

# STANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### WORSHIP. TEACH. SERVE. PRAY.

## Annual Report 2018



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## From the Rector

#### Greetings to the people of St. Andrew's! What a blessing to be in ministry together with you!

The year 2018 was indeed a banner year for our parish. We continued to be a dynamic, growing, welcoming, and hopeful part of the Body of Christ.

In the Spring, we introduced an innovative "New Member Formation" class, later renamed the "Seekers and Newcomers" Class. Involving multiple Mentors and helpers, this class truly helps newcomers and others find a connection with the parish. One result was that when Bishop Scott Mayer came for his visitation in the April, he Confirmed, Received, or Reaffirmed 28 people at our church! We are continuing to grow and develop our "Seekers and Newcomers" class, as well as our other exciting Sunday Adult Formation offerings.

Another exciting development this year was the Vestry-led "Gatherings," where we asked the congregation: "Where is God already at work in our Parish?" And based on this, we also asked:



three congregational meetings, the Vestry was able to build an "Identity Statement" we labeled "'The St. Andrew's Way': St. Andrew's is a welcoming and *loving* community, unified in Jesus Christ, that celebrates beauty,

inclusivity, and hospitality in the Anglican tradition. We are called to: Worship God with joyfulness, music, and tradition. Teach God's reconciling love. Serve all who have spiritual and physical needs. Pray without ceasing." This statement identifies who we are as a parish, and where we intend to be in our direction and decision-making.

In the summer, we had lots of great activity in our parish. For the Episcopal Church as a whole, this July was our triennial General Convention. Our own Cliff Craig was the lead lay deputy for our diocese. I also had the honor of being one of the clergy deputies from our diocese. Also this summer, Christian Formation Director Lacey Turman oversaw the "Miracle in Lowndes Hall"--the "Christmas in July" event. Scores of our parishioners donated the funds, then came together to scrape, stain, clean, and paint this fantastic sixty-year-old building of ours.



by Amy-Beth Morrison. Throughout the fall, that committee helped us see the many ways our support for this parish helps us be "The St. Andrew's Way." As a result, by the end of the fall Annual Fund pledge drive, St. Andrew's has now received from you, 16% more pledges going into 2019 than the paid pledges of 2018 (approx. \$550K in 2018; approx. \$640K in 2019). In the fall we also created and launched "the 1891 Society" for planned giving, and we had joyous gatherings for Rally Day, Oktoberfest, Trunk or Treat, St. Andrew's Day, and Episcoparty.

"Where is God calling us now?" Through these



By the Fall, we celebrated together with the St. Andrew's Way Dinner, led by our Stewardship Committee, chaired **2078** was also a year with significant transition and change in the staff at St. Andrew's. We had two significant retirements this year. Both **Sheri Langford** and **Barbara Whitton** retired this year after several years of faithful and dedicated service to St. Andrew's.

I am overwhelmed with gratitude and humility by the hard work and dedication that our clergy and staff does for the church and for the Glory of God. In January, the **Rev. Courtney Jones** was ordained deacon by Bishop Mayer and appointed to serve at St. Andrew's. She serves alongside our other wonderful deacons, the **Venerable Chris Wrampelmeier** (Archdeacon of the Diocese), and the Revs. Dede Schuler Ballou, Dave Blakley, and Mildred Rugger. Our deacons are "based" here at St. Andrew's, but are also serving at congregations throughout the Panhandle. I am also so very grateful for the wonderful work of the **Rev. Dr. Jill Walters**, Associate Rector and School Chaplain, who helps oversee areas of Christian Formation, Pastoral Care, Outreach, and St. Andrew's School. Our hard-working staff includes: **Martha Russell** is our Office Secretary. She works afternoons Mondays through Thursdays and is primarily responsible for preparing the bulletins, Angel's Alerts, and coordinating the office. **Brenda Chavez** is our Receptionist. She works Monday through Friday mornings, and she is primarily responsible for making reminder phone calls and maintaining records. Laurie Schmidt is our Bookkeeper. She is responsible for maintaining all the financial records of the church, making deposits, and writing checks. **Johnny Lattig** is our Sexton. He works Monday through Friday 7:00 to 3:00, and can be here for special events when needed. He also makes sure the church alarm system is set every night with his phone, and handles all problems day or night related to issues of maintenance on the property. Lacey Turman is our Director of Christian Formation. She oversees all Christian Formation, but particularly focuses on our children and youth and oversees the work of our new part-time Youth Director **Olivia** McDonald. Michael Mitchell is our multi-talented and gifted Director of Music Ministries and Organist. **Dean Kennedy** is our Parish Assistant. He is an invaluable member of the office team, and he also directs the Church Library. Dean also played an integral role this year in keeping things going during our time between sextons. **Kayla Young** is our Marketing and Communications Coordinator. She is responsible for our weekly e-newsletter, our social media presence, our monthly Messenger newsletter, and the wonderful graphic posters we have for our events. Madison **Coleman** is our Nursery Coordinator. She arranges the schedules for all our wonderful Nursery workers and makes sure we have coverage for all our worship services and other events.

