



January and February 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!

Singing a New Song

By The Rev. John Rohrs

After a six month search process, the Rector and Vestry at St. Andrew's are excited to welcome Stephen Leist as our new Director of Music Ministry. By day, Leist is on the faculty at Virginia Wesleyan, where he works as the Research Librarian. He combines that vocation, however, with a lifelong passion for the music of the Episcopal Church.

Prior to moving to Norfolk two years ago, Leist served for eight years as the Organist and Choir Director at St. John's Episcopal Church in Versailles, Ky. At St. John's, he oversaw a diverse music program and led the revitalization and growth of the parish choir. He directed several choral evensongs and other special services each year, while also collaborating in the broader musical community. In a prior position as the Music Assistant at Christ Church Cathedral in Lexington, he worked with the children and youth choristers participating in the Royal School of Church Music program. These experiences resonate directly with many of the priorities we identified during our search as ways we would like to expand our music ministry in the years ahead.

Leist brings a wealth of gifts to this position. As a trained baritone, he has a beautiful voice, a sharp ear, and a skilled approach to directing. He once had the honor of officiating a service of choral evensong at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., and he has completed choral residencies at several English cathedrals. He is also a very fine organist, having begun his organ studies while an

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NEST Week Is Coming

By Jim Rhodes

St. Andrew's is a member of the Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team (NEST), a coalition of churches and synagogues that provide an overnight homeless shelter during the winter months. The shelter moves each week to a different location. Our week starts **Wednesday, February 25**, and runs through **Tuesday, March 4**. For those seven nights, St. Andrew's will host 50-60 homeless men and women sleeping on the floor in White Hall. NEST is a barebones shelter. Our guests are admitted at 7:30 pm. We give them a hot supper, and a mat and a blanket on the floor. They get a light breakfast before they leave at 7:00 am.

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Music Director, from page 1

undergraduate at Furman University. He is a long-time member of the American Guild of Organists and a newly-elected member of the Association of Anglican Musicians.

Perhaps Leist's biggest gift, and the one that separated him from the fifty or so candidates we considered for this position, is his humble and heart-felt approach to his ministry as a church musician. He cares deeply about the beauty of sacred music and also the importance of forming community in the choir and congregation. He exhibits a gentle manner and quiet faith that will encourage us all to

sing our praises to God. Please join me in welcoming Leist in January, along with his wife, Joanna, who is herself an accomplished violist and singer, and a teacher at Norfolk Collegiate.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to the members of our search committee, ably chaired by Jerry Butler, and also to Dr. Joe Khoury and Richard Rigg, who served beautifully as our interim organist and choir director, respectively. Everyone has worked tirelessly to ensure an exciting new chapter in the musical life of our parish. Soon we will be singing a new song together!



NEST Week, from page 1

It takes at least 15-20 volunteers to staff the shelter each night. There are plenty of jobs for everyone: registration desk, chefs and assistant cooks, evening helpers and overnight watch keepers. Stop by the signup desk in White Hall to see the schedule.

We will also be asking for donations of food and toiletry items (soap, washrags, combs, razors, small airplane size sample bottles of shampoo, lotion, deodorant and shaving cream, plus feminine hygiene products. We need LOTS of socks - plain white large size gym socks - at least 150 pairs, also gloves (plain cotton work gloves are fine).

Please note that NEST has no official affiliation with the City of Norfolk and is supported by voluntary donations from individuals and churches. The annual budget is over \$22,000 - which covers the cost of buses to take guests to outlying shelter sites beyond walking distance from downtown Norfolk, as well as weekly laundering of the blankets. You can make a check payable to NEST and give it to Dennis, who will send it to the NEST treasurer.

In the meantime, I invite you to take a minute in church to ponder the messages in the stained glass

windows depicting the six Corporal Works of Mercy from Matthew 25: 34-40. The Gospel is clear on this. Jesus states unambiguously that we are called to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, give shelter to strangers, minister to the sick and prisoners. He goes even further. He says that when we fail to do these acts to the least of our fellow humans we are failing Him personally.

Contact me at 757.451.0602 (office), 757.627.5980 (home), or by email jrhodes@rhodescomm.com, if you have any questions.

