



ST. ANDREW'S CROSS

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew

Prayer, Study, and Service

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The Episcopal and Anglican Magazine of Men's Ministry



GO TELL DO THE BOOK OF ACTS AND THE BROTHERHOOD

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.

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THE BOOK OF ACTS AND THE BROTHERHOOD

Go TELL Do

Just over a month ago at Pentecost, many of our Brotherhood Chapters gave some study emphasis to The Book of Acts. Acts provides a year-round powerful blueprint for building and growing a vibrant men's ministry. While Acts primarily records the birth and expansion of the early church, its lessons on discipleship, leadership, outreach, and spiritual growth remain highly relevant for the Brotherhood and men's ministry today. The scriptures in Acts reveal how ordinary men, empowered by the Holy Spirit, became extraordinary witnesses for Christ. Their example offers valuable guidance for our Brotherhood ministry as we seek to expand, grow, and reach more men, helping strengthen their faith.

One of the first lessons Acts teaches is the importance of spiritual empowerment. Before beginning their mission, Jesus instructed His followers to wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit. In Acts 1:8, He tells them, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses." Effective men's ministry begins not with programs or events but with dependence on God. Prayer, worship, and seeking the Spirit's guidance must remain at the center of every men's ministry outreach effort. When Brothers are spiritually equipped, they become more confident and effective in sharing their faith and serving others. It reflects our Brotherhood order of Prayer, Study, and Service.

Acts also demonstrates the value of authentic fellowship undergirding this triumvirate of Brotherhood Prayer, Study, and Service. The early believers devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, prayer, and sharing life together (Acts 2:42-47). The genuine community they formed and nurtured attracted others and led to remarkable growth. So many men today often struggle with isolation, loneliness, and a lack of meaningful relationships. A healthy Brotherhood Chapter

or men's ministry group also builds its foundation around creating opportunities for both long-time members and new men to connect, encourage one another, and build lasting friendships rooted in Christ.

Another key principle found throughout Acts is leader development. The apostles intentionally invested in others, raising up new leaders to expand the ministry. Men such as Stephen,

The Book of Acts challenges believers to be outward-focused.

Philip, Barnabas, Silas, and Timothy emerged as influential servants because experienced leaders identified and mentored them. Growing men's ministries understand that leadership is not concentrated in just a few individuals but multiplied through discipleship. Every men's ministry should continually commit to looking around their group and parish, identifying potential leaders, encouraging their spiritual growth, and providing real opportunities for them to serve and lead.

The Book of Acts also challenges believers to be outward-focused. The early church did not remain behind closed doors. Instead, they actively engaged their communities and shared the gospel wherever they went. Peter preached boldly in Jerusalem. Philip ministered in Samaria. Paul carried the message throughout the Roman world. Their examples remind us that Brotherhood ministry exists not only for those already involved but also for those who have yet to encounter Christ. Outreach events, community service, mentoring programs, and personal invitations can help your Chapter or men's ministry connect with men who may never enter a church on their own. This is the "Go Tell Do" part---broadening your vision. When your parish alone can't seem to be an adequate source of men for your Chapter or men's ministry group, Acts informs us that it is time to look outside your own parish to men who are unchurched or

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MEN ON A MISSION: LESSONS FROM ACTS ON GROWTH

A SCRIPTURAL STUDY

Scripture Focus: Acts 1:8; Acts 2:42-47;
Acts 4:31-35 (NRSV)

3. How can our Brotherhood Chapter or men's ministry group become more dependent on the Holy Spirit?

INTRODUCTION

The Book of Acts tells the story of ordinary men who became extraordinary witnesses for Christ. Fishermen, tax collectors, laborers, and tentmakers were transformed by the Holy Spirit and used by God to build the early church. As men seeking to grow our Brotherhood ministry and reach others, Acts provides a practical model for how God works through faithful men who are committed to God's mission.