On a final note, I want to celebrate the work and ministry of our Treasurer and two wardens this year. **Annette Mullins** has done incredible, selfless work as our Treasurer, guiding our financial life in the parish with great wisdom and sacrifice. **David Stidham**, once again, has been tireless in his efforts as the Junior Warden on behalf of this physical plant--and he always does so with grace and good humor. His love for this parish and our sacred spaces inspires us all. And **Helen Benton** has been a wonderful Senior Warden, providing steady wise advice when needed, but also being constant in her presence and her support. She hardly missed a meeting of any committee, and she always worked hard for the benefit of the parish all year long.

Looking forward, I am also pleased to announce that I have asked **JoeBob McCartt** to serve as Senior Warden this next year, as he has accepted. I am delighted to be your Rector, I believe that St. Andrew's best years are ahead of us!

Robert+

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## SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

Serving as Senior Warden this year under the leadership of Father Pace has been a great blessing and honor.

St. Andrew's has had a very active and dedicated **Vestry** this past year. Early on the Vestry decided to work on an Identity Statement for the church and to accomplish this we had meetings with the congregation. If you recall we had 3 opportunities for the congregation to come together, Marcy McKay was our leader, and we talked about who we are, what we do and where we are going. 150 people attended. Vestry members analyzed and distilled the results and discovered that the things our church wants to do is what we are were actually already doing – THE ST. ANDREW'S WAY --- WORSHIP+TEACH+SERVE+PRAY. The Vestry did that early in the year and it is still bearing fruit.

Our Annual Giving drive began in October this year in an effort to increase the awareness of the Congregation of our budget needs. The Vestry made personal contact with all members to encourage them to pledge or increase their pledge. This endeavor was well received and our congregation was very faithful and generous in pledging. Our Church is flourishing with our beautiful services and wonderful ministries and each of you, our faithful members, make all of this happen.

I want to express my gratitude to Father Robert and Mother Jill for their leadership and dedication to St. Andrew's. It's been a very full year and I know we all appreciate them and everything they have done for us and for St. Andrew's.

I'm so thankful to God for our church and for each of you.

Peace be with you,

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rope

orship

Helen Benton Senior Warden, 2018

## JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT



This past year was a busy year for the Properties Committee with several major projects to improve our building and grounds.

The Properties Committee began a yearlong project to significantly improve the security of our parishioners and campus. Proposals were requested from several suppliers for a major upgrade to our failing security system. A local security company, Safe and Sound, was selected based on better pricing and a better understanding of our needs. New door contactors were installed on all external doors, new motion detectors were placed in strategic locations, and new cameras were added to the existing system to bring our total count to 24. The system included a new recording system that will allow remote monitoring and control of our facilities through the use of modern smart phones. New security access codes were assigned to all parishioners who felt the need for their own code. This was a rather complex process in that we have a fairly large number of outside groups that enjoy the use of our building after hours. As we gain experience through the operation of our new system, the Properties Committee is developing plans to add security coverage in weak areas.

Additional security has been provided with nightly patrols by agents of Allstate Security who make sure that all of the buildings are empty and secured.

The sound system in the Nave was enhanced with the addition of new microphones and receivers that operate on higher frequencies that will limit interference from other transmissions. New microphones above the choir were also installed. Current plans include the installation of speakers and wi-fi in the Columbarium which will improve services held outside.

