

Annual Report 2016
Order of St. Andrew

The mission of Order of St. Andrew is to be supportive caregivers to the Federated Church family. We achieve this mission through the following means:

Visitation: We connect with families who have experienced hospitalization or loss. Regularly scheduled visitations are made with people who are unable to attend church services. Many visits include small gifts of food, baked goods, or flowers. This year we averaged 30 visits each month.

Card Ministry: Personal notes are sent every month to members suffering with illness, loneliness or loss. Sometimes there are notes of congratulations celebrating joyful events. One past member of the Order continues to share the love of Christ with hand made cards and words of encouragement. This mission extends to people throughout our community and numbers in the hundreds each year.

Prayer Chain: Prayer is a powerful practice as we extend support to the Federated Church family. In addition to members of OSA serving as leaders in the prayer chain, we also placed a member at the end of each chain. This helped us to strengthen our communication. Phone calls and email notification from the office staff has proven to be successful in relaying prayer concerns.

Spiritual Growth: The Order provides several publications to support the spiritual lives of our church family. They include: These Days, CareNotes, I'm OK, Holiday Grief, HomeTouch Ministry devotions and activity sheets.

Flower Power: We deliver plants to homebound members and nursing homes following the Christmas and Easter services. We participate in the annual Necrology Service by reciting the names of those who have died in the past year and honoring their memory with a white rose.

New This Year: Two new responsibilities have been added. First, thank you notes are sent to every person who makes a memorial contribution to the Federated Church. Second, we served a light supper just before the Blue Christmas Service.

Members of the OSA extend Christian love and support in far more ways than reported here. This is often done in private. With God's help, we strive to share our blessings and serve with humility.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Sanderson