The growth of the early church was not the result of impressive buildings, large budgets, or sophisticated programs. It grew because men and women were empowered by the Holy Spirit, devoted to one another, and committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

READ ACTS 1:8

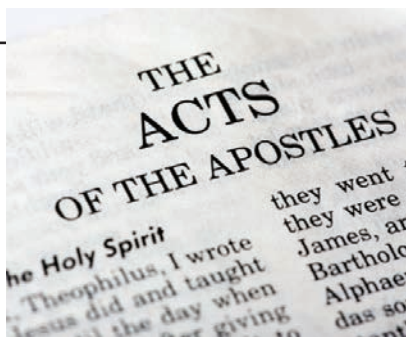
"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (NRSV)

Before Jesus sent His followers into the world, He instructed them to wait for the Holy Spirit. He knew they could not fulfill their mission through human strength alone.

Many of our Chapters or men's ministry efforts seem to focus on activities, events, and programs. While these are valuable, and many directly reflect our commitment to the "Service" part of our Brotherhood mission statement, lasting spiritual growth comes from God's power beyond our own efforts. The first step in reaching other men is to cultivate a deeper relationship with Christ through the "Prayer" and "Study" parts of our mission statement, remembering also our dependence on the Holy Spirit.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean to be a witness for Christ, and our Brotherhood or men's ministry group, in our daily lives? What are some ways we can go about doing that?
2. What challenges prevent us, as individual Brothers, from sharing our faith and the importance that our men's group holds in our life?



READ ACTS 2:42-47

The early believers devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, prayer, and caring for one another. This is not unlike our own Brotherhood mission emphasis today on Prayer, Study, and Service.

One reason many men struggle spiritually is isolation. Men often carry burdens silently and try to solve problems on their own. The early

church demonstrates a different model: authentic brotherhood. They met regularly, encouraged one another, and shared life's joys and struggles.

A growing men's ministry is more than a gathering; it is a community where men are deeply known, challenged, and supported. When men experience genuine fellowship, they are more likely to invite others to join them.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do many men find it difficult to build authentic friendships?
2. How can our ministry create deeper connections among men in this parish and our community?
3. What would make us want to invite a friend to our group?

READ ACTS 4:31-35

After praying together, the believers were filled with boldness and continued proclaiming God's word despite opposition.

The apostles understood that growth requires courage. Reaching new men often means stepping outside our comfort zones or "we've always done it that way" routines. It may involve inviting a neighbor to breakfast for some conversation around what the Brotherhood of St. Andrew means to you. It may mean inviting a newcomer in your parish to a Brotherhood Bible study and meeting. It may mean mentoring a younger man, or sharing with another man simply how Christ has changed your life and how the Brotherhood has supported that.

Starting right on your own doorstep, many parishes are filled with men quietly waiting for someone else to take the first step. Acts challenges us to become initiators rather than spectators.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What opportunities has God placed in your life to reach out to other men? What did you make of those opportunities?
2. What fears keep you from inviting others into our Brotherhood Chapter or men's ministry group?
3. How can our group encourage one another to take outreaching and inviting risks?

SOME KEY LESSONS FROM ACTS FOR BROTHERHOOD OR MEN'S MINISTRY GROWTH

1. **Prayer precedes power.** The early church prayed before it acted.
2. **The concept of brotherhood truly attracts people.** Authentic relationships you commit to building as a group create opportunities for growth as a Chapter or group as well as growth and expansion of the realm of God.
3. **Every man is a witness.** Reaching out is not limited to clergy or Brotherhood leaders. (We are all servant leaders.)
4. **Leadership is multiplied.** Brothers invest in developing other Brothers.
5. **The mission is larger than just our Brotherhood Chapter or men's ministry.**

A PERSONAL CHALLENGE

This week, prayerfully identify one man you know who could benefit from the type of friendship, encouragement, or spiritual guidance your Brotherhood Chapter or men's ministry group offers. Ask God to open a door for conversation and invite him to join you for coffee, breakfast, an event, or even your next Brotherhood or men's ministry gathering.

A CLOSING PRAYER

Creator God, thank you for the example of the men in Acts who faithfully followed your call. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and give us courage to be witnesses for Christ and our mission through the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Help us build increasingly authentic relationships in this group, encourage one another in faith, and reach men who need to know your love and grace and what our ministry has to offer. Use our ministry to help grow your church and make disciples for Jesus Christ. Amen.

ANOTHER PRAYER FOR GROWTH OF OUR BROTHERHOOD CHAPTER OR MEN'S MINISTRY GROUP, BASED ON THE BOOK OF ACTS

Lord, we come before you with grateful hearts, thanking you for the example of the early church found in the Book of Acts. Just as you called ordinary men to become bold witnesses for Jesus Christ, we ask that you work powerfully through us and all that we seek to achieve through our gathering of faithful men dedicated to strengthening your realm.

