

THE CROSS



DECEMBER
2021

THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

Prayer, Study, and Service

The Episcopal and Anglican Newsletter of Men's Ministry

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Share Your Light in this Holy Season



**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



On My Mind...

E FOR ONE MORE

Conrad Jones
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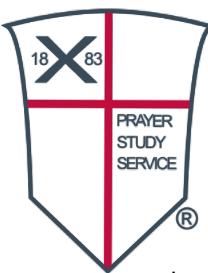
Ever since I was blessed to have a one-on-one Zoom call with The Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church, I have had that letter “E”, and the associated word it starts with, on my mind. It’s a word you don’t hear many Episcopalians say out loud too often. It’s a word, and an action, that is mostly whispered when talking about fostering church growth, or — for that matter —our own ministry’s growth. But that one word...**EVANGELIZE**...is a difficult one to bring up in conversations. I mean, images of the likes of Billy Graham, Joel Osteen, Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell immediately come to mind. But, guess what... when I asked Bishop Curry what we, as the perpetual men’s ministry for the Episcopal and Anglican church, could do **for the Church**....he never hesitated. He said, **“EVANGELIZE”!**

Now, I know that might make some of us nervous or anxious. You’re probably thinking, “Really, ME become an evangelist?” But let’s break it down just a bit.....

Evangelizing is not much more than telling a story. Yep, that’s right... telling your story, **OUR** story of the Brotherhood to our family, friends, fellow parishioners, co-workers, golf partners, workout partners, neighbors, people waiting in line at the grocery checkout line, or someone you see at a holiday party. Telling a story about how being a member of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew is good for you as a man of faith. The value of being in fellowship (in person or virtually) with other men in a safe environment to share your faith, pray, and relate to scripture written centuries ago is sometimes beyond words. It’s transformational once you “break the ice” and just begin to tell the story. Now that’s where I often run into trouble because once I start gushing on and on about the Brotherhood, it’s hard to hit my “pause” button. But —trust me —once you’ve done it, it’s easier and easier every successive time.

Think about it, isn’t that EXACTLY what St. Andrew did? Wasn’t he the first “evangelist” “apostle”? When he encountered Jesus, he dropped EVERYTHING he knew and was comfortable with as a fisherman, to run and begin to tell first his own brother and then countless others about this man he had met, Jesus. And Jesus told him he would make him a fisher of men! How transformational was **THAT?**

So as I think about our recent celebration of St. Andrew’s Day on the 30th of November and the fish and seafood that



go along with that celebration, I reflect on St. Andrew. Andrew’s very name means “strong” and he was known for having good social skills. But can you imagine his faith and dedication that helped him ignore any fears of sharing his story and evangelize? He left his familiar life to become a fisher of men. He did that to be *telling the story*... he *evangelized*. Andrew went on to preach the Good News around the shores of the Black Sea and throughout what is now Greece and Turkey. Andrew was martyred by crucifixion on a cross form known as “*crux decussate*,” which is an X-shaped cross or a “saltire.” Today this is commonly referred to as “St. Andrew’s Cross.” It is believed Andrew requested to be crucified this way, because he deemed himself “unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus.” That same “x” on our lapel pins is a perfect ice breaker to begin to tell our story when someone asks what it means!

How long has it been since you’ve shared YOUR story of belonging to this ministry of men that started 138 years ago? Are you willing (and certainly we are all able) to evangelize to other men? If you’re fearful or anxious, practice with men who are already your Brothers... like at a Chapter meeting, or a national Brother-At-Large Zoom call, or on our monthly webinars. And once you feel comfortable, I have a challenge for you for the next 30 days.

Tell your story and bring ONE MORE MAN to join us (or rejoin us if they’ve become inactive for some reason). One more man that you can evangelize to and share your story. One more man to be able to share what we as Brothers—fellowship of Christian men dedicated to Prayer, Scripture Study and Service. How simple a task, to share your story with another man and bring him to a closer walk with Jesus. His application for membership can easily be completed online on our website, or call me or our national office and we can walk you and him through it. We’ve already received ten new member applications since November 1! And just imagine the spread of the story we can tell in one month reaching nearly 5,000 men!

How POWERFUL that will be....
And that’s what’s on my mind....

Conrad



Directly Speaking

A DEEP DIVE

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

We have just celebrated the Feast of St. Andrew and our own 138th Brotherhood of St. Andrew anniversary. We started with a group of just a dozen Brothers in Christ in downtown Chicago. Now, your national staff is knee-deep in the midst of Annual Chapter Report submissions and member renewals.

