2020 ANNUAL REPORT St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Denton, Texas



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church continues to serve as a place of joy and a beacon of hope for ALL who wish to be amazed by Grace, surrounded by love and equipped to serve God's people. St. Andrew's location in the heart of Denton, along with our spiritual resolve and God's steadfast love, enables us to serve our whole community and the world around us.

We are mindful of what a challenging year it was in 2020! Throughout it all St. Andrew and its thoughtful and caring congregation has continued to embody Christ's words from Matthew 25:40, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

This call to service and giving in both times of good and times of trouble leads us and inspires us to remember the "face of Christ" in the members of our communities who need our efforts, and the glory given to God when we respond to those needs. It also serves as the basis for this report through which we can see that we "do not love in words or speech but with actions and in truth" (1 John 3:18). Let us acknowledge and celebrate our good works and rightly give God our thanks and praise.

OVERVIEW

This report serves as an annual summary of the Strategic Initiative Activities completed by members of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church during 2020. These Strategic Initiative Activities and this report are consistent with the intent and direction of the St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Mission Study dated August 2015.

The Mission Study charged the church with establishing objectives that include the "development of robust processes and procedures to drive accountability." As part of this, the Mission Study also identified five Core Values and several specific Goals and Action Items that would sustain St. Andrew for years to come. These five Core Values are shown at the end of this report in Appendix A. The specific Goals and Action Items that support the Mission Study are also shown at the end of the report in Appendix B.

While this report is intended to summarize last year's accomplishments, it is also meant to serve as a springboard for 2021 and beyond. It serves as a means to review what was accomplished last year and to help determine priorities for the future. Most importantly, it is effectively offered as an acknowledgement of God's grace and love, and to give thanks for all that God has given us.

In 2020, all Committee Moderators were asked to report: (1) the total number of people served or affected by each specific activity; (2) the number of times that specific activity occurred; and (3) how many of the Mission Study Action Items the activity directly supported. Additionally, they were asked this year to comment upon specific actions and needs assessed and met due to the COVID-19 crisis.

A detailed review of these reports cumulatively indicates that: (1) 339,537 people were served or potentially impacted by the church's 1,584 events or opportunities for service; (2) 116 specific Strategic Initiative Activities were conducted by members of the church; and (3) 1,249 actions occurred that were in direct support of the St. Andrew Mission Study and our Core Values. In addition, church members

contributed a total of 28,145 hours working to accomplish all of this, with an assumed value of \$281,450 at an established rate of \$10 per hour.

It is important to note that the definition of "people served" and the corresponding number of people varies significantly between certain activities due to the wide range of services and vast scope of some organizations with which we partner. We acknowledge the possibility that duplication of service may exist within the same activity; i.e. the same people are served more than once. However, we believe this report generally provides an accurate representation of this number. Based on the input from Committee Moderators, the above number of people served (339,537) more aptly indicates the *total number of instances of service to another person*. It should also be noted that the number of events decreased this year due to COVID-19 constraints, but as will be seen in the subsequent report, the different committees of the church often developed new or substitute solutions for those events, and the increase in working hours represents the exceptionally hard work put in by our committees and congregation during this unusual year.

In summary, all activities performed and resources expended in 2020 were done in a manner that is consistent with St. Andrew's Core Values and that directly supports the St. Andrew Mission Study.

ACTIVITY OUTCOMES BY COMMITTEE

The following reports were provided by the 2020 St. Andrew Committee Moderators or others as indicated. Each activity report represents a specific budget line item for the various committees. These reports are also intended to represent the specific outcomes of a particular activity conducted in 2020.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - Kirsten Brown, 2020 Christian Education Committee Moderator

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - ADMINISTRATION

<u>Audio/Visual Equipment</u> - A/V equipment and repairs were necessary to provide quality Christian education programming. This equipment needed to be periodically repaired, upgraded or replaced. This equipment includes projectors, iPads, audio equipment used in the Media Room and computers used during Sunday School. (Submitted by Kirsten Brown)

<u>Curriculum</u> - Church school curriculum supported efforts to provided quality Christian education to the congregation throughout 2020. These funds provided for all Sunday school curriculum, both online and in print. It also provided curricular materials for all other groups meeting throughout the year. This budget item is the backbone of Christian Education. (Submitted by Kirsten Brown)

<u>Leadership Training</u> - The Leadership Training fund provided funds to train Christian education leaders, including Sunday school teacher training and new officer training. This fund is important to the life and work of St. Andrew, training the leaders that facilitate all programs that benefit St. Andrew and the Denton-area community. (Submitted by Kirsten Brown)

<u>Supplies</u> - Supplies for Christian Education enable education activities and creative engagement for the curriculum to be explored and used to its fullest potential. If there was ever a year that needed Church School supplies, 2020 was that year. Supplies were packaged up and sent out to families with outline

instructions on the associated lesson/activity. In doing so, the intention was to reduce the 'extra work' required of families to participate in Church lessons/activities. (Submitted by Sarah Anne Adams)

<u>Camera Live Feed</u> - In 2020 the benefits of this live feed often served as the only way to transmit our worship services to the community and was a life-line for many. This has also been a great investment for future years after COVID-19. (Submitted by Sarah Anne Adams)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - ADULT FAITH FORMATION

<u>Advent Devotionals</u> - The Adult Faith Formation Committee initially planned to purchase Advent devotionals for anyone in the congregation, hoping to provide a directed spiritual devotional to the congregation during the Advent season. Because of the pandemic, the Advent Committee (sub-committee of Adult Faith Formation) decided to provide each family in the congregation with an Advent wreath and candles, in addition to the Advent devotional, in the hopes of connecting the congregation in a common worship practice in a time when our members are social distancing. Members used the wreath in home worship areas to prepare for the coming of our Lord and Savior. (Submitted by Kirsten Brown)

<u>Congregational Field Trips</u> - Due to the pandemic, no congregational field trips were taken this year. This fund, however, was used to help support the many efforts of Christian Education to keep the congregation connected through Zoom and drive-by activities. (Submitted by Kirsten Brown)

<u>Congregational Learning Events</u> - Monies from this account helped support many learning opportunities this year, including book studies, Zoom gatherings, church drive-by events, and porch-dropped materials. (Submitted by Kirsten Brown)

<u>Lenten Devotionals</u> - The Adult Faith Formation Committee purchased Lenten devotionals for the congregation, hoping to provide a directed spiritual devotional during the Lenten season. In addition to the devotionals, journals and St. Andrew pens were given to each member of the congregation. Members were encouraged to write reflections on daily scripture lessons in an effort to direct their hearts and minds to the meaning of Lent and Easter. (Submitted by Kirsten Brown)

<u>Lunch and Learn -</u> DeLila Bergen provided a three-part Lunch and Learn on the topic of *Aging with a Plan*. Forty congregational members took part in this informative series. (Submitted by Kirsten Brown)

<u>Women's Winter Retreat</u> - All women of St. Andrew were invited to attend the winter retreat at the Briarwood Retreat Center in Argyle. Forty members of the congregation enjoyed great discussions, activities, and music and worship. Rev. Denise Odom served as the retreat leader. (Submitted by Kirsten Brown)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

<u>Advent Adventure</u> - Even with COVID-19, this year's Advent Adventure was truly special. Each family received advent countdown bags that contained interactive components to help tell the Christmas story. (Submitted by Sarah Anne Adams)

<u>Children's Chapel</u> - Even with the adjustments that COVID-19 brought to Children's Chapel, thanks to the creative minds of the committee members we were able to keep families engaged with *at home* Children's Chapel. (Submitted by Sarah Anne Adams)