Lord, fill us with your Holy Spirit as you filled the apostles. Give us courage to share our faith and what the Brotherhood means to us, wisdom to lead, and strength to more effectively serve our church and community. Help us not to rely on our own abilities, but on your power and guidance in all that we do.

Teach us to devote ourselves fully to our Brotherhood mission of Prayer, Study, and Service, reflecting what the believers did in Acts. Unite us as brothers in Christ. Remove any barriers of pride, fear, or isolation that keep us from encouraging one another and growing together in faith through our church wide community of Brotherhood of St. Andrew Chapters or men's ministry groups.

Sustain us as we work to grow. Bring new men into our midst who may be seeking purpose, friendship, and a deeper relationship with Christ. Help us to be welcoming, compassionate, and intentional in reaching out to those who may feel disconnected or alone.

Give us the boldness of Peter, the servant heart of Barnabas, and the perseverance of Paul. May we be willing to step outside our comfort zones to invite, mentor, and disciple other men. Let our lives reflect the love and grace of Jesus Christ so clearly that others are drawn to you.

May this ministry of Brothers be a place where faith is strengthened, leaders are developed, people are encouraged, and your realm is advanced. Use us, Lord, to make a lasting impact.

In the powerful name of Jesus Christ we pray.

Amen



OPENING OUR DOORS: CREATING A SUMMER COOLING CENTER FOR OUR UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS A BROTHERHOOD SERVICE IDEA

Summer heat can be more than uncomfortable—it can be dangerous, even deadly, for those who lack reliable shelter. As Brothers called to serve others, one way we can demonstrate Christ’s love in a practical and life-giving way is by establishing a summer cooling center in our church or other parish building for the unhoused in our community.

A cooling center is a safe, air-conditioned space where people can escape extreme heat during the hottest hours of the day. Setting one up may seem overwhelming at first, but with prayer, planning, and teamwork, it can become a powerful Brotherhood ministry for your entire community.

Begin by discussing the idea with parish leadership and determining some available space.

Parish halls, church school classrooms, or other simple air-conditioned areas can serve as welcoming environments. Consider operating during peak heat hours, such as noon to 6 p.m., on the hottest days of the week. Think about how many guests you can realistically accommodate and how you will respond as word gets around and the popularity of your center grows, perhaps beyond capacity. Also consider what guidelines you may want to establish for your guests and how you wish to communicate those guidelines. For example, what will you do if conflict breaks out among a couple of your guests? What rules are you prepared to enforce?

Next, recruit volunteers. Brothers or men’s ministry participants can help with setup, hospitality, security, cleaning, and providing basic assistance. A warm greeting, a listening ear, and respectful conversation can mean as much as the cool air itself.

Stock your cooling center with essentials such as cold bottled water, sports drinks, light snacks, and seating. If resources allow, provide hygiene kits containing items like soap, deodorant, sunscreen, bandages, and wet wipes. Local businesses and parishioners may be willing to donate supplies. A television and some board games or magazines are also nice for helping your guests pass the time. Offering simple snacks is also helpful as many of your guests may also be experiencing food insecurity.

Consider how you will promote your cooling center to potential guests. Signs on the lawn that say “Cooling Center Open” and “Enter Here” are important for guests who may feel reticent about entering your church or parish buildings. Getting the word out through local shelters and social service organizations is important. Fliers in public places or on community bulletin boards can help. You can also



alert media in your area with a news release, as well as announcements in your parish social media and on your website.

Most importantly, remember that this ministry is about more than just meeting physical needs.

Jesus consistently showed compassion to people who were overlooked and vulnerable. In Matthew 25, Jesus reminds us that serving those in need is a way of serving him. A cooling center provides an opportunity to offer dignity, kindness, and hope to individuals who may feel forgotten and for us, as Brothers, to live out our mission of Service.

None of us can begin to solve homelessness or its root causes and impacts, but we can make a small difference. By opening our doors during the heat of summer, we can provide relief, build relationships, and reflect the heart of Christ to our neighbors. This summer, consider how God might use your Brotherhood Chapter or men’s ministry group to become a place of refuge—both physically and spiritually—for those who need it most.

