

# THE CROSS



JANUARY  
2022

## THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

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*Prayer, Study, and Service*

The Episcopal and Anglican Newsletter of Men's Ministry



**A Bright and Blessed New Year**

**MAKE 2022 YOUR BEST YEAR OF  
BROTHERHOOD MINISTRY YET**

**WE ARE THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW, A LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND GLOBAL  
MEN'S EPISCOPAL AND ANGLICAN MINISTRY.**

**OUR AREAS OF MISSION FOCUS: DISCIPLESHIP AND MENTORING, PRISON MINISTRIES, RACIAL RECONCILIATION, RECOVERY,  
SOCIAL JUSTICE, VETERANS MINISTRIES, YOUTH AND SCOUTING.**

**BROTHERSANDREW.NET**



On My Mind...

## ARE YOU AFRAID?



Conrad Jones  
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For the past several weeks it seems I have continuously had this whispering in my head. It's about FEAR. And as we start a brand new year (2022), I'd think the only thing I should be afraid of is NOT keeping my New Year's resolutions! But, for some reason, I have this lingering feeling of fear of what is ahead for me this coming year.

To begin, let me state that **Fear is REAL**. By that I mean it is a **natural, powerful, and primitive human emotion**. It involves a biochemical response as well as a high individual emotional response. Fear alerts us to the presence of danger or the threat of harm, whether that danger is physical or psychological. Sometimes fear stems from real threats, but it can also originate from imagined dangers. Just thinking about something you fear, imagined or real, can cause your heartbeat to increase and your breathing to accelerate. Yet still some people actually want to see a horror movie, or ride a roller coaster, or jump out of an airplane! And there are so many things in our world right now that can cause fear to be a part of our lives: violence, civil unrest, catastrophic weather events, our economic security as we age, our health, even the fear of losing a relative, spouse or close friend. This comforting prayer is adapted from a prayer of the twelfth century abbess St. Clare of Assisi: *"Live without fear, your creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you with a power and a presence that is stronger than death."*

But... there's another, contradictory kind of fear. "Fear" is spoken of over 500 times in the King James Version of the Bible. The Bible teaches us to **"Fear God,"** which really means *reverence God alone and do not fear anyone or anything else*. There are 13 mentions of fear in Proverbs, those teachings from King David to his son, Solomon.

*"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline."*

**Proverbs 1:7**

Read that twice... and let it sink in like it hit me. To paraphrase what David is teaching Solomon: *The fear of the Lord*—that is, reverence for—and obedience to God—*is the beginning of knowledge*, the very foundation and source of it; without it all other knowledge is vain and useless. All other wisdom, which is not founded in religion, in the true and genuine **fear** of God, is empty. *But fools*—wicked men, or men devoid of true religion, *despise wisdom and instruction*—are so far from attaining it that they despise it and all the means

of getting it. In other words, the fear of the Lord is a total acknowledgment of all that God is, which comes through knowing God and the Lord's attributes. Fear of the Lord brings with it many blessings and benefits. It is the beginning of wisdom and leads to good understanding. Fear of the Lord leads to life, rest, peace, and contentment. We can see how fearing God should be encouraged. Isn't that a part of the meaning of our mission as Brothers Andrew, to bring other men, those who don't know this or "get it" yet, to a closer understanding and walk with Christ? Are you trying to do that as you evangelize our Brotherhood story? Do you have fear (that first kind I described) of approaching another man about taking this walk with us?

So Brothers, what are the attributes of fearing the Lord as paraphrased from Proverbs?

1. A man who fears the Lord **gives and receives instruction** (teaching) and **rebuke** (sharp disapproval or criticism of someone because of their behavior or actions).
2. A man who fears the Lord **hates evil or rude speech** (slander, disrespectful, prideful, arrogant, boastful, or judgmental. Even using terms like "Holy Sh\*t" or "Holy Cr\*p" should be offensive to use HOLY in such a way!)
3. A man who fears the Lord is **content to be lowly** (knowing God is almighty and that our place is below God. Practicing humbleness, and realizing there are those whose knowledge and experience are far greater than ours).
4. A man who fears the Lord **trusts** in the Lord. The basis of faith is trust, with all our hearts and with all our souls. As Ben Franklin said, "Logic can often get in the way of the cultivation of faith, whether in God or the belief in an idea or person. Clinging too closely to what we know, can obscure the vastness of what we still have yet to learn."

