

The Saltire



ST. ANDREW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

March and April 2015

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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!

Greetings from our Deacon Intern

By Genevieve Nelson

It's been a few months since my internship here at St. Andrew's started and I must say I have felt very accepted. Thanks to everyone who attended the adult forum, those who visited with me over coffee and also anyone who has simply said hello. All of these things have amounted to a warm welcome.

If you haven't yet visited with me I'm Genevieve Nelson, your new deacon intern. I've been assigned to serve at St. Andrew's for a year as part of the vocational deacon formation school our diocese has created in tandem with the Diocese of Virginia. A vocational deacon is a permanent deacon and remains one for their ministry. They are similar to priests in that the diaconate is an ordained order, but differ in roles. Whereas a priest leads a parish, a deacon leads a ministry. Deacons are charged in their ordination vows, with "making Christ's redemptive love known to the poor, the weak, the sick and the lonely (BCP 543)." They sometimes work in (though are not limited to) prisons, hospitals and shelters. Diaconal work and service ministry is found where the outcasts and the marginalized are.



All Christians are called to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves.

See *Deacon Intern*, page 2

Previewing the Lenten Supper Series

By the Rev. John Rohrs

Two summers ago, I was randomly selected for duty on a grand jury. We spent several days over the course of two months hearing dozens of cases. Dedicated police officers of various stripes respectfully presented the cases to us, and our job was to decide if the preponderance of evidence suggested the person charged had committed the crime. We were not declaring guilt or innocence; we were giving a citizens' affirmation that the prosecution seemed to have a legitimate case.

See *Supper Series*, page 2

Deacon Intern, from page 1

We affirm and reaffirm these vows to strive for justice and peace among all people and to respect the dignity of every human being in the baptismal covenant. Deacons are called to be a pebble in the Church's shoe and remind us of our vows. Sometimes we have to remember our neighbors are the homeless, the hungry, the naked, the lonely, the stranger, the prisoner, the addict and the sick. The order of the diaconate is there to help parishioners discern ways to serve their neighbors.

My particular ministry focus is to work with unchurched young adults who believe in God and want to be a part of a spiritual community, but for various rea-

sons aren't drawn to church. I try to make a space for them to speak and listen as well as learn about God in fellowship and service. I'm also aware of a need for ministry in my work at the Norfolk Public Library where it's easy to see the socioeconomic gap widening in regards to the accessibility of technology.

I was born in California to a military family which took me across the country though I spent most of my childhood overseas in Panama and Germany. I eventually graduated from high school in Colorado where I met my best friend Wayne Nelson, who I married nearly eight years ago. I went on to study Linguistics at the University of Colorado in Boulder

where I graduated in 2010. Wayne joined the Navy and we received orders to Norfolk (I know this is a cliched story). I fell in love with this city with it's lush gardens, vibrant arts scene and it's gorgeous sunsets on the beach. When his enlistment expired, I told Wayne he had to find a job here because I didn't want to leave, which he obligingly did (thanks, love).

If you haven't visited with me yet, please don't hesitate to come over and tell me your name and what you love about St. Andrew's. I'm always up for a cup of coffee or lunch (though keep in mind I'm a vegetarian). I'm so excited to spend the next year and get to know you all in service and fellowship.

Supper Series, from page 1

I didn't keep a tally, but I would guess we heard 75-100 cases. Probably 80% of the defendants were African American men. We never saw or heard from them, or their attorneys. We simply listened to the officers' stories and submitted our consent with a few clicks of a keypad. With every click, I made a jail sentence more likely. It felt like it was my duty to help keep our streets safe, but it also troubled my soul to condemn people I had never met.

I share this story because it has been on my mind the past few months during the turmoil surrounding the deaths of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo and Eric Garner in Staten Island, NY. Their deaths – and the protests that followed the non-indictments of the police officers who killed them, as well as the terrible reciprocal murder of two other officers in New York – have been harsh reminders that race continues to be a fault line in this country. We have come far as a society since the civil rights era, but a painful rift endures.

Churches need to be part of this conversation. We cannot shy away and claim that such discussions are too controversial. Jesus frequently decried racial divisions, and he himself became ensnared in the justice system when he was arrested and tried and killed. His

witness makes the pursuit of racial equality and civic harmony a gospel priority.

For our Lenten Supper Series this year, in cooperation with the St. Andrew's Outreach Committee and some potential partners and guest speakers, we will gather at 6:00 p.m. on the Wednesday evenings of March 11, 18, and 25 to share a potluck meal and discuss the book *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander.

