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February 2012

Rector's Reflections

What an exciting moment this is in the life of St. Andrew's! Around the time you receive this newsletter, we will be gathering for our Centennial Birthday Gala at the Norfolk Yacht and Country Club. A few weeks later, beginning with the Rev. Charles Joy on February 26 we will welcome back former clergy for a special preaching series during Sundays in Lent. Additionally, guest artists from the Virginia Symphony will join us the first Sunday of Lent and on Palm Sunday.

Meanwhile, as you read in my recent letter and see now in the adjacent article by Don Lewis, we are embarking on a capital campaign in the months ahead. Responding to the congregation's input in the feasibility study, we are forging ahead together to sustain and grow our mission into our second century. It is indeed an exciting time.

All of this wonderful activity makes me think of the Transfiguration story that will be our gospel lesson on the last Sunday before Lent. In that lesson, Jesus and a few disciples climb to the mountaintop to enjoy a blessed moment with God and the great prophets of the past. Together they look back in history, just as we have been doing as a parish, and at the same time they reflect on the mission ahead.

It's such a special moment that the disciples want to stay there, but Jesus knows they must keep moving. The same is true for us. All of these joyous centennial events and exciting meetings about a capital campaign point to something more basic and ordinary about our life together – we are a parish on the move, committed to our ministry in the world. That's why we will be building a Habitat house in honor of our centennial; it's why we are hosting a Stop Hunger Now event in April; and it's why we continue to embrace all of the daily mission work of this parish.

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Sr. Warden's Letter

Dear Friends,

I hope everyone is staying warm, healthy and has gotten their flu shots!

As you have probably heard, after long deliberation, discussion, and earnest prayer, the Vestry has decided that it is time for us to conduct a Capital Campaign. On Jan 8th, the Vestry held a retreat and reviewed the results of the feasibility study compiled by Andie Tilman, from the Episcopal Church Foundation, with enormous help from Ann Dodson. The purpose of the survey was to explore the congregation's views about the feasibility of conducting a capital campaign. In this economy, is this the right time, do we have the capacity, and do we have the will to start down this pathway together?

The Vestry is extremely thankful to the congregation for its willingness and eagerness to participate in the process. The survey was conducted in November 2011 and the response was overwhelming; 97% of respondents indicated a high level of support for conducting a capital campaign and 82% indicated that they would contribute to a campaign at this time. The majority of our congregation is committed to proceeding forward with a campaign. In this time of economic recovery, this demonstration of faith and optimism is truly remarkable and makes me proud to be a member of this parish family.

Based upon the congregation's responses to the survey, the highest priority was to have a new heating and air conditioning system with new exterior windows, to improve efficiency, reduce heating costs, and increase comfort throughout our building (the greening of St. Andrew's).

(Continue on page 2 – second column)

The many mountaintop moments of these months are wonderful, and they also remind us of the blessings and importance of our daily life and work as the people of St. Andrew's.

Faithfully,

John

Getting to Know You.....

Foyer groups are organizing once again at St. Andrew's for this Spring! We've been doing this for over 15 years as a way for parish members to meet new people as well as to stay connected with old friends. Assigned groups usually consist of 8-10 people who meet for a potluck meal once a month, generally about 4 times, in rotating members' homes. If you haven't tried this before, we hope you'll talk to your friends who have, and decide to participate. You can count on great conversation and fellowship, not to mention some truly delicious dinner fare! You are welcome to participate as a couple or with a friend, or else on your own. And, you don't need to host a dinner in your home if you don't choose to; the main point is to come and meet others, let them get to know you, and to come as often as you can. We usually try to set up new groups each spring and fall, so that participants are always circulating, getting to know different parishioners. Please sign up by February 27th to be part of our program for the spring. If you would prefer to eat out, you can indicate that preference; if this is a popular alternative we'll set up one or more such groups. Also, let us know if you would be willing to be a convener" for your Foyer Group (that just means you'd be the point of contact). The signup sheet is in White Hall. We hope to have groups assigned and dinners beginning in March. Any questions, please contact the office at 622-5530 or Kat Viccellio at 423-2573.

Parish Life Breakfast ~ Feasibility Study Presentation Sunday, February 5th

You're invited to enjoy a presentation on the results of our recent Capital Campaign Feasibility Study and enjoy a hearty, hot breakfast at the same time! Start your Sunday morning off with your friends at St. Andrew's on Sunday, February 5th. There's something for all taste buds, both young and not-so-young ~ so bring the whole family. Breakfast will start at 8:45. Join us for good food, good fellowship and good information! PLEASE RSVP if you plan on attending. Signup sheets are in White Hall and you can also RSVP by e-mailing Dennis at dsipes.stec@verison.net!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

This year's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on **Tuesday, February 21, 6 p.m. in White Hall**. Signup sheets are on the "Information Table" in White Hall.

One visit to "Old Red", our ancient cranky boiler, down in the damp recesses of the basement, and you will see that our HVAC system is running on borrowed time. Other priorities include improvements to the restroom facilities, including handicapped accessibility, upgrades to White Hall and the Auditorium, kitchen renovation, and renovation of our playground. The need for a new playground facility was brought home when I counted 31 smiling Little Angels at the Christmas Pageant! In addition, our organ has significantly outdated technology, threatened with "imminent failure" according to Lee Hendricks and Jim Kosnik, and it is time for digital, electronic upgrades that will preserve the gift of beautiful music in our sanctuary.

