

Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church



BUILDING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

2017 IN REVIEW



Saint Andrew's
Episcopal Church
Bryan, Texas

Clergy & Leadership

The Rev. Daryl T. Hay,
Rector

The Rev. Matt Stone,
Curate

The Rev. Mary Lenn
Dixon, Deacon

The Rev. Hugh Magers
Honorary Associate

Staff

Parish Administrator:
Dianne Gilbert

Director of Music
Dr. Alan Strong

Finance Administrator
Mark Hafley

Director of
Communications
Alison Sawyer

|
Director of Christian
Formation-Youth
Harrison Pavlasek

Sexton
Jeff Waskom

Being One Body In Christ (Belonging)

We will be an inviting, growing and healthy church family in which all people feel that they are welcomed, belong, and are connected. We will work towards living the values to which we aspire.

Worshipping in the Beauty of Holiness (Worshipping)

We will offer excellent liturgy which reflects the glory of God and instills confidence in our Christian faith.

Growing into the Full Stature of Christ (Discipling)

We will become a center for lifelong opportunities for Christian education and spiritual formation in order to form committed, knowledgeable, and mature Christians whose lives are fully engaged with their family, work, and community.

Seeking the Welfare of the City (Serving)

We will seek to positively impact the health and well-being of the neighborhoods and communities around us; we will become agents of reconciliation in our communities; we will seek to address the underlying causes of the suffering we see around us in order to bring about lasting systemic change.

Proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ (Witnessing)

Knowing the Good News of God's reconciling love we will share our faith with others. We will create and support Christian communities beyond the walls of the church building that worship, eat, pray, and sing together.

Serving as Stewards of God's Gifts (Stewarding)

We will be good stewards of the financial, physical, natural, and human resources that have been entrusted to us by God and by the generations that have preceded us.

Parish Contact Information:

217 W. 26th Street, Bryan, 77803

Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Phone: (979) 822-5176

E-mail: office@standrewsbcs.org

Website: www.standrewsbcs.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/saintandrewsbcs](https://www.facebook.com/saintandrewsbcs)

Twitter: @StAndrewsBCS

Instagram: @StAndrewsBCS

BELONGING

Newcomer and Connect Team Ministry

“We have found Saint Andrew’s to be so warm and welcoming and that our parish is visible in the community and serving others.” Belinda & Robby Neal

We welcome you to be a part of our parish life. Guests are invited to stop by our connect/welcome center in the parlor (located by the side doors to the church), and pick up a connect card to let us know what ministries you are interested in. We have several opportunities to help acquaint guests with our programs and ministries, including *First Wednesday Parish Dinners*, and *Exploring Saint Andrew’s* (quarterly dinners.) Check our spring publications for dates, and for other newcomer opportunities.

One of the goals of our Building the Beloved Community strategy is that “we will be an inviting, healthy, and growing church family in which all people feel that they are welcomed, belong, and are connected.” Time and again, our guests comment on how warmly they are welcomed and how friendly everyone at Saint Andrew’s is. We have amazing greeters, ushers and Ambassadors who make sure our guests are greeted, guided and seated. If you have the gift of hospitality or administration or would like to work with our guests, we invite you to join the Connect Team by contacting Father Matt at curate@standrewsbcs.org.

The Rev. Matt Stone

Foyer Groups

“Foyer Groups give parishioners the opportunity to dine together and get to know each other better. Enhancing relationships benefits the church and outreach.”

St. Andrew's 2017 Adult Foyer Groups had a great year, with many members developing new friendships. We had 32 members participate in the Spring group and also had 32 in the Fall group. The Foyer group members dine together in member's homes and each takes a turn hosting.

Members have an opportunity to get to know those who may attend a different service or to get to know members who attend the same service better. There are typically 8 to 10 members per group and each group acts independently from the larger group. Some groups have opted to have picnics or barbeques. We mix the groups up each semester so members have an opportunity to meet and dine with different people as much as possible. We have discussed starting a 2018 Foyer Group for families with children and are looking for someone to coordinate that group. Those who have not yet participated in Foyer are encouraged to join us.

Madeline Stiles, Foyer Group Coordinator

Pastoral Care

“I think of pastoral care as accompanying one another through times of suffering and grief, and also accompanying one another in times of joy.”

We promise in our Baptismal Covenant that we will seek and serve Christ in all people, loving our neighbor as ourselves. One way we do this is by caring for one another. In the Church we call this care, pastoral care. Our team of Lay Pastoral Assistants provide pastoral care for the members of Saint Andrew’s through personal visits, phone calls, emails, and notes or cards. Their work supplements the work of the Food Fairies who deliver food to those who have recently returned home from the hospital, and the Lay Eucharistic Visitors ministry.

Church members who need pastoral care assistance for post-surgery/illness or other needs, may contact the church, 979-822-5176.

Fr. Daryl +

Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King is an order for women in the Anglican, Episcopal, Lutheran, and Roman Catholic churches. Its members pledge themselves to lives of prayer, service, and evangelism and dedicate themselves to the spread of Christ’s kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of their parish.

