



ST. ANDREW'S CROSS

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew

Prayer, Study, and Service

JUNE 2025

The Episcopal and Anglican Magazine of Men's Ministry

Campfire Conversation

How it can strengthen your
Brotherhood ministry



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

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

BROTHERSANDREW.NET



CAMPFIRE CONVERSATION

HOW IT CAN STRENGTHEN YOUR BROTHERHOOD MINISTRY

It's summer—time to change things up, get out of your usual meeting place, and take your conversation and ministry to the campfire. So, how can the simplicity of a campfire help strengthen your Brotherhood Chapter or men's ministry?

There's nothing like a relaxing campfire, especially at night, to set the stage for a real sense of community and intimacy—the kind that can deepen knowledge of one another, of God, and of your connection with nature, and of all that can contribute to spiritual growth. Here are some things to try around the campfire this summer.

1. **You can invite newcomers** and introduce them to your group. Men may be more inclined to accept an invitation to a casual campfire gathering—especially if it involves campfire food and drink—than to what feels like a more formal gathering in a church meeting room.
2. **You can connect with youth**, strengthening their knowledge about who you are and what you do and their comfort with growing into your parish Brotherhood ministry.
3. **You can share personal faith journey stories** in a relaxed setting. Hint: have a couple of your long-time members ready with their own stories as a way of setting a comfortable tone for others to share.
4. **You can listen to the silence of nature**, reflecting and praying individually and then offering intercessions with the whole group.
5. **You can share life challenges and seek input** and prayer from your Brothers. Again—if you can prime the pump with one or two ready to share about their own challenges, it will feel easier for others to share.
6. **You can sing**, even encouraging your Brothers that have them to bring musical instruments to add to the fun.
7. **You can offer a Bible study** grounded in Biblical symbolism around fire. A Biblical concordance can point you to lots of stories and verses your group can explore together.
8. **You can end your campfire** with a simple service such as Evening Prayer or Compline. Just ask everyone to bring along a Prayer Book, hard copy or digital, to guide your worship.

9. **You can begin to explore** now what you want your Brotherhood Chapter to do in the 2025-2026 church year. What ministry projects would you like to try or repeat from the past church year? What went well during the church season just concluding? What didn't go as well? What are your goals as you go forward? It isn't too soon to reflect and begin your planning process.

10. **You can do some team strengthening** with some simple, fun, teambuilding exercises or games you can easily search out on the internet. This can even be as simple as posing a question and asking each person to answer it. What is your favorite food? What has been your favorite place to visit so far? How about a favorite book, movie, or hobby? The possibilities are endless and all of this will help to build relationships among your ministry group.

As you consider an evening campfire for your group, don't forget to eliminate barriers to



participation. For example, is someone uncomfortable driving at night? Offer to pick them up and get them safely home. Does someone have eldercare or child care responsibilities that would

interfere with them coming? Come forward with an offer of respite care, using your spouses or others in your parish to help. Does someone have mobility issues or a fear of falling on rough terrain? Work to make your setting as safe and comfortable as possible, even including chairs that are easy to get in and out of and bathroom facilities nearby. Are some of your members on a restrictive diet? Make it known that you will have some foods on hand to accommodate different dietary needs. Anticipate the needs of your group members and communicate that you have thought of everything. You'll be glad you did!



Spotlight

SCOUTING AND THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

By the Brotherhood of St. Andrew committee on Scouting and Youth

Most Brothers know that the Brotherhood's Discipline of Service identifies seven focus ministries (brothersandrew.net/service). Scouting and Youth is one of them. The Brotherhood Scouting Committee puts our Scouting and Youth ministry into action.

Many Brothers were Scouts when they were young. If they're like most of us, the memories from their time in Scouting are some of the fondest from that time. The Brotherhood's Scouting committee aims to help ensure that today's youth, particularly Episcopal young people and young people in Scout units chartered to Episcopal congregations, have those same kinds of memories.

What are some of the things that the Scouting Committee does to help today's youth have positive experiences?

National Jamborees: Every four years Scouting hosts a National Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in Central West Virginia. A major focus of the Scouting Committee is to ensure there is an Episcopal presence at each National Jamboree. Some of the things we do include:

- **Staff an Episcopal Display** in the Faith and Beliefs area of the Jamboree. This display exposes Scouts attending the Jamboree to the Episcopal Church and Episcopal beliefs. At the last Jamboree, visitors to the display were given a kit to make Anglican Prayer Beads after completing an activity related to Anglican saints.
- **Ensure there is an Episcopal Eucharist at the Jamboree.** The celebrant of this Eucharist has been the Bishop of West Virginia for the last four Jamborees. Typically, about 400 Scouts attend this Eucharist.
- **Recruit Episcopal Chaplains to serve during the Jamboree.**



Duty to God: Help Episcopal Scouts fulfill their Duty to God. The Committee developed and received approval from Scouting America for Episcopal-focused youth religious awards. We're sure many Brothers remember earning their God and Country award when they were Scouts.

