



# THE ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

# CALL

NO. 370  
FALL  
2015

## New Clergy at St. Andrew's



The Rev. Margaret Schwarzer



The Rev. Catherine Healy

See page 3, "Three Questions for Our New Clergy"

## Our True Spiritual Home



The Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole

KNOW THAT MANY OF YOU HAVE been to England, and I imagine you may have visited some of England's ancient churches while there. One of the first things you will have noticed about these venerable

buildings is that even the smallest of churches has been added to, altered, and changed over the years. These changes are an architectural testimony to how the life of the church is never static, but is constantly adapting to meet new spiritual circumstances and opportunities.

The same is true of our church building at St. Andrew's. Along the wall of the corridor leading from the parish offices into the church sanctuary is a line of photographs depicting St. Andrew's over the decades. The first picture is of the original church building and the succeeding photographs show how the building has been altered in response to new circumstances.

We are often reminded that the real meaning of the word "church"

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## Our True Spiritual Home, continued

is not the building, but the people. The word for “church” used in the New Testament is the Greek word *ecclesia*, which means “gathering or assembly of people.” And just as church buildings change, so do the people who make up an individual church congregation. It is estimated that the average healthy church congregation will change by 10-15% every year. Typically, a church loses that percentage of its members through moving away, death, and attrition, which means a congregation needs to attract new members equaling 10-15% of current membership just to maintain its size.

Just as the congregation of a church changes, so do the clergy who provide spiritual and pastoral leadership. Over the summer we said farewell to Brian Rebholtz, who had been such an important part of this parish for the last four years. This fall, you will see new additions to the clergy “architecture” of the parish. We are pleased to welcome the Rev. Margaret Schwarzer as the new associate rector for adult formation and

membership, and the Rev. Catherine Healy as the new assistant rector for youth and family. By now, I hope that you have had a chance to read their profiles, if not meet them in person. Their resumes show that they bring to St. Andrew’s a wide range of experience, and that they have been educated at some of the finest colleges and universities in the country.

Margaret and Catherine will bring new perspectives to St. Andrew’s, which will contribute to the vitality of our parish. Catherine, who comes straight from Harvard Divinity School, will bring to the parish the fruits of a first rate theological education, as well as her experience of running children’s and youth ministries in several parishes. Margaret will bring a wealth of experience from her twenty years of ministry as a university chaplain, an assistant rector, and an interim rector. I am looking forward to our new clergy developing deep and life-giving pastoral relationships with our congregation. Most importantly, I am hoping that they

will help each of us to further recognize how the Holy Spirit is working in our lives and calling us to use our gifts and talents to serve God and our neighbor.

In a recent article about the need for the church to be agile, ever-adapting, and a true spiritual home, the author argued that the church should be a place where we can talk about important spiritual matters. For a church to be a “home,” not just a building, it needs to be a place where we can talk about our hopes and fears, and about how God is with us intimately, no matter what the circumstances, among our family, friends, and enemies, giving us the opportunity to share God’s peace, love, forgiveness, hope, and reconciliation. I am excited about how Margaret and Catherine will help us to have these transformational conversations and experiences.

Yours in Christ,



## Warden’s Letter

### Ready to Jump into a Most Exciting New Program Year



Lynda Sperry

HOPE EVERYONE HAD a relaxing and restorative summer and is ready to jump into a most exciting new program year.

In September, we come back together with renewed energy to reconnect with our church and each other. This September holds many wonderful changes, highlighted by new additions to our clergy: Margaret Schwarzer, associate rector for adult formation and membership, and Catherine Healy, assistant rector for youth and family. I hope you will welcome both Margaret and Cat to St. Andrew’s with open hearts and help them as they settle in and get to know us.

But before you unpack your Ray-Bans, Topsiders, and sunscreen, consider the beehive of activity at St. Andrew’s this spring:



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As our beloved Brian Rebholtz indicated in his final sermon, St. Andrew's is especially good at welcoming graduates of seminary and nurturing them in a warm, supportive environment to prepare them as leaders in The Episcopal Church. This is an important function that we serve for The Episcopal Church, as few other churches have the resources and "flexibility" to offer these opportunities for those just starting their priesthood. We hope that Cat will find that she is supported not only by Adrian and Margaret, but by the church school committee, and by the parish as a whole.