Grace Chapter at St. Andrew’s currently has 29 members who meet monthly to pray and learn together. This fall we’ve enjoyed programs on getting to know our neighbors. Service projects have included purchasing turkeys and hams for the Brazos Church Pantry and working with the Jr. Daughters to provide lunch for workers on a Habitat house. The prayer shawl ministry at St. Andrew’s is continuing.

We also assist with the Junior Daughters of the King chapter at St. Andrew’s, which is led by Rhonda Corn-Kidd and Debbie Oakes. In the fall the senior daughters enjoyed getting to know the junior daughters better during a games and ice cream social.

The heart of the DOK mission is intercessory prayer. We pray daily for those who need our prayers and we receive confidential prayer requests both individually and through the church. Those who are interested in joining DOK are asked to contact Linda Ford at (979)846-2759.

Linda Ford, DOK

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is a ministry dedicated to prayer and comfort for those in distress. There are currently five members who gather on the fourth Tuesday of each month at a 10:00 in the Parish Hall to knit or crochet shawls for the seriously ill, caretakers, persons undergoing a significant stress or sorrow in their lives. The members share shawls that they have created, new stitches, resources, and fun conversation. As each shawl is made a prayer is said for the person who will be wearing the shawl to receive God's blessings and comfort. Currently there are five members who have created thirty shawls. Twenty-six Shawls have been presented to those in need of comfort including Hospice and Ronald McDonald House Charities. Also, baby blankets and caps have been presented to the Prenatal Clinic. If you have an interest in this ministry you can contact Anita Watson anilouw.aw@gmail.com.

Anita Watson, Prayer Shawl Coordinator

Welcome Belong/Welcome Ministries

Card Committee: All are welcome to join the card committee, to send create and send birthday cards to parish members. It is a simple way to show each other we care, and a fun time of fellowship. This ministry meets in the Parish Hall, the last Thursday of the month, 10:00 a.m.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW): All women in the parish are part of ECW! This group coordinates various events throughout the year including fellowship activities, the annual Celebrate with Relish fundraiser the first Saturday in December, Quiet Days and many other wonderful programs. As a part of the Episcopal Church Women, ECW Food Fairies help bring meals to parish members who are suffering from illness or recovering from surgery. Parish members may contact the church to request assistance.

Greeter Ministry: Greeters welcome members and guests before and after Sunday worship services. Individuals, families and children are all welcome to join the greeter ministry. Contact the church office to be added to the ministry list.

Hospitality The hospitality team assists with parish potlucks and special events throughout the years such as First Wednesday Dinners, Advent and Lenten Dinners and other special events.

Junior Daughters of the King (DOK) Grace Chapter: JDOK is an excellent opportunity for young women to meet and discuss their faith, support and help each other, read the Bible and pray for the needs of children in our community and the world. JDOK training is offered each year for girls ages 7-21. We are a group of Christian girls to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself. To strive for justice and peace among all people and to respect the dignity of every human being. Location: Church or Parish Hall | Time: First Sunday of each month, youth hall, September-May, 11:15 a.m.

Men's Breakfast: The Men's Breakfast meets Thursday mornings for Bible reading & fellowship. This group of all ages enjoys conversation and breakfast before heading out for the day. The breakfast time is 7:00 a.m.- 9:00 a.m.

Women's Breakfast: All women are invited for fellowship and breakfast, Thursdays each week. The group meets at Cracker Barrel, off of Highway 6, Bryan, Thursday mornings, 8:30-10:00 a.m.

WORSHIPPING

Altar Guild

The very reason for Altar Guild is to serve and assist the Rector as he prepares and serves Holy Communion. We care for all the vestments and the vessels used during services. We have a team of 21 workers who are scheduled one time a month to help at the service time they usually attend. We work in teams of two and as new folks come into the group they are always trained and paired with one who has had experience with the duties to be performed for their service time.

We are always happy to welcome new Altar Guild members and invite anyone to visit with a member for additional information. This past year we partnered with Voices for Children and Scotty's House to prepare meals for one of their parenting sessions. This is a new Outreach Program for our group and we had a very good response, and hope to continue this project.

Another of our duties is the Altar Flower Ministry. We have a wonderful in-house flower arranger, Chris Faber, and ask that parish members consider donating flowers for the Sunday services. The donations may be made in honor of or in memory of a special person and that amount is \$40. There is a book in the Parish Hall for writing the donation and the preferred Sunday for the dedication.

Altar Guild Directresses, Frances Ware and Joyce Perkins

Lectors, Intercessors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs)

Lectors read the Word, Intercessors read the Prayers of the People, and Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) help distribute the Eucharist to the people. In effect, this is our role in fulfilling the mission of our parish – To Know Christ and To Make Him Known. We participate in the most outwardly visible aspect of worship at our church, the regular Sunday services.

