



February 2013

Rector's Reflections

The first time I set foot in the nave at St. Andrew's, I was immediately struck by the stained glass windows. Out of all possible themes, the members of this congregation chose to highlight the acts of mercy in Matthew 25: "I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, sick and cared for me, in prison and you visited me."

This is the calling of a compassionate, Christ-centered community, and it's a calling that this church has followed devoutly for decades. As a means of highlighting our various outreach efforts and getting new people involved in them, I have been working with the Mission and Ministry Committee to organize our ministries into the categories reflected in the windows. The idea is not to change what we do but to provide a compelling framework for our mission, and to encourage each member of the church to commit to sharing in at least one of those acts of mercy.

To kick off this effort, the Mission and Ministry Committee decided to focus on the theme of hunger during the upcoming season of Lent. Details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, but I will highlight a few events. On Sunday, February 24 at 2:00 PM we will gather in White Hall to participate in our second annual meal-packing party for Stop Hunger Now. It's a fun event for all ages, and we will package 10,000 meals to benefit needy families around the world. Soon after, on Wednesday, March 6, we will begin our traditional week as hosts for the Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team (NEST), a temporary homeless shelter in White Hall. As usual, we will need many volunteers to prepare meals, staff overnight shifts, and support this important ministry.

Meanwhile, to supplement these and other ministry actions related to hunger (including a Lenten food drive and on-going ministries like our AIDS Cook-in

and Catholic Worker Sandwich Ministry), we will be holding our own Lenten Supper Series this year. We will gather from 6:00 – 7:30 PM on Wednesdays for four weeks, except for the third Wednesday when you may choose to volunteer or simply join the evening meal and conversation at 7:30 PM. The series will help us learn more about this particular act of mercy and how we can make a difference in alleviating hunger. The schedule is as follows, with more details to come:

Wednesday, Feb. 20 Biblical/Theological
Introduction: "I Was Hungry and You Fed Me"

Wednesday, Feb. 27 The Facts and Faces of Hunger:
Local and Global Perspectives

Wednesday, Mar. 6 An Evening with Our Guests
(Volunteer or share a meal at NEST)

Wednesday, Mar. 13 Combating Hunger: What We
Can Do

I hope that you will join in some or all of these activities as we reflect and commit together to feed those who are hungry and in the process feed our souls.

Faithfully,

John

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

This year's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on **Tuesday, February 12, 6 p.m. in White Hall**. Signup sheets are on the "Information Table" in White Hall.

Ash Wednesday Services

Noon and 7:00 pm
Wednesday, February 13

Vestry Nominations for the term 2013-2016

In order to nominate someone to serve on the Vestry for the 2013-2016 term you must complete a Nomination Form. **ALL NOMINATION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SENIOR WARDEN OR PARISH ADMINISTRATOR NO LATER THAN MARCH 15.** 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 2013-2016 term. I have discussed the matter with this person and he/she has agreed to serve

PERSON NOMINATED

St. Andrew's Flower Guild

When you walk into the church on Sunday morning to worship, what is the first thing you look for? Is it our friends? Is it your family? Is it a place to sit? or is it the altar? We know you will find your family and friends and we know you'll find a place to sit, and we know you will look at the altar. Isn't it beautiful? It is because of the many St. Andrew's members who give the flowers in memory or thanksgiving of those whom they love.

It was the Lord himself who urged us to "consider the lilies, how they grow" (Matthew 6:28). In doing so, he directs us in an awesome encounter. The use of flowers in the church is an expression of joy and love to our Lord and gives life to our worship.

Flowers at St. Andrew's are provided by the talented and devoted volunteers of the Flower Guild. Their work is a partnership between the donors who

contribute money for flower memorials and thanksgivings, and members of the Guild who give their time and considerable talent to create the arrangements. The Guild provides floral arrangements in the church for all Sundays except during Lent and Advent, with extensive floral decorations of the sanctuary and narthex at Christmas and Easter. Flowers for baptisms, funerals and church receptions are also provided by the Flower Guild.

Flower Guild volunteers expect to serve once every 6-8 weeks, and everyone helps with Easter and Christmas. New members are welcome and no experience is necessary. All you need is a desire to learn and a love of beauty. Contact Lee Snyder for more information at flrguru@cox.net or Elizabeth at eliz.snyder@gmail.com.

Lee and Elizabeth are willing to conduct some classes at the end of February for those who are interested in joining the Flower Guild, just contact one of them.

Norfolk A Cappella Ensemble

The Norfolk A Cappella Ensemble, under the direction of Stephanie Brown, is proud to present an exciting program called "A Light In the Darkness;" a stunning array of choral music that evokes the ethereal, the stark, and the hopeful. The program will take place in the Sanctuary of St. Andrew's, on Sunday, February 10, at 4:00 pm. Admission is free.

