyle

White Hall was a beehive of activity the afternoon of Sunday, Feb. 23, 2014, when more than 100 men, women and children measured, weighed, sealed, and boxed 12,283 meals for Stop Hunger Now to distribute worldwide to combat hunger. The gift of these meals is part of the St. Andrew's Lenten Outreach Campaign to help feed the hungry at home and abroad.



St. Andrew's parishioners of all ages joined with other community volunteers to pack the meals in just over one hour, all while dancing to music and laughing with friends new and old. It's our third annual meal-packing event, a program that is simultaneously great fun and makes a big difference to people in need.

See Stop Hunger Now, Page 2

Prayer Shawls Are Knit with Love

By Mavis Benz

On Sunday, February 16, The Rev. John Rohrs blessed more than 30 prayer shawls at the 10:15 a.m. service. These were the latest offerings by members of our Prayer Shawl Ministry, a program under the umbrella of Pastoral Care Ministries at St. Andrew's. A group of dedicated parish volunteers knit these shawls, which are then presented to members of our parish and others in the community when they are sick, hospitalized or grieving, and sometimes on happier occasions like the birth of a child or a baptism.

See Prayer Shawls, Page 2

Stop Hunger Now, from page 1

Stop Hunger Now is headquartered in Raleigh, N.C. with 16 programs located around the U.S. and one in South Africa. One such affiliate is located conveniently in Hampton Roads, with Paul Williams serving as the regional coordinator.

The meal packaging program was created in 2005. The meals combine rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and a flavoring mix including 21 essential vitamins and minerals in small packets which cost 25 cents. The meals have a shelf-life of two years. They transport quickly and are easily prepared.

Currently Stop Hunger Now sends over 70 percent of the meals to support development initiatives such as school feeding programs, vocational training programs, early childhood development programs, orphanages and medical clinics. Each year 10 per-



cent of the meals are reserved to respond immediately to crisis situations such as natural disasters, conflict and famine. To date, the program has served people in 65 different countries.

If ending world hunger is a ministry close to your heart, Stop Hunger Now offers many opportunities to become involved. The Stop Hunger Now website (www.stophungernow.org) provides a variety of information about the program. Check it out, and become an advocate for ending world hunger. Then mark your calendar for next year when we will pack again!

Prayer Shawls, from page 1

Consistently, the recipients remark that the shawls not only help keep them warm but provide the assurance that they remain in the minds and hearts of the people of this congregation. For some, shawls have brought hope and encouragement as they recovered from illness or injury. For others, shawls have brought solace and comfort in the transition from this life to the next. Clearly, this is a simple ministry with a great and meaningful impact.

This ministry would not exist without our knitters: Betty Landreth, Jean Peterson, Jackie Scott, Alice Bangs, Jan Kovalcik, Pamela Lassiter, Mavis Benz, and Deane Sobol. We need to especially acknowledge the dedication of Betty Landreth. She is one of our shining stars and knits more shawls than can be counted! We so appreciate her devotion and hard work. That appreciation, of course, extends to all of our knitters, who knit some of the loveliest shawls for our parish and others. Since its inception in 2009, the Prayer Shawl Ministry has distributed over 85 shawls. Our thanks to all of you!



If you know of someone who might like to receive a Prayer Shawl, or if you are interested in knitting with us, please contact Deane Sobol (623-0796) or Mavis Benz (617-4875). You need not be an expert; we can provide simple patterns, and we also have funds available in our budget to cover the cost of yarn. Again, a very sincere “Thank You!” to our Prayer Shawl Ministry!

Games and Good Times Come Together for St. Andrew's Youth This Winter

By The Rev. Andie Wigodsky Rohrs

St. Andrew's Youth Group has had a great start to 2014! We began the year with a fabulous game night in White Hall. Intense games of Monopoly, Apples to Apples, checkers, Sorry, cards, and Twister were fueled by pizza and an extensive sundae bar provided by Amber Pickrell.

