OF MEN AND MINISTRY

Jesus is Lord

Prayer

Study

Service

Prayer

Service

The discipline of service is to make continuous efforts, week by week, to bring others nearer to Christ through His church.



MEN FROM DALLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCHES HAVE BUILT 14 CONSECUTIVE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HOUSES

OF MEN AND MINISTRY

Building God's Kingdom, one man at a time

The 78th General Convention resolved to encourage and support dioceses and congregations in their efforts to develop and

expand ministry to men throughout the Episcopal Church and to mentor and raise up the next generation of young men throughout the Episcopal Church.

The Brotherhood of St Andrew has been a leader in men's ministry in the Episcopal / Anglican Church for more than 135 years. We have been building Christian fellowship



Jack Hanstein

through prayer, study and service. This special edition *Of Men and Ministry* highlights just a sampling of the many service projects undertaken by men in the Church. Men walking the walk, not just talking the talk.

Men (and women) in the church very seldom talk about their ministry. When Christ calls, they respond. When people in their community are in need, they are there to help, no questions asked. Men in small groups feed the poor, visit those in prison, gather clothes for those in need, visit the sick, build ramps for the handicapped, repair the homes of the widowed, de-muck houses after a flood, remove debris after a hurricane, feed the hungry, support veterans, fund honor flights to Washington D.C. and sponsor and support Scout troops. We are here to serve.

" and the King will reply, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers, you did for me." Matt 25:40 (NIV).

Jack Hanstein is vice-president of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. He can be reached at jack.hanstein@brothersandrew. net.

Men are learning to minister to vets

By Jim Goodson

Veteran Friendly Congregations are easy to start and can have a major, lasting impact on both veterans and congregations that honor them.

The Veteran Friendly Congregation concept was created at **The Episcopal Church of St. Peter and St. Paul** in Marietta, Georgia, where Fr. Certain was rector.

Sixty-six of the nation's 84 VFCs are in Georgia.

Others are in Tennessee (12) and one each in Texas, Arizona, South Carolina, Louisiana, California and Florida. VFCs are in Episcopal (26), Catholic (13),

VETERAN FRIENDLY CONGREGATIONS

Lutheran (11), Non-denominational (10), Baptist (8), Presbyterian (7), Methodist (6), AME (2) and Jewish (1) congregations, according to the Care For The Troops website.

"Veterans are the kind of people you'd seek if you wanted a strong, healthy congregation," The Rev. Robert Certain says. "Veterans place others before self, are loyal, persevere in adversity, both lead and follow well, adapt to changing leaderships and environments, must excel at situational awareness, have a broad world view and possess a wide range of skills."

All the information needed to start a Veteran Friendly Congregation can be found at the organization's website www.careforthetroops.org.

The Rev. Robert Certain can be reached at eagle@unchainedeagle. com.



Scouts honor Vietnam veterans

Boy Scouts at Grace
Episcopal Church in
Massapequa, New York
designed and built a
memorial to honor Vietnam
veterans. which stands in
Wantagh Park in Long
Island. Scouting and
ministering to veterans are
hallmarks of men's
ministries.

A ship to take health care everywhere

By Jim Goodson

WATSONVILLE, California - The men at **All Saints Episcopal Church** in Watsonville, California have a dream: build a large ship to bring health care to island communities without access to modern medicine.

"Island people are probably the leastserved people in the world when it comes to health care," Patrick Vickers says. "There are about 100,000 inhabitated islands and very, very few have any kind of clinic. About 10 years ago a floating clinic in Southeast Asia was shut down. We read about it and decided to do something."

Vickers was very active in the men's



The Ixdos mission ship is under construction in Watsonville, California.

ministry chapter at All Saints and in the Watsonville Rotary Club, which helped him get in touch with UNICEF Fund), which wholeheartedly supports the plan.

New Jersey men rescue family from war-torn Nigeria

By Sean Garvin

NEW BRUNSWICK, New Jersey - A pregnant wife and her two young sons were rescued from war-torn Nigeria by men at Saint Alban's Episcopal Church.