I was reminded recently that the apostle Andrew was always moving quickly to see a need and move into action. Sometimes it was simply making introductions. My hunch is many times in his life he was reminding others of the value of building community through intentional prayer. He was routinely encouraging a deep dive into prayer that led to study that led to service and action. Sound familiar?

None of this was too flashy two thousand years ago. This “non-flashy” stuff of prayer, study and service 138 years later is still “non-flashy” stuff. Yet the word of God is near us. “It is in your mouth and in your heart so that you may do it,” as offered in Deuteronomy 30. This is our charge.

Recently I was involved in a discussion with Canon Mark Stevenson, Canon to the Presiding Bishop. He was a guest at the Brotherhood National Office. During the course of the conversation one of the things that really resonated in my



We have to take a deep dive and look for the face of Christ through others. Whatever they may look like on the outside, perhaps very different from our own outward appearance, the face of Christ is in them.

soul was that he wanted us to share “good news evangelism stories” with him so that those stories can be shared throughout the church. Think about that. What he most wanted from us was evangelism stories.

We are continually asking our members, “What’s your story? What Chapter news can you share with us?” That’s part of what the Annual Chapter Reports seek. That’s where our editor gets ideas for featured stories. Now we have a direct request to share our evangelism stories on a larger scale. Here’s where the “deep dive” comes in.

Andrew was all about the value of intentional prayer and how it can change the world. What does the face of Christ look like as we approach 2022? Yes, it’s an infant child as we live into Advent and Christmastide. The heart of an infant is so pure. We have to take a deep dive and look for the face of Christ through others. Whatever they may look like on the outside, perhaps very different from our own outward appearance, the face of Christ is in them.

That’s where the deep dive takes place. Merry Christmas.



Attention

Brotherhood of St. Andrew Members at Large

Here are two special Zoom opportunities to connect this month.

- Wednesday Evening program, December 15, 2021 at 8 p.m. EST (7 p.m. Central)**
- Saturday Coffee and Donuts conversation time, December 18, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. EST (9:30 a.m. Central)**

To find out more and receive a Zoom link, contact
Jess.Shelton@brothersandrew.net

CHAPTER NEWS

TRINITY FREDRICKSBURG, VIRGINIA, CHAPTER CELEBRATES ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY WITH ST. ANDREWS DAY COMMEMORATION

By Jim Carlock

The Trinity Fredericksburg, Virginia, Chapter celebrated St. Andrews Day with special recognition from the Trinity Episcopal Church Rector, The Reverend Cynthia McKenna. At the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service on November 28, The Reverend McKenna called each of the Chapter members in attendance to the front of the church nave and gave a blessing in front of the parishioners.



Dr. Fred Woodaman holds an "impromptu" concert in front of Trinity.



Trinity Chapter members pose with the bagpiper, Dr. Fred Woodaman, and The Reverend Cynthia McKenna.

Additionally, The Rev. McKenna surprised attendees with a bagpiper from the local University of Mary Washington Pipe Band, Dr. Fred Woodaman, playing songs as the Chapter members marched out at the conclusion of the service. It was noted that St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland and bagpipes were an integral part of Scottish music. The festive "concert" continued in front of the church building where parishioners, the bagpiper, and the rector all joyfully had photos taken to capture the event.

The Trinity Chapter has several of the original members from November 30, 1986, when the Chapter charter was approved. The Chapter has grown to over 30 members and is now the second largest chapter in the commonwealth of Virginia. The Rev. McKenna, who began serving as the Trinity Rector in January 2021, said one of the reasons she wanted to be a part of Trinity is the active Chapters of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew and the Daughters of the King.

NAPIERVILLE, ILLINOIS BROTHERHOOD CHAPTER HONORS VETERANS

By Bill Powell

The Naperville, Illinois, Brotherhood Chapter hosted a breakfast to honor Veterans and their spouses on Saturday, November 13. Eight Veterans were recognized for their service and sacrifice by the ten attending.



Brotherhood members. Some of the Brothers are shown here (Left to Right) Brother Bill Powell, Brother Dave Llewellyn, and Brother Thom Sutton. The other five individuals pictured are some of the veterans and guests.

