## One hundred and twenty-fifth Annual Meeting of

# ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Wellesley, Massachusetts



**2017 Annual Reports** 

# ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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# 125th Annual Meeting

## January 28, 2018 11:00am – 12:30pm

# Agenda

1.	Singing of the hymn (page 2)
2.	A question: What is the most important thing at St. Andrew's that helps you grow spiritually?
3.	Call to order and opening prayer
4.	Reading of the warrant
5.	Quorum and election of parliamentarian
6.	Filing of annual reports by title
7.	Report from the nominating committee,  Nominations from the floor and election
8.	Financial reports
9.	Update on St. Andrew's strategic plan
10.	New business
11.	Closing prayer and blessing
12.	Adjournment12:20pm

#### for the Feast of St. Andrew



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Music: Wellesley's Kelton, James Woodman (b. 1957)

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# **Staff Reports**

### Report of the Rector



"YOU CAN ACHIEVE ANYTHING you want, as long as you don't care who gets the credit."
These words of advice were given to me about 15 years ago by a former governor of New Hampshire, who was a parish-

The Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole ioner at my last parish. I have treasured them ever since, and they have been a

treasured them ever since, and they have been a valuable guide about the nature of leadership and being part of a community.

I see this principle at work all the time at St. Andrew's, as I witness countless parishioners giving selflessly of their time and talent—not with an eye to seeking credit, but with their focus on serving this parish and helping to share Christ's love.

However, for the purposes of my report, I want to turn the words of advice given to me on their head. I want to acknowledge and give credit to the many parishioners at St. Andrew's whose dedication and hard work make this parish a vibrant community of faith and service.

The pages of this annual report are, above all, a celebration of all the work that hundreds of parishioners are undertaking to make our parish a rich community of faith where Christ's love is experienced and shared. And part of the celebration is reflecting on the spiritual depth of our church family, shown by how parishioners have allowed God's grace to help them use their God-given talents to serve this church and the wider community.

Looking back over 2017, it feels like a year of harvest in which we have seen many of the seeds laid over the previous few years at St. Andrew's come into bloom. It was the first full year of the implementation of the parish strategic plan, and in the wardens' report, you will see a summary of how the plan has been bearing fruit in the different ministry areas of the parish.

I would like to give particular credit to your vestry members who head the ministry areas of the parish. They have shown admirable commitment and focus in following through on the strategic plan by putting into place the initiatives outlined within it. Without the vital role they have played, the important new ideas outlined in the plan to help foster our faith and community would have just remained on paper, rather than becoming reality.

It has also been a year in which the work of the present clergy team, which had been together for just over a year at the beginning of 2017, has helped bring about deeper spiritual and pastoral bonds. Many parishioners have spoken to me about experiencing a deepening sense of faith, community, and purpose in their lives. I would like to give credit to my colleagues on the clergy team, the Revs. Margaret Schwarzer, Cat Healy, and Karen Vickers Budney, for helping to foster the spiritual life of our church. This is the *raison d'être* of any church—to be a community where we feel the assurance of God's love in our lives and experience the impetus to share that love with others.

Finally, I would like to give enormous credit to our church wardens, Nancy Hancock and Michael Vanin. They have played a critical leadership role in the life of our parish. It has been a great privilege to work with them over the last year. Both have been tireless in their dedication to the parish. The scope of their work is very broad; they have done everything from negotiating leases to working with me to help ensure that St. Andrew's remains true to its spiritual calling. Over the last year, they have worked particularly hard to support the ministry areas they liaise with to implement the strategic plan.

I would particularly like to thank Michael Vanin, who completes his term as warden at the annual meeting, for his dedication and hard work over the last three years. Michael has brought to the parish his enormous energy and management skills. I want to give credit to Michael for his determination that we follow through on implementing each action item in the strategic plan. I would like to

thank him, also, for the humor and enthusiasm that he has brought to all his work in the parish. I have developed a real sense of the love Michael has for St. Andrew's as I have witnessed his hard work and absolute dedication to his role as warden over the last three years. The parish has been very blessed by Michael's tenure as warden. I would also like to thank the members of the vestry whose terms will be finished at the annual meeting: Winnie Faust (worship), Becky Hamlin (membership), Paul Merry (human resources), and Debbie Osborn (outreach).

As we look forward to the year ahead, I feel a sense of hope and excitement as we continue our spiritual journey together into a deeper relationship with God and our neighbor. I am also looking forward to planning the celebration of the 125th anniversary of our parish in 2019.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole

# Report of the Associate Rector for Adult Formation and Membership



The Rev. Margaret Schwarzer

IN 2017, WE HAVE DEEPENED our Christian practice and expanded participation in our Christian education classes, new liturgies, and field trips. In particular, our Faith & Practice classes, our 2017 Lenten Meditation Guide, our

9am Christian learning classes, and our field trips have helped us share both our Christian faith and our questions about Christian life and theology. I am thankful to be serving in such a curious and thoughtful church.

#### Adult Christian Learning

Our 9am Christian learning series, which meets approximately 28 times each year, continues to increase in the number and diversity of its members. Class size now averages 25 people, and we've had over 70 people attend at least one Christian learning class this year. Your feedback and interests guide the topics we choose; please share your interests and questions with me or a member of our committee. Our weekly Lenten dinners had an average participation of 30 people per week. We studied five unique theological topics from Marcus Borg during our classes. Some people loved his

work and some people hated it, but the conversations were always rich. 2017 also saw a new initiative for Lent: a Lenten Meditation Guide with reflections written by our own parishioners. Cat Healy did a wonderful job editing the collection of meditations, and 300 booklets were distributed. In 2018, we will continue this popular guide, thanks to an anonymous donor's contribution. With our two monthly Bible Circles and Adrian's leadership of our Saturday morning men's Bible study, we have 30 parishioners studying scripture each month. Six adults attended inquirers' classes this summer and were confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church at St. Andrew's this past October.

#### **Christian Practices**

This fall, 80 members of St. Andrew's pounded down the streets of Wellesley for our second annual Turkey Trot. Our youngest runner was seven, and our oldest participant was 75. We raised money for charities, inspired each other to go the distance, and won the "largest team" trophy for the second time. In our Faith & Practice series, we gather after our 10am service to engage each other in conversation, reflection, and spiritual exercises. Our five classes, including discussions about forgiveness, mercy, and prayer, averaged over 25 people each.

Our Advent Taizé-style worship services had an attendance of 80 people, and our Holy Monday Taizé-style service had 30 worshippers. Our 2017 Blue Christmas service, with an attendance of 15 people, was solemn and meaningful. Ashes to Go, which brings blessed ashes out to the streets of Wellesley on Ash Wednesday, brought us an excellent opportunity for quiet evangelism and meaningful conversations with seekers, other Christians, and congregation members.

Both field trips offered this year were enthusiastically attended and had waiting lists. In January, 30 parishioners went to Temple Beth Elohim to attend Shabbat worship, share a meal, and engage a scriptural study with members of the synagogue. In October, 25 of us celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation by sharing a Germaninspired luncheon and getting a private tour of the Davis Museum's "Print and Protest." We also began preparing for our 2018 pilgrimage to Italy. In the summer, Peter Fergusson called together a subcommittee to help plan our itinerary and set up the structure for our pilgrimage community. I'm happy to confirm that twenty-two parishioners have signed up to journey together to Rome, Assisi, and Florence.

#### **Adult Formation and Learning Committee**

With the adult formation and learning committee, I shape the mission of Christian education for adults at St. Andrew's. We have been blessed by the service and creativity of the parishioners who have served in 2017: Nancy Hancock, Peter Fergusson, Margarethe Kulke, Ansley Martin, Shannon Monaghan, Will Nystrom, Bob Prensner, Jenny Sawyer, Mary Scanlon, and Paul Shellito. Special thanks goes to Margarethe Kulke, who co-leads our Bible Circles; Jenny Sawyer, Cynthia Scott, and Margarethe Kulke, who were planning team members for our Taizé-style services and Blue Christmas service; and our Italian pilgrimage subcommittee, which included Peter Fergusson (chair), Pam Henrikson, Will Nystrom, Mary Scanlon, and Penn Young. Anna Page, Shannon Monaghan, Bob Prensner, Peter Fergusson, Adrian Robbins-Cole, and Cat Healy have been teachers and group

leaders in our 2017 programs. The vitality and energy of our adult Christian learning programs comes from this group's dedication and hard work. It is exciting to share in the work and expand our parish's Christian practices together.

#### Wellesley College Ministry

The diocesan grant we secured with the Rev. Sarah Robbins-Cole in 2016 continues to help fund our college ministry. In February 2017, we hosted a successful Mental Health First Aid training, which was attended by Episcopal, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Unitarian, and Muslim students from Wellesley College. The Protestant ministry at Wellesley and our ministry team also created welcome bags to distribute to Episcopal students and other Protestant students at the start of the year. Our chaplaincy has 19 students on its weekly email list, and Wellesley women continue to teach in church school, sing in our senior choir, and read scripture in our Sunday services. This year, we also began to sponsor Wellesley graduate Anna Page for ordination to the priesthood. After graduating from Wellesley last spring, she is currently enrolled at Duke Divinity School. Cat Healy and I have met college students for coffee, offered Bible studies and retreats, and led "Sophia's Table," a weekly dinner and program ministry run by the Protestant ministry at Wellesley.

#### Membership Committee

Kudos to Becky Hamlin, our chair, and all the members of our membership committee this year. Her team continues the successful new membership ministries of last year, including providing "shepherds" from our congregation to welcome new families, giving a beautiful children's book on baptism to families who baptize children at St. Andrew's, and hosting a welcome party at the rectory for newcomers who become active members. Please see Becky's report for a complete picture of our membership committee's significant work.

My main responsibilities lie in contacting newcomers by email or phone, so that we have both a lay and a clergy welcome, and meeting newcomers who have questions. Our membership committee and I both keep track of the seekers, newcomers, and newly matriculated active members, helping to be sure that all are welcomed and that everyone finds a place at St. Andrew's.

It is wonderful to be a part of Adrian's ministry team, and to share in the life and fellowship of this parish as we deepen our experiences of the divine and grow in our knowledge of God. I am especially thankful for the hard work and wisdom of Peter Fergusson, our adult formation and learning com-

mittee chair, and Becky Hamlin, our membership committee chair. It is a pleasure to work with them.

Onward!

Yours in Christ,

The Reverend Margaret K. Schwarzer

### Report of the Assistant Rector for Youth and Family



DEAR CHILDREN, YOUTH, and grown-ups of St. Andrew's,

This has been a joyful year for children's and youth ministries in our parish. I offer my report with gratitude for the

The Rev. Catherine (Cat) Healy amazing work that the Holy Spirit is doing in this place, and with particular thanks for the staff and volunteers who give so much of their time to our youngest parishioners.

Our church school continues to thrive, and remains instrumental in attracting new families to the parish. We are blessed with a diverse crew of 32 church school teachers and youth leaders, including middle- and high-school students, Wellesley College students, young adults, parents, and grandparents. We continue to use the *Weaving God's Promises* curriculum for grades K-5 and the *Rite-13* curriculum for grades 6-7, with great success. The church school was also active in outreach in 2017, raising funds for Family Promise Metrowest during Lent and collecting hats, gloves, and scarves for children at our sister parish of St. Stephen's in Boston during Advent.

Children's music ministries at St. Andrew's are also growing and thriving, led by director Amanda Kern. Congratulations are due to Amanda, her husband Dave, and their daughter Lucy, who welcomed Scott Edison Archer Kern into the world on August 21, 2017. While Amanda was on maternity

leave, we welcomed the return of Jane Money to the parish staff. Jane was the children's music director at St. Andrew's from 2000 to 2008, and covered for Amanda from September to December 2017.

