

2019 Mission Report



Saint Andrew
Christian Church

*seeking God, creating community,
practicing justice*

As part of the Saint Andrew community, you help make good things happen through our year-round commitment to mission. Whether feeding the hungry, welcoming refugees, partnering with our sister community in El Higueral, or contributing to mission efforts of the greater Disciples of Christ community, we are working to make a difference in the world.



We've created this annual report to help you understand the projects Saint Andrew supports. During 2019, Saint Andrew supported over twenty organizations with our financial donations and countless volunteer hours. Please take a few minutes to learn more about the people and agencies we are supporting.

Thank you to everyone who supports Saint Andrew's mission efforts. We always have room on the mission team for more volunteers. Email mission@sacchome.org for more information and watch the weekly bulletins and emails for opportunities to help in large and small ways. Opportunities to volunteer are available throughout the year. Let us know your interests and how much time you want to contribute. We'll help you find the best place for you to make a difference.

Join us as we put faith into action!

Judi Barkema

Saint Andrew Mission Team Chair

Grandparents Against Gun Violence

Grandparents Against Gun Violence (GAGV) focuses on reducing gun violence for children in their homes, schools and community. In addition to educational monthly meetings and an annual community forum, GAGV promotes responsible gun ownership and safe gun storage through the **Lock It for Love** initiative. Partnering with local police departments, Children's Mercy Hospital, and multiple mental health organizations, volunteers attend community events throughout the greater KC area. Since 2017, **Lock It for Love** volunteers distributed almost 2,800 free gun locks at over 100 community events.



In 2011, 11-year-old Blair Foster was struck by a bullet while celebrating July 4th with her family in their Kansas City backyard. The bullet that struck Blair came from a firearm discharged by four revelers. In July 2019, **Lock It for Love** collaborated with **Blair's Foster Socks** (a not-for-profit that supports foster families in distressed situations) at the Kansas City, Missouri Safety Fair to emphasize the dangers of negligent firearms.

Directory of Mission Projects - 2019

Angels Outreach

Saint Andrew third through fifth graders (Angels) coordinated the Souper Bowl of Caring with funds raised going to Center of Grace, held a bake sale with funds raised going to Perthes Association Family Assistance Fund, and sold roses on Mother's Day with the funds going to Rose Brooks Center.



Blood Drive

Saint Andrew hosted quarterly blood drives during 2019, collecting 54 pints of blood and 4 double red cell donations for the community blood bank.



Center of Grace

Saint Andrew volunteers contributed over 100 volunteer hours to prepare and serve a free community dinner at Center of Grace near downtown Olathe once a month (feeding an average of 275 people).

Disciple Mission Fund

This fund supports Disciples of Christ church ministries in our neighborhoods, regions, seminaries and universities, and mission outposts in more than 66 countries around the globe.

El Higueral

Saint Andrew continued a relationship with our sister community in El Higueral, San Salvador. During 2019, we sponsored a mission trip to El Higueral with seven travelers. Special offerings supported a number of projects, including high school tuition for seven El Higueral teens, with two students graduating in 2019.



Fifth Sunday Outreach

Adult education coordinated mission projects during months with five Sundays. Projects included Children's Mercy Happy Kits, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for City Union Mission, and personal hygiene kits for Mission Southside and KC for Refugees.



Fishes and Loaves

The church office uses these funds for rent assistance and to buy grocery gift cards in response to outside requests for help.

Grandparents Against Gun Violence (GAGV)

Saint Andrew was a sponsor for GAGV's annual community event and volunteers support the Lock It for Love community outreach.

Hand of Welcome Refugee Ministry

Saint Andrew welcomed refugees to our community by providing financial support to Catholic Charities' resettlement process. We continued support for our Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) family, cohosted a **Welcome the Stranger** event at Community Christian Church, coordinated four adult education sessions and volunteered as tutors and move-in support.



House of Abraham

House of Abraham is a **Habitat for Humanity** program that promotes interfaith cooperation and understanding among Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities of the Kansas City metro area while building or renovating homes. Volunteers from Saint Andrew helped with the rehabilitation of a home that was completed in early 2020.



Interfaith Outreach

Saint Andrew continued to support interfaith community building in the Kansas City metro area by participating in interfaith organizations and events. SACC also hosted a Ramadan fast-breaking meal with friends from the Dialogue Institute.



Johnson County Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN)

We supported IHN as part of a network of 35 congregations helping situationally homeless families. During 2019, Saint Andrew served as an overnight host site for four weeks (one week at a time), welcoming 11 adults and 6 children and contributing over 850 volunteer hours.



