

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church



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Contact

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut:

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The Rt. Rev'd Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragen

The Rev'd Canon Lee Ann Tolzmann, Canon for Mission Leadership

The Rev'd Maureen Lederman, Diocesan Consultant

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Mary Merkle-Scotland, Youth Minister

Shelby Auletta, Church School Coordinator

Vestry Officers

Senior Warden: Gary Naegel

Junior Warden: John Armstrong

Treasurer: Cathy Golden

Clerk of the Vestry: Louise Beecher

Mission of St. Andrew's



St. Andrew's is called to deepen faith and transform the world as Christ calls us through joyful worship, music, study and service to others.



Parish Covenant

This parish agreement is really a spiritual practice that guides our interactions with each other. Covenants are not a set of rules to be enforced, rather they are promises that help us worship together and engage God's mission here at St. Andrew's.

In a spirit of trust and love, we promise we will

1. Believe that forgiveness grounds our faith community.
2. Actively listen to the ideas, needs and preferences of others before speaking our solutions and practice the skills of dialogue – listening and learning.
3. State what we think we heard from others and ask for clarification before responding.
4. Speak openly and face to face with any person with whom we have a difference or dilemma.
5. Foster acceptance of a diverse community.
6. Allow every person an opportunity to speak in a safe environment.
7. Share our ideas at meetings where all can hear.
8. Communicate with all parishioners, leaving no one out of the loop of information.
9. Recognize that conflict is inevitable and understand that conflicting ideas give us a chance to grow.
10. Focus on the facts and ascribe to others the best possible intentions and motivations for their actions (assume positive intent).
11. Respect our building, resources and environment.



Leading Strengths

Faith in God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Supportive, active congregation committed to follow Christ's teachings and build upon our faith.

Wide-ranging commitment to God's mission and our faith in action, including commitments to help eradicate hunger in our community and more global commitments to help those in need.

A diverse presentation of worship services to fulfill the spiritual desires and offer the needed comfort, support, healing and prayers for the St. Andrew's community.

Vibrant child-oriented programs dedicated to teaching the value of service and formation of faith.

Active family and youth involvement incorporated into the worship service.

Renewed organizational commitment to honest, open conversations to address conflict and foster transparency with respect for each other.

Dynamic music program for worship services and fellowship, open to all in our extended community beyond St. Andrew's.

A beautiful suburban setting, in a Connecticut shoreline community, inspiring our members to worship and reach out beyond the church walls to care for the worldwide community.





Faithful Struggles

Saint Andrew's is a church that is deeply rooted in faith – and yet, always being made new.

St. Andrew's is a church that is deeply rooted in our caring culture of faith, our pursuit in determining the loving ministry of Jesus Christ and being made new by our joy of the human spirit.

Similar to many parishes, we have been challenged with internal conflicts and have struggled to live with a variety of perspectives; for example ten years ago we began to embrace contemporary styles of worship which were challenging for some members. More recently, St. Andrew's has wrestled with how to extend hospitality to outside organizations who are not inclusive of the LBG community or gay leadership. As a parish, we have struggled with continuity of clergy. After this period, we are hoping our next rector will be with us for a long period of time and help us to live and embrace the differences that we as a community embody. We continue to practice ways of conflict resolution, foster better communication with one another and embrace our differences. By facing our struggles we are strengthened in our faith journey.

We feed our hunger for a deeper spiritual life through:

- Greater spiritual and human connection
- Staying engaged and broadening ourselves through adult education forums for our community
- Creating an environment of transparency

"As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35)

As we strive to nurture inclusive energy, we wish to foster a diverse community while we experience the joys and struggles of life. We seek to be faithful people strengthened by the promises of God.





Faith in Action

Faith in Action: Where St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is the parishioners' spiritual home within the Madison community.

Raise the Roof - Habitat for Humanity

St. Andrew's was a founding sponsor for the Madison community Habitat for Humanity when they began building homes in New Haven in 2003, providing volunteers for group builds and financial support. This has grown into a shoreline operation, building eleven homes in the New Haven area.



