



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Annual Parish Report
2023

Presented at the Annual Parish Meeting,
January 28, 2024, 11:00 am
Parish Hall

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Annual Parish Meeting: January 28, 2024

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer – The Rev. Jimmy Grace
2. Sr. Warden Report - Mary Eyuboglu
3. Jr. Warden Report – Ben Gibbs
4. 2023 Stewardship Campaign – Jennifer Perry
5. 2023 Financials and 2024 Budget – Bruce Banta-Guevara
6. St. Andrew’s Episcopal School Report – Jamie Martin-Curie
7. Rector’s Report - The Rev. Jimmy Grace
8. Associate Rector’s Report – The Rev. Clint Brown
 - i. Gratitude and Appreciation
 - a. Outgoing Vestry Members – *Mary Eyuboglu, Lisa Moore, Catherine Runner, Spencer Vosko*
 - b. Senior Warden 2023 – *Mary Eyuboglu*
 - c. Junior Warden 2023 - *Ben Gibbs*
 - d. Altar Guild Chair 2023 – *Karin Farquhar*
9. Swearing in and introduction of new vestry members: The Rev. Jimmy Grace
Jack Bellinger, Kristin Chabarria, Nancy Simpson, Brian Wittpen
10. Announcement of 2024 Sr. and Jr. Wardens – The Rev. Jimmy Grace
11. Adjournment

Oath of Conformity

“I am persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all doctrine required as necessary for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ; and I accede to the Doctrine, Discipline and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church.”

Rector's Report

2023 was a full year for this parish. We celebrated fourteen baptisms, and welcomed five new members to the parish through confirmation and reception. We also said goodbye to several friends and members of this parish who have joined the Communion of Saints:

- Anthony David Pryor
- The Rev. Carol McGown Blaine
- Dr. Bruce William Steinhauer
- Margaret Elizabeth Bailey
- Elizabeth Lockhart Hayes

Each of these individuals contributed to St. Andrew's in their own particular way. In a very real sense, they live on through the continued ministry conducted in our Lord's name at St. Andrew's. I am grateful to each of them for the beautiful lives they lived.

This year I am choosing to keep my report shorter. That is not because I have less to write per se, but rather because there are more people offering reports for whom I wish to cede space.

As I grow as a parish priest, I am finding that a pattern I am becoming more and more comfortable with is leading behind the scenes. I find the most pleasure in empowering parishioners and staff into leadership roles in ministry. When they succeed, I applaud and celebrate them. If they fail, I support them. Either way, a comfortable pattern I am learning in ministry is to stay in my lane, and allow others to lead.

I now hear almost on a weekly basis what a wonderful staff there is at St. Andrew's. Someone will usually say to me "Jimmy, you have no idea how lucky you are to have the staff you do at St. Andrew's." My response is always to nod in agreement. I believe that the development of a healthy staff not only leads to less staff transition, but benefits the congregation as a whole.

At the end of the day, however, a church is not run by its staff (or rector), but rather by its Vestry. As with our staff, the fostering of a healthy Vestry culture is vitally important for the overall health of a congregation. Trust me on this – if the Vestry is not happy or is antagonistic, I can promise you that culture will extend itself throughout the congregation!

I am not saying that the Vestry always agrees on matters of church business. Of course, they don't. But what I have heard them say, time and time again, is that the strength of the Vestry resides in the fact that they genuinely care for and respect one another.

In my opinion, the most important part of our Vestry meetings occurs at the beginning. During that time, the Vestry is not focused on budgets, reports, or meeting minutes, but rather on Scripture. We spend the first twenty or so minutes of our meetings reflecting on scripture, and what truth we find it speaking to us. I treasure this time before we go into the more business side of the meetings.

For the past several years during our Vestry retreat, I have heard outgoing Vestry members sometimes say that they will actually “miss serving on the Vestry.” That is not a statement a priest hears very often!

Regarding clergy, St. Andrew’s continues to attract them. The most recent addition to our growing group of clergy is the Rev. Bob Merrill. Bob is a bi-vocational and non-stipendiary priest whom you all will be seeing (and hearing!) more from in weeks and months to come. It is a joy to have Bob join our group.

I am grateful for the “problem of abundance” I have when trying to figure out which priest to assign to which role for which service. It is a lot like the children’s game Musical Chairs – often there are more clergy than places for them in the service. I am honestly humbled to have this “staffing problem” at St. Andrew’s!

I also am appreciative that St. Andrew’s is the kind of church where clergy are eager and want to freely give their time to further the ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As I hear Rev. Jeff Bohanski frequently say: “St. Andrew’s is my happy place!”

St. Andrew’s is my “happy place,” too. This parish is my “happy place” because it has afforded me the space to explore, experiment, succeed, and fail. St. Andrew’s is my “happy place” because it has provided the space for me to grow as a human being, as a husband, as a father, and as a priest.

I give thanksgiving to God for all that was accomplished in 2023, and for the exciting work ahead in 2024.

God’s Peace,

The Rev. James M.L. Grace

St. Andrew's Parish Statistics

	2023	2022	2021	2020
Average Sunday Attendance	165	152	95	184*
Easter Attendance	394	346	175	N/A
Christmas Eve Attendance	449	372	240	N/A
Sunday Services	192	219	213	150
Weekday Services	58	65	14	38
Marriages	0	2	0	1
Burials	5	2	8	3
Baptisms	14	16	8	8
Confirmations/Reception/Reaffirm	5	22	7	0
Membership at Year End**	500	491	494	466
Total Pledge Amount Received	\$792,314	\$740,457	\$553,405	\$ 533,385
Number of Pledges Received	137	136	129	152

*Denotes Average Sunday Attendance through Sunday, March 8. Per Bishop Doyle's direction, all churches in the Diocese were closed to in-person worship due to COVID-19.

**Denotes baptized members.

Associate Rector's Report

The year 2023 was my second full year at St. Andrew's and so was distinguished by the fact that I was making my second full pass at things. I am no longer a St. Andrew's rookie! This has been a joy for several reasons, not least of which is the feeling that the ground is under my feet but particularly so when I needed to step into Jimmy's role during his leave of absence. Of course, I was glad to do it and glad for St. Andrew's sake that you had called me to serve here to make me available to do it. As it turned out, it proved a challenge and a blessing. It was a chance for me to view things from the first chair and give me insight into the role and responsibility of a parish rector as well as the requirements of that role on a priest's time and energy and the demands it makes on a priest's physical, emotional, and spiritual resources. I am grateful for that learning. And speaking of learning, I am looking forward to the opportunities for professional development and spiritual refreshment I am currently in the planning stages for this year.

Personally, the big news to share is that Cavan was approved for his green card! He will be eligible for citizenship in 3 years. I've said it before but I'll say it again, thank you so much, dear people of St. Andrew's, for welcoming him and making his integration into the parish (and the country) such a positive experience.

The Rev. Clint Brown, cbrown@saecheights.org,

Senior Warden's Report

This has been an exciting year for St. Andrew's! We have seen the parish and school grow in attendance, the garden come to full bloom, and the Capital Projects Committee has begun its hard work on renovating and improving our facilities.

When I started as Senior Warden, St. Andrew's was well on its way to returning to pre-Covid attendance and involvement. Over 2023 we have seen that growth continue. Average Sunday attendance is up in all 3 services. I particularly see it in the number of children running up front for the Children's Sermon, which always makes me smile. The Youth Group took 16 teens to McAllen for a very transformative experience helping with immigrant intake. And we returned to 2 morning services as a response to many requests at the Summit held in the Spring. This has allowed many long-standing friendships to come back together in worship every week. In addition, the St. Andrew's School has expanded its attendance and added summer school to its format to serve more children and families in our community.

Our Community Garden, under the stewardship of Susan Kelly and countless others, has bloomed into a focal point for the Church, having provided over 1900 pounds of produce for the Heights Interfaith Ministries Food Pantry in 2023. The mural and work in the garden highlight St. Andrew's commitment to our community and those in need. In addition, Joel Ballard was appointed to the Bishop's Council to serve at Lord of the Streets, a very important part of our ministry to those needing food, shelter, and basic services.