During church school on Sunday mornings, music offerings include a singing circle for Kids' Place (toddlers and preschoolers), Sing & Play for grades K-2, and JAM for grades 3-5. The junior choir for grades 1-8 has contributed beautiful musical offerings in worship throughout the year, most notably a number from the musical *Children of Eden* in May (which they also performed at the Grace Knight Babson showcase) and anthems for Easter Sunday, St. Francis' Day, and St. Andrew's Day. The 2017 Christmas pageant was also a great success. Special thanks are due to D.D. Alexander, Holly Anza, Judith Boland, Liz Dean, Katherine Roer, and all the other adults who worked so tirelessly on pageant preparation.

Our Rite-13 program for youth in grades 6 and 7 is ably led by Katey Goehringer, Ingrid Houghton, Ansley Martin, and Jonas Svedlund. Rite-13 is enjoying a raucous and joyful year, with highlights including a fall lock-in and a gathering to make apple pies for the Wellesley Food Pantry just before Thanksgiving. Please thank Katey, Ingrid, Ansley, and Jonas for their faithful, good-humored leadership.

Our parish is home to many Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, and continues to celebrate the connection between faith and Scouting. In spring 2017, St. Andrew's hosted a Scout Sunday to honor past and present Scouts of all ages; in summer 2017, four Girl Scouts from the parish completed a three-day intensive retreat to earn the *I Live My Faith* religious emblem; and in fall 2017, three Cub Scouts from the parish worked together to earn the *Duty to God* religious emblem. Special thanks go to Wendy Barry for co-leading the Girl Scout retreat with me, and to Bettina Eikeboom and Erica Gelser for organizing the Cub Scout project.

In 2017, St. Andrew's celebrated the confirmations of twenty-one youth and four adults, as well as the reception into the Episcopal Church of two adults who had been previously confirmed in other Christian traditions. There are twenty-one new eighth-graders enrolled in confirmation preparation this fall, and teaching them is one of the highlights of my role in Christian formation at St. Andrew's. We are looking forward to our retreat at the Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center in New Hampshire this spring, and to our confirmation service on October 6, 2018 (location to be announced). I am especially grateful to all the parents who have served as chaperones for our class meetings.

Our high school youth group, co-led by Marie Dunell, Ansley Martin, and me, continues to meet biweekly for food, fellowship, and conversations about faith. The youth of St. Andrew's are active in worship, with 28 youth participating in our acolyte ministry under the capable leadership of Jennifer Olivetti. They are also engaged in both inreach and outreach. In service to the parish, they volunteer their time to assist with church school, Bargain Haul, the Christmas pageant, and the Little Angels' Gift Shop; in service to others outside the parish, they have given their youth group meeting time to write letters to children at El Hogar (the school and orphanage in Honduras sponsored by St. Andrew's) and prepare meals for the Wellesley Food Pantry.

In April and May 2017, St. Andrew's had the good fortune of becoming an internship site for high school seniors Grace Dwyer, Ashley Glorioso, and Elise Mahlenkamp. These three young women committed a month to working full-time at the parish for their high school senior (capstone) internships. Among the many other tasks they complet-

ed, they hosted a very successful intergenerational afternoon tea and were instrumental in preparing the church for Bargain Haul.

I am thrilled to report that Anna Page, a dedicated volunteer with our parish youth ministries and a graduate of the Wellesley College Class of 2017, has been admitted to postulancy for the priesthood in the Diocese of Massachusetts under the sponsorship of St. Andrew's. Anna is also a chaplain candidate with the U.S. Army, and is now in her first year of full-time seminary study at Duke Divinity School.

The church school committee shapes the mission of Christian learning for children and youth at St. Andrew's and provides many fellowship opportunities for families with children, including an All Hallows' Eve service and potluck in October, Family Cookies & Carols in December, and all-ages events during Holy Week. Susan and I are thankful for the service of Jennifer Martin, the vestry member for youth formation, and for all the committee members who participated in 2017: D.D. Alexander, Karin Breedis, Megan Burns, Ingrid Houghton, Heather Schaefer, and Elizabeth Svedlund.

Finally, I would like to offer abundant thanks for the ministries of staff members Susan Jackson, Amanda Kern, and Jane Money, whose skill and good humor ensure that the Christian learning community at St. Andrew's continues to fill the hearts of our youngest members with the knowledge and love of Christ. Thank you, Susan, Amanda, and Jane!

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Catherine (Cat) Healy

### Report of the Music Minister



Helen Ward Mannix

IN JUNE 2017, I COMPLETED MY tenth year as music minister at St. Andrew's.

The St. Andrew's senior choir numbers 28 members, including our five paid section leaders, who are either students or recent graduates

of music conservatories. In June, our tenor section leader, Lucas Alvarado, left to pursue a Master of Music at the University of Michigan. We hired a new tenor, Sully Hart, a North Carolina native who is a first-year Master of Music student at the New England Conservatory. We also replaced our bass section leader, Will Hurwitz, who graduated from the Boston Conservatory and returned to New York City, with Blake Jennings, a Texas native and a second-year Master of Music student at Boston Conservatory. I am in the process of finding a second tenor section leader for the choir, as Ryan Brock left on December 17 to join his wife in Nebraska. The section leaders are essential in maintaining the quality of our program, as many of our congregational members travel frequently or have family commitments and can, therefore, only sing on an intermittent basis.

We have three Wellesley College students in our choir this year: Demilade Adeboye, Katie Hodges, and Anna Purcell. We welcomed congregational members Madison Riley and Victor Calcaterra into the tenor section last spring. As usual, we add to our numbers on special occasions with extra professional singers and additional members of the congregation.

The Boston City Singers, led by Jane Money, sang at our 10am service on January 15. The Wellesley College Choir, led by Lisa Graham, sang at our 10am service on February 26. We sang Thomas Tallis's *The Lamentations of Jeremiah* for our Lenten Evensong on March 5, with Miranda Loud as our guest organist.

During Holy Week, the senior choir sang for Maundy Thursday, the Great Vigil of Easter, and two services on Easter Sunday. On Good Friday, cellist Jesse Christenson played the *Kol Nidre*, by Max Bruch. On Easter Sunday, the senior choir sang G.F. Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" and "Since by Man Came Death," both from the *Messiah*. The junior choir joined us at the 9am service, as usual. We also welcomed a brass quartet for Easter, led by Jim Mosher.

Joey Sullivan led our Rogation Day procession on the Celtic drum, joined by Liz Alexander on fiddle. The last Sunday for the senior choir was June 4.

The senior choir began rehearsal, as usual, on the Thursday after Labor Day. Our first Sunday was September 10. Iain Massie played the bagpipes for us on St. Andrew's Day, November 20. Our ninth annual service of Advent Lessons and Carols took place on Sunday, December 10. We had 30 singers in our choir that evening. Erica Johnson was our guest organist.

The intergenerational choir joined the junior choir, once again, at our 5pm service on Christmas Eve, led by interim junior choir director Jane Money. 26 members of the senior choir sang at the 10pm Christmas Eve service, with music by Pretorius and Harold Darke. A string quartet led by violist Harold Lieberman played preludes, postludes, and accompanied hymns and our communion anthem.

Jonathan Ambrosino tunes and maintains our organ regularly, as Tony McKenna does our three pianos. Our junior choir director, Amanda Kern, was on maternity leave this past fall. Jane Money, our former junior choir director, replaced her and did a splendid job in keeping our junior choir together during Amanda's absence. Amanda returned to work in January 2018.

Since spring 2017, I have been involved in instituting one informal 5pm service a month with music. David Wade, guitar, joined us this fall and has been an integral part of this service.

I continue to have quarterly meetings with our music committee members: Wendy Barry, Peter Lull, Karen Pekowitz, Cynthia Scott, Barbara Shellito, Beth Thomas, and Margaret Zusky.

Helen Ward Mannix

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# Wardens' Reports

### 2017 Year in Review

### January

Worship • Epiphany Fireside service (January 8) • Boston City Singers sing at 10am service (January 15) • Altar Guild Holy Eucharist and Commissioning (January 12) • Monthly Holy Eucharist at North Hill continues • Weekday silent contemplative prayer at 8:45am continues

Adult Formation • Adult Christian Learning Series resumes with Christianity's Jewish Roots: Theological and Liturgical Traditions from our Ancient Jewish Heritage (January 15 and 29) and Reflections on Shabbat at Beth Elohim: Four Parishioners Share Their Experiences (January 22) • Bible Circle theme for 2017: Reflecting on Epistles: The Letter to the Hebrews and the Letter of Paul to Philemon (beginning January 10 and 11, continuing on second Tuesdays and following Wednesdays of each month) • Men's Bible Study continues with Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel

Youth Formation • Kids' Place, Church School, and Rite-13 resume (January 15) • Confirmation prep and high school youth group resume (January 22) • Kids' Place Coffee for parents and kids four and under (January 22)

Outreach • Parishioners join the St. Andrew's table at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Breakfast hosted by the World of Wellesley, with keynote by Chuck Collins and music by the Harvard College Kuumba Singers (January 16) • St. Andrew's continues to provide dinner at the Salvation Army Miracle Kitchen on the fourth Tuesday of each month; in addition to providing meals, St. Andrew's begins collecting toiletries for donation • Annual Coats for Kids collection of winter coats continues

Fellowship • Epiphany Fireside potluck supper (January 8) • Shabbat Evening Fellowship with Temple Beth Elohim (January 20), with worship and dinner followed by fellowship and a text study facilitated by Rabbi Rachel Saphire and Rev. Margaret Schwarzer Stewardship • Online giving becomes available on St. Andrew's website under the "Give" tab
Book Clubs • Reading Mavens' selection: The Paris Wife, by Paula McClain

Property • Weekly recycling by volunteers continues • New faux wood basement flooring installed at the rectory

Vestry • Nominating committee announces 2017 slate: Nancy Hancock, Warden; Michael Vanin, Warden; Peter Lull, Communications; Allen Jones, Stewardship; Peter Fergusson, Adult Formation & Learning; Jennifer Martin, Youth Formation & Learning; Jim Blackwell, Property; Sarah Dent, Convention Delegate; Herb Manning, Convention Delegate; Steve Taylor, Deanery Representative; Mary Scanlon, Alternate Deanery Representative; Michael Mahlenkamp, Vestry Nomination Committee • Diocesan Standing Committee approves a revised set of parish by-laws, subject to re-approval at the annual meeting on January 29 • 2017 Budget Forum (January 22), led by Alan Joachim with the rector and wardens available for questions, gives parishioners a preview of the 2017 St. Andrew's budget • Vestry meeting (January 24) • Vestry approves final budget of \$1,272,254 to be presented at annual meeting on January 29 • 124th Annual Meeting held on January 29, with 85 parishioners in attendance; nominations, annual budget, and bylaw changes approved, accomplishments listed in 2016 Annual Report discussed, and new strategic plan adopted for 2017-2022

### **February**

Worship • St. Andrew's Lenten Meditation Guide available (February 2) • Dr. Lisa Graham and the Wellesley College Choir welcomed to St. Andrew's (February 26) Adult Formation • Faith & Practice: How to Forgive (February 5) • Invitation to sign up for inquirers' classes (February 5) • Men's Bible Study continues with Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel (February 4) • Christian Learning Series: Christianity in the USA: The First Christians in Massachusetts: Puritans and Pilgrims (February 12); Christian Denominations in the USA (February 19 and 26) • Bible Circle: Reflecting on Epistles: The Letter to the Hebrews and the Letter of Paul to Philemon (February 14 and 15)

Youth Formation • 20 Wellesley College students attend eight-hour Mental Health First Aid training co-sponsored by St. Andrew's and the Protestant Chaplaincy (February 11) • Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Talent Show (February 28)