St. Andrew's Uganda Mission

Inspired by "Call to Care Uganda," St. Andrew's has raised funds for water wells and supported shows put on by Ugandan students to raise funds needed for over nine water wells at \$6000 each. We have sponsored trips to Uganda to see the wells, visited the people, and hosted visiting Ugandan clergy. Our parishioners have also generously provided much needed supplies to The Chain Foundation Orphanage in Kampala, Uganda. Items included ten braille machines, a generator, shoes, clothing, school supplies, and for several years monetary gifts for livestock.

For the past ten years St. Andrew's has also sponsored four Ugandan orphans. The eldest, Timothy Engwau, recently shared the good news of his graduation from University with a CGPA of 4.115!



Timothy Engwau

He writes, "Words alone may not be enough to show my gratitude to Call to Care Uganda and all at St. Andrew's for all you have done to see me all the way to this point but I pray that the almighty God bless you abundantly!"

Community Garden

Parishioners plant, water, weed and harvest a garden on a small plot at Bauer Park in Madison. The town of Madison maintains this community garden for the benefit of Madison residents. This past summer St. Andrew's parishioners grew tomatoes, squash, peppers, kale and carrots. All of the produce was contributed to local food pantries and soup kitchens. The garden highlights issues of food scarcity and nutritional needs in Connecticut shoreline communities. The garden also offers a positive response to concerns about the environment and human health associated with processed food and large scale farming.



“He thrives before the sun, And his shoots spread out over his garden.” (Job 8:16)

Vacation Bible School in the Dominican Republic

Every summer the Episcopal Church in Connecticut organizes a group of teenagers and chaperones to run a Vacation Bible School for children in the Dominican Republic and St. Andrew's is an active participant in these trips. Carrying suitcases full of arts supplies, crafts, jump ropes, drawing paper, soccer balls and more, students head to Santo Domingo and work tirelessly for one very hot week in July.





Interfaith Services

St. Andrew's is fortunate to be located in a town rich in diverse faith communities. Our church is adjacent to Temple Beth Tikvah, a warm and welcoming Reform Jewish congregation. Our parish participates in various interfaith activities including an annual interfaith dinner for youth, adult interfaith educational programs and the Madison/Guilford Crop Walk. Interfaith services are also held throughout the year.





Local Community Involvement

St. Andrew's Parishioners called to serve in Madison include:

- Leader at Friends of Hammonasset Beach State Park in Madison - fundraisers to benefit the Park, the nature center and programs focusing on local Native American culture
- Envisioned with other community members, funded and completed the James Madison Memorial site and statue which stands on the Madison Green today opposite Memorial Hall
- Leaders and Volunteers through Madison Community Services - Food Bank, Meals on Wheels, Neighbor 2 Neighbor, Programs at the Senior Center, MADE Program
- Visionary and Advisor for the student community Service club, “Interact” at Daniel Hand High School
- Community organizers and participants in Annual 9/11 Service of Remembrance
- Provided onsite pastoral care at the 9/11 site for four months
- Served as President of the Friends of the Library and on the Library Board of Trustees
- Served on a State Board of Ethics, Town Study Committee on Ethics





Worship & Liturgy

We are a Christian community with a passion for spiritual sustenance. families worship together.

At St. Andrew's

"Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care." (Psalm 95:6)

At each service, God's presence surrounds us. Communion with the living God is the essence of our worship. As Episcopalians, the words found in the Book of Common Prayer uplift and comfort us. As traditional as we are, we are also open to ideas that keep us interested, stimulated and connected with Jesus Christ. New ideas challenge us to dig deeper into our souls to accept and learn from possible courses of action.



At each worship service, devoted parishioners serve in numerous capacities. The Altar Guild, choirs, vergers, acolytes, chalice bearers, lay readers, ushers, and the greeters all work together to deepen our worship experience. We are blessed to have so many faithful and loving parishioners willing to serve as God's servants.

St. Andrew's has three weekly services that show our diversity as a Christian community and at the same time our oneness with the Episcopal Church.



