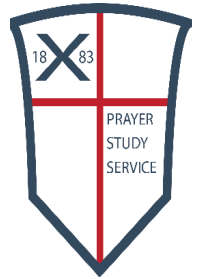


ST. ANDREW'S CROSS



JUNE 2018

National Council time in Texas nears

Presiding Bishop to address Brothers in Austin

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- *Registration form, page 4*
- *Agenda, page 4*
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- *Bishop's Advisory Council, page 14*

By Jim Goodson

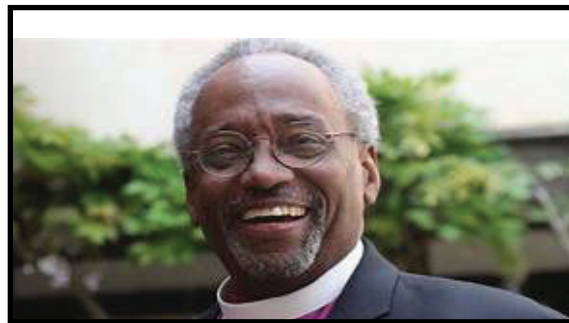
AUSTIN – When the Brotherhood of St. Andrew Triennial convention meets in Austin July 5-7, its seven national ministries will be on full display for Brothers to learn about and participate in, if they wish.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will address the Triennial on Thursday, July 5 at the Embassy Suites Arboretum.

“With all Bishop Curry has going on during the church’s General Convention, it’s an honor for us to hear from him at our Triennial,” Brotherhood President Jeff Butcher said. “It shows how important he feels the Brotherhood is to The Episcopal Church.”

In addition to the Presiding Bishop, other significant speakers will also address Brothers.

Forward Movement Executive Director The Rev. Canon



Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will address both the church’s General Convention and the Brotherhood’s Triennial Convention in early July in Austin, Texas.

Scott Gunn will deliver the keynote address Friday night and The Rev. Matt Marino will lead a mentoring workshop Saturday. He is associate rector and canon for mission, outreach and evangelism and pastor to young professionals at The Episcopal Church at St. John the Divine in Houston.

“This is as strong a schedule of speakers we’ve ever had,” President Butcher said. “And that’s saying something.”

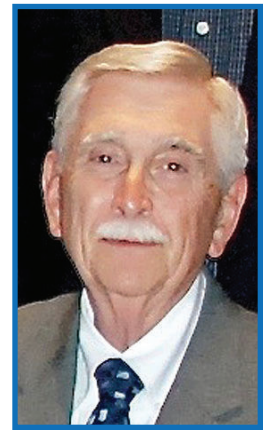
Reports from all seven of the national Brotherhood’s

ministries will be delivered on opening day Thursday, July 5. They are Recovery, Scouting, Veterans, Restorative Justice, Human Trafficking and Racial Reconciliation.

The Triennial will be held at the Embassy Suites Arboretum.

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Bishop's Advisory Council returns after 28 years



**President
Jeffrey Butcher**

During my brokerage business tenure starting as a cold-caller at E.F. Hutton in 1984; which later evolved to district manager at Waddell and Reed to Shearson-Lehmann Hutton and then onto PaineWebber-UBS, I observed numerous sales practices. One activity that was prevalent across the industry was the push to find the right sequence to attract and keep new clients.

Once this operational procedure was tied down, the broker would follow it to a letter for two to three years. Unfortunately, they stopped doing it and then wondered why they weren't getting new clients or why regular clients would leave.

My Brothers we have been guilty here, too. One of our key relationship building efforts successful for decades was our communications with the House of Bishops through a Bishop's Advisory Council. Out of sight, out of mind, some call it.

According to former national president Jerry Balcom, 1989 was last time we had an active voice in the House of Bishops through a Bishop's Advisory Council to the national president. This worked. We stopped doing it then wondered why we were not getting support from our local clergy.

Another practice we once observed was an annual visit with the Presiding Bishop. When we did this, we were taking on the role as the primary contact for men's ministry in the Church to him or her.

When Tom Welch and I left Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's office on May 8, he gave each of us his lapel pin so we would know we are partners once again.

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry has invited the following Brothers and Sister in Christ to form a Bishop's Advisory Council to the men's ministry community through the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

Please help me welcome: Bishops Brian Seage, Mississippi; Martin S. Field, Western Missouri; Russell Kendrick, Central Gulf Coast; W. Michie Klusmeyer, West Virginia; Mary Gray-Reeves, El Camino Real; Eugene T. Sutton, Maryland; and Lloyd Emmanuel Allen, Honduras.

The Presiding Bishop will formally introduce these Church leaders to us at the Triennial Convention prior to his address.

We are now positioned to move forward to create an all-inclusive men's ministry community. We are Biblically-based and Christ-centered. Our brothers and sisters are now learning we are a band of brothers serving our local parishes.