In addition, we also serve at Evening Prayer, special services, funerals and weddings. We read the Bible passages, the prayers and then serve the wine to the people during the Eucharist. In effect, it brings the lay portion of worship out of the pews and into the more visible and public areas of corporate worship. We currently have 36 people serving as Lectors, Intercessors and LEMs, and we would welcome new members to our ranks. While adding four new Lectors during the past year, we are still in need of more servers, particularly at the 7:30 a.m. service, so please consider joining us. Contact Joe Jaros, jaros.joe@gmail.com, or Fr. Daryl, rector@standrewsbcs.org.

Joe Jaros, Ministry Leader

Music

DISCIPLING

Adult Forum

Adult forum is our Sunday School class for adults of all ages. It meets on Sunday mornings from 10:15-11:00 am in the Parish Hall. It is part of the Growing pillar of Building the Beloved Community and provides fellowship within the church community and also assists in the growth of our Christian life and service. During the fall and spring there are a variety of presentations, led by members of the parish and sometimes by outside guest speakers.

In January 2017 adult forum started its spring schedule with a presentation by Jim Kracht about the Rural Leadership Program and its initiatives in Hearne. The following Sunday former St. Andrew's member Katy Scott talked about the local Ronald McDonald House Charities Programs. On January 22 Jason Evans, the diocesan Missioner for Missional Communities talked about this program in the diocese. February 5th Lewis Ford led a reflection of one of the Beatitudes: Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness. The next Sunday Fr. Daryl gave a report on Diocesan Council and then the following two Sundays he gave an introduction to the Lenten Program "5 Marks of Love". Starting in March there were three presentations on stewardship and giving, organized by Fr. Hugh Magers. On April 9 the youth of the parish presented a Passion Play during adult forum and the following Sunday there was the Easter Brunch. On April 23 Jon Mondrik gave a presentation on Environmental Stewardship and the Garden Guild and on April 30 Pat Schoeneman talked about the new Brazos Health Resource Center at CHI St. Joseph's. On May 14 parish members Esmeralda Casas and Jim Kracht talked about programs, services and volunteer opportunities at the Brazos Interfaith Immigration Network and on May 21 adult forum time was used for teacher appreciation and recognition of our graduates.

During Fall 2017 the focus of adult forum was on "Telling Our Story". Nick Mizer gave a presentation on the power of story of myth, especially as expressed in literature. This was followed by a panel of parish members who shared the power of story in their own lives. Lonny Tanel shared a three-part presentation on spiritual autobiographies and timelines. This was followed by presentations by Deacon Matt and Fr. Daryl on spiritual gifts and spiritual resources. On October 22 Deacon Mary Lenn Dixon discussed the vocation and ministry of a deacon, based on her own story. The following Sunday there were vestry and diocesan delegate elections, followed by a presentation on the Navajoland mission trip and the Haswell Legacy Society. In November a panel of parish members talked about the earlier days of St. Andrew's. In December Fr. Daryl gave a presentation on the history of the Book of Common Prayer.

Ideas for Adult Forum programs are always welcome. Please discuss them with Fr. Daryl, Fr. Matt, Lonny Tanel or Lewis Ford.

Lewis Ford, Adult Forum co-coordinator

Children and Youth Ministries

SEEKING THE WELFARE OF THE CITY

FAITH IN ACTION

“When I see these women working so hard to learn English every week, it gives me hope for our country,” Christine Faber says about her volunteer work at English for Parents (ESL) weekly classes (at Neal).

Involvement with our neighbors brings mutual blessings, and 2017 gave St. Andrew’s parishioners a number of ways of experiencing this. Our outreach ministries support the “seeking the welfare of the city” pillar of Building the Beloved Community. Members volunteer at the Church Food Pantry, where we are also a major financial supporter (see the separate report). The DOK raised funds for the pantry to distribute hams at Easter and turkeys at Thanksgiving. The parish participates in the CROP Hunger Walk, which had 44 walkers this year (31 from here) and raised \$4413 of the \$12,334 generated by the walk. Twenty-five percent of the total raised went to the Church Pantry and the rest to Church World Service for domestic and international activities that focus on hunger relief.

In our continuing partnership with Neal Elementary School, we had a mentor program and an English class for parents and grandparents of Neal students. We assist with the clothes closet and provided \$1000 toward the cost of school t-shirts for each student at Neal. The St. Andrew’s Scholars scholarship program has a separate report.

Leonora Owre and Totten Looney have continued to coordinate Angel Tree, which provides Christmas gifts to children who have a parent in prison. St. Andrew’s is a member of the Brazos Interfaith Immigration Network (BIIN) and Jim Kracht is our representative on the partners’ council. St. Andrew’s is reestablishing our involvement with Habitat for Humanity. We provided volunteers for the Run for the House and Pumpkin Patch fundraisers and will help fund a home build in 2018.

St. Andrew’s has continued its partnership with Good Shepherd Mission in Navajoland. In the summer of 2017 we made our sixth week-long visit to Good Shepherd and helped with the VBS, worked in the gardens and did construction work. Many members of St. Andrew’s participate as individuals in outreach ministries in our community and individually provide financial support. In addition, in 2017 a total of \$6249 in parish funds was distributed locally, divided equally among Habitat, the Prenatal Clinic, Voices for Children Inc., Family Promise, Brazos Interfaith Immigration Network, and Twin City Mission. This money includes funds from the Plass/St. Andrew’s Charitable Fund and money raised at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Cake Auction.