SCOUTING'S GOD & LIFE PROGRAM OFFERED THIS MONTH

- **What:** Scouting's God & Life Program
- **When:** Saturday December 11, 2021, 8 a.m.-9:30 a.m. and archived electronically
- **Where:** ON SITE: Huffman Hall, St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa Drive, Austin, TX 78759-8678

ZOOM

Via ZOOM ID: 876 7429 6967 | Passcode: BOSA
moreinfo.news/Zoom_Scouting

One tap mobile:
+13462487799,,87674296967#,,, *950599# US (Houston)

- **Speaker:** The Rev. Nathan G. Jennings, J. Milton Richardson Professor of Liturgics and Anglican Studies, Seminary of the Southwest



The Rev. Jennings will overview Scouting's God and Life program. He is holding sessions for Scouts pursuing Religious Emblems, using "PRAY" material, focused on the life of Paul as an example of the Christian life. The Rev Jennings is the J. Milton Richardson Professor of Liturgics and Anglican Studies and father of a Troop 511 Scout. This topic falls under Scouting, a Brotherhood focus ministry.

- If you are in the Austin, Texas area, the agenda is 8 a.m. Breakfast; 8:30 a.m. Opening | 8:45-9:15 The Rev. Jennings | 9:15 a.m. Order of Service and Closing
- For others who cannot be present either in person or via Zoom, this session will be recorded and posted to the St. Matthews Episcopal Church YouTube Channel for viewing at your convenience.

Please RSVP to Don Neely, neely2175@gmail.com if you plan to attend and indicate if attendance is in-person or online.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BROTHERHOOD CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT GUIDE (CDG)

By Tom Martin, Brotherhood of St. Andrew Field Operations Vice-President



As the Brotherhood of St. Andrew has grown over the years since our founding in 1883, there have been several guiding tools that have been developed over time to provide some basics at the field level on how to:

- instigate a Chapter
- develop a Chapter
- operate a Chapter

While these past efforts were adequate at the time to create an environment where Chapter development and growth could be accomplished, often the resources necessary to do these activities efficiently were not easily retrievable and not secured in our Brotherhood corporate memory, thus limiting the effectiveness of Chapter activity and development.

To address this issue, and to optimize Chapter Development Guide (CDG) activities, a group of Brotherhood members first developed an outline as to what the CDG should contain and then went about gathering and placing key information into the outline. The idea was to have everything a Chapter needs to know and do be accessible somewhere in the CDG. The CDG's primary objective was to provide Brothers all they need to develop and operate a thriving Brotherhood Chapter. The members of the group that worked on this project included both members of Brotherhood leadership and field representatives.

The Brotherhood CDG is now officially published and housed on the Brotherhood of St. Andrew website under the Resources tab. It can be reached at the link www.brothersandrew.net/Resources/chapter-development-guide.html.

When you access this link from the Brotherhood website, you will first see this outline (at right):

Once you click on a topic, the specific information will come to the screen for use and can also be printed at that point.

More detailed information on various topics is referenced in this document to point to other website links. The style of this document is grounded in guidance—not detailed rules. This document has been compiled from prior information in the Brotherhood archives and is meant to serve as a primary source for all that is needed in one place for Chapter operations.

We anticipate this document being one that is added to, or otherwise modified, as we move forward. We will continually discover items of value that need to be shared and ask that, as you use this document, you provide questions and feedback to our National Office. Changes of a major nature will be highlighted in *The Cross*.

Right now, we hope you will pay special attention in the CDG to the section of the document that deals with the critical role of the Chapter Sponsor.

Should you have questions at this time, or after use of the CDG, please contact Tom Martin, Brotherhood of St. Andrew Field Operations Vice President, for some conversation at 678-427-0416.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew(BStA) Chapter Development Guide Outline– 11/30/21

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GET READY FOR THE NEW YEAR

Jump Start Your Men's Ministry in Spite of Lingering COVID Concerns



So, here we are —approaching yet another year amidst languishing concerns about potential new variants of the pandemic. What can you do to help your Brotherhood Chapter thrive? As always, default to being cautious but creative and extra compassionate in the midst of winter's isolation. Here are some things to consider trying.

Rev up your men's group Bible study. Yes, make firm plans to get it restarted in January or February, no matter what form pandemic conditions may eventually cause it to take. You may start out meeting in person and, due to pandemic conditions, need to move it all back online. Another good option is to offer both in person and via Zoom from the very beginning. If you need help negotiating the technology in your Brotherhood Chapter, seek the help and guidance of a younger brother in your congregation OR someone from your church's tech team. Your clergy can likely point you in the right direction. The main thing here — using the pandemic as an excuse for your Chapter not to be convening to study scripture needs to be a New Year's "don't." Just get going and be ready to stay flexible. But do SOMETHING! Right now. Where there's a will, there's a way! Brothers need to be regularly studying God's word and holding others in mutual prayer.

