

ST. ANDREW'S CROSS

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew
of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion



JANUARY 2016

Mesa majesty

Arizona hosts 2016 National Council meeting, Ministry Fair

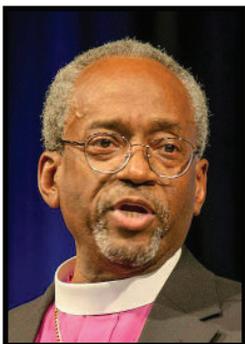
By Jim Goodson

MESA, Arizona - Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will address Brothers April 7 to kick off the 2016 National Council meeting.

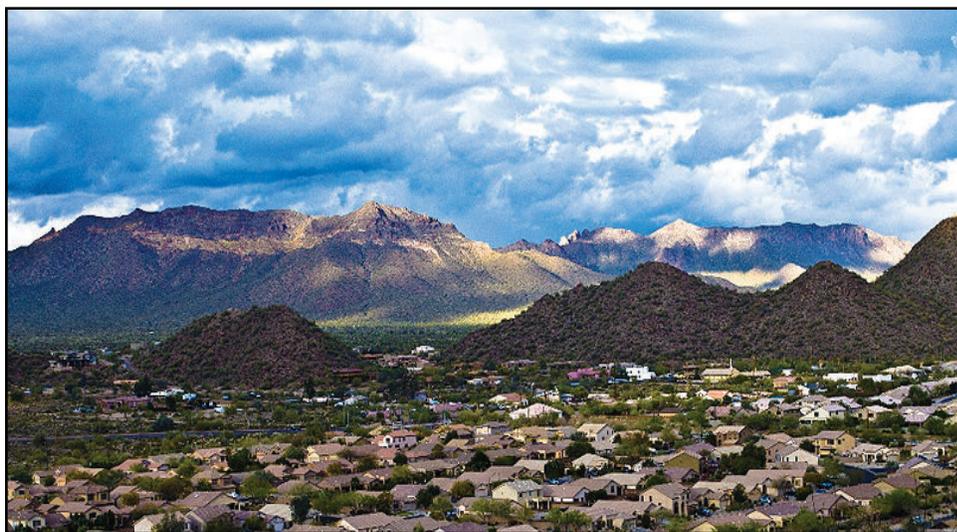
A Ministry Fair will also be held this year for the large number of Brothers and guests expected to attend.

"We expect a lot of interest from Arizonans who will want to hear the Presiding Bishop," conference host Brother Jack Hanstein says. "We hope many of them will want to attend the presentations on creating Veteran Friendly Congregations, prison ministries, the Boy Scouts and the Lead Like Jesus and ManKind Project movements.

Lead Like Jesus is a South Carolina based ministry that has, so far, trained almost 11,000 individuals and organizations to be "visionaries, team builders,



**Presiding Bishop
Michael Curry**



Mesa, Arizona is nestled among mountains southeast of Phoenix.

mentors, shepherds, servants and change agents," according to president and CEO Phyllis Hennecy Hendry. "Through Jesus, your life and your leadership will be transformed."

The ManKind Project integrates aspects of mature masculinity into the everyday world in a powerful, responsible and self-aware way, as part of a community of like-minded men.

"We commit to integrating these values into our lives, and we support each other and provide tools to help each other succeed," executive director Tony Wilkinson says.

"We don't just talk the talk, we work together to walk the walk."

A golf tournament and a regular season major league baseball game between the Arizona Diamondbacks and the Chicago Cubs are also scheduled.

Our long lineage survives, thrives



Tom Cottrell

Editor's note: In this and upcoming editions of the St. Andrew's Cross, the president's column will be replaced by reports from national officers of the eight Brotherhood provinces of the Episcopal Church.