The Faith in Action Council coordinates and supports parish outreach activities. It meets after the 11:15 am service one Sunday a month. Current members of the council include Deacon Mary Lenn Dixon, Adrienne Frieda, Terri Hay, Leonora Owre, Jim Kracht, Kathy Ritter, Linda Ford, Ben Smith, Dan Beto, Michael Kraft, Gerald Burnett, Rev. Matt Stone and Lewis Ford. To help us know our neighbors, the council this summer conducted neighborhood walking surveys in the area served by Neal School. The Council welcomes input from members of the parish.

The Rev. Mary Lenn Dixon, Deacon, and Faith in Action Coordinator

BRAZOS CHURCH PANTRY

“The Pantry is a way of expressing God’s love for all people by the sharing of food.”

St. Andrew's is one of approximately twenty-eight churches that are members of the Brazos Church Pantry. The Pantry is an emergency and supplemental food source for the poor of Brazos County. It located less than a block from St. Andrew’s, at 304A W. 26th Street. In 2017 the pantry distributed food to over 38,000 individuals in more than 11,000 families. St. Andrew’s supports the Pantry with donations of money, donations of food and volunteers who work at the Pantry. During 2017 donations to the pantry from St. Andrew’s and its members totaled \$13,042 and 2518 pounds of food. The food donation included Hams at Easter and turkeys at Thanksgiving donated by the St. Andrew’s chapter of DOK. The pantry is part of the Building the Beloved Community pillar of seeking the welfare of the city. It is a way of expressing God’s love for all people by the sharing of food.

This past year the pantry has instituted a “blessing box”. It is intended for homeless folks who do not have a place to store food so need a source of food on an ongoing basis. It is outside in back of the pantry and is not locked. It is kept stocked with ready-to-eat nonperishable items. The downtown homeless community has been a good steward of what is provided and has expressed its appreciation for it.

The Pantry has no paid staff and owns its buildings and furnishings so pays no rent or debt service. The monthly dues of the member churches cover the small operating expenses of the Pantry so all additional money contributed by individuals goes entirely to purchase food. The Church Pantry is a member pantry of the Brazos Food Bank and can purchase many food items at low cost from the Food Bank. The Pantry needs volunteer workers, two hours a week on any day Monday through Friday, or two hours on Saturday once a month. Volunteer training is “on the job” and you can just show up at the opening time Monday and Wednesday 1 pm; Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 9:30 am; and Saturday at 10 am.

Food donations may be left in the box in the hallway outside the church office or in the box in the parish hall. Any non-perishable items are welcome, especially baby formula, baby food and diapers. Cash donations are used to purchase food at wholesale prices and from the Food Bank and are especially helpful. They may be made by check, payable to St. Andrew's with "Church Pantry" on the memo line, or can be mailed directly to the Pantry. The Pantry also needs donations of paper or plastic grocery sacks.

Contact Lewis Ford (846-2759 or ford@physics.tamu.edu) if you have any questions about the Church Pantry or if you are interested in volunteering to work at the pantry.

Lewis Ford, Church Pantry Liaison

2017 Pantry Highlights:

- The Pantry Distributed food to over 38,000 individuals
- Saint Andrew’s donated \$13,042 and 2518 pounds of food
- Established a Blessing Box for the homeless

Saint Andrew's Scholars at Neal School

*“Saint Andrew’s helps put your foot in the door for you to have a future.”
2017 Saint Andrew’s Scholar recipient*

As part of the Building the Beloved Community pillar of seeking the welfare of the city the St. Andrew’s family has continued the St. Andrew’s Scholars scholarship program. This is one component of our Neighbors with Neal association with Neal Elementary School.

In the past this scholarship program has awarded \$1000 scholarships to 5th grade students at Neal School, at the end of each school year. The recipients are selected by the teachers at Neal. The scholarships are held in an account at the Bryan Education Foundation and the money accumulates earnings each year as the students continue in school. The \$1000 plus accumulated earnings are applied towards the cost of attendance when they attend college or vocational

Scholar Notes:

- We have awarded a total of 107 Scholars
- The program is supported by our parish contributions

school. Starting with the 2016-2017 school year students at Neal will move to another campus after they finish 4th grade so this past May we awarded 10 scholarships to students finishing 5th grade and 10 scholarships to students finishing 4th grade. Starting May 2018 there will be only 4th grade students completing their time at Neal and we will award scholarships to students in that class.

Scholarships have been awarded for eleven years now, for a total of 107 Scholars. The recipients are typically from low income families and many will be the first from their family to attend college. The scholarships, given early in the student’s

academic career, emphasize the importance of higher education and give encouragement to the students that they too can go to college. In May 2017 the eight Neal Scholars in that senior class graduated from high school and five of them have used their scholarship money for attending college. One of these students spoke at the 4th and 5th grade scholarship awards ceremony at Neal this past May and told the students “Saint Andrew’s helps put your foot in the door for you to have a future.”