Parenting Workshops Continue

Reminder! The Outreach Ministry Committee will be hosting two more parenting workshops (one in January and one in February) to be offered free to parents in the parish and in the community. Child-care will be provided, and pizza and salad will be available for a suggested donation of \$5/person. To register, please call or email Betty Wade Coyle (757-625-3182, nohits@verizon.net) with the number of adults attending and the number of children needing childcare. Please spread the word to others who might benefit from these workshop. All are welcome!

The schedule is as follows:

Sunday, January 11, 2015 from 5:00- 7:30 p.m.

The Miracle of the Early Years - Help ensure your children and grandchildren develop the necessary social and emotional skills they need to be successful in school and life. Parents learn the importance of connecting with children and helping them develop a sense of significance. These important skills help children feel secure, capable and encouraged to learn. This class would benefit parents, caregivers and early education teachers working with children birth through 5 years.

Sunday, February 8, 2015 from 5:00-7:30 p.m.

Stop Arguing With Your Kids! As children grow and try to assert more independence, parents need new skills to help guide their children in ways that avoid power struggles and keep communication open! Parents learn effective tools that teach good decision making, problem solving, stronger family connections. For Parents and teachers of children 6 - 18+

The workshops will be conducted by Brenda Garrett who is a certified trainer of the *Positive Discipline* curriculum. She has worked w/ children and families for more than 25 years in the fields of social work, mental health and education and holds a Masters degree in Special Education. and significance in the home and classroom.

POSITIVE
PARENTING
PROGRAM

Upcoming Youth Group Events

January 16-18, Nags Head Beach Retreat – *The Gifts We’ve Been Given*

What better way to start the new year and semester than some time away? Our discussions and worship will center around a theme of “The Gifts We’ve Been Given,” (the ones from God, not the ones we just got for Christmas!). Most of all, we’ll have fun as we play games, watch movies, and take winter walks on the beach. We’ll be staying at the beach house of a generous St. A’s parishioner that has lots of room. We’ll leave on Friday night at 5 pm and return around noon on Sunday. The cost is \$30 per person, and scholarship money is available. Please register with Andie by Friday, January 9.

Watch your mail (snail and electronic) for a calendar of EYC winter activities coming soon!

Columbarium Survey Results Are In

A big *Thank You* to all who participated in the Columbarium Survey. The committee was delighted with the number of respondents (93) and the overwhelmingly positive response. Here is what you said:

Desire for a Columbarium

89% of you felt that the columbarium will be a meaningful addition to our sacred space while 11% either were not in favor or needed additional information.

61% will consider using a columbarium in our church if we build one while 29% indicated they would not (mostly because they have already made other plans) and 9% were unsure.

The question "Do you think that use of the columbarium should be limited to church members only?" received a more equally-spread response: 35% said yes, 25% said no, and 37% were unclear.

As a result of these responses, the Committee is looking forward to making recommendations to the Vestry to pursue the addition of a columbarium and memorial garden to our church. Your many thoughtful comments will help to guide us as we progress to developing policies for the management of the columbarium.

Columbarium Cost

The price of a niche was placed in the range of \$1500-\$2500. 62% of you indicated that this would be in your price range, 17% would not purchase a niche in this price range and 3% felt the cost was too high.

Asked if you would be willing to pre-pay for a niche to help fund the construction, 26% indicated that you would be willing, 27% were unsure, and 20% would wait until the time of purchase.

You were also asked if you would be willing to donate to a Columbarium Fund to help finance construction. An unexpected 42% of you indicated you would while another 39% indicated that you might contribute.

Again, this very positive outcome gives the Committee strong support and incentive to move ahead toward the goal of constructing a columbarium and memorial garden.

Columbarium Design

As to the design of the columbarium, a compelling 60% of you indicated you wish it to be outside on church grounds while 9% prefer inside the church and 28% have no preference.

Of those who will be buried elsewhere, 15% of you are interested in a memorial plaque, 28% indicated that you are not interested and 27% are undecided.

When asked if you would like a memorial plaque for family or friends, 26% said yes, 39% said no, and 27% were undecided.

Your responses support the idea that a columbarium for our church is best suited to be outdoors. (Refer to the November/December Saltire to see the location that is being considered as the spot for a columbarium and a memorial garden.) The Columbarium Committee is excited about moving forward and is deeply appreciative of your participation and sharing of your thoughts.