We begin our week by offering a Book of Common Prayer Rite I or Rite II service at 8:00 AM Sunday morning. It has all the history and tradition of the Episcopal Church, including Chancel Choir and organ music with traditional hymns. This service is welcoming to all.

The second weekly service is a family service at 9:30 AM Sunday morning. Children leave for religious education after communion and child care is provided. The service is Book of Common Prayer based, but designed to create a more contemporary experience. “Lively” is the word often used to describe this service. We enjoy a band, spirit choir, and enthusiastic youth participation using the service book and contemporary Christian music created for this service. Children of the parish participate in the worship service as acolytes, lay readers, and ushers.



*“Come to me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.”
(Matthew 11:28)*

Our third weekly service is on Wednesday at 10:00 AM. This is a Eucharist and healing service. It brings peace, calm, caring and hope to those dealing with issues of health, addiction, grief, job loss etc. God’s presence is deeply apparent at this service.



Music

*“Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your heart to God”
(Colossians 3:16).*

The music ministry at St. Andrew’s honors God with music in an environment of support and encouragement for each other. Music is our means, but ministry is our end. We involve all parishioners who express an interest in joining our music ministry. We recognize that this ministry should not be the work of a few but rather of many who bring a deeper spiritual experience to our parishioners.

Whether it is singing in three or four-part harmony, watching our children sing with youthful confidence, or gathering in friendship at a choir member’s home, we comfortably share our affection and our common faith.

Sunday Morning Worship: The depth of our music ministry occurs during Sunday Eucharist services when the St. Andrew’s community gathers to worship God in fellowship with one another.

The Spirit & Chancel Choir (S&CC): Formed in 2013 by merging two separate choirs, this choir sings a music repertoire once each Sunday, alternating between the traditional and the contemporary service. Anthems may be accompanied by piano, flute, guitar, oboe, clarinet, harp, or violin. We welcome seventh grade to adult singers.





Sr. Youth Choir (SYC) Comprised of students in grades three to nine, these talented children sing during Sunday morning worship and during other services throughout the year. At the weekly rehearsal, students focus on vocal range, music skills, and repertoire. Each year in August and January, small groups of students audition for the Youth Choir.



Jr. Youth Choir (JYC): Children from pre-kindergarten through second grade are St. Andrew's youngest musicians. They sing three times a year during Sunday morning worship and experience a forty-five minute practice every other week which includes musical games, music theory, repertoire and the always appreciated snack.





Musicals for Adults and Children: St. Andrew's is blessed with talented parishioners who can produce and perform several musicals every year for adults and children, with auditions and performances usually in the fall and winter months.



Spirit Band & Instrumentalists: At St. Andrew's we are blessed with many talented musicians who play guitar, keyboard, penny-whistle, violin, and mandolin. Each Sunday these musical parishioners glorify God with his or her musical talents during each service.





Children & Teens

Youth Matters Here at St. Andrew's

Church School

St. Andrew's is proud to have over 65 children registered for church school.

For the wee ones

For infants and toddlers we offer a safe, caring, and stimulating atmosphere, overseen by experienced and loving caregivers. The nursery is supervised every Sunday during the contemporary morning worship service, coffee hour and church school. Parents can leave their children for the morning, or they can stay with their child in the nursery until he or she is comfortable.

For ages two through ten

For children from age two through grade five, we offer the Spark: Activate Faith curriculum, which follows the Episcopal lectionary. The children meet on Sunday mornings throughout the school year in age-appropriate groups. Parent teams teach the various classes. The Spark curriculum offers the opportunity for all family members to learn about the scripture lessons for each week at the same time.

For ages eleven and twelve

For youth in grades six and seven we offer the Connect program, also developed by Spark. This program seeks to empower teens to make good decisions for themselves and to think about who God is and what being a person of faith means for them, in addition to helping kids connect foundational stories of the Bible to life lessons. The annual Nightwatch retreat to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City is joyfully anticipated each year by this group!