What can an individual Brother or a Chapter do to support this ministry? Here's a few ideas:

- **Become a Merit Badge Counselor:** A Merit Badge Counselor is a person who enthusiastically shares their expertise with Scouts in one of about 140 areas. All of us have areas where we're an expert. By volunteering to be a Merit Badge Counselor, you can introduce a Scout to your area of expertise and expand that Scout's skills, perhaps even introducing them to a skill that will develop into a lifelong career or hobby.
- **Become a Mentor for one or the Youth Religious Awards:** As a Religious Award Mentor you will work with one or more Scouts and your Rector/Priest-in Charge to help the Scout(s) fulfill their Duty to God and deepen their faith. This role is an excellent fit with the Brotherhood's Disciplines of Prayer, Study and Service.
- **Help out with a local Scout Unit:** There are several roles where an individual Brother can serve. They include:
 - **Serve as a Charter Organization Representative (COR).** In a Scouting America unit, the COR role serves as a liaison between the unit and the organization chartering the unit. If your congregation charters a Scout Unit, the COR may be a member of the congregation. However, in many units, the person serving in the COR role isn't a member of the congregation so communication isn't as good as it could be. A Brother, particularly one with Scouting experience, taking on the COR role will result an improved relationship between the congregation and the unit because that kind of a COR understands how both organizations work.
 - **Serve as a member of the Unit Committee.** The Unit Committee is the "back office" for the Scout unit. The Committee ensures that the unit has the wherewithal to deliver the Scouting program to the youth members. Roles, such as Treasurer or Advancement Coordinator, might be a good match for an individual Brother's skills.
 - **Serve as a Youth Contact Leader.** A Brother who relates well to youth may choose to serve as a

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REFLECTIONS ON LISTENING AND LEARNING TO GROW THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

By Jeff Butcher, Senior Vice-President for Administration and Historian, Brotherhood of St. Andrew

Let me share some observations of what has been taking place in the field. One of the reasons I joined the Brotherhood was fellowship—meeting other men who were like-minded. Jesus Christ is at my core.

In my story my dad was in the newspaper business. Unfortunately, Brother Charles Butcher had a dream of running his own shop. We didn't know it at the time but he had PTSD from World War II. His B-17 was shot down twice with him landing in the English Channel. He was the lone survivor each splash down. Obvious question: "Lord why me and not the other guys?" For you, fellow combat veterans, I know you have asked that question, "Why?"

Dad had ants in his pants. He was careful about making friends due to the losses he suffered in combat. By the time I graduated from high school we had moved six times. It was a challenge to make any long-term friends knowing that another move might be around the corner. My SF-86 Questionnaire for a National Security Position update stipulated 49 different locations when I settled at Scott Air Force Base, IL, in 1994. There were five more moves before we planted roots in Louisville, KY. My next relocation will be to the columbarium, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Anchorage, KY.

I joined the Brotherhood of St. Andrew in January 2000. For the first time in my life I started making long-term friends. These relationships are a very humbling gift from the Holy Father. COVID-19 was awful. Our national trusted news sources made it even worse as we are finding out now. Fear gripped the nation. People felt safe in their local church. To this day, many are afraid to leave their local safe zones. Isolation and loneliness prevails.

It is obvious we must accelerate interaction between Brothers, Chapters, and within Assemblies. We are also encountering voids in leadership positions. Why? It is time, my Brothers, for us to lead others into relationship building activities once again. We would like you to consider

visiting nearby Chapters to listen to their needs, wants, and their future aspirations. We have a disconnect between our service center and the local Chapter. We are here to serve where we are needed most. Zoom calls are most effective after we have met people face-to-face in their own backyard or around the kitchen table. Previously, we

dispatched marketing tools to each Board of Director Brother to show our colors.

Our next step, like Jesus, could be going out two-by-two to listen to men in the pews. Let's set an

example by creating prayer partners. Lastly, we are asking you to take turns leading the Brotherhood weekly noonday prayer sessions.

These activities will better equip you with the listening and learning sessions we need to be having at the Chapter level.



