

THE CROSS



AUGUST 2019

THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

Prayer, Study, and Service

The Episcopal and Anglican Newsletter of Men's Ministry

WHAT IS YOUR
FAITH STORY?
WHAT IS YOUR
BROTHERHOOD STORY?

Our Ministries

- Discipleship/Mentoring
- Human Trafficking
- Mentor Network Training
- Prison/Restorative Justice
- Racial Reconciliation
- Recovery
- Scouting
- Veterans

Find out more and join us in sharing Christ's reconciling love in a hurting world.

BrothersAndrew.net | TheCross.Online



The President's Corner

CHANGES

President Jeff Butcher
jeff.butcher@brothersandrew.net



We have seen numerous changes in the last four years. Most of them were a direct response to the Survey Monkey survey we did in 2013-14. Everything you asked us to focus on we have done in one fashion or another. At every turn, Jesus Christ was there guiding our way. We quickly learned we were on God's timetable, not ours.

One focus was emphatic: improve our relationship with Bishops and their clergy. This is what we have engineered:

- ▶ Made two visits to the Presiding Bishop's office (first time in 29 years);
- ▶ Re-established a Bishop's Advisory Council;
- ▶ Created a modern exhibit for the major convention circuit (i.e. General Convention);
- ▶ Communicated in person with 30 percent of diocesan bishops. Goal: 100% by 2021;
- ▶ West coast tour to meet bishops, staff, and Brotherhood Chapters. Yes, Seattle to San Diego.

The results are just now being felt. Hold on, more is coming.

We continue our dialogue and relationships among our brothers in the Anglican Church of North America (ACNA). We attended Quincy Diocesan Synod; the ACNA Provincial Synod in Wheaton, IL; and two Men's Ministry Retreats in South Carolina.

A highlight to our response to the Strategic Plan set forth in 2016 was the unexpected opportunity to address the House of Bishops (HOB). We are preparing a three-minute informational podcast plus a complete fact sheet packet for each Diocesan Bishop. Executive Director Brother Tom Welch will represent us at this September meeting for two afternoons of Question/Answer sessions.

"Every clergy member deserves to learn how we are changing lives through our rule of life."

This is quite an honor for us. We've had no such opportunity in at least 50 years.

Currently, due to unfortunate health conditions and deaths, we are down 15 to 52 active diocesan coordinators out of 101. In the remaining 34 dioceses, we either have no presence or a minimal footprint with Members-at-Large (MAL). In the latter grouping, we are going to ask each Diocesan Bishop to give us two or three

names of individuals we could interview for a Diocesan Coordinator.

The criteria for the positions are individuals between the ages of 35 to 50 years who have participated in the one or more of the following areas: Alpha, Cursillo, Vocare, Happening, KAIROS, Vestry, Verger, EFM, a youth leader or Boy Scout Volunteer, and/or a Veteran.

How can Brothers help make a difference? Right now, we need men to step forward who can conduct presentations to invite others to join our community. Three other areas that will be crucial are your personal stories on why the Brotherhood is special to you. The second area is Chapter reports that will enable us to share your community contributions with others. Lastly, if you haven't offered a ministry pledge for this year please do so. All of these components are critical for expanding our tenants of prayer, study, and service in the digital age.

We thank you for your continued support through your ministry pledges. These dollars have made all this possible. I pray now you will understand how important your annual reports are to the overall men's ministry movement. Every clergy member deserves to learn how we are changing lives through our rule of life.



Directly Speaking

DOUBT LEADS TO JOY

Tom Welch, Executive Director
tom.welch@brothersandrew.net

I don't know about you, but there are days when I wonder, "Can this all possibly get done in time or on target?" In our careers, some of us paid good money for Executive Coaches to get this done more efficiently. Sometimes, though I wonder. How much anxiety could we have avoided if, at the very onset of a project, we—as the old hymn goes—"take it to God in prayer?"

"Son, you have to put feet to your prayers if you want things to get done."

this year. At the same time, many in the "church" in general are happy to only have a net loss of one or two per cent over the previous year. Simple math shows that trend, if consistent, leads ultimately to zero. So, when we are going in the opposite direction of net growth, heads turn.