For ages thirteen and up

For youth in grades eight and nine we offer young people the opportunity to explore deeper questions and determine whether confirmation is the right choice for them. Confirmation at St. Andrew's continues the community building begun in grades six & seven and further develops teens' abilities to make good choices in line with the teachings of Jesus. A multi-faceted curriculum includes topics such as society, self, and spirituality, in addition to a review of the history of the Hebrew and Christian scriptures. Participation in this group involves service projects and overnight retreats, as well as opportunities for socializing.



Sunday Activities Outside the Classroom

There are church school activities offered throughout the church school year bringing children of all ages and families together for faith-filled fun such as the annual Blessing of the Animals on the Feast of St. Francis, Advent wreath making, Jesse tree decorating and Lenten pretzel baking. Children in church school actively participate in service projects such as filling back-to-school backpacks for children in need. Food drives, a winter hat and mitten collection, and soup kitchen contributions all reinforce the classroom experience at St. Andrew's.





Youth Groups

The Middle and High School Youth Groups at St. Andrew's are alive and well, thanks in large part to the efforts of coordinators and the many parents who are involved. They have teamed up with other parent volunteers to bring monthly youth activities to the teenagers at St. Andrew's. Our young people bake for sick children and homebound parishioners. In December, following a light lunch in Farmer Hall, we organize for family caroling throughout the Madison community. All are encouraged to join the fun.

Middle School Youth Group is for teens and tweens in the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades. The group meets for social activities, service projects and more. A group of twelve to fifteen meets once a month for service, fellowship and the opportunity for faith-filled fun!





The High School Youth Group includes ten to twelve teens in grades nine through twelve hanging together doing community service projects, learning about Christian spirituality, and getting to know each other better. Our group is a wonderful way for teens at St. Andrew's and their friends to get together with others their age in a safe and fun environment. St. Andrew's actively participates in interfaith youth gatherings and service projects with other Madison churches. On the docket is the annual homeless immersion overnight on the Madison Green in October, a progressive dinner with other Madison high school youth groups in November, Christmas caroling for homebound residents and cookie baking for shut-ins, skiing, the annual outdoor living Stations of the Cross, and the annual town wide overnight trip to serve the homeless in New York City. Preparation for the annual summer mission trips is ongoing throughout the year.



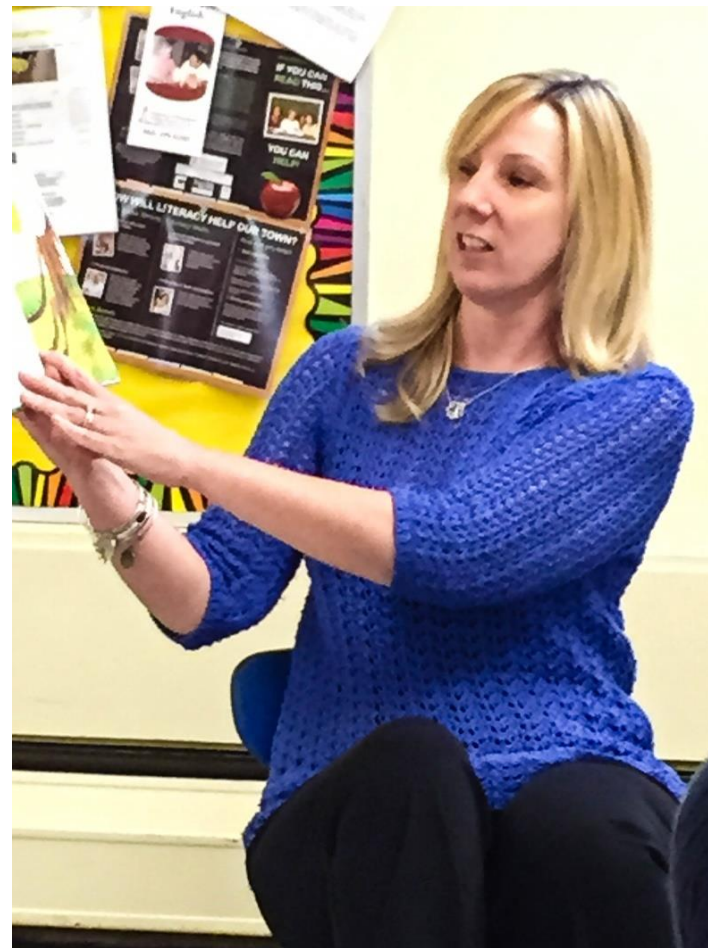
Youth Services Opportunity Project (YSOP) is open to our confirmation candidates and high school youth. This service group provides a powerful way to learn more about families who experience homelessness every day. An annual trip is scheduled in collaboration with the Madison Interfaith Youth Coalition (MIYC). The MIYC recently sponsored a fun and engaging progressive dinner for high school youth as well as the homeless immersion on the Madison Green.



