

# The Saltire



ST. ANDREW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*January 2012*

## **Rector's Reflections**

On January 5, 1941, less than a month after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dr. Ruffin Jones, the second rector of St. Andrew's, wrote a special note encouraging parishioners to attend the Feast of Lights that evening. It would feature a liturgy that he himself had crafted; indeed, it is the same liturgy we will use again this year on Sunday, January 8.

Dr. Jones' note warns parishioners to not simply enjoy the beauty and aesthetics of the service. Instead, he implores them to take to heart its deep religious intent. "It is of the very life of the Christian religion that it should send its beneficent light into all the world," he writes, "and that this light should also burn as a witness in all of our homes." He goes on to suggest that "the darkened condition of the world" compels them to send forth the light of the gospel from that church and from their homes into the broader world.

Thankfully, we do not live in times as dark as those, but Dr. Jones' message still rings true as a call to each of us to share the light and hope of Christ. We do so in a myriad of ways, through prayer and friendship, hospitality and service. Epiphany is the season of light, and it is correspondingly a season of action and mission, a time to make incarnate – to bring to life and put into practice – the good news of the gospel. May we all let our light shine.

Faithfully,

John Rohrs

## **Jr. Warden's Letter**

Happy New Year! 2011 was a very productive year for your Buildings and Grounds Committee. We thank you and your Vestry for giving us the financial wherewithal to tackle much-needed and long-overdue projects. This report will no doubt put some of you to sleep peacefully, but it is important for all to know that dollars are being spent wisely.

In 2011 we began two big projects: 1) brick re-pointing and window lintel replacement and 2) improved drainage throughout the property. Just to recap the work we accomplished: the worst areas on the sanctuary (above Choir Room windows and a crack on the west wall) were repaired; several lintels on White Hall's exposed east side were replaced; new gutters and downspouts were installed on the entire Parish House (offices) and underground pipes were run to drain these to Princess Anne; new sidewalks were poured to improve drainage; new gutters were installed in Sexton's Alley with a storm drain running through the basement to Leigh Street; a new beverage station was built along with cabinet upgrades in White Hall; and the Rectory had all of its windows re-glazed, caulked and painted along with the north and east eaves. The Sanctuary's east side and parts of the north side were cleaned.

The Capital Improvement budget for 2012 will address the following. Complete all re-pointing (to include needed areas of the Sanctuary, White Hall, and the classroom building). Window lintels will be replaced on every window in White Hall and the classroom building, and several windows in the Sanctuary. The west White Hall Alley will be re-poured with concrete and extended to the city sidewalk – roof water will then drain to Princess Anne instead of to the playground, and the trashcans will be

moved here and put out on Princess Anne – cleaning up Sexton’s Alley. The front sidewalk to White Hall will be re-poured as well. The Sanctuary’s copper gutter joints will be resealed with Permafab, stopping the leaking on the east and west sides. The transept and sanctuary stained-glass windows will be re-glazed, caulked and painted. The rectory’s porches and south/west eaves will be scraped and painted. Funds are available for slate tile replacement on the Sanctuary as needed (as they fall off).

Please don’t forget to stop by the Angel’s Corner in the hallway to White Hall. One project that we hoped to include in the 2012 budget (but didn’t make it) is a new icemaker for the kitchen. It’s hard to believe that our hard-working volunteers in the kitchen have no ice unless they bring it in with them. How about we step up and consider making an icemaker donation? We’ve got a lot of celebrating to do in this our Centennial year and 24/7 ice availability would be awesome. Thank you again and here’s to good cheer and warm fellowship as we celebrate this very promising 100<sup>th</sup> year!

Respectfully, Ted Dey

## **STEWARDSHIP 2012 REPORT**

THANK YOU to all of our faithful parishioners who have turned in a pledge card! Thanks to your efforts, we had received 145 pledges, for a total of \$319,699, as of December 20. This represents an achievement of 98.4% of our pledge goal of \$325,000, and we will likely reach that goal as additional pledges come in – it’s never too late to make a pledge to St. Andrew’s! THANK YOU for your commitment to our church community, its programs, and its ministries!

### **Annual Yankee Swap and Chili Dinner Back by Popular Demand**

Sunday evening, January 22nd 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.

A signup sheet for reservations will be in White Hall after the New Year! Make sure you can come for a guaranteed fun evening!

## **Parish Life 2012 Events**

Grab your 2012 calendars and begin to fill it up with Parish Life events. Here’s what we have planned so far:

Sunday, January 22nd ~ Annual Yankee Swap/Chili Dinner

Sunday, February 5th ~ Parish Breakfast

Wednesday, March 14th ~ Lenten Series Dinner

Sunday, March 25th ~ Parish Breakfast

Sunday, April 29th ~ Parish Breakfast

## **2012 Altar Flowers sign up**

It’s that time again – to sign up for altar flowers for 2012. 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 the library. Please note that we plan on trying something different this coming year. 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 M & M bulletin board and at the information desk in White Hall for items needed for our next Cook-in on Sunday, January 15

## **Outreach Ministry**

Ghent Area Ministry is in need of volunteers who can help in any of the following ways: receptionist, answering phones, computer data input, assistance with sorting and helping clients in the coat closet or food pantry, light yard maintenance, or fundraising.

Ghent Area Ministry is a local faith-based ministry called to serve poor and homeless people in the Norfolk community through caring and advocacy.

If you have an hour or two of free time between 9:00am and 3:00pm on weekdays and would like to help, please call Martha Gorman at 622-0438.

Thank you!