So, in these days of uncertainty, fear, and anguish that surround us almost constantly, it seems, remember it is GOOD to have fear. As we read in Deuteronomy 10:12, "what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul". Fear the Lord, and He will also help you overcome your fears... what a twist!

And that's what's on my mind.

Brother Conrad



## Directly Speaking

# “SHINING BRIGHTLY” AFTER WE “STAND AND WAIT.”

Tom Welch, Executive Director  
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God is in the business of changing things. Our goal should not be to make our faces radiant... something not even Jesus could do. Look at Luke 9:29: “As he was praying Jesus’ appearance was changed” (NIV) not that Jesus “changed his appearance.” Moses didn’t know his face was shining (Exodus 24:29), but everyone who saw him did.

Over my lifetime I have served on nearly as many retreat staffs as there are days in a month. Often I saw radiance on many faces during those Cursillo retreats. I could literally see “it.” Those retreat participants didn’t do something to change their faces, but God surely did.

During times in my life when I wanted to change things, I have learned to stand at the foot of the cross with a willingness to be changed and then let God do His work rather than me changing things. And, you know what? He does it every time. He calms fears, wipes away the tears, takes the worry lines from our forehead and, instead, brushes our cheeks. He’s the one who changes our faces when we worship him.

So, God leads us along a way that is just exclusively designed for us. The more deeply we trust in God, completely trust, the more we can more

freely love others. Like Moses coming from the mountain, his appearance had changed. It was something God did. Nothing Moses did changed himself.



For those of us in Brothers Andrew, I believe we understand that all we have comes from God; every paycheck, every joy and, yes, even sorrow. With each experience we can grow closer or draw farther away from Christ. It’s our choice. As we walk into 2022, my hope for each of us is to

take more time stand and wait as we gaze at the cross.

It was the Apostle Paul who said “they also serve who stand and wait.” We serve better after we have been in prayer standing before God. With help from God, perhaps as our appearance changes, we are showing others the way, the truth, and the light... shining brightly as we do.

Thanks be to God for that and Happy New Year!



## **BROTHERHOOD TRIENNIAL CONVENTION MOVED TO 2024**

**THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW VOTED IN DECEMBER TO MOVE THE BALTIMORE TRIENNIAL CONVENTION FROM 2022 TO 2024. THE MOVE REMOVED A POTENTIAL FINANCIAL RISK FOR 2022, WITH COVID IMPACTS CONTINUING, AND OFFERS MORE TIME AND A GREATER OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION.**

# TORNADO RELIEF AND REBUILDING OPPORTUNITIES AROUND FOLLOWING A DECEMBER OF DESTRUCTIVE WEATHER



Jessica Shelton, Support Specialist for the Brotherhood of St. Andrew national office, and her family prayed over the tornado devastation in Kentucky they saw unfolding in the news and sensed a call.

“My husband and I are from Kentucky and most of our family members continue to live there. We have been heartbroken over the devastation that has happened due to the tornadoes and we have spent a lot of time in prayer individually and as a family. In our prayers, we all felt God telling us to GO,” she said.

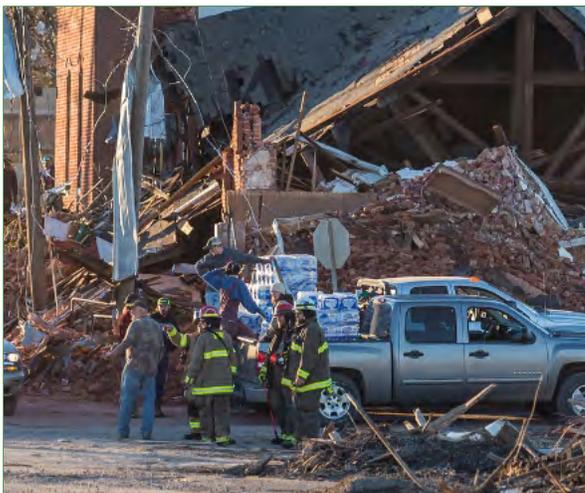
And, so they went with the blessing of their parish (St. John’s Parish Church on John’s Island, SC where her husband, Jeremy, is the Associate Rector). It was the first time for their two oldest sons,

Will and Ben (ages 14 and 12) to serve during a disaster. The boys entered into the experience by collecting toys and clothing to take.