CREATIVE SUMMER IDEAS FOR A THRIVING MEN'S MINISTRY

Summer presents a unique opportunity for your Brotherhood Chapter or men's ministry group to strengthen relationships, serve in your parish and community, and engage men who may not normally participate in church-related activities. With longer days, warmer weather, and more flexible schedules, the season provides countless opportunities to move beyond the parish walls and create meaningful experiences that foster fellowship and spiritual growth.

One popular summer activity is **hosting a men's cookout or barbecue**. Food has a way of bringing people together, and a casual outdoor gathering can provide a comfortable environment for men to invite friends, neighbors, coworkers, and family members. Consider including a brief devotional, spiritual story, or prayer time while keeping the atmosphere relaxed and welcoming.

Another idea is **organizing a new summer service project**. Many parishes and communities have ongoing needs that Brothers can help address. Projects might include repairing homes for older or infirm persons in your community, assisting single parents with yard work, painting community facilities, or partnering with local social services organizations on a one-time special need. Serving side by side as Brothers not only meets practical needs but also builds strong bonds among one another while demonstrating God's love in action.

Outdoor adventures can also create memorable experiences for your Chapter or group. **Plan a fishing trip, hiking excursion, canoe outing, or camping weekend**. These activities encourage conversation and relationship-building in ways that traditional Saturday morning meetings in the parish hall often cannot. Men who may be hesitant to attend a Bible study are often willing to participate in a fun outdoor event, providing excellent opportunities for casual conversation and camaraderie that can support growing your group.

Summer is also an ideal time to launch a **men's fitness challenge**. Whether it's walking, cycling, running, pickle ball, golf, or just general wellness goals, a fitness initiative can encourage accountability and healthy living. Weekly check-ins can include prayer, scripture discussion, and encouragement as participants work toward developing both stronger physical and spiritual health.

A **father-son event** can be especially impactful during the summer months. Activities such as miniature golf, a trip to a baseball game, a backyard Olympics, or a day of service can strengthen relationships among the men in your Brotherhood group while also helping younger generations (future leaders!) connect with meaning and traditions

associated with the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. These types of events provide a fertile field for mentoring young men and passing on your faith values.



For ministries particularly seeking to deepen spiritual growth, consider hosting a **men's breakfast series**. Sometimes, men who have a lot of work or youth sports responsibilities during the school year may find they can make room for a limited Saturday morning Brotherhood Bible study or discussion series during the summer. This is a good time to ask them to not only participate but to offer their leadership in your group. For example, ask them if they would be willing to lead the discussion on one of the mornings or share their own personal faith story. Inviting new people (or men who have perhaps turned down your study invitations in the past) to come in and share about how God has worked in their life can resonate deeply with your group and inspire others in their faith journey. You can also reach out and invite inspirational men from other faith traditions or your community. Who in your wider community is known for extraordinary service or inspiring achievements? Summer can be a great time to tap into resources like that.

Start up a Brotherhood **front porch ministry** for a limited number of summer evenings. The rules are simple. Someone in your group provides their front porch and some cold beverages. Someone else agrees to introduce a topic for discussion—maybe an idea or concept they have been pondering or an interesting article they have read. From there, you're off and running! Set a time limit for your gathering to honor everyone's other responsibilities. But then let the conversation go where it will. Another thought—if you have a beloved Brother who now has some difficulty driving to your regular meetings because

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“de-churched.” By continually emphasizing outreach and invitation to others, your Chapter may become responsible for things like reconnecting a man who has given up on the church OR who may have never had real exposure to an experience of church or faith in their entire life.

Perseverance is another recurring theme in Acts. The apostles faced opposition, imprisonment, criticism, and hardship, yet they continued their mission with courage and faith. Chapters and men’s ministry leaders often encounter challenges such as low attendance, limited resources, or competing demands on men’s schedules. Acts reminds us that growth often requires patience, persistence, and a lot of listening and responding to the needs of those you seek to include in your group. Success is measured not merely by numbers but by faithfulness to God’s calling and evidence of transformation occurring in men’s lives. It can even mean, if sustaining a Chapter or group isn’t practical at this time, beginning with yourself and considering becoming a Brotherhood At-Large member, exploring how you can join with others in many different places and exercising your Brotherhood ministry in that way.