Whether it is welcoming new clergy, newcomers, or pew mates, our community makes its best effort to help people feel comfortable and to let them know we are glad to be with them. St. Andrew's is a vibrant church that sees newcomers exploring churches throughout the year, but the fall in particular is a time when many people are searching for a

spiritual home or church school.

Margaret will be leading our efforts in welcoming and bringing in new members. With the help of our membership committee, she will do a brilliant job, but it is incumbent on all of us to keep our eyes open and reach out to newcomers.

We can all remember the nervousness we felt entering a new church for the first time and the relief we experienced when we received a warm greeting. Please join me in introducing our newcomers to all that St. Andrew's has to offer. Take a look at the calendar insert for the many activities we have planned for the fall and help get our newcomers engaged.

In addition to the many activities planned, the staff has been busy preparing our building for the new year. You will notice the improvements, including the painted transept chapel, new lighting in the sanctuary, the repaired woodwork on our side entrance, the painted downstairs hallways (also decorated with new photos),

and the rearrangement of the offices to accommodate our new clergy.

In our continuing efforts to plan for the future and to make St. Andrew's a vital part of your life, we would like everyone ages 16 and over to take our parish survey. It has been ten years since our last survey, which brought about beneficial changes to many aspects of our worship experience and parish life, including the launch of the Christian Learning Series, changes to the music program, and improvements to the website. You will be receiving information about the survey in mid-September, and we hope to have everyone complete the survey by the end of October. Thank you in advance for your help.

As in every fall, there is energy and excitement at St. Andrew's. Welcome back! I look forward to another fulfilling year together.



## Three Questions for Our New Clergy

**MARGARET SCHWARZER** is joining St. Andrew's Church as our new Associate Rector for Adult Formation and Membership. **CATHERINE HEALY** is joining us as our new Assistant Rector for Youth and Family. Before they both officially moved in and set up their offices at St. Andrew's, The CALL had an opportunity to ask them both a few questions about becoming a minister; what impressed them about St. Andrew's, and something unique about themselves. —*Dan Dent*

### What prompted you to become a minister?

**MARGARET:** My mother's family have been Episcopalians for generations, and my father's family were Lutherans and Roman Catholics who found a happy compromise in their family's religious

traditions by becoming Episcopal. I grew up in a household which discussed Scripture and life's larger purposes, attended church, worked on the Altar Guild, and participated in Confirmation Classes. I discovered my own desire to be ordained on the campus of Phillips Academy, where I went to boarding school with my twin sister when I was 14 years old. I joined the Chapel Fellowship and met The Reverend Philip Zaeder, a creative and dynamic Presbyterian minister whose faith hummed with service, intellectual debate, and a love of written scripture. He knew how to "keep the feast" in the church, and in his own life. Over time, I came to understand that what he did was exactly what I wanted to do. A life of ordained

Christian ministry began calling to me when I was a junior in high school, and future experiences and testing proved priesthood was, indeed, the work I was built for.

**CATHERINE:** I have always found that the Church and the sacraments help me draw closer to God, and I first felt called to the priesthood when I realized that I wanted to help other people meet God by sharing those sacraments with them. I also believe that followers of Jesus need to "encourage one another and build up each other" (1 Thessalonians 5:11) in the hard work of healing the world, and I have always felt called to help make church a place of encouragement and joy, one that energizes people to do that

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## Three Questions for Our New Rectors, *continued*

work. Catholic Worker Movement founder Dorothy Day was onto something when she wrote, “We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community.”

### What about St. Andrew’s most excites you?

MARGARET: I was impressed to discover how carefully the St. Andrew’s community reflected upon what you wanted your new Associate Rector to do. Preaching, teaching, and building up church membership are some of the things I love the most about ministry; they are core competencies of mine. What made St. Andrew’s irresistible is the passion you and your Rector Adrian have for maintaining traditional Adult Education and Membership work, while exploring new ways to teach, new ways to engage, and new ways to live into an Episcopal life of

the 21st Century. “Behold,” says Christ, “I make all things new.”

CATHERINE: I am so thrilled by the opportunity to serve a congregation that celebrates the gifts, talents, and leadership of its youngest members! The thriving church school, youth group, and confirmation program at St. Andrew’s speak volumes about the priorities of this community, and I’m honored that I’ll be taking over the ministries that the magnificent Brian Rebholtz built up during his time here.