The experience of listening to the stories of those impacted, in addition to what they did to help with relief was powerful. Much work remains to be done. To offer your financial help or volunteerism throughout the long recovery, contact the Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky at:

[www.episcopalky.org/disaster.html](http://www.episcopalky.org/disaster.html)

Please continue to pray for all who were impacted by the tornadoes and all who are assisting them.



PHOTOS: MAYFIELD, KY - DECEMBER 2021 TORNADO

CREDIT: STATE FARM INS.

## RECOVERY MINISTRY

# RECURRING RECOVERY MEETINGS ON ZOOM FOR ADDICTS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS

For all addictions such as alcohol, narcotics, sex, pornography, gambling, codependency, and overeating. Anonymity is maintained—first names only:

- **Every Wednesday at 7 p.m.** (Central) 12-step recovery meeting for all addictions. Sponsored by the Recovery Ministry of the Episcopal Church (RMEC). Zoom ID 923 8806 4304.
- **1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m.** (Central) 12-Step Recovery Eucharist for all addictions. Sponsored by All Saints Episcopal Church, Pasadena, Ca. Zoom ID 875 5107 8462.

### Helpful Websites:

- **Recovery Ministry of the Episcopal Church (RMEC)**  
[www.episcopalrecovery.org](http://www.episcopalrecovery.org) and, [www.brothersandrew.net](http://www.brothersandrew.net). (Recovery page)
- **Center for Addiction and Faith**  
[www.addictionandfaith.com](http://www.addictionandfaith.com).

## RACIAL RECONCILIATION OPPORTUNITY OFFERED

### THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW RACIAL RECONCILIATION AND HEALING COMMITTEE IS SPONSORING A DIALOGUE CIRCLE FOR SACRED GROUND FOR BROTHERS AND OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

The Dialogue Circle will be based on the Sacred Ground curriculum, a film-based dialogue series on race and faith, and will begin January 10th, 2022, and will meet every other Monday evening starting at 7 p.m. (EST) for one and a half hours. A revised schedule of dates for dialogue meetings will be developed shortly.

The Dialogue Circle will be limited to a maximum of ten members plus two facilitators. Participation and enrollment will be on a first-come, first-served basis and all sessions will be through Zoom.

The Dialogue Circle will be facilitated by The Reverend Canon John Thompson Quartey and Dr. Roy Benavides, who are members of the Brotherhood Ministry for Racial Reconciliation and Healing. The facilitators will provide information and links for materials that were developed by the Race and Reconciliation Ministry of The Episcopal Church.

To become part of this dialogue circle or to request additional information, contact Dr. Roy Benavides at [roy.benavides@brothersandrew.net](mailto:roy.benavides@brothersandrew.net) or 432-770-4048 or The Reverend Canon John Thompson Quartey at [jthompsonq@gmail.com](mailto:jthompsonq@gmail.com).



#### WHAT IS THE SACRED GROUND RACE DIALOGUE SERIES?

SACRED GROUND IS A FILM- AND READINGS-BASED DIALOGUE SERIES ON RACE, GROUNDED IN FAITH. SMALL GROUPS, DIALOGUE CIRCLES, ARE INVITED TO WALK THROUGH CHAPTERS OF AMERICA'S HISTORY OF RACE AND RACISM, WHILE WEAVING IN THREADS OF FAMILY STORY, ECONOMIC CLASS, AND POLITICAL AND REGIONAL IDENTITY.

