

Mission Statement Report

The past few years have seen many changes at St. Andrew's and in the greater community. This time of transition led the vestry during the 2020 session to form a committee to revisit St. Andrew's mission statement. An updated mission statement would help us be more intentional about how we make decisions for the church (e.g. set priorities for budgeting, staffing, resources). The committee (Casey Reiser, David Polet, Katie Terry, John Mullen and, initially, Mother Melesa) used data gathered for Mthr Melesa's welcoming and other surveys to create a format for parish-wide listening sessions that were held over the summer of 2021. Those sessions identified three main themes:

- We gather inclusively
- We gather to renew our spirit
- We leave our gathering to serve with compassion and love.

Using these themes, the committee drafted three mission statements which were then presented to the vestry and at parish-wide discussion sessions. These sessions allowed for input on what parts of the statements resonated and which did not. Utilizing this information, a final statement was drafted and unanimously approved by the vestry at the October 2022 meeting.

It is important to note that this statement is the result of deliberate and intentional parish-wide discussions in which all parish members were invited to attend. It was truly a collaborative process and a group effort.

All are welcome: Nourished by God's love, we follow Christ's example of service to each other and our community.