Here's where the doubt turns to joy. My hope was to present



Brotherhood Executive Director Tom Welch spoke this summer at the Union of Black Episcopalians meeting in Los Angeles. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is now a life member of the Union of Black Episcopalians.

With the increased levels of activity on multiple fronts, it becomes most effective when we have delegated some projects to capable volunteers and paid staff. We have expanded our efforts to aid the local level in growing our message. This month we added a part-time Office Administrator at the office in Louisville. We have seen an immediate

ourselves to the leading clergy leadership bodies of both the Episcopal and Anglican communities. We are well on our way there; ahead of schedule and venue exposure, in fact. What's the take-away from all of this? My father used to say "Son, you have to put feet to your prayers if you want things to get done."

Your leadership team has put "feet to their prayers" and has begun to experience success. Joy is a better term, beyond their expectations. In your own lives, where have you found joy beyond measure? Share that "Good News" with others and give credit to the throne of God. After all, that's where you took it to begin with, right? Let's take a listen to "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" and imagine the possibilities that freedom can give.

improvement in our efficiency to respond to the opportunities you provide.

I've been a partner with you in ministry now just over two years. The first six months were on a part-time basis, by the way. In that time we have seen an 11% net increase in membership for 2018. That happens because you have felt inspired to do your part in evangelism. We are on target for another net increase



youtu.be/znWu2HCJ92c



BIG HAPPENINGS IN THE LONE STAR STATE

By Don Brast, Brotherhood of St. Andrew, Episcopal Diocese of Texas

Brothers in the Episcopal Diocese of Texas held their 13th Brotherhood of St. Andrew Golf Tournament May 29, raising \$25,000 for a variety of important ministries. This year's

tournament especially honored veterans. Over 30 veterans played in the tournament this year for free, with sponsors paying for their registration fees. Also new this year was a clergy trophy competition during the tournament. Any team with at least one clergy person on it qualified to win a traveling trophy. Recognition was also given for low



team score and high team score.

Much of the proceeds from the golf event will be used for the annual Brotherhood of St. Andrew Boys Retreat in October. Some 75 young men, mostly from inner city single-parent homes, will experience a weekend of activities at Camp Allen. Other organizations and ministries that have benefited from golf tournament proceeds include Camp Good News, Positive Black Males, Lord of the Streets, El Buen Samaritano in Austin, St. Timothy's "Inside the Walls" retreat, and the Hope Center.

Each year, Episcopal Diocese of Texas Brothers award a \$2,000 college scholarship out of golf tournament funds. This year's scholarship winner, Abigail Sawyer, wrote, "It will be very helpful in covering scholastic necessities such as tuition and books! The Episcopal Church has provided me so much throughout my life and I hope to find a way to give back during my time at the University of Texas. It was so kind of ya'll to make a personal appearance at my church. It meant a lot to me, my family, and my fellow parish members."



GOLF TOURNAMENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Did you know resources for organizing your own golf tournament are available on our *The Cross* web container of resources at thecross.online?

There you will also find resources for creating bulletins, posters, fliers, ads, church bulletin boards, and other general promotional tools for the Brotherhood. Do you have a special need for resources related to a promotional activity your Chapter is sponsoring?

Let us know what you may need at editor@brothersandrew.net



See Also: **What Can a Scholarship Program Do for Your Chapter?** on page ten.

JUDGMENT JAIL

*By Sloane Graff, Chapter Director,
St. Francis in the Fields, Harrods Creek KY*



I used to be a very judgmental person. If I met you, I would consider your appearance or your speech or your job or where you were from and I would judge you. I would be your judge, jury, and jailer. I would put you in my little jail and throw away the key. Sometimes life's circumstances might let me get to know you and change my feelings, but most likely you were going to remain in my little judgment jail for eternity.

I had a very powerful experience where God, thankfully, disciplined me in regards to my judgmental tendencies. I was at a chapel service at a seminary and a guest speaker came to the podium. He was a very skinny guy with a shaved head. He had some tattoos and an earring, as I remember. He also had a wispy scraggly, little goatee. I thought to myself: "Who is this freak? What a weirdo!"

Well, this freak, this weirdo, this prisoner in my judgment jail, proceeded to give one of the most beautiful and powerful sermons I have ever heard. It literally brought tears to my eyes. It turns out that he ran a street ministry in Houston, serving street people, drug addicts, prostitutes, and the homeless. His "weirdo" look helped him gain credibility with these lost and hopeless people. Many of them could relate more comfortably to his appearance. God had gifted him with the desire and the ability to relate the Gospel to this often desperate population.