Outreach • Souper Bowl collection for Wellesley
Food Pantry (February 5) • Family Promise
Metrowest Hosting Week (February 5-11) • 900
pairs of socks from Sox Box donations delivered
to Health Care Without Walls (February 1)

Fellowship • Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Talent Show (February 28)

Communications • Parishioners invited for a tour and overview of the new, streamlined St. Andrew's website (February 12) • Monthly St. Stephen's B-CONNECTED e-newsletter posted on outreach bulletin board to create awareness of the extensive programming and activities of St. Stephen's Youth Programs beyond the summer B-SAFE program

Book Clubs • Reading Mavens: A Patriot's Handbook: Songs, Poems, Stories and Speeches Celebrating the Land We Love, by Caroline Kennedy • Men's Book Club: The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration, by Isabel Wilkerson

Nominating • Committee convenes to discuss positions to be filled for 2018 vestry slate

Vestry • Vestry meeting (February 16)

#### March

Worship • Ash Wednesday Services with Imposition of Ashes (March 1) at 7:30am, noon, and 7:30pm (March 1) • Ashes to Go at Wellesley Square train station and at Crest Road (March 1)

Lenten Evensong: The Lamentations of Jeremiah,
16th century anthem by Thomas Tallis (March
5) St. Andrew's inaugural informal worship service and potluck supper (March 19)

Adult Formation • Men's Bible Study continues with Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel (February 4) • Faith & Practice: Practicing Mercy
• Inquirers' class continues • Lenten Program begins (March 8) with weekly potluck suppers, followed by Embracing an Adult Faith video lectures from Marcus Borg • Bible Circle: Reflecting on Epistles: The Letter to the Hebrews, Chapters 11 and 12 (March 14) • Christian Learning Series: Jesus Was an Airborne Ranger, by John McDougall, with reflections by Wellesley College senior Anna Page (March 12); Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth, by Reza Aslan (March 19 and 26)

Youth Formation • Video of Rodney, the Church Mouse posted on St. Andrew's website • High school youth group lock-in with candlepin bowling (March 24-25)

Outreach • St. Andrew's parish-wide Lenten outreach focuses on Family Promise Metrowest (FPM), in keeping with its commitment to "Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself" • Judy Mongiardo from FPM delivers homily at 10am service and meets with church school and Rite-13 students (March 5) • MetroWest Choral Artists concert (March 17) • Congregation invited to participate in FPM-sponsored Walk Away Homelessness fundraiser on April 8

Fellowship • Potluck supper after 5pm informal service (March 19)

Book Clubs • Reading Mavens: A Country Year: Living the Questions, by Sue Hubbell • Men's Book Club: Disrupted: My Misadventure in the Start-Up Bubble, by Dan Lyons

Vestry • Vestry retreat at Bethany House of Prayer
 (March 11) • Vestry meeting (March 28) • Report on learnings from March 26 diocesan workshop,
 Immigration and the Church 101: The Lord's Song in a Foreign Land

### **April**

Worship • Scout Sunday (April 2) • Liturgy of the Palms and the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

on Palm Sunday (April 2) • Informal Palm Sunday service and potluck (April 2) • Holy Week services: Taizé-style service on Monday evening (April 10); Stations of the Cross on Tuesday evening (April 11); service of Tenebrae on Wednesday evening (April 12); Maundy Thursday service with foot washing followed by overnight vigil (April 13); Good Friday liturgy at noon and 7:30pm (April 14); Holy Saturday service in the children's chapel at 9am and Great Vigil of Easter with Holy Eucharist at 7:30pm (April 15); Festival Holy Eucharist at 9am and 11am (April 16) • Family Promise Metrowest volunteer training (April 9) • common cathedral on Boston Common (April 23)

*Adult Formation* • Men's Bible Study continues with Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel (April 1) • Faith & Practice: *Praying in Color* (April 2) • Bible Circle: Reflecting on Epistles: The Letter to the Hebrews, Chapters 11 and 12 (April 11 and 26) • Lenten Program continues with weekly potluck suppers, followed by Embracing an Adult Faith video lectures from Marcus Borg • St. Andrew's Forum: Conversations about Peace: A Four-Part Series: Truth and Reconciliation, how former enemies learn to respect each other (April 23) • Christian Learning Series: Jesus Was an Airborne Ranger and Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth continue (April 9): Mary and Jesus in the Garden, John 20:1-18 (April 23); Building Up *the Church* series begins with *Durham Cathedral*: Saints, Stonework, and Sacred Vellum (April 30)

Youth Formation • Girl Scouts earn My Promise,
My Faith award (April 2) • Confirmation class
retreat (April 7 to 8) • Maundy Thursday Family Seder and potluck (April 13) • Good Friday
children's service and hot cross buns (April 14) •
Easter egg hunt at 10am on Easter Sunday (April 16) • Bargain Haul service (April 30 to May 6) •
High school senior interns begin four weeks of
full-time work at St. Andrew's

Outreach • Family Promise Metrowest intergenerational baking party (April 1) • Family Promise Metrowest bake sale (April 2) • Family Promise Metrowest Walk Away Homelessness fundraiser on Natick Common (April 8) • Family Prom-

ise Metrowest volunteer training (April 9) • St. Stephen's neighborhood open house (April 27)

Fellowship • Boston City Singers concert (April 8) • Potluck supper following 5pm informal service (April 9) • Maundy Thursday Family Seder and potluck (April 13)

Membership • Newcomer brunch (April 2) • Pimm's Party at rectory for members who have joined St. Andrew's in the past one to two years (April 30)

Book Clubs • Reading Mavens: The Little Paris Bookshop, by Nina George • Men's Book Club: 1941: Fighting the Shadow War: A Divided America in a World at War, by Marc Wortman

*Nominating* • Work toward finalizing 2018 vestry slate continues

Property • Rectory exterior siding repaired and painted

 Vestry • Parochial report approved • Work on 2017–2018 program calendar begins • Vestry meeting (April 27)

### May

Worship • Altar Guild Ascension Day observed (May 11) • Holy Communion Prep participants honored at 10am service (May 21) • Blessing of Rite-13 students at 10am service (May 21)

Adult Formation • Conversations about Peace: Escaping the Massacre: From Palestinian Refugee to Harvard-Smithsonian Astrophysicist, the story of Raid Suleiman (May 21) • Bible Circle: Reflecting on Epistles: The Letter to the Hebrews, Chapter 13 (May 9 and 10) • Christian Learning Series: Building Up the Church series continues with Expressing Faith in Stone and Chant: The Taizé Community of France (May 14); The Broad Nature of the Modern Anglican Church in England (May 21); wrap-up and planning for next year (May 28) • Men's Bible Study continues with Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel (May 13)

Youth Formation • Bargain Haul service (April 30 to May 6) • Holy Communion Prep for first and second graders (May 17) • St. Andrew's children participate in Grace Knight Babson concert with the song "The Naming," from the musical

- Children of Eden (May 21) High school senior interns complete four weeks of full-time work at St. Andrew's
- Outreach Socks collected for Health Care Without Walls Invitation to participate in summer outreach programs: B-SAFE, Salvation Army Miracle Kitchen, St. Andrew's recyclers Family Promise Metrowest Hosting Week (May 21 to 28) St. Stephen's Youth Programs receive \$5,400 donation from St. Andrew's to support teen jobs in B-SAFE program
- Fellowship Bargain Haul preparation week (April 30 to May 6) Parish Night (May 5) Bargain Haul (May 6) Intergenerational spring tea hosted by high school senior interns (May 11) Parents' Circle gathering at the Svedlund home (May 19)
- Communications New parish directory delivered and distributed Online parish directory updated
- Book Clubs Men's Book Club: Spaceman: An Astronaut's Unlikely Journey to Unlock the Secrets of the Universe, by Mike Massimino Reading Mavens: The Plot Against America, by Philip Roth
- *Property* Granite slab with space for 100 names placed in Memorial Rose Garden
- Vestry Bequest from deceased parishioner Norman Dorian designated for discretionary fund to help elderly parishioners in need Vestry meeting (May 23)

### June

- Worship Recognition at 10am service for children with excellent church school attendance (June 4)
   Sunday 5pm service on summer vacation after June 18 Ecumenical service schedule for August announced
- Adult Formation Rev. Catherine Healy spends two weeks at Canterbury Cathedral in England as a Canterbury Scholar Men's Bible Study concludes Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel Bible Circle: The Letter of Paul to Philemon (June 13 and 14) Planning continues for Italian pilgrimage in May 2018
- *Youth Formation* Church School & Rite-13 end-of-year celebrations (June 4) Congratulations to

- all members of St. Andrew's graduating with the Class of 2017: 29 high school seniors, 24 college seniors, and two graduate students
- Outreach Invitation to sign up for El Hogar Walk for Hope • Sock collection continues for Health Care Without Walls • Continued invitation to participate in summer outreach programs: B-SAFE, Salvation Army Miracle Kitchen, St. Andrew's recyclers
- Fellowship Volunteers sought to mend Bargain Haul aprons for 2018
- Membership Reusable magnetic nametags offered to all members
- Book Clubs Reading Mavens: Hillbilly Elegy, by J. D. Vance (June 5) Men's Book Club: Midnight Rising: John Brown and the Raid That Sparked the Civil War, by Tony Horwitz (June 8)
- Property Volunteers sought to water flower garden outside main entrance New safety lighting installed along Denton Road side of church
   Vestry Vestry meeting (June 27)

### July and August

- Worship 10am ecumenical services: August 6 service at Wellesley Village Church (UCC), Preacher, The Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole (Episcopal); August 13 at Wellesley Hills Church (UCC), Preacher, The Rev. Sarah Sarchet Butter (UCC–Village); August 20 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, The Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster (UCC–Hills) Return to standard St. Andrew's worship services at 8am and 10am (August 27)
- Adult Formation Planning continues for Italian pilgrimage in May 2018
- Youth Formation Rev. Catherine Healy spends one week as a chaplain at diocesan Barbara C. Harris Camp Four St. Andrew's Girl Scouts complete I Live My Faith religious award
- Outreach St. Stephen's B-SAFE week; St. Andrew's provides daily lunch and indoor fun park when field trip is rained out (July 5-7) Walk for Hope to support students and staff of El Hogar in Honduras (July 22)
- *Membership/Communications* New parish directories available for pick-up and on website

Book Clubs • Reading Mavens: The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World, by the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu • Men's Book Club: Truman, by David McCullough

Property • Volunteers water and maintain church gardens • Lease for property use by Wellesley Montessori School (WMS) finalized, establishing a three-year term • Leases for WMS enrichment teachers and Education Française Greater Boston finalized

### September

Worship • Sunday services resume at 8am and 10am on August 27 and 5pm on September 10
• Senior choir returns for first rehearsal of year (September 7) • Junior choir returns for first rehearsal of year (September 10) • Flower Guild luncheon meeting (September 14) • Blessing of students (September 17) • 5pm informal service and potluck supper (September 24) • Homecoming Sunday kicks off program year (September 10)

Adult Formation • Sunday Christian Learning Series begins: Early Christian Art: Signs and Symbols (September 17); Our Four Gospels: Man, Lion, Ox, and Eagle (September 24) • Men's Bible Study resumes with St. Paul's letter to the Galatians (September 9) • Planning continues for Italian pilgrimage in May 2018 • Rev. Sarah Robbins-Cole hosts half-day retreat on the Enneagram on the Wellesley College campus (September 23)

Youth Formation • Jane Money comes on staff as interim children's music director while Amanda Kern is on maternity leave • High school youth group camping trip (September 8-9) • Kids' Place, church school, Rite-13, and confirmation prep resume (September 10) • Rite-13 family coffee (September 10) • Confirmation parents meet (September 10) • Confirmation overnight lock-in (September 15-16) • Rite-13 overnight lock-in (September 22-23) • Kids' Place family coffee (September 24) • High school youth group begins (September 24) • Acolyte training on September 15 (eighth graders) and September 24 (high school students)