Carpe Diem!
Jeffrey K. Butcher, President

President Jeff Butcher can be reached at jeff.

Along with an annual meeting with the Presiding Bishop



Executive Director
Tom Welch

Heaven's Gate

By now you may have realized my part in the Directly Speaking section of this newsletter has been on those subjects and stories not specific to the administration of this office. That has been intentional. Like in your own lives, one builds meaningful relationships as you get to know more about them.

Such is the case between me and you the reader. I don't get to shake all your hands; only a portion of them. Consequently, the vast majority of you may not get to know me from in-person encounters. Rather they will come from social media, newsletters, ZOOM meetings, etc. In either case, by my taking the time to reach into your heart and soul with Directly Speaking the hope is you get to know my mind, heart and soul through these encounters via the *St. Andrew's Cross*.

Earlier this month I held "virtual office" from the grounds of Camp Bratton-Green-Duncan M. Gray Camp and Conference Center in the Diocese of Mississippi.

This particular week was especially noteworthy in that it was the 50th Anniversary Session of Special 1, a camp for adult children of God with diverse abilities.

My only child Anna Gail (now 20) staffed her first session some five years ago. It changed her life. Upon her return she began to patiently and persistently encourage me to staff one such session with her. Frankly, I balked at the invite, sharing with her in no way did I

feel led to that area of servant ministry.

After a year of pleading I gave in. It was at the conclusion of my first week at that particular camp session in 2015 that I completely surrendered my vocation to Christ. My conscious decision to give my life to Him took place in the fourth grade while a student in Dallas. He had my service under my terms for Him rather than His terms for me. Crass, naive and bold of me, I know. Such a stance changed that hot summer of 2015.

What resulted that week was what I coined Camp Surrender. The end result of that is my being with you today.

This month I was assigned the cabin that contained a couple of adult guests completely dependent or near completely dependent on "ADL's," or "activities of daily living." To understand what that means, think about you not being able to do on your own the first hour of your morning and every hour there after without some or complete assistance. That was the cabin I had. Here-to-fore, I simply staffed cabins with fully-functional adults who had just mental or emotional conditions. This time those conditions were coupled with significant physical challenges. In short, I was terrified of what loomed ahead and I had 24 hours to get my arms around it before our first guests were to arrive. I had four teen-age counselors in my cabin; one of whom was on assignment for the first time. The other three had done these sessions before. Charles was about to be a 12th grader. The rest were either in college or headed there in August.

All this anxiety was running through my soul but so was the Holy Spirit, calming me and instilling in me something wonderful was about to happen. Boom! The campers arrive. One shows up, I'll call him David, who was not happy to be there at all. He was combative and couldn't speak but he could and did shout something inaudible incessantly. (For more about this go to my blog, 4tomblog.wordpress.com and read the post

from 6.5.18)



Top photo from left are Tom Welch, volunteer staff member Rochelle Ledbetter Wilks and Anna Gail Welch. Below are 'Cabin Awesome' counselors Charles Jackson, Kyle Gay, Monty Williams and Zach Dick.



continued on page 12



TRIENNIAL 2018
July 5 - 7, 2018
Embassy Suites Arboretum
9505 Stonelake Blvd
Austin, TX 78759



Name: _____ Member / Chapter Number: _____

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

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Spouse/Guest [if attending]: _____

REGISTRATION FEES: Select the Registration Fee according to your participation (must be postmarked by April 15 to be eligible for lower fee) The fees below include registration fee and breakfast at the hotel each morning, dinner Thursday, lunch Friday, lunch and dinner Saturday as well as nightly reception as a hotel guest.

	Quantity	Early Registration Fee February 5 – April 15	Registration Fee April 16 – June 15	Amount Owed
Brotherhood Member Full 3 Day Registration		\$150.00	\$175.00	
Seminarian & Student		\$50.00	\$50.00	
Guest/Spouse 3 Day		\$80.00	\$80.00	
Saturday ONLY		\$80.00	\$80.00	
TOTAL DUE				\$

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Select the nights you will need a hotel room. If you need additional nights that are not listed below, please contact us directly. If you are room sharing, please let us know. The hotel requires 48 notice for cancellation; if less than 48 hours you will be responsible for 1st night.

	Quantity	Single Room	Double Room	Amount Owed
Wednesday, July 4		\$153.00	\$164.00	
Thursday, July 5		\$153.00	\$164.00	
Friday, July 6		\$153.00	\$164.00	
Saturday, July 7		\$153.00	\$164.00	
TOTAL DUE				\$

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

In order to avoid state tax of 6.5%, hotel reservations must be made directly with the Brotherhood The only form of payment for both the hotel and conference registration is with a check payable to “The Brotherhood of St. Andrew” Credit cards will not be accepted.

FLIGHT and TRAVEL: Austin’s airport is Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (IATA code AUS). From airport to the hotel use SuperShuttle.