Lent Food Ministries Outreach

This Lenten Outreach initiative is designed to illustrate the many ways we can reach out to combat hunger in our community and the world. Our world can produce enough food to feed all of God's people, but food resources and production are unevenly distributed. Solutions to this problem are many and complex and involve advocacy and planning as well as gifts of food and the means to produce food.

During Lent there will be opportunities to volunteer, donate and advocate. Join with fellow St. Andrew's parishioners as we explore the many ways we can reach out to help "feed the hungry." Further information can be found on the website. Sign-up sheets to volunteer are on the table in White Hall. Financial donations can be made out to St. Andrew's with the specific project noted on the memo line and sent to the church office. (Please see M&M insert for more information).

NEST

March 6 – 13

We will host the Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team from 6 March through 13 March. 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 365 nights in 2013. If unable to manage direct outreach, then contributions of the NEEDED items (especially knit hats and gloves/mittens and men's socks) would be appreciated. Finally, monetary contributions will be accepted to cover the cleaning costs (\$750) or other misc costs that accrue during NEST week.

Scarves Needed for NEST

When the weather outside is frightful, a knitted or crocheted scarf can help to make a person more comfortable. Rev. Sam Williams, our deacon, has asked the Prayer Shawl Ministry if they could provide knitted scarves for those who attend NEST. To help get the number we need, the request has been put out to the entire congregation. Scarves can be easily knitted by those who are skilled or who are just beginning to knit. Go to the St. Andrew's web site for some suggestions. At a minimum, you can knit a scarf using a straight knit stitch. Scarves should be knitted in a dark color of a washable yarn. The length should be 45-48 inches and approximately 8" wide. NEST begins in early March so scarves should be finished by the end of February at the latest. A labeled bag has been placed across from the church administration office and you can deposit your scarves there.

Adult Forum

Feb 3-- Outreach Focus: I Was Hungry/You Fed Me with Pat Hodge

Feb 10-- Our next series begins "Parables & Miracles" with Rev. Charles Riddle

Feb 17 -- The Wisdom and Wonder of Jesus, Part II with Rev. Charles Riddle

Feb 24 -- The Wisdom and Wonder of Jesus, Part III with Rev. Charles Riddle

Youth Program

Christian Formation in February

Feb. 3: Group Children's Sunday School and Parish Breakfast in White Hall, 9-10am

Feb. 10: Sunday School, 9-10am

Feb. 17: No Sunday School

Feb. 24: Sunday School, 9-10am

Youth Group (EYC) in February

Feb. 10: Mission Trip 2013 Meeting and Dinner for Parents and Youth at 5:30pm

Feb. 17: Youth Group Dinner and Game Night, 5:30-9:30

Women of St. Andrew's

Women of St. Andrew's: Chase away the winter chill at a Winter Game Day on Feb 9, from 10 AM until 2 PM in White Hall. Bring along your friends. Game offerings are mahjong, bridge, other card games and board games at your suggestion. Ticket price is \$10 per person and will include morning coffee, tea, snack, lunch, and dessert. Extra funds are applied to the outreach projects of the WSA. Signup sheet is located in White Hall. Gentlemen, please note that you are welcome to join in.

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Vestry

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Dean Rogis, **Junior Warden**
Charlotte Zito, **Register**
Jim Affeldt
Elizabeth Evans
Carter Furr
Sally Kellam
Robin Kruger
Jay Lassiter
Karen Mitchell
Wendy Nuzzo
Deane Sobol
Donald Swift
Tristan Carter Warren
KK West



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 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
Elizabeth Harris, Nursery Coordinator
Josh Stephens, Christian Ed Director/Youth Leader
JonMichel Sipes, Sexton
Steve Blevins & John Hudson, & Pat Garris, Assistants to the Treasurer

Parish Life News

Parish Life Breakfast: Please join us on Sunday, February 3 at 8:45 a.m. for our next Parish Life breakfast in White Hall. Please sign up in White Hall so that we may get a count has for how many to prepare food for.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper/Easter Morning Breakfast Cooks: The St. Andrew's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and the Easter morning breakfast have traditionally been prepared by men from St. Andrew's (for several years now Mark Jones and Bob Young have done the cooking). This year we are seeking some additional men to help with these two of events this coming year (**February 12 at 6 p.m. and March 31 at 8:00 a.m.**). If interested, please contact the Parish Office.

Coffee Hour: Roses are red, violets are blue and you will be too if people don't sign up to host coffee hour. Please consider hosting a coffee hour, signup sheet is located in White Hall.