Our Capital Projects Committee has been hard at work to plan for renovations to our buildings and grounds. We are forever indebted to David Rennie for his service in leading this team! Over the year we have replaced 6 air conditioning units, replaced the toilets to standard height (many of us appreciate this!), and brought in new tables and chairs to the Parish Hall to make our gatherings more comfortable. We have engaged Ziegler Cooper as architects for the renovation and selected a general contractor to oversee the work. In addition, the organ has begun being built and photos are being updated regularly on the Capital Projects Bulletin Board for all of us to see this beautiful musical instrument being built.

I have very much enjoyed serving you as your Senior Warden this year, and I encourage all of you to get involved in whatever way you feel called. Ministry is important in every form, and I feel closer to God and have furthered my spiritual path through my service to you. I look forward to seeing St. Andrew's continue to grow and serve our community and our attendees. This is work worth doing!

Mary Eyuboglu, marysellshouston@gmail.com

Junior Warden's / Property Committee Report

As I reflect on the 2023 at St. Andrew's I can't help but think about the work of the past and the promise of the future. The hard work and vision of the congregation brought together the capital campaign in 2022 and much of the work of the property committee in 2023 has been centered around making the small repairs and upgrades necessary to keep the facilities running while getting ready for the wide-scale renovations of the future according to the plans set forth by the Capital Campaign under the leadership of David Rennie.

2023 has brought upon the beginning of the upgrading of our facilities: new toilets, new furniture in the parish hall, and the beginning of rethinking the kitchen. Most importantly, it has brought us functioning air conditioning throughout the campus. Along the way, there have been repairs to water heaters, kitchen fans, staircases, doors, and the usual array of small things that need to be taken care of as well as the re-keying of the building to ensure safety.

2023 also marked a time for St. Andrew's to consider the future maintenance of the church as Frank Guevara spearheaded an effort to make a sustainable long-term preventative maintenance plan for the church which includes things like servicing the A/C units, inspecting the kitchen and alarm systems, and maintaining our outdoor areas.

While the physical long-term maintenance plan was being developed, Lucy Matte spearheaded a committee working to ensure that our church is prepared and ready for any type of emergency. This work has included both taking inventory of our physical resources such as fire extinguishers, etc. and working to ensure that our human resources are ready through working to organize CPR trainings and things like that.

I want to thank all the members of the property committee for skillfully and ethically considering the needs of the parish as we made decisions throughout the year, and I especially want to thank Frank Guevara and David Rennie whose tireless efforts made all of this work come alive.

Finally, I'd like to come back to what we are all here for, which is a way to build a faithful community together. One of the first projects that the property committee approved in 2023 was the beautiful renovation to the school's library that was completed by Asher Robinson as his Eagle Scout Project. The last project that the property committee approved in 2023 was the building of new composting bins for the St. Andrew's Garden that were completed by Jackson Abercrombie as his Eagle Scout Project. It brings me endless joy to think that we are part of a community where our youth are leading efforts to support the important ministries of our church. Thank you, Asher and Jackson, for your service and for being examples of what this congregation is all about. Thanks to you, students are reading more and connecting with their teachers, and those experiencing food shortages will be able to eat fresh produce.

In 2024, Nancy Greenwood will take over as Junior Warden and I know she will do an excellent job of maintaining our facilities, as will the property committee and all the stakeholders in this congregation. I ask that in midst of making sure we take care of leaking faucets or slippery staircases that we stay focused on prayer and doing God's work.

-Ben Gibbs

Capital Campaign Project Report

We are coming up on the 2-year anniversary of the Capital Campaign kickoff, and approximately 18 months since the Capital Campaign execution team was chartered. Over those 18 months, the main team and the 3 sub-teams – Interior Spaces, Exterior Spaces, and Organ – have been working hard with key stakeholders in the congregation to truly understand the needs of the Church and translating that input into definitive scopes of work.

From that discernment, we currently have approximately 40 projects on our list to estimate and prioritize. In the meantime, we have also taken the opportunity to execute some quick wins listed below:

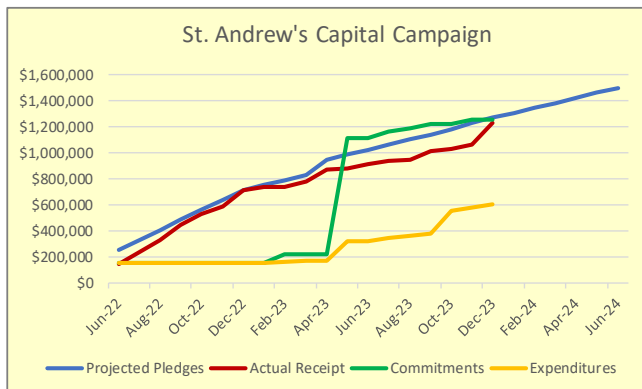
- Parish Hall Chair Replacement
- Replacement of 37 Remaining Church Windows
- 6 out of 7 planned HVAC unit replacements



Also, during the last year, we have completed the following milestones:

- Awarded the new organ contract to Kegg. Organ is under construction in the Kegg shop.
- Interviewed and selected Ziegler Cooper as our architectural partner to complete the design for the interior changes, and help create and reimagine the use of our exterior facilities in a Site Master Plan.
- Interviewed and selected a General Contractor to partner with us on final scope selection and ultimately construction. We expect to have the contract signed with Odonnel Snider in January.

Finances



David Rennie, Capital Campaign Project Chairman

Stewardship Report

Come Together

MATTHEW 18:20

For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." - Helen Keller

This year's campaign was a call for our congregation to "Come Together" after the separation and closure caused by the pandemic. It was a theme to get us back to a normal practice of coming together for worship and fellowship.

We incorporated several weeks of community and intergenerational activities and crafts to bring us together in community as a church parish. The campaign was an effort to jumpstart us back to normal interactions and past practices as a church family. The campaign began on October 1 and ended on November 5th.

This year's stewardship campaign focused on fulfilling our budgetary needs and specifically focusing on an increase from inflation and higher operating costs:

- ~ The increase costs in insurance and utilities increased our budget this year over last.
- ~ We saw an increase in parishioner attendance at services and this calls for an increase in outreach and ministry needs.
- ~ The growth and increased participation in our youth group called for extra funding to support the mission trips and youth group meetings for this growing segment of our parish. Much thanks to the ministry of Father Clint Brown.

The 2024 Stewardship was composed of an exceptional and dedicated team of parishioners that included: Jennifer Perry (Committee Chairman), Carly Brown (Co-Chairman), Mary Eyuboglu (Senior Warden), Eric Reed (Finance Committee Chair), Kristin Cabarria, Keri Kauk, and Jimmy Grace. Our work was assisted by and would not have been possible without the dedication of all the staff.