Robin Kruger

GAM representative for St. Andrew’s

## **Outreach: Compassionate Works and Unjust Systems**

The year end is a time for love, reflection and plans for the coming years. At St Andrew's we have shared our love with those who are known to us and those we have never met. Sharing resources, engaging in compassionate acts of kindness and praying for guidance, strength and courage are some of the ways we have tried to make a difference in this fragile and complex world.

Now is the time to plan for the future. It is possible to identify areas where we can each be of service to this ever growing human family of 7 (seven) billion. Proverbs 31:8-9 calls us to "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all the destitute. Speak up, judge fairly, and defend the rights of the poor and needy."

I would like to suggest that in addition to compassionate works each of us begin to identify areas where systemic change is required to correct unjust systems. Focus areas are "limitless" and could include child abuse, pollution, disease prevention, nutritional outcomes for the most vulnerable, food and water quality, health care, prison reform, discrimination, violence and bullying etc.

In her book, Sweet Charity, sociologist Janet Poppendieck writes that charity can act as "a sort of moral safety valve; it can reduce the discomfort evoked by visible destitution in our midst by creating the illusion of effective action and offering us myriad ways of participating in it. It can create a culture of charity that normalizes destitution and legitimates personal generosity as a response "to injustice, rather than encouraging the work of systematic change. Change needs to include compassionate works and the redesign of unjust systems.

History has shown us that those who work for change and justice for all rarely get to witness that change. However those of us who follow in their footsteps can remember them and honor their efforts by continuing to work for the benefit of all.

There are many individuals on the Outreach Committee that can help you to obtain information and contacts for an area you would like to explore.  
PSH

## **Adult Forum**

### **Turning the World Upside Down**

Jan 8– Introduction: The Beatitudes with Jay Lassiter  
Jan 15– Blessed are the Peacemakers: Stories of School Desegregation in Norfolk  
Jan 22 – Blessed are the Poor: Mission in Appalachia with Josh Stephens and St. Andrew's Youth  
Jan 29 Blessed are the Persecuted: The Journey of the South Sudanese with William Mayom

## **Youth Program**

### **EYC (Youth Group)**

Jan 13-15 Wintergreen ski trip/Nelson County Weekend with Good Shepherd and Mission of the Holy Spirit  
Jan. 22nd, 6:00-8:00pm - Youth Group. Bring 1 gift per person for game. Entire family is invited. Dinner provided.  
Jan 29th, 5:30-7:00 - Youth Group Mission Trip 2012 meeting for parents and youth. Dinner provided.

### **Sunday School or Christian Education**

January 8th - Sunday School resumes from 9:00-10:00AM for K-8th grade.  
Jan 15th - No Sunday School - MLK weekend  
Jan 22 - Sunday School 9:00-10:00  
Jan 29th - Valentine's Day Activity in White Hall from 9:00-10:00 for all ages

## **Women of St. Andrew's**

After all the trimmings and trappings of the holidays have been packed away and the chilly winds are blowing, plan to join in the fun and fellowship of a Game Day in White Hall on January 28 from 10 AM - 2 PM. Bring your friends to make tables of four or more. The games will be of your choosing, e.g. Mah Jong, bridge, poker, etc. The \$10 cost per person will include lunch, beverage and dessert and lots of fun. Funds generated will go to the outreach projects of the WSA. Signup sheet is available in White Hall. Watch for continued details in the weekly Happenings and bulletin.

*St. Andrew's Episcopal Church*  
1004 Graydon Ave  
Office: 1009 W. Princess Anne Road  
Norfolk, VA 23507

*"Blessings from Heaven since 1911 - celebrating 100 years"*

**Vestry 2011**

Don Lewis, **Senior Warden**

Ted Dey, **Junior Warden**

Charlotte Zito, **Register**

Jim Affeldt

Jerry Butler

Tim Coyle

Lois Gail Davis

Elizabeth Evans

Robin Kruger

Jay Lassiter

Karen Mitchell

Dean Rogis

Becky Ruffin

Deane Sobol

KK West

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*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. In our role as stewards of God's gifts we embrace a comprehensive concept of stewardship as central to our ministry. As a place of hope for all people, we celebrate with joy through grace our oneness in Christ.*

**Saint Andrew's SALTIRE**

The monthly newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Norfolk, Virginia

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The Rt. Rev. Herman Hollerith, Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia

The Reverend John Rohrs, Rector

The Reverend Sam Williams, Deacon

Larry Brett, Treasurer

Dennis Sipes, Parish Administrator

Dr. James Kosnik, Organist/Choir Dir

Richard Rigg, Youth Choir Dir

Jamie Lefferd, Nursery Coordinator

Elizabeth Harris, Nursery Assistant

Josh Stephens, Christian Ed Director/Youth Leader

JonMichel Sipes, Sexton

Steve Blevins, John Hudson & George

Utter, Assistants to the Treasurer

## St. Andrew's Centennial Steering Committee

### Celebrating 100 years of St. Andrew's Church

We welcome the New Year with two special celebrations. First, on Sunday, January 8 at 7 p.m., we will continue a tradition established by the Rev. Edmund Ruffin Jones with the beautiful and moving Feast of Lights service. Our special guest that evening will be harpist Barbara Chapman of the Virginia Symphony. Join us for wine and cheese preceding the service at 6:15 p.m., and for dessert and coffee after the service when we'll have an opportunity to greet Ms. Chapman.

Then it's time for a birthday party! The Centennial Birthday Gala will be held on Friday, February 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Norfolk Yacht and Country Club, 7001 Hampton Boulevard. The event will feature good food and drink, and, of course, great fellowship. Babysitting will be available at the Club by reservation. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased in the parish office or during coffee hour on Sundays. Look for your invitation in the mail, and plan to join us as we continue to celebrate and share those "blessings from heaven since 1911".