Continued on page ten.

A TRUE STORY OF GOD'S LOVE

*By Robert L. Campbell, IV; Brotherhood member,
Church of the Holy Communion, Memphis, TN*



Several years ago, after experiencing a series of blackouts, I was hospitalized for a battery of tests. I was diagnosed with heart disease and was told that I must have triple bypass open-heart surgery very soon. Being the curious, analytical type, I found a very graphic website showing in great detail what would be done to me. A BIG mistake!

On the morning of my surgery, after undergoing the humiliation of being completely body-shaved by two female attendants, I had some prayers with a clergyman from my church, kissed my wife and family, and was wheeled away on a gurney to the cardiac pre-op area. The temperature of this room brought chills, as did remembering what I had seen on the Internet. Viewing tile walls and everyone rushing around in surgical scrubs, I was reminded that I was alone with no family able to join me in this area. I was sincerely alone and frightened, knowing what was about to be done to me.

I closed my eyes and asked for help. I said the Lord's Prayer and the 23rd Psalm. Before being moved and put under anesthesia minutes later, all my fear was gone.

I will remember the feeling of relief as long as I live.

Have you shared your story yet? The deadline to do so and win a prize has been extended to December 31. See page nine for details.

**A
NEW
SONG
TO
SING**



Here's something new to sing—a nice way to welcome Brothers back from Summer vacation to the Fall church year. These lyrics provide a good summary about what Brotherhood members believe and do.

Singing this at a church event can serve as a good introduction for potential Brotherhood members. Please share how you used this song and what happened to editor@brothersandrew.net

*Sung to the Common
Domain Melody "O, God, Our
Help in Ages Past"*

*Available online at
hymnary.org/media/fetch/101151*

**Broth-er-hood of St. Andrew's men
Gath-er to serve and share.
Faith-full-y work and pray to tend
God's world with lov-ing care.**

**With Hol-y Scrip-ture as our guide
We bring Christ's love to all.
Saint An-drew's shining faith abide
It forms us in our call.**

**Local-ly an-d global-ly
We serve in man-y ways.
Where-ever hurt and need are found
Broth-ers share every day.**

**We meet and boost each oth-er
In each one's faithful life.
A place to share, support, and grow
Find smiles in times of strife.**

**Racial justice, sub-stance abuse, and
human traf-fick-ing
Pri-son jus-tice and Veterans work
Scout-ing and Mentoring.**

**These issues we hold oh so dear
As we lov-ing-ly give
A bit of hope, en-courage-ment
Resolve to thrive and live.**

**God bless our efforts far and near
As we pray-study-serve.
Ground us in Christ's transforming love
Broth-er-hood we hold dear.**

THANK YOU, BROTHERS!

*By The Reverend Dan Dykstra, Urban Mission Deacon,
St. George's Episcopal Church, Louisville*

St. George's Community Center is feeding the hungry in new and expanded ways thanks, in part, to the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

Early in 2017, St. George's Episcopal Church in Louisville KY took over all aspects of food distribution at its site in West Louisville. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew Chapter at St. Luke's in Anchorage KY donated refrigeration and kitchen equipment when they did a



remodel of their kitchen. The walls were re-plastered and shelving was built for our our Dare to Care food distribution facility. This, along with tireless work by Lisa Vish and Pamela Burdine—our lead pantry coordinators—enabled us to serve even greater numbers of hungry people and be recognized as a Bobby Ellis Award winner by Dare to Care in 2019.

We have recently been asked by Dare to Care to distribute USDA commodities, as two nearby distributors have discontinued their work. Because of the improvements to our facility, made possible by the Brothers, we were able to say "yes!" Our newsletter entry this month is to thank the Brothers for their efforts and to acknowledge their partnership with others in serving those on the margins of society. Their work connects many people. St. George's is most grateful for their affiliation with the Brotherhood of St. Andrew and for all the Brothers have done for our Community Center and so many of the hungry in our community.