In mid-January, a small but dedicated group joined friends from the Church of the Good Shepherd, Christ and St. Luke's, and the Mission of the Holy Spirit for a ski trip at Wintergreen. We braved very cold temperatures to ski, snowboard, and tube – some better than others! On Sunday morning, we worshipped at Grace Episcopal Church in Massies Mill, Va. We heard a moving sermon commemorating Martin Luther King Day, and we shared lunch with the congregation afterward. They were so welcoming, and it was a Spirit-filled morning. The weekend would not have been possible without the help of wonderful volunteers Ginger White, Tim Sobol and Jim Rhodes.

We joined with friends from Good Shepherd and Christ and St. Luke's again in February when we hosted a Valentine's party for the residents of Tucker House, an apartment facility for low-income elderly folks. There were snacks and stations for decorating valentines and cupcakes. The highlight,



though, was a sing-along around the piano that included everything from “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” to the “Star Spangled Banner.” We were grateful for help from Elizabeth Evans, Beth Lloyd and Katie Anderson.

We concluded February by helping to set up and participate in Stop Hunger Now. Also, plans are underway for our 2014 summer trip when we'll journey to Washington, D.C. to participate in The Pilgrimage, an urban immersion service learning program. In the meantime, we look forward to a fun spring ahead!

Upcoming Youth Group Events

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday, March 9 | NEST Dinner : We will set up and prepare and serve dinner for our homeless guests who will be spending the week at St. Andrew's. |
| Sunday, March 23 | “Dinner and a Movie” at Andie and John's house |
| Sunday, April 6 | We'll go together to see the new movie <i>Noah</i> , the drama about the Old Testament story of Noah's Ark, at MacArthur Mall. Time TBA. |
| Sunday, April 27 | Hiking/canoeing trip to Merchant Mill State Park in Gatesville, N.C. (12:30 - 5:30 pm) |

Sunday School Highlights

March and April Schedule for Pre-K through Fifth Grade

March 2: Combined Class: "Preparing for Lent." Meet in White Hall.

March 9: The fourth rotation of Sunday School begins. Meet upstairs.

March 16: Sunday School in upstairs classrooms.

March 23: Sunday School in upstairs classrooms.

March 30: Final class in fourth rotation.

April 6: Combined Class: "Preparing for Holy Week." Meet in W.H.

April 13: No Sunday School (Public Schools Spring Break)

April 20: Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:15 Service

April 27: No Sunday School

The Middle and High School Class will continue to meet weekly.

Adult Forum Schedule

Difficult Texts of the Bible

March 2: "Thou Shalt Not Kill" with The Rev. (Lt.) David Duprey, Chaplain, U.S. Navy

March 9: David and Bathsheba with The Rev. Andie Wigodsky Rohrs

March 16: The Story of Job with The Rev. David Davenport, Retired Rector, Church of the Ascension

March 23: The Harsh Words of Jesus (hating parents, damning goats, and other things he couldn't have said!) - Speaker TBA

March 30: Divisive Language in Paul's Epistles (women, slaves, and gays, oh my!) with The Rev. John Rohrs

The Spirituality of Baseball

April 6: An Opening Day Tribute with Tim Coyle and The Rev. John Rohrs

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper,
March 4 at 6:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday, March 5
Services at Noon and 7:00 p.m.

NEST begins, March 5

Women of St. Andrew's Retreat,
March 8 at 10:00 a.m.

Lent Food Drive begins, March 9

Lenten Supper and Study Series,
March 12, 19 and 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Women of St. Andrew's Tea
Party, April 12

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 13
Services at 8:00 and 10:15 a.m.

Palm Sunday Organ Concert and
Choral Evensong, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Wednesday, April 16
Service at Noon

Maundy Thursday, April 17
Service at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service, April 18
Noon

Good Friday Stations of the
Cross at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20
Services at 8:00 and 10:15 a.m.

Easter Breakfast at 8:45 a.m.

Annual Egg Hunt at 11:30 a.m.

Welcome to our Newcomers!