SEND COMPLETED REGISTRATIONS TO:

NATIONAL OFFICE: [620 S. 3rd Street, Suite 302 Louisville, KY 40202](mailto:620.S.3rd.Street.Suite.302.Louisville.KY.40202)

PHONE (502) 450-5640

WEBSITE: www.brothersandrew.net

Revised as of June 15, 2018

Thursday July 5

9 am - Noon Board meeting in the Board Room
 10 am - 2 pm Registration in the lobby area outside of Remington Room
 2 - 3 pm Opening General Session
 I Call to order
 II Prayers
 III Role call and minutes
 IV President's address
 V Proposed revisions
3 - 3:45 pm Presiding Bishop's address
 3:45 - 4 pm Break
 4 - 5:45 pm Reports of the Seven Ministries of the Brotherhood
 I Recovery
 II Scouting
 III Veterans
 IV Discipleship/Mentoring
 Break
 V Restorative Justice
 VI Human Trafficking
 VII Racial Reconciliation
 5:45 - 6:30 pm Card Swap (bring a stack of 30-plus business cards)
 6:30 - 7 pm Social hour in the lobby area
 7 - 8 pm Supper and Compline

Friday, July 6

6 - 8:30 am Full breakfast
 8:30 - 8:45 am Morning Prayer
 8:45 - 9:15 am Episcopal Church Foundation Presentation
 9:15-9:45 am Initial Introduction/Discussion of Constitution and By Law changes
 Break
 9:45 - 10 am Budget presentation
 10 - 10:30 am Election of officers, voting on business matters
 10:30-11:45 am Noonday Prayers, lunch and Executive Director's address
 Break
 11:45 am - 1:15 pm Let's Stop Whispering About It: Evangelism
 Break
 1:15 - 1:45 pm Workshops (two being held concurrently/register at check-in on Thursday)
 1:45 - 2:15 pm Break
 2:15 - 2:25 pm Workshops (two being held concurrently/register at check-in on Thursday)
 2:30 - 3:30 pm Break
 3:30 - 3:45 pm Workshops (two being held concurrently/register at check-in on Thursday)
 3:45 - 4:45 pm Social time in the lobby (with live entertainment)
 5:30 - 7 pm Banquet, Officer Installation and Keynote Address by The Rev. Canon Scott Gunn, Forward Movement)
 7 - 8:45 pm

7 - 8:45 pm

Saturday, July 7

6:30 - 8:30 am
 8:30 am - 8:45 am
 9 am - 1 pm
 1 - 2 pm
 2 - 3:30 pm
 6 - 9 pm

Banquet, Officer Installation and Keynote Address (by The Rev. Canon Scott Gunn, Forward Movement)

Full breakfast
 Morning Prayer
 • Mentoring workshop and discussion
 • Facilitated by The Rev. Matt Marino, Associate Rector, St. John the Divine, Houston
 Lunch
 Closing Business session
 Optional Dinner and Entertainment hosted by the Episcopal Diocese of Texas for all with General Convention

Guest speakers

The Rev. Matt Marino is associate rector for mission, outreach, evangelism and young professionals at The Episcopal Church of St. John the Divine in Houston. Prior to that, he was vicar of multi-ethnic church plants in Phoenix and canon for youth and youth adults in The Episcopal Diocese of Arizona.

He has worked with young adults in mentoring settings for 30 years.



The Rev. Matt Marino

The Rev. Scott Gunn is executive director of Forward Movement, a ministry of The Episcopal Church focused on inspiring disciples and empowering evangelists. Forward Movement's flagship devotional *Forward Day by Day* is read by Anglicans around the globe.

He has served as a parish priest in Rhode Island and, prior to that, as a technical leader in non-profit and commercial organizations. He was educated at Luther College, Berkeley Divinity School at Yale and Brown University. You can follow him on Twitter (@scottagunn) or read his blog at sevenwholedays.org.



The Rev. Scott Gunn

Ailing woman's yard renewed

Both small and large projects are undertaken on National Service Day

By Keith Purser

Here is a report from various churches and their Brotherhood chapters about their April 28 National Service Day projects.

St. Andrews by the Sea Episcopal Church

NAGS HEAD, North Carolina - Brothers worked in the yard of a bedridden parishioner.

Here is an email they received afterwards

Thank you to Paul, Lucian, and Hank for volunteering their time and energy doing yard work at my home in Granby. My yard has not looked so good in many years! I am so grateful to them and your church for participating in the National Day of Service.

Regards,
Jane Archer

St. David's Episcopal Church

ASHBURN, Virginia - Brother Ken Courter organized a countywide Health and Wellness Expo to fulfill the need to provide health services to the otherwise underserved in Loudoun County, Virginia with free consultations and referrals in one central location, which was held during a day-long event Saturday, April 28.

