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WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW’S …
As the people of St. Andrew’s we acknowledge our gratefulness for the unexpected grace of God displayed in Jesus Christ. We look forward to the ways a diverse congregation can teach us more about the manifold love of God. Therefore, we commit to loving others as Christ loves us, welcoming all without reservation, without question, without judgment, without restriction. We are committed to answering the call of the Holy Spirit, being a community of unexpected grace, and actively seeking reconciliation with those we have previously rejected. We repent of the ways we have said to others, “I have no need of you,” and we commit to an ever-deepening faithfulness to embody God’s welcome to everyone.

In particular, we strive to be a community of reconciliation where persons of diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, sexuality, gender identity, age, political views, economic condition, mental ability, and physical ability are present and all are fully involved in the ministry of Christ we share together.
COME AND JOIN US!

Dear Future Rector,

Welcome to St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Grand Rapids, MI. We are so happy you’re here and can’t wait to meet you. Here are some things we thought you should know about us before you arrive.

We like to come to church because we like to learn about God through stories, prayers, and our time together. We also like to come because the people here are kind to everyone. We would describe the people at St. Andrew’s as welcoming and nice.

Our favorite thing to do at church is to have snacks (sometimes ice cream) after the story. We also like to have “fun time” in our Sunday School classes, create things, and play. This is another way we learn about God and each other.

For us, coming to church feels like being invited. We think you’ll feel that too.

Love,
St. Andrew’s Children
“The congregation does so very well in service to God and God’s world. In fact, St. Andrew’s has a long and consistent history of service in Christ’s name: our welcome and hospitality for all who enter here; making our facilities available to numerous community support groups; housing for homeless families through Family Promise; providing regular worship opportunities to praise God in word and music; offering education and formation programs for all ages; supporting Thirsting to Serve and local food pantries; sponsoring persons to go on mission trips; visiting our homebound parishioners; regularly raising up persons for ordained ministry; offering healing prayers, helping persons navigate the health care system; actively seeking reconciliation from the sin of racism; knitting and distributing prayer shawls, to name some of our Spirit led ministries.”
~ from the Easter 2018 sermon, Mother Valerie Ambrose
Our congregation experiences our worship as the primary means by which we gather to be taught, fed, blessed, and sent forth to serve. Our worship style is reverent and welcoming and would be described as midway between “high” and “low” church. In addition to the four Eucharistic prayers from Rite II of the Book of Common Prayer, we also incorporate rites from *Enriching Our Worship* for our weekly celebrations of Holy Eucharist. Healing prayers and anointing are each offered one Sunday every month, and they are also a main component of our quarterly, evening Taizé services. We strive to include children and adults alike as lay assistants in our worship. Over a dozen youngsters serve as acolytes and equally committed adults serve as lectors, eucharistic ministers and intercessors. Our dedicated altar guild members prepare our worship space for all services, while our ushers and greeters extend a warm welcome to every worshiper. Our choir embellishes our worship at the later service each Sunday from early fall through Pentecost.

There are four services each week – Wednesday morning, Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m., and Sunday morning at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. St. Andrews uses Rite II for all Sunday and weekday services of the Holy Eucharist. Child Care and Children’s programming is provided during this service with children joining their families at the time of The Peace.
St. Andrew’s Social Justice and Outreach Ministry spans a wide variety of programs. We do everything from having a food pantry connection to installing water filters in the Dominican Republic through clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs. We provide shelter for families in need of housing through Family Promise/Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). Through North End Community Ministries (NECM), we host free meals at a local church bimonthly, provide gift cards to families in need at Christmas and donate food to the pantry. We sponsor and support refugees through Samaritas. We contribute financially to the county food pantry system (ACCESS), Explore after-school reading program, and many other local ministries. This is just a sample of things we are doing and we are always open to new ideas. We have lots of opportunities for anyone who would like to be involved.
This group works hard to make sure that all people are welcomed and that the church family bonds through togetherness and outreach. The love of Christ is shared by welcoming and feeding all who enter our doors.
Although we believe that health, healing and wholeness are outcomes of everything we do at St. Andrew’s, we have recently designated specific programs that promote healing, wellness and/or pastoral care as our “health ministries”. Their purpose is to help us live into our God-given identities, integrating body, mind and spirit as we care for each other, our community and ourselves.