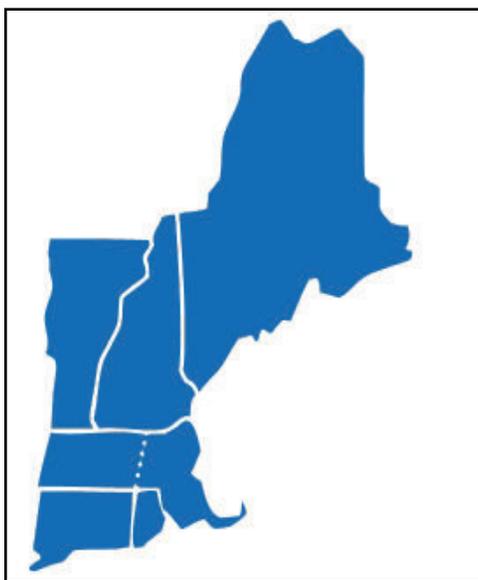
The Brotherhood lineage in New England has been around since our organization's founding.

There are nine chapters and one assembly in the province and even though our chapter numbers are greatly reduced from years' past, several of our original chapters are still meeting together for prayer, study and service.

As in all chapters, our New England Brothers play significant roles in their parishes. You will find us cooking meals for special events, participating in spiritual leadership roles and reaching out to the community in service. One of our New England chapters has found a way to engage veterans where they live.

Under the leadership of John Horan, Tom Valliere and Jim Hutton, the St John's Episcopal Church chapter has been connecting with veteran residents of the Phelps House since 2014. The Phelps House property is a historic home and carriage house that was renovated in 2013 by the Chrysalis Foundation for use as supportive housing for veterans. Currently, the Phelps House contains 17 apartments and is fully occupied by residents that receive social work and housing support as they transition back to full time employment and eventual independent living.

Having established a connection with the local management of Phelps House, our Vernon Brotherhood Chapter helps new residents by collecting and distributing household items, providing food support and keeping those veterans in our daily prayers.



Donations come from parishioners at St. Johns and our Brothers stay engaged with the veterans through the Chrysalis management team that helps us arrange social events. Some past events include pizza socials, baseball games and fishing outings.

When the veterans showed an interest in a communal garden, Brothers assisted with obtaining materials (mostly donated) and the labor needed to create a good-sized vegetable garden that the residents then cared for and harvested. Our garden work alongside the veterans culminated in a barbecue open to all the residents and garden helpers.

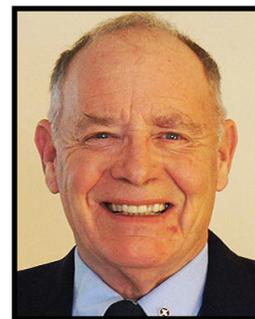
During the recent Christmas holiday, we attended an open house that the Veterans hosted and delivered homemade holiday cards and gift cards (to local stores) which had been provided by St John's Episcopal Church Women's (ECW) group. We also try to meet the needs of new residents who often arrive at Phelps House with very little in the way of possessions that would outfit an apartment. Also, one of our Brothers is a retired clergyman with specific training in veteran counseling and he has presented Phelps House with an open offer of support, should the need arise.

The chapter at Trinity, Hartford sponsors Men's retreats and Saturday breakfast which is open to all the assembly members. The intent is to grow into a diocesan-wide weekend retreat and communion breakfast.

Our new chapter director John E. Robinson continues to lead this group forward and often reminds us of the possibilities with a hearty, "We can do this!"

Tom Cottrell is diocesan coordinator in Province I. He can be reached at tcotr9698@cox.net.

Leading by example works in New England



George Booth

The first Sunday of Epiphany brought a cold, rainy day here in Central New Hampshire.

The small gathering of about 20 people that ventured out in to the nasty weather to our little church included all but one of our Brothers Andrew. It warmed my heart to see that the four of us made up 20 percent of the congregation. As always, our rector The Rev. Curtis Metzger delivered a thoughtful, informed and informative sermon about the Holy Spirit and it occurred to me that the Brotherhood of St. Andrew is really all about the Holy Spirit.

Our corporate charter defines very clearly what we do, which is spreading the kingdom of Christ to men and boys through the disciplines of prayer, study and service, but what we are is more about the Holy Spirit, the power that binds and animates all of us, that guides us to make the right choice as we see it.