Brother Ken asked for help from his Brotherhood chapter because the project was getting much more than he had dreamed. Several Brothers chipped in as our chapter's National Service Day project and to make the event the most successful the county had ever seen.

We designed posters, flyers, yard signs and slides for the local library digital bulletin boards in both English and Spanish versions. We helped set up displays, ran errands, acted as guides, help find lost parents, directed providers and sponsors to clients, brought in water and snacks, handed out schedules and maps and performed any other required tasks.

The 2018, April 28 Loudoun County Health and Wellness Expo was by all accounts a huge success with more than 75 provider organizations serving hundreds of attendees that would not otherwise have received these services.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, St. David's, Ashburn, VA, was proud to provide support for this worthwhile cause.

St. Peter and St. Paul Episcopal Church

MARIETTA, Georgia - The Brotherhood chapter at St. Peter and St. Paul partnered with Family Promise of Cobb County for its National Service Day project.

Family Promise offers a helping hand to those families who have been temporarily displaced from their homes, by housing, feeding and training them. The parish actively works with Family Promise, and many Brothers already participate, so this was a natural fit. Fourteen brothers met at the offices of Family Promise, and proceeded to clean up the playground, pull, dig, spray weeds, dig up rocks and clear the playground of any other items which would create an unsafe environment for the children.

After a thorough cleanup of the area, Brothers spread mulch over the entire area. The highlight of the work, though, was disposing of a huge stand of bamboo growing adjacent to the offices of Family Promise and some that had taken root inside the playground area.

The Brothers had a wonderful day of service and a great day of fellowship.

Good Shepard Anglican Church

GANBURY, Texas - Brothers Eric Oats, Vince Osborne, Fr. Stuart Smith, Fr. David Cardona, Bing Goodale, Ray Yoos, Bob Monson and Camp Director, Philip Craig attacked an unfriendly population of thistles and weeds in the Camp Crucis Horse Arena in Granbury on the BoSA National Day of Service, Saturday April 28, 2018 in preparation for summer youth camp.

Camp Crucis provides youth with a spiritual week filled with Christian activities and the opportunity to create lasting memories and lifelong friendships. Thank you to Camp Director Philip Craig for this incredible opportunity.

- Bob Monsom

Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

GADSDEN, Alabama - Our Chapter is not directly participating in the National Service Day, but shops for and makes 200 lunches for the needy hungry on the fourth Friday of every month, which this year fell on April 27.

On the 1st Saturday of every month we shop for and distribute 70 large grocery bags full of food items to those in need.

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Camps, carpets, churches get help

continued from page 6

Christ Church and Holy Cross churches

MOBILE, Alabama and PENSACOLA, Florida - Ninety years ago, the heirs of Bishop C.M. Beckwith donated a 40-acre tract of land adjacent to Weeks Bay (near Fairhope, Alabama) to the Episcopal Church. Generations of young men and women have subsequently contributed their time, energy and fortune to turn this diamond in the rough into the beautiful Camp Beckwith facility we have today.

Camp Beckwith has been alternatively described as a beautiful retreat, a spiritual sanctuary and as God's front yard. Each is appropriate and true. However, for the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, the description attributed to Dick Hooper (Christ Church, Pensacola) strikes me as most appropriate. "Beckwith is the glue which holds our Diocese together and brings us together to pray, work, and learn," Brother Hooper says.

Beckwith is a treasure available for all of us to share. Last year 900 young campers spent a week there. Six thousand adults attended retreats. Beckwith has also hosted Cursillo for 40 years and much, much more. Camp Beckwith is in constant service to our diocese. With such heavy traffic, even God's Front Yard needs some occasional TLC.

St. Peter and St. Paul Anglican Church

ARLINGTON, Texas - The Brotherhood of St. Andrew had eight Brothers clean more than 6,000 square feet of carpet in our parish's Great Hall. Brothers participating were: Rob Luke, Joe Francis, Dean Maurer, David Moller, Nate Hyde, Thomas Harlan, Joe Sarabia, Tim Burke and Steve Hawrylak.

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

MANCHACA, Texas - Brothers power washed their church building and made various repairs, including repairs to tables and other items. Brothers brought lunches, and had a great day of work and fellowship.

St. Lukes Episcopal Church

ANCHORAGE, Kentucky - Brothers made major repairs and improvements at Green Hill Equine Therapy.

Green Hill provides horse rides and therapy to more than

200 mentally and physically challenged children annually. Brothers built a safety barrier for the indoor arena to protect children. In addition to painting the safety barrier, they also painted the balcony rail, balcony stair rail, and arena gym wall.

Brothers also installed two rails in the horse wash area, hung a barn gate, leveled water troughs in several pastures and set the Green Hill sign at facility entrance.

