



# The Saltire

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Oregon Hill  
November, December & January 2017-18

"The mission  
of St. Andrew's  
is to welcome people  
from far and near  
to be together  
as a family in Christ to share  
the faithfulness of God."



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*God's Message, Our Message*

## No Matter Who You Are You Belong

*by Patrick Getlein*

Starbucks. Nike. McDonalds. Three corporate logos that are unmistakable. They are also three unmistakable brands: high-end food and beverages; celebrity-grade sports gear; and cheap, reliable, fast food. Before you set foot in the store or put your new sports gear on, you know what you're getting.

Churches can have that, too. And when they do, it can be a powerful calling card to help people know what they can expect from a church community, and it can help overcome barriers to entry and make it easier for people to cross the threshold.

So, what's our brand at St. Andrew's?

We set out to answer that question earlier this year with the support of a grant from the Diocese of Virginia and the professional services of Randall Branding, a local brand agency. Over the last six months Abbott, Anthony Creech and I worked with

Randall to help them get a thorough understanding of this community -- its history, its sense of place and mission -- and to develop an expression of the essence of our brand, the essence of what we offer.

We shared with Randall the parish profile from 10 years ago, the dreaming with God focus group findings and the results of the structured survey the congregation took last year. We also brought them to the church, walked them around, told them about what goes on here. Told them

about all of you. They interviewed us and asked lots of questions. They took pictures. And after a lot of back and forth, of word smithing, and color analyzing, working to make sure that all of what we are and what we hope to be fits into the brand, and review and approval by our vestry, we have landed on a new logo and a set of expressions about this community



**Belong, Page 2**

## BELONG

From Page 1

that will help guide us in everything we do: from worship to signage; from volunteer signups to outward facing community engagement.

Our brand at St. Andrew's is built around the concept of belonging and the awareness that none of us is perfect and neither is our community. All are welcome. We see imperfection as a gift. We express it as something that binds us and allows us to be together with our diverse backgrounds, political views, personal creeds and dogmatic leanings. And it's what gives us the grace to welcome people into community.

In the crowded marketplace of churches in metro Richmond, the promise of St. Andrew's is that you belong, no matter where you are in your spiritual journey. Her faith is continually evolving. Her we open our doors, judgment-free, to everyone. Here, we encourage people to share their thoughts, questions and doubts so that we can better understand and deepen our relationship with God, one another and all creation.

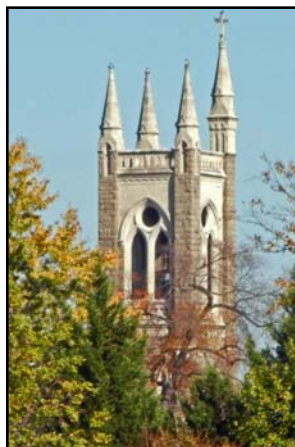
This concept shows up in our logo. The basic structure comes from the rose window in the chapel. The colors come from throughout the stained glass. And if you notice, the colors don't quite fill the space. They're a little short of complete. A little bit imperfect. A little like us. And they're not smooth colors, either.

They're a little scratchy. A little rough and worn. A little like us. That makes us who we are, and at St. Andrew's, people can expect to be loved for who they are without any conditions.

So many of us over the years have said that we don't know quite what it was that we felt when we first came to St. Andrew's, but we knew it was different and distinct from any other church experience we had had. I hope that our work with Randall helps give a contemporary visual and narrative expression to that unknown quantity that expresses not only what this community is, but what community can be. And that with these new tools, God's message will shine brighter and more clearly in word and action: no matter who you are, you belong.

# ST. ANDREW'S ANNUAL MEETING Sunday, Dec. 3, at 10 a.m.

This is an important time in the life of our community to give thanks, honor our patron Saint Andrew, celebrate the past year and look ahead to all that God has in store for us in 2018. Our worship service will be followed by a fellowship luncheon, annual meeting and vestry election in Baldwin Hall.