<u>Children's Ministry Curriculum</u> - Even in the year of COVID-19, Sunday school was a weekly offering for children ages three through fifth grade. Children learned the stories of the bible through the rotation of the Sunday school classes including Bible stories, discovery, art, and mission. It was even more important this year, as families were looking for new ways to connect with each other and the Church. Children's Ministry includes all children in the church. (Submitted by Sarah Anne Adams)

<u>Christmas Pageant</u> - COVID-19 brought us a Christmas Pageant like no other. Even though it was virtual, we were able to still engage and include (safely) several St. Andrew families. The impact continued past the singular viewing date, as the Christmas Pageant was able to be shared and stored online. (Submitted by Sarah Anne Adams)

<u>Mission Quest</u> - Mission Quest has traditionally been a summer program for the children of the church to participate in hands-on mission projects. We did not have Mission Quest this year due to COVID-19 considerations. In a non-COVID-19 year, Mission Quest children have the opportunity to learn about and then serve in a variety of mission projects in the region, nation, and internationally. (Submitted by Sarah Anne Adams)

<u>Nursery Supplies</u> - Traditionally, this provides much needed nursery supplies like snacks, craft supplies, and cleaning supplies for the nursery. St. Andrew has a growing nursery with more children coming in each year. This nursery is used on average 3 times per week for Sundays, Wednesdays, other days when parents are at committee meetings.

In 2020, the nursery was not used as often as it is traditionally due to it being closed for COVID-19 safety. However, this does take way from the growing need of the nursery for St. Andrew families. (Submitted by Sarah Anne Adams)

<u>God's Gift of Sexuality</u> - In a 'regular' year, God's Gift of Sexuality is a class for children in 2nd-5th grade and their parents. These classes happen every other year, the goal is to host this class again in 2021. (Submitted by Sarah Anne Adams)

<u>Vacation Bible School</u> - Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a week of Bible stories, crafts, recreation, snacks, and science activities for children in preschool - 5th grade. It also involves youth and adult helpers. This activity is important to our church because we always have many children, members and visitors who participate. Even in 2020, we managed to engage all the families of St. Andrew with a week-long Vacation Bible School via Zoom. (Submitted by Sarah Anne Adams)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - FALL FESTIVAL OF FAITH

<u>Fall Festival of Faith</u> - Fall Festival of Faith is a time for the congregation to come together and enjoy music and fellowship. Keeping this annual event in place during COVID-19 required some re-tooling, including a virtual speaker and individual meal pick-up. The Fall Festival of Faith supports the core values of providing exceptional worship and music and outreach to the community and beyond (in this

specific year, providing for remote participation in worship and the church community). This year our speaker was Dr. Tom Currie and an evening meal was provided for adults (Classic Café), and pizza and a program for children. Our Fall Festival is funded entirely by the Ruth I. Anderson Fund and we are deeply grateful for that ongoing support. (Submitted by Linda Steger, Moderator)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - SUPER WEDNESDAY

<u>Super Wednesday</u> - Super Wednesday enjoyed a successful year, despite the obstacles posed by COVID-19. St. Andrew has a long tradition of worshipping God through the life of the mind, and this popular intergenerational program continued to provide opportunities for intellectual growth and congregational fellowship. Since we were not able to gather for meals as we have in the past, we asked local restaurants to provide dinners for our virtual table fellowship. This was a great success with as many as 80 people participating each week. Our children and youth also participated this fall through Zoom gatherings, including a new puppet ministry, music, and fellowship time. Like all other St. Andrew activities, COVID-19 has altered the way we participate in Super Wednesday, and until the pandemic is over, most of our activities will be carried out through Zoom. However, this intergenerational program continues to be well attended as we gather each week for fellowship, ministries of service, educational programs, and creative activities for our children and youth. (Submitted by Julie Tolle)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - YOUTH

<u>Confirmation Class</u> - There was no Confirmation Class this year due to no one being of that age category. Typically, 8th-grade students spend a Sunday school year reading the Bible, learning about the Presbyterian denomination, participating in various aspects of worship, and examining their faith in preparation for their Confirmation. At the end of their study, confirmands present their faith statements and are examined by the Session. Confirmation class prepares these young people to become thoughtful and active members of St. Andrew, and to represent their Christian faith in the community. (Submitted by Stephanie Raesz)

<u>Confirmation Sunday</u> - There was not a Confirmation Sunday this year due to no one being of that age category. Confirmation Sunday is the culmination of the year-long confirmation class. Typically, students are given gifts to congratulate them on the completion of the class and to welcome them to membership at St. Andrew. On Confirmation Sunday, the congregation celebrates as the baptismal vows spoken by their parents in their infancy are confirmed by the students as they move into active members of the faith community. (Submitted by Stephanie Raesz)

<u>Mission Trip</u> - Once again in partnership with other Grace Presbytery youth groups, a mission trip was planned to The Menaul School in Albuquerque, NM, for a week in June. Ten youth from St. Andrew had planned to attend along with 4 adults. However, due to the pandemic, this mission trip was cancelled a few weeks before we were scheduled to leave. We hope to reschedule this same trip for June 2021. Mission study action items supported: 12 (Submitted by Laurel Fritz)

<u>Senior Recognition Sunday</u> - Seven seniors were recognized and honored as high school graduates this year. Each presented their senior homilies for the recorded worship service on May 17. Each senior was presented with a St. Andrew Senior yard sign, a necklace with a charm of the Presbyterian symbol, and a cake. Since we were not able to gather in person, members of the congregation sent cards and notes to the

graduates to acknowledge their accomplishments. Mission study action items supported: 5 (Submitted by Laurel Fritz)

<u>Summer Activities</u> - During the pandemic, youth continued to meet virtually on Wednesday nights throughout the summer. Each week consisted of discussion of how everyone was doing, games with prizes, prayer requests, and/or Bible study. Attendance was consistent throughout the summer. We celebrated the end of summer/summer birthdays with a party that included porch deliveries of individual cakes. Mission study action items supported: 9 (Submitted by Laurel Fritz)

<u>Sunday School</u> - Prior to March, middle school students met to study the Old Testament with various leaders. High School Sunday school, led by Stephanie Raesz, studied various "hot topics" as suggested by the students. When St. Andrew closed the church campus, a combined Sunday school of all youth began meeting on Zoom through the month of June. After Rally Day, middle school students continued meeting via Zoom to study the New Testament, while high school Sunday school moved to Sunday nights continuing the hot topics format. Both were led by Stephanie. Mission study action items supported: 11 (Submitted by Laurel Fritz)

<u>Synod Youth Workshop</u> - Synod Youth Workshop is a gathering of youth from all across the Synod of the Sun, normally held for a week in July at the University of Tulsa. In June, SYW was changed to a virtual program. Four St. Andrew youth and one adult participated in the virtual SYW. Prior to changing to a virtual activity, nine St. Andrew youth and two adults had planned to make the trip to Tulsa. Mission study action items supported: 14 (Submitted by Laurel Fritz)

<u>T-shirts</u> - All youth were delivered youth group t-shirts in the spring. The shirts had the names of the 2020 seniors listed on the back. Additionally, shirts were delivered to incoming 6th graders ahead of Rally Day so that all youth could be wearing their matching shirts on the Rally Day Zoom. Mission study action items supported: 2 (Submitted by Laurel Fritz)