In addition to this heavy duty work day, Brothers also prepared lunch for all workers and attendees. Brothers did outstanding work for this most worthy non profit and enjoyed an outstanding day of service.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA - The Holy Trinity Chapter hosted a men's breakfast for a dozen men and constructed a hope chest.

Brothers also started a fundraising drive to replace the 20-plus year old carpet in their sanctuary. The effort was most successful, raising more than \$7,500 in two weeks.

St. Lukes Episcopal Church

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas - Brothers made repairs to the church parking lot and power-washed and cleaned areas around the church offices.

Plants were purchased and planted in the church's Rainbow Bridge Pet Memorial Garden. Brothers also purchased and replaced 20+ LED lights and light bar in the church as well as completing other various projects in the parish hall.

Brothers also provided assistance with the Church's Quarterly Veteran's Dinner, which provides food, entertainment, gifts and fellowship to homeless veterans participating in the re-entry program at the St. Francis House.

St. Martin in the Fields

AURORA, COLORADO - Despite cold and blustery conditions, Brothers at St. Martin in the Fields cleaned up their campus and grounds in preparation for their annual Pentecostal picnic. Under the direction of Director Kevin Doyle, eight

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Brothers from St. David's Episcopal Church in Ashburn, Virginia participated in the National Day of Prayer in Leesburg, Virginia. From left are Richard Nutwell, David Fish, Conrad Jones, Buz Price, Bob Fisher, Philip Martin and Ted Miller participate in the National Day of Prayer in Leesburg, Va.

continued from page 7

Brothers mowed grass, trimmed sidewalk grass and edges, pruned shrubs and bushes, cleaned out drainage ditches, and cleaned up the maintenance shed.

To show the parish their skills were not limited to yard work, Brothers also hung banners in the Sanctuary, set up the parish hall for the feast, cooked and served parishioners, and even cleaned up the parish hall afterwards.

St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church

ARROYO GRANDE, California - Brothers at St. Barnabas' put together goodie bags assembled by other members of the congregation. Bags contained snacks, water, handwipes, other items and were distributed by the Brothers through the local homeless coalition.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

BROOKLYN, New York - Brothers at St. Mark's worked with Lutheran men to perform a beautification project, at Queens Library, Rockaway, New York. Landscaping was done, including planting of flowers to spruce up this community landmark.

St. Bede's Episcopal Church

FOREST GROVE, Oregon - Brothers from St. Bede's worked on a local Habitat for Humanity project. As they'd planned this and were working with other partners, the project did not take place on the National Service Day, but instead the following week.

Thank you to all the Brothers who participated in the 2018 National Day of Service and to Dick Hooper, Bob Dennis, Bob Munsom, Keith Purser and to all who sent reports to the St. Andrew's Cross.

How do we do it?

Virginia chapter's growth continues, along with its ministries

By **W. Conrad Jones**

ASHBURN, Virginia - I hear this question so many times posed by members of my parish: "What is it about the Brotherhood that has made it such a growing and vibrant part of our church?"

What is that secret formula we came up with three-and-a-half years ago yet to encounter the speedbumps that so many other groups or ministries experience?

For those 47 men I call "Brother," every time we see each other, we know what that secret formula is.

St. Philip's Episcopal Church is a relatively new parish only 28-years-old and we have formed and dissolved a "men's groups" many times.

Previous groups were combination social-and-service groups that met irregularly and maybe had Scripture-based book or video series we tried to follow. Nothing seemed sustainable, no matter how hard we tried. But then, in what could be described as a real Pentecostal moment, Karl Colder and I were asked ("strongly encouraged") by the late The Very Reverend Dr. Emmanuel Johnson to form a Brotherhood of St. Andrew chapter.

We first visited the home chapter of our Province III President Ken Evans to see what this Brotherhood thing was all about, and how we might follow a similar "model." It became clear that we needed a foundational platform of prayer, Scripture study, service to others and each other and ... FOOD! Yes, sorry to toss that out as the fourth pillar, but experience proves ... you serve food, men will come (more on that in a bit)!

We did our homework. We received materials from National to help steer us on our journey: promotional

brochures, clergy information, copies of *The St. Andrew's Cross*, we put together an operational guidelines document to keep us grounded on how we would be organized and what our purpose would be going forward.

We fixed a "hearty" breakfast and met for our in-

augural meeting in March 28, 2015.

Twenty-five men pledged to be charter members of this new group, dedicated to prayer, service and study. Having an identity also gave us a sense of comradery and a common bond.

Others in the church knew who we were by what we did (some even jokingly referred to us as The Boys In The Hood)! We began to

witness to other men what it meant to share our prayers and faith journeys with each other in a bond of fellowship.

Today, those original 25 have now grown to 47 paid and active members. We meet regularly twice a month. We eat a meal together. We pray for those on our hearts and on our prayer list and we pray for our own thanksgivings (and even throw a few dollars in the kitty when we offer up a special thanksgiving prayer).