Nursery available  
Catechesis at 9:50  
No 8:30 or 11 a.m. worship services  
No Adult Forum

# Meet the Vestry Candidates



**Maura**

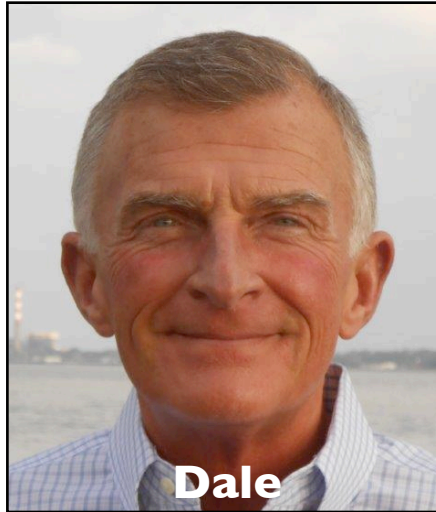
St. Andrew's will elect three vestry members at the annual meeting on Sunday, Dec. 3, to fill the expiring three-year terms of Renee Ferrucci, Vance Joyner and Kay McCall.

We are fortunate to have well-qualified and talented nominees who submitted the following biographies.

## **MAURA HIGGINBOTHAM**

As long as I can remember, my family has worshipped and served at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

My parents were married here. My father, mother and aunt served on the vestry. In fact, my mother was the first woman nominated, 40 years ago, to serve on the vestry. I was baptized and confirmed at St. Andrew's, as were my siblings. My husband and I were married, 30 years ago, at St. Andrew's, and my daughters were both baptized at the church. I have served the



**Dale**

church in different positions. I was an acolyte, nursery volunteer and for the past two years have been an usher. As you can see, St. Andrew's has been a large part of my life.

I am honored that you have nominated me to serve on the vestry. I promise to work hard and do my best to uphold the values and traditions of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

## **DALE HOLCOMB**

I love St. Andrews. I knew it the very first time I attended.

I continue to be especially proud of the quality and character of the leadership at our church.

In the time I have been a member here, I have enjoyed working with the Garden Committee and the fall and spring cleanup activities. I have also been privileged to join Abbott and other members every other Sunday for the past few



**Paige**

months in the Crossroads Learning group. In the group, we are exploring and brainstorming ideas for continued and expanded ministry in our neighborhood and community. I also recently started my first year of Education for Ministry and am enjoying building a community with our group and studying the Old Testament this first year.

I grew up in the church, with a close family, and church was an important part of my life. This included church, Sunday School and Bible School in the summers. For this reason, I have a strong association with church and family.

Unfortunately, I struggled to find a church home in Richmond and had been actively looking for over three years. The search came abruptly to an end late in the summer of 2016. A friend of mine made an off hand



## VESTRY

From Page 3

comment: "I have heard some good things about St. Andrew's and the rector, Abbott. Why don't you try it?"

It makes me smile now remembering the recommendation because the reference to Abbott was as if she were new at St. Andrew's. Of course, the first Sunday I attended, I must have met 10 people, and I was most impressed with Russell Rowe, who sat in the pew behind me. What a great first impression this church family makes.

I love God more than anything in my life. It has only been in the past couple of years,

that I truly understand what this means. And of course, I know for certain that God helped me find St. Andrew's. I am privileged and honored to be considered to join the vestry and be of service to St. Andrew's.

### PAIGE TRIVETT

I have been an Episcopalian since birth and a part of three church congregations. My home parish was St. Mary's in Colonial Beach, and I participated in the life of that church until I went off to college.

While at William and Mary, I was a parishioner at the historic Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg. The majority of my church leadership experience comes from my time at Bruton

Parish where I served on the Outreach Grants Committee to allocate funds to organizations in need. I was also active in my campus ministry. I led the Outreach Committee and then became a co-warden my senior year. During my college years, I really began to develop my identity as an Episcopalian.

