

2020 Order of St. Andrew Annual Report

The mission of Order of St. Andrew is to be supportive caregivers to the Federated Church family.

This year started as any other year, but we were soon to discover that this year would be like no other in our history.

For a group that regularly makes visits, we now had to distance ourselves. We did our best to make up for not being able to visit face to face with the use of phone calls and written correspondence. Early on during the shelter in place directive we made phone calls to members of the congregation that live alone to check on how they were doing during this unusual time.

Prayer is a powerful practice as we extend support to the Federated Church family. The prayer chains are activated in different ways. We now have people who prefer e-mail and text message, rather than a phone call, for prayer request notifications.

The ongoing guided prayer group that met the 2nd Tuesday of each month was suspended when the church closed in March. Prayers for our pastor, church leaders, church family, community, nation, and the world can still be prayed at home by any member of our congregation.

One of the tasks of our group is to send thank you notes to people who make a memorial contribution to the Federated Church.

The Order provides several publications to support the spiritual lives of our church family. They include: These Days, CareNotes, and I'm OK.

No plants were delivered to homebound members and those in care facilities, as there was no in person Easter service. We assist 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.

Through a grant received by one of our members we were able to assemble Christmas gift bags that the order delivered for some of our members that are more restricted to their homes

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 during this difficult year we hope that we have shared God's love with many in our congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Porter