We study the next Sunday's Gospel reading and have deep, meaningful and revealing discussions about Scripture. We actively support our domestic outreach team by collecting food in the spring, coats in winter, and books for inmates and we help staff our County Health and Wellness Fair.

We've visited and provided meals for wounded veterans and their families. We give carnations to all the women of our church on Mother's Day and sponsor and cook for the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and



The Brotherhood chapter at St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Ashburn, Virginia has almost doubled its membership since 2015.

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Virginia Brothers support ministries

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Brotherhood Installation services happen often at St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Ashburn, Virginia. The 28-year-old church' Brotherhood chapter has grown from 25 to 47 members in three years. Above, Brothers cook a meal for veterans and their families. Below, Brothers study the next week's Gospel reading with a subsequent discussion.



invite senior citizens to come for free. We're continually inviting male newcomers and visitors to our church to join us for a "test drive." We hold our annual B4 (Bible, Beef, Bird and Brotherhood) cookout in June for all men and guests and our "God and Cod" Feast of St. Andrew in December. We hold cookouts for the youth group and host an annual Epiphany Bonfire celebration.

But not the least, we proudly wear our distinctive lapel pins and always greet each other (loud enough so others around can hear) by calling each other "Brother."

So what makes us different now that we are a Brotherhood and not simply another men's group? We have structure, purpose, identity, a mission and we are committed ... committed to support each other in our faith journey and to sharing the good news of Christ to other men just as Andrew did.

We feel God's presence whenever we are all together and the power of our prayers being answered. It is a group that helps in our spiritual growth, fellowship, prayer and worship with our brothers in Christ, leads us to mentoring our younger generation, and opportunities for service to our church and community.

Our lives transformed. We were no longer just a group of men, we are a Brotherhood of Christian men.

Visit our webpage at <http://www.sdlife.org/brotherhood-of-st-andrew.html>.

Kairos: 'Gods Time' to inmates

Dallas Brothers learn about its effective ministries in prisons nationwide

By Jim Goodson

FARMERS BRANCH, Texas - Kairos prison ministries offer a reliable, proven way to conduct ministries to incarcerated people and their families.

That's what The Rev. Phil Snyder said to the Dallas Brotherhood assembly June 2 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. "A Kairos weekend is being conducted every weekend somewhere," Fr. Snyder said. "And it's the result of years of learning and planning. Each weekend takes several months to put together.

"Kairos began in 1976 and initially was an attempt to bring Cursillo into prisons. It was soon adopted to the prison environment. In 1979 Kairos was officially created. The word Kairos, is a Greek

word meaning in God's special time or in the fullness of time indicating an opportunity for our participants and guests to re-consider their life choices."

Kairos is in some 500 prisons nationwide, 37 states and nine countries, Fr. Snyder said, adding that it's a

prayer-based ministry.

"The message we deliver to the inmates is 'you are not alone,' " Fr. Snyder said.

A Kairos weekend (Friday at 6 p.m. to Sundays at 3 p.m.) at a prison or jail is divided into outside and inside teams, Fr. Snyder said. The outside team provides a ministry to the families of incarcerated inmates. "A prison term has a devastating impact on the spouse and children," Fr. Snyder said. "The outside ministry is as important as anything we do."

The outside ministry's food is important.

"The inmates really love the food we bring – and it's a massive amount. All of it is homemade. "The food in prisons is pretty bad," Fr. Snyder said. "We know some of the inmates come just for the food, but it's OK."

The simple message that God forgives your sins is especially powerful inside a prison, Fr. Snyder said. "We talk a lot about opening doors and that the door must be opened from the inside."

Although Kairos considers its success is measured by how many hearts are brought to know the Lord, statistics provide solid evidence of the ministries. The recidivism rate (percent of convicted inmates who commit other crimes after being released from a correctional facility) is significantly lower for institutions that allow Kairos to come inside, Fr. Snyder said.

"In Texas, the recidivism rate for prisons without Kairos is 23.5 percent," Fr. Snyder said. "A prison that has one weekend per year is 15.7 percent. And a prison that has regular Kairos weekends and a weekly prayer group, the rate drops to 10 percent."

Fr. Snyder is a deacon at Trinity Episcopal Church in Dallas and can be reached at Philip_L_Snyder@yahoo.com.

Jim Goodson can be reached at jimgoodson@aol.com.



Deacon The Rev. Phil Snyder addresses the Dallas Assembly June. He was invited to help Brothers learn more about prison ministries.

Bring others to experience their ‘Heaven’s Gate’

continued from page three

By the end of the week, David had become the one where I saw Christ at work, changing me more than changing David. By the joy on his face, the gratitude he expressed in his own special way and the smiles on the faces of the counselors who made it happen.

The point to this story with you today is that God works with and through us, often despite us. Four remarkable teenage men and I got to peak into Heaven’s Gate through our time with what the world often sees as “the least of these.” What we saw was something more beautiful than we could possibly imagine.