Since joining St. Andrew's a little over two years ago, I spent a year working with both St. Mark's and Holy Comforter on a joint youth group, and I would love to work toward reviving that ministry. I am currently in my second year of Education for Ministry, and I regularly attend the Crossroads Learning Community meetings.

As an alum of Grace-on-the-Hill, I do what I can to help that ministry thrive. St. Andrew's has connected me to the Diocese of Virginia, as well. This past summer I worked as a camping director for Shrine Mont Camps and have never felt closer to God than during that experience. I am always grateful for the many doors that St. Andrew's has opened for me.

I have been in love with the St. Andrew's family from the moment Russell Rowe welcomed me into the sanctuary for my first service. I have had the privilege of observing the gifts we have to offer as a congregation. I believe we are blessed to be located in a community-driven parish and with that we have the responsibility to love and serve our neighbors. I would be honored to help this come to fruition as a vestry member.



### *The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ*

Sunday, December 24, at 7 p.m. (Nursery Available)

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Oregon Hill

# Come for the Cookies, Stay for the Feast

by Kay McCall '17, Senior Warden

My next-door neighbor is learning to play the piano. I can hear her on pretty days when I'm walking down my driveway to fetch the mail and her windows are open. She started in the spring with simple tunes played very...very...haltingly. One beautiful October day, I realized she is getting quite good. I stopped and marveled at the lovely, flowing music.

Like playing an instrument, opening our hearts takes practice. And where better to practice than our St. Andrew's home?

There are any number of ways we practice opening our hearts here. Certainly, presence at worship is a first and primary practice. The practice of being fully present, listening deeply to the words, the music and even the silences can open hearts like flowers on a sunny day.

Practicing this kind of presence, you become aware of how many people participate to make the service happen. You are greeted by ushers, and immediately see the crucifer (the person who carries the cross), the choir and chalice bearers. There are scripture and prayer readers. Behind the scenes, the Altar Guild, Catechesis and nursery volunteers, and tellers (those who tally and record the offerings) are hard at work. Someone has thoughtfully brought tasty treats for coffee hour, and thanks to the garden committee, the grounds look inviting to linger and chat.

All these are gifts of time and talent that help make our Sundays meaningful. Our priest,

gifted as she is, cannot do it alone, nor would that be an appropriate understanding of Episcopal worship. We come together to do God's work on behalf of the people. It takes a lot of folks.

If you have never thought of participating before, consider this your invitation! None of these tasks involve massive training. None require tons of time. All are gifts to the community and an invitation to be a part of something much larger than any one person. The online "Sign-up Genius" is the place to commit for worship participation (there is a link in every eNews issue), and asking a few questions of Abbott, Celal or a vestry member will lead you to what you need to know.

Beyond our worship services, there are many other heart-opening opportunities through our spiritual home on Laurel Street. In every eNews, Bulletin and Saltire you'll see the laundry ministry, the soup kitchen and other ways you can stick a proverbial toe into ministry. Bring a meal to someone in need. Knit or crochet a scarf for the "Blessing Fence" ministry. Come for a morning's work at the parish clean-up, which happens twice a year. An easy one is to write an article for the Saltire.

I call them "heart-opening" practices for a good reason: they are. You think you are simply going to read a paragraph of scripture one Sunday. It turns out to be the very thing someone needed to hear that morning, and he tells you what it meant to hear you read it just as you did. You think you are going to water

## Would you like to help at church?

**For worship volunteers click**  
The Signup Genius

**For Ushers**  
Wayne Clark

**For Agape Meals**  
Christine Baur

**For Prayer & Healing Ministries**  
Pat Bridgewater

**For Outreach Ministries**  
Barbara Ambrose & Sue Barrett

**For making catechesis materials**  
Belinda Harris

**For full listing contact Celal**  
office@standrewsoregonhill.org  
804-648-7980

flowers, and you end up having a deep conversation with a VCU student who happened to be passing by. You think you are just bringing some store-bought cookies for coffee hour, and your heart warms as you watch young folks and older folks, new folks and long-time St. Andreans laughing and chatting over your cookies.