During the summer months, it became necessary to replace the Sexton. A new job description was developed and numerous candidates were interviewed. We were blessed by the employment of Johnny Lattig as the new Sexton. Johnny has quickly learned the complexity of life at St. Andrew's and has become a valuable asset. If you have not had the chance to meet Johnny, please introduce yourself. A Level I Energy Audit of Lowndes Hall was conducted by energy professionals. The audit revealed several areas of lighting and heating/air conditioning where energy savings could be realized through the installation of modernized equipment. The Properties Committee continues to analyze the cost/ benefits of the capital expenditures required of the improvements.

Finally, a great project was conceived this year where parishioners had an opportunity to contribute their time, talent, and treasure to provide desperately needed improvements to Lowndes Hall. Lowndes Hall was built in 1965 as a school building. It is now a building where we welcome newcomers, teach Sunday school to our children and where we open our campus to a great many outside civic groups. All of the halls and most of the classrooms were repaired and repainted and otherwise "updated". The building is now a warm welcoming facility that we can all be proud of. Many thanks to all of the people who contributed money and time to the "Christmas in July" project. It was a tremendous success and we are truly blessed.

In Christ's love, David Stidham

Worship. Teach. Serve. Pray.



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n 2018 alone, St. Andrew's held 244 Eucharists. We are so glad that we got to celebrate, pray and worship God together through these various Eucharists! If you have ever wondered how our services are run, it is by the service, time and investments put in by the parish and clergy. Our Rector, Associate Rector, Deacons, Eucharistic Ministers, Lay Readers, Acolytes, Ushers and Greeters were deeply committed to serving the parish and community with their time and talents. St. Andrew's is greatly blessed through the talents of every individual that contributes to the Eucharist, but even more blessed to be able to come together as a parish to worship our Lord. We love coming together in a beautiful place to pray, read scripture and worship God through the word, song and share Holy Communion. Our music program includes: our Music Director Michael Mitchell, a legendary organ, a talented choir and a loyal bell choir. Another group of service- minded people, who work behind the scenes to ensure that each Church service runs well, is the Altar Guild. If you attended a Eucharist service, a Baptism, a Wedding, a Confirmation or a Burial in 2018, the Altar Guild was faithfully working behind "Duty makes us do things well. Love makes us do things beautifully!" -Altar Guild





the scenes making sure everything was in place and faithfully executed. We are grateful for the humble service of each Altar Guild member. This year we began to encourage

member. This year we began to encourage children to participate as Ushers, Greeters, and Readers. Our youngest saints continue to bustle with energy and joy. The presence of children at St. Andrew's is a gift to the church. Children attending our worship services remind us that our church is growing! How exciting! The way we embrace and welcome children in our worship will affect the way they respond to church and to God throughout their lives. In 2019 we hope to offer even more ways to keep children engaged in our worship!

> **48** children as Acolytes in 2018!



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## 244 Eucharists in 2018

"Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here."









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## TEACH ADULTS



There are many classes taught and held here at St. Andrew's. We are thankful to those who volunteer their time and service to teaching in these various areas! Here are a few brief descriptions of each class that met in 2018. For more information please contact our office or go to our website!



#### **Sunday Morning Adult Christian Formation**

We launched three additional Adult Christian Formation classes in the fall of 2018: Spiritual Journeys (featuring the challenges and adventures of a diverse group of parishioners as they shared their stories of spiritual growth), The Path Bible Study (using The Path: A Journey through the Bible curriculum from Forward Movement Publishing) and Living Our Faith (using The Work of the People videos on the series "Different But Not Divided" and "Recovery and Spirituality"). All classes were also designed to reflect 'The Way of Love' model encouraged by Bishop Curry. Perhaps the most important piece of information to share is that these classes offered something for everyone: listening to our fellow parishioners tell compelling stories about their spiritual journeys, learning how to live our faith each day in an often difficult world, studying the Bible in an easy-to-follow, yet challenging, format, and joining seekers to discover more about our faith tradition.



