

The Church of Saint Andrew
Vision Process
Outreach & Evangelism

Definition

Outreach & Evangelism is the work of groups and/or individuals within our community which is directed towards people, groups and/or communities which are not currently associated with our parish.

When a church engages in outreach, it is reaching out to the community in order to meet needs or to let people know of its existence.

When a church engages in evangelism it is interested in growth and sharing its faith, witness and purpose with others.

What are we currently doing in this area? (random order)

- Local (HRM) impact
 - EFM collections (mugs, shoes, towels, etc.)
 - Dinner Theater
 - Oakwood residence
 - Curcillo movement
 - Marriage Encounter
 - Card Ministry
 - Prayer Circle
 - Food Bank
 - Breakfast Program at Local School
 - Christmas Outreach
 - Pastoral Ministry and Hospice
 - New Member Ministry
 - Blankets for the Homeless
 - Lenten Chowder Lunches
 - Adsum House
 - Byrony House
 - Phoenix House
 - Our Youth Group
 - Daycare
 - Alcoholic's Anonymous
 - Smoker's Anonymous
 - Parish Baptism Program (preparation, banners)

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- F.O.O.D. - cook, serve, donate
- Lifeboat Program
- St. Andrews Belle's
- ACW Catering Program
- Volunteers at Dartmouth General Hospital
- Guild of St. Joseph (Men)
- Prison Ministry
- Friends of the Bishop
- Emergency Assembly Site for Local Elementary School
- Willingness to Offer Church Grounds for Community Use
- World Day of Prayer Services
- House of Prayer program
- National Impact
 - Eskasoni Crisis Center
 - Northern Clergy Family Fund
 - The Anglican Appeal
- More Global impact
 - Shoeboxes
 - Mission to Seafarers - lunches, boxes, gloves, sweaters
 - Refugee Sponsorship
 - Foster Child
 - PWRDF
 - Women's Interchurch Counsel

The needs of our most local community that we know of and within 5kms of our church property (random order)

- Those affected by the recession - the unemployed or under employed
- Disadvantaged Children - clothing and essentials
- Breakfast Programs in Our Schools
- Parenting Support – babies, pre-school, teens, couple
- Objective, Supportive Financial Counseling
- Financial Needs
- Programs for the Youth - A Place to Go
- Teens in Crisis
- Homeless Youth

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- An Aging Demographic - The Needs of Seniors
- Support for Family Values and Ethics
- Stamp out Racism
- Many Groups in Need of Volunteers
- Interdenominational Efforts
- Accessibility of Programming (convenient time and/or transportation)
- Isolation and Lack of Social Activity
- Support to the Military and Their Families
- Single-Parent Families
- Immigrant Needs
- Support Service Groups- Red Cross, EHS, Lions, Rotary, Kin
- Bible Study options in the Evening Hours
- Services for the Physically and/or Mentally Challenged
- Spiritual Development for the Wider Community
- Revive "Journey of Faith "
- Gay, Single, Widowed – underserved / no support
- Substance Abuse and Related Addictions
- Mental Health Issues Such As Depression
- Nutrition and Cooking Classes
- Leadership Development for Our Kids
- R.K. Turner elementary school needs a lunch program - could we “adopt” their school?
- ... many, many more

Summary Statements (by the vision team with lots of input from those present)

The participants in the workshop readily identified numerous causes of both a local and more remote nature which groups in our parish support in one way or another. Similarly, when asked to focus on the needs of our most immediate community, the list was extremely long and would have been much longer if we had had more time.

Mapping what we actually do to the most acute needs of the community was very hard to do. Further, workshop participants

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readily admitted that they did not know what other support organizations (other churches, public service agencies, community services) were doing in and around our immediate community.

Workshop participants expressed an interest in dialogue with the other churches in our area so that we could collaborate and pool our resources for maximum effect. They also expressed an interest in understanding what agencies are active in our area and whether we could be supplemental resources for their work.

The need for a clear parish focus on one or two significant local causes was on the minds of many of the workshop participants. However, in order to do so we need more information on the specific needs of our community and the need to do some research before these can be confirmed.

Workshop participants were very concerned that our efforts have a real positive impact on the situation we have chosen to address.

The subject of evangelism was discussed but not extensively developed. Participants recognized that it is through activity in our community that we become known. This is particularly true if we are the prime leaders of an initiative.

The idea of a major outreach program for the church into the community was discussed. It was recognized that, effectively done, this program would serve to attract like-minded persons to our church community. In this subtle way we open the door with the newcomer for a greater understanding of the gospel and the Anglican Way.