Speaking of prayer... talk with your clergy about the possibility of your Brotherhood Chapter offering leadership for a congregational prayer ministry effort in the New Year. Overworked clergy will likely appreciate the support. And, even from a worst-case scenario of quarantine your members can still offer daily prayer, make phone calls, and send notes and cards letting parishioners know your Chapter is praying for them. You can begin by strengthening your prayer ministry with your own Chapter members and then reach out further into your congregation and community. Again, the pandemic caused some of us to put group prayer on the back shelf. It is time as the New Year begins to strengthen that commitment once more. Pray with discipline and boldness in your Chapter!

What are you doing New Year's Eve? How about organizing a Brotherhood New Year's watch and prayer service, even inviting your whole congregation or community? Include brief readings, simple music, candlelight, bells, and both spoken and silent prayer time. This idea is very weather dependent but you can also consider holding it outdoors around a roaring fire and offering simple refreshments (maybe hot dogs for roasting) afterward. Does your Chapter have a lot of members who may find it difficult to stay up until midnight? Then embrace the custom of gathering to celebrate early New Year's, counting down to noon. This idea could precede a nice lunch at church, outdoors, or in a favorite local restaurant.

Revive the custom of the Twelfth Night burning of the greens. To make it more eco-friendly, do a symbolic burning but gather greens and trees to take to your community recycling center. Or, bring in a chipper shredder and recycle greenery as mulch for your churchyard or the gardens of your Brothers or parishioners. The point —revive a church custom and bring your Brothers together for some fun, fellowship, and service.

Who doesn't love a January indoor beach party (even if you already live near the beach!) that also serves as an open house opportunity for prospective new Chapter members? Make it fun, festive, and a casual opportunity to meet men in your church and share with them about your Brotherhood Chapter, inviting them to join you for future functions.

Four words —plan your Chapter year. Yes —we hear you. It can be tough to plan a lot of ministry at a time when the pandemic still has things feeling a bit uncertain. But it is better to plan and need to revise or cancel than never to have planned at all. Sit down with your leaders and a calendar in January and vision out your entire Brotherhood year. When will you meet for Bible study and prayer? How can your Brothers support your parish's Spring graduates? What will you do for St. Andrew's day? Your goal is simply to get a good, basic road map together, thinking about what the church calendar already has planned, and figure out where you are going as a Chapter.

Big game fun. Every community or state has a big game occasion in January. A college hoops rivalry, a high school tourney, or even a national big game. Gather your Brothers for some game time fun, watching together with some great snacks and lots of comfy seating for good conversation. (Hint: this can be a good warm up to thinking about a Super Bowl gathering a few weeks later!)

Recognize and thank your community's first responders for their pandemic efforts so far. Talk with your local hospital's public relations office about who should be recognized. Consider delivering a meal or snacks with thank you notes or cards from your Brotherhood Chapter. Share your project with your parish, diocese, social media, and (if appropriate) your local newspaper or other public media.

Which Brotherhood mission emphasis would your Chapter most like to energize in your parish? Plan now to work with your clergy and pick a month, designating it as a month of education and action around a particular mission emphasis. Plan a series of weekly activities with the goal of impacting positive change. Don't remember what the Brotherhood mission emphases include? Check out the front page of this issue of *The Cross* and read more at brothersandrew.net.

One final thing —if your Chapter tries out any of these ideas, we would love to see and hear more here at *The Cross*! Write editor@brothersandrew.net



GIVE THE GIFT OF A MEMBERSHIP TO THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW FOR ONLY \$50! A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT EPISCOPAL AND ANGLICAN MEN'S MINISTRY



Go to brothersandrew.net/AnnualMembershipRenewal to join or fill out and return this form with a check to:

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

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NATIONAL OFFICE IF YOU WOULD
LIKE MORE INFORMATION OR
ASSISTANCE.



The Leadership Board and Staff of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew wish you and yours a bright, blessed, and beautiful Christmastide and a Happy New Year.

“The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.”

—John 1:5



STAY IN THE CONVERSATION

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

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LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

*The deadline for our January 2022 issue is January 5, 2022.
Share your stories, photos, and ideas with us at editor@brothersandrew.net.*

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