Nursery School

At 9:00 AM on any given weekday, St. Andrew's Church comes alive as preschoolers arrive at St. Andrew's School to play, learn and grow together while making friends in a caring, safe and encouraging environment. St. Andrew's School is licensed by the Department of Public Health and is a small, family-friendly nursery school that provides programs for toddlers through young learners, five to six years from mid- September to mid-June. Licensed for up to 47 children, learning experiences are developed using Connecticut Infant/Toddler Guidelines and the Connecticut Preschool Framework developed by the Connecticut Department of Education.

The daily operation is under the leadership of a Director who reports to the Rector. Along with a staff of ten, the school also has an Advisory Council made up of parents who meets once a month. The school is self-funded and non-profit. All are welcome regardless of race, religion, ethnic background or ability.





Pastoral Care

At St. Andrew's we are sensitive to our parishioners in need. The spiritual culture of St. Andrew's motivates our volunteers to contact parishioners and other individuals in the Madison community when we become aware of his or her pastoral need.

Volunteers from the St. Andrew's Loaves and Fishes Ministry cook and deliver meals to parishioners during times of personal or family crisis. Fellowship and the Eucharist is offered by our rector to all home-bound parishioners. Our rector offers prayers and the Eucharist to hospitalized parishioners. During the Sunday Eucharist, a two-person healing team gathers at the rear of the church to offer a comforting private prayer to parishioners. The St. Andrew's pastoral care program is also known throughout our community for positively impacting Madison residents in need.





Stewardship

Our primary effort is recognizing the variety of talents and many gifts of our parish community and not necessarily focusing on monetary contributions. We receive great intrinsic value from the people of this parish who give of themselves, whatever and whenever necessary, as stewards of our parish.

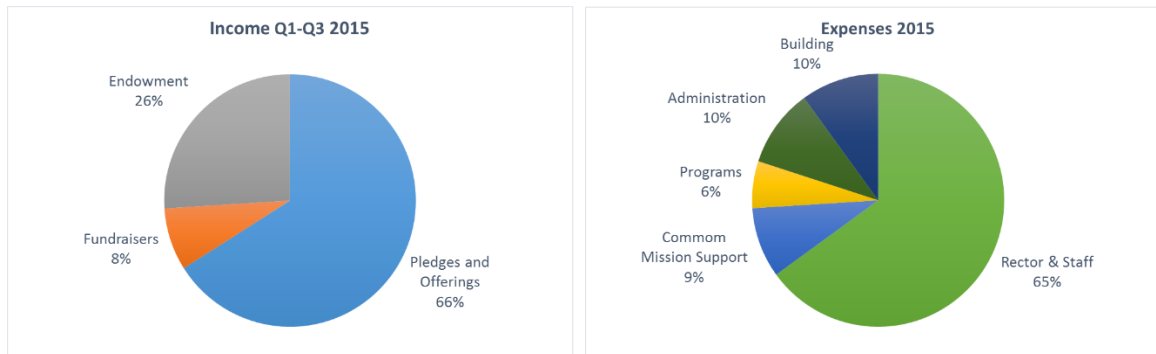


In response to the sentiment that, symbolically, giving should be to God, and a private matter, we instituted 'Faith-Based Giving' in 2011 where parishioners wrote down their pledge on a pledge card which was collected on 'Stewardship Sunday' and burned at the end of service. Only the parishioner knew what he had pledged. This approach did not appear to affect the amount offered, but the church leadership felt it watered down the commitment that parishioners make each year so in 2014 we returned to the conventional approach. However, the title 'Pledge Card' was changed to 'Estimate of Giving' in response to today's uncertain economic times when some parishioners felt uneasy about making a pledge, or promise to offer a specific amount. Our goal is to provide a vibrant parish to insure that Treasure will follow the sharing of Time and Talent. We are always open to new and innovative ideas and willing to try new approaches.