<u>Trip Scholarships</u> - Due to the pandemic, no trips were taken this summer and therefore, no scholarships were necessary. Prior to the cancellation of trips, nine people had applied for summer trip scholarships. Mission study action items supported: 9 (Submitted by Laurel Fritz)

<u>Wednesday Nights</u> - The youth group met on Wednesday nights throughout the year, first in person, then continuing on Zoom. The Wednesday night gathering opportunities provided important support and connection to many youth after the shut-down of most in-person activities, including church and school. Wednesday youth group, whether in person or virtual, consists of games, fellowship, discussion, and Bible study. Mission study action items supported: 15 (Submitted by Laurel Fritz)

<u>Youth Sunday</u> - The theme of this year's Youth Sunday was "Love your neighbor as yourself." Members of the youth led the liturgy, music, and drama for this worship service. Kirsten Trachsel served as music director and many youth musicians provided special music. The drama, directed by Stephane Raesz, was a Reader's Theatre exploring the parable of the Good Samaritan. Mission study action items supported: 13 (Submitted by Laurel Fritz)

COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION -- Michael Ball, 2020 Communication and Administration Committee Moderator

<u>Administrative Miscellaneous Expense</u> - The Administrative Misc. Expense budget goes to supporting the cost to run background checks, pay fees for financial-related expenses, and supports occasional expenses like employee birthday celebrations. This line item will spend more than was budgeted this year, due largely to increased fees associated with online giving (the online giving fees will become part of the Stewardship and Interpretation budget in the future). It supports the mission of St. Andrew by providing support to keep the congregation safe and allows people to give to the organization online and by using payment devices like credit cards. (Submitted by Michael Ball)

<u>Advertising and Promotion</u> - The Advertising and Promotion line item supports promotional efforts of St. Andrew to the community. The budget supports weekly classified ads and seasonal ads run in the Denton Record-Chronicle during the Easter and Christmas (2019) seasons. Spending this year was affected by the pandemic. Classified advertising seems to be affected by a change to the publication cycle with Denton Record-Chronicle. This will be a priority to investigate in 2021. (Submitted by Michael Ball)

<u>Coffee and Water</u> - The coffee and water budget line item supports the hospitality of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church by providing filtered water, fresh coffee, and coffee supplies at St. Andrew. (Submitted by Michael Ball)

<u>Equipment Contracts and Repairs</u> - The Equipment Contracts and Repairs line item goes to supporting St. Andrew by supporting the lease agreement on the photocopier, postage machine, church database (Realm), and accounting software. The church office uses all of these items on a daily basis to do record keeping, share materials that support our programs, and do pastoral care. The congregation is able to use the church database to have some access to church information at any time of day. (Submitted by Michael Ball)

<u>Offering Envelopes</u> - The Offering Envelopes line item goes toward buying offering envelopes that help members give to St. Andrew. These were used by some members again this year. (Submitted by Michael Ball)

<u>Office Activities</u> - The Office Activities budget goes to support the day-to-day needs of the church office. Things like pens, paper, and other miscellaneous expenses are attached to supporting day-to-day operations that fall in this category. In terms of basic operations, this budget line supports the needs of the staff and the congregation.

This year the line item also supported acquiring a backup unit for the new streaming camera system in the Sanctuary, as well as an extra handheld microphone for the Sanctuary. (Submitted by Michael Ball)

<u>Online Communications and Website</u> - This line item supports running the website and email campaigns: web hosting by Bluehost and email marketing by Constant Contact. This supports the church by providing newsletters and other emails to St. Andrew members, and provides generalized St. Andrew information to the community via the website presence. (Submitted by Michael Ball)

<u>Postage</u> - The postage line item supports sending church mail via USPS and other postal carriers. Notes sent to visitors to worship services, pastoral notes sent to people that need pastoral care, *Shield* mailings to those members ministered to by Home Ministries, and the Stewardship campaign are all supported by this line item. (Submitted by Michael Ball)

<u>Telephone</u> - The telephone line item supports cell phone use for a number of staff members, internet connectivity for the church, phone lines, fax lines, and phone lines for the elevator and security alarm systems. In terms of day-to-day support, each of these things worked very well and supported the staff in supporting the day-to-day operations of the church. (Submitted by Michael Ball)

DIACONATE - Terah Hatter, 2020 Diaconate Moderator

DIACONATE - HOSPITALITY AND MEMBERSHIP - Mary Taylor, 2020 Hospitality and Membership Committee Moderator

<u>After-Worship Fellowship</u> - In a typical year food is provided in Narthex after worship on most Sundays. Volunteers for this event are recruited using montly email blasts and the online tool Sign-up Genius. Due to the pandemic this activity has been on hold since March 2020. (Submitted by Mary Taylor)

<u>Annual Meeting and Congregational Luncheon</u> - The Annual Meeting and Congregational Luncheon was held on 1/26/2020 after Sunday service. Lunch was prepared by Chef Liz. The meal served was ham, spring salad, baked potatoes with butter and sour cream. There were 150-155 people served at a cost of \$252.27. Diaconates were asked to provide desserts; three dozen each. The Committee set up table displays with celebratory colorful beads along with providing clean up and making sure notices were in the announcements. (Submitted by Mary Taylor)

<u>Bereavement</u> - Typically, three teams provide either a lunch before or a reception after a memorial service. Due to the pandemic, neither of these were able to happen. St. Andrew provided catered lunches from Jason's Deli for three families in 2020. These lunches helped considerably during the families' difficult time. (Submitted by Mary Smith, Coordinator)

<u>Chancel Flower Delivery</u> - Chancel flowers are delivered after Sunday services to members who are homebound or in the hospital. The flower deliveries are very nurturing to our members who are unable to attend church, are ill, or suffered a life change. Due to the pandemic this activity has been on hold since March 2020. (Submitted by Mary Taylor)

<u>Cradle Crosses</u> - The Diaconate presents a cradle cross to the children or grandchildren of St. Andrew members on the occasion of their birth or baptism. This is the church's way of showing its love and support for these children or grandchildren. It is also one way of tangibly showing that each recipient is a child of God and an important part of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. This is very well received and an important activity of the church. In 2020, the Diaconate presented eight cradle crosses to children or grandchildren. This year the crosses were mailed rather than hand delivered. This activity demonstrates the Core Values of Nurture and Compassion. (Submitted by Jim McIntyre and Mary Taylor)

<u>Membership</u> - Typically, a list of visitors is summarized by the church office each week along with the number of persons attending Sunday Services. Those who leave their information are contacted by either

email or written correspondence, and in some cases receive a visit from the pastors. Prospective members receive a name tag, which helps the congregation bond by being able to readily call each other by name. It also helps our staff learn and use everyone's names. When someone does not have a name tag, it further identifies them as a possible visitor and someone with whom we should interact. Due to the pandemic this activity has been on hold since March 2020. (Submitted by Jim McIntyre and Mary Taylor)

<u>Goodland Boys Dinner</u> - This year the event occurred on December 13th at 5:30 pm via Zoom. Members of the congregation and the Goodland Boys were provided with a pizza meal. Additionally, the boys selected gifts via Amazon and the congregation purchased these gifts for them. (Submitted by Mary Taylor and Leslie Culp, event coordinator)

<u>Homebound Communion</u> - Homebound Communion is offered on the first Sunday of every month to church members who are unable to regularly attend worship services. Teams of both current and former Deacons and Elders participate in offering this service. This service was suspended starting in April due to the pandemic. 11 different individuals received communion during the first three months of the year from 20 different servers, with an average of 10 individuals receiving communion each month. Homebound Communion is coordinated by Debby Ishee. (Submitted by Trish Highland, Coordinator)