Lisa Jean Bair and Dr. Eric Weisel; Thomas, Hannah, James, Alan, Emerson, Clayton

Prior and Gerry Cooper

Alison and Dr. Georg Dahl;
Landon Young

Lizzie Allen and The Rev. Robert Davenport

Dr. Joseph Khoury

Drs. Amy Price and Eric Neff;
Ava, Laurel, Johanna

Mandy and Bryan Rhodes; Louisa

Sarah Teachey; Addison

Amy and Andrew Tingley

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!

Vestry Updates

January

At the January Vestry meeting, the Focus Time was dedicated to a six-month check-in on how the Rector and Priest Associate are functioning as a clergy team. The Rev. Andie Wigodsky Rohrs shared some of the joys and challenges of her ministry, and she and The Rev. John Rohrs reflected on how they are balancing the various roles and obligations of work and family. All agreed that the experience has been positive thus far.

Also at the January meeting, the Vestry approved the formation of the Columbarium Committee, with Jim Affeldt and Deane Sobol serving as co-chairs and conveners. The Committee will begin researching options for columbaria and studying what choices other churches have made. In time, the Committee will seek congregational input on possible designs and locations and to ascertain more generally the level of interest in creating a columbarium at St. Andrew's.

February

At the February meeting, the Focus Time was dedicated to a review of the 2013 Flower Festival, as well as discussion about the possibility of a new, springtime event centered around arts and music.

Also at the February meeting, the Vestry approved a Vestry Nominating Committee, consisting of Jerry Butler, Jessica Chesson, and Becky Ruffin. The Rector and Wardens will serve as ex officio members of the Committee. The Nominating Committee will be charged with publicizing the importance of Vestry service, receiving Vestry nominations and filling out a slate of nominees in the event that fewer than five nominations are made by the March 15 deadline. Nominations for Vestry service may be made to sent to one of these individuals, or to Dennis Sipes in the parish office.

Parish Prayers and Thanksgivings

Births: Louisa Jane Zito (daughter of Charlotte and Ari Zito), Jan. 6

Baptisms: Hannum Leigh Benson (daughter of Hunter and Mark Benson), Feb. 16

Deaths: Doris Milner, Feb. 8
Susan Meredith (grandmother of Harper Lea), Feb. 15

PARISH NEWS AND NOTES

A New Format for the Saltire

The church staff and members of the Communications Taskforce are excited to introduce this new format for *The Saltire*! We hope you like the revised look. The intent is to provide more feature-oriented stories that help bring to life the vibrant people and ministries of this parish.

With the advent of digital communications such as our weekly Happenings e-newsletter, our website and our new St. An-

drew's Facebook page, the way we communicate is changing. A mailed newsletter struggles to be timely in today's context, but it can still be a vital tool for sharing our life together, especially in connecting those of our parish family who cannot make it to church or might not be computer savvy.

Our hope is that this new format, featuring stories, photos and parish updates, will help our

members and friends feel all the more informed and involved in the life of St. Andrew's. Starting with this issue, *The Saltire* will be a bi-monthly publication to allow for more detail and in-depth stories. *The Saltire* also will be available in full color on our website.

Please share your feedback with Dennis Sipes and the members of our Communications Taskforce as we strive to make this newsletter wonderful!

The Women of St. Andrew's Are Busy, Busy, Busy!

The Women of St. Andrew's started the year with a fun Game Day on Feb. 1. Forty-two people attended, and a new generation learned to play Mahjong!

The Annual Women's Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 8 from 10:00 - 2:00 in the Auditorium. The Rev. John Rohrs will speak on Salvation: Feminist Perspectives on Holy Week. Tickets are \$10, which includes lunch.

You may purchase tickets in the Church Mouse, or by emailing sobold43@gmail.com.

The WSA will also sponsor a Family Tea on Saturday, April 12 from 12:00 - 2:00 in White Hall, which will include activities for children. In May, we will host an event to spotlight recipes from our parish cookbook, *Blessings from Heaven*, which goes to press in June.