It isn't the cookies.

It's the connection. It's the table you helped set for communion, in whatever way you can contribute. It's God's work we do on behalf of the people.

# Give with Open Hearts

by Patrick Hall

Recently I saw a video on Facebook that moved me. It was about a little boy who was in a checkout line at the grocery store buying necessities and a birthday cake for his grandfather. The cashier rang up the groceries and gave the boy the total. The little boy looked at the cashier with sad eyes and said that he did not have enough money to buy the cake. He paid for the rest of his groceries, but without buying the cake. The man in line behind the little boy heard what he said and was touched, so he bought the cake and hurried after the little boy.

When the man handed the boy the cake, the little boy asked, "What's this?"

The man explained that he wanted the boy to have it for his grandfather. He explained that long ago when he was hungry, a kind man gave him a treat, and he knew what that had meant to him. The boy was so happy at the sight of the cake that he asked the generous man if he would like to meet his grandfather. The man followed the boy to meet the grandfather. The man instantly recognized the grandfather as the man who had been so kind to him so long ago.

God is the great giver, and He gives to us in many ways. We must be willing to give back that which God has given to us. One reason that pledging can be difficult for us is fear of commitment. We may feel that if we do not give what we pledged to give, we may become less worthy in the eyes of God. We should never fear failure because God

will protect us and provide for us.

"Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." (Isaiah 41:10)



Typically we say things like, "I'll pray on it," or "Maybe" when we are asked to commit. We look to others instead of ourselves by saying that others will commit, so my pledge is not important. The reality is that every pledge is important.

Commitment is a part of life. Without it, nothing would ever be completed. St. Andrew's needs your commitment so its ministries can flourish and grow. It depends on you to commit to the many ministries, carried out at locations both near and far, which can benefit so many. Your commitment allows us to maintain our church and the services it provides. It also allows us to reduce our debt and deficit during this, the third and final year of the current effort to do so.

Our commitments should also be proportional.

"From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted,

even more will be demanded" (Luke 12:48).

Those that have more should consider in their hearts to give more. God opens our heart to give to him. We must resist the fear of the future and uncertainty in life because God is our certainty. He will always be there for us.

"Trust in the LORD forever, For in GOD the LORD, we have an everlasting Rock." (Isaiah 26:4).

When the man in the grocery store bought the cake for that boy, he wasn't thinking of himself, but rather about loving others. "The King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me'" (Matthew 25:40). Little did he know that he would be able to return to the grandfather and his family a blessing that he himself had received as a child. Calvin Coolidge said, "The value of a man resides in what he gives and not in what he is capable of receiving."

Our pledges, along with those of others, enable us to return blessings to our church, our community and our world. We can walk in love as Christ has taught us, open doors for those less fortunate and give as God has given to us.

Please make your pledge to St. Andrew's during the stewardship campaign as we strive to follow fearlessly in Christ's path. Our hearts to God and make a pledge to our annual giving campaign. Together we can do great things.



# Catechesis Finds Room to Grow

by Rv. Deacon Barbara Ambrose

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is an internationally acclaimed program that provides young children a unique environment in which they explore and nurture a loving relationship with God.

Belinda Harris, a certified catechist for Level 1 and 2, has been leading this program at St. Andrew's since 2014, and Laura Boucher has been assisting her for two years. Laura has previous experience working with children in Godly Play, another Christian education program.

Catechesis takes place in the atrium, a dedicated space with an array of materials, many of them crafted by parishioners. These materials are used to demonstrate to children the varied aspects of God's relationship with each of us, and how we celebrate this sacred relationship through our church's worship and customs.

Many people contributed talent, time and funding to create the catechesis materials, and we now have all the materials used in Level 1, which serves children 3-6 years old. Five children regularly participate in the Level 1 program, and we anticipate additional learners as our toddlers turn 3. Our goal is to add Level 2 in the coming years, so Belinda is beginning the process of acquiring or creating the necessary materials.

