

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

518 North Alameda Boulevard
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005
(575) 526-6333



Ministry and Volunteer Opportunities

July 2020



Welcome to the varied ministries at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in La Cruces. Inside these pages you will find a plethora of ministries both inside and outside St. Andrew's and the wider church. Please look through and read ones that may interest you. As your energy is sparked, please call the ministry representative or the church office for more information.

We are all given gifts of the Spirit and sharing our God-given talents with others is a part of our Christian journey. As we serve, we deepen our relationship with God and grow in His image. I encourage your journey and invite you to step up. Please feel free to call me with questions. During this time of COVID closure, some of the ministries are limited; once we are back to in-person services, we will need your assistance.

God bless you and happy journey.

Mo. Jan Hosea+
Interim Rector

St. Andrew's Staff

Interim Rector	The Rev. Jan Hosea
Deacon	The Rev. Deacon Phil Runge
Deacon (Ret.)	The Rev. Deacon Anne Turrie
Priest (Ret.)	The Rev. Jeanne Lutz
Parish Secretary	Sarah Brockmeier
Bookkeeper	Fran Chavez
Music Minister	Cory Gasparich
Organist	Joan McClure-Post
Sexton	Tommy Grimes

Ministry and Volunteer Opportunities

This booklet contains information about the many volunteer ministries to which our church members feel called. If you are called to any of these ministries, please see the detailed description in the pages that follow. Feel free to contact the Ministry Leader or the Church office.

Christian Formation

Children's Chapel	5
Community Faith Night	6
Vacation Bible School	11

Fellowship

Bridge Club	5
Coffee Hour Ministry	6
Community Faith Night	6
Funeral Reception	7
Game Night	7
Hospital and Home Visitors	8
Men's Club	8
Men's Informal Breakfast Group	8
Sewing Group	10
Women's Coffee/Breakfast Group	12

Pastoral Care

Circles of Hope	5
Daughters of the King	6
Eucharistic Visitors	7
Funeral Reception	7
Hospital and Home Visitors	8
Prayer Partners	9
St. Andrew's Hospitality House	11

Outreach

Angel Tree Ministry	5
El Caldito Soup Kitchen	6
Rebuild Mission	9
Reverse Offerings	10
Second Sunday Supper	10
Shoebox Ministry	10
St. Andrew's Hospitality House	11

St. Bonaventure Mission	11
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Stewardship

Garden Ministry	7
Gift Shop Ministry	7
Office Receptionist Volunteer Team	9
Tellers	11
Vestry	12

Worship

Acolytes	5
Altar Guild	5
Children's Chapel	5
Eucharistic Ministers	6
Eucharistic Visitors	7
Lectors (Lay Readers)	8
Music Ministry	8
Prayer Partners	9
Ushers	11

Acolytes are children, youth, and adults, male and female, who assist the clergy during worship services. They typically are scheduled to serve on teams of two for the 8:30am and 10:30am Sunday services, with variations for special services throughout the year. Training and vestments are provided. (Church Office: 575-526-6333, saintandrewslc@gmail.com)

The **Altar Guild** assists the clergy by setting the altar for all services. Guild members are responsible for the proper care and handling of Eucharistic linens and vessels for Holy Communion. Rotating weekly teams are responsible for setting up the altar for Sunday and all special services held at the church. (Virginia Beckworth: 404-234-7681, vbeckworth@gmail.com)

The **Angel Tree Ministry** works through the Prison Fellowship Organization to bring of God to incarcerated parents and their children. Through the program, inmates apply to Angel Tree to buy and deliver Christmas gifts to their children. The gifts are chosen by the inmate and come from the inmate. Angel Tree also provides Bibles to the inmate and their families. Angel Tree also invites the children, their family and caregivers to attend church and worship. (Liz Painter: 505-215-3112, lizpainter61@gmail.com)

The **Bridge Club** meets the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Monday of every month at 11:45 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Newcomers are always welcome. (Fran Black: 575-521-4945, fwellsblack@hotmail.com)

Children's Chapel is an age-appropriate worship experience offered during the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service for children ages 3 to 10. Worship consists of songs of praise, a bible story linked to the lectionary, and prayer. Children rejoin their families in the sanctuary during the Peace for the celebration of Holy Communion. (Rebecca Cram: 575-652-1688, rebakcram@yahoo.com)