College • St. Andrew's 2017–2018 college ministry program begins with 16 students

Fellowship/Membership • Parish picnic held on the grounds of Luisa Hunnewell's home (September 17) • Invitation to participate in Coventry Supper groups • Potluck supper after informal 5pm service (September 24) • Request for photos of summer highlights

Outreach • Family Promise Metrowest Hosting
Week (September 24 to October 1) • Parishioners
encouraged to support Episcopal Relief and Development Hurricane Relief • Newton-Wellesley
Hospital seeks volunteers for new program: "No
One Dies Alone"

Human Resources • Revisions/updates to
St. Andrew's employee handbook complete •
Review of position descriptions underway

Book Clubs • Reading Mavens changes name to Book Circle • Book Circle: The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World, by the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu (September 11) • Men's Book Club: Truman, by David McCullough (September 13)

Vestry • Thanks to parish office volunteers • Results of agreed-upon procedures review shared and updates approved • Vestry meeting (September 26)

#### October

Worship • Blessing of the Animals in honor of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi (October 1) • Celebration of St. Andrew's confirmands with blessing and presentation of prayer books (October 15) • Columbus Day All-Parish Eucharist with children's sermon featuring Rodney, the Rector Mouse (October 8) • All Hallows' Eve service (October 29)

Adult Formation • Faith & Practice: Engaging the Nicene Creed (October 1) • Sunday Christian Learning Series: Canterbury Cathedral: Ancient and Modern Witness: Canterbury's History and Architecture, by Dr. Peter Fergusson (October 8); Rev. Catherine Healy shares highlights and wisdom from two weeks as a Canterbury Scholar (October 15 and 22); Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole leads discussion of Being Disciples: Essentials of

the Christian Life, by Archbishop Rowan Williams (October 29 and November 12) • Bible Circle theme: The Gospel of John: A Cosmic Perspective, with John's Prologue: 1:1-18 as the topic for October • Men's Bible Study continues with St. Paul's letter to the Galatians • Field trip to Davis Museum at Wellesley College to tour Protest in Print, an exhibit centering on Martin Luther and the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation (October 29) • Planning continues for Italian pilgrimage in May 2018

Youth Formation • Junior choir sings at Blessings of the Animals (October 1) • 2017 regional confirmation at St. Andrew's, including 21 youth and 6 adults from St. Andrew's (October 7) • Parents' Circle gathering at the Houghton home (October 13)

Fellowship • Sign-up for Coventry Suppers ends (October 1) • Joint luncheon hosted by Village Church on October 10 with a presentation by Swellesley Report publisher Deborah Brown (October 10) • Fall fellowship event: Luau at St. Andrew's (October 21) • Potluck supper in parish hall following All Hallows' Eve service (October 30) • Parishioners invited to serve as coffee hour hosts • Parishioners invited to follow and tag St. Andrew's on social media platforms—Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook • Parish photo release policy reiterated

Outreach • Parishioners encouraged to support Episcopal Relief and Development Hurricane Relief • Parishioners worship with common cathedral in Boston and serve lunch to the homeless (October 1) • Family Promise Metrowest volunteer training at Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center at Wellesley College (October 3) • Day of Service: parishioners participate in both inreach (grounds and building cleanup) and outreach (meal prep for outreach partners and food pantry clean-up) projects

Book Clubs • Book Circle (formerly Reading Mavens): Lilac Girls, by Martha Hall Kelly (October 16) • Men's Book Club: Lead Yourself First, by Raymond Kethledge & Michael Erwin (October 4)

Stewardship • Stewardship 2018 campaign begins, with the theme Stepping Up in Faith (October 15)

• Stewardship educational workshop provides guidance on donor-advised funds and gifts of appreciated stock (October 29)

Vestry • Vestry meeting (October 24)

#### **November**

Worship • All Saints' Sunday service (November 5)
• Festival All-Parish Eucharist in celebration of the Feast of St. Andrew on the last Sunday after Pentecost (November 19) • Thanksgiving Day service (November 23) • Thanksgiving children's service followed by potluck supper (November 26)

Adult Formation • Sunday Christian Learning
Series: Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole leads discussion of Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian
Life, by Archbishop Rowan Williams (November 12); 95 Theses Tacked to a Door and the Protestant
Reformation (November 19 and 26) • Bible Circle theme: The Gospel of John: A Cosmic Perspective,
with Chapters 1:35-51 and 2:1-12 the focus for
November • Men's Bible Study continues with
St. Paul's letter to the Galatians (November 11) •
Faith & Practice: Understanding Your Child's Faith
Development (November 12)

Youth Formation • Pies baked by Rite-13 youth for Wellesley Food Pantry (November 19) • Potluck supper following Thanksgiving children's service (November 26)

Outreach • Holiday dinner collections for St. Stephen's held throughout the month • Thanksgiving meals bagged for families at St. Stephen's (November 19) • Coats for Kids winter coat drive begins • Sox Box sock collection for Health Care Without Walls begins • Family Promise Metrowest Hosting Week (November 26 to December 3) • Mitten tree erected in parish hall

Fellowship/Membership • Parishioners contribute shortbread to St. Andrew's Day celebration coffee hour (November 19) • 80 parishioners participate in Wellesley Turkey Trot 5K, winning the "largest team" award and trophy (November 23)

- Potluck supper following Thanksgiving children's service (November 26)
- Book Clubs Book Circle (formerly Reading Mavens): A Gentleman in Moscow, by Amor
   Towles (November 13); Men's Book Club: Profiles in Courage, by John F. Kennedy (November 1)
- Property Contract approved to repave the 7 Denton Road walkways and driveway, with work to commence in 2018
- Stewardship Stewardship campaign includes testimonials by parishioners at 8am and 10am services, as well as written testimonials included in the leaflet and weekly stewardship e-mails Campaign concludes on Commitment Sunday (November 19)
- Vestry St. Andrew's Day, November 19, designated as Bring a Friend to Church Day 232nd annual diocesan convention held at the Cathedral of St. Paul, Boston (November 4)

#### December

Worship • Parishioners invited to offer Christmas flowers in memory of or in thanksgiving for loved ones • Taizé-style service on Advent II (December 3) • Advent Choral Service of Lessons & Carols on Advent III (December 10), followed by reception in parish hall • Blue Christmas service (December 13) • Christmas Pageant on Advent III (December 17) • Christmas Eve services: Children's Service at 3pm with carols, a children's homily and celebration of the manger; Family Eucharist at 5pm with carols and intergenerational choir; Festival Eucharist at 10pm with string quartet, carols, and senior choir (December 24) • Christmas Day service (December 31)

Adult Formation • Men's Bible Study continues with St. Paul's letter to the Galatians (December 9) • Sunday Christian Learning Series: Reflections on The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World, by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama: What is Joy? What Gets in the Way? (December 10); Claiming Joy More Fully (December 17) • Bible Circle theme: The Gospel of John: A Cosmic Perspective, with Chapter 4:1-42 the focus for December 12 and 13 • Twenty-two individu-

- als signed up for the St. Andrew's pilgrimage to Rome, Florence, and Assisi from May 15 to May 25, 2018
- Youth/Church School Little Angels' Gift Shop (December 8) Family Cookies and Carols (December 8) High school youth group alumni night (December 17)
- Outreach Coats for Kids winter coat drive continues through December 31 Alternative Gift Fair (December 10) Sox Box sock donations to Health Care Without Walls Mitten tree collection of hats, scarves and gloves 60 Christmas gift bags, including homemade cookies, delivered to St. Stephen's
- Fellowship/Membership Gathering of the Greens at the home of Luisa Hunnewell (December 2) Advent wreath making (December 3)
- Book Clubs Men's Book Club: Profiles in Courage, by John F. Kennedy (December 6)
- Property Officers from the Wellesley Police Department complete a security review of the St. Andrew's facility (December 1) Rector and wardens attend a full-day training by the Massachusetts State Police on security procedures and public safety considerations for houses of worship (December 6) Kitchen stove and oven unit determined to be in need of replacement
- Stewardship Parishioners encouraged to complete pledges for 2017 by early December
- Vestry Slate of nominees for vestry positions to be filled in 2018 completed • Vestry meeting (December 19)
- —Nancy Hancock, warden, with special thanks to George Dummer, chronicler

### Wardens' Report





Nancy Hancock

Michael Vanin

COMING OFF ONE OF THE MOST successful stewardship campaigns in recent memory, we recognize that there is a direct link between the congregation's love for St. Andrew's and the financial commitment that almost 300 families have made to our church. The richness of the Sunday service, the wonderful music programs, and the formation opportunities for all ages are just a few examples of the myriad of programs you support.

Before you know it, St. Andrew's will be celebrating its 125th anniversary. In preparation for this momentous occasion, a small committee is busy culling through archives. They are uncovering a vast array of wonderful memories, interesting historical artifacts, and snapshots of a rich past. We should be proud of who have been, but—more importantly—of who we are and who we will continue to be over the next 125 years.

A great measure of the vitality and strength of our parish is in the number of new families who have joined St. Andrew's over the past year, especially those with young children. Since our last report, St. Andrew's has added 38 families. This growth is neither accidental nor random, as the trend in many of our neighboring churches is very different; most are seeing a decline in Sunday attendance.

So, to what do we attribute this diversion from the mean? As I reflect upon the past three years of my term as warden, certain measurements are easy to quantify (average Sunday attendance, the number of new families, increased attendance at the 9am and 11:30am Christian learning offerings). As encouraging as these numbers are, I am more interested in the "why" than the "what." Why do new families join St. Andrew's and

seamlessly weave themselves into the fabric of our Christian lives?

As with most organizations, it starts with the vision and execution of a plan. Our clergy and vestry have made it a priority to make our strategic plan a living document. After completing the plan in 2016, the vestry reviewed and reported its six-month progress against short-term and long-term goals, adding new priorities.

We have deliberately set out with a short- to medium-term perspective in our planning process, rather than only taking a long-term view. This approach is influenced by the recognition that we live in a time that is rapidly changing and evolving—these changes are having dramatic impacts on all aspects of the life of our country, including religious and church participation. This environment heightens the need for strategic assessment; it is crucial that we remain nimble, while not diminishing the importance of taking a deep breath to consider who we are and where we want to go next.

It all begins with St. Andrew's mission (what we do), our vision (where we are going) and our values (what guides our decisions):

- **Mission** We are an Episcopal church that celebrates and shares the transforming love of Christ.
- **Vision** To grow our parish in breadth and depth by strengthening our worship, community, and ministries. Our hope is to deepen the faith of existing members and attract new people to our parish so that they can experience Christ's love. We wish to help people recognize their God given talents and use them to serve God and their neighbor.

#### Our Values

- □ We are guided by Jesus' Great Commandment to love God with all our heart and to love our neighbors as ourselves.
- □ We strive to be an open and inclusive church.
- □ We believe we are called to nurture future generations in the faith.
- □ We place a high value on the community life of our church.
- ☐ We believe in the importance of worship in meeting the spiritual needs of our parishioners

- by offering a range of worship services within the Episcopal tradition.
- □ We value the engagement of the intellect in our approach to our faith and are guided by the "three-legged stool" of the Episcopal Church: scripture, tradition, and reason.
- □ We value the importance of putting our faith into action by serving the wider community on a local, national, and international level.

Below is a summary by vestry ministry of how each is executing against the mission, vision, and values and a thank you to those who work so hard to make St. Andrew's so special.

#### Adult Formation Peter Fergusson

Our Christian Learning Series, Faith & Practice classes, and other educational programs have reached many in the parish. As the numbers grow, so does our confidence that these programs have become an important part of the St. Andrew's experience.