PREPARING FOR THE INEVITABLE

*By The Rev. Jerry Kolb, Chaplin for Retired Clergy, in
Episcopal Diocese of West Missouri*

Do you know how to handle your family's financial transactions? In a conference call with the Church Pension Fund, we became aware of a situation that has prompted us to provide some education. It has to do with the death of a partner and financial transactions.

If you have been allowing your partner to do all of the banking, paying bills and general financial transactions (especially online), we would like to encourage you to immediately begin sharing those



responsibilities. In the instance we became aware of, the husband was doing all the financial transactions. When he died, even though they had joint accounts, the surviving spouse was unable to do any financial transactions because she did not have the passwords, login information, account numbers, or access codes to access the required accounts.

Please begin to share financial responsibilities with your partner. Record your passwords and account numbers in a secure location which is familiar to both of you. Consider using an online password and account manager to make this process easier. Help your spouse pay bills "online" (if that is your financial method) so they know how to do it. Also, make sure that both you and your partner's names are on your accounts. This kind of information is still important if you pay your bills by a paper check.

Doing this type of preparation is is also important if you are a single person handling your affairs. Someone will need this information. Make sure they know how to find it.

One suggestion for couples is to alternate doing the monthly financial transactions. If there is a question, someone is there to provide the answer. When there is a death of a spouse, the bank and the utility companies will



Are there feeding ministries in your diocese that could use help? Consider "adopting" one that you or your Brotherhood Chapter could help with your skills, money, or time.

Continued on page .ten.

ATTENTION: BROTHERS AND CHAPTERS

KATHY L. COPAS, EDITOR, THE CROSS

September 2019 is our big fall print issue of The Cross, which direct mails to nearly 6,000 persons church wide, as well as appearing online. This is a great time for you and your Chapter to share news, activities, photos, and initial information about



conferences and meetings coming up in early 2020. Please help us help you by sharing your information no later than September 5 at editor@brothersandrew.net. For more information, call 502-345-6406. *For all you do, thank you!*

CALENDAR & EVENTS

AUGUST

Make a Will Month

17-19	Tennessee Churchmen Conference Sewanee
27	Executive Board Call 7-8 p.m. EST

SEPTEMBER

Habitat for Humanity Created 1976

Suicide Prevention Month

9	Grandparent's Day
11	Patriot Day
13-15	Atlanta Assembly/Province IV Sewanee
21	Episcopal Men's Conference - Sacramento, CA
24	Executive Board Call 1-2 p.m. EST



EPISCOPAL MEN'S CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 FROM 8 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

REGISTRATION: \$20 - INCLUDES LUNCH AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

TOPICS

"MEN'S
MINISTRY
IN THE
DIGITAL
AGE"



TOM WELCH

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

- **SOCIAL ACTION PANEL:** COMBATTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING; HELPING THE HOMELESS; KAIROS: SERVING THOSE IN PRISON
- **SERVING OUR VETERANS.** HOW CAN WE ASSIST THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED OUR COUNTRY?
- **PARADISE WILDFIRE UPDATE:** HOW CAN WE HELP?
- **BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW:** A WORLD- WIDE MINISTRY TO MEN AND YOUTH. WHO WE ARE, AND WHAT WE DO??

REGISTER AT WWW.BROTHERSANDREW.NET - CLICK ON THE LINK FOR NORTHERN CALIFORNIA MEN'S CONFERENCE. YOU MAY ALSO REGISTER AT THE CONFERENCE AT 8AM ON SEPT. 21ST.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

TRINITY CATHEDRAL

2620 CAPITOL AVE, SACRAMENTO, CA 95816

PARKING: \$5 AT THE GARAGE ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE CATHEDRAL

SPONSORS

THE NATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW, PROVINCE VIII OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TRINITY CATHEDRAL SACRAMENTO, AND ST AUGUSTINE ROCKLIN CALIFORNIA



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LITANY FOR WELCOMING BROTHERS BACK FROM SUMMER VACATION TO THE NEW CHURCH SEASON

Let us pray.