THE 10-PART SERIES IS BUILT AROUND A POWERFUL ONLINE CURRICULUM OF DOCUMENTARY FILMS AND READINGS THAT FOCUS ON INDIGENOUS, BLACK, LATINO, AND ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HISTORIES AS THEY INTERSECT WITH EUROPEAN AMERICAN HISTORIES.

SACRED GROUND IS PART OF BECOMING BELOVED COMMUNITY, THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH'S LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO RACIAL HEALING, RECONCILIATION, AND JUSTICE IN OUR PERSONAL LIVES, OUR MINISTRIES, AND OUR SOCIETY. THIS SERIES IS OPEN TO ALL, AND ESPECIALLY DESIGNED TO HELP WHITE PEOPLE TALK WITH OTHER WHITE PEOPLE. PARTICIPANTS ARE INVITED TO PEEL AWAY THE LAYERS THAT HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE CHALLENGES AND DIVIDES OF THE PRESENT DAY – ALL WHILE GROUNDED IN OUR CALL TO FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE.

[WWW.EPISCOPALCHURCH.ORG/SACRED-GROUND/](http://WWW.EPISCOPALCHURCH.ORG/SACRED-GROUND/)



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Here are just a few Resolutions to help get your Brotherhood of St. Andrew Chapter Off to a Great 2022 Start



### **Resolve to... adopt an attitude of “Holy Flexibility” and be ready to modify absolutely everything.**



**Let’s start with the pandemic and all of the related changes it has wrought.** In early 2021, we found ourselves in a situation where everything—including worship and church activities—went online, got canceled, or became greatly modified, sometimes at the last minute. Later in the year, things began to loosen up a bit as the pandemic became

a bit more controlled and gathering became safer. With the Omicron variant now gaining rapidly on us and pandemic safety recommendations once again tightening, the idea of sitting down in January and planning a year of Chapter activities can perhaps seem overwhelming or even downright discouraging.

But perhaps God is teaching us patience and flexibility. Resolve to sit down with your leadership team right now and plan boldly. Don’t use the pandemic as an excuse for not forging ahead on exciting gatherings, ministry, and service. Just go forward with a Plan B for everything you want to undertake and a genuine commitment to graciously modifying those plans as needed.

### **Resolve to... check the way you use words with your Brothers and help each other develop more positive, productive speech.**

**Example: when someone in your parish asks “So, what’s the Brotherhood of St. Andrew?”**

your words can be used to lift up and extend an invitation to a potential Brother OR relate



time-worn negativity about how big your Chapter “used to be” or how your members are growing older. YOU NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO CRAFT AND PRACTICE POSITIVE AND ACCURATE RESPONSES TO THESE TYPES OF QUESTIONS. PRACTICE THESE RESPONSES WITH ONE ANOTHER AND PREPARE YOURSELVES TO ARTICULATE WHAT THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW IS AND DOES, LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY. PRACTICE UNTIL YOU ARE ALL COMFORTABLE TALKING ABOUT THE BROTHERHOOD AND FEEL PREPARED TO EXCITE AND INVITE!



### **Resolve to... review with your Chapter leadership the Brotherhood areas of mission focus.**

**You’ll find them listed on the cover of this issue and on the [brothersandrew.org](http://brothersandrew.org) website.** Once you have gathered information about these mission opportunities, discuss which ones your group is most excited about engaging in around your local area. Choose one or two areas as a special focus, develop an initial plan of service, designate a person to forge a connection on the national level, announce your intentions and seek initial advice from clergy and other church leaders who may be able to offer support or ideas, and begin to polish your ministry plan into something that will really interest and captivate others. Remember—if you start by picking just one area of focus, and do it really well, you will stand a stronger chance of making a significant impact as a Chapter and engaging others in your Brotherhood ministry!

**Resolve to... help all of your Brothers feel supported in a more intentional way by individually covenanting to do one check in with a Brother each week—in person, on the phone, via a simple text, or even a handwritten note or email.**

**Some basic questions you can pick and choose from and try:**

- How are things going with you through all of this pandemic uncertainty?
- How's your health these days?
- How is

feeling these days?  
(Inquiring about a relative or friend who has been experiencing illness or adversity)

- Is there anything I can do for you or your family right now?
- How's your prayer life? I think a lot of us have been struggling.
- What have you been reading (or watching, or listening to) recently that has made an impression on you?



