

## A VISION For St. Andrew's

Last month the vision that was decided upon at our visioning time together last fall appeared in the monthly Tidings as follows:

**Our call:** Proclaim the Gospel, celebrate the Sacraments, reconcile humanity and God.

**Our Expectation:** The glorious transformation of lives through Christ.

**Our Vocation:** To love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbors "who are as" ourselves. (Hebrew translation).

**Our means of ministry:** Discipleship. The Church is the place where disciples are formed and, in turn, continually make new disciples. (The church is not for the people who are already there-but for those who have not yet come in our doors)

**A Vision of Mission:** St. Andrew's will begin a new way to routinely reach out to those who Do not know Christ (or who does not have a church home). The primary focus of the Church is to minister to those who have yet to enter our doors. Each of us is an evangelist.

**A Vision of Worship:** Make worship transforming and accessible, so that when people leave they are thirsting to come back for more.

**A Vision of Hospitality:** Practice Radical Hospitality. Besides worship, newcomer ministry must be the most important ministry in the parish.

Let's take a look at the first one: a new way to routinely reach out to those who do not know Christ (or do not have a church home). Let's ask ourselves: "Who are those people in Panama City who do not know Christ? Where are they found? How can we, as a parish, minister to them?" This is what Christ meant when he told the disciples just before he died: "Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations..." If we are truly Christ's disciples, we too must take this very seriously. Actually, Jesus gave us very few directions or commands. He said, "Eat the bread and drink the wine; baptize; and make disciples."

My favorite theologian, Howard Thurman, suggests that as Christians, we need to be very clear in our message to others. The greater number of people in this world live with their backs against the wall. They are the poor, the disinherited, the dispossessed. What does our religion say to them? (*Jesus and the Disinherited*, p. 13)

Each of you have received a copy of our vision teams. I would like to challenge you to come up with an idea of how we can minister to those who have yet to come through our doors. How can we reach those who have not yet come through our doors? The Vision Minister for Outside the Church is Belle Casler, and our outreach person is Bill Gobat. Please call these people with your ideas, or post them on the bulletin board. Believe me, we will take them seriously.  
Namaste, M+

**Thought for the Month:**

“Be the change in the world you want to see.” \_\_Mahatma Ghandi

**LITURGY NOTES**

**NAVE:** The area of the church where the People sit, either in pews or cathedral chairs.

**SANCTUARY :** The area of the church where the altar resides, and the clergy sits. The aumbry and sanctuary lamp are in this area as well.

**AMBO:** The pulpit or lectern from which the Word is read and preached.

**THURIBLE:** A metal vessel for burning incense in a liturgical setting. The thurible is suspended from chains which permit it to be swung. It is also called a censer.

**THURIFER:** The person who swings the thurible in the procession in a liturgical setting.

**ABLUTIONS:** Ceremonial washing as in the cleaning of the chalice after communion.

**ANNUAL FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION  
ON THE FRONT LAWN  
6 P.M. HAMBURGERS AND HOT DOGS  
7:30 THE BILLY RADER SINGERS  
BLUE GRASS  
9:00 P.M. FIREWORKS  
BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS AND COOLERS  
DONATIONS ACCEPTED  
PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH IF YOU ARE COMING**