

# Parish Focus & Ministry

*for*



# St. Andrew Episcopal Church

*“The mission of the Church is to restore all people  
to unity with God and each other in Christ.  
The Church carries out its mission through  
the ministry of all its members.”*  
**~The Book of Common Prayer**

## **Pastoral Care**

Lay Eucharist Visitor  
Attendance and Follow-up  
Flower Ministry  
Home Meals Ministry  
Funeral Meals Ministry  
Shut-In Visitation  
Telephone/E-mail Prayer Chain

## **Outreach Team:**

Community Food Pantries  
McKinley Partnership  
Neighborhood of Hope  
Community Agency Liaison  
World Mission Support

## **Fellowship Team:**

Sunday Morning Refreshment Ministry  
Sunday Parish Lunches  
Event Catering  
The Kitchen Care Brigade  
Parish Celebrations

## **Buildings and Grounds**

Landscaping  
Parish Work Days  
Handy person List  
Sunday Morning Snow Removal

**An opportunity to serve in and through your parish  
and be part of a Congregational Development Team**

## **Spiritual Formation:**

### ***Corporate Worship & Liturgy***

Acolyte Program (ages 7-17)

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Lector

Presenter

Usher

Greeter

Personal Prayer Ministry

Choir

Altar Guild

### ***Personal Growth and Devotion***

Nursery: Help take care of the babies

Toddler Care: Help take care of the toddlers

Children's Atriums: Assist with children's formation in Atriums

Children's Church: Help lead Children's Church

Youth Formation: Join the youth ministry team

Adult Formation: Help facilitate adult classes and discussions

Pilgrims In Christ: Be on the Pilgrims In Christ team

Daily Office: Schedule and lead Morning, Noon, or Evening Prayer in chapel during the week.

Small Group Ministry: Form and facilitate a small group

## **Public Relations & Newcomer Ministry**

Advertising & Marketing

Community Events

Web Site Design and Administration

Newcomer's Class and Ministry

Camera and Video Team

*The Vestry, clergy, and people of St. Andrew parish are in the process of re-developing our life and mission together. We recognize and accept our unique call and identity and seek to fully embody the life of Christ as revealed in the sacraments, liturgy, and traditions of The Episcopal Church.*

*We welcome all to join us on this journey. Inside you will find explanations of the present focus areas and descriptions of ways where you can participate in them.*

*The focus areas for St. Andrew are:*

**SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS AND NEW MEMBER INCORPORATION**

**PASTORAL CARE**

**OUTREACH**

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS.**

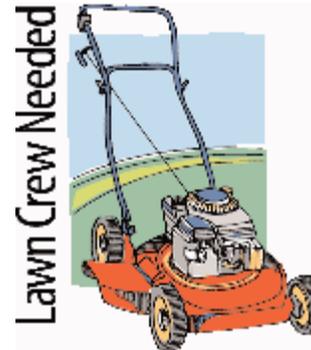
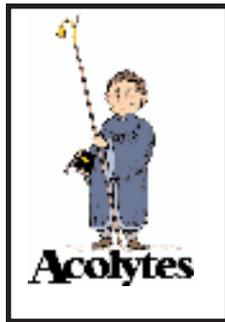
## WHAT IS SPIRITUAL FORMATION?

A healthy development of a person's inner life producing real and practical maturity and growth in a person's outer life. At St. Andrew we are committed to growing in community, discipleship, and stewardship. Here's how we can do it:

### •THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The community Eucharist is the foundational offering for all spiritual formation in the Episcopal tradition. From the liturgy of the Eucharist we experience a regular diet of Scripture reflection, prayer for the church and for the world, a sense of identity within the universal church, confession and absolution, making peace with others, and seeing Christ in the breaking of bread and common cup.

The community Eucharist is not simply hosted *for* the church community; it is hosted *by* the church community. We are all invited and needed to offer this blessed meal "for the life of the world." All members of the parish are invited and needed to sign-up to assist in one or more of the various tasks related to hosting the Eucharist every Sunday: Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, Lectors, Ushers, Greeters, Prayers of the People, and Healing Prayer Ministers. Serving in one or more of these ministries is part of our own spiritual formation and it raises the sense of belonging to the church family.



### LANDSCAPING:

Assist with mulching, trimming, planting fall and spring bulbs/flowers

### PARISH WORK DAYS:

Three to four times/year the Vestry, Wardens, and Buildings and Grounds Team host parish work days where large projects are undertaken to improve parish aesthetics.