<u>Home Ministries</u> - The members of the Diaconate, with assistance from additional congregation members, reach out to congregational members who are unable to attend church services on a regular basis. Activities include regular visits, cards and calls. Visits have been suspended during the pandemic. In December, each Home Ministry member received a blanket purchased by the Diaconate. This ministry is a means of providing the elderly or disabled a way to maintain a connection with their St. Andrew church family. It also encourages intergenerational connection, nurturing and ministry to our members who may no longer be able to attend worship services. During 2020, there were 334 reported contacts made with the 23 individuals who were/are on the list. (Submitted by Trish Highland, Coordinator)

<u>Liaison for Pastoral Care</u> - The Liaison for Pastoral Care assists the pastors in ensuring care for those undergoing a life change that deserves support such as a significant diagnosis, hospitalization, treatment, birth, deaths, or divorce. (Submitted by Arminta Jacobson, Coordinator)

<u>Maundy Thursday Dinner</u> - This year due to COVID-19 we celebrated Maundy Thursday with a worship service but with no dinner. (Submitted by Mary Taylor)

<u>Meal Train</u> - Meal Train is operating online this year with food gift cards and Door Dash meals delivered to the individuals. (Submitted by Mary Taylor)

<u>Membership Ambassadors</u> - Ambassadors welcome visitors and members each Sunday. They are also available for questions and directions. Due to the pandemic this activity has been on hold since March 2020. (Submitted by Mary Taylor)

Name Tags - Due to the pandemic this activity is on hold for the time being. (Submitted by Mary Taylor)

<u>Prayer Ministry</u> - One of three current Prayer Teams takes a turn each week to pray for individuals and families who are suffering, grieving or struggling with life's challenges. Members of the Stephen Ministry also participate in the monthly rotation. Over 3,600 prayers of comfort were offered this year for those on

the Prayer Concern list. This list is reviewed and updated each week. (Submitted by Vickie Armstrong and Mary Taylor)

<u>Presbyterian 101 Classes</u> - Due to the pandemic this activity is on hold for the time being. (Submitted by Mary Taylor)

<u>Prime Timers</u> - Prime Timers is a social activity for members over the age of 50 to gather and discuss topics of interest to the group. It also encourages further involvement in other church activities. Due to the pandemic this activity is on hold for the time being. (Submitted by Clarice Luce and Mary Taylor)

<u>Rally Day Breakfast</u> - Typically, the congregation provides breakfast items for the potluck Rally Day Breakfast. This year Rally Day happened as a drive-by and Zoom event with clickers given out to families. (Submitted by Mary Taylor)

DIACONATE - OUTREACH - Mary Smith, 2020 Outreach Committee Moderator

<u>American Red Cross Blood Drive</u> - St. Andrew provides the recreational center for the blood drive six times a year. St. Andrew and the American Red Cross have a great partnership. The Red Cross states that St. Andrew has one of the largest blood drives in the metroplex. We reach out to our congregation and the community to donate. Blood is always in demand and we generally collect 20-25 units of blood at each blood drive. Having the blood drive at St. Andrew lets the community know that we are a mission-oriented church. There were three Blood Drives this year with 85 donations. (Submitted by Jim McIntyre and Mary Taylor)

<u>Apple Tree Project</u> - Typically, we partner with Interfaith Ministries of Denton to collect gift cards and cash to supply low income children with clothes for school. The members of our congregation take an apple and purchase a gift card or write a check to provide clothes for low income families in partnership with Interfaith Ministries. The Apple Tree Project was cancelled this year due to the pandemic. (Submitted by Kit McRae and Mary Taylor)

Day of the Dead Children's Booth - There was no Day of the Dead Festival this year, so this event did not occur.

Day of the Dead Coffin Race - There was no Day of the Dead Festival this year, so this event did not occur.

<u>Day of the Dead Flu Vaccination Clinic</u> - St. Andrew partners with Texas Health Presbyterian Denton during the Day of the Dead festival. Members are given the opportunity to assist with the free flu vaccinations and make a difference in the community. This year the festival did not take place, so the clinic was held in the church parking lot. 42 people were vaccinated. (Submitted by Mary Smith, Coordinator)

Dentoning at St. Andrew - These events did not occur this year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Holiday Tree Lighting and Luminaries - This event did not occur this year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

<u>Denton Christian Preschool Supply Drive</u> - Much needed supplies for Denton County Preschool are donated and collected by the congregation during the months of January and February. In 2020, \$150 was donated to support the educational needs of 40 low-income children at the preschool. (Submitted by Mary Smith, Coordinator)

<u>Give-A-Meal-A-Month</u> - Each month the congregation donates food and money to the Denton County Food Center through the give a meal program. This year, due to the pandemic, only monetary donations were collected. The congregation supported the broader Denton area by donating \$10,484 in 2020. This amount fed approximately 4,572 people for a week. The opportunity to contribute toward this ministry gave our congregation the ability to show generosity, nurture and compassion during challenging times. (Submitted by Mary Smith, Coordinator)

<u>Interfaith Ministries Diaper Drive</u> - During the month of September, diapers and monetary donations are collected for Interfaith Ministries of Denton. This year the congregation came together to donate \$500 that was used to purchase 1940 diapers of all sizes. There is a great need for these diapers and by making these donations, the congregation embodied the core principles of nurture, compassion and generosity. (Submitted by Mary Smith, Coordinator)

<u>Our Daily Bread Christmas Gift Bags</u> - During the month of November, St. Andrew members donate new clothing, toiletries and other necessities to fill Christmas gift bags for the clients of Our Daily Bread. These donations are an integral part of the St. Andrew's core value of helping the greater Denton Community, as well as helping those in need. This year \$295.00 plus clothing and related items were donated for the ODB clients. (Submitted by Mary Smith, Coordinator)

MISSION - Natalie Garcia, 2020 Mission Committee Moderator

<u>Ann's Haven</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support to Ann's Haven, VNA. Many St. Andrew Presbyterian Church members, their friends and their families have been touched by the work of Ann's Haven. Ann's Haven helps people age with dignity and independence at home. In addition to hospice services, Ann's Haven serves 4000 Meals on Wheels per week totaling 208,000 meals/visits per year. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Cumberland Children's Home</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support to the Cumberland Children's Home. Additionally, inter-generational mission activities have been done at the home by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church members. In response to Christ's love and example, Cumberland Children's Home serves children and families by providing healing and hope and residential and non-residential services. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Court Appointed Special Advocates</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). CASA provides volunteer advocacy for every abused child in the Denton area. CASA serves 500 children in foster care - a service which makes the children more likely to be adopted. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Denton Christian Preschool</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support for the Denton Christian Preschool. Additionally, numerous St. Andrew Presbyterian Church members provide volunteer hours at the preschool. The Denton Christian Preschool is a faith-based school that believes the first few years of a