Finally, Acts emphasizes the power of a shared mission. The early believers were united by a common purpose: making disciples and advancing God’s kingdom. As Brothers, we have a similar charge. When a Chapter or men’s ministry group clearly communicates its Prayer-Study-Service mission and truly keeps Christ at the center, others are often inspired to participate and serve in extraordinary ways.

The Book of Acts shows that God delights in using ordinary men to accomplish extraordinary things. By seeking the Holy Spirit, building authentic relationships, developing leaders, reaching outward, persevering through challenges, and remaining focused on Christ and our Brotherhood mission, we can experience the same kind of spiritual growth and impact that transformed the world in the first century.

of caretaking or health situations in their household, perhaps they could loan their front porch and your group could come to them!

How about an extra-special time of summer outreach just with one another called **“Summer Chore Saturday?”** Face it. We all have countless summer chores to do at home. But, many hands can make light work, as well as build fellowship and fun. How this works---every man submits one pesky Saturday summer chore they could use some help with. It may be painting a fence, weeding a flower bed, or washing and waxing the car. The idea is simply for a small team of you to help each



Brother with their chore while they each help you with yours. Of course, completed chores should equal rewards. So, perhaps pizza and a cold beverage?! Most importantly, remember that successful men’s ministry is not measured by the complexity of events but by the relationships that are formed and the spiritual growth that occurs. Summer activities should create opportunities for men to connect with God, encourage one another, and reach out in new and creative ways to those who may be searching for community and purpose.

By combining fellowship, service, recreation, and discipleship, your Brotherhood Chapter or men’s ministry group can help make this summer a season of growth, outreach, and creating lasting impact for both your parish and your whole community.



AN EARLY HISTORY OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW, PART 4

EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION

By JEFF BUTCHER, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND HISTORIAN, BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

The Brotherhood was growing by leaps and bounds in many parts of the world, especially in Japan, the Philippines and Korea — where the weary-familiar “foxhole effect” made itself known during the Korean conflict.

And thanks to the personal brand of evangelism espoused by the Brotherhood, the organization was holding its own in the U.S., as well, at a time when the church itself was losing members at an alarming rate (who can forget the summer of 1969 edition of *Time* magazine that proclaimed “God is Dead?”)

Nevertheless, membership in the Brotherhood of St. Andrew had dropped from a high of about 40,000 to about 6,000 in the 1970s. It was clear that something needed to happen. The church needed to be invigorated from within. Jesus Christ needed to be proclaimed and introduced to a new generation of largely unchurched young people in bold, imaginative ways.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew — with its long history as an evangelical arm of The Episcopal Church — retooled itself for the task.

PEWS IN ACTION

At The Episcopal Church General Convention in 1973, a coalition of nine Anglican organizations pushed legislation through the General Convention committing The Episcopal Church to boldly proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ through prayer, witnessing, and evangelism.

The coalition sought and obtained formal promises from new Presiding Bishop John Allin to appoint representatives from these organizations to appropriate planning committees and action groups with full voice and vote.

The mere fact that these organizations felt compelled to introduce and pass these kinds of resolutions shows how far the church had drifted from the very reason it exists. This coalition was called Prayer, Evangelism, Worship and Service in Action (PEWS) and was led by former Brotherhood

of St. Andrew President Fred Gore. In addition to the Brotherhood (led at the time by President Hugh Bellas), other organizations involved were the Daughters of the King, the Conference on Religious Life, the Bible Reading Fellowship, The Episcopal Center for Evangelism, the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer, the Fellowship of Witness, the religious newspaper FISH;F Fishermen, Inc. and Faith Alive (also led by former Brotherhood President Fred Gore). Brother Bellas also served as chair of the PEWS board and Brother Bob Kirschner, who would go on to serve as president of the Brotherhood, also served on the PEWS board.



PEWS represented a plea for the church to return to its mission and for “putting first things first in the mission of the church in full relation to the gospel of Jesus Christ,” according to its literature.

FAITH ALIVE

One of the most effective PEWS ministries was Faith Alive, which is still active and growing congregations today. This very significant ministry traces its creation directly to the Brotherhood, but quickly grew to serve seven mainline denominations, including the Roman Catholic Church.