KidsTLC

Each fall, Saint Andrew youth participate in **One Homeless Night** by sleeping in cardboard boxes and collecting money from the congregation on Sunday morning to support youth in need.

Migrant Farmworkers Project

In solidarity with migrant farmworkers and their families, St. Andrew collected donations for 85 backpacks for children of farmworkers and distributed the backpacks with a day of volunteering.



Pridefest

Saint Andrew participates in Pridefest to show our support of the LGBTQIA members of our community and to raise awareness that our church is an open and affirming space.

Safehome

Saint Andrew volunteers supported Safehome's work with survivors of domestic violence by providing a meal for 60 people at the Safehome shelter.

Tall Oaks

Saint Andrew supported Tall Oaks church camp as a place for spiritual growth and fellowship for youth and adults in the Greater Kansas City region.

Youth Mission Trips
 With financial support from the congregation, fourteen Saint Andrew youth and five adults took mission trips to Fort Worth and St. Louis



Washington Elementary

Saint Andrew supported teachers by providing meals for one parent/teacher conference day. We also collected gift cards, new shoes and socks, and bingo prizes for school families and helped fund a grant for purchasing new playground equipment.

Week of Compassion

A special offering on two Sundays of the year supported the relief, refugee and development mission fund for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Women's Ministry Outreach

Saint Andrew Women's Ministry supported a family leading a church in Lusaka, Zambia.

Blood Drive

Fifty years ago, each hospital had to raise the blood needed each day. People had to rely on the kindness of friends and relatives to donate blood on their behalf. The Community Blood Center was started by a group of doctors to serve the needs of patients in the community, and, ultimately to save lives. Today the center serves 60 hospitals in Kansas and Missouri.

One donation can help save two lives because the blood can be divided into two components—plasma and red cells. 500 donors are needed every day to meet community needs. Once drawn, the red blood cells can be stored only 42 days and platelets for five days, while plasma may be frozen and stored for one year.

Saint Andrew helps the Community Blood Center by holding blood drives four times a year at the church. Each drive is publicized in the church bulletin and weekly email. Please donate and encourage friends and family to donate.

"You've heard it said about many things, "it's the lifeblood of.....". Merriam-Webster dictionary defines lifeblood as: a vital or life-giving force or component. Well, donating blood is truly the "lifeblood" of living. I'm not a big fan of having needles stuck in me. I don't know who does. But I give blood during the Saint Andrew Blood Drive because I think it's the right thing to do. It's something I can do to help those that need my blood to go on living. Blood drives, offerings, donations, volunteering, and helping others is truly the "Lifeblood" of Saint Andrew Christian Church."—Bob Dinkins

"Why do I give blood? I was asked that question many years ago when I first donated at the age of 18. My answer hasn't changed. I am fortunate enough to have a healthy body, God-given, possibly grace-given, if you will. Donating blood costs me nothing except an hour of my time, and it could save another's life. Why wouldn't I?"—Sara Kurtz

Financial Report*—2019

In 2019, Saint Andrew contributed \$56,500 to organizations addressing refugee, hunger, poverty, violence, homelessness, interfaith education, and emergency needs locally, nationally and internationally. In addition to financial gifts, Saint Andrew collected in-kind donations for many organizations including IHN, Catholic Charities refugee resettlement and Washington Elementary.

Additionally, Saint Andrew hosts and coordinates many mission efforts in our church building, including IHN training and client hosting, Q Space meetings, and our CSA Farmer's Market table during the growing season. Saint Andrew also helps connect volunteers to partners where they donate hundreds of hours of service.

Angel Outreach	\$ 1,200
Center of Grace	\$ 2,500
Disciple Mission Fund	\$12,500
El Higueral	\$11,800
Fifth Sunday Outreach Projects	\$ 100
Fishes and Loaves	\$1,400
Grandparents Against Gun Violence	\$ 300
Hand of Welcome Refugee Ministry	\$3,000
Interfaith Outreach	\$ 1,000
Johnson County IHN	\$ 3,100
KidsTLC	\$ 300
Pridefest	\$ 200
Migrant Farmworkers Project	\$ 4,800
Safehome	\$ 1,000
Tall Oaks	\$ 4,000
Youth Mission Trips	\$ 2,200
Washington Elementary	\$ 1,100
Week of Compassion	\$ 5,900
Women's Ministry	\$ 100
Total	\$56,500

**rounded to the nearest hundred*



SAINT ANDREW
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

13890 W 127th Street Olathe KS 66062
913.764.5888 | www.SACChome.org