The happy reunion was celebrated in 2013 when New Jersey Bishop George E. Councell presided over the baptism of Albany Uzomechina, daughter of The Rev. Gideon Uzomechina and his wife Nkeiruku.

Father Gideon came to the U.S. and became an assisting priest at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Freehold, NJ.

Father Gideon's wife and sons were still in Nigeria where Christians are being murdered every

day. Flying them to the United States for their safety would take a large sum of money the mission church just didn't have.

Parishioner Fred Daugherty began a personal fund-raising campaign through friends, family, church



Albany Chineme Uzomechina is baptized at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in New Brunswick, New Jersey by Bishop George E. Councell and accompanied by her parents The Rev. Gideon Uzomechina and his wife Nkeiruku. Also pictured are Sean Garvin and Fred Daughtery.

members and the others. Soon, the money was raised for the trip to bring his family to safety.

His wife and two young sons by the grace of God arrived in The U.S. in late July, 2012. Shortly thereafter we had the even greater news that they would be blessed with a daughter.

Albany Chineme Uzomechina was born on May 13th 2013. Praise God!

Bishop Councell (also a Brother) agreed to Baptize little Albany.

Sean Garvin can be reached at jamesbgarvin724@ comcast.net



St. Augustine's Episcopal Church parishioners participated in a Walk for Water in the summer of 2015 organized by the church's men's group.

Californians walk for water

By Robert Shonk

ROCKLIN, California -Drought-stricken Northern California Brothers are helping communities throughout Central America create sustainable water, sanitation, hygiene and Christian witness programs in partnership with local churches.

For St. Augustine's
Episcopal Church men, it's
a spiritual issue, too. Eleven
members of the church's men's group
participated in the 2015 Living Water
International Walk for Water event.

Most have made short-term drilling trips to Central America and Haiti. We have all worked together to raise awareness and funds to help eradicate the lack of clean water.

Our event has funded nine well projects in Haiti, Central America and Mexico.

Robert Shonk can be reached at robshonk1976@hotmail.com.

D.C. men offer job training program

By David Ware

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A youth employment program provided eight days of training to better prepare young people for the summer job market.

Men at the **Episcopal Church of the Atonement** offered job preparation tips for 15 youngsters between the ages of 14-24. Most of the jobs were in the food preparation industry.

The men of the church spent delivered flyers to residents in District of Columbia Ward 7 soliciting youth in the community to participate in their program.

The flyers were distributed on National Service Day April 25, 2015. National Service Day involves men from Lutheran, Methodist, Episcopal, Churches of Christ and other denominations. It's a day when men perform service projects in their parishes and communities.



Episcopal Church of the Atonement men canvassed residents in the District of Columbia's Ward 7 to publicize their employee training program.

Brother David Ware is chapter director at the Episcopal Church of the Atonement. He can be reached at topstyles1@yahoo.com.

A library for inmates

By Richard Boyd

Robert

Shonk

OXFORD, Mississippi – A few years ago men here at **St. Peter's Episco- pal Church** undertook a ministry we've found to be most satisfying: the creation and maintenance of a library in the local detention center.

One of our men's ministry members is a physician who makes a daily visit to the center to check on the health of the inmates. Recognizing the vast amount of idle time prisoners face, he urged our men's ministry to take on this project.

As our work at the detention center grows, we have undertaken two additional projects. One is the purchase of Christmas gifts for the sons and daughters of inmates, and the second is an annual Christmas party at which cookies and other refreshments are served in each pod along with short prayers and the singing of hymns.

South Texas prison ministry keeps growing

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church men visit inmates every Sunday

By Jim Goodson

ANGLETON, Texas – Chaplain Curtis Robinson was moved to tears during closing ceremonies of the fifth annual men's retreat for inmates at the Wayne Scott prison in Angleton, Texas July 31, 2011.

"This ministry is really coming together. I couldn't be any happier," a

The state of the s

The Texas Department of Corrections Wayne Scott Unit is the site of the largest and longest ongoing men's prison ministry in the state.

tearful Chaplain Robinson told the couple of hundred inmates who comprise one of the largest prison ministries in the nation. The men's ministry **St. Timothy's Episcopal Church**, Lake Jackson, Texas sponsored the retreat and minister to inmates every Sunday.

