

Outreach

Outreach is a witness of our faith beyond our doors. St. Andrew's does this in many ways including financial support and sharing of our time and talents. Our members engaged in mission and ministry across a broad spectrum of activities both within and without parish walls.

We continued to support and pray for our partners in mission in 2014: Covenant to Care, Madison Food Pantry, Raise the Roof/ Habitat for Humanity (formerly Madison Cares), and our sponsored Ugandan orphans, Cathy, Timothy, Calvin, and Joyce Mary. In addition, we provided funds for two disadvantaged students from Hartford to attend a week of Camp Washington in summer 2015.

Working with Covenant to Care, St. Andrew's provides support to a DCF social worker and the children in her caseload. We provide backpacks filled with school supplies and Christmas gifts for children in the New Haven area. Our annual food drives contribute over 1000 pounds of dry and canned goods to the Madison Food Pantry each year. In addition, our "Souper Bowl" gifts provide food to the Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Community Dining Room in Branford. We partnered with New Haven Home Recovery, a non-profit agency that operates three shelters for women with dependent children, and collected pillows and diapers.

We support our members when they need us most by providing meals through our Loaves and Fishes program.

From the very youngest to our young at heart, our music ministry members share their talents beyond Sunday mornings during events such as Twelfth Night, Cabaret Night, musicals and plays. We collaborated with neighboring faith communities in a Bluegrass Concert, Evensong and an Interfaith service. We have discovered commonalities in our faith and demonstrated it through song.

We came together to share and celebrate at our Spaghetti Supper, Mardi Gras Supper, Parish Picnic, Family BBQ, Holiday Fair, and Progressive Dinner.

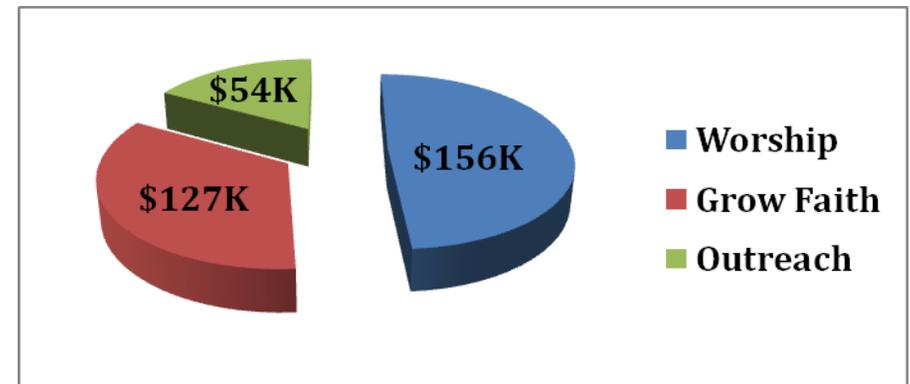
We support our diocese through our diocesan pledge.

Outreach has been allocated \$54,451 or 16% of our budget.

A Narrative Budget for

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church 2015

"To deepen faith and transform the world as



Christ calls us through joyful worship, music, study, and service to others"

Your Church Vestry has approved a comprehensive plan of ministry to continue with our vision of growing our community, growing our faith, and growing our mission in 2015.

Worship

Worship is at the center of our spiritual life. Our goal is to provide meaningful, life-enriching worship services throughout the year. We offer three services a week, and in 2014 we celebrated 164 Eucharist and prayer services. On average, 134 people gathered weekly to praise God. On Sundays, acolytes, chalice bearers, vergers, altar guild members, altar flower arrangers, ushers, lectors, musicians, choristers, the Rector, and the congregation proclaim a most visible and central act of ministry in the church, which is worship. There is much that takes place in preparation for a service that is invisible to those attending.

There are times when our parishioners need more personal and private attention. During the year Clergy and Lay Ministers regularly visited and celebrated Eucharist with five homebound parishioners sharing in God's love. Father Steve made 55 pastoral visits, and numerous pastoral phone calls. In addition, we held special services of healing to complement the prayers offered by our healing team on Sunday and Wednesday mornings.

We welcomed 18 new members into our Parish in 2014. Father Steve performed three weddings, baptized seven into new life in Christ; the Bishop confirmed two adults, all witnessed by friends and family.

We also blessed numerous furry and scaled friends at our Blessing of the Animals service and all animals from dogs, cats, and hamsters to hermit crabs and guinea pigs were recognized as part of God's Kingdom.

Our care of our facilities is important to us and in 2014 we repaired portions of the parking lot in need of repaving. We were able to install energy efficient windows in the classroom wing and Farmer Hall.

We have allocated \$155,793 or 46% of our budget to Worship.

God asks that we give our time, talent and treasure for the remaking of the world in God's image. Our mission and ministry will always be a work in progress. Our response to God's call to us, through Christ, will stretch us to be more of who God wants us to be.

Growing our Faith

We strive to nurture children, youth and adults in their faith journey. We have 47 children registered in our Sunday School program, from pre-K through 8th grade, using all of the preschool classrooms and the multipurpose classroom #1.

Children and youth have additional means by which they can learn about faith through participating in events ranging from the Christmas pageant to being part of a youth group. We have 22 children in our middle school and high school youth groups. In 2015, we are excited to announce that we are expanding our programming to include a Shoreline Youth group. We are helping to fund a new Shoreline Youth Minister who will gather young people from eight Episcopal churches.

Our Town Hall style Sunday morning forum schedule of rotating discussions of Theology (1st Sunday), Life at St. Andrew's (2nd Sunday), Outreach (3rd Sunday), and The Diocese and Beyond (4th Sunday) will continue in 2015. Father Steve will again offer a Lenten Adult Ed program in 2015. We will conduct an all-parish book discussion based on C.S. Lewis's Screwtape Letters during Lent.

Our Women's Spirituality Book Group and our Men's Group met all year and will continue in 2015.

In the monthly Messenger we share our stories and our journey with Christ in the column Faces of Our Faith. Sometimes it is difficult to share our personal stories but we are all encouraged to participate in this growth.

We have allocated \$127,210 or 38% of our budget to Growing our Faith.