As participants increase, and we acquire more materials, we are spilling out of the door of our original atrium. On Saturday, Dec. 30, we will trade spaces with the nursery so that we can continue to grow and welcome



**IN THE ATRIUM** *Thomas Cyrus works with materials for the parable of the Pearl of Great Value.*

more children to the atrium. The new space will enhance the children's ability to explore all that catechesis offers for their journey with God.

After our atrium expansion is complete, we will implement an intergenerational component to catechesis. Teenagers will learn to guide the children through the atrium presentations, enabling more children to experience one-on-one engagement with the materials, while the guides deepen their own spiritual awareness through catechesis and nurture special relationships between age groups.

To become a guide, teens will begin by observing catechesis one Sunday to discern their call to this ministry. Next, Belinda will lead an introduction to the atrium early next year that is

required to become a guide. This two-hour session will include an overview of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, an in-depth tour of the atrium and demonstrations of several presentations. After training, guides will meet one Sunday each month for a demonstration of two presentations with time to practice before they present to the children in the atrium. Guides will participate in the atrium on a rotating basis.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a guide contact Belinda or Barbara. You can also contact us if you would like to contribute your time and talent to creating Level 2 materials, and if you would like to help us with our move on Dec. 30.

## Staff Information & Calendar Highlights

### St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Oregon Hill

(804) 648-7980  
www.standrewsoregonhill.org

#### Rector

The Rev. Abbott Bailey  
abailey@standrewsoregonhill.org

#### Deacon

The Rev. Deacon Barbara  
Ambrose  
cats4cats@comcast.net

#### Office and Ministry Assistant

Celal Kamran  
office@standrewsoregonhill.org

#### Supply Organist

Donald Traser

#### Bookkeeper

Paula Harper

#### Sexton

Eddie Griffith

#### Nursery

Diane Williams

#### Vestry

Kay McCall '17, Senior Warden  
Chuck Baur '19, Junior Warden  
Renee ' Ferrucci '17, Register  
Pat Bridgewater '19  
Ally Getlein '19  
Holly Harris '18  
Vance Joyner '17  
Erin Bell Kutsko '18  
Michael Williams '18

Steve Salter, Treasurer

#### Parish Office Closed

Mondays

#### Vestry Meeting

Wednesday  
Nov. 15 & Dec. 20  
at 6:30 p.m.  
St. Andrew's House

#### Soup Kitchen Ministry

2nd & 4th Saturdays  
Nov. 26; Dec. 8 & 22  
from 8-10:30 a.m.  
at St. Mark's  
Episcopal Church  
Contact Karen Wittich  
for info [kwittich@jtcc.edu](mailto:kwittich@jtcc.edu)

#### Morning Prayer

Thursdays at 8:30 a.m.  
in the chapel

#### Laundry Ministry

Wednesdays  
1:30 - 3 p.m.  
at Wash Happening  
1039 W. Grace St.

#### Crossroads Learning Community Meetings

Sundays  
Nov. 12 & 26; Dec. 10;  
Jan. 14 & 28  
in the chapel following  
the worship service

#### Santa Breakfast

Saturday, Dec. 2, 9-11 a.m.  
in Baldwin Hall  
Pancake & Sausage  
Breakfast  
*Breakfast is \$3.50 per person or  
\$10 maximum per family*

#### Catechesis

**of the Good Shepherd**  
1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays  
Nov. 19, Dec. 3 & 31  
at 10:50 a.m. in the atrium  
*Children rejoin parents  
at the Exchange of the Peace*

## Services

#### Ingathering of Pledges

Sunday, Nov. 19  
Holy Eucharist  
at 8:30 & 11 a.m.  
Catechesis of the Good  
Shepherd at 10:50  
Nursery available

