

# THE CALL

ST. ANDREW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

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FALL 2017

## Homecoming



*The Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole*

**A**S WE RETURN from the summer to St. Andrew's for Homecoming Sunday on September 10, work is already underway to plan the celebration of the 125th anniversary of our church home in 2019. We will be both giving thanks for all that has gone before us and looking forward to the next 125 years in the life of our church community.

In 2019, we will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the foundation of our much-loved church building. The ground was broken for constructing the church on June 18, 1894, and the first church service took place on St. Andrew's Day, November 30, 1894. Many of you will remember the Centennial celebration of the church in 1994. However, the earliest beginnings of our parish began a few decades before 1894.

The first Episcopal service in Wellesley, then known as West Needham, took place in 1875 in Waban Hall, where Tutto Italiano is now located, with clergy from St. Paul's Church, Natick, officiating.

In 1880 the services were moved to the upper room of Archie McClellan's wheelwright shop, which stood opposite the entrance to the Town Hall. In 1886 services moved to the new Town Hall. At that time, much of the congregation was made up of faculty and students from Wellesley College and Dana Hall. The faculty members at Wellesley College were instrumental in persuading the Bishop of Massachusetts to establish a mission church in Wellesley in 1891, known as Christ Mission. On March 22, 1892, the Bishop authorized the mission to become a fully organized parish, with the name: Saint Andrew's Church.

The first 125 years of the parish have been rich in history; two world wars, the Great Depression, the boom years of the 1950s, when the parish grew as the town of Wellesley expanded, and the social and political upheavals of the 1960s, to name but a few. Over these past 125 years, St. Andrew's has provided a source of spiritual strength and has been a sign of Christ's love, whatever the challenges or opportunities facing our community or nation. And, during these 125 years, the congregation and its church buildings have expanded enormously since the humble days of meeting above Mr. McClellan's shop. The legacy we have inherited has come to us thanks to the energy, vision, commitment, and generosity of parishioners down the last 125 years.

In 2019, we will celebrate the 125th anniversary in a number of

different ways, spread throughout the year. There will be a special St. Andrew's Day service in November, to which former St. Andrew's clergy will be invited, and a large celebratory gala party in the late spring. At the 100th anniversary in 1994 a written history of the parish was produced and given to each church family. For this anniversary, we are planning to produce a pictorial history book of St. Andrew's over the last 125 years. Finally, as we give thanks for the legacy we have received from our forebears, we will be invited to consider how we can "pay it forward" to help secure our church for future generations. One idea is to ask parishioners to put St. Andrew's in their wills as part of their estate planning. We will be considering other ways in which we can help our parish thrive in the future.

We have established a small working group to plan and oversee the 125th celebrations, and we will continue to keep you informed as our plans develop. But above all, let us give thanks for all we have received from God, and from each other, in helping us to grow spiritually and become more fully the people God wishes us to be—as signs of Christ's love in our world.

Yours in Christ,

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## Warden's Message

### Welcome home!



Nancy Hancock, Warden

*Home! That was what they meant, those caressing appeals, those soft touches wafted through the air, those invisible little hands pulling and tugging, all one way.*

—From *The Wind in the Willows*  
by Kenneth Grahame

**O**UR FAMILY MOVED around rather a lot as I was growing up. Rockford, IL; Wichita, KS; Columbus, NE; Owensboro, KY; Kankakee, IL—and that was only by the time I was seven!

With each move, our family would establish "home" largely through the efforts of my mother, a stay-at-home, cookie-baking, curtain-sewing, registered nurse (raised a Lutheran), for whom the German triad of "Kinder, Küche, Kirche" summed up the essentials. Children, kitchen, church. And Mom made sure that we were all bound together. In today's world, the expression may sound hopelessly antiquated, but with corporate moves and the upheaval of moving a family of five every few years, that focus on the basics was bedrock.


Wherever we landed, one of the first orders of business was to find and get involved with the local Episcopal church. My parents knew that our family would be at home

there, even before we were entirely settled at our new address. We plunged in: we went to services, Sunday school, and potlucks. My sisters and I sang in the choir, and I was a member of the Girls' Friendly Society. Our parents taught Sunday school and helped with the Every Member Canvass (or, as we at St. Andrew's call it, the annual Stewardship campaign). Mom did a bit of everything—altar guild, flower guild—and Dad served as warden and in other vestry roles. My parents still say that some of their deepest and most enduring friendships grew out of our church communities.