The founders of Faith Alive were Brothers Andrew. Brother Gore, president of the Brotherhood from 1964 to 1970, was assisted by The Rev. Sam Shoemaker in the founding of Faith Alive. Brother Shoemaker was the rector of Calvary Church in New York City and is also credited with creating the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Tailored for each congregation it serves, Faith Alive always provided Christians an opportunity to reexamine the promises that we made, or were made for us, at our baptism and again when we were confirmed.

A Faith Alive Weekend was primarily a time to rethink what these promises meant to each of us. Time was taken during Sunday’s services for those who desired to make a new commitment or a recommitment to God. (In 2009, Faith Alive weekends

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THE BROTHERHOOD: HISTORIC, CONTEMPORARY, AND EFFECTIVE

By Jim Goodson

The Episcopal Church's oldest ministry is also one of its most effective.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew has been bringing men and youth (young men) to Jesus Christ for over 130 years since its founding on the cold, wintry day of November 30, 1883, at St. James' Episcopal Church in downtown Chicago.

Homeless men were sleeping on the city's downtown streets. And it was these men the fledgling Brotherhood wanted to minister with and save.

Today, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew is a worldwide ministry with Chapters in Africa, Japan, the Philippines, Great Britain, Canada, Haiti, and the United States.

Its some 4,200 members in about 390 U.S. Chapters perform myriad ministries, from building and operating a medical mission ship to sponsoring homes for women and children-in-need. Brothers are quick to respond with both manpower and money during national emergencies, such as Hurricane Sandy in 2012 and during the deadly year of 2013, when an explosion devastated the town of West, Texas, a tornado leveled Moore, Oklahoma and a tsunami struck northern Japan. The names of the weather anomalies and other natural disasters have changed over the years but Brothers have continued to meet those challenges.

Brothers continue to raise funds, put together teams that visit sites, help countless people by delivering supplies and cooked meals for victims and first responders, and help clean up and restore homes and communities.

"We were the only game in town for a while," New Jersey Brother Sean Garvin recalled about the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. "Once the National Guard arrived, things were a bit more organized." In one home, he remembered, teams of Brothers removed some 9,000 pounds of sand from a basement mixed in with a family's 80 years of memories.

VETERAN-FRIENDLY CONGREGATIONS

When military service men and women began coming home from the first Iraq and Afghanistan conflict, Brothers organized a program called "Veteran Friendly Congregations" in their parishes. The concept began in Georgia, spread rapidly, and continues to strengthen today amidst new situations of war and conflict.

Fund raising for these efforts and other military-related ministries continue, too. For example, in Dallas Brothers conduct an annual golf tournament that raises funds for Patriot Paws, an organization that provides service dogs for injured veterans. These dogs are specially trained to perform household tasks that injured veterans could not otherwise accomplish.



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE MINISTRIES

Another recent phenomenon has been the proliferation of restorative justice ministries all across the Brotherhood. Brothers recognize that Christ's healing powers are needed behind prison walls and an extensive network of Chapters and ministries have brought thousands of inmates to Christ.

It's not a new concept. One Texas church (St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Lake Jackson) created a ministry inside a nearby state prison in 1985. The Brotherhood Chapter in that South Texas maximum security unit actually has more members than any Brotherhood Chapter

inside or outside prison walls.

Eleven chapters are currently sending Brothers trained to conduct prison ministries in eight prisons in New Jersey, Texas, South Carolina, Mississippi, Indiana, and California. In addition, many Brothers take part in Kairos prison ministries.

SCOUTING AMERICA

One of the ways the Brotherhood has traditionally brought young men to Christ is through its over one hundred year relationship with the Boy Scouts of America (now rebranded as Scouting America).

Scouting and the Brotherhood of St. Andrew share an important history—both organizations were chartered by the U.S. Congress in the early 1900's and signed into law by President Teddy Roosevelt.

The Brotherhood regularly supplies scouts with Bibles and scout meetings have been held at Episcopal churches for decades. More than 1,300 Scouting America units are presented housed in Episcopal parishes. Most U.S. Brotherhood Chapters make regular financial contributions to scouting and many Brothers are scoutmasters.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Discipleship training has always been a big part of the Brotherhood's mission of Prayer, Study, and Service. Many Chapters use a Brotherhood adaptation of the "No Man Left Behind" discipleship program that's been a proven way to broaden and enhance the spirituality of men in a parish.