Rather than rehashing the particulars of the aforementioned cases, we will use this provocative book to take a broader look at some of the policies and programs that have fostered the distrust that perpetuates these conflagrations. No doubt we will have a variety of opinions and perspectives, and that's okay. We will neither demonize hard-working police nor dehumanize African American youth; rather, we will seek to learn from one another and educate ourselves about the bigger picture, hopefully considering together meaningful ways to do our small part to help heal this enduring rift. What better time than the season of Lent to do some thoughtful reflection about how we can help form God's beloved community? Please plan to join us!

Youth/Children's Sunday School Updates

Confirmation Update – Our *Confirm Not Conform* class is underway and going well! Please continue to hold our young folks who are participating in your prayers: Isabel Glass, Hayley White, Kristin Johnson, Carter Furr, and Trafton Addison.

Sunday School

Unit 4 - Feb. 22, March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22 K-2 Class: *This is My Body* (This unit will include discussions and activities to learn about the meaning and practice of Holy Eucharist.)
3-5 Class: *Beatitudes*

Unit Five: March 22, March 29, April 19, April 26
K-2 Class: *Good Shepherd*
3-5 Class: *Twelve Who Changed the World*

Mark your calendar!

Sunday, May 17, 2015 – Youth Sunday. Details to come!

June 22-25 – **Vacation Bible School** - Get excited for a great week around the theme *Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power*. There are all kinds

of ways to help! Contact Jessica Chesson (jchesson@standrewsnorfolk.org) if you are interested in volunteering.

July 12-18, 2015 - Youth Mission Trip– St. Andrew's is teaming up with youth from St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Norfolk) and St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Richmond to travel to Grace House on the Mountain. Grace House is in Appalachia and is sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia. It provides lodging and projects for work teams focused on helping families in the region in need. We may be repairing front porches, installing handicap ramps, painting, repairing dry wall, etc. The cost for the week is \$400. Financial assistance is available. Contact Andie for more information.



Upcoming Youth Group Events

March 19: Cloud 9 Trampoline Park and Dinner, 3:15-7:00 pm

Back by popular demand! We'll jump our hearts out and then grab dinner at our favorite Mexican restaurant. Please RSVP to Andie (arohrs@standrewsnorfolk.org) by March 11. The cost is \$10 per person, and scholarship money is available.

March 29 – Dinner and Discussion – 5:30-7:00 pm

Last summer, St. Andrew's member and high school senior Maggie Ruffin travelled to Lima, Peru for an Operation Smile medical mission. Come hear about her incredible experience. Parents and other St. Andrew's members are welcome.

Sunday, April 19 – Let's Celebrate Earth Day! – 1:30-4:30

We'll head out to work in the community garden at the Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan. The garden provides fresh fruits and vegetables for the neighborhood food pantry. Come ready to dig in the dirt as we celebrate God's creation and help brothers and sisters in need.

Lent/Holy Week Schedule

The Journey of Lent

Sundays in Lent: Feb. 22, Mar. 1, 8, 15, and 22

Rite I 8:00 am

Rite II 10:15 am

Palm Sunday, Mar. 29

Rite I 8:00 am

Rite II 10:15 am (gather in front for procession)

Maundy Thursday, April 2

7:00 pm (foot washing/stripping of the altar)

Good Friday, April 3

12:00 pm (Good Friday Liturgy)

7:00 pm (Stations of the Cross)

Easter Sunday, April 5

8:00 am Rite I (followed by Easter Breakfast)

10:15 am Rite II (followed by Easter Egg Hunt)

Adult Forum Schedule

Into The Wilderness

March 1: Life on the Margins with Vikki Henderson,
Regional Director of ForKIDS

March 8: The Dog Sledding Experience with Paul Ford

March 15: The Wilderness Inside with Dr. Paul Sayegh

March 22: Christ in the Wilderness with Tiffany Mandell

Water of Life

April 12: The Importance of Water in Scripture with The
Rev. John Rohrs

April 19: Water in Hampton Roads

April 26: A Global Perspective

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

St. Andrew's NEST Week
February 25—March 4

Lenten Supper Series
March 11, 18, and 25
at 6:30 p.m.