Respectfully Submitted by Jennifer Perry, jmitchelljd@hotmail.com

2024 Results

Total Pledged:	\$836,334	(2024 Goal was \$815,000)
Total # of Pledges:	144	(compared to 133 in the 2023 Campaign)
Average Pledge:	\$5,808	(compared to \$5,842 in the 2023 Campaign)
Percent of Goal:	100%	

Thank you to the following parishioners for their thoughtful and courageous 2023 pledge to St Andrews:

Felix Abrams
John & Julie Alexander
Johnny Almendarez
Eddie Andrade & Gene Westphal
Linda Andrews
William & Lara Arsola
Bruce & Oscar Banta-Guevara
Kipp Baxter
Allison Bell
Patty Benoit
Jeff Bohanski
Andrew Bowden & Jose Baroja
Clint Brown & Cavan Zhang
Priscilla Burroughs
Dora Calderon
John & Rena Carson
Kristin & Ryan Chabarria
Don & Rosina Chevalier
Carrie Conti
Thomas Cronin & Helen Sestak
Timothy Daponte & Virginia Muller
Patricia Davis
Liz Dennis
Mary Eyuboglu
Oliver & Erin Galicki
Ben & Megan Gibbs
Elizabeth Gleason
Jimmy & Marla Grace
John Grothues & John Ibanez
Rex Hall
Paul & Laurie Hardwick
Cathey Harrison
Todd Hiers & Dee Jurilla
Terry & Barbara Hirsch
Terri Hoever
Leon Jankowski
Tom & Becky Jefferson
Heather Johnson & Mark Warren
Olivia Jordan & Kim Ogg
Jaymin Kim & Sara McAdory-Kim
John Lanier
Pam Lewis
Lyman Maddox
Cindy Marsh
Lucy Matte
Elizabeth & Jack McCormick
Michael & Laura Mergens
Tyler & Mary Montgomery
Gary & Sarrah Moseley
Janis Nelson

Betty Kay Alexander
Adrienne Allie & Clarke Bean
Ken & Patti Anderle
Christy & Gregory Andrews
Cheryl & PJ Arendt-Ford
Joel & Karen Ballard
David Barnett
Greg & Izzy Bayles
Jack & Delaney Bellinger
Curtiss & Dorothy Blankenship
DeAnna & Michael Bosch
Thomas & Caroline Boyd
Tony & Carly Brown
Gary & Diana Burton
Walt, Cyd & Cole Cameron
Greg & Brooke Caudell
Marilyn Chambers
Nancy & Kevin Clausey
Anthony & Elizabeth Cooper
George Daponte
Steve Darby & Richard Parr
Stephen & Sandi Davis
Alan & Lynette Edwards
Joel & Maria Flavin
Jerry & Martha Gallagher
Bill Gilbert & Pat Caver
David Godwin
Nancy Greenwood
Jeanne & Frank Ingraham
Denise Hansen & Jim Rodriguez
Connor Harris
Owen Hehmeyer & Abigail Go
John & Brenda Hiers
Elsbeth & Jad Hixon
Meredith & Eric Hopper
Alli Jarrett & Karin Farquhar
Stacy & Kay Lynn Jenkins
Mason Jones
Susan & Warren Kelly
Sharon Klander
John Levett
Vinnie Lusk
Maggie Mahoney
S. Wayne & Sonny Mathis
Thomas McCloud
Stephen McCormick
Carmen & Bob Merrill
Lisa Moore
Anthony Motley
Alex & Michael Newman

Ike & Polina Odi
Robin Page
Mandi & Cort Peavy
Doug & Paige Pecore
Deb Perl
Susan Peterson
Richard & Susan Quarles
Eric & Noelle Reed
David & Mary Rennie
Lynn Ringh
Steven & Catherine Runner
Daniel Sartor
Christy Serrano
Erin Sing
David & Stanley Smith-Malbrough
Kevin Stevens
Paige Sullivan
Andrew & Melia Tipton
Kirstie Valverde & Joshua Borel
Charles & Isken Ward
Peta Williams
Brian & Keri Wittpenn
Jennifer Wroe

Margo Ornelas
Niki Papazoglakis
Betty Pecore
Robert & Joanna Perkins
Jennifer & Chad Perry
Lisa Puccio
Cristen & Daniel Reat
Patrick Reed & Madelaine Delgado
Patrick & Brianne Richardson
Bryan & Dana Robinson
Tarleton Russell
Rick Saylor
Nancy & Shannon Simpson
Arthur & Susana Smith
Gillian Steinhauer
Mike & Kim Sullivan
Nick & Mikie Tannous
Katherine Osborne Valdez
Debora Van Etten
Stephanie Wells
The Rev. Garrett Wingfield
Ashley Worthing
Dianne Yeomans

Treasurer's Report and Financials

2023 Highlights

On-Line Giving Hits Record Level:

For the year 2023, 66.33% of all pledge revenue (\$517,581) was collected electronically through the OnRealm platform. This is a monthly average of \$43,132 given through the online platform and represents 98 separate pledging units. This is an all-time high for our online giving, and we have seen a steady increase every year since its inception.

Payments that can be made through OnRealm now include:

- Pledge Payments
- Altar Flowers
- Capital Campaign Pledges
- Priests Discretionary Funds
- St. Andrew's Garden
- Organ and Music Fund
- Commemorative Giving
- SAEC Parish Retreat

The benefits of giving through OnRealm include:

- Funds make it into the SAEC bank account more quickly
- Are posted to your account immediately and electronically to your ledger
- Reduce the risk of lost payments

If you do not already have an OnRealm account or if you need assistance with setting up the account that you already have, please contact Carrie Conti at the church office (cconti@saecheights.org) or 713-861-5596.

Financial Audits Completed:

Per the Diocesan Cannons, churches that exceed a revenue of \$750,000 per year must engage an outside audit firm to complete an audit of their financial records. St. Andrew's exceeded that threshold in 2021. An audit of the 2021 and 2022 financial statements was completed this year.

The Finance Committee and Vestry approved the firm of Griffing and Company, PC, to conduct and complete the audit.

No major deficiencies were found. The auditors did recommend two action items for St. Andrew's to undertake:

- Adopt a new procedure and process for closing out the books at year-end (already implemented)
- Establish a depreciation schedule for all capitalized property and equipment (ongoing)

Griffing and Company, PC has additionally been engaged to complete the financial audit for the calendar year 2023.

Capital Campaign Giving On Target:

At the close of December 2023, SAEC has raised \$1.23M in pledges on an overall Capital Campaign pledge commitment of \$2.64M. This puts us well on our way to start funding the various projects approved or under consideration for our Legacy Campaign.

As the scope of the projects becomes clearer (as well as the associated costs), we are rapidly approaching a time when the pace of the projects will increase.

This will necessitate a decision from the Finance Committee and Vestry on how to fund the totality of the various projects approved and the timeline for completion.

As we approach this inflection point, there are two main funding options for consideration:

- Fund and complete the projects over the next three and a half years as the Capital Campaign pledges are received
- Seek outside funding from a financial institution in the form of a line of credit or construction loan to complete the projects at a much faster speed and potentially reduced cost. Discussions with three banking partners commenced in 2023.

Both options come with “pros and cons” in overall implementation. The Finance Committee will evaluate and weigh each funding option, and a recommendation to the Vestry will be presented in early 2024.

2023 Revenue and 2024 Budget Preview

The pledge revenue for 2023 finished at \$780,222 on a pledge goal of \$798,000. This represents a pledge return rate of 97.77%. Typically, we budget at a 95% pledge return rate, so we exceeded that in 2023. Thank you to the parishioners of SAEC for their continued commitment to the health and growth of the church.

Due to our continued strong financial position and a successful Stewardship campaign, we exceeded our 2024 goal of \$815,000. Based on those results, the Vestry approved a budget for 2024 at the end of the year.

We were able to increase our funding in several key areas:

A 48% year-over-year increase in Ministry Expense to promote outreach as well as seed the work of the “Five Pillars” that were identified during our Strategic Plan initiative.

An 85% year-over-year increase in Christian Formation to support our Youth Programs.

A 6.9% year-over-year increase in overall Lay Staff compensation to cover cost of living raises for all lay staff as well as a staff member salary increase due to additional duties and responsibilities.

A 35.9% year-over-year increase in Insurance Expense due to the rising costs of property insurance premiums.

Finance Committee

An incredible amount of hard work and a significant amount of time was given in 2023 by the SAEC Finance Committee. Although it may be easy to characterize this work as “unglamorous,” it is essential to the smooth operation and well-being of our parish. I particularly want to thank the members of the SAEC Finance Committee for the work that they did in supporting me as the Treasurer of SAEC and (among MANY other things) keeping the lights on!

