



St. Andrew's
BY-THE-SEA
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
EST. 1928

OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. ANDREW'S

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WORSHIP

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

This group (which meets most months) is comprised of the Rector, representatives from the groups described below, and others who are involved in the planning and execution of our worship services, as well as members-at-large from the congregation.

ACOLYTES

A group of adults and youth who serve at the altar on Sundays and at other major services. They also attend periodic training sessions. In addition to being a server, an acolyte may be a torchbearer (carrying candles in procession), a crucifer (carrying a processional cross), a lighter of candles, a banner-bearer, and at times a thurifer (carrying and swinging the "thurible" or incense burner) and a "boat" bearer (carrying the incense). Acolytes wear vestments when they serve.

ALTAR GUILD

Members prepare the sanctuary for all worship services and then clean up afterwards. They care for the altar and for the vestments, vessels, and altar linens of the parish, and for other items used in the sanctuary.

BELL CHOIR

A group of people interested in making a "joyful noise" by ringing bells and chimes. They meet for practice generally once a week and play communion hymns as well as other hymns and anthems at special services. You do not have to read music – just be able to count! Bell choir members wear vestments.

CHOIR

Singers whose primary role is to provide musical leadership and support for the congregation's worship through singing. The choir meets for practice weekly (except during the summer) and generally presents an offertory anthem at the Sunday Eucharist and at special services. You can be a choir member even if you don't read music! Choir members wear vestments.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS (FORMERLY 'CHALICE BEARERS')

Eucharistic Ministers (EMs) assist in administering the consecrated elements at the Celebration of Holy Eucharist. These persons are trained by the clergy and are licensed by the Bishop to this ministry. EMs wear vestments when they serve.

FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild is a subset of the Altar Guild. Members procure and arrange flowers for church services and oversee the decoration of the church for special seasons of the church year. Our talented group will train you!

LECTORS

Lectors are also called simply "readers" and participate in the leading of our corporate worship by reading the scripture lessons and the Prayers of the People (and certain other litanies) during our worship services. There is no license required for this lay ministry, and lectors – being from "the people" – do not have to wear vestments when they read. If someone prefers not to be in the regular lector rotation, there are opportunities to read at special services (such as Advent or Christmas Lessons & Carols) and to read the lesson from Acts 2 in a language other than English on the Day of Pentecost. Lectors attend periodic training sessions.

OBLATIONERS

Individuals, couples, children, or families who bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, food, and other gifts to the deacon or celebrant at the presentation of the gifts.

USHERS

Ushers greet and assist people as they enter the church. They may hand out service bulletins, answer questions of visitors and newcomers, count the number of people in the congregation, collect and present the offering at the offertory, assist parishioners during the administration of communion, and straighten the pews and church building after the service. Ushers may sometimes bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, food, and other gifts to the deacon or celebrant at the presentation of the gifts. After a service, the ushers take donated food to our Food Pantry.