Seminarian Josh Stephens, Guest
Preacher, March 8

Day light saving time begins,
March 8

Vestry Nominations due for term
2015-2018, March 13

Women of St. Andrew's Lenten
Retreat, with Rev. John Rohrs,
March 21

Genevieve Nelson, Deacon Intern
Guest Preacher, March 22

St. Andrew's HIV/AIDS/Cook-in,
White Hall, March 22

EVMS NEST week begins,
March 25

Sandwiches for the Sandwich Min-
istry are due by Noon, March 27

May/June Saltire deadline,
April 14

College Care Packages items due,
April 19

Sandwiches for the Sandwich Min-
istry are due by Noon, April 24

Jewelry Sale to benefit Lost Boys
and Girls, April 26 (The Good Lie
movie to be shown at 5:00 p.m. in
White Hall)

Annual Parish Meeting, 9:00 a.m.,
White Hall, May 3

Red Cross Blood Drive, 1:00—7:00
p.m. White Hall, May 13

Annual Diocesan Council Recap

- On February 6-7, our delegation traveled to Williamsburg for the Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia. Our representatives were Mavis Benz, Tim Coyle, Lois Gail Davis, and Deane Sobol, along with Andie and John Rohrs.
- The legislative agenda was unusually light; it was the only Council in recent memory to entertain not a single resolution. Instead, ministry reports focused largely on mission, as did the keynote speaker, Dianna Butler Bass.
- The other major report of note was on the proposed sale of Talbot Hall. That sale remains in limbo, as a group of residents continues to challenge the City Council's decision to change the zoning from institutional to residential, even though the proposed buyers (a group of fourteen Norfolk families) plan to restore the coastline and preserve the Manor House, as stipulated by the Diocese. The sale and the future care of the property is now in danger. Meanwhile, the Bishop's office has gone forward with plans to relocate to new offices in the Newport News City Center at Oyster Point. That move should happen this spring or summer.

Vestry Updates

- At their January meeting, the Vestry reviewed a list of newcomers and discussed our practices of hospitality. Vestry members serve on the front lines as our ushers and greeters, but creating a welcoming environment takes contributions from everyone in the parish. We talked about the importance of not using insider language (e.g. NEST, WSA, etc.) and the need to introduce ourselves to folks we don't know at coffee hour and other parish life events.
- Also at the January meeting, the Vestry approved the next stage in the ordination process for our two seminarians - Josh Stephens and Tyler Montgomery. Tyler is in his final year at Yale Divinity School and will graduate in the spring. Josh is in his second year at Sewanee. Both are outstanding students and leaders and we enthusiastically endorsed them taking the next step in their journeys toward ordination.

Vestry Nominations Are Open!

It is that time of year again when we prepare to elect a new Vestry class at our Annual Parish Meeting, which will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 3 in White Hall. Church members may nominate other parishioners for the Vestry by submitting names to Dennis Sipes, our Parish Administrator, or to Will King, Karen Mitchell, or Charlotte Zito, our three person Vestry Nominating Committee this year. Any of those three will be glad to speak to you further about Vestry service. The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 13. Please ask permission first from anyone you hope to nominate. In order to serve, parishioners need to be confirmed Episcopalians and regular communicants and supporters of St. Andrew's.

Parish Prayers and Thanksgivings

Baptisms: Sydney Paige and Emily Alise Pearman, January 25

Deaths: Cathryn Bearov mother of Alisa Bearov Landrum, January 31
 James W. Rigg, the father of parishioner and Associate Music Director Richard Rigg, January 5
 Margaret Kulan Young, mother of Bob Young, January 4
 Horace W. Woodhouse, Jr., husband of Nancy Woodhouse, January 2
 Maryann "Teddy" O'Connell, mother of Allison Parker, December 31
 Margaret Baldwin, December 22
 Gilbert Dawe, uncle of Mavis Benz, December 8

PARISH NEWS AND NOTES

Welcoming All at the Altar

Many church members likely have followed the troubling story of Heather Cook, the Bishop Suffragan of Maryland, who struck and killed bicyclist Tom Palermo while she was texting and driving under the influence of alcohol. It is a devastating story that has brought attention to the dangers of addiction and to our responsibility as faith communities.

St. Andrew's has recently taken a few important strides in this area. For years, we have

hosted an Alcoholics Anonymous group on Wednesday evenings. This is an outreach to the community and a tangible sign of welcome and support. We took that a step further in the fall, when we introduced a Recovery Eucharist at noon on the first Wednesday of each month. It's a Rite I Eucharist service that incorporates the 12 Steps and other prayers commonly used at AA meetings. The intent is to provide a safe and healing space for those recovering from addiction (and/or their

families and friends) to lift their hearts and prayers to God.

This month we also began the practice of offering a grape juice option at each of our two Sunday services. The principal chalices will continue to hold wine, but parishioners may now signal (verbally or by pointing) their preference for the alternative chalice that holds white grape juice. Our hope is that this will help those who may be allergic to wine or recovering from addiction feel fully included at our altar.

