

Saint Andrew CHRISTIAN CHURCH

GO&DO^{THE} SAME



HOW YOUR MONEY BECOMES MINISTRY
2018 Narrative Budget

Go and Do the Same

At Saint Andrew, our mission is to embody the spirit of service, community and compassion modelled in the gospel. We take seriously Jesus' command to ***Go and do the same***. With every act of ministry, we seek to love as he loved; serve as he served; and let our lives speak the transforming power of Christ's presence in the world.

With that in mind, we're asking your support for our General Fund for 2018. This is your invitation to join us as we "seek God, create community, and practice justice" together in the year ahead. We'll show you exactly how your giving supports the work that we do together, and how you can get involved in other ways as we answer the call to ***go and do***.

For those who have not pledged before, know that your commitment helps us to set vision and priorities for the year ahead. If you are already a pledging member, we are grateful for your

continued generosity. In order to expand our reach in the year ahead, we invite you to prayerfully consider growing your current pledge by 5%, if you are able. Consider it a cost of living increase for the church!



Whatever you give, remember that at Saint Andrew, *stewardship is never just about money*. We practice generosity as a way of life, as a spiritual discipline, and as a commitment to give

back a measure of the gifts we've received. Through financial support and hands-on service, you can help sustain Saint Andrew not just in the year ahead, but carry our vision into the future.

Mission

We took some exciting steps in growing our mission reach this year. Our leadership accepted the challenge of becoming a host congregation for **IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network)**, and we have been busy making preparations for our first hosting week in December of 2017. Many of our members have completed volunteer training so that they will be ready to serve our guests, as we support families transitioning out of homelessness and into sufficiency. If you have not yet done the training, there are plenty of ways to help support this ministry, including with your financial gifts.

We've also grown our **Hand of Welcome Refugee Ministry** this year, with our New Roots for Refugees farmer's market, and with many of our members involved in supporting resettled families in the KC area. Meanwhile, we've kept up our support of the **Migrant Farmworkers Project, Washington Elementary**, and our **interfaith partnerships**. We sent two delegations to our sister community, **El Higueral**, in 2017, and plan to do the same in the year ahead. If you are feeling adventurous, we'd love to tell you more about making the trip—meanwhile, your continued financial support enables us to maintain relationships in the village, and help support their growth towards



sustainability.

SAGE (Saint Andrew Group for Ecology) continues to offer education, advocacy and service opportunities around sustainability and creation care. Stewardship of the earth is central to our call as God's people, and extends our reach far beyond our own space.

We're working on a new **"Mission Update" newsletter** that will share news and outline current service opportunities, so it will be your one-stop resource for finding out what's happening when, and how you can get involved!

Children and Youth

Saint Andrew remains committed to providing our children and youth with quality Christian education, as well as opportunities for fellowship, service, and spiritual growth. We model values of inclusion, diversity, and openness to our young people, and are proud to see them embodying "our family values" in their own unique ways every day. We served more than 50 kids at Vacation Bible School this year, and with added support in

the year ahead, we hope to reduce costs and make VBS available to more of our neighbors at little or no cost to them. We also continue to send more youth and children to Tall Oaks for camp each summer, and appreciate your ongoing generosity in making that possible!

In an effort to grow our youth ministry program this year, we are employing the services of a consulting firm that will help us envision and build the best model and staffing



structure moving forward. We need your support for this season of transition. Your financial support shows our young disciples that they are a priority of this congregation, and enables us to staff the needs of our youth ministry. And your presence as a volunteer or sponsor will help build meaningful connections that will shape the faith of our young people for the rest of their lives. Whether you want to volunteer or contribute to the camp or mission trip fund, your gifts are valued and make a big difference.



Worship and the Wider Community

With an inspiring space, engaging messages, and outstanding music, our vibrant worship life is one of the first things that draws many people to Saint Andrew. When you support our general fund, you aren't just helping 'keep the lights on.' You are supporting the facilities, staff, and other behind-the-scenes work that keeps this community alive and thriving.

Many current property needs—and some future needs—have been taken care of by our Home Improvement campaign (completed this year). We appreciate your generosity, and hope that some of the gifts to the capital campaign will be continued and designated to the general fund.



This will allow us to continue updates and maintenance on the property, while also funding mission and—if possible—providing our hard-working staff with a cost of living raise, as recommended by our personnel committee.

Saint Andrew continues to offer quality

education programs for all ages, including our Adult Education series on Sunday mornings. A fund for honorariums this year allowed us to bring in some excellent speakers, addressing faith and justice issues that are so important to our community. We are committed to engaging those conversations in an ongoing way, from Sunday morning Adult Ed to our Sunday evening Journey class, and our new SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) group.

More than just supporting our own needs, your gifts help us to be generous with this beautiful space. This year we have opened our doors not only to IHN, but to other community groups in need of gathering space; including Q-Space, a local group that offers support and resources to LGBTQ youth. We are so glad they have made Saint Andrew their home, since they share our values and are helping to make our local community a more welcoming and compassionate place. We also continue to host regional gatherings, events with our friends from the interfaith community, and other neighborhood groups as needed. These are just a few glimpses of the many ways

that your money is transformed into ministry; and how your generosity takes on a life of its own when you **“go and do the same!”**

Our Goal

This year, our goal for the annual campaign is **\$599,000.00**. This is an increase over last year, so we will need some of our current pledging members to increase their gifts, and we look forward to some of our new members stepping up as well. The good news is that Saint Andrew has a healthy balance in giving distribution. With many gifts in many different amounts to support our ministry, the burden does not lie on just a few individuals or families—we share the load, and that translates to the ways in which we serve together. Of course, some are able to give more, and some give less. Every gift matters! We ask that you prayerfully consider what you are able to contribute this year, and know that whatever you give will be received with joy and gratitude, and will be mobilized to do the

work of the gospel in your community and world.



Ways to give...

Sunday mornings

We collect offerings as part of our weekly worship experience, and also provide a space at the door to give as you enter or leave the sanctuary.

Online giving

Coming soon! We are still exploring the most effective way to receive gifts electronically.

Automatic Withdrawal

This is the most convenient way to stay current on your pledge, regardless of weather, vacation, or any other factors that may keep you away for a week (or maybe even a few weeks). Contact the office to fill out a simple request form.

Saint Andrew Legacy Fund

Have you considered including Saint Andrew in your will? You can designate a specific amount or a percentage of assets. There are other ways to make a one-time or on-going gift to the Legacy Fund, at any stage of life, ensuring that the church you love will be here serving for generations to come. In 2017, there will be more opportunities to learn more about how you can help build a sustainable future for Saint Andrew.



SAINT ANDREW
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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