We currently offer a variety of individual and small-group services and learning opportunities that allow us to grow in the understanding and practice of whole-person health. We are also providing leadership for a new community-based initiative known as the North End Wellness Coalition to promote wellness in our neighborhood.

Recently the Wellness Ministry was honored by the National Episcopal Church by being designated as a Jubilee Ministry Center in recognition of the collaborative programs and ministries that St. Andrew’s has initiated to improve the holistic health and well-being of our parishioners and
The infrastructure of St. Andrew’s is capably maintained and managed through our Finance, Personnel, Facilities, Stewardship and Endowment committees. Volunteers with professional experience in each area serve in tandem with appropriate staff to ensure the careful monitoring of all the resources we are entrusted to oversee. Our newest group, Handy Andys, helps in the light maintenance of the church doing small jobs and identifying larger ones.

The staff believes that regular communication through email, newsblasts on Constant Contact and keeping the website updated keeps everybody connected.

This ministry also takes care of the building and grounds, including our Memorial Garden.
The main purpose of Christian Education is to provide engaging, communal, and loving formation for all ages in every part of life. We value and strive for excellence in Christian Formation because it makes us more faithful disciples, more open and loving people in our world, and creates a space to know each other and God on a deeper level.

Our two leaders of children and youth work tirelessly to bring the joy of faith to our children. The Oasis program, which meets monthly throughout the school year, is a part of this ministry and is open to all ages. After socializing at dinner, a program is provided for adults, youth and children. Programs vary based on current needs and interests. Study of The Great Courses occurs each Sunday as part of adult education.
Downtown Grand Rapids Skyline

Grand Rapids, Michigan, is the second largest city in the state with a metro population of 1.1 million. Situated about halfway between Detroit and Chicago, the community has a distinct culture, lifestyle, and economy. Our low cost of living makes West Michigan a great place to start a career, raise a family, or retire. The region’s affordability doesn’t come with a sacrifice in quality either. It boasts award winning schools, two dozen colleges and universities with 90,000 combined students, outstanding health care, and a vibrant downtown.

Fall Colors in West Michigan

West Michigan has a diverse set of communities catering to everyone. No matter where you live, you’re just a quick drive, or maybe even a short walk from work, schools, volunteer opportunities, and cultural events. Many towns and attractions in our region are repeatedly ranked among top national and international “Best of” lists.
There’s plenty of fun to be had whether you’re into recreation, arts and music, professional sports, or the local food scene. The area offers exciting activities no matter what your idea of “fun” is. Blue waters, pristine beaches, craft breweries, delicious eateries, miles of trails, top-notch museums, charming shops, and professional sports will keep you busy through our four beautiful seasons. The community also offers award-winning symphony orchestras, live theater, ballet and ArtPrize, the world’s most lucrative art competition.
Summer days come alive with festivals that celebrate dozens of ethnic cultures, music, dance, flowers and arts and crafts. Festivals draw people downtown or out to the parks for music, to try new foods and meet their neighbors. Many of these celebrations, such as Grand Haven’s Coast Guard Festival, Holland’s Tulip Festival and the Waterfront Film Festival have attracted crowds of enthusiastic supporters for decades. Art museums, artists’ studios and overflowing galleries offer works by world-famous artists to unknown budding artists who create for the sheer joy of it.
West Michigan leads the pack with its culture of giving and an unparalleled record for public/private partnerships. Philanthropy, the desire to make a difference for the greater community, has become a way of life for a new generation of up-and-coming philanthropists. West Michigan residents are driven to do more, to put our money where the need is, to continue building on philanthropic projects of the past.

West Michigan also has a heritage of bringing competing industries, entrepreneurs, nonprofit organizations and government agencies together at one table to leverage the talents and combined resources of all for the betterment of the city, the region and even the state.