### EMERGENCY SNOW REMOVAL:



Winter Snow storms happen late Saturday Night/early Sunday mornings (or so it seems). We need a group of 4-5 hearty folk able to clear the sidewalks and walk-ways, salt the paths and entry ways by 7:00 AM, Sunday mornings when "weather happens."

## BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

We are blessed and challenged by our facilities. Our church stands in the middle of the city, across from Foster Park as an image of beauty, reverence, and welcome. All who enter the sanctuary of the church are struck by its aesthetics; all are drawn into the presence of the holy. A great deal of who we are as the Episcopal Church is communicated by our facility, both inside and out.



We are challenged with such a gift because of the regular need for care, maintenance, and repair. Presently we have a team of capable people giving attention to the facility and who have made great improvements:

Melinda Snyder is our housekeeper, Larry Bailey is our Junior Warden in charge of renovation, Chuck Lewis is our Senior Warden [he has taken responsibility of the grounds and landscaping], and Andy Inman is the vestry liaison to buildings and grounds. Our next-door neighbor, Chris has been assisting Chuck with the lawns and gardens.

The combined efforts of the above core group have brought a great deal of revitalization to our beloved home but we need additional involvement from the parish.

## •THE DAILY OFFICE (MORNING, NOON, AND EVENING PRAYER):



Morning, mid-day, and evening prayer offices in *The Book of Common Prayer* provide a regular and more personal opportunity to share scripture, prayers, and confession for individuals and small groups.

As an alternative to the Daily Office found in *The Book of Common Prayer*, some will use other daily materials such as *The Daily Bread* scripture and prayer devotional.

We hope to see some experience of the Daily Office being offered at the church throughout the week by individuals and groups.

## •EDUCATION AND PERSONAL DEVOTION:

It is important to participate in classes and small group fellowships where you can learn from and share with others. In classes and small groups, we have an opportunity to share and receive different perspectives and insights that help us in our own spiritual growth and formation. The foundational spiritual formation and education process we offer is the Pilgrims In Christ class which meets from the first Sunday in Advent until Easter. We hope to offer a variety of classes beyond Pilgrims in Christ that further develop a foundation of scripture, reason, and the teachings of our tradition.



## PUBLIC RELATIONS AND NEW MEMBER INCORPORATION

A question for any church to ask of itself is, "If our church were to disappear next week, who would miss us other than the members?" Our parish exists in the heart of the city *but* we keep a very quiet profile. St. Andrew church is a well-kept secret and yet, our members have played significant roles in the community for over 125 years. We have much to offer and attract the people of Kokomo and Howard County. The following are some of the ways we hope to raise our visibility and profile throughout Howard County.



## ADVERTISING AND MARKETING:

The Public Relations Team is responsible for developing an annual advertising strategy for our parish. All of our events will be advertised through all of the available community calendar and community-service announcements.



By far, the most effective advertising and marketing for a church are the members. Each of us can be enthusiastic inviters and beacons of our parish. Do not be shy to invite people to church and to parish functions...we

have a wonderful community to share and many people are without a church family.

## Kokomo Urban Outreach:

We have partnered with Jeff Newton from the beginning of K.U.O. in 2005. The work and ministry of K.U.O. is to help churches become centers of community help and hope by offering their resources for the sake of the needs both in and beyond the church community.

*A Neighborhood of Hope:* Under the guidance of K.U.O. we hope to become a "Neighborhood of Hope." Saint Andrew would become a community center of hospitality, social assistance, mentoring, and after-school programs to residents within the neighborhoods surrounding the church.

## Community Agency Liaison:

Over the past few years we have partnered with several local agencies in their efforts to assist people in need throughout our community. Our hope is to increase and expand our assistance providing help financially and with volunteers.



- C.A.M.:** Coordinated Assistance Ministries is the only day shelter for those who are homeless in Howard County. C.A.M. offers assistance to clients in finding employment and the social assistance for which they qualify. C.A.M. also provides a place of daily community and hospitality.
- THE GILEAD HOUSE:** Is a rehabilitation home for single mothers who struggle with addiction.
- MEALS ON WHEELS:** Provides meals to low income and homebound seniors.

## World Missions Support:



Presently the parish prays for and financially supports four missionary families:

- Russ and Heidi Smith in Chile
- Mary Sherwood in Madagascar (*pictured*)
- Frank and Anne Bernardi in Northern Africa
- Chuck and Ramona Shawver in Mexico

## COMMUNITY AND WORLD OUTREACH

Our parish has been part of the community of Kokomo for almost one hundred and twenty-five years. It is important that the life of our parish be involved in the life of our community. Many of our parishioners serve social and civic organizations throughout Kokomo in various roles and responsibilities as volunteers, board members, trustees, and employees. Our parish, being downtown, represents our commitment to the heart and center of Kokomo.