Please join me in thanking the members of our 2023 Finance Committee:

Eric Reed, Chair
Mary Eyuboglu
Heather Goodpasture
Jimmy Grace

Gillian Steinhauer
Doug Pecore
Carrie Conti
Clint Brown

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Banta-Guevara, banta.bruce@gmail.com

2023 Financial Statements

St Andrew's Episcopal Church Statement of Financial Position

As of: Dec 31st 2023 | Includes Open Transactions

Assets	
Cash	
1002 General - CB 0855	52,175.36
Total Cash	52,175.36
Cash & Equivalents	
1012 Auxiliary - CB 0871	694,795.99
1027 Prop Maint - CB 0863	101,776.73
1032 Organ & Music - CB 0898	67,776.46
Total Cash & Equivalents	864,349.18
Investments	
1212 Auxiliary - EDOT	141,601.26
1221 Prop Maint - EDOT	216,348.09
Total Investments	357,949.35
Pledges Receivable	
1700 Pledges Receivable	51,752.00
1710 Allowances for Pledge Receivable	(2,587.00)
Total Pledges Receivable	49,165.00
Other Assets	
1780 Prepaid assets	4,221.51
Total Other Assets	4,221.51
Total Assets	\$ 1,327,860.40
Liabilities & Net Assets	
Liabilities	
Payroll Related Liabilities	
2100 Federal P/R Tax Payable	10,264.27
Total Payroll Related Liabilities	10,264.27
Other Liabilities	
2000 Accounts Payable	5,898.05
2340 Prepaid Pledges	80,740.00
Total Other Liabilities	86,638.05
Total Liabilities	96,902.32
Net Assets	
3000 Unrestricted Net Assets	(112,309.65)
3900 Change in Net Asset	(64,335.20)
Temporarily Restricted	
3112 Auxiliary EDOT	169,787.48
3121 Property Maintenance Fund - EDOT	252,217.12
3126 Property Maintenance - MMkt	101,776.73
3131 Organ & Music Fund	67,776.46
3202 Daughters of the King	3,542.63
3220 Flower Fund	704.40
3230 EYC	2,257.81
3240 Men of St Andrew's	11,716.61
3245 St. Andrew's Garden	1,175.12
3250 Participation Fee Income	3,421.17
3252 Holy Land Trip	46,827.00
3260 Commemorative	29,104.44
3270 Rector Discretionary	4,450.55
3271 Asso Rector Discretionary	2,757.87

3273 Bohanski Discretionary	3,116.50
3285 Legacy Campaign Funds	633,271.24
3290 Other Designated	73,699.80
Total Temporarily Restricted	<u>1,407,602.93</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>1,230,958.08</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	<u><u>\$ 1,327,860.40</u></u>

St Andrew's Episcopal Church
Statement of Activities

Date Range: Dec 1st 2023 - Dec 31st 2023 | Includes Open Transactions

Accounts	Actual Dec 01, 2023 - Dec 31, 2023	Budget Dec 01, 2023 - Dec 31, 2023	Budget Remaining Dec 01, 2023 - Dec 31, 2023
Revenues			
Pledge Income	111,138.81	61,506.27	(49,632.54)
Non-Pledge Income	3,125.00	3,067.78	(57.22)
Loose Cash Income	2,568.25	1,000.00	(1,568.25)
Designated Income	146,607.00	3,126.88	(143,480.12)
Other Ministry Income	8,909.87	916.63	(7,993.24)
Facility Use Income	4,703.07	5,947.75	1,244.68
Other Income	935.25	719.37	(215.88)
Transfer from Restricted Funds	26,098.57	0.00	(26,098.57)
Total Revenues	\$ 304,085.82	\$ 76,284.68	(\$ 227,801.14)
Expenses			
Ministry Expense	2,425.20	2,333.37	(91.83)
Program Expense			
Parish Events/Hospitality Exp	1,299.36	750.00	(549.36)
Christian Formation Exp	471.03	416.63	(54.40)
Music Ministry Expense	48.00	1,024.38	976.38
Clergy Ministry Expense	150.00	0.00	(150.00)
Total Program Expense	1,968.39	2,191.01	222.62
Clergy Comp & Benefits			
Clergy Comp & Housing	15,726.64	15,701.72	(24.92)
Clergy Benefits	3,428.72	4,188.27	759.55
Total Clergy Comp & Benefits	19,155.36	19,889.99	734.63
Lay Staff Comp & Benefits			
Lay Staff Compensation	24,131.40	23,006.44	(1,124.96)
Lay Staff Benefits	8,562.72	6,929.99	(1,632.73)
Total Lay Staff Comp & Benefits	32,694.12	29,936.43	(2,757.69)
Contractor Expense	1,377.72	1,184.83	(192.89)
Administrative Expenses			
Office Expense			
Maintenance & Repair Expenses	4,133.33	3,995.35	(137.98)
Total Office Expense	6,028.32	6,563.40	535.08
Insurance Expense	0.00	3,021.13	3,021.13
Bank & Interest Expense	917.42	1,042.10	124.68
Miscellaneous Expense	136.63	1,980.84	1,844.21
Total Administrative Expenses	7,082.37	12,607.47	5,525.10
Utility Expense	2,241.81	3,728.01	1,486.20
Diocesan Assessment & Fees	3,905.33	4,288.46	383.13
Other Expenses	20.00	125.00	105.00
Total Expenses	\$ 95,024.80	\$ 76,284.57	(\$ 18,740.23)
Net Total	\$ 209,061.02	\$ 0.11	(\$ 209,060.91)

Statement of Activities - Year to Date

Date Range: Jan 1st 2023 - Dec 31st 2023 | Includes Open Transactions

Accounts	Actual Jan 01, 2023 - Dec 31, 2023	Budget Jan 01, 2023 - Dec 31, 2023	Budget Remaining Jan 01, 2023 - Dec 31, 2023
Revenues			
Pledge Income	815,067.26	738,075.90	(76,991.36)
Non-Pledge Income	28,463.32	36,813.03	8,349.71
Loose Cash Income	11,638.14	12,000.00	361.86
Designated Income	102,526.97	37,523.00	(65,003.97)
Other Ministry Income	17,971.10	11,000.00	(6,971.10)
Facility Use Income	72,360.74	71,373.00	(987.74)
Other Income	33,801.21	8,632.00	(25,169.21)
Transfer from Restricted Funds	466,862.70	0.00	(466,862.70)
Total Revenues	\$ 1,548,691.44	\$ 915,416.93	(\$ 633,274.51)
Expenses			
Ministry Expense	30,165.12	28,000.00	(2,165.12)
Program Expense			
Parish Events/Hospitality Exp	19,682.01	9,000.00	(10,682.01)
Christian Formation Exp	5,506.88	5,000.00	(506.88)
Music Ministry Expense	2,298.92	12,293.00	9,994.08
Clergy Ministry Expense	7,310.02	0.00	(7,310.02)
Total Program Expense	34,797.83	26,293.00	(8,504.83)
Clergy Comp & Benefits			
Clergy Comp & Housing	188,719.68	188,419.54	(300.14)
Clergy Benefits	42,943.60	50,261.11	7,317.51
Total Clergy Comp & Benefits	231,663.28	238,680.65	7,017.37
Lay Staff Comp & Benefits			
Lay Staff Compensation	288,814.30	276,076.73	(12,737.57)
Lay Staff Benefits	92,385.49	83,160.10	(9,225.39)
Total Lay Staff Comp & Benefits	381,199.79	359,236.83	(21,962.96)
Contractor Expense	14,838.67	14,218.18	(620.49)
Administrative Expenses			
Office Expense			
Maintenance & Repair Expenses	45,310.93	47,944.86	2,633.93
Total Office Expense	75,780.56	78,761.68	2,981.12
Insurance Expense	42,337.50	36,254.55	(6,082.95)
Bank & Interest Expense	11,358.41	12,504.76	1,146.35
Miscellaneous Expense	24,655.13	23,771.07	(884.06)
Total Administrative Expenses	154,131.60	151,292.06	(2,839.54)
Utility Expense	47,679.97	44,735.35	(2,944.62)
Diocesan Assessment & Fees	51,979.98	51,460.86	(519.12)
Other Expenses	432.19	1,500.00	1,067.81
Total Expenses	\$ 1,386,664.68	\$ 915,416.93	(\$ 471,247.75)
Net Total	\$ 162,026.76	\$ 0.00	(\$ 162,026.76)