### Tell us something about yourself that really makes you, you.

MARGARET: I love words, but I also love silence. Spending an afternoon quietly walking through an art museum, or standing on the sidelines while my 11 year old son, Ben, plays soccer on a Saturday (with an occasional yell of support from me) fill me up

in ways that words can’t. I love to engage scripture, and poetry—modern and ancient—but the silence found in beaches and woods, soccer fields and museums, is a core part of my life, too.

CATHERINE: I am always, always, always in the middle of a book, and can’t resist any novel set in a city where I’ve lived. Right now I’m in the middle of Stephanie Grant’s *Map of Ireland*, set in South Boston in 1974, at the height of the Boston busing crisis. I highly recommend it. (Another of my favorite Boston books is Zadie Smith’s *On Beauty*, which is set in “Wellington,” a fictional suburb that is home to a well-known liberal arts college. . .) I am also at my happiest when I’m on a bicycle. No matter the weather, you can look forward to spotting me careening around Wellesley on my rusty old Schwinn.

## On Being a Newcomer at St. Andrew’s



Charlene Smith

**A** SOUTH AFRICAN FRIEND asked before I visited the Cape recently, “Is it as beautiful as our Cape?”

I am South African-born and I know the answer she sought. I responded, “The places where we are happiest are the most beautiful.”

But then again, I have the happi-

ness gene. I was happy in Japan and Argentina. I am happy here. I never thought I’d ever leave Africa; being African is the most important part of me. I still feel that if you cut my skin, its red soil will leak out. But loving a country or a continent is like being a parent; after the birth of your first child you believe you will never love anyone as much, and then you have another, and your heart grows. By this stage of my life my heart covers several galaxies, but New England and I are having a particularly passionate affair.

Born Anglican, I went to a Catholic school, and the first great rejection of my life was when, at 16, my application to become a nun was turned down. However, it was Archbishop Desmond Tutu who baptized my children and with whom I have a very long friendship. Faith allows us

into cultures, and it should allow greater tolerance, not less. I’ve studied Hinduism and the word “Namaste” tells me how believers should behave, palms pressed in peace, bowing to another, “the God in me honors the God in you.” It was Gandhi who learned *satyagraha*, which literally translates as “love power,” in South Africa, and Nelson Mandela who honed it by urging us to make friends of our enemies. I love the gentleness of Buddhism, the way Shintoism and African and Native American traditional beliefs respect nature. I have a Jewish adopted son, and through him love and respect Judaism. I have Muslim friends and I’ve read the Qur’an. I’m touched by how the Prophet respected Jesus and his mother so much that when he ordered all idols to be destroyed, he except-

ed those of Jesus and his mother. His final prophecy is that Jesus will return as humanity's savior.

When I moved to Wellesley, my Cambridge friends sneered, "Oh, Swellesley, you'll hate it." I love it. My neighbors brought so many treats when I moved in, it felt like a sugar war. People are friendly and interested in others. In St.

**W**E BEGAN ATTENDING St. Andrew's Church in the fall of 2014, after deciding that the Roman Catholic Church was not changing its practices fast enough. On our first visit, I was puzzled to see so many people wearing plaid. I had envisioned the Episcopalians as a tweedy crowd, but this was over the top. Only later did I learn that, by chance, we had come on St. Andrew's Day, when parishioners observe the feast day by wearing tartans. There was much we needed to learn about the liturgy, the history, and the culture of St. Andrew's. Fortunately, we have been welcomed universally—by greeters, by fellow churchgoers, and by clergy. We really enjoyed



Nancy Echlov

**E**ven for an adult, it's not easy being "new." When I came back to St. Andrew's after being away for more than twenty-five years (I was here as a teenager), my father was one of the

Andrews there is a home. I was privileged to sit in on Brian's final group discussion on Revelations—how I regret not making the time to attend all. Adrian's sermons are simple, yet deeply intellectual, and urge us to the compassion of our Lord. Jane Andrews is a gift from God, with the deep interest she takes in newcomers.

the Newcomers' brunch in the spring, where we were introduced to committee chairs and were encouraged to get involved. We also enjoyed the gathering of newcomers who met in the Harvey Room after services for a casual introduction to each other and to the clergy. My advice to other newcomers is to get involved in a service project. You will meet others who are service-minded, and you will feel satisfied to be contributing to the mission of the parish. Here is what any newcomer ought to know: Beware of Bargain Haul. The rummage sale is a production with a capital "P."