#### Communications Peter Lull

We have extended our communications through multiple media channels, showing our versatility and ability to respond to the need for timely communications.

#### Fellowship Jenny Sawyer

An ongoing and relished ministry, fellowship signals the need for community and sharing of like ideals—and we have a great time!

#### Human Resources Paul Merry

Our committee name has changed from Personnel to Human Resources to more accurately reflect the mission of this ministry.

#### Membership Becky Hamlin

Through a whole host of innovative ideas, our parish has grown by nearly 40 families this year. It is the greatest hope of membership that St. Andrew's not only survives, but flourishes.

#### Outreach Debbie Osborn

By instituting a solid structure for supporting existing ministries and evaluating proposed initiatives through the outreach steering committee, the committee and its missions have remained as strong as ever.

#### **Property** Jim Blackwell

By conducting a thorough review of the status of our facilities, we have concluded that we have a grasp of their present condition and a very good handle on our future needs.

#### Stewardship Allen Jones

Under Allen's new leadership, we executed a successful stewardship campaign in 2017 to fully fund the life and work of the parish.

#### Worship Winnie Faust

As the focal point of the life of our parish, the worship ministry has improved and innovated where needed, including forming a music committee and contributing to the new informal 5pm services.

#### Youth Formation Jen Martin

This is a new and important vestry position, reflecting the significance of ministries with children and youth in our parish.

#### Conclusion

St. Andrew's is a vibrant, welcoming congregation with dedicated clergy, ministries, and missions supported by the parish. Our membership is growing because we are a community-oriented, caring, and inclusive church. We believe in our mission, execute our vision, and live our values. St. Andrew's is a special place—not because it is pre-ordained to be such, but because we make it that way.

-Michael Vanin and Nancy Hancock, wardens

#### Farewell Note from Michael Vanin

WHEN LYNDA SPERRY APPROACHED ME three years ago to assess my interest in assuming the position of warden, I must admit I was a bit hesitant. Would I have the time? Do I have the right skills? Could I follow the likes of Randy Parker, Stephen Clarke, and Bob Prensner? After careful deliberation with Lynda, Adrian, and my family, I decided to give it a go.

Today, I look back at my three-year tenure as warden with absolutely no regrets. In fact, I find myself humbled by the responsibilities that came with the territory. I feel a profound sense of accomplishment. Since I defined my own mission as leaving St. Andrew's a better place in my wake, I hope that mission was accomplished . . . but that is better left to others to gauge.

I have enjoyed a privilege that only a few parishioners have had over the past 125 years. But no one is indispensable, and no one does this job without a tremendous amount of help, support, and guidance from the clergy, past and present wardens (Nancy

Hancock and Lynda Sperry especially), vestry members, Steve Killeen, Ruth Hubert, Kate Clark, Susan Jackson, and many parishioners who are not shy about sharing an idea or two at coffee hour.

I must also thank the CEO of my company, who, when asked if he thought I should take on this responsibility, quickly responded: "Not only *should* you do this, but you *must* do this."

Last, but certainly not least, I want to thank my wife, Kris, who I know will agree with the famous saying from Napoleon Bonaparte: "Behind every great man there is a great woman." No truer words were ever muttered. I could never have done this without her unfailing love and support.

I am not going far, and I will still be involved as often and as deeply as St. Andrew's will have me . . . because, as I jokingly say quite often, "I live to serve."

Thank you again for letting me take this wonderful ride.

-Michael Vanin, warden

### Montessori School Report

THE WELLESLEY MONTESSORI SCHOOL is delighted to continue its long-standing relationship with St. Andrew's. This support has allowed us to continuously offer a high-quality, community-based program for children. As we strive to meet the needs of our community, we are excited to share that we are now offering early childhood education for children as young as 15 months old through kindergarten. We would like all St. Andrew's parish-

ioners to know that a scholarship fund is available to members of the church. On behalf of the entire Wellesley Montessori School, I would like to give a special thanks to the clergy, vestry, Katharine Clark, Susan Jackson, Wardie Mannix, Ruth Hubert, Steve Killeen, Bill Clover, and Matthew Killeen for their continued support to our school community.

—Vanessa Larkin, M.Ed., Wellesley Montessori School director.

### **Parish Register**

Baptisms Winslow Mary Katherine Benfer, Ana Falakshahi Broyles, Charles Emmanuel Cacciola, Margot Emery Cacciola, Benjamin Payne Dietz, Victoria Lane Hayward, Greta Rae Schmitz, and Margaret Scott Sullivan

Burials Nita Frangoulis Barrett, Catherine M. Bazirgan, Sarah Muther Brown, Shirley Ann Johnston, Morgan W. Palmer, Ruth S. Ramsay,

Elisabeth Hamblin Rippy, and Henry Holmes Thayer

Youth Confirmations Haley Alpaugh, Landon
Wescott Alpaugh, Charlotte Simpson Beckett,
Benjamin West Clarke, Alexander Vi Dan
Cumming, Nina Colbert Cushman, Connor
William Daws, Alexandra Stuart Dent, David
Anders Donahue, Christiaan Michiel Eikeboom,

Peter Edward Frates, Matthew Benjamin Giess, Emily Merrill Grape, Rachel Louise Hendrix, Amelia Lyle Houghton, Thomas Bridges Madden, Claire Campbell Mecke, Norah Graham Schaefer, Charlotte Gardner Snow, Robert George Strzetelski, and Macie Adele Tanaka Adult Confirmations Christine Diane Beach,

Adult Confirmations Christine Diane Beach, Stephen Franklin Dietz, Alan Richard Montero-Williams, and Penn Young Receptions Brian Edward Broyles, and Mary Martha Scanlon

Marriages Ana Falakshahi Dioun to Brian Edward Broyles, Kay Smith Lorenz to Matthew Clarke Young, Christiana Hunnewell Howe to Gibson William Donohue, and Alicia Collins to James Saulsky

Renewals of Wedding Vows Elizabeth (Zebby) Dubé and Alan Francis Dubé

### **Nominating Committee Report**

WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT that the nominating committee has recruited a full slate of candidates for a vote of the congregation at the 126th annual meeting on Sunday, January 28, 2018. These candidates have confirmed their willingness to contribute their time and talents to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, and we are grateful for their commitment and leadership. Following is biographical information of new members, which demonstrates the depth of knowledge and experience that each of these exceptional candidates brings to St. Andrew's. The parish and the nominating committee thank each of them for their thoughtful consideration and willingness to serve as leaders.

The nominating committee of St. Andrew's

consists of five parish members who are supported by the wardens. The term of each member is two years. Tim Raeke, Jane Givens, and Wendy Haering have completed their terms as of January 28, 2018. Wendy has agreed to continue to serve a new term on the committee through the 2020 meeting, and will be joined by new members Megan Burns and Dave Boghosian, who will also serve terms through 2020. Current committee members Emily Hunnewell and Michael Mahlenkamp will continue to serve through the 2019 annual meeting. The committee would like to thank not only the committee members, but also wardens Michael Vanin and Nancy Hancock for their service.

#### 2018 St. Andrew's Slate of Nominees

#### David Hamlin, Warden (3-year term)



David Hamlir

DAVID, HIS WIFE BECKY, their daughter Margie, and their son Tucker have been members of St. Andrew's for 19 years. During that time, David has served as vestryperson for finance, usher, and lay Eucharistic minister. He looks forward

to working at the Wellesley Food Pantry during the St. Andrew's Day of Service each fall. The church is an important part of the Hamlin family's religious and community life.

David's career is in the investment management industry, with fixed income portfolio management and research leadership roles at The Vanguard Group, Putnam Investments, and Fidelity Investments. David is currently head of fixed income research at Sun Life Investment Management.

In his free time, David enjoys traveling, cross-country skiing, and spending time on the Chesapeake Bay.

#### Heidi Harper, Outreach (3-year term)



Heidi Harber

HEIDI AND HER FAMILY have been members of St. Andrew's since moving to Wellesley in 2003. She has been active in many capacities, including church school teacher, Rite-13 leader, acolyte coordinator, greeter, and serving on the

most recent rector search committee. Heidi continues to participate in altar guild and many outreach ministries, including serving as St. Andrew's coordinator for Family Promise Metrowest. Heidi is a registered nurse who works part-time at the Wellesley Health Department and also volunteers her time at the Metrowest Free Medical Program in Women's Health. She and her husband, Wade, have two sons, Nicholas (23) and Nathan (20).

#### Cynthia Scott, Worship (3-year term)



Cynthia Scott

CYNTHIA AND HER HUSBAND, Larry, have been members of St. Andrew's for more than 20 years and have three grown children. Cynthia has served in a variety of ministries over the years, most recently as altar guild director and member of

the worship and music committees. Former roles include acolyte coordinator, church school teacher, Bargain Haul department chair, diocesan convention delegate, and serving on numerous committees (including nominating, education, lay pastoral care, and music minister search). Cynthia served as president of the Wellesley Food Pantry board from 2011-2017 and is in her tenth year managing the pantry operation.

#### Arnout Eikeboom, Treasurer (2-year term)



ARNOUT AND BETTINA WERE married in 2002 and became members of St. Andrew's in 2003. They have three children (Christiaan, Clara, and Johannes), all baptized at St. Andrew's, who make

frequent appearances at the church. Arnout and Bettina have participated in Coventry suppers for many years. Arnout was born in the Netherlands and came to the United States as a graduate student. After earning his Ph.D. in finance at the MIT Sloan School of Management, he worked at Goldman Sachs in New York for six years. He then returned to the Boston area in 2000, when he joined a start-up investment management company, Alpha Simplex Group, LLC; he is now the company's chief compliance officer and chief risk officer. He is eager to serve another term as treasurer of St. Andrew's.

#### Sarah Harris, Clerk (2-year term)



SARAH LIVES IN WELLESLEY with her husband, Greg, and their two children, Will (11) and Hadley (8). Hadley was baptized at St. Andrew's as an infant. Sarah has taught third grade for the Brookline Public Schools since 2002. For the past

five years, she has enjoyed being a church school teacher. Since joining St. Andrew's, the Harris family has come to appreciate the welcoming community, and Sarah looks forward to serving a second term as clerk.

### **Nominating Committee**

#### Dave Boghosian



Dave Boghosian

DAVE HAS BEEN A MEMBER of St. Andrew's for 20 years and is currently head usher. He is actively involved with Bargain Haul and the men's book club. His two adult sons, Rich and Jim, were both confirmed at St. Andrew's.

#### Wendy Haering



Wendy Haering

WENDY HAS ATTENDED St. Andrew's Church with her husband, Thomas Engels, and daughter, Sommer Engels, since 1986. She has volunteered in church school, Bargain Haul, lay Eucharistic ministry, and altar guild. She has served as

clerk of the vestry and as a member of the nominating committee. The St. Andrew's community is an important source of spiritual strength and support in her life.

#### Megan Burns



Megan Burns

MEGAN HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE member of St. Andrew's for nearly a decade. She currently serves on the church school committee and teaches regularly in church school. Previously, she served as a Rite-13 leader. Megan is vice president of

Wellesley Friendly Aid and serves on the development committee of the Wolf School in East Providence, Rhode Island. She received a BA in Religion from the University of Michigan and worked in the biotech field for ten years. Megan lives in Sherborn with her husband, son, and a variety of poorly behaved creatures.



Photo: Peter Lull

# **Vestry Committee Reports**

### Report of the Vestryperson for Adult Formation

ATTENDANCE HAS INCREASED IN SEVERAL AREAS in the past year, notably Christian learning, Faith & Practice classes, and new liturgies, thanks to the skills and efforts of Rev. Margaret Schwarzer. For Christian learning, the increase has been due in part to the organization of series and to the publication of fall and spring leaflets listing topics. The Faith & Practice classes after the 10am service have been well received, with many remarking about the engagement of each other in conversation, reflection, and short spiritual exercises. Topics in 2017 included "How to Visit a Sick Friend," "How to Forgive," and "Practicing Mercy." Also wellsupported were efforts to enlarge the liturgy of the parish. Our religious awareness was deepened by the Taizé-style monastic chants and the Blue Christmas service, both directed by Margaret.