child's life are the most critical. Professionals and volunteers have taught, fed, loved, and nurtured three and four-year-old children who are considered to be at risk for succeeding in public school without early intervention. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Denton County-City Day Nursery</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support to the Denton City-County Day Nursery. The Denton City-County Day Nursery is a non-profit preschool offering exceptional care at an exceptional rate for each and every child regardless of family income. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Denton County Community Health Clinic</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support to the Denton Community Health Clinic. The Denton Community Health Clinic provides affordable, comprehensive, quality health services to all regardless of their ability to pay. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Denton Food Center</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support to the Denton Food Center. The Denton Food Center provides food from a central community storehouse to needy individuals and families in emergencies. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Faith Presbyterian Hospice</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support for Faith Presbyterian Hospice. Faith Presbyterian Hospice provides end-of-life care from a faith-based perspective. Some services are provided in-home while others are provided at the T. Boone Pickens Center in Dallas (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Fred Moore Childcare Center</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support for the Fred Moore Child Care Center in Denton. The Fred Moore Child Care Center serves low-income families in our community by offering comprehensive, affordable and well-balanced care for children 6 weeks old to 5 years old by delivering a positive and quality early childhood educational experience (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Friends of the Family</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support for the Denton County Friends of the Family. Friends of the Family provides compassionate services to those impacted by rape, sexual abuse and domestic violence. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Giving Hope</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support to Giving HOPE, Inc. Giving HOPE, Inc. serves as a front door to a continuum of care comprised of rental assistance aimed at making homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Goodland Boys Home</u> - The Mission Committee provides support for the Goodland Academy. Additionally, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church provides Christmas gifts and a holiday meal and pageant for the Goodland Boys and staff. St. Andrew Presbyterian Church has a long-standing relationship with the Goodland Academy from Hugo, OK. The home provides residential care for troubled boys. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Grace Presbytery</u> - The Mission Committee provides monetary support to the missions of the Grace Presbytery. St. Andrew continues to demonstrate its support to the denomination by providing financial support to Grace Presbytery. While not required, St. Andrew believes that this is a reasonable and necessary expense to fulfill God's work through our denomination, especially in light of all the natural disasters occurring that need extensive support. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Hearts for Homes</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support for Hearts for Homes. Additionally, committee members and other St. Andrew Presbyterian Church members provide hands-on workday assistance to the program several times per year. Hearts for Homes improves the living conditions of low-income senior homeowners in Denton County. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Interfaith Ministries of Denton</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial assistance to Interfaith Ministries of Denton. Interfaith Ministries of Denton provides short-term assistance to individuals and families in need. (Submitted by David McRae)

Kids Against Hunger - This activity did not take place this year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

<u>Market for Mission</u> - Each year the Mission Committee sponsors the Market for Mission at St. Andrew. Sunday School classes and other church groups along with partner social service agencies are invited to have a table and sell items at the market. The funds are then used by the agency to support their programs. The Mission Committee supplements each sponsored outside partner agency with \$50 for their participation in the event. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Mission Mixer</u> - The Mission committee provides financial assistance to host a mission mixer to educate the congregation about agencies we support and mission opportunities as well. This event occurred virtually this year. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Monsignor King Shelter</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support to Monsignor King Outreach Center. The Monsignor King Outreach Center provides basic and essential emergency assistance, lodging and meals to disadvantaged members of our community during times of inclement weather. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>New Mission Initiatives</u> - New Mission Initiatives is a budget item that the Mission Committee uses to address mission opportunities that suddenly arise in the local and greater community. These mission initiatives also include hands-on work by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church members. A good example of this is the mission trip to the Houston area to assist with Hurricane Harvey recovery work. As these types of catastrophic climate events increase in our area of the world, new mission initiative funding will take on a greater urgency in addressing sudden needs. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>New Revelations Collegiate Mission</u> - New Revelations Collegiate Mission's goal is forming leaders to actively engage as Christ's presence in the world. NRCM offers off-campus housing for college students attending local universities, primarily the University of North Texas and Texas Woman's University, who want to live in an intentional Christian community. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Our Daily Bread</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support to Our Daily Bread. Our Daily Bread (along with Kids Against Hunger) are the only directly measurable parts of the Mission Committee's endeavors. Even here, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church finances and facilities are often shared with many local congregations. In addition to other critical services, Our Daily Bread serves

approximately 90,000 meals per year. Our Daily Bread and its related services continue to be one of the most high-profile activities that St. Andrew Presbyterian Church supports. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Presbyterian Children's Home</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support to Presbyterian Children's home services. Presbyterian Children's Home services provides care and a living setting for troubled youth and children throughout Texas. The Presbyterian Children's home services serve over 2800 clients for Denton per year. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Presbyterian Disaster Assistance</u> - This fund is used to support emergencies and mission opportunities in communities through the Grace Presbytery. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>The Children's Place Scholarship Fund</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support for the Children's Place scholarships. St. Andrew provides scholarships to needy students who might otherwise not be able to attend The Children's Place. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Stephen Ministry</u> - The Mission Committee provides financial support for the St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Stephen Ministry. Additionally, several Mission Committee members are active Stephen Ministers. Stephen Ministry is the one-to-one lay caring ministry that takes place in congregations that use the Stephen Series system. Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers called Stephen Ministers, to provide high-quality, confidential Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by Stephen Leaders to offer high-quality, one-to-one Christian care to people going through tough times. Stephen Ministry is an active and vital part of what St. Andrew Presbyterian Church offers its members. (Submitted by David McRae)

<u>Treehouse Program</u> - The Mission Committee of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church provides financial support to the Tree House After-School program. St. Andrew Presbyterian Church also provides the location and transportation for the program and numerous St. Andrew Presbyterian Church members provide volunteer service to the program. The Tree House After-School program provides needed support for 14 children who come from underprivileged homes. The Tree House is a popular program for church volunteers who wish to serve some of our community's under-resourced children. (Submitted by David McRae)

PERSONNEL - Stephen H. Danbom, 2020 Personnel Committee Moderator

The Personnel Committee held regular monthly meetings, honored staff with appreciation get-togethers for their hard work during the pandemic, contributed to Dr. Lisa Patterson's appreciation items, and were able to unanimously approve a significant increase in salary for all staff. We are grateful for the work by our wonderful employees during unexpected and problematic times that our country has not experienced in 100 years. (Submitted by Stephen H. Danbom)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN - Sylvia Hobdy, 2020 Presbyterian Women Moderator

Our sturdy group of 50 Presbyterian Women have stuck together mightily throughout the course of this very difficult year. We have kept in touch through 7 in-person meetings, 5 Zoom meetings, 2 livestream presentations, and multitudes of phone calls, cards, letters, e-cards, and email as well as masked and socially distanced meetings on the doorsteps of our homes. We have become perhaps even closer to our

true goals of reaching out to our community, as best we can, through our donations to the Mission work of PW both local and beyond, Our Daily Bread, Denton Christian Pre-School, Fred Moore Day Nursery, Treehouse After School, The Presbyterian Pan-American School, The Children's Place, Mo Ranch, and many more. We have contributed to as many offerings as we have in past years, for example, the Birthday and Least Coin offerings, several Animal groups, The Children's Advocacy Center, and The Denton County Refuge Center. Our efforts were well worth the time and our financial resources, as we know how much this is needed here and abroad, and how much it means to those who receive those benefits. (Submitted by Sylvia Hobdy)

PROPERTY -- Roger Lewis, 2020 Property Committee Moderator

<u>Insurance</u> - Insurance coverage is essential for the church to operate its doors for all activities. This item provides vehicle insurance for the bus and van, multi-peril coverage and for all church buildings and contents. It also provides for an umbrella liability policy that provides greater limits of liability for general liability of auto, counseling and employer's liability exposures. This activity allows for the core functions of the church and protects the property and staff of the church. (Submitted by Roger Lewis)