As one of the nation’s top-ranked medical centers of excellence, West Michigan takes pride in its ability to offer its residents the highest quality healthcare. From large health systems to small community clinics, the West Michigan region provides state-of-the-art care in nearly every specialty imaginable. Whatever your needs may be, West Michigan’s diverse healthcare network has everything you need to stay healthy. (To view the full report regarding Grand Rapids visit: www.standrewsgr.org)
The Parish Survey Process

During the summer of 2018, St. Andrew’s parishioners were invited to complete a parish survey. The survey was distributed via paper copies, email invitations, and an online survey link printed in bulletins. A total of 143 people completed some portion of the survey. Of those, 120 people completed at least half of the survey while responses were being collected. Results reported below include responses from those 120 people. Just over half of respondents identified as female, one-third identified as male, and the remainder did not report their gender or had another gender identity. The majority of respondents were older adults: 14% were less than 50 years old, 19% were 50-59 years old, 23% were 60-69 years old, 26% were 70-79 years old, and 14% were 80 years old or older.

St. Andrew’s Six Ministry Areas

The first section of the survey included questions about St. Andrew’s six ministry areas. For each of the six ministry areas respondents rated how well they think St. Andrew’s has been fulfilling several roles related to that ministry area.

- Worship
- Social Justice and Outreach
- Hospitality and Parish Life
- Healing, Wellness and Congregational Care
- Administration
- Christian Formation

Overall, respondents gave very high ratings. Across the roles in all six ministry areas, more than 75% of respondents thought that St. Andrews was doing moderately, very, or extremely well at fulfilling each role. For over half of the roles, at least 90% of respondents thought that St. Andrews was doing moderately, very, or extremely well. The three roles that respondents rated as being fulfilled the best in each ministry area are listed on the following pages.
Of the five roles listed for the worship ministry area, respondents rated St. Andrew’s as doing the best at:

- Making the liturgy appropriate for the occasion.
- Including congregation members in the service.
- Including meaningful music and choral anthems.

Open-ended comments about St. Andrew’s Worship Ministry included “It is an awesome place to worship!” and “I enjoy and look forward to St. Andrew’s’ ministry very much.” Parishioners felt sermons should be relevant and include current social issues and concerns. Some parishioners would like more contemporary music, whereas others would like to continue to have more traditional music. All three weekend service were mentioned and appreciated for different reasons,
Of the six roles listed for the Social Justice and Outreach Ministry area, respondents rated St. Andrews as doing the best at:

- Making the building available for outside group events.
- Providing aid for local, national, and international relief.
- Offering programs for the homeless and unemployed.

Many respondents remarked about the healing of racism - that St. Andrew’s commitment needs to be even stronger and, until the congregation reflects our community, we need to strive in this area. Comments regarding interfaith events were mixed.
Hospitality and Parish Life

Of the four roles listed for the Hospitality and Parish Life Ministry area, respondents rated St. Andrews as doing the best at:

- Welcoming visitors and newcomers.
- Promoting a welcoming coffee and fellowship time after services.
- Fostering care of parishioners for each other.

Parishioners felt that St. Andrews does a good job of welcoming people, as illustrated by comments such as “I felt welcome the moment I walked in” and “This is the warmest and most welcoming church I’ve ever attended.” Respondents felt that the location of the coffee after the service was not ideal.
Of the seven roles listed for the Healing, Wellness and Congregational Care Ministry area, respondents rated St. Andrews as doing the best at:

- Having clergy available for crisis ministry.
- Promoting wellness activities and classes.
- Caring for parishioners in home/hospital.

Comments indicated that parishioners appreciate the monthly healing prayer and anointing service, the Parish Nurse ministry, and wellness education. Some respondents were concerned about the homebound and whether they were being visited and were receiving the Eucharist as regularly as they should.
Of the nine roles listed for the Administration Ministry area, respondents rated St. Andrews as doing the best at:

- Providing helpful announcements and information in the weekly bulletins.
- Providing helpful service/liturgy information in weekly service booklet.
- Communication through email announcements.