The program is supported totally by contributions from individuals and needs your support if it is to continue. Contributions of any amount are greatly welcomed and are combined together in the scholarship fund. If you can participate, make your check payable to St. Andrew’s and write “St. Andrew’s Scholars” on the memo line.

Lewis Ford, Neal Scholar coordinator

Navajoland Mission

“It is a journey of growth and faith and a time to become closer to Christ in community with our friends in the Navajoland Good Shepherd Mission.”

Saint Andrew’s Navajoland Mission is a collaborative effort with Good Shepherd Mission in Fort Defiance, Arizona, to create and maintain sustainable services that address the needs of the people of the Navajo Nation. The 2017 NMSP Mission Team consisted of 19 participants, and 110 people have participated in the mission trip during the past six years. The actual trip and related ministry activities are the visible results of many people contributing their time, effort, gifts and talents to support the Navajoland Mission. The list of external supporters and donors continues to grow, and the internal support provided by Saint Andrew’s Vestry and parishioners is vital to the continued success of this effort. For all involved with this trip from Saint Andrew's, it is a journey of growth and faith and a time to become closer to Christ in community with our friends in the Navajoland Good Shepherd Mission. The 2017 trip had four ministry areas: Construction and Repair, Gardening, Vacation Bible School, and Ministry Support.

In 2017 the construction and repair team split their time between two projects. One of the projects was to replace the flooring in the bathrooms of the Hozho Retreat Center. The floors in these bathrooms were missing parts of many tiles, and the subfloor was exposed in many places. Waterproof vinyl plank flooring was used to replace the existing tile. The second construction project was to replace the roof material on the Utah building. Mission trip funds were used to purchase the new membrane which has properties better suited than existing roof for the climate in that area and that allows the water catchment systems to function better. The mission trip team assisted young men from a local work training program in the removal of the old roof and the installation of the new roof.

The greenhouse and garden area continue to thrive at Good Shepherd Mission. During this past year, the staff at Good Shepherd established beehives as part of their commitment to ecological farming and expanding the items that are marketed from Good Shepherd via Shima - <https://www.shimaofnavajoland.com>. Our Gardening team helped with many activities including watering, weeding, planting, and a few helped with beekeeping.

The 2017 Vacation Bible School illustrates the growing vibrancy of the Good Shepherd community. Saint Andrew's sponsored and assisted with the VBS; however, Good Shepherd community handled the majority of the coordination and planning. The VBS activities included a daily Bible theme, arts and crafts, singing, and outdoor games, as well as Navajo stories and cultural teachings. The daily attendance for VBS ranged from 18 - 35.

The Ministry Support group provided many needed services from meal preparation to VBS transportation. The Kitchen Team prepares a noon meal and an evening meal each of the working days at the mission. About a 150 meals are prepared on average per day.

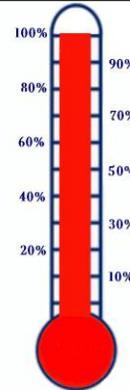
Ben Smith, Navajoland Mission Coordinator

Habitat for Humanity

As a new and special outreach initiative – endorsed by the Vestry, the Faith in Action (formerly Outreach) Council, and the Sesquicentennial Committee – St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church committed to work with the Bryan/College Station Habitat for Humanity Faith in Action Committee to participate in fundraising efforts with the goal of building a Habitat house in the spring of 2018. St. Andrew’s set as a goal of raising \$20,000.00 as our part of building a new house, which costs \$55,000.00. During 2017 members of St. Andrew’s did the following:

- Regularly attended the Habitat Faith in Action Committee (comprised of area churches);
- Sponsored (Olympian Level) and participated in the Habitat Spring Run for the House, which raised \$10,000.00;
- St. Andrew’s DOK served lunch at a Habitat wall-raising in March;
- Distributed stickers to solicit support of Habitat for Humanity during the summer and fall months;
- Volunteered for the Habitat Fall Pumpkin Patch, which raised \$9,662.60, an increase of \$1,194.27 over 2016;
- Contributed \$1,000.00 toward the Habitat Foundation of Men initiative;
- As of December 31, 2017, exceeded our goal of raising \$20,000 by \$2,170.00; any excess will be earmarked for a future Habitat house; an additional \$5,125.00 has been pledged to be given in 2018.

We exceeded our goal of raising \$20,000 for a Habitat house



We are pleased to report that in the Run for the House and the Pumpkin Patch projects, St. Andrew’s was among the top three churches in volunteers provided.

In September Kathy Ritter and Dan Beto met with David Hatteberg, Habitat’s Development Coordinator for the Faith in Action Committee, to discuss St. Andrew’s other outreach initiatives and how other churches might be encouraged to become involved. As a result of that meeting, in November Kathy Ritter drove David Hatteberg around to identify churches in our service area. Mr. Hatteberg also asked to be included in the St. Andrew’s Faith in Action Meetings in early 2018.