The decision to embark on a Capital Campaign was not easy but, on balance, we firmly believe that it is time for St Andrew's to take this necessary bold step. The feasibility study has shown us that we do indeed have the capacity, and more importantly, the will to take on this challenge.

Two pillars of our church community, Ann Dodson and Will King, have graciously stepped forward to serve as co-chairs of the Capital Campaign. These two are proven leaders and we all owe them a huge "thank you" for accepting this vital role. But Ann and Will cannot do this without our help. A Capital Campaign will be an "all hands on deck" responsibility. We all must commit to the project and work together in achieving our shared goal.

Right now, the Vestry and several of our standing committees are hard at work going over all the projects, determining the costs and establishing a timeline. We are soon beginning to inform the congregation about the process and to explain the rationale for each step along this journey together.

As we enter the second century of worship together at St Andrews, we have this opportunity to leave a legacy for the next generation by our preserving our church home.

Don Lewis

Vestry Nominations for the term 2012-2015

In order to nominate someone to serve on the Vestry for the 2012 – 2015 term you must complete a Nomination Form. **ALL NOMINATION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SENIOR WARDEN OR PARISH ADMINISTRATOR NO LATER THAN MARCH 18.** 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 Vestry meetings are normally held on the third Monday of each month, and Vestry members typically sit on one standing committee as well. A Vestry member accepts the responsibility of spiritual leadership as well as a business responsibility.

Regular church attendance and financial support is expected. 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 2012-2015 term. I have discussed the matter with this person and he/she has agreed to serve

PERSON NOMINATED

NEST

February 29 – March 7

In the Jan edition of The Saltire, Pat Hodge wrote a moving piece entitled "Outreach: Compassionate Works and Unjust Systems." All of us at St Andrew's, and I do mean ALL, have an opportunity at some level to provide compassionate outreach this winter as we host the Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team from 29 Feb through 6 March. In recognition of the Centennial Year, it would be appropriate for us to seek 100% participation in this worthy goal.

NEST is upon us --- the need is real --- and the opportunity for outreach is knocking on our collective doors loudly indeed! Please help by signing up for the NEST roster and giving either a single night or a portion of a night out of the 366 nights in 2012. If unable to manage direct outreach, then contributions of the NEEDED items (especially knit hats and gloves/mittens) would be appreciated in the NEST blue barrel in White Hall. Finally, monetary contributions will be accepted to cover the cleaning costs (\$750) or other misc costs that accrue during NEST week.

George Utter

Adult Forum

**Welcome to the Episcopal Church
(newcomer series)**

Feb 5 – Capital Campaign Feasibility Study Results

Feb 12– Origins of Anglicanism

Feb 19 – Episcopal Theology: The Rev. John Rohrs

Feb 26 – Episcopal Worship: The Rev. John Rohrs

EYC (Youth Group) Update

Over Martin Luther King weekend, St. Andrew's middle and high schoolers went skiing at Wintergreen with youth from Church of the Good Shepherd and Mission of the Holy Spirit. The trip included a full day of skiing, worship and lunch at Grace Church in Massies Mill, VA, and a hike up Crabtree Falls. We would like to thank the outreach committee for helping to support the Mission of the Holy Spirit kids who were able to attend at no charge. The St. Andrew's youth group is also announcing its 2012 summer mission trip will be from June 18th-23rd. We will be going to Sapelo Island, GA to work with the small Geechee/Gullah community there. Financial support is needed. Please see below for more details on what's ahead:

Feb. 12th , 5:00-8:00pm –Dinner and a Movie (Grades 6-12. We'll be showing the documentary *I Am*)

Feb. 24th – Diocesan Registration Deadline: Happening #58 at Chanco is from March 9th-11th for grades 10-12. Register at www.diosova.org.

Feb 26th , 5:30-7:30pm– Youth Group: Project Time Capsule (Grades 6-12. Dinner provided)

Sunday School Update

Another teacher rotation has taken place smoothly for our elementary aged Sunday school goers. We could use help in both the Nursery and Godly Play on Sunday mornings with numbers growing in both departments. Please sign-up on the bulletin board near White Hall or e-mail Josh at joshpstephens@yahoo.com. We are now sending out monthly reminder e-mails for all Sunday school activities from the nursery up to the middle school class. Please use the e-mail above to request being part of this list. Jamie Lefferd, our Nursery Coordinator, is moving down to Florida due to her husband's new Navy assignment. Her last Sunday is Feb. 12th. Please thank her for setting a high standard in the nursery. Elizabeth Harris, our current Nursery Assistant, will be replacing her starting Feb. 19th.

Feb. 5th, 9:00-9:45am - No Sunday School today. Instead, please enjoy the parish breakfast in WH.

Feb. 12th, 9:00-10:00am - Sunday School will meet in its respective classrooms upstairs

Feb. 19th - No Sunday School – Holiday Weekend

Feb. 26th, 9:00-10:00am - Sunday School will meet in its respective classrooms upstairs

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

CENTENNIAL LENTEN PREACHING SERIES

Throughout our 100 year history, St. Andrew's has been blessed with rectors who have guided and inspired us. As part of our Centennial celebration, we're welcoming back several of the folks who have been an integral part of our congregation over the years. Please join us as we welcome back some of the clergy who were indeed "blessings from heaven".

February 26 – The Reverend Charles Joy.

March 4 – The Reverend Catherine "Kaki" Swann

March 11 – The Reverend Julia Dorsey Loomis

March 18 – The Reverend Skip Hutton

March 26 – The Reverend Segar Gravatt