Over the past several months, I've worshiped at Episcopal churches in Illinois, Louisiana, and Colorado. In each, I've found a special sense of belonging and welcome. Though services may vary some from place to place, the familiarity of the Book of Common Prayer and our hymnal allows me to ease into worship comfortably. I feel at home.

Still, there's nothing like returning to St. Andrew's. You might expect that with such a nomadic childhood I'd feel pretty cavalier about the concept of "home." Actually, quite the contrary was true. I am fiercely attached to and protective of home and all that it represents: acceptance, comfort, love, and the people who know me best and can challenge me toward a better version of myself. Invariably, I feel *those invisible little hands pulling and tugging* me back to the church that we share and love. I'm awed and grateful for our vibrant, warm, energetic, generous community, and I can't wait to kick off a new year together.

Welcome home!



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# St. Andrew's on the Road

## Turkey Trots and Catacombs



The Rev. Margaret Schwarzer

**H**OMECOMINGS ARE ABOUT returning to a familiar spot we know and love with the new perspective gained while we were away. We see our home base with new eyes, hold it dearer, and perhaps see it more clearly, because of our time away. As we settle into pews and classrooms this September, I want to ask you to mark your calendars for two new opportunities to take to the open road and learn from the journey: the Wellesley Turkey Trot, and our parish's planned pilgrimage to Italy.

### St. Andrew's Turkey Trot Team

On Thursday, November 23, 2017, our second annual St. Andrew's Turkey Trot team will pound down the asphalt of Wellesley's main streets, raising money for charities and "running the race set before us," as the Letter to the Hebrews instructs us to do. Last year, 60 of us ranging in age from seven to 75, launched ourselves into the 5K and cheered each other on as we crossed the finish line. Some of us had run many a marathon, while others were running a footrace for the first time, but we all agreed that it was exhilarating to cross the finish line as a church family.

Money was raised for good causes, we gave thanks for the blessings in our lives by helping to create blessings in other people's

lives, and we had a blast while we did it. Some people who didn't run staffed a water table set up by our fellowship committee, while other members of our parish stood on the corner of Denton Road and cheered the runners as we went by.

This year, I hope you will be a part of this short, but meaningful event. Join us to travel streets you know well with sneakers on, perhaps with a racing number on your back, and share part of your Thanksgiving Day (the early part!) with other members of our church. We will also have our traditional Thanksgiving Day worship service in our church at 10am for those of us who want to enjoy a soulful but more sedate opportunity to give thanks for the blessings in our lives.

In May, 2018, we are reviving our tradition of pilgrimages at St. Andrew's by flying to Italy for an 11-day pilgrimage. St. Andrew's parishioners will take to the road again, this time as part of a pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi, and Florence. We will take in major sites, like the Colosseum and the Catacombs, while studying Christian and Renaissance art and architecture, but we will also take time to be prayerful as we go.

We will hold a simple Eucharist in the Catacombs of Rome, and prayerfully remember faithful

Christian martyrs at the Colosseum. There will be room for fun, concerts, and elegant dinners, too, but we will be traveling as a church band, ready to be open to what we can learn about our own faith, our Christian history, and the testimony of the thousands of saints who have gone before us.

### Do you want to join us on our trip to Italy?

A subcommittee of our adult formation and learning committee has been working on the itinerary over the summer, and we anticipate asking parishioners to sign up for the trip in October. More specific information about the itinerary and the cost of the trip will be available soon.

If you are interested in joining this trip but haven't yet contacted me, please email me and let me know of your interest. Pilgrimages make room for us to leave the familiar behind and take on spiritual adventures. My hope is that each St. Andrew's pilgrim will discover something new about themselves as we journey together in ancient Christian places.

Whether our journey is a 5K trip of thanksgiving around Wellesley's streets or a far-ranging pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi, and Florence, I'm looking forward to sharing a spiritual adventure with you.

