

All Saints Church Parish Mission Strategy
Adopted by the Vestry of All Saints Church April 15, 2014

The purpose of the Parish Mission Strategy is to establish a mission foundation for our Parish's future, to bring balance, thoroughness and clarity to our Mission and Outreach efforts, to make the most of the resources God gives us, to make our mission voice more bold from the parish to the community to the world, and to bring more souls to live out the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus in love, service and proclamation of the Gospel.

Following are the elements of a Parish Mission Strategy as agreed by the Rector, the Staff and the Vestry:

The Role of Local Outreach and Global Outreach. To assure coordination of All Saints' efforts to serve the Lord in outreach and mission, the committee for Local Outreach shall coordinate these efforts by the parish in the community of greater Washington and elsewhere in the U.S., and the committee for Global Outreach shall do so for those efforts elsewhere in the world. While other parish ministries are encouraged to undertake outreach and mission initiatives, such initiatives should still be first brought to Local or Global, as appropriate, for discussion, coordination and strategizing to ensure a cohesive outreach and mission strategy and to avoid inefficient use of resources.

The Establishment of a Mission Council, and Its Role. For the ongoing visioning, coordination, leadership and development of our outreach and mission efforts, we shall establish a Mission Council reporting to the Rector and the Vestry. The Council will consist of representatives from Local Outreach, Global Outreach, Clergy, Staff, Vestry, and other key participants from the parish as these may be identified. The Council will meet at least 3 times a year, once during the two months following the Parish Annual Meeting to discuss and plan the upcoming program year, once in October to consider initiatives for the Christmas season, and once in January to consider the remainder of the program year.

Guidelines for Fundraising and Financial Contributions from Parish Funds. The Vestry is the canonical authority and owner of all funds and property of the parish irrespective of which ministry may raise, hold or distribute funds or assets. Thus, the Vestry feels a responsibility to make clear policies and guidelines for the distribution, donation or other conveyance of any and all funds held by the church or by any ministry of the church. Fundraising and contributions of funds on behalf of All Saints Church shall be made and directed to individuals or organizations that demonstrate an identifiable commitment to proclaim the person of Jesus Christ and to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ through their ministries. This principle honors the fact that funds held by the parish are not unlimited and are given by members of the parish specifically for the work of the Gospel.

Other Parish Activities in Service to Others. Parish volunteer efforts in service to communities of need in greater Washington have historically included participation in the work of both Christian and non-Christian organizations. In a similar way, our parish has offered use of our facilities to non-Christian organizations such as Boy Scouts and Alcoholics Anonymous. Our expectation is that such practices will continue, with the expectation that, like all of our efforts in outreach and mission, they shall be included in the periodic reviews undertaken by the Mission Council.

In implementing this Parish Mission Strategy it is our intent to follow the Lord's direction and to be holistic and of grace within the Gospel, rather than becoming legalistic, and to recognize that from time to time He may seek our presence and witness in places where His Name is not fully proclaimed. The true work of mission and outreach is work carried out in relationship with our Lord, and work that seeks relationship with those whom he leads us to serve "From the Circle to the World". This Parish Mission Strategy aims to follow the Great Commission in order to be a loving community confessing and proclaiming Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Risen Lord and Savior of all the world.