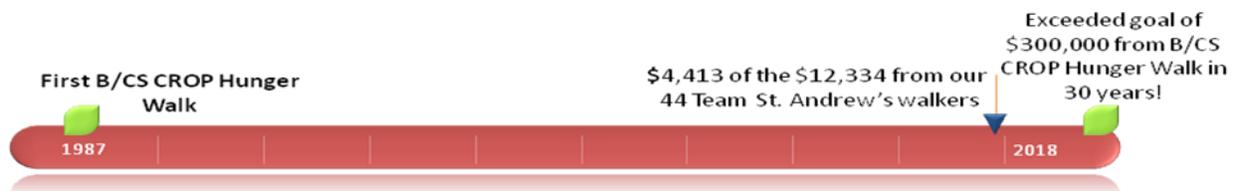
St. Andrew’s commitment to the Bryan/College Station Habitat for Humanity encompasses the Building the Beloved Community pillars of Belonging, Serving, and Giving.

Dan Beto, Kathy Ritter, Habitat for Humanity / Faith in Action

CROP Hunger Walk

CROP Hunger Walk: St. Andrew's was the leading team this year - in both number of walkers and donations raised – in the Bryan-College Station CROP Hunger Walk held at Veterans Park on October 29. The walk was good exercise, fun, ecumenical, and a great way to help end hunger one step at a time through Church World Service and the Brazos Church Pantry. The total raised by the 106 walkers was \$12,334 with \$4,413 of the total from our 44 Team St. Andrew's walkers, an awesome response from both St. Andrew's and our Bryan-College Station community. With this year's donations, we met our overall goal to have raised over \$300,000 in the 30 years since our Walk began in 1987!! WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Carolyn Jaros and Lewis Ford, CROP Hunger Walk coordinators



Angel Tree Ministry

Many thanks to all who helped purchased gifts this Christmas for the children of mothers and fathers who are incarcerated in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice facilities.

Thank you to our Saint Andrew's youth for wrapping the gifts, and to those who helped give gift cards for food to the caregivers. We are so fortunate to be blessed with a loving parish, so that we can reach out to children and families in our community.

Leonora Owre, Totten Looney, Angel Tree Coordinators

STEWARDING

Saint Andrews Episcopal Church Endowment

Almighty God, who hast so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Endowment Trustees met four times during 2017 to review investments, consider and make distribution requests during the past year. Disbursements for missionary, outreach and worship enhancement were approved for Downtown Outreach Ministry, Communications, the Symposium on Affordable Housing, Building the Beloved Community Connect Team, the church Sesquicentennial and Brazos Interfaith Immigration Network. Two requests were tabled pending further information. Please submit a written request for 2018 funding from the Endowment for missionary, outreach and worship enhancement efforts.

During 2017, in order to promote and inspire legacy stewardship, the Trustees created the Haswell Legacy Society, consisting of parishioners who have notified us of their support of St. Andrews Church or Endowment through gifts from their estate. Inaugural members are Nancy & Mark Browning, Sylvia Grider, Jim & Erin Kracht, James Hugh and Joan Magers, Caroline & Tom McDonald, Bob Roepke, Madeline & Greg Stiles, Grover Clifford Tice, Bill & Angela Van Eman and Ron & Judy Winn. Please contact any of the Endowment Trustees or the church website for information about Legacy Stewardship through a bequest, beneficiary designation gift, life insurance or charitable trust.

The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the service of Ron Winn over the last six years for his service to the Endowment. Joining the Endowment Board is Elizabeth Crouch with Jim Kracht agreeing to remain for another three year term. Trustees with their terms expirations are John Vilas (2018), Angela Van Eman, Mark Browning (2019) and Elizabeth Crouch, Jim Kracht (2020) with Rev. Daryl T. Hay ex officio.

Almighty God, who hast so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mark S. Browning, Chair

SPECIAL REPORTS

State of the Congregation

By the Rev. Daryl T. Hay

What a year it has been for Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church! Two significant events shaped our life this year. First, we celebrated the 150th anniversary of this historic congregation. The 150th celebration included many events and activities throughout 2017 beginning with the installation of the carillon in the bell tower through the beautiful luncheon in December, and concluding with the inspiring service celebrated by Bishop Doyle. Some of the activities in-between included: a birthday party for the church during First Friday in October, an exhibit at the public library, an organ concert, and many other things as well. There are so many people to thank who made the all these things possible. I am grateful for the work of the Sesquicentennial Committee and especially to Erin and Jim Kracht who co-chaired the committee. In addition I thank the Downtown Committee chaired by Cindy Peaslee and the Hospitality Committee led by Jon Mondrik for supporting the 150th anniversary effort. Thank you also to Alison Sawyer and Dr. Strong for their work. The whole celebration was a tremendous success.