While we strive to follow our disciplines as best we can, the reality is that we find few opportunities to really bring men to Christ in an intentional way. Certainly, having an active chapter where men can be invited to follow our disciplines is essential, but I have found more real success in simply making it clear that I am Christian and hope that my example may serve to bring other men closer to Christ, whether they come to the meetings or not, whether they come to my church or not.

My hope is that I can inspire other men to become more comfortable with scripture and better informed in the life and teachings of Christ, something that is best done outside the church.

Luke's gospel for the first Sunday of Epiphany is about the baptism of Jesus by John, a lesson that has inspired some controversy in the sense that Jesus, who was born without sin, really didn't need to be baptized. Of course, how would Jesus have declined to be baptized? Could He have proclaimed Him-

self to be above all men and rejected baptism as unnecessary? Hardly.

I believe that Jesus knew baptism to be the first step on his path to sacrifice, for us and for our salvation. Fr. Metzger, who always offers interesting little tidbits during his sermons, mentioned that early Rabbinical writings described the voice of God as like the cooing of a dove, suggesting that Luke may have been influenced by this to describe the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ as the form of a dove, a universally recognized symbol of peace. Jesus knew He was destined for sacrifice and accepted His father's wishes in the spirit of peace.

Interestingly, the psalm for the same day - Psalm 29 - describes the voice of God as capable of shaking the wilderness and breaking the Cedars of Lebanon, the God of power and might, the Old Testament God. I believe we can find inspiration in this contrast: the all-powerful and mighty

God and the peaceful acquiescence of His Son to the sacrifice He knew to be His fate. It is not by our will that we bring others to Christ but through love and sacrifice. Our will is not ours but that of the creator. Our role as Brothers Andrew is to be there for others so that, when the will of God manifests itself, we can help others to understand how to accept that will.

Right now, God wills that I replace the control arms on my beat-up Chevy. I have accepted that as my fate....

George Booth is the former president in Province I. He can be reached at gaboothjr@aol.com.



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Pittsfield, New Hampshire



National Council Meeting – Registration
April 7 – April 9
Windemere Hotel and Conference Center
5750 East Main St.
Mesa, Arizona 85205



Name: _____ Member / Chapter Number: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Spouse/Guest [if attending]: _____

Full Meeting Registration	✓	Cost
Brotherhood Member Full Registration Includes: Registration Fee, Full Meal Package (Thursday reception and dinner, Friday-Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner; Saturday – Breakfast)		\$185
Guest Full Registration Includes: Full Meal Package (Thursday dinner, Friday-Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner; Saturday – Breakfast)		\$165

Individual Meeting Registration	✓	Member	✓	Non Member
**All Members must pay registration fee		\$50		N/A
Thursday, April 7 – Reception Includes garden reception, dinner buffet, coffee/dessert hour		\$50		\$60
Friday, April 8 – Ministry Fair Includes breakfast and lunch		\$40		\$50
Friday, April 8 – Dinner Buffet		\$35		\$45
Saturday, April 9 – Breakfast		\$10		\$10
Total Payment Due:				

Acceptable methods of payment: Check, Money Order (payable to “The Brotherhood of St. Andrew” and designate 2016 National Council Meeting) or pay online at www.brothersandrew.net/donations

Hotel accommodations must be booked directly at: **Windemere Hotel – 480-985-3600 attn Marsha Miller ext 183**
 Reserve your accommodations for \$55.86/night. Please state that you are with the Brotherhood of St. Andrew

SEND COMPLETED REGISTRATIONS TO:

NATIONAL OFFICE: P.O. Box 632, Ambridge, PA 15003
 PHONE (724) 266-5810
 E-MAIL: brotherhoodofstandrew@brothersandrew.net
 WEBSITE: www.brothersandrew.net

FLIGHT and TRAVEL: Most if not all attendees should book flights into Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport. Shuttle service to the Windemere Hotel and Conference Center runs every 20 minutes The cost is \$30 roundtrip. No reservations are needed for the trip to the hotel, but a reservation is needed for the trip back to the airport. The only airline flying into Mesa Gateway is Allegiant, which operates mostly from small cities in the West and Midwest.