Comments about Administration included the desire to have more regular updates about the Capital Campaign and questions about whether parishioners without email have their communication needs met. Some respondents felt the grounds could use improvement, although one person thought “safety and appearance of building and grounds has improved greatly in the last 6-8 months.”
Of the five roles listed for the Christian Formation ministry area, respondents rated St. Andrews as doing the best at:

- Offering formational children’s ministries.
- Including children and youth in services.
- Offering formation youth ministries.

Comments about Christian Formation at St. Andrews showed that several parishioners would like more adult studies, forums, and discussions. Respondents thought that the children’s ministry and youth ministry at St. Andrews is strong and that it is important to continue focusing on these important areas.
In the next section of the survey, respondents ranked the six ministry areas from 1 (the area that is most important for the rector to have gifts for) to 6 (the area that is least important for the rector to have gifts for). Results are presented in the figure below. By far, Worship Ministry was ranked as the most important, with 77% of respondents ranking this ministry area as the most important. In comparison, only 4-7% of respondents ranked each of the other five ministry areas as the most important. The second more important ministry area was Congregational Care, and the third most important ministry area was Christian Formation. Hospitality and Parish Life, Administration, and Social Justice and Outreach were virtually tied as the three least important ministry areas for the new rector to have gifts for. This does not mean that these areas are unimportant to St. Andrew’s, rather, that other staff and parishioners themselves could lead these areas of ministry.
Next, respondents rated how important they thought it would be for the new rector to have each of 23 qualities, gifts, and experiences. Given that the survey was designed to include the qualities that may be expected to be important to many congregations and to St. Andrews in particular, it may not be surprising that over 80% of respondents rated each of the 23 qualities moderately, very, or extremely important. Nonetheless, the percentage of respondents giving each of these ratings varied across the qualities they rated. Of the 23 qualities listed, respondents rated the following five as the most important for the new rector.

- Provide care at significant life events such as illness, trauma, death, and birth.
- Welcomes and values the differences among members of the congregation.
- Maintain a deep and unwavering relationship with Christ.
- Give clear and regular communication.
- Make the Gospel relevant to people’s personal lives.
The diocese of Western Michigan represents 8,000 people in 58 communities of faith, including 4 seasonal chapels. The Diocesan offices are located in Kalamazoo, Michigan currently but will be moving to Grand Rapids in early 2019.

The Rt. Rev. Whayne M. Houglund, Jr. was consecrated by Katharine Jefferts Schori as the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Western Michigan on September 28, 2013 in Grand Rapids. To learn more visit http://edwm.org/our_bishop.html.

Diocesan staff includes five full-time employees, four part-time employees, four non-stipendary deacons and several volunteers who assist us on various projects during the year. To learn more visit http://edwm.org/staff.html.

Here in West Michigan, we agree that Christ is calling us to love God and one another, no matter who we are or where we come from.

**Our Mission:**

Our Mission, rooted in the Episcopal tradition, is to worship God, to follow Jesus Christ, to grow together in the Holy Spirit, and to serve the world.

**Our Vision:**

Our Vision is to live our values and be healthy, mission-focused diverse parishes with innovative, collaborative engagement at all levels.

*From the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan website:* http://www.edwm.org.
On October 18, 1953, a group of faithful “northeasterners” from St. Paul’s west side church met in Aberdeen School and thirty-five people signed on as charter members. The Reverend Doanne Rose presided and they adopted the name “Mission of the Incarnation.” The first Eucharist was held at the VanStrien Funeral Chapel on December 6, 1953. The present property was acquired by March of 1954 and the bishop consented to changing the name to St. Andrew’s.

The congregation grew and soon the “ground breaking ceremony” was held on June 24, 1956, with The Reverend Lester Thomas, priest-in-charge, officiating. In these early days, all the men, women, and children worked tirelessly together, erecting the church building and designing the surrounding landscape. Many creative fund-raising events were held. Life-long friendships, as well as mutual love and concern for each other developed then and persists as an outstanding characteristic of St. Andrew’s to this day.