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Adult Forum

Inquirer's Class,
Auditorium, Jan. 4, 9:00 a.m.

Inquirer's Class,
Auditorium, Jan. 11, 9:00 a.m.

Inquirer's Class,
Auditorium, Jan. 18, 9:00 a.m.

Living in Mission,
Auditorium, Jan. 25, 9:00 a.m.

Living in Mission,
Auditorium, Feb. 1, 9:00 a.m.

Living in Mission,
Auditorium, Feb. 8, 9:00 a.m.

Living in Mission,
Auditorium, Feb. 15, 9:00 a.m.

Living in Mission,
Auditorium, Feb. 22, 9:00 a.m.

Feast of Lights Candle Light
Service, Jan. 4, 7:00 p.m.

Parenting Workshop,
White Hall, Jan. 11, 5:00 p.m.

Annual Yankee Gift Swap/Chili
Dinner, White Hall, Jan. 25, 6:00
p.m.

WSA Family Tea Party,
White Hall, Jan. 31, 10:00 a.m.

Valentine Sunday School
Activity/Parish Life Breakfast,
White Hall, Feb. 8, 9:00 a.m.

Parenting Workshop,
White Hall, Feb. 15, 5:00 p.m.

Stop Hunger Now,
White Hall, Feb. 22, 2:00 p.m.

NEST begins, Feb. 25

Welcome to our Newcomers!

Heather Stiles

Windley and Ted Walden; Trip,
Thomas, Ellie, and Holfer

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!

A Special Thank You!

Many thanks to all who have helped me during my detached retina ordeal. The taxi drivers, food givers, visitors, assistant to the treasurer helpers, and errand runners all have helped me tremendously. After 3 procedures I am finally in the process of healing. Judy and I thank you all for your prayers and assistance. You are what makes St Andrew's a great church. Steve Blevins

Vestry Updates

November Vestry Meeting

At the November Vestry meeting, the Vestry reviewed the draft budgeted presented by Jim Rhodes, chair of the Finance Committee. The draft budget represents the "wish list" budget as requested by all staff and ministry chairs. Vestry members analyze this budget in light of the on-going annual stewardship campaign, and also in consultation with stated priorities in the year ahead.

After an initial conversation on the budget, the Vestry tabled the discussion for final review and approval in December. With the rest of the November meeting, the Vestry took some "retreat" time to consider possible future uses for the parish rectory, which is being vacated by its current tenants at the end of April. The Rev. Jeunee Godsey, Diocesan Canon for Congregational Development and Mission, facilitated a conversation. The aim was not so much to make a decision but to explore ideas and also talk about how best to engage the congregation in that discussion. Stay tuned for more information and opportunities to share input in the new year.

In early December, prior to the December Vestry meeting (which had not yet taken place as of press time), the Vestry affirmed the Rector's decision to hire Stephen Leist as our new Director of Music Ministry. We also discussed and affirmed Richard Rigg's soon-to-be-enhanced role as Associate Director of Music Ministry.

In other news, the landscaping project will come to fruition in the coming weeks as new plantings are placed in the patio and playground area. Keep your eyes out for a more beautiful and inviting setting out back, which we will look forward to enjoying when the weather warms in spring!

Parish Prayers and Thanksgivings

Baptisms: Nathalie Helen Thomas, November 2

Deaths: Floyd Lee Turner, October 28
Walter Bevill Plaine, November 1

PARISH NEWS AND NOTES

In The Bleak Mid-Winter

It is the end of January. The sparkling lights of the Christmas season have long since flickered out. Spring is a couple of months away. It is cold, possibly gray. You need something to soothe the soul, warm the heart, and, perhaps, entertain the children. It has been said that *"The sounds of the tea being made invite the peach blossoms to peep in through the window."* What could be better than bringing the family to the Annual Family Tea? Spend a couple of hours

with family and friends. Forget the housecleaning, grocery shopping and the to-do list and let the world pass by. Our tea will be held on Jan. 31 from noon to 2:00 p.m. A variety of teas will be served with all of the delicious accompaniments that you would expect: sandwiches, petit fours and other sweets, and, possibly, a scone or two. There will be a Valentine activity for the children. Tickets for those aged 13 or over are \$12.00. Children are free. Mark the date; more details will

follow. And remember *"Tea is drunk to forget the din of the world."*



This and That

2015 Altar Flowers sign ups are well underway and we still have plenty of dates available. If you would like to remember a friend or family members by donating altar flowers, please call or send-Dennis a note requesting your dates and altar 622-5530 or you can sign up the bulletin Flowers Sign Up list on the Lay Readers Bulletin Board, near Andie's office. We would like to encourage

other areas of the Narthex and Nave for arrangements of flowers e.g. foot of the Baptismal Font. Flowers for the high altar are \$75.00, flowers for the Lady Altar are \$50.00, and flowers for the Baptismal Font are \$25.00.