Rowena Posthumously Receives Special Honor

This year, Rowena Fullinwider, a long-time church member, was inducted into the Specialty Food Association Hall of Fame to honor her "accomplishments, impact, contributions, innovations, and successes within the specialty food industry..." The inaugural group of 114 includes, among others, the founders of Williams-Sonoma, Dean & DeLuca, and Zabar's. Although we think of

lemon curd and pound cake when we hear Rowena's name, a notable accomplishment was opposing the FDA over the Nutritional Labeling and Education Act of 1990. The law required product chemical analyses, the cost of which would have ruined small businesses. Rowena convinced the FDA to approve a small business exemption. Her action is thought to have kept as many as

9,000 small businesses from going under. The Hall of Fame honor is richly deserved.



College Care Packages

The Women of St. Andrew's will be sending exam "care packages" to our college students at the end of April. Contributions of cash (for postage) and goodies – such as (individually wrapped) baked goods, nabs, granola bars, nuts, candy, hot cocoa mix, cook-

ies, microwave popcorn, gum and Pop Tarts, are needed. Please put your contributions of goodies in the church kitchen no later than Sunday, April 19. Our college students always appreciate this ministry!

PARENTS: Please call or email the church office if your student's mailing address has changed since last fall!

Buildings and Grounds Update from Greg Murphy

As Junior Warden it is great pleasure to assist in taking care of this great building we call Saint Andrew's. This wonderful 104 year old church is in great condition, and that is due to the parishioners who take their time to observe and report on improvements and repairs seen during their time at Saint Andrew's.

As many of you may have noticed we have an ongoing project inside the church. This includes some plastering that was completed in early January and encompassed almost every wall. Painting was completed above the high altar, but the rest of the church will be painted in the upcoming months. A majority of the work completed was to fill some cracks and smooth out areas that needed improvement. We did find one great challenge over the high altar, in that prior leaking had left some loose plaster above and around the beauti-

ful stained glass window. In order to protect the maze of organ pipes we had to enter the world of scaffold engineering. With one call, five workers and eight hours of construction, a two story, cantilevered scaffold was built up and over the high altar and organ pipes.

While we were happy to see everything go smoothly and not interrupt weekend worship, a few of us hoped that if work was delayed we may have been able to see John preach from 20 feet up on a scaffold. It may have been the first time in history that receiving communion would have required a harness and helmet. In addition, the landscaping project around the back patio off White Hall has begun with the construction of a beautiful trellis and the installation of some plants. With the great generosity of our parishioners and the design efforts of Jim Affeldt we are in for a treat. We will have more plants, benches and other out-

door elements that will be installed over the upcoming months.

Over the past four months of being junior warden I have found myself in awe of the amount of time that many of you give to this church and I want to personally say thank you.



Easter Flowers

Orders for Easter Flowers will be accepted through March 29. 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:

Name(s) _____

Given by _____

Volunteer Opportunities

Flower Delivery Ministry: Our parishioners and friends who may have fallen ill, lost a loved one, and those who are homebound receive a selection of the altar flowers delivered to them by parishioners after church. This ministry brings fellowship and a friendly face to those who appreciate it dearly. You may never truly know how much it means to those whom you visit. To be a smiling face and join our flower delivery team, contact John Chappell at 935-6180 or jchappellodu@yahoo.com

Church Mouse: The gift shop operated as a project of the Women of St. Andrew's, is looking for a few volunteers to staff the shop. Shifts are available during the week from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and after each service on Sunday. As an incentive, volunteers get a 10% discount on purchases! Please contact Jane Smith at 627-2728 for details.



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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

Jay Lassiter, *Sr. Warden*
Greg Murphy, *Jr. Warden*
Larry Brett, *Treasurer*
Dennis Pendleton, *Register*

Mavis Benz
Kristan Burch
Carter Furr
Sally Kellam
Paul Kovalcik
Doug Mitchell
Wendy Nuzzo
Amber Pickrell
Sheri Searing
Tristan Carter Warren
Mike Whitehurst

St. Andrew's Staff

The Rev. John Rohrs, *Rector*

The Rev. Andie W. Rohrs
Priest Associate

Dennis Sipes, *Parish Administrator*

Stephen Leist
Director of Music Ministry

Genevieve Nelson, *Deacon Intern*

Richard Rigg
Associate Director of Music Ministry

Jessica Chesson
Sunday School Coordinator

Ashlee Erestain
Nursery Coordinator

JonMichel Sipes, *Sexton*