#### Lenten Series for the Whole Family

Lent 2018 brought a few additions and expansions to our traditional Lenten Series. As a church who loves to celebrate together, the potluck dinner each Wednesday during Lent is a treasured aspect of our Lenten Series. We love to eat good food and we love to share good company even more! During Lent, Wednesday nights at St. Andrew's provide a variety of worship, formation, and fellowship opportunities. Back by popular demand was the ever-popular program in which participants watch clips from Hollywood movies related to a specific theme. This year a new option was added. "Loving Your Whole Self" was a program where participants explored aspects of their mental, physical, spiritual, and creative self through painting, yoga, wine tasting and other projects designed to help bring balance and contemplation in the Lenten season. It was so popular that it continued throughout the summer and early fall and became affectionately known as "Women doing Stuff". Also new to the Lenten Series this year was the addition of a children's choir for ages kindergarten through 5 th grade. Their performance Easter Sunday was truly a delight. Middle school and high school kids gathered in the EYC room for structured fun, formation and fellowship. In 2019 the Lenten series will follow the same format of Eucharist, potluck, and program. There will again be multiple programs for ages 0-99! This year programming will be centered on components of the Episcopal churches "The Way of Love, Practices for a Jesus Centered Life."



This group reads scripture one Bible book at a time, with ample opportunity for lively dicussion and reflection. Each Friday they pray for the sick, the departed, for those who we are concerned, and offer thanksgivings.

#### **Education for Ministry- EfM**

In May of 2018, 5 people graduated EfM! The Education for Ministry course is a four-year program of Bible study, church history, theology and ethics. Begun over 30 years ago for the laity by the School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, TN, the program has graduated over 10,000 active students around the world. Beginning each fall, the group meets once a week through a nine-month period.

#### **Rector's Tuesday Noon Bible Study**

The format of this class is a focused, more in-depth Bible study of different books of the Bible. In 2018, they studied the Gospel of Mark and the book of Romans. In 2019, they will be studying the Gospel of Luke.

#### Seekers & Newcomers Class

Through our Seekers & Newcomers Class, we not only welcomed people who are new to St. Andrew's and/or the Episcopal Church, but we engaged people who have been long-time members. There is a shift from the primarily "informative" Inquirer's Class to a class that learns about our traditions and connects people with one another. It recognizes that Christianity is "caught," not "taught." Bishop Curry refers to this as the "e-word"—evangelism. We're sharing not only what the traditions and practices are, but why they are meaningful to us. We're exploring how we apply our worship to the call we all share to minister to a broken and hearting world.

# Youth +Kids





## The following are the classes we offer for kids and youth here at St. Andrew's:

The **Nursery** provides a safe and loving environment for children ages infant—3 yrs. Our nursery caregivers are carefully screened by the Rector and the Nursery Coordinator. All nursery staff members submit to a background check and are required to complete

"Safeguarding God's Children" requirements. Children's Chapel takes place during the 10:30 service. It follows the lectionary calendar, with an age-appropriate story told from one of the readings each Sunday. It is a time for fun songs, and deep (and not so deep) conversations with Mr. Mark. Wiggles and giggles are welcomed, and children are brought to "Big Church" just in time for the children's blessing. New this year, **Exploring God's Love**, was created as a hands-on program for exploring scripture designed especially for toddlers (ages 3-4). This class invites young children to listen, taste, touch, move, and experiment in a welcoming and loving environment. Each Sunday centers around a Bible story chosen because of its appropriateness for little ones and its meaning within the whole biblical story of God's creative and redeeming love. Developed specifically for Episcopal children, Weaving God's Promises helps children (Kinder-2nd grade) learn the ways that we are all part of God's beloved community. Each week, we "weave together" a different "thread" into our Christian experience and understanding. We explore our current liturgical season, a Biblical figure, or a special passage of scripture, emphasizing the ways that this particular "thread" helps us feel and understand God's love for us, our place in the Communion of Saints, and our call to live in loving community. We sing, we play games, we make crafts, and we break bread, usually in the form of graham crackers and granola bars. We learn that no matter what happens, we are all precious children of God, perfect in His sight, worthy of His love and grace, even when we don't exactly understand why.