St. Andrew's Cook-in: Please see signup sheet on the Outreach Ministry bulletin board and at the information desk in White Hall

for items needed for our next Cook-in on Sunday, January 18.

2015 Offering Envelopes: For those who requested offering envelopes for 2015 they can be found in Whit Hall. If you would like envelopes and did not request them with your 2015 pledge card please let Steve Blevins know at sblevins.staacc@verizon.net.

Outreach Sandwich Ministry

On the fourth Saturday of each month, we at St. Andrews help provide sandwiches for our homeless community. Members of the "Sandwich Ministry" prepare one or two full-size loaves of sandwiches, and deliver them to the church on Friday before Noon. They are distributed Sat-

urday morning on Salter Street at 7:00a.m., where they are handed out during the breakfast that is provided by Catholic Worker. The people that are served are very appreciative of this ministry we provide, many of the them smile and say they are blessed!

The next date sandwiches are due is **January 24th**. There is more information on the "Outreach" bulletin board.

Outreach Ministries

Once again the Outreach Ministry Committee will highlight the parish hunger ministries during the season of Lent. During this time, there will be opportunities for the parish community to donate time, food and funds to help those in our community and around the world who are less fortunate. Volunteers can sign up for work on sheets on the table in White Hall; food donations can be brought to church and placed in the red wagon in the Narthex or left in the basket outside of the parish office; and financial gifts can be placed in the

offering plate or mailed to the office with a notation for which ministry the donation is to be designated.

The first volunteer opportunity will come on Sunday, February 22, 2015 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. when the parish will host its 3rd annual **Stop Hunger Now Meal Packing Party**. The hope is to package 10,000+ meals to benefit hungry families around the world.

During Lent, the parish will conduct a drive (February 23—March 23) to donate a ton of food (either by way of cash or kind) to the **Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia**. If



money is donated to the Food Bank, record Food Bank in the memo section of the check made out to St. Andrew's.

Vestry Nominations 2015-2018

In order to nominate someone to serve on the Vestry for the 2015-2018 term you must complete a Nomination Form. **ALL NOMINATION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SENIOR WARDEN OR PARISH ADMINISTRATOR NO LATER THAN MARCH 13.** To be considered for the Vestry, the Diocesan Canons require a person to be at least 18 years old and be listed in the parish register as a confirmed communicant in good standing. In addition, a person offering for the Vestry should be aware that You may use the form below to submit a nomination:

To: The Nominating Committee of the Vestry of St. Andrew's Church

From:

I nominate the following person for consideration to serve on the Vestry for the 2015-2018 term. I have discussed the matter with this person and he/she has agreed to serve:

Mark Your Calendars

Annual Yankee Gift Swap/Chili Dinner: Sunday evening, January 25th is the date for our Annual Yankee Swap and Chili Dinner. This popular event is a favorite in our parish. Here's the way the evening works ~ we gather at 6:00 pm for a delicious chili dinner and then the fun begins! Bring in your silliest Christmas gift ~ the gift that you just HAVE TO part with ~ the gift that you can't believe ended up under your tree ~ and the swap begins. All gifts must be wrapped. So this year, as you linger beside the tree on Christmas morning keep your eyes peeled for the perfect Yankee Swap gift for St. Andrew's

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: This year's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on **Tuesday, February 17, 6 p.m. in White Hall.** Signup sheets are on the "Information Table" in White Hall.

Ash Wednesday Services: Noon and 7:00 p.m. on February 18.



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

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

Dr. Joe Khoury
Interim Organist/Choirmaster

Richard Rigg
Interim Choir Director

Jessica Chesson
Sunday School Coordinator

Ashlee Erestain
Nursery Coordinator

JonMichel Sipes, *Sexton*