Finances

St. Andrew's parish works diligently on stewardship, fundraising, and managing expenses. In 2015, our income has been derived from Pledges and Offerings (66%), Fundraisers (8%), and Endowment (26%). Parish expenses are broken down by Rector and Staff (65%), Common Mission Support to the Episcopal Church in Connecticut (9%), Programs (6%), Administration (10%), and Building (10%). The 2015 budget is approximately \$340,000 that is reflected on the Treasurer's Report. This is our financial story.



St. Andrew's has evolved from a parish in financial distress to one which is approaching self-sufficiency. A deceased parishioner blessed St. Andrew's with a monetary gift for which we will always be grateful, will treat with respect, and will use for the stability of our parish. In 2012, St. Andrew's was able to replenish our dwindling Endowment Fund and pay all outstanding debt. When the second installment arrived in 2013, we moved a small amount into our Outreach Fund and the remainder was deposited into our Endowment Fund. St. Andrew's maintains fourteen Specialty Funds (\$111,000), a Capital Building Fund (\$260,000), an Organ Fund (\$35,000), and an Endowment Fund (\$1,981,000). In 2014, the final installment was directed to capitol building improvements and to the Outreach Fund. The first major project undertaken was the kitchen renovation completed in December 2015. The next project will be to renovate our social center, Farmer Hall, scheduled for summer 2016. These improvements will allow us to hold additional fellowship events and to lease Farmer Hall to outside groups. Most importantly, the kitchen renovation has revitalized St. Andrew's and has provided us with creatively interesting social opportunities.

In three years, we have gone from constant concerns about meeting our obligation to the Common Mission Support of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut to now being reconciled and debt free. An experienced team is in place to manage the Endowment Fund, and the Finance Committee is closely monitoring our finances.



Our History

Fifty-four adults and children gathered together at the Congregational Church Chapel in Madison on June 26, 1960 for what was the first service for the yet to be named St. Andrew's Church in Madison, CT. The Diocese had inquired of both the Church of the Holy Advent in Clinton and Christ Episcopal Church in Guilford if they were supportive of the establishment of a church in neighboring Madison. Both churches extended their blessing to the building of a new church.



In early February 1961, a twelve acre site on Route 79 was purchased for a very reasonable \$8000. The members of St. Andrew's raised \$50,000 in order to commence the building of the church with the Diocese of Connecticut pledging financial assistance. Ground was broken for the new church building in November of that same year. The founding members requested the name St. Andrew's in deference to the church location near Long Island Sound and referencing the disciple Andrew's fishing roots. Accordingly, the interior design resembles the inverted hull of a ship. On July 29, 1962 the official "Opening Service" was presided over by Rev. John H. Esquirol, Bishop of the Diocese. A portion of the original twelve acres was sold to raise some of the additional funds needed to build a rectory. These proceeds permitted construction of the split-level type home also in 1962.



During the remainder of the decade, St. Andrew's Church grew to over six hundred members. By the early 1970's, there was an obvious need for adequate and proper room for Christian education, pastoral care, administration, fellowship and worship. Building plans for a parish hall and church school additions were proposed. To raise funds an appeal for gifts in "memoriam and thanksgiving" was made. Phase 1 of the project, the parish hall, was completed in 1971 with Phase 2 following in 1973. St. Andrew's began its sponsorship of Boy Scout Troop 490 in 1971, chartered by fathers of St. Andrew's boys, open to all boys in town. In the past 40 years, 43 boys of Troop 490 have become Eagle Scouts. In 1970, the Co-op Nursery School was started, using the classrooms in the new wing. In 1975, St. Andrew's Thrift Shoppe was opened in order to help support our many programs. During this time there were several active and growing groups at St. Andrew's including Youth Ministry, Altar Guild, Ushers and the Episcopal Church Women. They were involved in many aspects of the church life including Outreach programs both within and beyond the parish.