—Mary Scanlon and Victor Calcaterra

few people I knew in the congregation. I had no plans other than to attend 8am services. But early on, a wonderful thing happened. The associate rector asked me how (not if) I would like to be involved in the church, and soon I began my altar guild training. Being involved in the worship process and getting to know and work with this great group for the past eighteen years has made me feel part of St. Andrew's. Through friends on altar guild I have also become active in the knitting ministry, the lay eucharistic ministry, and B-SAFE, all things I love to do. By helping me engage with the activity of the church, the associate rector was truly welcoming me to St. Andrew's.

I was met with encouragement, from the men's book group, and from Adrian, Brian, and Jane, with my wish to start a book group. It starts at the end of August and I look forward to exploring the worlds of literature, humanity, faith, and the blessings of being among family.

## Our Newcomers' Programs

THE NEXT TIME YOU WELCOME A VISITOR to St. Andrew's, share this list of Newcomers Programs. You can find all the details on our website, which features an events calendar, visitor's kit, and membership committee contacts.

### Newcomer Brunches

Whether you have been attending services at St. Andrew's for one month or one year, you are invited to attend a newcomer brunch. It's a great chance to meet clergy and parishioners, and for us to get to know you. Childcare will be provided.

- Sunday, November 1, 2015.
- Sunday, April 3, 2016.

### Chat with the Rector

Join us for an hour of coffee and conversation with Rector Adrian Robbins-Cole and members of the welcoming committee to discuss your questions about St. Andrew's right after the 10am service. Childcare will be provided. (See calendar, or contact the rector)

- Sunday, October 4, 2015.
- Sunday, February 7, 2016.

### Inquirers' Class

Join the clergy for a chance to explore your spiritual journey by attending a series of meetings from 11:30am – 12:30pm on three Sundays. Save January 10, 17, & 24, 2016.

### Coventry Suppers

Groups of 8–10 people are formed in the fall and gather during the year in homes for a shared meal. This is a nice way to connect with other parishioners. Dates to be determined.

### Parish-wide Fellowship Events

Visit the church website for our calendar of fellowship events. Highlights this fall include:

- **Parish Picnic**, Sunday, September 13 at Tenacre Day School.
- **Day of Service**, Saturday, October 24.
- **St. Andrew's Day**, Observed Sunday November 22.

# Responding with Love

## Church Faces Community Turmoil



Dan Dent

FOLLOWING IS THE FIRST in an occasional series on happenings around our Diocese. This article is about St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Framingham, where our former director of religious education, Julie Carson, is now rector.

**F**ramingham has emerged in recent decades as a community in need of healing. One source of its challenges has been an influx of Brazilian and other immigrant populations that has come up against a small but vocal

population of entrenched locals.

"The anti-immigrant sentiment in the public arena was palpable," is the way it's described by Rev. Lori Mills-Curran, Deacon and Coordinator of Christian Formation at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Framingham. "So we knew we had to respond in some way."

The church decided to participate in the diocesan Leadership Development Initiative, a community organizing academy, and chose as their first project to offer a Brazilian Children's Day party, which 500 people from the community attended.

St. Andrew's, Framingham is a mission hub church, a relatively new idea within the Diocese of Massachusetts that was promoted by the late Bishop Thomas Shaw. In June 2014, the Diocese launched two new mission hubs to serve the North Shore and Boston's Metrowest area. A mission hub is a collaboration of three or more Episcopal churches in a geographic region, committed to implementing mission outside the walls of their church buildings.

According to the Diocese website, churches working together in hubs are able to pool their resources and talents, allowing them to do far more than a single church could do alone. Successful hubs strengthen relationships between churches, between parishioners, and between the churches and the community—all of which contributes to long-term sustainability.

"Our church's response to the challenges in Framingham was to open our doors to the Brazilian community and arrange for our parishioners to contribute their talents," said Rev. Lori. For the past few years, the church has offered weekly classes in Portuguese as a heritage language, and there are plans to offer business management workshops "because there is a real entrepreneurial spirit in the Brazilian community."