In addition, two visits outside the parish conceived and organized by Margaret in 2017 were over-subscribed: to Temple Beth Elohim to attend Shabbat, and to the exhibition in honor of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation at the Davis Museum at Wellesley College. The Lenten series run by the clergy, with lay help from Bob

Prensner and Penn Young, drew lively discussions. In the fall, participation doubled for the annual Wellesley Turkey Trot (in support of local charities), and 82 parishioners earned for St. Andrew's the trophy for top participation in the town, again under Margaret's leadership.

Just as encouraging has been the response of the parish to the pilgrimage scheduled for May 2018. Planned with a sub-committee under the direction of Margaret with much help from Penn Young, the ten-day pilgrimage is focused on Rome, but will end with short visits to Assisi and Florence. In the spring, to strengthen the theme of pilgrimage (rather than a tour), the participants will be offered basic language tutoring as well as sessions on history, customs, and locations.

The three Bible Circles chaired by Margarethe Kulke enjoyed another successful year. Two are led by Margaret and one by Adrian on Saturday mornings, for men only. Last, but not least, the inquirers' classes, guided by the clergy, added five new members to the parish.

—Peter Fergusson

### Report of the Vestryperson for Communication

THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE had several large achievements this year: the photo directory, the launch of a new website, and a concerted effort to engage through social media.

Photo Directory This undertaking was one of the most important tasks of the committee, due to our parish's need to connect with the large number of new members we have welcomed in the past few years. The communications committee was very well-led by Nancy Hancock through January of 2017, before she was recruited to become our warden. St. Andrew's owes Nancy a debt of gratitude for her communications work, and in particular for

her commitment to creating the most recent version of the St. Andrew's photo directory. In addition to her warden's duties, Nancy continued to be involved in the fine details of the directory through May, when it was finalized and made available to our congregation.

The committee is grateful, as well, to a number of other people who dedicated their time, effort, and expertise to creating, reviewing, and finalizing the photo directory. The communications committee would like to acknowledge in particular the work of Sandra Rigney for her proofing work and keen eye for consistency and publishing standards;

Caren Parker for her time reviewing materials in fine detail; Lynda Sperry for her institutional knowledge, guidance, and expertise; and Kate Clark for her organization and assistance.

St. Andrew's Website The church's website needed to be modernized to make it more user-friendly and inviting. This project required a tremendous amount of planning to organize and assign all the different facets of parish life into easily findable groupings. Through our work with an outside vendor, the site was created from scratch with fresh content and a greater emphasis on visual elements. The site is now a robust resource for information about parish life, calendars, contacts, pledging, signup opportunities, and more. Many people provided input in this process, and we are all beneficiaries of their work.

The site also requires constant updating, especially the calendars that track events in all ministries of the church. The website also enables users to find Sunday leaflets and sermons. This maintenance is a time-consuming endeavor, mostly handled by Rob Brandt and Kate Clark.

Social Media This year, the communications committee made an effort to improve our use of social media in order to engage both parishioners and the wider community in the life of our church. In the fall, each of our clergy—Adrian, Cat, and Margaret—agreed to take turns on the primary social media outlets of Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. They have been making the effort to post messages and photos on a regular basis to keep followers abreast of church happenings. We have seen a gradual increase of followers during the year and hope to keep increasing as we move into 2018.

**Other Communication Work** In addition to these three major areas of focus, the year also included ongoing activities of both recurring and one-time problem solving:

 The CALL The most recent print edition of The CALL was mailed in January 2018. We would like to thank Dan Dent for his great work in producing this important communication tool. Dan generated ideas, wrote copy, edited, and generally guided production of The CALL.

- **Signup Forms** The communications committee worked to streamline the process for event signup at St. Andrew's. Now participants can go to the website to find calendars and then go through one customized SignUpGenius account to put their names in to attend, volunteer, and participate in church life.
- Ads/Signs Two signs were created to advertise our Christmas Eve services and placed outside the church along Route 16 to invite the community to join in our celebrations. We also placed ads in the two town newspapers (*The Wellesley Townsman* and *Hometown Weekly*) and on their websites, as well as online at the *Swellesley Report* for our special events: Lenten Evensong, Easter, Bargain Haul, Advent Lessons and Carols, and Christmas Eve.
- Articles Communications also managed to get in-depth coverage in *The Wellesley Townsman* for several of our more public events: one covered Cat and Margaret's "Ashes to Go" outreach to the community on Ash Wednesday; Margaret Zusky wrote an article to promote Bargain Haul; and the very popular Blessing of the Animals was covered in a photo slide show on the *Townsman* website.
- e-Pistle This email goes out every Friday as an electronic version of the weekly Sunday bulletin.
- Emergency Preparedness The parish has begun discussions about emergency preparedness with the diocese to develop a planned approach to disaster preparation and response. Given the heightened number of concerns in society in general, the church feels it best to have a set of procedures in place.

In addition to continuing the efforts outlined above in 2018, we will be working on a parish history to celebrate our 125th anniversary in 2019. The communication committee met regularly in 2017, with regular attendees including our three clergy members (Adrian Robbins-Cole, Cat Healy, and Margaret Schwarzer), Rob Brandt, Kate Clark, Dan Dent, Nancy Hancock, Caren Parker, Sandra Rigney, and Jenny Sawyer.

—Peter Lull

### Report of the Vestryperson for Fellowship

2017 WAS ANOTHER GREAT (AND VERY BUSY!) year for fellowship, and I feel so blessed to be representing the parish in this capacity. I am also very thankful to the following committee members for their hard work in helping to plan and organize our many and varied events: Barbara Bergstrom, Al Dubé, Zebby Dubé, Nancy Jones, Hillary Madge, Jennifer Olivetti, Tim Raeke, Terri Rawson, Dot Reed, Sandra Rigney, Laura Rodormer, Lynda Sperry, Kris Vanin, and Michael Vanin. I also thank Peter Lull for always being on hand to capture the fun in photographs, and Steve Killeen for his tireless work behind the scenes.

Along with our regularly scheduled events, we had a number of new initiatives with increased participation: the intergenerational spring tea was led by youth as part of their high school senior project; the fall Night of Fun was a luau party; and four new potluck dinners were added to the 5pm services, each with a different food theme.

Bargain Haul, St. Andrew's annual rummage sale, was also a great success this year. During the first week of May, Bargain Haul takes over every corner of the church and its classrooms. A tradition at St. Andrew's for more than 50 years, it is one of the parish's most truly intergenerational events. Bargain Haul volunteers range from middle and high school youth to many of our most dedicated and experienced parishioners. Each year (2017 was no exception), it generates over \$30,000, supporting a myriad of outreach programs sponsored by St. Andrew's.

As you can see from the list below, we depend on many, many volunteers for support. A special thank you to the following parishioners for helping to make our fellowship year a success:

Coffee Hour Coordinator Hillary Madge
Funeral Receptions Margaret Zusky
Coventry Supper Becky Hamlin
Epiphany Fireside Dinner Jen Olivetti
Pancake Supper Terri Rawson and Rite-13
Evensong Reception Wendy Haering and
Margaret Zusky

Intergenerational Spring Tea Grace Dwyer,
Ashley Glorioso, and Elise Mahlenkamp
Bargain Haul Molly Aitken and Ruthie Klinck
Bargain Haul Parish Night Terri Rawson
Parish Picnic Luisa Hunnewell, Lynda Sperry, and
Rob Brandt

Village Church Luncheon Pat MacKinnon and Dot Reed

Luau (Night of Fun) Barbara Bergstrom,
 Rob Brandt, Sarah Dent, Allen Jones,
 Nancy Jones, Linda Lull, Peter Lull, Jen Olivetti,
 George Raeke, Tim Raeke, Terri Rawson,
 Sandra Rigney, Lynda Sperry, Kris Vanin, and
 Michael Vanin

Gathering of the Greens and Advent Wreath Making Christine Beach

Advent Lessons and Carols Reception Wendy
Haering and Margaret Zusky
Lenten Series Potluck Suppers St. Andrew's Clergy
I'm excited for the 2018 year of fellowship!
—Jenny Sawyer

### Financial Report and Budget (see insert)

### Report of the Vestryperson for Human Resources

IT IS THE MISSION OF THE ST. ANDREW'S human resources committee (formerly the personnel committee) to support the clergy, wardens, and vestry concerning all aspects of the relationships between the parish and its staff, both paid and volunteer. Issues within the purview of the committee include compensation, employee benefits provided to paid employees, job descriptions, and other features of their work with the parish. This support includes assistance when requested with such issues as the annual job performance evaluations called for under parish policy. The committee also regularly reviews the parish budget for personnel, including scrutinizing costs for compensation along with health and other insurance, in support of the vestry and committees charged with creating and finalizing the annual budget for approval by the vestry. The committee also advises parish leadership concerning personnel aspects of the measures adopted to enhance the safety of parishioners, parish children, and staff alike, such as compliance with state Criminal Offender Record Information reviews.

Following a busy year in 2016, the committee's work over the past twelve months has focused on completion of a revised and updated edition of the parish employee handbook. The revised book, which was completed late in the summer, incorporates changes required by the new state law mandating the provision of paid sick time off for employees, as well as a range of other changes, including inclusion of a policy prohibiting use of marijuana at church activities, necessitated by changes in state law permitting recreational marijuana use. We also reviewed the personnel budget prior to its adoption by the wardens and vestry, with member and former treasurer Meg Harris volunteering to complete necessary computations. The committee also reviewed the parish strategic plan to assure ongoing implementation of its established goals.

One of the particularly enjoyable duties of the committee is to arrange public recognition for staff members reaching benchmarks in their careers with St. Andrew's. This past year afforded the oppor-

tunity to recognize Pastoral Associate Rev. Karen Vickers Budney, Music Minister Wardie Mannix, and Christian Learning Coordinator Susan Jackson, each of whom celebrated her tenth anniversary with us during the past year. At a specially arranged time during a 10am service in October, each received a gift and expressions of appreciation and gratitude for her dedication.

With changes in how volunteer organizations, such as churches like St. Andrew's, operate in the information age, and with the demands even of more routine jobs changing, one of the key functions of the committee is to keep job descriptions up to date. Without accurate descriptions of the functions of positions within the parish, performance assessments would be more difficult, if not impossible. In concert with this role, the committee has set as its goal for the coming year a review of job descriptions for paid staff, to bring them into correspondence with duties currently being performed. Committee members expect to interview staff about changes in their duties, as well as speaking with supervisors and, where appropriate, with clergy, to develop comprehensive descriptions.

In fall 2017, the committee regretfully accepted the resignation of former warden and long-time committee member Pam Henrikson after many years of tireless service. We are grateful for Pam's wisdom and depth of familiarity with the parish and all phases of its operation and for her indefatigably cheerful approach to all the committee's tasks. We wish her the best as she moves ahead to enjoy more time with her growing family.

St. Andrew's is fortunate to have many talented members, and our committee has recently recruited Nancy Kohl, who has extensive human resources experience. We are also pleased that Frank Hunnewell, whose experience includes a prior term as chair of the committee, has agreed to rejoin. Thanks are due to all the members of the human resources committee: Nancy Hancock, Meg Harris, Frank Hunnewell, Nancy Kohl, Michael Mahlenkamp, Paige Manning, and Terri Rawson.

—Paul Merry

### Report of the Vestryperson for Membership

THIS YEAR, ST. ANDREW'S HAS BEEN BLESSED with many new people attending our services each Sunday. We have welcomed over 38 new families who wish to receive regular communications from our parish. Many have become actively involved in church school, parish committees, and other church activities. I encourage you to look around each Sunday and make a point of introducing yourself to some of the many new faces among you.