Circles of Hope is a group of trained lay visitors who meet with parishioners who cannot attend church services, including the homebound who may be recovering from surgery or an illness or those in the hospital, rehab or hospice. If the parishioner requests, the Circles volunteer may conduct an abbreviated service of Holy Communion and provide the sacrament. Circles meets once a month to debrief, continue learning, and to support each other. We simply

follow the guidance of Jesus (Matthew 25) who said “I was sick and you stopped to visit...whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me –you did it to me.” (Laurie Davidson: 575-522-3635, laurdonsv@earthlink.net)

The **Coffee Hour Ministry** serves the parish by building Christian relationships through the fellowship of meals and other forms of caring and sharing. Many different ministries reside under this umbrella heading, and all are important to building strong Christian relationships and community, and following in Jesus’ path. Jesus relied on the hospitality of the people around him to minister to them. (Christine Courtney: 575-520-3317, christinecourtney73@gmail.com)

Community Faith Night is a mid-week program of food, fellowship, and formation, offering a place to belong, to practice the Gospel, and to renew and grow in faith. Dinner is served at 5:30pm and at 6:15pm everyone will have the opportunity to participate in age-appropriate faith formation. At 7:00 pm we all meet back in the church for songs and closing prayer. (Sue Kramer: 575-915-6334, skk629@yahoo.com)

Daughters of the King (DOK) is an Episcopal religious order with a mission to extend Christ’s Kingdom through prayer, service and evangelism. Members send cards to the sick and shut-ins, deliver flowers, pray for all those whose names we receive for prayer. Twice a year DOK sponsors a retreat at the church – during Advent and during Lent. Other services are performed as necessary for the spiritual life of the parish and in support of the clergy. (Candace Fitch: 210-248-7374, canbf044@aol.com)

El Caldito Soup Kitchen is supported by St. Andrew’s volunteers, although the kitchen has moved out of the church. Members of the church serve at the kitchen on a weekly or monthly basis helping prepare and serve food to the homeless and needy. (Marvin Mathis: 575-496-7092, mlmathisjr48@gmail.com)

Eucharistic Ministers (EMs) are licensed by the Bishop of the Diocese to assist the Parish Priest in the distribution of the sacraments at a service in the church. Potential Eucharistic Ministers must be trained and approved by the Rector and Vestry before

licensing by the Bishop. (Church office: 575-526-6333, saintandrewslc@gmail.com)

Eucharistic Visitors (EVs) are trained by the Priest or Deacon and are licensed by the Bishop to administer Reserved Sacrament to those who cannot make it to the church services. This usually applies to the permanently homebound or those who are experiencing medical problems of shorter duration. EVs use an approved form of the liturgy based on the Book of Common Prayer. The Priest or Deacon assigns the EVs to individuals in need of this service. (Deacon Phil Runge: 912-339-3224, phildrunge@aol.com)

Funeral Reception Committee works to meet the family's wishes to honor their loved one. Frequently this means arranging for a reception or a simple luncheon after a service. This group of volunteers takes direction from the coordinator and priest. This group plans and sets up the receptions or luncheons, coordinating the food, handling incoming flower arrangements, the guest book, and supporting the family before the service as needed. It is a caring ministry at a very difficult time in people's lives. (Martha Anderson: 575-644-6241, mranderso@msn.com)

Game Night is an evening for fellowship, fun and food! It is an intergenerational group. Games are provided or may be brought to share with others. (Sue Kramer: 575-915-6334, skk629@yahoo.com)

The **Garden Ministry** is an opportunity to donate your time and talent to the grounds of St. Andrew's to maintain an inviting appearance for all who enter and all who pass by. All who have a willingness to serve and enjoy gardening are welcome to join us. (Doug Paczynski: 575-520-9800, macrocker@gmail.com)

Gift Shop Volunteers open the shop, welcome and assist customers, log purchases, make change as necessary, lock up and turn off lights and music, and returning the key. The gift shop is open for 20 or 30 minutes after each Sunday service. Volunteers may take one slot or both slots on a Sunday. Volunteers are assigned the same Sunday of each month (for example 1st Sunday, 2nd, etc.). (Lita Brown: 575-520-2746, nelitaub@gmail.com)