#### Worship, Annual Meeting & Vestry Election

Sunday, Dec. 3  
at 10 a.m.  
Nursery available  
Catechesis of the Good  
Shepherd at 9:50  
Fellowship Meal,  
Annual Meeting & Vestry  
Election follows worship  
No service at 8:30 & 11 a.m.  
No Adult Forum

#### Advent Pageant

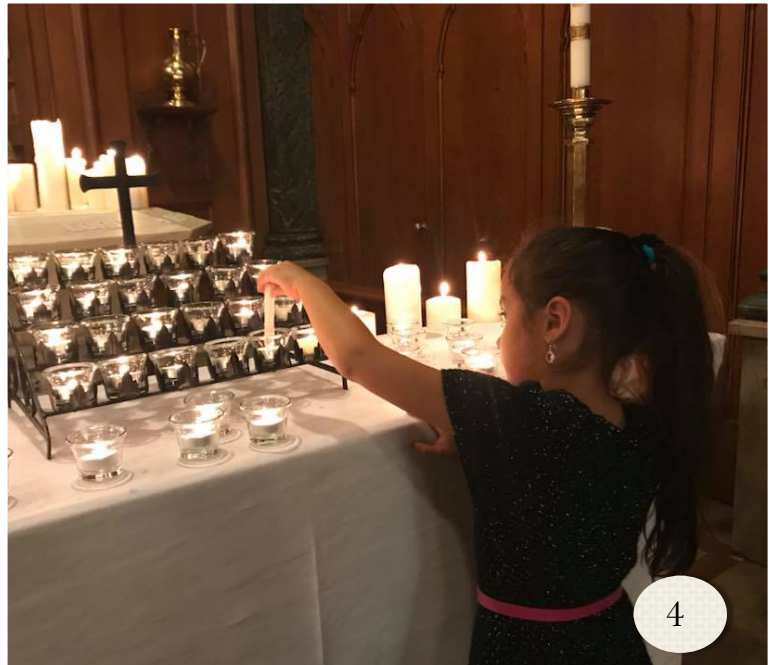
Sunday, Dec. 17  
at 11 a.m. in the church  
No Catechesis of the Good  
Shepherd

#### Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Sunday, Dec. 24  
at 7 p.m. in the church  
Nursery available



# Parish Photos



1. ART OPENING Karen Salter and Celal Kamran
2. ART ON DISPLAY
3. CARING FOR LIVING WATERS BOAT TRIP  
Lorne Field (and Abbott)
4. ALL SAINTS WORSHIP SERVICE Nayeli Baur
5. PUMPKIN CARVING IN THE CHAPEL James Raggi

# Vestry Appoints New Trustee

Cathy Creamer joins Bill Butler and Cyrus Field as trustees of St. Andrew's.

The vestry appointed Cathy to fill the vacancy left by Russell Rowe.

Trustees, according to the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, hold title to the

property of the church. They make and execute all contracts for erecting, furnishing and preserving the church edifice and other property. They also regulate the use of any graveyard or columbarium and establish a Finance Committee.



## Help Create Christmas Food Baskets

During Advent we will once again be putting together low-cost food baskets for families from St. Andrew's School to purchase to create delicious Christmas meals for their family and friends.

We will be collecting food items to be included in baskets that will be assembled by

volunteers: turkeys, canned gravy, yams, cranberry sauce, green beans, boxes of stuffing and fresh potatoes.

The sign-up sheet for this ministry will be displayed on the bulletin board in the narthex near the Welcome Table. Add your name and the food items you wish to donate to the list and

bring them to church by **Sunday, Dec. 10.**

Also, we will need volunteers to prepare the baskets, shop for additional items, help during times of pick-up and clean-up afterwards. Please contact Barbara Ambrose, and stay tuned for a volunteer sign up.

## Annual St. Andrew's Santa Breakfast



**Saturday, Dec. 2**

**in Baldwin Hall from 9-11 a.m.**

**Pancake and Sausage Breakfast until 11**

**Pictures with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus**

**Christmas Shopping**

*Breakfast is \$3.50 per person or \$10 maximum  
for families*



# Episcopal Church Responds to the Opioid Pandemic

*by Rev. Deacon Barbara Ambrose*

For over a decade an opioid abuse epidemic has swept our nation, impacting individuals, families and entire communities.