JOIN US FOR OUR BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW MIDDAY PRAYER

WEDNESDAYS

AT 1 P.M. EASTERN TIME VIA

ZOOM

ZOOM MEETING ID 893 4148 8609

PASSCODE: 0723



AROUND THE CHURCH: BROTHERS IN MISSION

BROTHERS HONOR MOTHERS IN TEXAS

By Jim Cutshall, Brotherhood Chapter Secretary, St. Timothy's, Lake Jackson TX



The Brotherhood Chapter at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Lake Jackson, TX cooked and served a Mother's Day luncheon for moms and their families this past Mother's Day. Everyone had a great time honoring all of the special mothers—and those who are like mothers to us—in our parish. We served 65 people at tables with pink tablecloths, nice silverware, and a centerpiece on each table.

Each woman was presented a carnation upon entering the luncheon. Mothers were pampered with first-class service provided by Brothers and teens in the parish. Servers were elegantly dressed in black pants with white shirts and bow ties. The beautifully-plated meal consisted of lemon pepper and herb chicken breast or legs, served on a bed of rice with broccoli on the side and cheese sauce. Lemonade, tea, water and coffee were also offered. All were served a cupcake for dessert and the mothers additionally received a champagne mimosa drink.

It was an unforgettable occasion that helped every mother to feel truly honored.



FLORIDA BROTHERS HOST GROUP BREAKFAST AND THEATRICAL PRESENTATION

By David Mulholland, St. George's Brotherhood, The Villages, Florida

St. Georges in The Villages, Florida had their monthly group breakfast on Friday, May 23. For this get together Dean Corbett developed a theatrical presentation on Ruth which was presented to the group by Louis Baylog and Doug Tarbell. Everyone did a great job. In addition to this presentation our group had a wonderful meal and a great time continuing to get to know each other better.



MONTHLY WEBINAR

FIRST WEDNESDAY WEBINARS

Our monthly webinars are always on the first Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m./Eastern.

HERE'S THE LINK:

[BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT ANDREW MONTHLY WEBINAR](#)

MEETING ID: 851 3889 2685

PASSCODE: 0723

AROUND THE CHURCH: BROTHERS IN MISSION

GOOD SHEPHERD CHAPTER FROM FRIENDSWOOD TX HOLDS INSTALLATION AS IT EXPANDS TO OTHER PARISHES

By Peter Gilmour, Director, Brotherhood of St. Andrew at Good Shepherd

The Good Shepherd Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew in Friendswood, TX, participated in the re-installation ceremony of the Brotherhood at Grace Episcopal in Alvin, TX on Sunday, June 1. Good Shepherd Brothers John Morawski, Chris Mays, Robert Walker and Peter Gilmour attended as the sponsoring Chapter. Brotherhood Province VII President Chris Matthews from St. Dunstan's officiated along with Grace's Rector, The Rev. Suzanne Smith. The following ten men from Grace were inducted into the Brotherhood: Rene Garza, Mathew Renkar, Ed Baldwin, Chris Anagnostis, Randy Smith, Tom

Clark, Hughie Cowles, Nathan Vrubel, Sam Doerr, Steve Barrow

This event was the culmination of work by Chris Matthews and Chris Mays, as our Chapter has been working to spread the Brotherhood to other nearby churches. The Brotherhood is still working on new Chapters at several other churches nearby.

The Good Shepherd Brotherhood Chapter meets the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month. We discuss business and have a scripture program, too. We usually go out afterwards for lunch (at Whataburger!). All men and youth are welcome to join.



L to R:

Front Row: Rene Garza, Mathew Renkar, The Rev Suzanne Smith, Ed Baldwin, Chris Anagnostis

Middle Row: Chris Mays, Randy Smith, Robert Walker, Tom Clark, Hughie Cowles

Top Row: Peter Gilmour, John Morawski, Chris Matthews, Nathan Vrubel, Sam Doerr, Steve Barrow



Coming Up in the St. Andrew's Cross...

Is your Chapter or men's ministry doing cooperative work with another Brotherhood group? Tell us what you are doing and how it is going!

Share your thoughts on the following topic: What do you believe distinguishes a Brotherhood of St. Andrew ministry from a parish men's group that gathers for coffee, conversation, and perhaps some Bible study? In short—what is it about what you do that you believe truly defines you as a Brotherhood of St. Andrew's ministry?

Please respond by June 30 to editor@brothersandrew.net.

A gift that costs nothing in your lifetime.

*With a simple signature
you shouldn't forget.*



If you've ever opened a bank account, set up a retirement plan, or applied for life insurance, you completed a form to say who will inherit the money in those accounts someday. Then again, the customer service rep may have forgotten to discuss it.