Photo: Peter Lull



# My Stay at Canterbury Cathedral



The Rev. Catherine "Cat" Healy

**O**VER THE SUMMER, I had the incredible privilege of spending two weeks living, studying, and worshipping at Canterbury Cathedral in England. I was there as a Canterbury Scholar, part of a group of two dozen newly ordained clergy from all over the global Anglican Communion who gathered together for an intensive course in theology and ministry.

The members of our class hailed from 15 countries: Australia, Brazil, England, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Kenya, New Zealand, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Korea, Tanzania, the Philippines, the United States, and Zimbabwe.

Our instructors included seminary professors and several of the cathedral canons. Each day we attended classes on topics ranging from Christian iconography to the theology of baptism to the causes of

poverty in our communities. In the evenings, we decamped to the pubs of Canterbury, swapping stories that covered everything from, "What's your most embarrassing liturgical moment?" to "What do you use for communion when your region has a wine shortage?" (Answers to the latter question included Coca-Cola®, cough syrup, and a range of homemade fermented concoctions. I will never complain about the taste of communion wine again.)

In addition to attending the beautiful worship at the cathedral three times a day, we found time for several field trips. Our group visited St. Augustine's Cross, a memorial to the first Archbishop of Canterbury, who arrived in Britain in the sixth century on a mission to Christianize the Anglo-Saxons. We also explored the ruins of the monastery he founded and went to St. Martin's Church in Canterbury—the oldest church in the English-speaking world.

Moving from ancient to modern, we met with the staff of the Anglican Communion Office and had an audience with current Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, in his headquarters at Lambeth Palace in London. Welby expressed enthusiasm and hope for the future of the Anglican Communion, and told us about his commitment to "keeping the Communion together—but not

at the cost of excluding anyone."

One of the best parts of the entire experience was the opportunity to talk with the other new priests from around the world and learn how much our context shapes our approach to life in the church. For example, the theology of marriage is a live question everywhere in the Anglican Communion, but the particularities of the conversation are different: In the United States, the pressing issue is same-sex marriage; in Nigeria, it's polygamy; in Zimbabwe, it's bride price; in India, it's marriage between people from different castes.

And yet, along with our differences we have so many commonalities. All of us find deep joy in our shared liturgical worship. All of us struggle to help our communities craft a Christian response to poverty, domestic violence, and substance abuse. And when we discussed the most life-giving parts of our ministries, we found that they were always the same—preaching the Gospel, celebrating the sacraments, and offering pastoral care to the members of the body of Christ, of which we are all a part.

I left Canterbury feeling transformed in my ministry, energized in my hopes for the global church, and full of stories to tell! I look forward to sharing more of them with all of you soon.

Photo: Wikimedia



Canterbury Cathedral, Kent, England

# Join Us. Church School is Open!



Jennifer Martin

**H**APPY SEPTEMBER! My name is Jen Martin, and I am the youth formation vestryperson. I am thrilled to share with you some highlights for the upcoming year.

We are so grateful for our devoted church school teachers who educate our children about Bible stories using crafts, song, and structured play between the ages of pre-school and the fifth grade. In addition, we have our Rite-13 program, where four committed teachers work throughout the year with the sixth and seventh graders; the leaders, through lessons and activities, encourage faith analysis and new friendships.

Later this fall, we will join and support our spring 2017 confirmands who will celebrate their Confirmation at the 10am service on October 7. For those preparing for spring 2018 confirmation, we will hold a bi-monthly program following the 5pm service.

If you are a high school student, consider yourself invited to join our high school youth group and bring a friend. We meet throughout the year, mostly on Sunday evenings for supper, and our activities focus on community, service, and spirituality.

Youth formation is about getting involved in the life of the church for the whole family. We get together, have fun, go on field trips, raise funds, and connect with the local community. Highlights on our calendar include our day of service, youth lock-ins, All Hallows' Eve service, Thanksgiving pie-making celebration, gathering of the greens, Christmas pageant, family cookies and carols, parent's circle, Lenten baking party and fundraiser, Shrove Tuesday talent show, family Seder dinner, Good Friday service, and Easter egg hunt.