Prison ministry expands

By Jim Goodson

VENUS, Texas – Texas prison inmates are learning Jesus Christ has their back, thanks to the efforts of the dedicated men at **St. Peter and St. Paul Anglican** Church in Arlington, Texas.

It's the second new men's ministry program in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Less than two years old, this ministry is also creating new disciples as inmates leave the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Sanders Estes unit and integrate into society.

But an inmate named Omer Hewlett receives the lion's share of the credit for the success. His efforts talking about Jesus Christ got his fellow inmates interested in forming a men's ministry. He also invited the men from St. Peter's and St. Paul's to take part.

Mr. Hewlett's involvement was so pervasive, he has been named Volunteer of the Year by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

In addition to the monthly Kairos prison ministries many men are involved with throughout the U.S., here are some stand-alone prison ministries that have been founded recently:

Yardville Correctional Facility, Yardville, NJ

Bro. Sean Garvin and Bro. Fred Daugherty
Rev. Gideon Uzomenchina

Wayne Scott Unit, Angleton, TX

St. Timothy's, Lake Jackson, TX St. Aidan's, Cypress, TX Bro. Dickson de la Haye Bro. Ollie Osborn

Livesay Correctional Institute and Livesay Pre-release Center, Spartanburg, SC

Church of the Advent, Spartanburg, SC

Sanders Estes Unit, Venus, TX

St. Peter and St. Paul, Arlington, TX

Lafayette County Jail, Oxford, MS

St. Peter's Episcopal, Oxford, MS

A racetrack ministry that really moves

By Robert H. Quaife

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky – Mission is played out in many ways by the men of **St. Francis in the Fields Episcopal Church** – including along the backstretch at Churchill Downs.

That's where every February and August clothing, appliances, televisions, children's toys and other useful household goods are delivered to hot walkers, stable hands and other entry-level workers at the venerable racetrack.

These recipients are not the people you see on TV during the Kentucky Derby. They are migrant workers who migrate from racetrack to racetrack as the racing season unfolds. Many of these transient workers have few possessions and they enthusiastically receive these items that make their lives just a little more pleasant.

Small ministry has a big agenda

ALTAVISTA, Virginia - A small ministry in historyrich Middle Virginia near Appomattox Courthouse has a big agenda.

From renovating a residence for a single mom in a better neighborhood - a project they labeled Damsel in Distress - to teaching Bible classes for all the parishioners at their **St. Peter's Episcopal Church,** this men's ministry never backs off from trying to meet their parish and community's needs.

They organize the town's disaster relief program, repair church pews and cross diocesan lines to team up with men's ministries in nearby Halifax, Waynesboro and Lynchburg.

They also cook dinner and sometimes serenade the Ladies Bible Study Class.



Hotwalkers and other backstretch workers are ministered to by Brothers from St. Francis in the Fields Episcopal Church in Louisville.

Men offer food, shelter for Norfolk's homeless

NORFOLK, Virginia - Men at **Grace Episcopal Church** here take part in an annual homeless assis-

tance program, working closely with the City of Norfolk.

Grace church men provide meals and sleeping quarters every March for



more than 50 homeless people. It's just one of many Grace's men's ministries that serve the youth, the elderly and disabled people.



The Venus, Texas prison where a Cleburne-based men's group turns lives around.

Texans help parolee turn his life around

By Jim Goodson

CLEBURNE, Texas - A men's group operating out of **St. Christopher's Episcopal Church** helped a paroled inmate get his feet on the ground, the groups president reports.

"He is a young man falsely accused of indecency with a child by his wife," president John Roof said, noting that the couple was going through a "nasty" divorce. When his attorney put up a weak defense, the judge assumed guilt and dealt a 30-year prison term.

Roof and BRS board members met weekly with the inmate for Bible studies in the Texas Department of Justice facility in Venus, south of Fort Worth. "He's now living a Christian lifestyle, going to church and has a good relationship with his daughter," Roof reports.