But this opportunity is too good to miss! It's a simple form, done right on the spot, and it keeps your money out of probate. No attorneys, no hassle for your heirs, no extra expenses tacked onto your estate. There's no limit to the amount you can leave someone. And in addition to individuals, you can include your church.

As you decide who will inherit your accounts, will you please consider including us along with your loved ones? It's a very simple, yet powerful way to provide long-lasting future support for our mission. (Plus, save your heirs up to 65% tax on your retirement assets!)

All it takes is a simple signature.

It's your money, and you deserve the right to say what happens to it.

More simple ways to make your mark on the future:

- » Make a gift through your will and trust
- » Give life insurance you no longer need
- » Donate appreciated stock and save on taxes
- » Consider a gift of real estate
- » Make a gift that gives you fixed income payments for life
- » Make a gift that protects your assets
- » Donate from a Donor Advised Fund

Interested?

For more information about this and other planned giving opportunities, visit:

<http://brothersandrew.plannedgiving.org>

Or contact:

plannedgiving@brothersandrew.net
(502) 450-5640



The Brotherhood of St. Andrew
Making a difference in the Kingdom of God since 1883

A worldwide ministry to men and youth in the Episcopal/Anglican Communion & beyond.

Youth Contact Leader (e.g. Scoutmaster, Cubmaster, etc.). Obviously, this may involve more than many of us are able to take on (like sleeping on the ground) but there is always a need for an enthusiastic Youth Contact Leader.

Members of a Chapter can assume any of the roles for an individual Brother listed above. In addition, a Chapter can choose to charter one or more Scout units.

A good example of a Chapter chartering a very successful Scout unit can be found in Troop 153 at St. John's, Tulsa, OK. Brother Charlie Nutter, who serves as an Assistant Scoutmaster for the Troop, reports: "Here in Tulsa, Oklahoma we have a 60-boy Scout Troop at St. John's which is strongly supported by the Brotherhood Chapter."

He also enthusiastically encourages other Chapters

to follow St. John's example: "I just think we should tell other Brotherhood Chapters how rewarding it is to have these young men in their churches learning Leadership, Citizenship, and high moral values. We need to bring these young men into our churches even though they are not necessarily

Episcopalians, to show how much we support the programs of Scouting and the values it teaches, which fits so well into what our churches teach."

Our church wide Scouting Committee is always looking for Brothers who are interested in supporting this ministry. We would love to hear from anyone who wants to take a more active role in this ministry. Feel free to contact us at:

Scouting@Brothersandrew.net.



STAY IN THE CONVERSATION

Stay Connected with the Brotherhood of St. Andrew

Phone	502-450-5640
Prayer Line	502-450-5640
Email	admin@brothersandrew.net
Hashtag	#brstandrew
Website	BrothersAndrew.net
Facebook	Facebook.com/BrothersAndrew.net
Twitter	@brstandrew
Instagram	@brotherhood1883

Mailing Address: PO Box 1382, LOUISVILLE, KY 40201

Service Center Location
620 S. 3rd Street, Suite 203 Louisville, KY 40202

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN MAILING ADDRESS

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SHARE YOUR PHOTOS AND STORIES

ST. ANDREW'S CROSS loves to share photos and news from you or your Brotherhood group. Send them along anytime. Here are a few basic ideas to help you.

We welcome...

- General stories and photos about your Chapter or men's ministry activities.
 - Stories and photos about your Province meetings or activities.
 - Reflections about how you solved a common Brotherhood challenge, such as building attendance or increasing involvement in your project or ministry.
 - Points of pride about your Chapter milestones.
 - Personal spiritual or biblical reflections.
 - Ideas related to the Brotherhood seven areas of mission focus.
 - Stories about how you helped mobilize partnerships in your community.
 - Practical tips/helps related to common Brotherhood activities out of your own expertise or experience.
 - Photos of Brothers you have encountered in other places. For example—at a church you attended during your summer vacation.
- Send your contributions in standard MSWord 12 point type with no formatting.**
- Attach photos—don't embed them in your story.
 - Attach a separate Word document with photo ID's, from left to right, that correspond to your photos. Don't forget to double check the spelling of any names you include. If it isn't obvious, describe what we are seeing in your photo/s and where/when they were taken.
 - Email your material to editor@brothersandrew.net. If you have questions or just want to brainstorm an idea, call Kathy at 502-345-6406.

For all you do to make ST. ANDREW'S CROSS fun and informative to read, thank you!