St Andrew's Episcopal Church
Statement of Activities - Capital Campaign

Date Range: Jan 1st 2022 - Dec 31st 2023 | Includes Open Transactions | Filtered by: Fund

Accounts	Actual Jan 01, 2022 - Dec 31, 2023
Revenues	
Designated Income	
4285 Legacy Campaign Collections	633,271.24
Total Designated Income	633,271.24
Transfer from Restricted Funds	
4911 Release from Restrictions - Aux	599,622.81
Total Transfer from Restricted Funds	599,622.81
Total Revenues	\$ 1,232,894.05
Expenses	
7810 Capital Campaign - Interior	222,226.28
7820 Capital Campaign - Exterior	14,346.00
7830 Capital Campaign - Organ	203,203.97
Ministry Expense	
5220 Flower Exp	300.00
Total Ministry Expense	300.00
Administrative Expenses	
Office Expense	
7000 Bulletins & Printing	2,558.12
7040 Postage & Delivery	300.56
Total Office Expense	2,858.68
Miscellaneous Expense	
7720 Professional Fees	156,587.08
Total Miscellaneous Expense	156,587.08
Total Administrative Expenses	159,445.76
Total Expenses	\$ 599,522.01
Net Total	\$ 633,372.04

2024 Budget

St Andrew's Episcopal Church Statement of Activities

Date Range: Jan 1st 2024 - Dec 31st 2024

Accounts	Budget Jan 01, 2024 - Dec 31, 2024
Revenues	
Pledge Income	763,349.06
Non-Pledge Income	27,451.55
Loose Cash Income	9,313.92
Designated Income	52,942.27
Other Ministry Income	10,294.33
Facility Use Income	71,668.14
Other Income	45,393.09
Total Revenues	\$ 980,412.36
Expenses	
Ministry Expense	41,530.03
Program Expense	
Parish Events/Hospitality Exp	18,549.19
Christian Formation Exp	9,257.27
Music Ministry Expense	5,336.00
Clergy Ministry Expense	8,500.00
Total Program Expense	41,642.46
Clergy Comp & Benefits	
Clergy Comp & Housing	194,372.27
Clergy Benefits	48,431.22
Total Clergy Comp & Benefits	242,803.49
Lay Staff Comp & Benefits	
Lay Staff Compensation	294,992.31
Lay Staff Benefits	94,195.91
Total Lay Staff Comp & Benefits	389,188.22
Contractor Expense	14,689.22
Administrative Expenses	
Office Expense	
Maintenance & Repair Expenses	37,805.59
Total Office Expense	60,991.37
Insurance Expense	49,262.91
Bank & Interest Expense	12,096.16
Miscellaneous Expense	17,844.17
Total Administrative Expenses	140,194.61
Utility Expense	54,884.15
Diocesan Assessment & Fees	54,650.00
Other Expenses	830.18
Total Expenses	\$ 980,412.36
Net Total	\$ 0.00

St. Andrew's Episcopal School

St. Andrew's Episcopal School Annual Meeting Report Head of School, Jamie Martin-Currie

Staffing After the first year of listening and learning, it was time to ensure the right personnel were in the right positions. I promoted a seasoned teacher as the Assistant Head of School/Montessori Coordinator. We replaced our off-site bookkeeper with a part-time business manager. All operations are on a preschool management system where we deduct tuition from parents' bank accounts.

Finance Last January, we announced parents would need to pay for ¾ of the summer sessions to hold their fall spot. Fortunately, we received zero pushback, so this summer, parents are required to register for the entire summer to hold their child's fall spot. This significant change will bring about a more predictable financial future.



Accident We experienced a near-fatal event on June 13 during dismissal when a car drove through the wrought iron fence on 19th Street. There were three children and two adults on the playground. By the grace of God, no one was hurt. Thank you for your patience with the orange water-filled barriers. This design of the new wall will prevent another vehicular accident.



Save the date!

a night in
white

04.12.2024 | ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Acolytes

Being a Christian is not passive. We are all meant to take an active role. One of the most rewarding ways is to assist at the altar as an adult Lay Eucharistic Minister (LEM) or as a youth acolyte. Not only do you get to perform a vital role that contributes to the dignity and smooth conduct of worship, but you also get to see what happens in the liturgy up close. Many servers report that their faith has grown from contact with what happens in church and the ability to understand the why and how. If you have ever caught yourself wondering what's going on in worship and wanting to know more, this may be the ministry for you. There are no special prerequisites for serving at the altar except that LEMs, who are licensed through the diocese, must be confirmed.

There are currently 24 youth acolytes and 10 LEMs who support our worship week in and week out, an increase of seven over last year. If you are in the 4th, 5th, or 6th grade and being an acolyte interests you, please let Clint know. Likewise, if you are an adult drawn to the idea of serving at the altar.

Thank you to our current roster of youth acolytes: Henry Gibbs, Abby Gibbs, Houston Perry, Asher Robinson, William Grace, Henry Grace, Cayden Reed, Finley Reed, Jack Reed, Henry Pecore, Wilkin Pecore, Owen McCormick, Aiden McCormick, Alara Eyuboglu, Melis Eyuboglu, Contessa Moore, Sam Runner, Beth Rodriguez, Ariana Hiers, Landon Van Etten, Liam Brown, Amelie Vaughan, Nancy Godwin, and J D Alexander.

And adult LEMs: Chris Perez, Steve Runner, Richard Parr, Kay Lynn Jenkins, Myra Chickering, Ben Gibbs, Arlette Pharo, Nick Tannous, Vinnie Lusk, and Bruce Banta-Guevara.

The Rev. Clint Brown, cbrown@saecheights.org,
Associate Rector for Youth and Adult Formation

Adult Formation

Lenten Soup Supper & Study Series 2024

The Ten Commandments: Laws of the Heart by Joan Chittister

Join us in the parish hall on Thursdays during Lent for soup, study, and fellowship as we explore the most famous law code in history. Our guide will be the wise and eminently readable Benedictine writer Joan Chittister. A limited number of copies of *The Ten Commandments: Laws of the Heart* (Orbis: Maryknoll, NY, 2006/ISBN-13: 978-1-57075-684-9) are available for a reduced price at the church or order your own. Supper begins at 6 pm; the program at 6:30 pm. Participants take turns bringing soup.

Speaking of Sin: An Adult Formation Class for Lent

Feb 18, 25, Mar 3, 10, 17 (5 classes)

9:30 am

Oak Table Room

Text: Barbara Brown Taylor, *Speaking of Sin: The Lost Language of Salvation* (Cowley: Lanham, MD, 2000). ISBN-13: 978-1-56101-189-6.

In this class, for those brave enough to try it, we will talk about sin. What do we mean by the word “sin”? What are the different vices? How do we stay sensitive and aware of temptation while not despairing that we’ll never defeat it? How will a merciful God deal justly with sin? How will a just God deal mercifully with sinners? Come explore this essential topic together with other “sinners of Christ’s own redeeming” throughout the season of Lent. Participants are invited to purchase their own copy of the book but it will not be required in order to follow the class.

The Rev. Clint Brown, cbrown@saecheights.org,
Associate Rector for Youth and Adult Formation

Alms Counters

Alms counters perform the following vital functions every Sunday following the last service:

- Accurate accounting of the plate offerings
- Prepare the Sunday bank deposit
- Record documentation to enable the Office Manager to credit parishioners’ pledge accounts and other donations, which enables St. Andrew’s to meet our ongoing financial obligations
- Time commitment is approximately 1 hour each month.