Jim Goodson can be reached at jimgoodson@aol.com. '

Tulsa men support inmates' children

By Ira Phillips

TULSA, Oklahoma -The men's group at Saint John's Episcopal Church cooked hamburgers and hotdogs for 200 children and adults for the New Hope annual back-to-school event.

Brothers support New Hope through sponsorship as well as participating in planned events.

New Hope serves children of prison inmates. Children five through 18 receive school and community based after-school programs, weekend retreats, holiday gatherings, monthly family social events and residential summer camps.

Ira Phillips can be reached at elmcreek@hotmail.com.

Ohio men take veterans to visit WWII memorial

By Craig Allen

Former U.S. Senator Robert Dole and current Senator Sherrod Brown joined World War II veterans from Ohio who caravanned to Washington, D.C. to visit the new World War II Memorial and to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns.



Brothers Dick Benkert and Marion Adams with U.S. Senator Robert Dole at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The men's ministry organization at **St. James' Episcopal Church** in Piqua, Ohio organized the trip from Miami County, Ohio to the nation's capital. The St. James' church van served as the supply vehicle that carried 15 wheel chairs and other items.

Storms swamp Carolina churches

CONWAY, South Carolina - All nine South Carolina chapters report helping families in their parishes and communities. Repair costs at one congregation exceeded \$20,000 for a new HVAC unit, carpeting and replacing wall panels.

St. Paul's Day School and Mothers Morning Out programs serve 60 children and infasnts required replacing the carpeting and damaged wall boards where flood waters had reached close to a foot of water.

The men from **St. Paul's Anglican Church**in Conway were there to help.



Repairs at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Conway, South Carolina.

Scouting, men's ministry are inseparable

By Jim Goodson

One of the best things men can to to bring young people to Jesus Christ is to support Scouting.

The Boy Scouts and the Cub Scouts have been housed in Episcopal churches since the early 20th Century, when Episcopalian and former U.S. President Teddy Roosevelt was one of the five founders of the Boy Scouts of America.



A Scout listens to a homily during an Episcopal service at the 2010 Boy Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Jill in Virginia.

Roosevelt's signature

incorporated the Episcopal men's ministry The Brotherhood of St. Andrew in 1908. And in 1910, Roosevelt incorporated the Boy Scouts of America.

In 2013, a total of 1,146 Boy Scout troops contained 37,313 youth. Brotherhood chapters sponsored 71 of the Scouting troops.

At the 2010 Boy Scouts of America National Jubilee, 3.5 percent of the Scouts identified themselves as Episcopalians, but this number is also actually too small. That's because the Scouts often identified themselves by their schools - many of which are Episcopal schools.



This number also does not count Scouts in Anglean churches - a considerable number.

Also in 2010, which was the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew began a program that offered Bibles to Scouts as well as badges, pins and other items.

Brothers who attended that year's 100th Anniversary Boy Scout Jamboree in Virginia helped create the Episcopal Scouting Association, with the stated goal of encouraging Scouts to earn their religious emblems, help Episcopal Scouts earn those religious awards and help both parishes and Scouting units "take the Great Commission to task," in the words of Lyn Reavis, an Episcopal Scouting Association founder.



Men at the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection in Northeast Georgia support Scouting on three levels: a Cub Scout troop, a Boy Scout troop and a Venturing Crew Scout troop. Venturing is a Boy Scout youth development program for young men and women 13 through 20 years old who have completed the eighth grade. Its purpose is to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible, caring adults.



Boy Scouts visited Christ Episcopal Church in Woodbury, New Jersey, where they learned about the fifth commandment, the church's history and the Episcopal Church from men's ministry director Jim Brathurst. Many of the church's members are also pictured.



Eagle Scout Bruce Holmes addresses the congregation at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C. A teacher, he was the guest speaker on Scout Sunday.

Congregations take part in National Service Day

Brooklyn men help women in need

By Peter D.L. Holmes

BROOKLYN, New York - Brooklyn churches held an annual feeding and toy drive at the Women In Need Family Shelter Dec. 21, 2013 in East New York, Brooklyn.

Over the past five years, men from 13 churches have adopted the WIN Family Shelter.