**Mustard Seed** is a class rooted in Scripture. This class centers on the Bible, its people, and their story. 3rd-5th graders explore themes in biblical text and link biblical truths to life's dilemmas. With an emphasis on spiritual formation, worship, Christian discipleship and service, it encourages children to question and wonder as they find God. Rite 13 constitutes the first three years of The Journey to Adulthood (J2A) program which celebrates the individuality and gifts of each young person for grades 6th-8th. For High School (9th-12th grade) we offer J2A which comprises the second half of The Journey to Adulthood program. This segment teaches teens specific life skills necessary in adulthood. Ever year they take part in mission activities within the Church and wider community. We also offer, to 6th- 12th graders, Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) which happens twice a month. These middle school/high school teens gather on a Sunday afternoon or evening for fun and fellowship. Bowling, movies, and game nights are some examples of the kinds of fun activities our kids enjoy.



## Every age is welcome here.





We are so thankful for the service of the people who make these ministries happen. It is through each of these ministries that we have been able to run our liturgical services, meet new parishioners, serve those in our community, have events and continue the ministry. If you are interested in serving in any of these areas, please fill out an Angels Alert tear-off card or swing by the offices for more information.



#### Breakfast Team

Each Sunday, the church opens its doors to everyone for breakfast, 8:45-9:45 am. On an average Sunday, Breakfast Team prepares and serves over 100 eggs, 18lbs of meat and 80 biscuits! Some who have come to this meal have gone on to become members of our parish. Everyone who comes in is fed! Many members have made a point to welcome non-members during this time. Food left over is often boxed and taken to various groups. This is a great time to grab delicious food and fellowship with anyone/everyone who comes!

#### Eucharistic Visitors

Eucharistic Visitors take communion each Sunday to Episcopalians who are unable to attend a regular service for short-term or long term reasons. Some were in the hospital, in rehabilitation, in senior living facilities, or homebound.

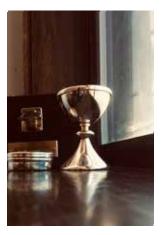
#### Flower Guild

Flower Guild continues to work on keeping flowers for all services and special events. On a regular basis, they work on keeping two arrangements on the altar, the Bishop's arrangement in the back of the Nave, two arrangements for Children's Chapel and boutonnieres for ushers and greeters. We are thankful for those who work hard at making our events beautiful!

#### Hospitality Team

The Hospitality Committee hosted 14 church receptions; 10 funerals, 2Daughters of the King, 1 retirement, and the Bishop's Reception for new members. Attendance at these events totaled approximately 1450 people. Additionally, 220 people attended Rally Day, 200 attended Ocktoberfest and 75 attended Blue Christmas. The start of Birthday Club began in 2018, this inter-generational gathering celebrates birthdays each month at a party after the 10:30 service one Sunday a month. It has been very well received and average attendance is 60 people. "A special aspect of this ministry is the ability to celebrate those who may not otherwise receive the love on their birthday!"







100 eggs served every Sunday

Thanks be to God

52 Sundays makes for lots of amazing flower arrangements!



1,450 attended



#### St. Brigid's Prayer Shawl Ministry

9 years ago Prayer Shawls became a ministry here at St. Andrew's. They adopted St. Brigid's Guild as part of their name, in recognition of the Irish Saint, who legend says wove cloth of miraculous powers. In 2018, they continued to give shawls and teach members how to knit! Over 170 shawls have been knitted, prayed over and given to parishoners!

### 10 care bags

#### **Refugee Ministry**

An important highlight of 2018 for St. Andrew's was collecting donations for 10 care bags for Refugee Services of Texas to give to survivors of human trafficking! We desperately need people to volunteer their time for the continuation of this ministry. "Guided by the principles of human compassion and dignity, Refugee Services of Texas welcomes refugees, immigrants, and other displaced peoples and supports them in integrating and thriving in their new communities."

#### 2,000+volumes

#### Library

For 2018, and for previous years, all parishoners have been encouraged to come check out the volumes in the St. Andrew's Library. Come in 2019, make an appointment or come to Lowndes Hall on a Sunday to check out a variety of books!



#### Youth First Sunday

On the first Sunday of every month all St. Andrew's youth (grades 6-12) are invited to attend Youth 1 st Sunday. This ministry is designed as a service-based opportunity for youth to grow in their Christian faith by serving others. In 2018, YFS participated in 9 service projects. This ministry continues in 2019.