DIAMONDBACK-CUBS game tickets are available at www.StubHub.com. Travel plans to the game will be arranged during the conference.

2016 NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING



National Council Meeting Agenda

April 7 – April 9

Windemere Hotel and Conference Center

5750 East Main St.

Mesa, Arizona 85205

Thursday, April 07, 2016

8:00 am to 12:30 pm	Planned Golf Outing (Optional)
1:30 pm to 4:30 pm	National Council Meeting – Brotherhood Members
5:00 pm to 6:15 pm	Garden Reception for Bishop Curry
6:15 pm to 8:30 pm	Dinner Buffet; Presentation; Bishop Curry keynote
8:30 pm to 9:30 pm	Coffee/Dessert hour

Friday, April 08, 2016

8:00 am to 4:30 pm	Men's Ministry Fair Display – Foyer
8:00 am to 8:45 am	Continental Breakfast
9:00 am to Noon	Men's Ministry Fair Presentations
Noon to 1:00 pm	Luncheon Buffet
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	National Council Business Meeting
3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	Break
3:30 pm to 5:30 pm	National Council Business Meeting
6:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Dinner Buffet
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	National Council Business Meeting and Compline

Saturday, April 09, 2016

8:00 am to 9:00 am	Continental Breakfast
10:00 am to 11:30 am	Holy Eucharist – Bishop Kirk Smith; Celebrant and Preacher
6:00 pm to 9:00 PM	Arizona Diamondbacks vs Chicago Cubs (Optional)

NATIONAL OFFICE: P.O. Box 632, Ambridge, PA 15003

PHONE 724-266-5810

E-MAIL: brotherhoodofstandrew@brothersandrew.net

WEBSITE: www.brothersandrew.net

The Jesus Movement and our church

‘We must go into the world and not wait for a congregation to come to us’

By Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

God came among us in the person of Jesus of Nazareth to show us the Way. He came to show us the Way to life, the Way to love. He came to show us the Way beyond what often can be the nightmares of our own devisings and into the dream of God’s intending. That’s why, when Jesus called his first followers he did it with the simple words “Follow me.”

“Follow me,” he said, “and I will make you fish for people.”

Follow me and love will show you how to become more than you ever dreamed you could be. Follow me and I will help you change the world from the nightmare it often is into the dream that God intends. Jesus came and started a movement and we are the Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement.

Near the end of Matthew’s Gospel story of the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead, Mary Magdalene and some of the women go to the tomb to anoint his body. When they get there they find that the tomb is empty, the stone has been rolled away and there is no body there. Then they see and hear an angel who says to them, “This Jesus of Nazareth whom you seek, he is not here, he has been raised as he said he would be and he has now gone ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him. It is in Galilee that the Risen Lord will be found and seen for he has gone ahead of us.”

Galilee.

Which is a way of talking about the world.

Galilee.

In the streets of the city.

Galilee.

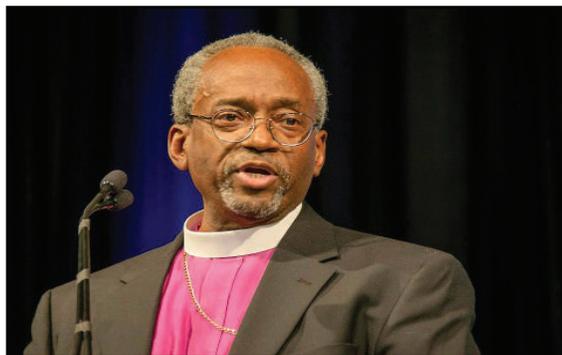
In our rural communities.

Galilee in our hospitals.

Galilee in our office places.

Galilee where God’s children live and dwell there.

In Galilee you will meet the living Christ for He has already gone ahead of you.



**Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will address
Brothers Thursday, April 7**

WINDEMERE HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER

A few years ago I was in a coffee shop in Raleigh, North Carolina, just a few blocks away from our Diocesan House there. While in line I started a conversation with a gentleman who turned out to be a Mennonite pastor. He had been sent to Raleigh to organize a church in the community on the streets without walls. As we were talking over our coffee, he said something to me that I have not forgotten. He said the Mennonite community asked him to do this because they believed that in this environment in which we live, the church can no longer wait for its congregation to come to it, the church must go where the congregation is.