In thanksgiving for sunny days and starry nights, baseball games and picnics, fireworks and flower gardens, and times of blessed summer rest and renewal time with our family and friends,

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the opportunity to gather once more, as we begin a new church season, as Brothers united in prayer, study and service. With thankfulness for the good food and drink and fun we share, ever-mindful of those who do not have adequate food or the support of friends.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the many gifts, skills, and tools you have bestowed upon us to delightfully serve others, from the hammer to the paintbrush, to the good listening ear and hospitable handshake.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who suffer from the scourges of racism, human trafficking, substance abuse, and for those who are in prison. For our Veterans and those we support in Scouting and Mentoring. For all other persons and places we serve, locally and globally, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Loving God, you have refreshed us and brought us to another church season. Strengthen our Brotherhood ministry. Challenge us to boldly act as your hands and feet in the world and courageously serve and proclaim your redeeming love to the ends of the earth.

In Christ's name, we pray. AMEN.



SHARE YOUR BEST STORIES OF FAITH, MINISTRY, AND/OR THE BROTHERHOOD AND WIN A PRIZE!



Send stories to:

Membership Committee
Brotherhood of St. Andrew
620 S. 3rd Street, Suite 203
Louisville KY 40202

OR Jeff.butcher@brothersandrew.net

***Deadline: Extended
to December 31,
2019!***

While he was speaking, God figuratively reached down and slapped me upside the head. He said to me: "Sloane, who do you think you are? I alone am the judge of men. I have anointed this man to be my hands and feet amongst a very hurting group of people. And you have the audacity and the arrogance to judge this man?! Just who do you think you are? What gives you that right?!" I can honestly say I had never heard a word from God so powerfully in such a real and tangible way. The words of Matthew 7:1-2 (Do not judge....) were reinforced for me in a life-changing way.

I am not totally cured of my tendency to judge but I am now very aware when it raises its ugly head. Thanks be to God for the loving discipline of this sinner!

PREPARING FOR THE INEVITABLE

Continued from page seven.

be of little help to you without this kind of information. Also remember, this issue isn't just limited to financial transactions. Couples often split the workload. What responsibilities does your partner undertake that you would not know how to deal with if they were to die or become incapacitated? With the proliferation of online accounts and social media, it's a good idea to consider putting together an "online will," setting out what should be done with your online accounts when you die. Facebook, for example allows you to elect a 'Legacy Contact' to oversee and memorialize your account. Be proactive!

Resources

Facebook Legacy Contact Information

www.facebook.com/help/1568013990080948

Facebook Account Memorialization

www.facebook.com/help/contact/234739086860192

Password Managers

- ❑ **The Best [Paid] Password Managers for 2019** (PCMag)

www.pcmag.com/roundup/300318/the-best-password-managers

- ❑ **The Best Free Password Managers for 2019** (PCMag)

www.pcmag.com/roundup/331555/the-best-free-password-managers



What Can a Scholarship Program Do for Your Chapter?

A scholarship program, such as the one offered annually in the Diocese of Texas (see **Big Happenings in the Lone Star State** on page four), can be one of the most important ministries your Chapter offers. Why?

A scholarship program...

- Strengthens knowledge of the Brotherhood for prospective Brothers.
- Offers recognition and connection with a scholarly community that can serve to open doors and help the ministry of your Brotherhood Chapter for years to come.
- Helps your Chapter get to know talented young people you might not otherwise meet.
- Lifts parishes up and inspires them to want to know more about and support the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.
- Gives you an opportunity to meet new leadership in your church and community, as you invite them to help select a scholarship winner.
- Inspires other church leaders to build upon your Brotherhood scholarship program and offer even more scholarships and support for aspiring scholars.

A scholarship program can be a win-win in so many ways in your Chapter, Church, and community. Consider it an important building block as you seek to grow your Chapter and let others know what the Brotherhood of St. Andrew has to offer.



Tell your story or your Chapter's. Share it with the Brotherhood.

To submit an article or for questions contact Kathy Copas at editor@brothersandrew.net or
620 S. 3rd Street, Suite 203
Louisville, KY 40202
502-345-6406

The deadline is the 5th of each month.

Important Submission Guidelines!

- Please submit text and pictures as separate files attached to the same email.
- Text should be either in a Microsoft Word or Google Docs document or a generic RTF file format.
- Photos are encouraged.
 - ▶ High quality, 250 dpi photos in a .jpeg, .jpg, or .png file format please.
 - ▶ If your file size is too large to email, please contact us for the a link where you can upload them.
 - ▶ Please provide captions for all photos submitted. Include names, location, and photo credit when appropriate.

As always, we're happy to answer any questions!