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paused operations.)

Faith Alive wasn't (and still isn't) a teaching ministry. There are no lectures. Members of a number of churches throughout the state, and perhaps beyond, come to churches simply as facilitators (not to teach or preach), mostly assisting small groups with their discussion. The result is usually always an invigoration. Church attendance—one of the only true measures of a parish's effectiveness—typically always increases after a Faith Alive experience. But, even more importantly, Faith Alive has seen lives spiritually transformed.

MEANINGFUL MINISTRIES

Even as The Episcopal Church continued to struggle with dropping numbers and a series of controversies, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew found itself fortunate enough to field a series of initiatives that produced many of the worldwide ministries the Brotherhood is known for today.

PEWS Action and Faith Alive represented the hard work of Brothers Andrew within the U.S. These organizations and several other creative initiatives—as well as the Brotherhood itself—have played an important role within The Episcopal Church by emphasizing core ministries. For the Brotherhood, that core ministry has always been bringing men and youth (young men) to Jesus Christ.

There are currently some 390 Brotherhood of St. Andrew Chapters in the United States and 31 known Chapters in 12 countries. This does not count chapters in Japan, the Philippines or Eastern Europe, where Chapters exist but do not report to the central Brotherhood office at this time. Thirteen chapters in Uganda have temporarily disbanded in the midst of challenges within that country.

To paraphrase an old phrase about the British Empire, the sun never sets on the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.

In October 2011, Brother Dick Hooper presented the first training session in Concord, North Carolina. Two months later he offered sessions in his own Central Gulf Coast diocese. Brothers from the Florida diocese attended training sessions in March 2012, followed by Texas training sessions in May, 2012.

At the June 2012 National Council meeting in Nashville, Brothers agreed to fund "No Man Left Behind" training. In August 2012, the "No Man Left Behind" training sessions moved northward to Hempstead, New York. Nineteen Brothers from Brooklyn, Queens and Nassau received training to take back to their Chapters. So far, more than 100 Brothers in seven states have been trained.

NATIONAL SERVICE DAY

In 2013, the Brotherhood introduced National Service Day. Since then, hundreds of service projects have been undertaken by Chapters to repair cabins at a diocesan camp, build a community center parking lot, cook and serve meals at an emergency shelter for women and children, conduct a general work day at an urban center, complete a landscaping project, and provide funds for summer youth camp computers—just to name a few examples.

"Perhaps the most satisfying thing about National Service Day is the way Brotherhood Chapters organize service projects that involve the entire parish," former president Bob Dennis, who created the concept, said.

With more than 350 Chapters performing an average of at least three major service projects per year, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew reaches takes its call to service seriously—both on National Service Day and all year long.

AN ORGANIZATION CONTINUING TO SERVE AND GROW

The modern Brotherhood of St. Andrew with its global reach took root in the aforementioned small downtown Chicago parish that grew into St. James Cathedral. The cathedral now contains a chapel that is the spiritual home of the Brotherhood. Through the changing rhythms of life and the church, the Brotherhood has always found a way to faithfully serve. May it ever be so.

JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY WEBINARS, ALWAYS ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY

WITH A NEW SPEAKER AND TOPIC OF INTEREST

HERE'S THE LINK:

[BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT ANDREW MONTHLY WEBINAR](#)

MEETING ID: 851 3889 2685

PASSCODE: 0723

JOIN US FOR OUR WEEKLY MIDDAY WEDNESDAY PRAYERS

At 1 p.m. Eastern time via Zoom

MEETING ID: 893 4148 8609

PASSCODE: 0723

TRINITY-FREDERICKSBURG CHAPTER PAYS TRIBUTE ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

by Jim Carlock, Diocese of Virginia Coordinator

Members of the Trinity-Fredericksburg, Virginia, paid tribute to fallen military heroes over the Memorial Day weekend with prayer at their meeting and then by posting flags at the corner of the church campus.

“We wanted to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice,” said John Henze, who led the effort. He added, “This is something we do each year so people in our community will see that Trinity is a congregation which supports and appreciates those heroes who have defended our nation and have given their lives for our freedom, especially religious freedom.”

“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” John 15:13



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.

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