The following persons generously donated their time in 2023 to perform alms counting duties:

2022 Members

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| • Linda Andrews | Michael Bosch |
| • Pat Caver | Martha Gallagher |
| • Elizabeth Gleason | Deidre Grawl |
| • Laurie Hardwick | Sarrah Moseley |
| • Margo Ornelas | Robin Page |
| • David Rennie | Mary Rennie |
| • Karen Ballard | Adrienne Allie |
| • Christy Andrews | Rosina Chevalier |
| • Rick Saylor | Julie Lewis |
| • Brian Wittpenn | Lyman Maddox |

Many thanks to all of you for your time and service.

If you are a member of St. Andrew’s, and would like to join our counting team, or learn more about the process, please contact:

Robin Page, crazycatlady729@att.net

Altar Guild

2023 was a busy and productive year for Altar Guild! We went back to two (2) in-person services and we keep seeing increased attendance. We saw some long-time members moving on, and we welcomed Nancy Clausey and Betty Kay Alexander to the team. Our long-time AG resident expert, Stephen McCormick rejoined to further help with this great ministry.

The Sacristy got a much-needed facelift, and we are thankful for the added hot water for our sink. As always, the 2023 holidays were very busy and the altar guild did a wonderful job helping our clergy and staff. Everyone is always willing to help when something needs to be done, and I so appreciate every member of my team(s).

Grateful to the members of Altar Guild 2023:

Betty Kay Alexander
Nancy Clausey
Lisa Moore
Doug Pecore
Nancy Simpson

Joshua Borel
Susan Kelly
Sarra Moseley
Arlette Pharo
Kirstie Valverde

DeAnna Bosch
Stephen McCormick
Robin Page
Bryan Robinson

New members are always welcome! If anyone is interested in becoming an Altar Guild member, they may contact any person serving this ministry.

We welcome Doug Pecore as Altar Guild Director for 2024!
dwpecore@yahoo.com

Thank you for all your support in 2023!
Karin Farquhar, karinfarquhar86@gmail.com

Flowers

Flowers for the Altar, Easter, Christmas and special occasions are coordinated by the Altar Guild. Flowers may be dedicated in honor or memory of someone. Please sign up on the dedicated page in the back hallway.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry please contact Susan Kelly, suzzieq1971@gmail.com our St. Andrew's flower chair.

Linens

The Linen Guild cares for the communion linen for the church and coordinates with the Altar Guild. With three or more Eucharistic services a week this keeps us very busy. In addition to weekly duties, we also maintain all the Church Vestments and Altar Hangings and assist the Priests in keeping their vestments clean and pressed. The Linen Guild falls under the Altar Guild, volunteers that serve on the Linen Guild are Sarrah Moseley, DeAnna Bosch and Stephen McCormick. We each rotate over the month taking duties for a week.

If you are interested in joining this ministry, please let one of us know. We are easy to work with, flexible and provide training. The Linen Guild is a great way to serve our Parish and God. This ministry fits well into a busy personal schedule - only requirement is you have a hot iron ready to go. We will teach you the rest.

Contact Stephen McCormick sem1971tx@prodigy.net

Blessing of the Animals

This annual event is fun for the family, kids, and animals!
And while it is a celebration of St. Francis of Assisi's Feast Day, and it is fun for parishioners, and the perfect way to open St. Andrew's doors to the neighborhood and new members.

It is also an easy way for new members, or non-members, to volunteer and get to know a few folks.

The event typically costs approximately \$900. There is no budget for this event so many of the volunteers pay out of their pockets, without seeking reimbursement, to help fund the decorations, treats, music, and drinks.

I'd like to thank the following people who have continually volunteered throughout the years to make this event a huge success (and it was a HOT one in 2023):
Diana Burton, DeAnna Bosch, Michael Bosch, Don Chevalier, Rex Hall, Walt Cameron, Cole Cameron, Lucy Matte, Elizabeth Dennis, Robert Perkins, Alli Jarrett, the Youth of St. Andrew's... and, of course, Frank and Byron!

Grateful also to Wendy Elizabeth Jones and her group for providing the music.

Please consider volunteering for our 2024 Blessing; all hands are welcome!

Stephanie Wells 🐾, Stephanie.wisdom.wells@gmail.com, 713-562-6969

Children's Formation

In 2023 attendance at our Sunday morning class for children, *Sunday Story* grew from pre-pandemic numbers. Our teaching team, Cathey Harrison, Catherine Runner, and Debbi Van Etten continue to provide consistent leadership. We again ended the fall with a series of fun intergenerational Advent programs during the Education Hour. In the fall it was suggested that we consider offering a Children's Chapel during the 10:30 AM worship service, but it was evident from the replies received from parents of young children that there was not a desire for Children's Chapel at this time.

Submitted by Lisa Puccio, lpuccio@saecheights.org

Daughters of the King

For more information please contact: Gina Tuttle, ginanhenderson@gmail.com

Family Fridays

For more information please contact: Mary Eyuboglu at 281-881-5343 or MarySellsHouston@gmail.com.

Heights Interfaith Ministries Food Pantry

St Andrew's supported Heights Interfaith Ministries Food Pantry, 3523 Beauchamp, as one of six member churches. St. Andrew's pays annual dues (which comprise a portion of the Pantry budget), and the Pantry provides a community-based outreach opportunity for parishioners. St. Andrew's also shared its garden harvest with the Pantry. These fresh items help the Pantry provide a healthy and nutritious variety for its clients.

The Pantry served 9,296 clients in 2023, a 22% increase over the prior year, with 21% of clients being new to the Pantry. An average of 188 clients were served each week. Food is distributed on Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings and more than 40 volunteers are required to staff these distributions and prep and pack the food that is distributed each week.

Laurie Hardwick and Cathey Harrison represent St. Andrew's on the Pantry board. In 2023, Laurie served as treasurer and Cathey served as vice president. St. Andrew's members contributed more than 1,200 volunteer hours in 2023. The Pantry could not operate without volunteer support. Thanks to all who served, including: Joel Ballard, Mary Bratcher, Marilyn Chambers, Tom Cronin, Laurie Hardwick, Paul Hardwick, Cathey Harrison, Dea Larson and Elizabeth McCormick.

Volunteer opportunities for those age 13 and older are available at a variety of times every week. Volunteers assist with food prep and distribution, pick up donated items from area retailers and help in countless other ways.

For more information, please speak with Cathey Harrison catheyph@sbcglobal.net or Laurie Hardwick lauriewh@earthlink.net or visit www.himpantry.org to sign up to serve.

Hook and Needle Guild

Our group is all about helping each other learn or improve their skills in crochet, knitting, quilting (or other fabric crafts). But mostly, we take seriously our motto – Giving with our hearts the works of our hands.

In 2023 we committed to several needs:

- Linus Project, a charity that hands out blankies to kids in distress.
- Fidget blankets to give to Alzheimer communities.
- Hats and/or hand warmers for Sea Farer’s collection.
- My Very Own Blanket” delivered and made for foster children.
- In January 2024 we will discuss our goals for 2024.

From time-to-time one of our group will suggest or submit a plea for a needed item. This year after Christmas we made hats and mittens for elementary students in Illinois who often go without warm clothing.

Come, be a part of this fun group! Drop in between 9:30 and noon every fourth Saturday (donuts provided) and hang out!

Interested? email: burroughs.mail.home@gmail.com, phone: 713-213-3199

Houston International Seafarer’s Ministry

This year we collected, boxed, and wrapped 60 Christmas boxes that were delivered to the Port of Houston for distribution by the Seafarers Ministry to merchant marines that come to our city’s port from November 24 until Jan 5.

This year we again used Amazon Gift services to donate items. It worked really well, and we will use it again next year. A big thank you to everyone who donated items and help us wrap the boxes as part of the Christmas Market.

The Seafarers ministry usually hands out between 11,000 and 15,000 boxes to merchant marines every year and we are excited to be part of this very rewarding ministry.