The membership committee has continued to recruit new welcome greeters for each Sunday before the 10am worship service. If you get a call to welcome greet, I hope you will say yes! It is a fun way to see familiar faces, get to know new ones, and welcome everyone to worship.

Committee members serve as exit greeters to meet and talk with visitors in the narthex after the 10am service. Please be sure to help us greet new people by introducing them to us as you leave church. We will be ready with a packet of materials about St. Andrew's and what we offer throughout the year.

Our committee also organized newcomer brunches in the spring and in the fall to help welcome all the newcomers who have requested information about our parish. The brunch is a great way to provide them the chance to get to know our clergy, vestry, and membership committee members.

Our shepherd program, which we started in 2016, matches newcomers with current parishioners, who act as an ongoing resource and connection to our parish. The response has been very positive, as these newcomers feel welcomed and informed of all that we have to offer.

In the spring, the committee hosted a party for new active members who have joined in the last few years. The parish survey indicated that, while the initial welcome was strong, there was a need to circle back with new members after a few years. As such, this was a chance to welcome them and to make sure they still feel connected and a part of our growing parish. The committee organized two Kids' Place coffees for families with new babies and toddlers to meet. They loved being able to connect with each other and have playdates for their small children.

I am sure you have noticed the updated nametags with our new church logo and color scheme. Please help me get them all updated by placing your old logo nametag in the envelopes under the nametag boards in the narthex. It is so nice to see so many of you wearing your nametags regularly to church!

The membership committee has also purchased baptismal books for any child being baptized at St. Andrew's. We hope they will serve as a lasting reminder of this blessing they have received.

We have also developed a "Welcome to St. Andrew's" bulletin board outside of Cat's office, which highlights newcomers to our parish since the printing of the latest directory. Please be sure to stop by and see who is new.

I hope you have also noticed the new pew cards that invite folks visiting our parish to let us know they are interested in learning more about St. Andrew's. They serve as one more way to help us seek out and welcome newcomers.

A big thank you to the membership committee for their steadfast work and enthusiasm during 2017. The committee includes: Jane Andrews, Connie Barnes, Nancy Braun, Amanda Curtis, Francie Hawkey, Carrie Hawley, Lakey MacArthur, Suzanne Nystrom, Anne Prensner, Ginny Snow, Lynda Sperry, and Anne Tong. Michael Vanin was our warden representative, and Margaret Schwarzer was our clergy representative.

It has been my pleasure serving as your membership representative on vestry, and I happily turn over the leadership to Suzanne Nystrom, who will continue to lead the parish in our mission to attract, welcome, and integrate newcomers of all ages, races, and faith backgrounds into our friendly, active, and growing parish.

— Becky Hamlin

### Lay Pastoral Care Committee Report

THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM is made up of lay people and the St. Andrew's clergy. It plays a central role in the provision of pastoral care at St. Andrew's and is a wonderful example of the partnership between our lay people and clergy. Team members visit parishioners in their homes, as well as in hospitals, nursing homes, and other residential communities. Visits are an important way to deliver the prayers and spiritual support of the St. Andrew's community and to make the love of Christ present to those who are facing a medical or pastoral emergency or are unable to attend church on an ongoing basis.

Another important element of the work of the team is the sending of cards expressing our love and support to parishioners who are facing difficult

situations or to celebrate with them a joyful occasion like the birth of a child or an anniversary. This work is undertaken by two dedicated members of the team, Margaret Abrahamson and Josepha Dermer.

The team meets monthly to support one another, plan visits for the coming month, and organize the sending of cards. The meeting is also an important way for the clergy to learn from the lay members about parishioners who might need clergy pastoral care. In a parish the size of St. Andrew's, it is not always easy for the clergy to be aware of all the pastoral challenges facing parishioners, and the lay pastoral care team provides invaluable support in this regard.

—Adrian Robbins-Cole

### Report of the Vestryperson for Outreach

IN 2017, THE ST. ANDREW'S OUTREACH COMMITTEE continued its mission to support our parish's established local, urban, and international ministries through fundraising and, most importantly, "faith in action." Financial support is always important for communities challenged by economic hardships, including natural disasters. However, putting our faith into action so generously to help others is what makes our parishioner volunteers at St. Andrew's particularly special. As the vestryperson for outreach for the past three years, I have witnessed over and over the faith, love, and support that so many individuals at St. Andrew's extend to others, tirelessly and unconditionally.

In 2016, Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole suggested the idea of aligning a parish-wide outreach focus with the church calendar, which the committee and volunteers enthusiastically continued to do in 2017. This year, the Lenten theme was Christ's commandment, "Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself." The outreach committee selected one of our long-standing ministry partners, Family Promise Metrowest (FPM), to be the center of our outreach efforts during Lent. Family Promise Metrowest,

based in Natick, supports local families who become homeless and helps them build sustainable lives, including finding affordable housing and increasing their earnings. This work is especially important in our area, since Massachusetts has one of the fastest-growing rates of family homelessness in the country.

St. Andrew's Lenten focus was led by Heidi Harper and Caren Parker, St. Andrew's FPM coordinators, in conjunction with Jen Martin, vestryperson for youth formation. It began on March 5, when Judy Mongiardo, FPM network coordinator, delivered the homily at the 10am service. Afterwards, she presented to the church school and Rite-13 students. St. Andrew's parishioners embraced Family Promise Metrowest. The church school students baked treats and sold them at coffee hour to raise money for our neighbors. On April 8, a team of 60 parishioners participated in the FPM Walk Away Homelessness fundraiser in Natick. More than 80 parish households participated in this effort as walkers and/or contributors, making St. Andrew's one of the top fundraising teams for this key annual fundraiser. In addition, during April, Family

Promise held volunteer training sessions geared especially toward youth and families. Our parishwide effort was a success for everyone involved; parishioners generously stepped up with their time, talent, and treasure to support our homeless neighbors.

"Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself" is also at the heart of our ongoing outreach ministries at St. Andrew's, in our neighboring communities, and globally. In early July, Cam McCormick and Karen Pekowitz organized over 40 volunteers to support B-SAFE at our partner church, St. Stephen's in the South End of Boston. The B-SAFE academic and enrichment camp serves over 120 students (ages 5-15) throughout the summer, and provides multiple counselor and leadership employment positions to local teens. Many of these employed teens have grown-up in B-SAFE and other essential youth programs at St. Stephen's. St. Andrew's parishioners volunteer for one week, providing breakfast food, healthy snacks, lunches, and a fun field trip. This summer, the Friday field trip was rained out for the first time in many years, but that did not stop our enthusiastic volunteer group from providing the much-anticipated Friday fun. They set up a fabulous indoor fun park that the B-SAFE kids could not get enough of! St. Andrew's and several other churches have long-standing partnerships with B-SAFE. Seasoned and new volunteers do not hesitate to commit to B-SAFE, ensuring the kids and counselors have what they need for a great summer experience.

Closer to home, Tim Phillips and Bettina
Eikeboom continued to lead support of the Salvation Army Miracle Kitchen. We saw several new
volunteers join a dedicated, committed group
who have prepared and served dinners for our
neighbors on the fourth Tuesday of every month
for many years. In March, Tim introduced a very
successful idea to the congregation. He set up collection boxes in the back of the church for hotel and
airline toiletries, which are now transported monthly to Framingham for distribution. This idea has
been a great success! The Salvation Army location
in Framingham is going through a transition. However, we will continue to support our neighbors,

and believe that it is a very important ministry for our volunteers at St. Andrew's.

Another important opportunity for our parishioners to serve our urban neighbors is through a diocesan program, Ecclesia Ministries in Boston. Ecclesia Ministries provides opportunities to worship with and support the homeless through common cathedral. A group of volunteers gathered in our kitchen at St. Andrew's on Sundays, April 23 and October 1. They prepared lunch and traveled to Boston Common to serve and worship with common cathedral participants. Volunteers always come away from this experience humbled by their interactions with others who are challenged emotionally and physically, yet remain positive and thankful in spirit.

Other vital ministries led by the St. Andrew's outreach committee in 2017 included the Alternative Gift Fair and support for Coats for Kids, Health Care Without Walls, and the St. Stephen's mitten tree. The Alternative Gift Fair, organized by Ann Johnson and Cam McCormick, is an annual Advent event offering parishioners the opportunity to buy holiday "gifts" in the form of contributions to selected outreach ministries. Joanna Horobin continues to organize St. Andrew's contributions to the local Coats for Kids winter coat drive; Donna Kell maintains our Sox Box sock collection for Health Care Without Walls, which provides free health care to homeless and poor women and families; and Ann Johnson manages the mitten tree, which collects hats, gloves, and scarves for the children of St. Stephen's Youth Programs. This year, the church school committee also supported the mitten tree as its Advent outreach initiative.

Parishioners Jack and Jill Whiting truly represent faith in action. In 2017, they continued their annual efforts to support families and seniors at our partner church, St. Stephen's. Jack and Jill shopped, organized, and transported holiday meals and Christmas gift bags, assisted by a team of volunteers. This ministry would not be possible without our parish's annual generosity through the "Holiday Meal and B-SAFE" envelope pew collection, which amounts to over \$5,000 each year. This money funds holiday meals and gifts

at St. Stephen's and covers the costs of the annual field trip for B-SAFE.

St. Andrew's is generous in its support of our many outreach ministries throughout the year. Whether parishioners are fundraising for our international neighbors at El Hogar in Honduras or cleaning the Wellesley Food Pantry right here at home, their faith, love, and support are always evident. St. Andrew's is committed to sharing with our neighbors and helping to transform their lives. Thank you to our community for continuing to put our Christian faith into action in 2017.

—Debbie Osborn

### Report of the Vestryperson for Property

2017 WAS A RELATIVELY QUIET YEAR FOR PROPERTY. We continued with normal maintenance efforts and made several improvements to church facilities. The following is a summary of this year's property activities, excluding ordinary maintenance.

*Church* New exterior lighting was installed along the Denton Road side of the church for safety, and a new memorial stone was added to the memorial garden.

24 Princeton Road Rectory A new faux wood floor was installed in the basement, and the exterior siding of the building was repaired and painted.

7 Denton Road A contract was approved to repave the walkways and driveway. Work will commence in 2018.

The rector, Steve Killeen, and I meet on a regular basis to review property needs. We continue to think about long-range planning to ensure appropriate asset care and maintenance in a fiscally prudent manner. The 2014 capital-needs assessment for all church properties is being revised to provide current information for near- and long-range major capital repairs and replacements. It will include updated recommendations from our roofing conditions study, a review of heating and mechanical systems, and interior and exterior improvements. Utilizing this report, we can prioritize repairs to extend the life of church facilities.

As always, we are grateful for the care and attention that Steve Killeen gives to the maintenance of our physical assets. Thank you, Steve.

—Jim Blackwell

### Report of the Vestryperson for Stewardship

THE 2018 STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE came together in the spring of 2017 to begin planning for the 2018 campaign. The campaign theme was "Stepping up in Faith," and our goal was to increase pledge revenue by approximately 13% and household participation above 300. We set a lofty target of \$1 million in pledges.

Our strategy included tactics that have worked well in the past, but also included some new and different ideas. Some of these are listed below:

- Campaign beginning in October and ending in November
- Weekly written testimonials in the bulletin
- Weekly oral testimonials, subsequently sent out in the e-Pistle

- Strong message around "what your pledge dollars do"
  - □ Liturgy, Charity, Community
- Thermometer in the narthex and on the bulletin board to track our progress, updated each week
- Education session on different ways to pledge As we wind down our campaign, I am pleased to report that we have surpassed last year's total by approximately 4 percent. We have received \$918,000 from 259 households, and we will still get some more pledges through January.

