

**Ministry Team/Standing Committee:** Pathways at St. Andrew: A Center for Spiritual Growth

**Mission/Purpose Statement:**

The mission of the Pathways team is to provide St. Andrew and community members and affiliates with meaningful opportunities to grow in their Christian faith through adult education and spiritual formation classes and events.

**Primary Responsibilities/Activities:**

1. **Learning:** We seek to provide programming and events that are diverse in content and yet grounded in our faith tradition, equipping persons to understand and articulate what it means to be a thinking Christian with a heart that longs to follow Jesus.
2. **Offering Diverse Opportunities:** We are all at different points in our faith journey, and differ in what we need in our quest to know God and experience the sacred. Our team continually looks for new ways to provide opportunities for intellectual growth, inner reflection and spiritual growth, understanding of other faiths, and exploration of spirituality through creativity and the arts.
3. **Challenge:** Classes and events provide opportunities to incorporate new insights and ideas into our lives. We encourage individuals to face the challenge and be open to the transformation that can happen when we learn and grow.
4. **Community Building:** In this large, growing congregation, Pathways classes, retreats, forums and special events are often the channel for individuals to feel known and begin building a sense of community. Many people have also cited Pathways classes and events as the catalyst for becoming active in service, both within and outside the church.
5. **Invitation:** We are an educational and spiritual resource for our community at large as well as our congregation. We provide opportunities for persons who may not be affiliated with a community of faith, intentionally reflecting St. Andrew's spirit of openness in mind, heart and doors. From the diversity of offerings in the Pathways catalog to the types of books available on the Pathways bookshelves, we witness to a way of being Christian that welcomes questions and exploration on the faith journey.

**Members on Ministry Team or Standing Committee:**

Gwen Balk, Pam Orr, Tam Curfman, Dean Dameron, Linda Harmon, Jeff Klaus, Suzie Malik, Susan W. McCann, Diane Miller, Phil Seibold, and Jim Vander Ploeg.