It is also a clear message from the Gospels that the church's primary purpose is to be a community of hope and help to all. From the descriptions in Acts 2:42-47, we read of a community committed to sharing what it had for the sake of all. The church was "enjoying the favor of all the people" (Acts 2:47) largely because of its generous spirit and welcome to all.

At the present time our efforts are partnered with the following local agencies and missionaries:

### Community Food Pantries:

Every Sunday parishioners are asked to bring items to assist the Rescue Mission and other food pantries around town to provide for people in need. The Outreach Committee helps to inform, remind, and update the needs of the pantries.



### McKinley Partnership:



Since 2003, our parish has been offering tutoring and music to the Middle School Students of McKinley School. It is the goal to provide ten to twenty volunteers each school year who provide mentoring for young people.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Our location is one of our greatest assets: right across the street from Foster Park, a venue the city leaders are investing and utilizing for community events. We can host open events that include food, music, games and children's activities. These events are an opportunity to gather with church family and welcome many guests and visitors to our church.

## WEB-SITE DESIGN AND ADMINISTRATION



Studies show, those who do not learn of your church by word of mouth, will most likely be introduced to your church via the web-site. Also, the growing means by which people communicate is through the internet. The public relations team has been working throughout the summer redesigning and updating our web-site for more efficient and effective communication within the parish family, and to all who are surfing the net in search of a church to visit.

## CAMERA AND VIDEO TEAM

A picture paints a thousand words and there are many wonderful moments at Saint Andrew to capture and share through our monthly newsletter and our website. We also have the capability to create our own media presentations that can be linked to the website: our annual pet blessing has been featured on our website for the past two years. Future projects include a "Welcome to St. Andrew" video that inquirers can watch giving them an "on-line" introduction to our parish.



## NEWCOMER'S CLASS AND FOLLOW-UP

As the news of our church spreads, people will visit and wish to become part of our parish family. We are working on designing a process where newcomers can share time and meals together in a casual environment where they can become acquainted with the church.

## PASTORAL CARE

As a parish, we are committed to being a community that cares. When members think of our church, we hope they consider it a place in which they feel significant and vital. We do not wish for parishioners to be alone in the difficult times of their lives, and we hope to see our church be family for all.

Pastoral Care is not only care from the pastor, but it is the overall culture and environment of care provided by the parish. It requires the involvement and commitment of many people to provide adequate pastoral care to a parish the size of St. Andrew.

At present, we are developing six different areas of pastoral care: *Lay Eucharistic Visitors, Attendance Follow-Up, Home Meals Ministry, Funeral Meals Ministry and Shut-In visitation.*

### Lay Eucharistic Visitors

A Lay Eucharistic Visitor (LEV) is trained and licensed to bring communion from the altar to members who are homebound or recovering from illness and cannot gather with the church. This ministry is an important part of our sacramental life and commitment to the elderly and infirmed.



### Attendance Follow-up



This is a new ministry in an effort to increase the level of personal care and significance throughout our parish. A small team of people from each service will take attendance and follow-up with positive and appropriate prayers, thanksgivings, cards and inquiry of all the regular attendees of each service. It is our hope that no one who attends St. Andrew on a regular basis will be present or absent without being noticed.

### Flower Ministry

We attempt to bring the flowers from the altar to bless and encourage those who are sick, grieving, or infirmed. It is a wonderful gift to receive flowers from the parish and we need people to help make bouquets and deliver the flowers.



### Home Meals Ministry

As families experience transitions such as births and/or deaths we wish to coordinate and deliver meals as an act of kindness and care. Other times meals from the parish are appreciated are when members of the household are ill and/or in recovery.

### Funeral Meals Ministry

Our parish is beloved for the way we care for those bereaving the loss of a loved one following a funeral. Be a part of a team of who help prepare and serve a reception meal in parish hall following all funerals.



**Funeral Meals**



### Shut-In Visitation

Adopt a person who can no longer attend Church because of physical illness or old age. We keep a regular list of "shut-ins" and we need an equal or larger group of people who will commit to visiting our shut-ins.



Jesus left us a commandment, "**Love one another as I have loved you.**" Christian love has long been recognized through compassion, mercy, service, and generosity. The Pastoral Care Ministries of our church is committed to making our parish a place where people really do "**love one another.**"