We would love to have you

share your talents and time in any capacity. This is a rewarding ministry. Thinking back to when I embarked upon my teaching career at St. Andrew's, I felt overwhelmed by the responsibility. One of my first lessons focused on the transformation of wee Zacchaeus. As I studied the story, I tried to hone in on how I might teach this spiritual lesson to a kindergarten class, yet I found myself obsessed trying to figure out the proper pronunciation of this tiny tax collector's name. That Sunday, I confidently read the story, shared some learned thoughts, and properly pronounced the name Zacchaeus.

While my biggest struggle wasn't figuring out the moral of the story, I realized that, after overcoming the small setback, I was able to further grasp the tale's importance. I felt joy from our faith. In the end, it strengthened my individual spirituality as well as others.

We look forward to a year full of many wonderful moments of learning and fellowship. Thank you for joining us, however you can. Serve with us and our entire community will benefit. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

## A Letter of Gratitude from St. Stephen's Church

*Jennifer Cusack serves as Director of Leadership Giving for the Youth Programs at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, a St. Andrew's sister parish in Boston's South End.*

**S**T. STEPHEN'S YOUTH programs was thrilled to receive a donation of \$5,400 from the St. Andrew's outreach ministry in May to support teen jobs in our church's program for area youth called B-SAFE (Bishop's Summer Academic and Fun Enrichment).

This awesome donation was originally voted as \$1,800 per year (the cost of one teen summer job) for 2017, 2018, and 2019, or three teen jobs. But when you heard about our Spring Appeal Challenge Grant, which doubled all gifts up to \$25,000 made before June 15, the outreach committee decided to send the entire \$5,400 at once, which meant you doubled the gift to \$10,800 and doubled the number of jobs to six!

Teen jobs in the B-SAFE program provide young people opportunities to learn about working, to

develop skills in leading younger students, and to keep them safe in communities that are prone to an increase in violence during summer months. By developing leadership and work skills, our teens can begin to think about and develop solutions for the problems they see in their own communities.

Your willingness to help young people from Boston's low-income neighborhoods along the road to success makes all the difference in their lives. We are so grateful for your partnership with us in this work!

# Getting to Know the Robbins-Cole Family



Michael Vanin, Warden

**A**FTER A NICE SUMMER break, we now reconvene with the familiar surroundings in Wellesley and beyond: our schools, work, and church. Now that Adrian and his family have been here for several years, I thought it might be fun to try to get to know them a bit better. Everyone thinks they know Adrian. They see Elizabeth around, and Sarah maybe a little less while Will is around during school vacation times.

I had the privilege of meeting with Sarah and Adrian at the

Rectory on Flag Day, June 14. I met with Elizabeth after her final exams and Will upon his return from his trip to England. The questions and the responses below are my attempt to have the congregation get to know the first family of St. Andrew's.

## Tell us a bit about your family makeup and where you grew up?

**Adrian** I was born in London and lived in England until I was six years old, then my parents moved to Wilton, CT. After five years my parents moved to South America—my Dad was a civil engineer—and I was sent back to boarding school in England. I attended the London School of Economics for my undergraduate degree and then I worked as an investment banker in London for six years before going to seminary at Oxford. I met Sarah in California at the Episcopal seminary in Berkeley where I went for a year on an exchange program from the seminary at Oxford. After we got married we lived in London, where we both served as assistant ministers in neighboring parishes.

I then became the vicar of a parish and Sarah went to work as a school chaplain.

**Sarah** I was born in Iowa in 1968 and moved to Providence, RI, when I was two years old. After my father retired in 1982, we moved to our summer house in Pomfret, VT. After attending the University of Vermont earning a BA degree in Classics, I headed out to Alta, UT, to ski and waitress while “I found myself,” which ended with my entering the ordination process. I was fortunate to move to Berkeley, CA, to start seminary at Church Divinity School of the Pacific, and that is where I met Adrian. After only one year, I followed Adrian back to England, finished up seminary at Oxford, and then settled in London to work as a clergywoman for the next nine years, where I served for three years in a parish and then six years as a school chaplain at King's College School, a boys' day school in Wimbledon. After that, we moved to Peterborough, NH, in 2004, and then to Wellesley in 2013. So, it's hard to say where I am from.