Thank you for your continued support of this very worthwhile ministry and to carry forward the tradition!!

For more information, please contact Bob DeCesare, bobdec2003@yahoo.com or The Rev. Clint Brown, cbrown@saecheights.org

Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Servers

Luke 22:19-20

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given to you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, after the supper, he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.”

The Lay Eucharistic Minister, also called a Server, participates in the church’s most fundamental and communal form of worship known as the Holy Communion, Eucharist, Lord’s Supper or Mass.

The Holy Communion is one of the sacred rites of the Christian religion and is celebrated every Sunday at St. Andrew’s Episcopal. Lay Eucharistic Ministers are the welcoming hosts of the Lord’s Supper and assist the Clergy by bearing the chalice and serving the wine at the altar rail during the service.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers are required to attend a training session (usually on a Saturday morning). During the session, participants learn about the various components of the Communion rite and table, and the appropriate logistics of serving the meal to communicants.

St. Andrew’s is blessed to have a strong and vibrant LEM ministry with participants from each and every service. Many thanks to our LEM team:

Bruce Banta-Guevara	Ben Gibbs	Kay Lynn Jenkins	Vinnie Lusk	Richard Parr
Arlette Pharo	Steve Runner	Nancy Simpson	Nick Tannous	

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce Banta-Guevara, banta.bruce@gmail.com

Lectors

Exodus 24:7

Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it aloud to the people. Again they all responded, “We will do everything the Lord has commanded. We will obey.”

The first place that we find the public reading of the Scripture in the Bible is at the foot of Mount Sinai in Exodus 24. This is, arguably, the first place that the corporate public worship of God is fully described in the Bible. Thus, it is not insignificant that Moses “took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people” and the practice of reading Scripture during worship services was begun. At St. Andrew’s, we continue this tradition through our Lector Ministry. Every week we gather together to read from the Bible and offer our prayers aloud publicly at each of our Eucharistic services. St. Andrew’s is blessed with a strong lector team with many participants from each and every service. Many thanks to all the members of Lector Ministry team who bring forth the joy of the Lord through the reading of Holy Scripture.

Alara Eyuboglu
Bruce Banta-Guevara
Diana Burton
Elizabeth Dennis
Karen Ballard
Lara Arsola
Melis Eyuboglu
Myra Scheznayder
Oscar Banta-Guevara
Steve Darby

Alli Jarrett
David Smith
Dianne Yeomans
Joel Ballard
Kay Lynn Jenkins
Mary Eyuboglu
Michael Mergens
Nancy Greenwood
Peta Williams
Steve Runner

Arlette Pharo
Deb Perl
Don Chevalier
John Ibanez
Katherine Valdez
Mason Jones
Mike Sullivan
Niki Papazoglakis
Rosina Chevalier
Vinnie Lusk

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Banta-Guevara, banta.bruce@gmail.com

Lord of the Streets (LOTS)

2023 was a big year for the mission of Lord of the Streets Episcopal Church, and St. Andrew’s in the Heights played a significant role. A new Vicar, the Rev. Bradley Sullivan, was called. A new Executive Director, Marie Marchand, was named and Sunday services were reinstated after a pandemic pause. St. Andrew’s proudly supports Lord of the Streets.

Over 400 people come to LOTS every weekday morning for assistance. In 2023, LOTS served 400 meals every weekday, nearly 100,000 meals. Folks also came to LOTS for a permanent mailing address. LOTS is the mailing address for over 1,200 people. LOTS volunteers receive the mail, sort it, store it in file cabinets, and then bring folks their mail when they ask for it. Folks come to receive clothing from LOTS, because life on the streets is generally very hard on clothing. The clothing room is open two days a week and sees 20 people each day. It could be open five days a week, and the need is

there; but we need volunteers on those other days.

LOTS has a vision clinic where folks come to be evaluated and receive vouchers for eye exams and for new eyeglasses. While with us, folks receive temporary glasses, a pair of donated glasses which match their vision as closely as we can get them, to help before they are able to get their new glasses.

Additionally, LOTS partners with other organizations to provide still more services: Harris Health joins with us to provide Medical and Mental Healthcare in our clinic, and their social workers provide case management. Generocity Services come twice a week with their mobile showers so that 80 people each week can have showers and receive clean socks and underwear. LOTS provides a pathway to housing for folks through The Way Home, a part of the City of Houston's and Coalition for the Homeless' housing initiative.

In late April, Lord of the Streets again began celebrating a Sunday morning Eucharist, worship and breakfast at Trinity Episcopal Church in Midtown, after a long hiatus. Each week up to 125 people attend services and get a hot breakfast. At first, the service was sparsely attended. Today the congregation is crowded and the parishioners help with the lay roles at the service. On January 7 of this year, homeless parishioners provided the team that prepared and served the breakfast. St. Andrew's provided either the team preparing the breakfast or the team serving it on five different Sundays between June and the end of the year, cooked on January 14 and are scheduled to either cook, serve or both nine more times in 2024, including Easter Sunday.

2023 volunteers included Don & Rosina Chevalier, Pat Caver, Karen Ballard, Kay Lynn & Stacy Jenkins, the entire Perry family, (Chad, Jennifer, Houston, Addison and Marshall), Andrew Bowden Jose Baroja, Cathey Harrison, Leon Jankowski, Bruce & Oscar Banta-Gueverra, Cavan Zhang, Victor Lamas, PJ Arendt-Ford, Betty Alexander, William Grace, Jack, Cayden and Eric Reed and Father Jimmy, Father Clint and Father Jeff. It could not have been done without the steadfast generosity of these wonderful volunteers.

We hope to expand the services of Lord of the Streets in 2024 to include regular chapel services, additional jobs and computer training, among many other needs.

Lord of the Streets is a sanctuary for those in Houston experiencing homelessness or in the gaps between homelessness and permanent housing. We shine our light so folks have a place where they know they can go, have the services they need, and where they will be safe, even if living on the streets.

We minister as a foundation of social services and community at Lord of the Streets. With that foundation our neighbors living on the streets get to be ministers of kindness, mercy, compassion, and love. Help us to transform our community into one in which people experiencing homelessness are cared for and respected so that they can once again let their lights shine.

You can help make it happen. Donate. Volunteer.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help at the Sunday service (or at any other time during the week) please contact LOTS outreach coordinator Joel Ballard at joelballard@gmail.com, or the St. Andrews Church office or info@lordofthestreets.org.

Meals on Wheels

St. Andrew's is a distribution point for Meals on Wheels, administered by Interfaith Ministries of Greater Houston. Volunteers pick up meals brought by a MOW driver to St. Andrew's House and deliver to clients at Heights House and Heights Tower, both of which provide subsidized housing primarily for low-income seniors.

Since March 2020 frozen rather than hot meals have been delivered once a week to clients, some of whom also receive weekend meals and breakfast items. Although on some MOW routes the delivery of hot meals Monday through Friday has resumed, there are not enough volunteers currently to do this from our distribution point.

A big thank you to Lucy Matte, Liz Dennis, and Don Chevalier as well as church office staff who have assisted with MOW. We also appreciate the many community volunteers who deliver meals from our location to clients at Heights House and Heights Tower.

For more information about volunteering or training, please contact Pat Caver at pcaver@gmail.com or Ros Moore at rmoore@imgh.org.

Memorial Area Ministries (MAM)

MAM-Memorial Assistance Ministries is faith based multi-service center on Blalock, that assist the underserved population of our community in a variety of ways, to include job coaching, English as a second language, family mental health support, classes providing technical training and job placement, a young adult entrepreneurial mentorship program and many others. The resale shop which was started back in 1986 now generates close to 2 million annually. A second store front, in our neighborhood on 11th Street opened in November of 2023. I encourage everyone to swing by and see what great deals you can find while supporting a worthy cause.

In 2023 St. Andrews supported the back-to-school drive that provided vouchers for families to purchase what their kids need to get back to school. In December, we took part in the annual toy drive. Many thanks to all the parishioners that dropped a toy in the collection box and for our youth group, led by Rev. Clint, we were able to provide a truck load of toys for that mission.