These conversation starters are a simple way of keeping very human Brother-to-Brother connections strong and demonstrating that you very personally care. Try it and see what happens. You may find this practice to be life-changing, as well as Chapter-changing.

**Resolve to... more intentionally connect with and support your clergy.**

**This pandemic season is incredibly stressful on them, too, and the isolation they feel can just be overwhelming.** This is yet another resolution that isn't all time consuming. A simple phone call, note, or even a quick text once a month demonstrating your interest in their well-being can mean so much for strengthening their ministry.



## **HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW SENIOR MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL PLEDGE/DUES YET FOR 2022?**



**YOUR \$50 GIFT IS CRITICAL TO STRENGTHENING THE MINISTRY OF THE BROTHERHOOD AS WE GROW AND EXPAND OUR COMMITMENT TO PRAYER-STUDY-SERVICE.**

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP WITH PAYPAL OR EXPLORE OTHER OPTIONS FOR SUPPORTING THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW BY CLICKING [BROTHERSANDREW.NET/DONATIONS/ANNUAL-MEMBERSHIP-RENEWAL.HTML](https://brothersandrew.net/donations/annual-membership-renewal.html)**

**THANK YOU FOR FAITHFULLY SUPPORTING THIS MINISTRY AND THE DIFFERENCE WE ARE MAKING TOGETHER LOCALLY, REGIONALLY, NATIONALLY, AND GLOBALLY.**

# The Work of Christmas

By Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among the people,  
To make music in the heart.



**Howard Washington Thurman** (November 18, 1899 – April 10, 1981) was an American author, philosopher, theologian, educator, and civil rights leader. As a prominent religious figure, he played a leading role in many social justice movements and organizations of the twentieth century.

Thurman's theology of radical nonviolence influenced and shaped a generation of civil rights activists, and he was a key mentor to leaders within the civil rights movement, including Martin Luther King Jr.

Thurman served as dean of Rankin Chapel at Howard University from 1932 to 1944 and as dean of Marsh Chapel at Boston University from 1953 to 1965. In 1944, he co-founded, along with Alfred Fisk, the first major interracial, interdenominational church in the United States.

#### Credits

- Biographical Info: Wikipedia
- Poem: This poem and others by Howard Thurman can be found in *The Mood of Christmas and Other Celebrations*, published by Friends United Press.

# FATHERHOOD COALITION HELPS LEAD WASHINGTON D.C. FEEDING PROGRAM

By Brother Franklyn M. Malone, Brotherhood St. Andrew  
Chairman of the Washington DC and DMV Fatherhood Coalition, CEO and Founder, The 100 Fathers Inc.

It all started out to be our annual feeding of at least 35 families by a cooperative effort of the Raymond Ross Reusam Chapter of the Brotherhood St. Andrew. We assisted the Our Savior Brookland Parish church efforts and thought nothing about our usual feeding of God's people. But then came the pandemic and things changed. Many of our usual consistent Brotherhood workers were out sick, in quarantine, or otherwise not able to participate mostly due to COVID-related issues.

A group led the Fatherhood Coalition stepped in to assist this year as we brought in young men and volunteers from Richard Wright Charter School, additional churches a fraternity, and other community organizations all dedicated to feeding God's people.

We got a call from Joy Allison Zucker-Tiemann of News Channel 4 that they needed a new location and some volunteers to unload 5,000 turkeys donated for the needy by Shady Brook Farms. What a tall order (and they had no forklift, either)! Using our connections with the Mayor's office we secured a forklift with help from the Office on Volunteers and were able to feed 5,000 and also gift each family with a \$25 gift card.

The work of the members of the Brotherhood is needed in these uncertain times. Just as Andrew walked to Jesus in faith we must come to serve and not be served. When I think about what faith can do, it makes me realize that nothing is impossible with our God!