Opioid addiction is increasingly commonplace in rural areas, big cities and suburban neighborhoods. Abuse occurs in public schools and on college campuses, in parking lots, in homes, in public restrooms. Overdoses are happening everywhere. In 2016, 64,000 people died of opioid overdose, which was a 22% increase from 2016 and higher than deaths caused by automobiles, guns and HIV. In Richmond there has been a steady increase in opioid-related deaths – at least two happening in my own neighborhood. In February John Bishop, a beloved client in our laundry ministry, died of a heroin overdose, and with his

death I began to recognize a call to participate in the response to this crisis.

The media has increased coverage of this epidemic, and there is a growing awareness that a rapid and sustained response is urgently needed. Earlier this year the bishops of Province III (Episcopal dioceses in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and Washington D.C.) gathered for a conference that included a presentation on the opioid crisis. Bishop Susan Goff shared information from this presentation on Facebook, and when she visited St. Andrew's, I expressed my desire to become involved in addressing this epidemic. Province III announced plans to form a task force on the response to the opioid pandemic, and Bishop Goff invited me to represent the diocese in that effort.

In September I joined representatives from other dioceses in the mid-Atlantic regions at the Claggett Center, an Episcopal retreat center in Maryland. Many of the people I met have been on the front lines of this crisis for years, and I realized how much I had to learn about opioid addiction and was grateful to connect with experts who could teach me. After a productive and intense day of conversation, we identified four areas of focus: recovery, education, advocacy and liturgy. I will work with the education and liturgy groups. We meet monthly via conference call and will gather in person early next year.

Preliminary plans are to develop a website with resources for churches to employ related to prevention, recovery and steps that parishes can implement to

**Pandemic, Page 12**

## FOR THE RECORD

*Died September 15*

**Russell Buchanan Rowe**

## GIFTS & MEMORIALS

*A gift to The Organ Restoration Fund*

Mahlon Henderson

*In memory of Russell Buchanan Rowe*

Donna & Jerry Allen, Elaine & Chuck Baur, Cecilia Brooks, Betty & Robert Chalkey,  
Joan & Sonny Charles, Melody & Ken Clark, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Clark, Wayne Clark,  
Cathy & Buddy Creamer, Peggy & Tom Davis, Mr. & Mrs. Ray Dillard, Shirley & Ed Dolan,  
Patricia & William Dvorak, D.J. & J.H Dwyer, Karen & Jim Evans, Ellen & Cyrus Field,  
Tommy Gilman, Belinda Harris, Maura & Thomas Higginbotham, Kay & Calvin McCall,  
Cary T. Muse, Cathy O'Neil, Audrey Rowe, Estella Torres Smith, Jacqueline & Walter Tucker



# PANDEMIC

From Page 11

address the crisis. Some churches are active in offering 12-step and other recovery programs in their facilities. Others may partner with other community organizations, and still others may begin with compiling referral lists to parishioners and others who seek assistance with

addiction. Liturgies are being developed to commemorate the lives lost to opioid addiction and celebrate the hope of those who are in recovery from addiction.

A resolution was passed at our recent Diocesan Convention encouraging our Virginia parishes to support efforts to address the opioid crisis. During discussion about the resolution, one youth delegate shared that many of his friends were struggling with opioid addiction;

in fact, he had been trying to talk a friend out of taking a pain medication the night before.

I am eager to see how these efforts to address the opioid crisis unfold and look forward to sharing at St. Andrew's the results of these ongoing efforts. Here is a link to two videos that offer compelling information about the opioid crisis: <http://www.provisionsforthejourney.org/opioid-epidemic---media.html>



**The Saltire**  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
236 South Laurel Street  
Richmond, VA 23220