Hospital and Home Visitor Ministries take the church family care to those who are unable to make it to church for short periods or are undergoing a time where they need some companionship. Training is required for all volunteers and scheduling will be by the Priest or Deacon as the needs are identified and with the permission of the parishioner in need. (Church office: 575-526-6333, saintandrewslc@gmail.com)

Lectors (Lay Readers) are trained by the Priest or Deacon to read the Old Testament, the Psalm, the Epistle, or the Prayers of the People at services. (Church office: 575-526-6333, saintandrewslc@gmail.com)

The **Men's Club** is the social group for men at St. Andrew's. On the second Monday of each month the men have a "steak burn" at the church Parish Hall. The men bring whatever they like to grill, and the rest of the meal is provided for a nominal fee. The group prepares and serves the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, with the proceeds going to purchase needed items for the church. In the past tables were purchased for the Parish Hall. On occasion, the men host the breakfast between services on Sunday, or some other fundraiser. Mostly it's fun and fellowship for the men of St. Andrew's and all men are welcome. (Bruce Brown: 575-740-9402, nmgbrown@gmail.com)

The **Men's Informal Breakfast Group** usually meets at 8:00 Wednesday mornings at the Pit Stop on South Motel Blvd. We have between 6 and 10 people attend. There are no formal meetings or agendas. They gather for about an hour for informal talk and breakfast. Some come only for coffee. It's a good way to get to know each other in a less formal way than church. (Chuck Booth: 410-830-0250, bcbooth3@verizon.net)

The **Music Ministry** is organized under our Music Director. All are welcome to participate in the music programs at St. Andrew's. Our motto is to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord!" We welcome new members at any time during the year. (Cory Gasparich: 575-386-0522, corygasparich@gmail.com)

The **Bell Choir** meets each Sunday during the school year from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. The bell choir performs for special services and as often during the regular services as possible. Our goal is to play at the services at least once a month.

The **Chancel Choir** provides anthems for regular Sunday services as well as special services (i.e., Holy Week, and Christmas). Weekly rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m. There are no regular rehearsals during the summer months and the choir sings with the congregation during that time.

The **Praise Band** leads the Communion music for Sunday 10:30 a.m. services (except during Advent and Lent). It consists of vocalists and instrumentalists and performs contemporary music.

The **Office Receptionist Volunteer Team** assists the staff with a variety of clerical duties to ensure a welcoming environment on both the phone and in person. Volunteers primarily provide phone support, greet visitors, and meet requests from our food pantry. They may also assist with the production of the church bulletin and newsletter. They ensure the delivery of accurate messages to the clergy. Individuals work a fixed schedule to cover office hours. Volunteers are scheduled and oriented to procedures to accommodate the clerical needs of the office. (Church office: 575-526-6333, saintandrewslc@gmail.com)

Prayer Partners are members of the congregation who want to pray for others. Partners come to the back of the church during the communion service. Prayer Partners are scheduled one, or perhaps two Sundays a month, and require appropriate training. (Church Office: 575-626-6333, saintandrewslc@gmail.com)

The **Rebuild Mission** started in 2006 after the widespread destruction of Hurricane Katrina and in answer to a call from a former priest, Father Galbraith, who had retired 9 months before in the Gulfport, MS area. We continue annual trips to areas that have been damaged by natural disasters. We work with groups that organize and provide volunteer housing, tools and materials. We provide labor, monetary donations from our parish, and prayers. So far we have worked in MS, LA, TX, MO, and NM. Over the years we have helped many families get back home again and have met some wonderful people along the way. In 2015, we organized volunteers and contractors to help build the St. Andrew's Hospitality House to give a place for people to stay free of charge while a family member is being cared for at our local hospitals. We continue this work as

soon as the environment is safe from the Pandemic of 2020. (Kathy Morrow: 575-339-8640, art@kathymorrowstudio.com)

Reverse Offerings are made during the Sunday services. Baskets are passed with slips showing items needed by the poor in our community, with members taking one and buying and returning items to the Church. The items are distributed by church volunteers to persons coming to the church for food assistance. (Church office: 575-526-6333, saintandrewslc@gmail.com)

The **Second Sunday Supper** extends relationship and fellowship to people experiencing homelessness living at Camp Hope, the tent city at the Mesilla Valley Community of Hope. On the Second Sunday of each month, parishioners bring potluck dishes to Camp Hope and share dinner with Camp Hope residents and other people at the Community of Hope. We use tables and chairs from St. Andrew's. The goal is to let people experiencing homelessness know that we see them each as unique and wonderful people, as children of God, as our brothers and sisters. The potluck is simply a mechanism to draw us together. *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.* (John 13: 34-35) (Nancy McMillan: 575-635-5832, nmcmillan@nmsu.edu)