The church also plans to offer English language classes and SAT preparation. Parents could take English, while their children take Portuguese. "Brazilians are very family oriented, so sharing a language helps the family dynamic at home. Our older parishioners are also sought after. Because many immigrants move to the U.S. without elders, they love our older parishioners. It's the voice of the grandparent they miss."

The new programs at St. Andrew's, Framingham are bringing in new parishioners, "but it's not the Brazilians who are joining us, it's the Americans who see what we're doing and want to be part of a vibrant parish," Rev. Lori explained. "We welcome everyone, but we didn't simply set out to reach a certain number. At the start of this process, we asked a simple question, 'Where is Jesus's heart being broken in our community?' The answer to us was pretty clear. And people responded."



Photo: Courtesy of St. Andrew's, Framingham

St. Andrew's, Framingham is a mission hub church

## About the Metrowest Hub

**T**HE METROWEST HUB is an ecumenical collaboration that includes St. Andrew's Church in Framingham, St. Luke's Church in Hudson, Epiphany Church in Walpole, St. Paul's Church in Hopkinton, and Christ Church in Medway, in addition to a Lutheran church and a Presbyterian church. The Metrowest area has the second highest concentration of Brazilian immigrants in Massachusetts, and the hub is focused on

providing English and Portuguese language classes for the newcomer families.

To learn more, visit St. Andrew's Church in Framingham on the web at [standrewsframma.org](http://standrewsframma.org) and Mission Hubs at [diomass.org/mission-hubs](http://diomass.org/mission-hubs). You can also contact St. Andrew's Rector, the Rev. Julie Carson at 508/875-5095 or [jcarson@standrewsframma.org](mailto:jcarson@standrewsframma.org) and the Rev. Lori Mills-Curran at [lmcii@aol.com](mailto:lmcii@aol.com).



# St. Andrew's Stained Glass Windows



*"I am the Light of the World"*



*"Lo, I am with you always"*

Photos: Katharine Clark

IN 1983, St. Andrew's parish historian and scholar Gertrude Green Cronk published a pamphlet describing the beautiful collection of stained glass windows that adorn our sanctuary. Here is the fifth in an ongoing series about the windows we plan to publish in *THE CALL* and eventually in an updated version of Gertrude's pamphlet. — *Jane Givens*

## The Lathrop Windows

The far left and far right windows of the south aisle are in memory of Adele Lathrop (1875-1956), given by her sister, Mrs. Roselle Lathrop Shields. They embody Miss Lathrop's scholarly interests and testify to her devotion to teaching and her devotion to Christ. She was one of the first two women elected to St. Andrew's vestry, where she served 1924-26 and 1941-43. She taught at New York's Horace Mann School, Wellesley College, and Pine Manor Junior College.

The theme of the left window, "I

am the Light of the World," which is written across its central lancet, shows a standing figure of Christ surrounded by a glory with gold rays symbolizing light. His right hand is in the attitude of benediction; in his left he holds an open Bible inscribed with the Alpha and Omega. His feet rest upon a globe, representing the entire world of man. This is the world-wide missionary theme of Epiphany.

The four races of the world are represented in the side lancets. The standing figure of the black race and seated figure of the brown race face a lighted candle symbolizing the light of Christ. The medallion on the right encloses a standing figure in oriental dress, representing the yellow race, and a kneeling figure in western dress, representing the white race. They, too, pray toward the candle of Christ's "light."

The theme of the far right window is suggested by the text from

Matthew 28:20: "Lo, I am with you always," printed on either side of the figure of Christ. The Christ sits on the arc of a rainbow, his arms outstretched to include all men. Two winged cherubs and a conventionalized cloud are below him. Thus comes the confirmation that the Christ who is always with men is likewise the Christ whose eternal abode is the heavenly kingdom.

The left lancet of this window encloses a business man seated at his desk. Behind him, books and a globe. Outside his window, the modern world impinges. He is the same figure shown in the right lancet of the first Lathrop window.

The right lancet depicts a young girl in her home, being taught by her mother from an open Bible on the table before them. Thus the artist embodies Miss Lathrop's long devotion to the art of teaching and to the guidance of youth toward the worship of Christ.

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