By 1982, our Parish Profile portrayed St. Andrew's in the following: "The interior of the church is stained light grey with blue carpeting throughout. Contemporary memorial stained glass windows line the Nave with two prominent stained glass windows at each end. The grounds are attractively landscaped near the building but most of the five acre property is wooded. The Memorial Garden, a columbarium established in 1968 with 200 plots for interment of ashes, is located on a wooded knoll behind the church. Near the Memorial Garden is a Meditation Garden,



a secluded area surrounded by shrubs and including a stone bench. Nearby, at the tip of the knoll, is the outdoor Memorial Chapel with rough-hewn benches and altar. The Chapel seats 56. In all, the facilities are well-kept and excellently maintained. There is a high level of use by the Parish Family and community groups.” Although there have been updates and improvements over the subsequent years, this portrayal aptly describes St. Andrew’s even today.



In the 1980’s and 1990’s, St. Andrew’s continued its commitment in outreach and fellowship. Church school and youth group activities continued to grow, guiding our young people. The Episcopal Church Women continued a variety of fundraisers, including the Thrift Shoppe. In 1990 two fundraisers were established and continue: The Holiday Fair and the Spaghetti Dinner and Auction. These raised funds continued to support both St. Andrew’s and many other ministries including food donations, clothing donations, and support of refugee families. Our sexton was added in 1987 and became our vergers in 1998. His dedication to St. Andrew’s and leadership of the various lay participants during the liturgy has enhanced the worship experience at St. Andrew’s.

A new organ was purchased in 1997, with antiphonal pipes added in 2001. Music has always been an important aspect of the experience at St. Andrew’s. Chancel Choir, Spirit Choir (intergenerational), and now a Youth Choir are appreciated as a strong ministry at St. Andrew’s. Started in the early 2000’s, summer music/theatre camps for children are well attended and inspiring musicals presented by the participants. Also started in the early 2000’s our Sunday morning Family Service incorporates contemporary music and has become our most popular service.

The 2000’s continued to see St. Andrew’s participate actively in God’s mission throughout the world. A commitment to Madison Cares, Habitat for Humanity saw many volunteers helping to build homes in New Haven. Hunger Relief was responsible for helping at least 10 organizations. Loaves and Fishes was developed to care for our members during a time of need. Pastoral Care grew to include the Healing Prayer Ministry, the Prayer Chain Ministry, the Prayer Shawl Ministry



and Lay Eucharistic Ministers. In 2006, the Thrift Shoppe closed and a new shop called “Serendipity” was opened. Serendipity would continue to provide support to St. Andrew’s for many years until closing in 2012.

In 2010, St. Andrew’s Church celebrated its 50th Anniversary. Many members of the church reflected upon its history and accomplishments. As we reflected, we looked to the future and it was best expressed in the following: “...St. Andrew’s today has much in common with where we were in our first year as a parish...a little anxiety, some anticipation, much hard work ahead, a sense of wonder, but above all, the belief that if we let go of all the superficial demands of the day and came together in a common love for Christ, we would grow as one community committed to live and serve the world by the Lord’s example.”





Campus

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is located on Route 79 in Madison, a Connecticut shoreline community in New Haven County. Our house of worship is a contemporary building. The upper level contains the sanctuary, church offices, classrooms and preschool wing used daily by the nursery school and Church School Program. The lower level consists of a fellowship hall, named Farmer Hall and the recently renovated kitchen. On the grounds outside of the parish building is the Garden of the Resurrection which serves as a place of tranquility and reflection along with an outdoor chapel accommodating up to 60 parishioners. Adjacent to the church is the recently remodeled rectory.