My father was an Episcopal priest who was originally from the Back Bay in Boston. After college, having been influenced by Father Hale at the Church of Advent, he went to seminary and was ordained a priest, and then returned to the Boston area to serve the Memorial Chapel at Harvard and Christ Church, Cambridge. That did not last long as the United States was entering World War II and he found himself serving as a chaplain in General George S. Patton's army in Europe. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his ministry to soldiers in combat zones. He was profoundly affected by the horrors of war, and upon his return to the States, he moved

Photo: Courtesy Robbins-Cole family



Sarah and Elizabeth Robbins-Cole

to the Midwest to get a fresh start as an Episcopal priest in a farming community in southwest Iowa, which is where he met my mother.

**Elizabeth** I have a really great relationship with my brother, we are very close. We rarely fight. He's a super big brother. For example, since I don't have my driving license yet, Will drives my friends and me wherever we want to go (when he's in town). I have my permit and hope to schedule my road test on my Mom's birthday in October.

**Will** I lived in New Hampshire until my family moved to Wellesley. I wanted to go to boarding school because my father went to boarding school as did my grandfather and two uncles. I went to Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, NH, which was my grandfather's alma mater. I feel a deep connection to England where I was born and have visited the UK twice in the last two years.

**How did your hyphenated name (Robbins-Cole) come to be?**

**Adrian** That was a last-minute decision. My family name is Cole and Sarah's is Robbins. Neither of us wanted to give up our names and we did not want to have different names, so we hyphenated them.

**Sarah** I wanted to keep the Robbins name since I have about two dozen cousins, none of whom had boys to carry on the Robbins family name. The Robbins family has lived in the Boston area since the seventeenth century and it seemed a pity to extinguish it in my generation. So, we decided to combine our names. We will see if Will or Elizabeth keeps the Robbins name going. We have told the children they can do whatever they want with their last names.



*Will and Adrian Robbins-Cole*

**What kind of music do you enjoy, what is your favorite way to spend time on the weekend?**

**Adrian/Sarah** We just like being together as a family, whether it is doing chores together or going to watch our kids play sports. We always eat dinner together and spend some time together watching TV in the evening.

**Adrian** Of course, I always enjoy getting the chance to paint my Napoleonic soldiers.

**Sarah** Until recently I was a licensed fitness and yoga instructor with seven different fitness qualifications, including land and water, from aqua aerobics to personal training and Pilates. The only qualification I keep up-to-date is yoga because I teach yoga at Wellesley College from time to time. Mostly now, I just like to walk, hike, and attend bar method classes in Wellesley.

**Elizabeth** I love music. My favorite group is Mumford & Sons, but I also love Frank Sinatra. I really like "New York, New York" and "You Make Me Feel So Young." I also like the Beatles. My family loves to play board games, which get very competitive. We enjoy SpongeBob Life and sing-a-longs.

**Will** Like my sister, I love Mumford & Sons. Our mom taught two of the band members, Ben Lovett and Marcus Mumford, when they were schoolboys in England. I love all kinds of music, from classical and rap to hip hop.

**Sarah, how do you juggle your duties as a rector at St. Michael's in Holliston and your responsibilities at Wellesley College?**

**Sarah** I am highly organized in my approach to work and have a predilection for being busy.

**Adrian** That helps when you are employed three-quarters time in one job, and half-time in another.

**Elizabeth, you are a junior at Wellesley High School. I think when you and I first met, you were in seventh grade. Tell us about your experience in Wellesley?**

**Elizabeth** I can't stress how much better it is for me to live in Wellesley and attend the high school. I am just now thinking about colleges and what I'd like to study. I like physics, algebra, and a class called Child Lab. It's an opportunity to design lessons, teach, and interact with young children. I don't do sports at WHS, but I do

*continued next page*

## Robbins-Cole Family, continued

Photo: Courtesy Robbins-Cole family



Will and Elizabeth Robbins-Cole

participate in CRI (Community Rowing Incorporated), which I really love. I'm the coxswain on one of the rowing teams. I love the singing groups in which I participate: Keynotes (classical), and A cappella Anonymous.

### **When no one is looking, what is your guilty pleasure?**

**Adrian** I love an Indian curry and a glass of cold beer.

**Sarah** I like to organize—that is my go-to stress reliever. I also like to cook, especially foods that my family enjoys. Maybe my guilty pleasure is Bison Grass Vodka, which tastes lovely and reminds me of my beloved godfather, who introduced me to this tippie a few years ago.