<u>Kitchen Expense</u> - All activities we have that require the use of the kitchen are included in this line item. This includes the monthly amount we pay to Our Daily Bread for the use of kitchen equipment they own. It also includes the church's share of supplies (e.g. detergent for the commercial dishwasher) and our portion of the repair costs for kitchen equipment. The kitchen is used to support activities of the church such as Super Wednesday suppers and various other food service functions. (Submitted by Roger Lewis)

<u>Plant Maintenance and Supplies</u> - The church cannot function without plant maintenance and related supplies. This line item covers heating and air conditioner repairs, drinking fountains, elevators, fire monitoring, burglar monitoring, ice machines, lawn maintenance, tree trimming, pest control, dishwasher lease, electrical repair, heating air conditioner filters, electrical bulb replacement, plumbing repairs, sound system maintenance, and paper and plastic items. (Submitted by Roger Lewis)

<u>Utilities</u> - All activities we have at the church require the use of utilities, regardless of the time of day or season of the year. These costs include electricity (including security lights), water, wastewater and drainage, two dumpsters, and natural gas. (Submitted by Roger Lewis)

<u>Vehicle Maintenance</u> - St. Andrew's vehicles are widely used to support the church's mission and functions, including all youth trips, local travel and any other activities where vehicles are needed. This line item covers gasoline, vehicle repairs, vehicle licensing, inspections, and tolls for both the bus and the van. The vehicles are used in support of the entire mission of the church. (Submitted by Roger Lewis)

<u>Special Projects</u> - In 2020 the Property Committee was able to accomplish the following projects that were in addition to the routine maintenance items:

- 1. Wireless thermostats were added to classrooms that can be set remotely. This will enable reduced utilities cost.
- 2. The existing 40-year-old pew cushions were replaced.
- 3. We added a speaker to the electronic Carillon to cover the parking lot.

- 4. We added for safety concerns a fence along the west side of the walkway from the Admin building to the main parking lot. We also restriped the associated handicap parking spots to eliminate the parking and bumper in the main walkway a major tripping hazard.
- 5. The walls in the Gym building were painted and the gym floor was refinished.
- 6. In order to replace the failed 7.5-ton air handler for upstairs classrooms, we added a drop-down ladder and added a large access hatch above the hallway.
- 7. Two approved projects were delayed due to contractor issues Replacement of Prayer Room windows and repair and cleaning of the stained-glass windows.

(Submitted by Roger Lewis)

STEPHEN MINISTRY -- Karen Dower, 2020 Stephen Ministry Moderator

In 2020, Stephen Ministers trained a group of 22 ecumenical trainees until the pandemic hit. We then started 4 trainees and 3 others from Argyle UMC in October on completing their 50 hours over Zoom. We had a great response and all 7 completed all required modules. The other 15 trainees will continue their 50 hours in person at First UMC when it is safe to do so. We are proud of Robin Hines, Steve Pickett, Karen Raabe and Adele Stewart for their commitment to become a part of our SM family. We ended our year on Zoom with a Christmas gathering of funny masks, a virtual scavenger hunt and stories of care. We are beginning letters and calls to our members most in need of contact during this unusual year. We continue to send Grief books to families who have lost loved ones along with talking with our care receivers weekly in virtual and safe ways. We now have 22 Stephen Ministers trained for SAPC. (Submitted by Karen Dower)

STEWARDSHIP AND INTERPRETATION - Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner and Tom Muehlenbeck, 2020 Stewardship and Interpretation Committee Co-Moderators

<u>Budget and Financial Oversight</u> - The Stewardship and Interpretation Committee will continue to strive to be transparent in all of the church's financial records and reporting to Session and the congregation. We dutifully go over monthly statements and budget reports, and submit these monthly reports to the Session. We continue to audit of our Financial and Accounting procedures and other related activities, with a very good outcome. Our committee is also actively engaged in oversight of our Endowment Funds, and we feel it is necessary to formally re-establish a sub-committee to oversee this important area in 2021. These activities directly support our core value of Nurture and Compassion with specific emphasis on Nurturing the Organization by encouraging giving and by implementing practices and procedures to ensure fiscal accountability and program effectiveness. (Submitted by Elizabeth Hinkle-Turner)

<u>Stewardship Campaign</u> - We had 4 straight weeks of Sermons devoted to "All In - Stewardship in a Time of Pandemic." with 4 Virtual Moments for Stewardship that correlated to each sermon. This was followed with letters sent out to Church members regarding their past Pledge history and Pledge cards for 2021. The Sermons and Moments for Stewardship were widely accepted with enthusiasm and thankful responses. The 2020 response in Pledging was very comparable to past years, which is remarkable considering the Pandemic and the Financial Impact it has created. (Submitted by Alison McStravick, Stewardship Committee co-chair)

WORSHIP AND MUSIC -- David McCullar, 2020 Worship and Music Committee Moderator

<u>Acolytes</u> - Each Sunday an elementary school age child leads the processional into the sanctuary and lights the candles in the chancel, bringing the light of Christ into worship. The child also extinguishes the candles at the end of the service and leads the recessional out, representing taking the light of Christ into the world. Acolytes receive training and are supported by an adult supervisor each Sunday. This activity provides an opportunity for our older children to actively participate in leading the congregation in worship throughout the year. Due to periodic suspension of in-person worship and safety concerns related to the pandemic, this activity did not occur with normal frequency during the year. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Chancel Choir</u> - The Chancel Choir sings at most Sunday morning worship services, as well as special services, including Good Friday and Christmas Eve. Quality music is essential to our worship experience and is strongly supported by the members of Saint Andrew. The music ministry also provides inspiration for visitors, either in-person or online. Due to periodic suspension of in-person worship and safety concerns related to the pandemic, the choir has not performed with normal frequency throughout the year. However, the choir has continued to rehearse and has performed numerous times in worship using a virtual format. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Children's and Youth Choirs</u> - The Children's and Youth Choirs (Covenant, Noel, and Westminster Choirs) are vital parts of the music ministry. These choirs sing during several services during the year, including such important services as Christmas Eve, Palm Sunday, and Youth Sunday. Involving children and youth in worship is a key component in the continued growth and nurture of our youngest members. Due to the periodic suspension of in-person worship and safety concerns related to the pandemic, the children's and youth choirs have not performed with the normal frequency. However, the choirs have been able to participate in some activities through a virtual format. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Communion Coordinator</u> - The communion coordinator schedules volunteers to serve in communion preparation each month, as well as for additional services during the year where communion is served. Those preparing the elements ensure that there are adequate supplies when communion is served, either in the pews or by intinction. As one of the church's sacraments, Holy Communion is a meaningful part of our worship service and plays a significant role in celebrating our Christian faith and heritage. Because of the pandemic and related safety concerns, this year individual communion kits were ordered and used during times of in-person worship. Church members were also encouraged to participate in communion at home when worshipping virtually. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Communion Preparation</u> - The role of communion preparer is one that involves being available to prepare the communion elements at prescribed times during the year. Communion preparation is vital for offering the sacrament of Holy Communion during worship to church members and visitors at designated times throughout the year. The communion preparers also provide kits to the Diaconate for serving communion to our home-bound members. This year the involvement of our communion preparers has not required the normal frequency due to pandemic safety concerns and the use of individual communion kits during times of in-person worship. (Submitted by David McCullar)

