



St. Anne's Episcopal Church Call to Commitment

As the people of St. Anne's, we believe that we are called into a special relationship with God, with each other, and with all of God's children in our own community and throughout the world. We work to respond to God's call wherever it may lead us. We are actively engaged in our community, taking our sense of mission from the needs and hopes of those whom God has given us as friends and neighbors. In faithful and joyous response to that call we seek

In our PARISH LIFE together:

To assume responsibility for one another as fellow members of our family of faith;

To minister to all of God's people by embracing the rich diversity of our congregation, and to recognize and celebrate the insights and gifts brought to our common life by children, youth, and adults, by those who are married, single, and in committed relationships, as well as by persons of different races, ethnicities, and sexual orientation; and

To continue to find ways to express our gratitude for God's gifts to us and our willingness to share those gifts.

In our WORSHIP:

To be a Eucharistically centered parish that is open to exploring and celebrating the rich liturgical traditions of the Church as reflected in the Book of Common Prayer;

To recognize and support the vital ministry of the laity in our liturgical practices and to encourage maximum participation of lay ministers and of the congregation as a whole in our worship experience;

To encourage and support individual parishioners in their own paths of spiritual development, recognizing that there are many paths to God; and

To recognize and support the important role of music in our worship services and to encourage maximum congregational participation in this form of ministry.

In our EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:

To recognize that growth in the Christian faith is a lifelong process and that it is a special responsibility of our parish to assist and nurture parishioners of all conditions and at all stages of life through educational programs, retreats and other opportunities for spiritual growth;

To provide a place where parishioners can safely raise honest questions and explore new ideas and where there is a genuine openness to a multiplicity of faith understandings, spiritual experiences, and theological viewpoints; and

To recognize that the ultimate truth of God is beyond our knowing and that we must therefore live in a creative tension between our own experience and understanding of God's love and our inability to get our minds around God through any particular theological doctrine or teaching.

In our OUTREACH to others:

To identify and make available to our parishioners opportunities to become personally involved in hands-on projects of ministry to others;

To focus our outreach efforts primarily on needs that are not currently being met by others and among those for whom our ministry can make a significant difference;

To recognize that our call to ministry extends beyond our local community and to seek opportunities for active involvement by our parishioners in the work of the Church throughout our own country and throughout the world; and

To share the challenge of the Gospel with others through prayer and action.