I would like to thank everyone in the St. Andrew's community who makes a pledge, as this helps us to make the church what it is today—we could not do this without you. I would also like

to thank all members of the stewardship committee for their time and talent and helping to make the campaign energetic and enthusiastic—this will serve us well in future campaigns. The committee members are: Connie Barnes, Dan Dent, Nancy Hancock, Ann Johnson, Hugh MacArthur, Herb Manning, Jeff McAdams, Anne Prensner, George Stathis, and Michael Vanin.

Finally, a callout is due to Adrian for his support and participation throughout the entire process meetings, strategy development, and execution.

—Allen Jones

### Report of the Vestryperson for Worship

THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETS QUARTERLY with the clergy to give support and advice as they plan details for worship experiences at St. Andrew's. The group is composed of ministry heads in areas including ushers, acolytes, music, altar guild, flower guild, and lay Eucharistic ministers. We coordinate plans for services, making suggestions for change when appropriate. We also take note of what seems to be working well.

As we looked for ways to further enrich the worship experience at St. Andrew's in 2017, we focused on church-wide goals of attracting new members and deepening the spiritual lives of our existing parishioners. Our clergy are now leading monthly informal services on Sundays at 5pm, followed by a fellowship event, such as a potluck dinner. These have been popular with young families, with an average attendance of 55 participants. Overall attendance (across the 8am, 10am, and 5pm services) increases by an average of 20 members on Sundays when the informal services are held, indicating that they are drawing worshipers who might not attend church otherwise, rather than simply shifting attendance from morning to evening.

In October, Adrian gave a few sermons offering instruction on the Eucharist and also returned to our front rail format for communion. Twenty-one youth were confirmed on October 7 at a service presided over by Bishop Alan Gates. Attendance continues to grow at our Taizé-style services, and we are all grateful for the wonderful music provided weekly and on holidays by our talented choir and guest musicians.

In 2017, our clergy led a total of 466 services, including 251 celebrations of Holy Eucharist, 188

prayer services, eight baptisms, three weddings, and nine funerals. Total attendance on Sundays neared 12,000 people. Attendance over Holy Week and Easter totaled 1,661 people; 1,151 worshipped at St. Andrew's on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, including 680 at the 5pm service.

Our worship leaders devote precious time and talent to St. Andrew's. They lead large teams of volunteers and are always looking for new people to join their teams. I am appreciative of all they do to enrich our worship experiences. Please consider the stunning flower arrangements you see each week as just one example of this. As my term as worship chair comes to a close, I am very pleased to leave our committee in the caring, capable hands of Cynthia Scott, who is the current head of the altar guild. Laura Brown MacKinnon will assume that role, and Liz Parsons will step into the role of assistant head. Joe Hamilton took over leadership of lay Eucharistic ministries for Al Bornemann this past summer.

-Winnie Faust

Clergy: Adrian Robbins-Cole, Margaret Schwarzer, Catherine Healy, and Karen Vickers Budney Wardens: Michael Vanin, and Nancy Hancock

Acolytes: Jen Olivetti

Altar Guild: Cynthia Scott, and Laura Brown MacKinnon

Flower Guild: *Cynthia Ballantyne*, and *Katie Barrack* Lay Eucharistic Ministers: *Joe Hamilton*, and

Al Bornemann

Music: Helen Ward Mannix, Amanda Kern,

and Jane Money Ushers: David Boghosian

### **Altar Guild Report**

THE LITURGY BEGINS AND ENDS WITH THE WORK of the altar guild. We prepare for all weekly services, as well as special services: weddings, funerals, baptisms, Christmas, Holy Week, Easter, and the deanery confirmation this past October. The altar guild maintains the vessels, linens, candles, and altar hangings used in our worship services.

We met six times in 2017 to review business matters, sign up for extra duties during the busy liturgical seasons of Christmas and Easter, and develop camaraderie. As is customary, during our annual Ascension Day Eucharist in May, we remembered all past members who have died.

Members of the altar guild are assigned to weekly teams, with each team responsible for all services occurring within the assigned week. The heads of week are responsible for coordinating and supervising the weekly teams: Week 1, Laura Brown MacKinnon; Week 2, Liz Tecca; Week 3, Becky Hamlin; Week 4, Pam Henrikson; and Week 5, Donna Kell, who stepped down in the fall, and Heidi Harper, who assumed the responsibility.

Margaret Blackwell served as training coordinator, assisted by Debbie Monti and Debbie Lorenz in training new members Terri Burnell, Elizabeth Clarke, and Linda McCammond. Jean Childs served as linens coordinator and Linda Reineman as wedding coordinator.

We happily welcome any member of the church who would be interested in joining us in "doing God's dishes" or "setting the props for the show."

The time required is minimal (generally one service a month), but the rewards (and fellowship) are great. New members work side by side with experienced members as they train.

The dedicated members of the St. Andrew's altar guild are: Molly Aitken, Bonnie Akins, D.D. Alexander, Dell Beggs, Barbara Bergstrom, Margaret Blackwell, Judith Boland, Laura Brown MacKinnon, Terri Burnell, Jean Childs, Elizabeth Clarke, Elsie Deane, Josepha Dermer, Nancy Echlov, Linda Gallo, Erica Gelser, Blair Glennon, Wendy Haering, Becky Hamlin, Heidi Harper, Pam Henrikson, Ann Johnson, Donna Kell, Margarethe Kulke, Debbie Lorenz, Pat MacKinnon, Paige Manning, Linda McCammond, Debbie Monti, Liz Parsons, Anne Prensner, Linda Reineman, Cynthia Scott, Ellen Staelin, Laura Stettner, Carol Sullivan, Liz Tecca, Joann Tuytschaevers, Jill Whiting, Sally Whitman, and Beverly Wood. Members emeritae are Barbara Compton, Charlotte Corey, Janet Ellis, Janet Hough, Jane Kettendorf, Jay Strzetelski, Eleanor Sullivan, Harriet Thompson, Ruth Wilson, and Marsha Wiseheart.

Many thanks to all the wonderful members of the altar guild for their joyful service, especially to the heads of week and coordinators for taking on additional responsibilities, and to the clergy—Adrian, Margaret, and Cat—for their support and good humor as we work together in this important worship ministry.

—Cynthia Scott,

### Lay Eucharistic Ministry Report

THE ST. ANDREW'S LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY (LEM) team is a devoted group of Eucharistic ministers and readers who help St. Andrew's achieve a rich and meaningful liturgical experience at our services. The LEMs lead the parish in worship by reading Scripture and the psalms, reciting the Prayers of the People, and distributing wine at communion. St. Andrew's LEM team is a very supportive group, readily volunteering their time and gladly substituting for one another as needed.

There are approximately 400 LEM assignments every year, and it is a tribute to the dedication and cooperative spirit of this volunteer group that we rarely have difficulty fulfilling the need.

The LEM team is currently made up of 29 active members and 12 substitutes. I would especially like to thank Adams Carroll for his very diligent and cheerful weekly reminders and distribution of the readings and prayers; Liz Dean for her meticulous care and maintenance of vestments; and

Kate Clark, who makes sure we have the service information each week. Al Bornemann deserves special recognition for his outstanding performance as the LEM coordinator for the last four years. Only now, after assuming the role from him in the fall, do I realize the great amount of time and energy he dedicated to it. He was a great teacher and help in the transition and a well-appreciated leader of the LEM team.

During 2017, we continued to work to improve the experience for the congregation during services. The major change was to dispense with administration of communion in the transept at regular services. We have also adopted minor changes, mainly in the way that we LEMs coordinate amongst ourselves during services; hopefully, these tweaks have been transparent to the congregation. During the fall the LEMs serving communion began wearing silver Ethiopian crosses as a witness to the widespread and ancient tradition of the Christian faith. These were a donation from a parishioner.

New LEM members are always welcome, and we would love to recruit some younger parishioners. Anyone interested should contact Joe Hamilton,

Adams Carroll, or any member of the clergy for more information. Our greatest need is for chalice bearers at 10am and combination lectors/chalice bearers at 5pm, but volunteers for any assignments are always welcome. Training is simple and readily available on an individual basis.

Many thanks to the very capable and collegial members of this ministry for their help and their willingness to serve. It is a pleasure to work with you all: D.D. Alexander, Jane Andrews, Wade Blackman, Margaret Blackwell, Giles Boland, Judith Boland, Al Bornemann, Marissa Caldwell, Adams Carroll, Paul Criswell, Sarah Dent, Al Dubé, Zebby Dubé, Nancy Echlov, Janet Giele, Blair Glennon, Wendy Haering, Becky Hamlin, David Hamlin, Meg Harris, Joanna Horobin, Jeanne Johnsen, Ann Johnson, Donna Kell, Michael Kemp, Suzy Littlefield, Debbie Lorenz, Paige Manning, Ansley Martin, Jen Martin, Brian McCaslin, Paul Merry, Randy Parker, Karen Pekowitz, Anne Prensner, Mary Scanlon, Paul Shackford, Nora Tracy Phillips, and Margaret Zusky.

—Ioe Hamilton

### Memorial Rose Garden Report

SINCE ITS CONSECRATION ON JUNE 14, 1998, there have been 43 burials in the memorial rose garden. This year, we added a large granite memorial stone to the garden, on which all names of those interred in the garden going forward will be recorded. The stone has been placed next to the roses, along the path leading to the benches. Previously, the names of those interred had been recorded on brass plaques on the wall of the Wellesley Montessori School wing, but there are no longer any wall spaces for new plaques. The new granite memorial stone will have space for 50 names.

We are very grateful to Wardie Mannix, who has been caring for the roses in the garden. During the spring and summer months, Wardie pruned, mulched, and fertilized the roses with the help of

our sexton, Steve Killeen. In addition, the administrators thank everyone in the congregation who has contributed to the creation and maintenance of this beautiful garden. We welcome all members of the congregation to learn more about it.

I offer my thanks to the memorial rose garden administrators: Nancy Hancock, warden; Michael Vanin, warden; Arnout Eikeboom, treasurer; Jim Blackwell, vestryperson for property; and Katharine Clark, parish administrator.

#### Burials in 2017

Ruth S. Ramsay, February 11, 1922 to March 5, 2017; Date of Burial: May 13, 2017

—Adrian Robbins-Cole

### Report of the Vestryperson for Youth Formation

2017 WAS A YEAR FULL OF EXCITEMENT and energy in youth formation. St. Andrew's is blessed to have the youth leadership guided by Rev. Catherine Healy. In addition, our passionate committee of D.D. Alexander, Karin Breedis, Megan Burns, Ingrid Houghton, Heather Schaefer, and Elizabeth Svedlund ran many fun-filled youth events and continued to assess a variety of topics pertaining to ministry with children and youth. Susan Jackson also continued to support the church school.

Our committee spent significant time reviewing the goals and objectives of the strategic plan, while assessing our successes and shortcomings in monthly meetings. We moved to an online form of communication with parents, with occasional postcards highlighting significant events. We partnered with outreach and membership multiple times, resulting in a tremendous parish-wide Lenten proj-

ect with Family Promise Metrowest, as well as a new shepherding program. Our youth have participated more visibly in services this year, particularly at 5pm. We continue to review the curriculum, analyze attendance at church school and church school-sponsored events, collaborate with other committees, recruit new members, and provide a peaceful and respectful community for children and youth at St. Andrew's. A detailed report of our specific programming in 2017 has been submitted by Rev. Catherine Healy.

Children and youth are an essential part of our parish, and we depend upon many volunteers every week to teach and mentor the young people of St. Andrew's. Thank you to all who volunteer their time to this important ministry. We look forward to 2018!

—Jen Martin



hoto: Peter Lul



oto: Peter L



# ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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