Handbell Choir - The adult Handbell Choir provides inspirational music throughout the church year. The members also assist with other service music, such as descants and anthems. The handbell group has not

performed with normal frequency due to pandemic related safety concerns and periodic suspension of inperson worship. However, some members of the group have continued with limited rehearsals and performances in worship through a virtual format this year. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Liturgist Coordinator</u> - The Liturgist coordinator invites members of the congregation to serve as liturgist throughout the year during worship. The coordinator provides the church office with names of those serving and the church office contacts them with expectations and details of their participation in the worship service. The liturgist serves as a leader in the reading of Scripture, corporately reciting the affirmation of faith, and voicing the prayer of dedication following the offering. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Musical Celebration</u> - Scenes Spectacular - Scenes Spectacular is a musical theater program performed by an intergenerational group of singers, including choir members and members of the congregation. This offering is presented as a musical theater/opera performance and provided for the public and congregation at no cost, although donations are accepted to help offset production expenses. This experience provides personal creative opportunities for participants and enhances the choir-congregation relationships, as well as providing family friendly educational opportunities for all involved. This program offers an outreach opportunity for St Andrew's visibility in local civic and university communities. Due to pandemic related safety concerns for both participants and audience, the decision was made not to offer this program in 2020 with the hope of being able to provide it again in 2021. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Piano Maintenance</u> - The church has six pianos, including the Sanctuary, Parlor, Fellowship Hall, Choir Room, Youth Choir Room, and Music Office. Typically, the Sanctuary piano is tuned quarterly and the other pianos are tuned once or twice a year. However, pianos may be tuned any time throughout the year as needed. Routine maintenance, including tuning, is not only essential for good sound, but necessary for the longevity of the instruments. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Pulpit Supply</u> - Pulpit supply funds are used to pay a visiting minister who is invited to fill the pulpit when one or both of our installed ministers are absent. Our members expect, enjoy, and benefit from intelligent, stimulating, and reformed preaching and teaching which can best be provided by an ordained minister. This fund provides the services of an ordained minister when St. Andrew's installed ministers must be absent due to illness and/or necessary travel. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Sanctuary Décor</u> - This activity provides, maintains, purchases, and places items in the Sanctuary used to decorate it during the various liturgical seasons, particularly Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. The decorating of the church according to the liturgical calendar is important because it enhances our understanding of our reformed faith, our liturgy, and our understanding of ourselves as creative servants of God. This is fulfilled through the artistic use of candles, flowers, paraments, and other items used during special seasons of the church year. The beauty and dignity of the Sanctuary, especially the Chancel area, is important to the members of St. Andrew as a way to show respect for and love of God. These decorations serve to enhance the worship experience for both church member and visitors. Even during this year of the pandemic, the church has continued to be decorated appropriately which adds to both inperson and virtual worship. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Service of Lessons and Carols</u> - This is a traditional St. Andrew worship service that celebrates Advent and Christmas through lessons and carols. The musical portions of this service involve special musicians

who lead the congregation in singing familiar carols interspersed with choral selections, vocal and instrumental solos, and Scripture readings. This is a well-attended, overwhelmingly popular and inspirational worship service for the congregation. Members and visitors are spiritually enriched by the Christmas story experienced through Scripture and music. This year, due to pandemic related safety concerns, the service was pre-recorded, using the talents of our choir soloists, for viewing online by the congregation. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Special Worship Services</u> - St. Andrew offers several special worship services throughout the year, such as the Service of Wholeness and Healing and the ecumenical Taize Services hosted periodically by a number of area churches. St. Andrew participate as one of the host churches for the Taize Services as part of the rotation. These services are meditative and reflective in nature and provide spiritual nurture and support for those who attend. These special services offer an added dimension to the wide array of worship experiences offered to St. Andrew members and visitors. This year, due to pandemic related safety concerns, these services were not offered with the normal frequency with the cancellation of inperson worship, but the desire is to provide them again in the future. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Ushering for Church Services</u> - Teams of ushers serve at each Sunday service and at other special services, such as Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Easter, two Christmas Eve services, and funeral services. Ushers typically provide ambassadorial greeting, distribute service materials, assist with seating and other special needs, provide security during services and emergency situations, collect the offering, count attendance, and straighten the worship space following services. Ushering facilitates the orderly movement of people in and out of the Sanctuary with adequate seating and worship materials. This year, ushers have continued to be available for in-person worship services and funerals held at the church. They have streamlined their duties in order to provide both safety and security through a contactless approach involving wearing masks and gloves and maintaining social distancing. Ushering provides all these services at no expense. (Submitted by Jonny Ramsey)

<u>Worship Services</u> - The worship services at St. Andrew bring God's people together for praise, prayer, confession, and thanksgiving. Those attending, either in-person or virtually, experience the joy of hearing the Word proclaimed, celebrating the sacraments of Baptist and Holy Communion, and responding with opportunities to offer our time, talents, and resources to support the ongoing ministries of the church. As the congregation shares these experiences corporately, we are better equipped to carry the light of Christ into the world through both word and deed. St. Andrew Presbyterian Church is known for and widely respected both locally and beyond for its excellent musical offerings, inspirational preaching, and outstanding worship experiences which inspire members and visitors alike. (Submitted by David McCullar)

<u>Youth Bellringers</u> - During each worship service a youth bellringer welcomes the congregation and provides an aural transition leading to meditation and reflection during worship. A youth bellringer is available to serve in worship most weeks, and this service allows them to experience personal commitment to the faith community as they lead the congregation in worship. This experience allows our youth to grow through participation in worship and understanding the positive effect this has on the corporate worship experience. This year, due to pandemic related safety concerns and suspension of inperson worship, this activity has not been offered with the typical frequency. (Submitted by David McCullar)

RUTH I. ANDERSON -- Darcy Loveless, Ruth Anderson Committee Moderator

<u>Donation to NEST</u> - In 2020, Beirut was rocked by an explosion that damaged a large area of the city, including the Near East School of Theology. Ruth Anderson approved a donation of \$1,000 to the school to assist with re-building and clean-up. This activity supports and promotes the church's core value of Nurture and Compassion. (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

<u>Advent Supplies</u> - Advent is always a special time of year, and Ruth Anderson granted an unusual request for materials so that the entire congregation could engage in Advent activities at home. Each family was delivered a wreath, candles, Christmas Eve candles for the candlelight service, etc. so that remote participation would be encouraged and Advent worship would have recognizable pieces for the congregation at home during the disruption of in-person worship. Advent activities support and promote the core values of the church (Exceptional Worship and Music, Outreach to the Community and Beyond). (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

<u>Fall Festival of Faith</u> - The Fall Festival of Faith is a time for the congregation to come together and enjoy music and fellowship. Keeping this annual event in place during COVID-19 required some re-tooling, including a virtual speaker and individual meal pick-up. Ruth Anderson provided funding for much of this event. The Fall Festival of Faith supports the core values of providing Exceptional Worship and Music and Outreach to the Community and Beyond as well as in this specific year, providing for remote participation in worship and the church community. (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

<u>Salary for Treehouse Assistant due to COVID-19</u> - The Treehouse program normally utilizes volunteers on a rotating basis. New guidelines due to COVID-19 required a certain number of adults with the children but prohibited volunteers from working, since less people = less exposure. The Treehouse requested a grant to hire an assistant to fill the roles usually occupied by volunteers. This expense funded by Ruth Anderson supports and promotes the core value of Outreach to the Community and Beyond (and specifically, the goal to support the Treehouse), as well as continuing to ensure quality education/programming for all ages. (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

<u>The Children's Place Scholarships</u> - The Ruth Anderson Committee responded to a request from The Children's Place for assistance with scholarships, which are important to help them serve a socioeconomically diverse group. We believe diversity of all kinds is important to education and want to support this endeavor. The activity meets the core value of supporting The Children's Place. (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