One of the counselors in my cabin was Monty, an offensive lineman for his college football team. He said he had literally cried more than he ever imagined at what he was seeing, at who he was serving. For a big ole guy with at least a

50-inch chest expressing such, that was something to behold. The week completely set him back.

We were all taken back, or more specifically thrown forward to Heaven’s Gate, to see more clearly what the Kingdom truly looks like. On the last night we each shared how we had seen Christ that week. We had a picture a picture of us taken. I prayed over and for them when our time was done. The week stretched from time of “holy moments” to “holy foolishness” and lives were changed. Before we knew it, the week was over. We returned to our “normal” lives and in a matter of days wished we were back at camp.

Where in your life do you get a glimpse of “Heaven’s Gate?” Bring others to that Gate, won’t you? The world will never be the same.

Executive Director Tom Welch can be reached at tom.welch@brothersandrew.net.

Three Episcopal organizations converge in Texas’ capital

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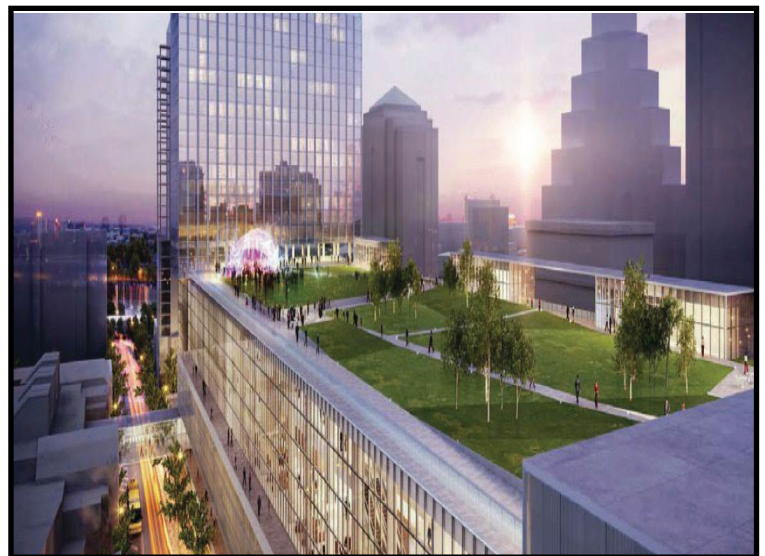
Additional information is available online at www.brothersandrew.net, in the Spring 2018 and February 2018 editions of the *St. Andrew’s Cross* (also available at www.brothersandrew.net).

As of May 15, some 44 Brothers have registered and more are expected as the convention approaches. President Butcher says he expects close to 100 Brothers to attend.

Given the vast number of Episcopalians in downtown Austin that weekend, it should be an informative and fun pair of events.

Meanwhile the Episcopal Church General Convention, meeting July 3-15 at the Austin Convention Center will address, among several topics, finding a way to navigate evangelism and church planting, studying the relationship between seminaries and the Episcopal Church, socially responsible investing, the use of carbon offsets, the stewardship of creation and racism, diversity and bias training for church institutions, among many other worldly topics.

In addition to the General Convention and the Brotherhood Triennial Convention, the Episcopal Church Women will also meet in Austin on July 5-11, also at the Austin Convention Center.



The gleaming Austin Convention Center.

Their agenda includes workshops on social justice and giving back, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom, teaching, baptizing and nurturing new believers, responding to human need by loving service, seeking to transform unjust structures of society and striving to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Culture of leadership change gets results

By Tom Welch

One of the things I learned when I began working with you a year ago this month, was that a pivot in the culture of leadership was underway.

When the culture of leadership changes the culture of its organization changes in a rapid time frame. I have seen the energy boom over these last several months. "How Do You Do What You Do?" featured in this edition of the *St. Andrew's Cross* speaks to those things that work at the grass roots level and how that impacts our seven ministries across the board.

In the last year your senior leadership has been involved with in-person meetings at the highest levels within the Anglican Communion of North America and The Episcopal Church. As you may know by now, Board President Jeff Butcher and I met at "815" with the Presiding Bishop. At his direct urging we have met (via ZOOM) with some on his staff. That has resulted in a dynamic shift by The Episcopal Church in its support of Boy Scouting, thanks largely to Scouting's recent expansion of inclusiveness in their ranks.

In turn, that has a direct impact on our ability to "have a seat at the table" with the Boy Scouts of America for the first time in nearly a decade.

In another area of Episcopal Church ministry, the Office of Formation, Youth and Young Adult Ministries, we now have an invitation to be an Exhibitor at the next Triennial Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) in Baltimore set for 2020. There we will be able to introduce ourselves to more than 800 youth. At the 2020 EYE we will begin to establish and re-establish relationships to more than 600-700 adult leaders to Episcopal Church youth. These two expansions alone have huge implications to our long-term mission in growing our own ranks.