As we go into 2024, we are looking to get our congregation more involved with all the different volunteer opportunities available, especially in the new MAM resale shop in the Heights. For more information, feel free to email Walt Cameron at walt@cmtprops.com

Men of St Andrew's (MOSAEC)

The Men of St. Andrew's is a group that loves meat, fire, and fellowship. We get together a few times a year to barbecue delicious meats for the church, and in between we support each other in life and our various endeavors and try to support parishioners in need when we get the chance. While the meat is the most visible work we do, what I value most about the group is the relationships I've developed sitting around the pit and swapping stories. All are welcome (not just men, we have women and children too). If you'd like to get involved in the Men of St. Andrew's send an email to menofsaec@gmail.com or talk with Ben Gibbs at church.



Miqra

In early 2023, an advisory group – Bruce Banta-Guevarra, Nancy Greenwood, Cathey Harrison, Laura Mergens, and Linda Trejo - gathered to plan the annual MIQRA. The input provided by the group helped make for a smooth and successful event.

The 2023 MIQRA was held the week before Holy Week, making it the 7th annual St. Andrew's MIQRA, a community reading of the Bible. The event took place over the entire week, with both daytime and evening time slots, and attracted people of all ages from St. Andrew's, the neighborhood, other parishes, and other denominations.

Miqra is a Hebrew word that means "a public reading of scripture." The goal is to read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. The MIQRA is a way for the reader to spend some time just reading the Bible. It is not a performance; rather it is a way for us to devote ourselves to understanding and honoring the book that defines what we believe.

Submitted by Lisa Puccio, lpuccio@saecheights.org

Music Department

Choirs

- As of December 2023, St. Andrew's has 3 Junior Choristers, 7 Choristers, and 15 adult singers who supply choral music and lead congregational song during the academic term.
- I'd like to especially acknowledge and thank Catherine Runner, Laura Mergens, and Gillain Steinhauer for helping lead the Junior Choristers & Choristers choirs each Wednesday evening. Their assistance is helping shape these 10 young singers, helping shape the next generation of liturgical leaders in the church.
- St. Andrew's also employs 2 Choral Scholars: soprano Kandace Gipson is a sophomore at UH and baritone Quinton Parmenter is a senior at UH. These singers offer invaluable support to our choir every week and are learning the craft of sacred music. While funding to this ministry was cut from the 2023 budget, funding for these two scholars has been partially restored in the 2024 budget. It is my hope that this program will grow to include 4 singers, allowing us to regularly have the four parts of a choir each week.

Organ

St. Andrew's signed a contract with Kegg Organ Builders for a 3 manual (keyboard) and pedal organ of 23 stops/28 ranks to be located in its entirety in the chancel of the church. This new location will allow the instrument to properly support the choir and will speak more clearly throughout the other church. It will also offer a much greater variety of color to support the wonderful congregational singing we have each Sunday morning. It will also feature a zimbelstern, generously provided by Mr. Michael & Ms. Laura Mergens. The organ is scheduled to be installed early in 2025. In addition, there will be a 5 rank antiphonal organ installed above the narthex utilizing the 1909 Pilcher pipework that constitutes the core of our current organ. This antiphonal organ is generously donated by Ms. Gillian Steinhauer.

Pianos

Parishioner David Riley died in early 2022 and bequeathed to St. Andrew's his Steinway Model L piano. This piano is currently being restored and renewed utilizing funds from the Organ & Music Fund. The Model L is larger than the Model M that was in the sanctuary and will provide a more robust sound in the church once its restoration is complete. The Model M has been moved to the choir room.

La Speranza

The string quartet La Speranza is in residence at St. Andrew's for the 2023-24 concert season and has renewed this residency for the 2024-25 season. In exchange for the use of the church for their performances, La Speranza provided music at the 10:30am liturgy several times throughout the year.

Peace be with you,
John Kirk, jkirk@saecheights.org

Rhythms of Grace

In February 2023 we celebrated 8 years of weekly Rhythms of Grace services at St. Andrew's. The afternoon worship service was designed for families with special needs members (of all ages - infants through adults).

In April Rhythms of Grace lost our beloved music leader, Tony Pryor. His loss was felt profoundly in our community, but we are grateful to the Rev. Clint Brown for stepping in to lead music for this service. A man of many talents, Clint's calm and patient presence was the balm we needed in 2023. We extend gratitude to our singers Caroline Furlong, and Tom Pickett (and our summer singer Kay Lynn Jenkins). We offer special thanks to our wonderful helpers, Lisa Moore, Kathy Gallman, Sarah Jo Oller, and Frank & Jeanne Ingraham, and to all in this parish who pray for our Rhythms of Grace community.

Submitted by Lisa Puccio, lpuccio@saecheights.org

St. Andrew's Garden

The St. Andrew's Garden continues to bless many. It touches both the clients of the Heights Interfaith Food Pantry who receive its fresh produce each week, but also the volunteers who dig, compost, seed, prune, cart, weed, shovel, water, harvest, count, wash, weigh, bag, transport, and learn to appreciate the wonder of God's creation and enjoy fellowship with one another.

We recognize our current "regulars": Susan Kelly (master gardener), Alton Kelly, David Barnett, Chris Perez, Cavan Zhang, Clint Brown, Lucy Matte, Betty Kay Alexander, and Cort Peavy.

Numbers of volunteers: 9

Number of volunteer hours for 2023: 1,600

Number of pounds of produce for 2023: 1,885

If you have been meaning to volunteer, there is no time like the present! There is broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, kohlrabi, collard greens, carrots, bok choy, onions, snap peas, chard, and much more to harvest.

For more information contact Susan Kelly, suzzieq1971@gmail.com or Clint Brown, cbrown@saecheights.org.

Usher Ministry

In 2023, the St. Andrew's Usher Ministry returned to our full complement of 4 ushers per service, thanks to the reorganization of Sunday services and the assistance of stalwart, long-time ushers:

Diana Burton

Lucy Matte

Eric Reed

Jack and Delaney Bellinger

PJ Arendt-Ford

and our newest members,

Joel and Maria Flavin

Don Chevalier

Stephanie Wisdom Wells,

Richard Quarles

Jack McCormick

Nancy Greenwood

Megan Gibbs

Rex Hall

Walt and Cole Cameron

David Barnett

Lynn Ringh

Andrew Bowden

Dianne Yeomans.

The Usher Ministry is an excellent choice for any parishioner who wants to take a larger role in worship services and learn more about the Episcopal liturgy and traditions of the church. The time commitment is approximately one hour for one Sunday a month – perfect for those with time constraints and an affinity for making others feel welcome. Please ask any of us about our experiences as an usher for this parish, and please know you're more than welcome to assist in services by bringing the elements to the altar – we're more than happy to show you the ropes and have you join us!

God's Peace,

Liz Dennis edennis573@gmail.com 713-826-9765

Youth

The youth at St. Andrew's comprise young people in the 6th to 12th grade. The youth group meets for Youth Sunday every 1st and 3rd Sunday for an hour of formation, fellowship, and food.

In the past year, lessons have included learning Hebrew, being guided blindfolded through a maze, hearing an instructed Eucharist, playing Episcopal charades, walking a Stations of Holy Week, discovering the lives of saints like Jonathan Myrick Daniels, racing scooter boards around the parish hall, and discussing what it means to be a "morally serious person."

In addition to regular formation, the goal for this year will be to expand the number of local service projects we engage in and having more social outings. The summer mission trip is still in the planning stages, so please keep an eye out for more information about it and the fundraising opportunities to support it in the weeks ahead! Finally, help me congratulate **Aiden McCormick** and **Houston Perry** who have been selected as youth delegates to Diocesan Council!

The Rev. Clint Brown, cbrown@saccheights.org,
Associate Rector for Youth and Adult Formation