More than 310 meals were served to residents. The event also featured toy, school supplies and clothing distributions to residents of the facility. More than 100 toys and school supplies were handed to the kids by Santa Nick Cox.

Residents chose from a wide variety of clothes, coats, shoes and boots donated by men from the churches.



Brooklyn men conducted an annual dinner and toy drive Dec. 21, 2013 at the Women In Need Family Shelter. More than 300 meals were served to the shelter's residents and more than 100 toys and school supplies were distributed.

Parishioners clean their church, its 911 memorial grounds

By Robert Dennis

BROOKLYN, New York - Parishioners at **St. Philip's Episcopal Church** in the Dyker Heights section of Brook-



lyn restored a Garland Stove, cemented cracked and broken facing on their parish hall and restored the church sign on their grounds during National Service Day.

National Service Day was created by the men's ministries of The

NATIONAL SERVICE DAY

Episcopal Church.

They also undertook Spring cleaning, replanted their 9-11 memorial grounds, undertook a thorough cleaning of the church and restored storage closets to become useful again for new storage as well as conducting a general cleanup of areas where potential water damage might occur.

National Service Day hats were handed out and we had 21 volunteers.

The total cost for materials, plants, mulch, food and any other necessities were donated, saving St. Philip's, Dyker Heights, a substantial amount of money.

Young African Americans learn about their history

By Jim Goodson

SMITHFIELD, North Carolina – African-American history is taught to the young people of Smithfield, North Carolina every summer thanks to the men's ministry at **St. Paul's Episcopal Church**.

This past year, they took it one step further on National Service Day when Smithfield's Family Life Center

received new computers and a total landscaping project that limits water damage.



The 21-year-old

facility was created by Sarah and Sam Yard, New York postal retirees who moved to Smithfield and became St. Paul's members.

Mr. Yard helped charter the St. Paul's men's ministry chapter in 1993.



An aerial view of the Family Life Center in Smithfield, North Carolina and its ample and much-needed playground space. The facility was begun by the men's ministry at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Dallas men repair homes and lives

Habitat for Humanity and Patriot Paws are just two of their major projects

By Jim Goodson

DALLAS – Disabled veterans receive help from certified assistance dogs, thanks to a diocesan-wide collection of men's ministries.

An annual golf tournament raises funds for Patriot Paws, which trains and provides service dogs to assist disabled vet-

erans with the myriad daily tasks made difficult or impossible by their injuries.

Patriot Paws was organized in 2006 and has provided specifically-trained service dogs for disabled veterans, mostly those coming home from tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. A YouTube video put together by Patriot Paws can bring tears to your eyes when you see the things these dogs can do: remind veterans to take their medicines and retrieve the medications, open and shut doors, retrieve prosthetics, guard against cars at crosswalks, retrieve and pull wheelchairs ... you name it.



A Dallas golfer raising funds for Patriot Paws visits one of the organzation's dogs that serves disabled veterans mostly from the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. The service dogs are provided free of charge.

"In addition to helping me in many, many physical ways, (my dog) Harvey provides a huge emotional support," one veteran who suffers from post traumatic stress disorders says. "Harvey can sense the chemical changes happening within me when I get stressed, which happens in large crowds – even at the Wal-Mart on busy Saturdays.

"Harvey will let me know it's time to leave – and I totally trust his judgement."

Dallas' men's ministries are well known for their teamwork on behalf of many non-profit agencies. They've built 16 Habit for Humanity homes and performed countless home repairs through their Hearts and Hammers program.

When men act during crises

Alabama tornadoes - Men took part in relief efforts after nine tornadoes ripped through cities, rural communities and empty Alabama fields April 25-28, 2011. One tornado destroyed the home of **Christ Episcopal Church** Rector David Meginniss, although the church itself – the oldest in the Alabama diocese – was spared. Three tornadoes struck Gadsden and male parishioners set up a relief center in nearby Sylvania.