The **Sewing Group** meets on Wednesday mornings to make various service items for the community. Projects have included hats for an Indian school, blankets for our city's First Step program, masks, and other requested special projects such quilts or items for the annual Arts and Crafts Fair. (Sandy Zielinski: 575-636-4001, sandy.zielinski@gmail.com)

The **Shoebox Ministry** is a children's ministry for under-served children in Palomas, Mexico. Throughout the year members of the St. Andrew's parish donate toys, games, puzzles, hats, gloves, scarfs, stuffed animals and toiletries; items small enough to fit in a shoebox. We also hold "shoebox wrapping" parties throughout the fall. In late November, all are invited to gather at St. Andrew's for the annual Christmas Box Stuffing festivity. All boxes are age and gender specific, and are hand-packed and marked accordingly. The majority of these boxes are sent to children in Palomas, Mexico. The Reverend

Susan Hutchins, our border missionary for the Diocese of the Rio Grande, distributes the Christmas boxes at the elementary school during their annual Christmas party. This is often the only gift these children receive. Currently there are approximately 650 elementary students at the Palomas Elementary school. Since 2016, St. Andrew's has contributed over 750 boxes. (Jan Miskovich: 575-642-7382, jmiskovich@yahoo.com)

The **St. Andrew's Hospitality House** is a safe, supportive and compassionate place available at no cost to families from out of town who have a loved one receiving treatment in a local hospital. (Nancy Haynes: 575-571-2234, nancy1755@comcast.net)

The **St. Bonaventure Mission Team** delivers to the St. Bonaventure Indian Mission and School (Eastern Navajo Nation) new and gently used summer and winter clothes, coats, sweaters, hats, scarves, shoes, bed linens, blankets, towels, toys, handbags, pots, pans, and baby bags. The baby bags contain sizes newborn-6 months, blankets, towels, wash cloth, powder, lotion, soap wipes, and diapers. Donations are accepted year-round. (Sandy Zielinski: 575-636-4001, sandy.zielinski@gmail.com)

Tellers count the offerings after the 10:30 Sunday service and complete the appropriate paperwork. One scheduled teller is always a member of the Vestry. The 2nd teller is chosen from volunteer members of the congregation. Tellers are assigned once every two months. (Church office: 575-526-6333, saintandrewslc@gmail.com)

Ushers are scheduled to serve at the Sunday 10:30 a.m. service and other special services, such as funerals. Ushers are scheduled approximately once per month. The age range is 14 and above. Training is on-the-job and includes greeting and handing out bulletins, ringing the church bell, seating latecomers, collecting the offering, doing a headcount, monitoring our Gathering Space and hallways, and collecting bulletins left behind for recycling. (Bob Anderson: 575-644-9441, aec_bob@msn.com)

Vacation Bible School provides an exciting and hands-on opportunity to serve God through a children's ministry. Many service options are available from crew leaders to those into games, Bible study, crafts, dinner preparation set up, and clean up. In addition,

donation of supplies is always requested. (Church office: 575-526-6333, saintandrewslc@gmail.com)

The **Vestry** is the church governing body that consists of 9 members elected by the congregation for a 3-year term. The vestry is responsible overseeing the church's operations including finances, personnel, and policies. (David Lutz, Sr. Warden: 575-640-6571, davidplutz@gmail.com)

The **Women's Coffee/Breakfast Group** is a St. Andrew's social gathering of women parishioners in order to promote community. It's a place where women get to know one another as individuals, not just as members of a congregation. There is no structure or leader. Gatherings take place every Wednesday morning (prior to the quarantine) at a local restaurant at 9:30 a.m. for about an hour. Breakfast is optional and attendance fluctuates. (Pam Miller: 575-521-4727, pt_miller70@yahoo.com)

St. Andrew's Vestry

David Lutz, Sr. Warden
Bruce Brown, Jr. Warden
Joyce Anglin
Wendy Beserra
Ed Morrow
Doug Paczynski
Elizabeth Blohm
Bob Anderson
Rebecca Cram
Margie Booth, Clerk

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