<u>Assistance to Families of the Congregation</u> - We had the opportunity to assist a family that had expenses associated with the receipt of green cards. The family has been a part of the fabric of St. Andrew in many ways and this was a chance to provide something that was desperately needed to improve the family's circumstances. It supports the core value of Nurture and Compassion. The support from the Ruth Anderson Fund made an immediate difference as employment opportunities changed upon issuance of the green cards and the family improved its circumstances even in the pandemic in a meaningful way. (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

<u>Pastoral Education Expenses</u> - St. Andrew has supported Lisa Patterson's education, and Ruth Anderson provided the final expenses related to that education. Supporting education of our pastorate meets our core value of Quality Education and Programming for All Ages. (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

<u>Lent Participation Supplies</u> - Ruth Anderson provided funding for Lenten journals and pens for the congregation. Members of the congregation received these Lenten supplies via remote delivery. This activity helped to unify and nurture our congregation at the onset of the COVID-19 crisis. The activity supported the core values of Saint Andrew (Exceptional Worship and Music, Quality Education and Programming, Outreach to Community and Beyond). (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

<u>APCE Conference</u> - The Ruth Anderson Fund sent three people to the APCE conference so they could receive continuing education and networking with other teachers and leaders in Christian education. This activity leveraged the inspiration provided to our teachers and leaders and helped them be prepared to innovatively connect with the groups they reach in our Church. The conference made a difference by continuing to increase the quality of the education and programming we offer our members. The activity supported the core values of Quality Education and Programming for All Ages. (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

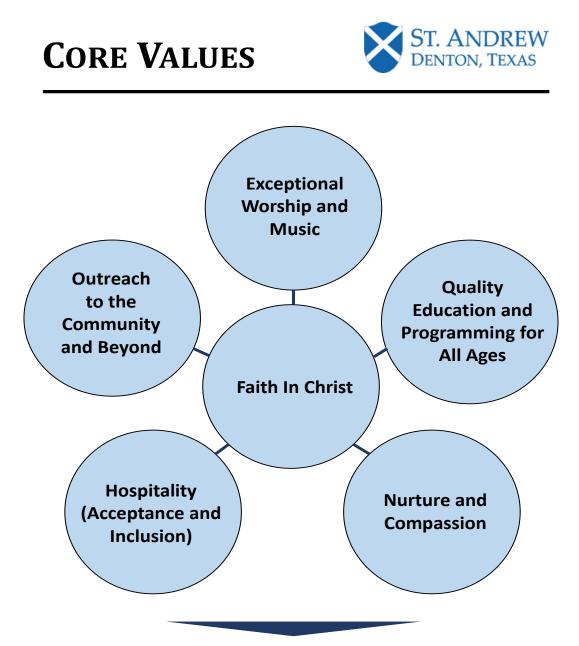
BIRTHDAY FUND - The Birthday Fund is currently managed by the Ruth Anderson Committee - Darcy Loveless, Ruth Anderson Committee Moderator

<u>Ice Cream Social</u> - The Blessing of the Backpacks is an annual event at the start of school each year. COVID-19 required the church to re-create the experience in a safe way. As part of a remote backpack blessing experience, an ice cream social was set up with social distancing and was one of the first opportunities in months for members to be in the same space (outside). The money for the social was provided by The Birthday Fund. The event supported our core value of Outreach to the Community and Beyond. (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

<u>Children's Ministry</u> - Children's Ministry provided supplies repeatedly to children of all ages so they could participate remotely in Sunday School and youth activities. A total of \$1200 from The Birthday Fund was dedicated to this effort. The activity supported and promoted the core values of Quality Education and Programming for All Ages and Outreach to the Community and Beyond. Children's Ministry made a big difference in keeping our youth engaged in activities throughout the 9 months of 2020 when in-person activities had to remain suspended. (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

<u>Sanctuary Cameras</u> - The sanctuary cameras that record worship for online viewing were in need of replacement, a circumstance made exigent by COVID-19. The Birthday Fund provided significant monies to replace the cameras with more updated models and also provided additional installation expenses related to live-streaming of our worship services. (Submitted by Darcy Loveless)

Appendix A. Core Values of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church



Working Together in Support of Our Core Values

Appendix B. Mission Study Action Items That Support Our Core Values

Mission Study Action Items
A. Exceptional Worship and Music (Core Value/Vision)
1. Focus on Congregational Unity (Goal)
a. Create opportunities for congregation unity
2. Provide Spiritual Air for All to Breathe (Goal)
a. Stretch capacity for worship and creativity
b. Expand breadth of worship elements
c. Accept and admire ways God speaks to us
3. Affirm Our Reformed Heritage (Goal)
a. Renewed <u>intentionality</u> on why we do things in worship
b. Renewed <u>understanding</u> of why we do things in worship
c. Value our identity and celebrate the connectional nature of our church
B. Quality Education and Programming for All Ages (Core Value/Vision)
1. Facilitate Connectedness Within the Congregation (Goal)
a. Develop targeted Bible and book study groups
b. Develop social justice and issue discussion groups
c. Develop ecumenical discussion groups
d. Increase connectivity with college demographic groups
e. Increase connectivity with elderly demographic groups
f. Continued heavy investment in children and youth education efforts
2. Equip Each to Pursue Their Call (Goal)
a. Encourage open and honest exploration and discussion of divergent issues/opinions
b. Affirm and support people wherever they are in their faith journey
c. Leverage inspired teachers within and outside our membership
d. Affirm the continued use of the Presbyterian Sunday School Curriculum
3. Celebrate the Joy of Our Faith (Goal)
a. Affirm the need to "play while we learn"
b. Affirm the continued use of the Godly Play Curriculum
c. Celebrate our faith through the arts and social gatherings
d. Celebrate our faith through individual creativity
C. Outreach to the Community and Beyond (Core Value/Vision)
1. Engage the Community More Actively
a. Support Our Daily Bread, the Tree House After-School Program & the Children's Place
b. Seek opportunities to connect with the broader Denton-area community
2. Enhance Marketing of St. Andrew's Offerings (Goal)
a. Develop and implement a robust marketing strategy
b. Develop and implement a robust and updated media presence
c. Provide connectivity for any homebound wishing to remotely participate in worship
d. Actively participate in and support Denton-area festivals, events and gatherings
D. Nurture and Compassion (Core Value/Vision)
1. Nurture Our Neighbor (Goal)
a. Affirm nurturing acts during all life stages
b. Affirm the importance of ministry that tends to the unique needs of our neighbor
c. Prioritize Pastoral Care during the pastoral search process
d. Expand lay pastoral care programs; i.e. Stephen Ministry, Diaconate Ministries, etc.
2. Nurture of Organization (Goal)
a. Encourage programs to inspire generosity of time, talents and treasure
b. Communicate the benefits of planned gifts and how members can support the church
c. Develop robust processes and procedures that ensure fiscal accountability and responsibility
d. Implement staff/program performance reviews that inspire creativity and effectiveness
E. Hospitality (Core Value/Vision)
1. Explore Ways to Enhance Our Inclusive Hospitality (Goal)
a. Engage in open discussion to seek understanding/acceptance of divergent views
b. Demonstrate leadership to navigate controversial social and political issues
c. Strive to find ways that might inspire our congregation to become more Christ-like
2. Create a Welcome Statement
a. Make a stated commitment to embrace inclusivity of ALL people in our faith community
b. Develop and inclusive Welcome Statement based on the intent of the Mission Study