Joplin tornado - The 14 men's ministry members at **St. George's Episcopal Church** in Camdenton, Missouri organized, prepared, monitored and transported 26 large boxes of winter clothes and small appliances to nearby Joplin after a devastating May 22, 2011 tornado that killed 161 people. Helping people in need comes easy for these Missouri men, who take pride in working behind the scenes. In 2012 the chapter undertook 17 outreach projects and donated \$1,643 to eight ministries. The church's 14 men's ministry members are involved in a whopping 32 ministries throughout their Central Missouri city.

West, Texas explosion - Men's ministries throughout the nation helped Central Texans impacted by a devastating April 17, 2013 fertilizer plant explosion in the town of West, Texas.

Brothers sent gift cards to **St. Alban's Episcopal Church** in Waco, whose rector The Rev. David Holland – also a Brother – helped West citizens whose homes were destroyed. More than 80 homes were totaled, 75 were damaged and a 50-unit apartment complex was totally knocked down when a fire and a subsequent explosion destroyed the West Fertilizer Company.

Fifteen people died (11 firefighters) in the explosion and more than 160 people were injured.

The Brothers' gift cards from Wal-Mart and Target stores were distributed to displaced families so they could fulfill their immediate needs. One chapter was quick to respond. Brothers at **All Saints of the Desert** in Sun City, Arizona sent 10 gift cards totaling \$50 apiece to Fr. Holland at St. Alban's-Waco for distribute to those in need.

Moore, Oklahoma tornado - Men at **St. John's Episcopal Church** were discussing ways to start an emergency response team a few weeks prior to May 30, 2013 when an EF-5 tornado packing 210-miles-per hour winds tore through Moore, Oklahoma, a suburb of Oklahoma City.

"We had been thinking along the lines of storing up food and water we could distribute when tragedies strike," Ira Phillips said, noting the May 22, 2011



Tulsa Episcopalians in tornado-ravaged Oklahoma.

EF-5 tornado that struck Joplin, Missouri, killed 161 and left thousands homeless.

"But when the tornado hit Moore, food-and-water wasn't as much of an issue; they just needed manual labor to

help clear away the rubble," he adds. "So we pulled together as many people as we could, gathered our tools and went to Moore."

In all, 13 responders made the 108-mile drive to Moore. (Tulsa sits midway between Joplin and Oklahoma City). Arriving nine days after the tornado, the 13 Tulsans found houses either completely destroyed or barely-damaged, confirming the oft-told tale of the way big tornadoes do their damage.

"Many of the damaged homes were waiting on government or insurance companies to arrive so reports could be completed, so we couldn't touch them," Phillips said. "We found a homeowner who needed a damaged shed torn down, so we did that. And we helped a few others. We also made plans to return in July."

THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW POST OFFICE BOX 632 AMBRIDGE, PENNSYLVANIA 15003

NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Ambridge, PA Permit No. 12

RAPID RESPONDERS

Hurricane Sandy -

Episcopal Church men's ministry leader Sean Garvin helped organize relief efforts along the North Jersey Shore immediately after Hurricane Sandy raked the nation's largest metropolitan area Oct. 29, 2012.

Truckloads and tractor-trailer loads of donations lined up at **St. Mary's-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church** and Garvin, his wife Nancy and fellow parishioners began the mammoth task of organizing and distributing supplies and other relief efforts.

The storm surge from Sandy swept Jersey Shore communities, toppled trees, ripped up boardwalks, lifted boats off their blocks and piled sand like roadblocks into streets. And when the waters receded, residents were left to clean up from one of the worst storms in New Jersey's history.

"We were the only game in town," Garvin says.
"Once the National Guard arrived, things were a bit
more organized. But it was still pretty hairy. Not just in
Point Pleasant but in Red Park and Asbury Park and all
up and down the shore.

Early on the morning of Nov. 10 about 20 Christ Church volunteers left at 8 a.m. for their initial trip to St. Mary's-by-the-Sea. In addition to cleaning out homes and sorting supplies, including clothes, they cooked and served meals to residents and first responders. "The supplies came from everywhere – Michigan, Canada – you name it," Garvin said. "Many men's chapters from inland churches sent supplies and workers."





Men who organized a search-and-rescue organization, right, gathered volunteers to help unload supplies at St. Mary's by the Sea in Point Pleasant, New Jersey after Hurricane Sandy.