Another direct result of our time with the Presiding Bishop was his request for me to draft a letter on his behalf to the seven candidates to the Bishop's Advisory Council (BAC); one for each of our seven ministries. That letter was subsequently mailed by the PB.

Since then we have already become involved with dialogue among some of the Bishop's Advisory Council members. The reply was nearly instant. The council will have an invitation to join Bishop Curry at our convention in Austin when he addresses our opening session

It's as if a pebble thrown into the middle of a lake by the Presiding Bishop himself has created a ripple effect across the land with regard to the Brotherhood being a recognized es-



Brotherhood President Jeff Butcher and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry look over candidates for the Bishop's Advisory Council.

photo by Tom Welch

sential player in evangelism.

Frankly, we have earned the respect to be heard, engaged and impactful through our tenants of prayer, study and service by the rank and file membership by our Brothers. Thank you Brothers Andrew!

I cannot adequately applaud these slow, steady steps by you at the chapter level all the way to senior leadership and how they have brought us to this point. Now it is up to the current membership to grow our ranks exponentially pushing the average age of our member down by 15-20 years. I believe you have the ability for the first time since John F. Kennedy was president to have a real impact on youth and young adults through our ministry to men and youth.

As we do that, our membership will grow rather than diminish.

There are even more new dialogues going on among affiliated ministries of the church that are not quite ready for public rollout, but I assure you our ranks will be pleased when we make these relationship announcements.

Have you noticed how the word "relationship" keeps coming up? Living in relationship changes things. Please add me and your National Council to the prayer list at your chapters for these efforts to expand our impact in the Kingdom.

I covet your prayers, as does our senior leadership.

Executive Director Tom Welch can be reached at tom.welch@brothersandrew.net

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH

June 5, 2018

The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick
Diocese of Central Gulf Coast
201 N. Baylen Street
Pensacola, FL 32502

My dear brothers and sisters,

A few months back, the Rt. Rev. Paul Lambert sent you a letter asking you to be part of a Bishop Advisory Council to the men's ministry in our church, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew (BStA). I have been familiar with them since I served as rector of St. James Church in Baltimore. At the time, we had an active chapter of 100 or so members.

On May 8, I met with the Brotherhood's board president, Jeff Butcher, and their executive director, Tom Welch at the Church Center. Part of my discussion with them included the two of them re-establishing a Bishop Advisory Council. This seven-member body speaks to a specific area of their ministry; attached you will find the listing of your fellow members in this council.

Here is what this invitation will *not* involve: routine monthly meeting among the seven of you, Tom and Jeff. Nor will it involve having to travel anywhere. Rather what it will involve, and what I ask of you, is to be a sounding board to these two men via a Zoom meeting or conference call they would coordinate with you individually, rather than collectively. The topic would be limited to the theme which Bishop Lambert recommended of mutual interest within their seven ministries between you, the board president and executive director. I have found each of you well-suited to that particular ministry.

You would meet not more frequently than quarterly and not less than once a year for 30-45 minutes from wherever you may be located that day. They have a long-term vision for deepening their relationship and activity level within these mutual areas of evangelism. Should any of you have any specific questions I encourage you to speak to one of these bishops, go to www.brothersandrew.net, see their "ministries" tab and other information or call their National Office directly at 502/450-5640.

The Brotherhood will hold their triennial convention July 5-7 in Austin and have a booth at the Austin Convention Center. I will speak to them during their opening session at 3:00 pm on July 5 at the Embassy Suites Arboretum, a 15-minute drive from the convention center. It is my hope you will join me at that time so that we can make formal introductions.

I feel strongly about the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's renewed mission of bringing men and boys to Christ. They have been at it since 1883, and I very much look forward to seeing the ways your insight and experience will help them increase their evangelism efforts. I remain

Your brother in Christ,



The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate
The Episcopal Church

The Most Reverend Michael Curry
PRESIDING BISHOP AND PRIMATE



815 Second Avenue • New York, NY 10017 800.334.7626

P 212.716.6273 F 212.697.5892 • sjones@episcopalchurch.org

Bishop's Advisory Council members, ministries

Rt. Rev. Brian Seage
Recovery
Diocese of Mississippi

Rt. Rev. Martin S. Field
Veterans
Diocese of West Missouri

Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick
Evangelism
Diocese of Central Gulf Coast

Rt. Rev. W. Michie Klusmeyer
Scouting and Youth
Diocese of West Virginia

Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves
Diversity
Diocese of El Camino Real

Rt. Rev. Eugene T. Sutton
Racial Reconciliation and Healing
Diocese of Maryland

Rt. Rev. Lloyd Emmanuel Allen
Hispanic
Multi-Cultural
Diocese of Honduras