Rectory



Outdoor Chapel



The church's worship space has capacity for over 200 worshipers and includes a pipe organ and choir stalls. Musicians are accommodated close to the choir and near the altar. An elevator is available in the Narthex to allow easy access between worship services and Farmer Hall.



Before and After





As weather permits on Easter and one Sunday during the summer, the congregation worships at the town beach which offers a clear, scenic view over the water toward Long Island, NY.





Madison

Founded in 1826, Madison is a picturesque New England town set upon the shore of Long Island Sound. This welcoming town is a sophisticated suburban community that has a quiet demeanor yet possesses a quaint charm. The downtown area offers many boutique shops and fine eateries along the main street with a town green typical of a New England village. With an extensive coastline of beautiful beaches along with a rural country setting, Madison is a delightful place to both visit and live. Madison almost doubles its population during the summer months as vacationers and summer residents enjoy the multiple beaches and attractions in the area. Hammonasset Beach State Park, the largest park in Connecticut, is located here in Madison. A wooded rural areas extends 11 miles north and is a beautiful drive in the summer and offers a spectacular display of colorful leaves during the autumn months.



But the most important part of Madison is its people. The residents consist mostly of families and professionals who commute to work in the region. We are a twenty minute drive to New Haven and have easy access by train to metropolitan areas like New York or Boston. The train station is located just a mile from St. Andrew's. The public schools are rated one of the top school systems in Connecticut and have attracted new residents from all over the country. These families make up a majority of the congregation at St. Andrew's.



Ten Things We Love About Madison!

- St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
- Some of CT's most beautiful beaches: Hammonasset & The Surf Club
- Vibrant downtown with a vacation area feel
- Great restaurants
- Expansive walking/running trails & bike paths
- Beautiful bucolic fields, woodlands, and wetlands
- Consistently rated with CT's top public schools
- Quaint New England town with friendly townspeople
- Strategically located between NYC & Boston
- Wonderful arts scene with top theatre, concerts, & museums nearby

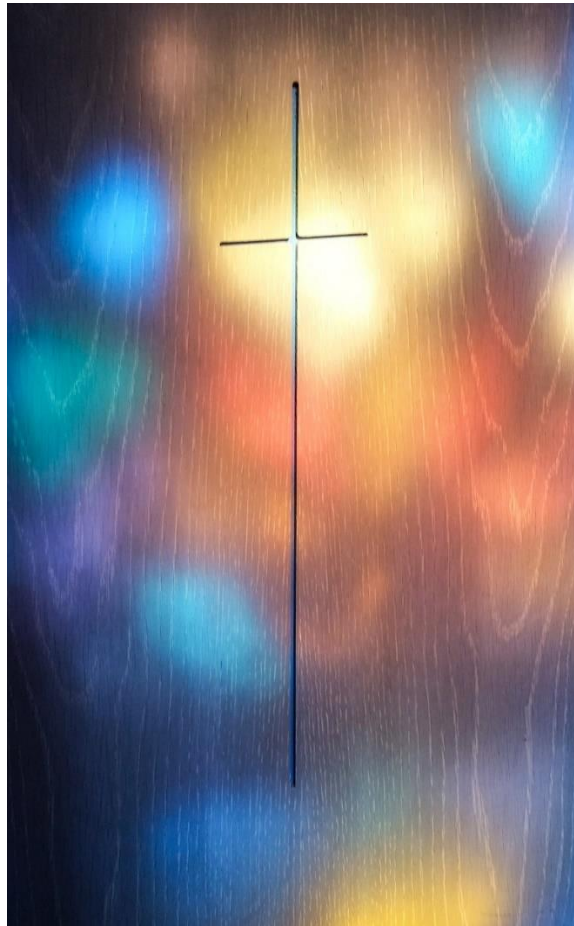




Gifts and Skills of Future Leaders

What is St. Andrew's looking for?

In order to enable St. Andrew's to more fully participate in God's mission in Madison we seek a rector who is spiritual, mission-oriented, welcoming, a good communicator, personable, a connector, has leadership skills, compassionate, approachable, and genuine; and who lives in Madison and is an active participant in the community.



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