Food and Blood Drives Coming Soon

Our Fourth Annual Lenten Food/Fund Drive begins on March 9 and continues until the last Sunday in Lent, April 6. Our collection goal is the equivalent of 2,000 pounds of food. Look for drop-off locations in the Narthex and outside of the front parish

offices. You also may write a check to St. Andrew's with "Food Drive" in the memo line. For every dollar donated, the Food Bank can purchase \$6 of food.

Meanwhile, mark your calendars for Wednesday, May 14, when St. Andrew's will have our

annual blood drive from 1:00-7:00 p.m. Now is the time to begin eating the right food to make sure your hemoglobin is at the correct levels. For more info see www.redcrossblood.org/learn-about-blood/health-and-wellness/iron-rich-foodswellness.

Buildings and Grounds Update: Lights, Signs, Alarms and More!

Your Buildings and Grounds Committee has been busy dealing with daily issues and working for the future of our church. Thanks to the recent gift of a generous parishioner, new energy-efficient LED lights were installed in the church and Auditorium. We also have new exterior signage, which was the final project earmarked in our capital campaign.

Two new priorities moving forward will be landscaping work on the west side of the church and surrounding the playground and back patio, as well as plaster repairs and repainting in the



church. Stay tuned for those items in the months ahead.

We also want to provide a reminder about our new alarm system. We went to considerable expense to install a state-of-the-

art alarm system to protect our building and its contents. It is taking a while for everyone to get the hang of the system, however, and we are having problems with people forgetting to set the alarm or not checking to see if others are in the building first. This sometimes results in calls from our monitoring company and occasionally the police are dispatched at a charge of \$45 per visit.

If you have questions about how the alarm works, please see Dennis so that he can go over it again with you. Thanks for your cooperation!

Flower Guild: Easter Flowers



Orders for Easter Flowers will be accepted through April 14. Please use full given names (not Mr./Mrs., or other titles). Please make your check payable to St. Andrew's Flower Guild for \$10 per name. Drop your request in the offering plate or mail to the parish office. Flowers will be for both altars as well as in the Narthex and at the baptismal font .

In Memory of or
 In Honor of (please check)

Name(s) _____

Given by _____

A Season of Sacred Music!

Mark your calendars for these exciting spring concerts at St. Andrew's...

April 13, Palm Sunday at 7:00 p.m.

Kevin Kwan, the Organist and Choir Director at Christ and St. Luke's, will play an organ recital as a prelude to a service of Choral Evensong as we begin the journey of Holy Week.

April 28 and May 12 at 12:15 p.m.

This year, St. Andrew's will host two concerts in the Organ Swell series of the Virginia Arts Festival. First, on April 28, Peggy Kelley Reinburg will play, and on May 12 our own Dr. James Kosnik will be on the bench. Both artists will be accompanied by featured musicians from the Virginia Symphony.

May 18 at 10:15 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

On Sunday, May 18, we will play host to a visiting choir from Laramie Community College in Laramie, WY. They will perform several pieces at our Sunday morning service and a full-length concert that afternoon. Dr. Kosnik performed in Laramie in the fall of 2013, so this is a reciprocal visit.



ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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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

*Sally Kellam, Sr. Warden
Dean Rogis, Jr. Warden
Larry Brett, Treasurer
Charlotte Zito, Register*

*Jim Affeldt
Hunter Benson
Mavis Benz
Elizabeth Evans
Carter Furr
Paul Kovalcik
Jay Lassiter
Greg Murphy
Wendy Nuzzo
Dennis Pendleton
Deane Sobol
Tristan Carter Warren*

St. Andrew's Staff

The Rev. John Rohrs, Rector

*The Rev. Andie W. Rohrs
Priest Associate*

*Dennis Sipes
Parish Administrator*

*Dr. James Kosnik
Organist/Choirmaster*

*Richard Rigg
Junior/Handbell Choirs*

*Jessica Chesson
Sunday School Coordinator*

*Ashlee Erestain
Nursery Coordinator*

JonMichel Sipes, Sexton