Now is our time to go. To go into the world to share the good news of God and Jesus Christ. To go into the world and help to be agents and instruments of God’s reconciliation. To go into the world, let the world know that there is a God who loves us, a God who will not let us go, and that that love can set us all free.

This is the Jesus Movement, and we are The Episcopal Church, the Episcopal branch of Jesus’ movement in this world. God bless you, and keep the faith.

Dallas' dynamic Brother

Robby Gerber does it all, makes it look easy

By Jim Goodson

DALLAS – It would be hard to find a friendlier person than former Brotherhood national council chairman Robby Gerber.

Whether it's rebuilding an elderly parishioner's house, planning a national conference or starting his own telecommunications company, Brother Gerber does it all in a collegial, effective manner.

His entrepreneurial spirit comes from his dad Omer "Ditty" Gayle Gerber, a self-employed CPA who moved the 11-member Gerber family from Texarkana to Dallas when Robby was eight years old.

Improbably, the daytime CPA was a nighttime jazz musician who performed and recorded with notables like Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald and Charlie Parker.

"My dad made sure we were all confirmed in the Episcopal Church," Brother Gerber says, fondly recalling St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Texarkana and St. Matthew's Cathedral in Dallas.

"We lived on Swiss Avenue within walking distance of the Cathedral," he recalls.

He met his wife Marianne at Gaston Junior High School. "She was a cheerleader and I was a band nerd," he says. "But we've been married 37 years and have two children and five grandchildren."

After graduating from Dallas' Skyline High, Brother Gerber attended Eastfield Community College and SMU's Cox School of Business, concentrating on classes that would sharpen his entrepreneurial skills.

"I worked for several firms before finding a mentor who taught me about the telecommunications industry," Brother Gerber says. Dallas' Telecom Corridor is to the

telecommunications industry what California's Silicon Valley is to the computer industry.

Seven years ago Marianne and Robby founded Jager Solutions, which provides manufactured materials to telecommunication firms.

The couple lived in the northwest Dallas suburb of Garland for 30 years and drove into the downtown Dallas area to attend Holy Cross Episcopal Church for 22 years before switching to Holy Nativity Episcopal Church in nearby Plano.

"We've done a lot of driving," Brother Gerber laughs.

The family settled in nicely at Holy Nativity, where Brother Gerber has served on the vestry, search committee, as a delegate to diocesan convention and been a leader in Holy Nativity's Ultreya, Harvest and Alpha programs.

He's also a lay reader, a lay Eucharistic minister and a member of the Society of Mary, a prayer group and, of course, the Brotherhood.

He also got involved in Dallas diocesan affairs, serving on the standing committee and executive council, as a deputy to the national general convention and on the commission for ministry.

Brother Gerber has also been chairman of the Brotherhood's national council.

Despite starting and running (with Marianne) a successful business and doing just about everything you can in an Episcopal Church, Brother Gerber is first and foremost a family man. He says his biggest accomplishment is raising two girls whose families attend church regularly.

He's the kind of person you're glad to see coming – always ready with a smile and a quip. And he makes it look so easy.



Robby and Marianne Gerber

WINDEMERE HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER

April 7-9
Mesa, Arizona



The Windemere Hotel and Conference Center in Mesa, Arizona is the largest resort in southeastern Arizona.

It will host the 2016 National Council meeting of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew April 7-9.

Clockwise from top left are its exterior, its rooms, a portion of its lobby area, the registration area, one of its two pools and a view of the grounds. Room rates for the conference and days prior to and after the conference are only \$55.86 per night. To make reservations call 480-985-3600, attention Marsha Miller.