The second significant event was that we welcomed Heather and Matt Stone into our lives. This is an historic event in Saint Andrew's life because as far as I know Saint Andrew's has never had a second full-time clergy person on its staff. The vestry identified having a curate placed with us as a goal in 2015. I am very grateful that the parish and the vestry courageously stepped out in faith and made this possible. Matt and Heather are a wonderful addition to our parish family and working with Matt has been a great pleasure to me. I thank the congregation for its support of Matt and the ministry he exercises among us.

Looking at the last year more generally we ended the year with improved Sunday attendance over 2016. In 2016 our average Sunday attendance was 171 and in 2017 it was 175. The congregation is also financially sound. Through our annual pledge campaign we received a total of 89 pledges for \$427,871. Nine of those were new pledges. In the 2018 budget we made further investments in the staff. The congregation and I are supported by a staff that works well together. We could not accomplish all that we do without them.

Looking ahead to 2018 the building committee has been going about the process of choosing an architect to recommend to the vestry to do the master plan. A decision about it should be made sometime this spring. The congregation will be involved in the master planning process once an architect is selected.

Two goals of the Building the Beloved Community are being one in Christ and growing into the full stature of Christ. To help fulfill these goals in our ministry with children and youth I hope to hire a Director of Faith Formation for Children and Youth who will begin work this spring. This combines the youth minister and the Christian education director into one 28 hour a week position. I am grateful for the work that Julie Vilas did through her tenure as the Director of Education for Children and Youth. I also thank Harrison Pavlasek has served as our Youth Minister for the last few years. He will be graduating from Texas A&M this spring and expects to go to law school in the fall. He will conclude his ministry among us after graduation.

In closing, my thanks go to the staff for their constant work on behalf of the congregation. My thanks also go to the vestry for their dedication and leadership.

Thank you to Terri, Martin, Spencer, and Stuart for their, love, support and understanding.

Lastly, we all play a part in making Saint Andrew's all that it is. So many people contribute their time, energy, talents, and money to sustain it and help it thrive. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the well-being of the people of God who call themselves Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Curate Report

By Father Matt Stone

It is a great honor to offer the first Curate report in the rich history of Saint Andrew's. Recently, a guest shared this about their first time at Saint Andrew's: "We were VERY warmly welcomed at St. Andrews on both Sundays that we have attended. Everyone was very gracious. We feel very much at home there already." One of the gifts God has given our community is hospitality towards the stranger. I hear week after week how you have reached out, said hello and helped a new guest find the parish hall, nursery or the restrooms. You have a gift for making people feel at home, and I am glad Saint Andrew's is our home during this season.

Father Daryl and I developed my ministry description based on our Building the Beloved Community strategy and my gifts in order to identify four areas I would focus on:

1. Community Engagement & Outreach
2. Guest Assimilation & Congregational Empowerment
3. Pastoral Care & Spiritual Formation
4. Liturgical Leadership

We invited Jason Evans, the diocesan Missioner for Missional Communities, to lead a workshop on Missional Communities in August. As a result, over a dozen members committed themselves to engaging in Missional Community experiments. We tried two Missional Community experiments during Advent - the Bryan Urban Running Network (BURN) and a young adult gathering at Revolution Cafe & Bar. We were able to gather people at both and are evaluating how to move forward.

Though it is critical to get beyond the walls of the building and meet people where they are, we must also welcome our guests and help them become part of our community. To that end, we held a Connect Team dinner and training in the fall, implemented a new guest follow-up system, secured endowment funding for new exterior and interior signage to direct guests around our campus and we are hosting our first Exploring Saint Andrew's dinner in late January. The response to these efforts has been very positive and 11 first-time guests (almost 50% of all guests) have started attending regularly and getting involved in ministries since October!

At our final missional community gathering at Revolution, a young man was eager to talk about the recent news that the Pentagon had spent millions of dollars studying unidentified flying objects. For the next twenty minutes, people offered their thoughts on extra-terrestrial life and spaceships. And then, the guy who started the whole conversation said something that made my jaw drop: "I really hope there's somebody else out there. If there's nobody else out there, if God doesn't really exist, then what's the point of all this? Where's the purpose in life?"

As we start this new year of ministry together, may our hearts continue to open to those who come seeking a church home and may our hands continue to reach out to those who may never visit on Sundays but are still searching for meaning that comes only from a loving God.

Junior Warden Report

By Adrienne Frieda, 2017 Junior Warden

It has been my privilege to serve as Junior Warden of St. Andrew's. I have learned more than I thought possible about our buildings that were already so familiar. My respect has increased for past Junior Wardens who never failed to answer a call for help. Thank you to clergy, staff and fellow parishioners, who care about these old buildings and jump in with equipment, expertise and enthusiasm for whatever task needs to be done. And, thank you to Andrew Payne who will serve as Junior Warden, 2018. A Parish work day and routine maintenance and upkeep were accomplished through the year; significant work as follows:

- Water infiltration continues to be a serious issue. Over the course of 2017, repairs were made to the roofing membrane in the parapet and a downspout in the bell tower, perimeter caulking of storefront in the Curate's office, a clogged sump pump in Sharp Room and the church roof.
- Regularly schedule maintenance revealed refrigerant leaks in two air-conditioning systems that required major repairs. These repairs were made without financial hardship due to the foresight of our treasurer who years ago established a budget category for this purpose.
- A false alarm at the beginning of the summer revealed several issues. To determine the cause of the false alarm, we contacted all monitoring providers. It was determined that several back-up batteries were in need of replacement. We also learned a vendor's computer conversion resulted in St. Andrew's deletion from their customer list. In prior years, the provider called to schedule an appointment to inspect our fire suppression system. As a result of the deletion, we missed an annual inspection and a five-year inspection, both in 2016. Inspections are now complete. The inspection schedule has been added to the church calendar rather than rely solely on the vendor.
- Signage on church property increased this year. Parking lot markings have been repainted and spaces designated for St. Andrew's only parking; all others will be towed. Towing signage was added, directing the owner of a towed vehicle to A-1 Towing and Recovery. Parishioners are assured easy access to the office, while allowing continued use of our parking lot to merchants and visitors to Downtown Bryan. "No trespass" signage was added to deter individuals from sleeping on church property. By establishing boundaries, we continue to welcome the homeless into fellowship, while not providing a false sense of security to individuals at their most vulnerable – when asleep. In compliance with diocesan guidelines, we have added signage with regard to open and concealed carry.
- Most rewarding has been participation on the Building Committee, established and charged by Fr. Daryl to seek out, interview, and recommend an architectural firm to the Vestry, for the purpose of developing a master plan for St. Andrew's. We've met members of the architectural community who have led other churches through this process. They have asked insightful questions and sparked new visions of what can be.

2017 has been an exciting year in the life of St. Andrew's as we celebrated our sesquicentennial year. It is equally exciting, looking forward to 2018, as we seek to make the most of our space, to make it work for us now and in the future as we continue *Building the Beloved Community*.

Sesquicentennial Committee Report

By Jim Kracht, Chair

The Sesquicentennial of Saint Andrew's was observed through numerous events during this past year including the installation of the Carillon in the bell tower, a new artistic rendering of Saint Andrews, an ongoing commitment to the support of Habitat for Humanity, a history exhibit at Mounce Library, a Saint Andrew's community birthday party, special worship services and music, restoration of the Saint Andrew's section in the Bryan Cemetery, new banners designed by Jon Mondrik, a 150th anniversary banner designed and made by Joyce Perkins, a celebration luncheon at the Phillips Event Center, and a visit by The Very Reverend Andrew Doyle, Bishop of Texas.

The Sesquicentennial Committee would like to thank all members of the Saint Andrew's community who contributed to the year-long celebration and to remind all that the Sesquicentennial was the springboard to recommitment to faithful service to God and to our community.

Cemetery Restoration

By Leonora Owre, Sesquicentennial and History Subcommittee

When Saint Andrew's was located at what is now the corner of Parker and William Joel Bryan, a small cemetery was part of the church grounds. During the early years of the church in Bryan, eleven parishioners were buried in this cemetery. The first, buried in 1869, was Alice S. Tays, the infant daughter of Saint Andrew's second rector, Rev. J. W. Tays and his wife, Mary Josephine. The last to be buried in this cemetery was George D. Haswell, in 1878.

Records from 1911 indicate that when the church decided to move to its present location and deconsecrate the cemetery, the city of Bryan gave permission to relocate the bodies buried in the cemetery to the Bryan City Cemetery. Eight of the parishioners buried in our original cemetery were reinterred in Saint Andrew's section of the Bryan City Cemetery and the remaining three parishioners were moved to other locations in the cemetery, including family sections. During the years following the establishment of the Saint Andrew's section in the Bryan City Cemetery, the number of those buried in our section increased to eighteen.

Over the years, the headstones have been adversely affected by the condition of the soil, weather, fire ants and other forces of nature. Many of the headstones are leaning, some are broken in pieces and the pieces are embedded in the ground, others are fractured, but still standing, and all are in need of cleaning. In addition, there are two individuals buried in our section for whom there are no headstones. The section is not marked or identified as belonging to Saint Andrew's. The headstones are of various styles and composition. Many of them display beautifully intricate and

delicate carvings of doves, roses, angels and crosses. The inscriptions on the stones speak of loss and sorrow for infants, some contain tender messages for the departed and many refer to happy memories of life on earth.

The restoration efforts in our section will include cleaning and repairing the headstones, as well as removing and resetting them on a concrete foundation over steel rebar. Headstones will be erected in memory of two parishioners who do not currently have headstones, and the section will be identified with four corner stones.

A plaque will be placed there to tell the story of our restoration efforts, to commemorate our presence in this beloved community and to honor God.

The Sesquicentennial Committee and the History subcommittee, composed of Adrienne Frieda, Sylvia Grider, Tom McDonald, Leonora Owre and Kate Thomas wish to express our thanks to Fr. Daryl Hay and the Vestry for their assistance in the completion of this project. This information was adapted from an article by Adrienne Frieda, with input from other members of the history subcommittee.