**Elizabeth** I'm a pretty open book—I love chicken tenders. There's nothing better than going to Chick-fil-A with friends. To change it up, sometimes we will go to Five Guys for a burger.

**Will** I love to watch FIFA, which is European football. My

current favorite player is Jesse Lingard, but my favorite of all time is Patrice Evra. Oh, and, like my Dad, I love Indian food.

### **Adrian, tell us something that most parishioners don't know about you. And how did your fascination with toy soldiers come about?**

**Adrian** My fascination with toy soldiers started when I went to boarding school in England. All of us collected and painted soldiers and set up battle scenes in the old wine cellars of the school—it was our equivalent of the video games kids play now. I got into it again when I started showing my son my old soldiers from my boyhood. But, to answer your question, two things people don't know about me:

- I love India and have visited there three times, and I long to go back.
- I served for five years in the British Army Reserve.

### **What's it like living in a house where both your parents are Episcopal priests?**

**Elizabeth** My family is no different than any other. My friends tell me that if I hadn't told them that my parents were ordained ministers, they wouldn't know. However, my family structure has profoundly molded my life. You would think that attending Sunday services or being confirmed in the Episcopal Church was something my parents would expect, or insist upon. However, I chose both because it was MY decision, and I got no pressure from my parents.

**Will** Like Elizabeth said, we just look at ourselves as a normal American family, with some English influence. Family time is really important, though. When I am home, we eat dinner together every night and usually at the dining room table.

### **What is the biggest challenge you face by living and working in Wellesley?**

**Adrian** How incredibly busy everyone is. It's amazing to see the careers that people have and still find time to volunteer, especially to St. Andrew's.

**Sarah** I love almost everything about Wellesley, except the traffic on Route 9 and Weston Road. But, doesn't everyone?

**Elizabeth** The obvious answer is school: the academics are hard. I think the other challenge is to realize just how special Wellesley is. It is easy to forget that the rest of the world does not live like we do. I think we are in a bit of a bubble.

**Will** I have never actually lived in Wellesley because I've been away at school. I think of the Princeton Road house as a vacation home because it's the only time I come here. Although when I am here, I am comfortable and love the people.



**What has been the nicest surprise you've experienced living and working in Wellesley?**

**Adrian** This is not so much a surprise, as a happy outcome of moving here, and that is how much my family really likes Wellesley. Sarah has found great employment opportunities as a priest, Elizabeth is really happy at the high school and has great friends, and we all love our neighborhood around Princeton Road.

**Sarah** How multidimensional people in Wellesley are. I am constantly surprised by the endless number of interesting people I meet. For example, it's not uncommon to meet an accomplished orthopedic surgeon who also happens to be in a rock band on weekends and runs marathons. That's just one example.

**Elizabeth** Some people may know that as a seventh grader, I did not want to move to Wellesley from New Hampshire, but today I can say it was a great decision. I love my school and my friends here. The academics are excellent and the other choices available to me are extraordinary.

**Will** I think how much I like coming to St. Andrew's on Sundays. I loved our church in the last place we lived, All Saints' in Peterborough, and I didn't expect to like the church in Wellesley as much.

**A few random questions. How long have you been married?**

**Sarah/Adrian** We will have been married 24 years January 1, 2018.

**What are the names of your pets?**

**Sarah/Adrian** We have two dogs, Molly, a Tennessee Terrier, and Lucy, a miniature poodle, and a fish we won at a fair four years ago whose name is Gilman.

**Will you begin to tour colleges this year? What kind of college do you think you'd like, and where?**

**Elizabeth** I think that I'd like to explore colleges in the south and maybe even New York City. I think I would like a medium size school. Will loves Penn State, but that's too big for me. I might like to study finance or business.

**How will life change as empty nesters once Elizabeth is off to college?**

**Adrian/Sarah** We will be much better at coordinating our days off so we can spend time together. Right now we take different days off so we can cover Elizabeth's taxi needs. We might even try to get away for a few days at our cottage in Maine from time to time. I'd like to start skiing again, too—something that we have not really done since moving to Wellesley.