*photos courtesy of the
Windemere Hotel and Conference Center*

THE BROTHERHOOD TODAY

BROTHERS WHO HAVE DIED

John Allen
Lehigh Acres, FL

William Amis, Jr.
Washington, GA

Edwin Archer
Brooklyn, NY

Leonard Dufour, Jr.
Vernon Rockville, CT

James Stoughton
Ellington, CT

Richard Bennett
Vernon Rockville, CT

Leigh Beard
Doylestown, PA

Herb Mylius



Brothers from The Episcopal Church of The Advent in Spartanburg, South Carolina brought Christmas to inmates at Livesay Correctional Institution Dec. 13. Brother Yates Johnson introduced Brothers to the inmates and announced the program. The Rev. Steve McGehee delivered a message about Biblical persons in prison, including the apostle Paul, and lead the group in singing Christmas songs. The inmates had a small choir and sang spirituals to the group. Later, Brothers served cafeteria-style cookies, sweets and punch. Many came back for seconds and soon everything was gone, Brother Johnson reports. "We then visited with some of the inmates and the singing began again," he said. The group was given a benediction while standing in a circle around Fr. McGehee. The inmates shook hands and said they appreciated the program and wished us a Merry Christmas. From left are Reggie Whitehurst, Trey Theis, Mark White, The Rev. Steve McGehee, Yates Johnson and Arthur Cleveland.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

James Cox
Carrollton, TX

NEW CHAPTERS

St. Alban's
Brooklyn, NY

Holy Cross
Sugar Land, TX

St. Peter's
Conway, AR

Join the Brotherhood on social media

GREETINGS AND WELCOME TO THE BSTA BLOG SITE

Welcome to The Brotherhood of St. Andrew Blog site: Discipline of Service, Study and Prayer. This is a site that will host blog commentary on our disciplines and how Brother's walk our talk or "disciplines." We will grow this blog and perhaps add other blogs with similar themes. The administrators of this blog will be the initial publisher and commentators.

MAY 6, 2014
RCBENAVIDES@GMAIL.COM

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[http://brotherhoodofstandre.
ipage.com/](http://brotherhoodofstandre.ipage.com/)



Jeff Butcher

Think about charitable gifting

Consider reviewing your will, insurance and IRA to include the Brotherhood

Over the years we have all had our periods of setbacks - aka rough spots - in which we were unable to give back to the Lord His treasures to help the Church carry out its mission. Many of us have served on the adventurous stewardship committee. Me, too! We did it out of love.

Our beloved Brotherhood is like a church in some respects. Ministry Pledges are our primary source of income currently. These gifts are our opportunity to return to God a portion of our fruits back to Him to be used to disciple men.

Christianity is short of men. The secular world has trillions of dollars to entice men not to attend church or search for Christ in their lives. Being a Christian is not easy work. For us to compete here we need money.

Raising Ministry Pledges is not being proposed. Instead we need to redirect our efforts towards Gifting and Charitable Contributions. Meanwhile, we need to open our doors to more men than we have ever done in the past.

After 28 years in the financial services career field I can tell you that we are locked into the biggest transfer of wealth in the history of mankind. We need to start asking for a portion to carry out the Great Commission. Today your biggest beneficiary for your wealth accumulation is the United States Government. Is that not a scary thought?

Our Foundation Trustees have done a wonderful job protecting and growing our assets in a bull market. We need to thank them for their labor of love. They have done what the Executive Board has asked them to do. I tip my hat and give them kudos for their journey.

It is time we develop a new direction towards asking Brothers and our extended families to include us in their wills, estates, trusts, life insurance and IRAs as a designated beneficiary. For us to make these pleas for assistance we need to demonstrate to the donors we have a vision. We should also have a clearly defined mission that is Biblically-based, Christ-centered and simple to communicate.

For us who are already committed I am asking you to consider reviewing your will, life insurance policy and IRA to include the Brotherhood of St. Andrew as a beneficiary for either a small percentage or a dollar amount. I am in the process of changing my 10 percent for the Diocese of Kentucky to include the Brotherhood as well.

If you are also inclined please email me or drop me a note so I can share this with our new charitable gifting development group to contact you. Come and see the Brotherhood of the future.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew President Jeff Butcher can be reached at jeff.butcher@brothersandrew.com.

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The secular world has trillions of dollars to entice men not to attend church or search for Christ. For us to compete, we need money.

PRESIDENT JEFF BUTCHER