The first service was held amid the rubble of the unfinished undercroft on Christmas Eve 1956, reminding one of the stable at Bethlehem. The building was dedicated in 1956. In the next ten years, the congregation grew rapidly and the enlarged present building was built and dedicated during 1965-66.
We dedicated our Resurrection Garden in 1979. On All Saint’s Day each year, the names of all those buried in the garden are read aloud in a service of remembrance. We also gather in the garden for parish picnics and receptions. It is a beautifully kept space for meditation and celebration.

Thirty-two years later, on November 30, 1998, a service of dedication was held to celebrate a significant addition to the building.

Renovations took place throughout 2016 and 2017 to renew the building as we celebrated over sixty years of ministry to our parish, the diocese and the community.
The Reverend Lester Thomas retired in 1985 and was succeeded by The Reverend John Kirkman, who served as rector from 1986 to 1989. Fr. Michael Fedewa was called as Rector in 1992. Fr. Fedewa then served as Rector until his retirement on December 31, 2017.

In its sixty-year history, St. Andrew’s has been served by three rectors. We have also been served by assisting clergy: The Reverends Valerie Ambrose, Cindy Nawrocki, Bobbi Parini, Nurya Love Parish, Mary Perrin and Susan York.

Many people have been sponsored by St. Andrew’s for ordination: Bishop Robert Shahan, The Reverends Christian Baron, Jodi Baron, BJ Heyboer, Cindy Nawrocki, Nurya Love Parish, Mary Perrin, Dan Scheid, and Abby VanderBrug.
The Reverend Lester Thomas was taught, as a seminarian, that his job was to “build a church”. He was called by 35 determined people to be the priest-in-charge of a fledgling mission, and together they built and sustained St. Andrew’s. The Reverend Mike Fedewa continued this ministry and we have grown in numbers and spirit.

Over the years, St. Andrew’s has remained a caring, welcoming and open church that lives out the mission of serving members while sharing Christ’s love with the community.
## ST. ANDREW’S ANNUAL BUDGET

### 2017 INCOME

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### 2017 EXPENSE

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Account Balances - 12/30/2017

Checking Account @ Huntington    49,152.01
Savings Account               16,955.54
Capital Fund                   17,084.09
Rector’s Discretionary Fund    579.55
Youth Discretionary Fund       226.28
Vanguard Money Market          36,001.37
St. Andrew’s Endowment Fund    32,799.62
Morgan Stanley - Investment    4,036.30
ALPS - Stock Account           229.72

Previous Year Income & Expense with Budget at Year End

2015

INCOME

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2016

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WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL TEAM

The Rev. Cindy Nawrocki
Deacon

Jeff Brown
Director of Youth Ministries

Jill Brown
Nursery Attendant

Dennis Buteyn
Organist/Choir Director

Bonnie Dame
Sexton

Kathy Griffes
Parish Administrator

Marsha Harrison, RN
Parish Nurse

David Hawley-Lowry
Facilities Manager

Dominic Maurice
Sexton

Margaret Stretton
Finance Manager

Abby VanderBrug
Director of Children’s Ministries

Vestry
Senior Warden: Jim Visota
Junior Wardens: Marcia Baker & Eric Icard
Treasurer: Fred Skidmore
Nicolle Brown
Marc Bush
Kai Carrigan
Jeff Hines
Helen Scott
Jim Sterken
Cynthia Thomas
Nancy Winkler
For over 60 years, the people of Saint Andrew’s have gathered, prayed, rejoiced, and ministered on the northeast side of Grand Rapids. The years have had their challenges, of course, but the years have also been filled with many more blessings.

These blessings have come in the flesh and blood of the lives of the people who have been part of St. Andrews. There have been many before us and many more to come. We give thanks for all of them — those who came before, those who will come after us, and those who are with us today.

Please prayerfully consider joining us in our ministry.

God’s peace be with you.