**Sarah, what can you share about the camp in Maine where you volunteer?**

**Sarah** The camp was run by my godfather for many years, and

is now run by my cousin, his son. The camp is called Camp Kieve, for boys, and Wavus, for girls. It is in Nobleboro, ME. I know that a number of parishioners at St. Andrew's have connections with the camp. I have been involved in the camp since I was in college. I used to be a counselor for their junior high school program called the Leadership School. Now, I volunteer at one of their week-long camps that helps returning veterans and their families reintegrate into family and civilian life. They offer six different weeks during the non-summer camp season. I have a special certification in yoga for working with veterans, especially those with PTSD and TBI, which I use when I am volunteering.

Photo: Courtesy Robbins-Cole family



*Sarah, Will, and Elizabeth Robbins-Cole*



## Serving Behind the Scenes

Within our parish many serve behind the scenes, but their service helps bring to life the many ministries that make us the church we are. Following are testimonials from two who we asked, "Why do you serve?"



*Tim Phillips serves as a volunteer at the Salvation Army, one of many St. Andrew's outreach ministries.*

**F**OR MANY YEARS our parish has supported Miracle Kitchen, an important ministry in Framingham run by the Salvation Army, that serves people in need of a good meal. On the fourth Tuesday of each month eight to ten of us provide the food, prepare the meal, and serve 70 to 80 people.

I am grateful for the opportunity to provide this important service with fellow parishioners. Together we enjoy camaraderie and the friendships we have developed with the staff at the Salvation Army. Most importantly, it's rewarding to provide the opportunity for people to give thanks to God, share company, and enjoy a nutritious meal.



*Katie Barrack serves as chair of St. Andrew's flower guild.*

**T**HE ST. ANDREW'S flower guild is a wonderful group of women with an interest in beautifying the church each week and on special church holidays. I have been a member of the flower guild since its creation in

1996. At that time the church would get its four altar arrangements from Fraser's Flowers on Washington Street. They retired, and we had some parishioners who knew how to create a flower guild, and it took off from there. Ruth Wilson, one of our founding members, tells us that the altar flowers used to be the responsibility of the altar guild, which I gather is quite normal in other churches.

I grew up around plants and flowers as my mother has always been an active gardener and arranger, her mother was the same way, so it's a family tradition. I can remember my uncle bringing in large branches for the church altar in Princeton, NJ, where I grew up. It was a tall space such as ours, but had a lot more room at the main

altar for large arrangements. I used to spend a lot of my time in the various St. Andrew's church school classrooms with our three children when they were that age, but once the flower guild started I migrated in that direction. Outside of church I am active in the Fox Hill Garden Club, where I am currently the president. I am also finishing up a six-year process of qualifying to be a flower design judge.

I find the most fulfilling part of my job as flower guild chair is being part of an amazing group of people who make our church such a special place. We in the flower guild have always been made to feel appreciated, and for that we are most grateful.

# Why I Joined the Men's Book Club



George Dummer

JOINED THE MEN'S BOOK CLUB in 2014, although not for the books. I was looking for a church community to join after having a casual, multi-denominational history. Since the Men's Book Club is made up of members of St. Andrew's who

are deeply engaged in parish life, it offered me a window into the church. Although I would not judge a book by its cover, I could perhaps judge St. Andrew's by its book club. My expectations, nonetheless, were fairly modest. I had already left a book club completely dominated by three individuals. I suspect that both my presence and departure from that club went unnoticed.

I soon found that the Men's Book Club is a fellowship opportunity, congenial and inclusive, with 14 or 15 members usually attending. I was not only noticed but invited to share in the lively, civil, and insightful discussions, and the beverages and snacks completed the feeling of hospitality. The books selected by members with widely

varying interests and backgrounds provided a window on regions of the non-fiction universe I might otherwise have missed. For example, I have:

- Hurtled through outer space to save the Hubble telescope (*Spaceman* by Mike Massimino);
- Rowed to victory in the 1936 Olympics while Adolf Hitler fumed (*Boys in the Boat* by Dan Brown); and,
- Strolled the deck of the Lusitania as U-boat U-20 rose to periscope depth (*Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania* by Erik Larson).

Through that same window, I have seen St. Andrew's as a welcoming home and in 2015 became a full-time member.

Photo: WikiMedia



Detail of the Magi story from the "Poor Man's Bible" window, Canterbury Cathedral, Kent, England

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