Channel 4 News Joy Allison Zuckermen-Tiemann and Frank Malone, Brotherhood of St. Andrew



Delivering turkeys and gift cards at Our Savior Brookland Parish in Washington DC



Young Men of the Omega Institute volunteering and learning by example at 19th Street Baptist Church in Washington D.C.



Volunteers with the 5,000 Turkeys

## AN EVANGELISM STORY

By Brotherhood Member-At-Large Lyn Reavis, Round Top, TX

This past year, I have met four men who were complete strangers. One was a school teacher, another was retired, another one a carpenter (and a plumber, too), and—on Christmas Eve—I met a storekeeper. Somehow the conversation moved to ask them each if they were a veteran. The first survived Iraq, the second Vietnam. The third holds a Purple Heart and scars so deep and painful he must be here for a reason. The last was a product of those unwelcoming Vietnam years.

I asked all four to consider joining our little American Legion Post here in Round Top Texas, population 90. All four joined.

Then I recalled the Bible Study I had prepared for the Brotherhood Members-at-Large meeting on December 18, which I never got read, but Mathew 25 beginning at the 35<sup>th</sup> verse goes as follows:

*“for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me...”*

And I step back tonight typing this and wonder why did I ask them to join, why did I even have a conversation with them? Each one joined I hope not because I wanted them to, although the third one I really wanted to especially reach out to and do more. You see, we have him come to our house whenever he is free to work for us. I pay him for his work and then some and sometimes he brings a young man who is nearly blind and another who shares the work with him. My wife has come to believe he and his friends are sort of project for us.

I still wonder why we met but, when I read Matthew 25 again, I wondered. Did I come to meet them or did they come to meet me? And now I wonder that, if it was that easy for us to meet, are there Brothers tonight that simply need to talk and are there other men who are actively seeking God? Is there a knock on your door, a telephone ringing, a stranger before you who needs your attention?

They call the season of Christmastide a wondrous time of the year. Maybe now I know why. There are signs, wonders, and opportunities all around us as we seek to serve as Brothers Andrew. All it takes is being present, reaching out, and encountering the men already around you with a genuine spirit of invitation. Then, watch the blessings start to happen.



# GET READY FOR LENT

- Last Sunday after Epiphany February 27
- Shrove Tuesday March 1
- Ash Wednesday March 2

## A few quick ideas...

1. **Talk about it right now with your Chapter.** Lent has a tendency to slip up on us!
2. **Reinvent Shrove Tuesday pancake supper for pandemic times.** Prepaid orders and home pancake delivery? A Zoom pancake decorating content with persons in your parish? An outdoor socially-distanced Mardi Gras parade around your parish grounds or in a park? What could be unique and fun where your Chapter could lead?
3. **Adopt a Brotherhood daily ten-minute practice, beginning on Ash Wednesday, around the Brotherhood values of Prayer-Study-Service.** Example: Read one Bible verse and silently reflect on its meaning for three minutes. Take two minutes to add an unneeded item to a donation bag or a non-perishable item to a box of food. Pray for five minutes around the meaning of your reading and offering, as well as offer general intercessions for yourself, your loved ones, your church, your Chapter, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and the nation and world.

Watch for more ideas in our February issue.





## STAY IN THE CONVERSATION

**STAY CONNECTED WITH THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW**

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### EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS

Your purchases can help make a difference. Kroger and Amazon will donate a portion of your purchases to the Brotherhood.



- Go to [smile.amazon.com/about](https://smile.amazon.com/about)
- Read how the program works.
- Follow the directions to enroll and choose The Brotherhood of St. Andrew as your charity.



- Go to [www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards/](https://www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards/)
- Log in to your account or create one if you don't have one.
- Click on the **Enroll** button then search for Brotherhood of St. Andrew or the code YE249.
- Click on the **Enroll** button on the result to complete the process.

*Note: Some geographic areas are not eligible for this Kroger promotion. Consult your local store or contact the Brotherhood office if you have questions.*

### LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

The deadline for our February 2022 issue is January 27, 2022.  
Share your stories, photos, and ideas with us at [editor@brothersandrew.net](mailto:editor@brothersandrew.net).