Amarillo Brown Bag Runs Angel Tree Backpacks for AISD Blue Christmas Worship Service Depression & Bipolar Support Alliance **Eveline Rivers Coat Project** FASO Friends of Aeolian-Skinner Opus Food for the Poor Good Samaritan Ministry **High Plains Food Bank** 





Thank you Tom Higley for serving as a photographer

## FASO



Friends of Aeolian-Skinner Opus 1024: Their mission is to present professional performances of primarily classical music for enjoyment and education of the people of Amarillo and the surrounding Texas Panhandle.

FASO invited Dr. Carol Williams, "The World's Sweetheart Organist" in October 2018. She played an astounding concert through FASO and she also graced the children of St. Andrew's with a children's concert. Look out for more amazing FASO concerts, coming in 2019, and get your tickets on their website fasoamarillo.org

## OVER 2 O Outreach programs St. Andrew's was involved in!

Interfaith Campaign for the Homeless Narcotics Anonymous **Open & Affirming Congregations** Pack-a-lunch Panhandle AIDS Support Group St. Andrew's Episcopal School Scholarships The Hunger Project Thanksgiving Meal Trunk-or Treat

Groups: Sweet Adelines, Tai Chi, Chess Club Music Groups: Advent Lessons and Carols, Bach Lunch

#### St. Andrew's Episcopal School

In 2018, we averaged 280 students, staff, and families participating in Morning Prayer twice a week and 310 students, staff, and families participating in Holy Eucharist once a week.



# PRAY

THESE ARE THE GROUPS THAT FOCUS ON PRAYER FOR THOSE WITHIN OUR PARISH, AND OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF ST. ANDREW'S FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM.

#### - Centering Prayer

For one hour each week Centering Prayer meets. They begin with *Lectio Divina*, then the last 20 minutes is focused on Centering prayer. This is a very sacred time! Both members and newcomers are always welcome at this special time!

### - Daughters of the King

This is a spiritual, praying order for women in the Episcopal Church and churches in the historical episcopate. The primary purpose of the Order of evangelism, through a disciplined rule of prayer and service. Meetings are available monthly for members and guests. They pray daily for the spread of Christ's Kingdom and for the spiritual growth of our parishes, for the clergy, the members and for those on the current prayer list. Highlights in 2018 included a field trip to the prayer labyrinth at St. George's, Canyon, and our annual Quiet Day of Prayer in December.

### - Empty Sky- Contemplative Prayer

On Friday evenings this group comes together to reflect and pray as a community. Contemplate means: thoughtful, meditative, reflective, introspective and deep thought.

#### - Men's Fellowship & Prayer Group

For at least half a century, a faithful progression of men have gathered on Friday at noon in Lowndes Hall for prayer followed by fellowship and lunch. Because of the hectic pace of modern schedules that impact attendance from week to week, the structure is kept simple. No rules, by laws, minutes, notes, dues, agendas, or officers to endure.



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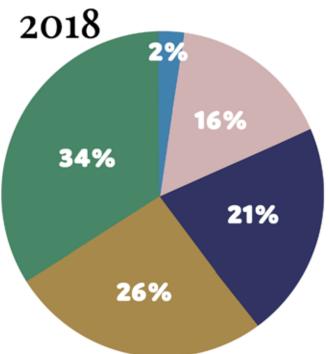
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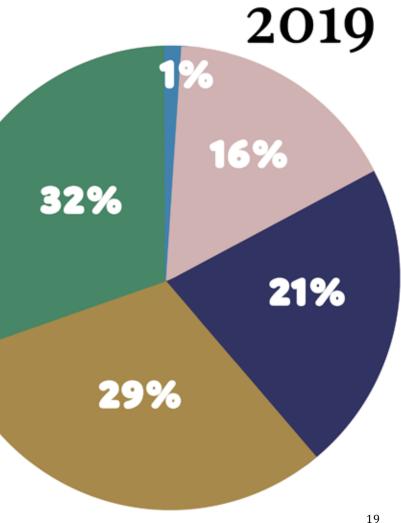
# Thanks for helping St. Andrew's continue the ministry!

164 people have pledged for 2019 so far!



**\$641,839** pledged for 2019





## 2018





### Expenses



\$907,286

It takes the whole Church to keep the ministry running. Thanks for your time, prayers, contributions and service in 2018.

## We look forward to what God will do in 2019!



