

**ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRISTOL, CT  
ANNOUNCEMENTS for the Week of March 26, 2023**

*If you have pastoral needs or concerns, please feel free to call our transition pastor  
The Rev. Les Swenson can be reached at 860.857.9362.*

**Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

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**Sunday, March 26, 2023; The Fifth Sunday in Lent**

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

**Sunday, March 26, 2023; The Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**Service of Holy Communion**

9:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary, You Tube, Facebook)

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

Transition #3 – Finding Our Way Event (after worship)

**Monday, March 27, 2023**

6:45 p.m. Bristol Chorale (Fellowship Hall)

**Tuesday, March 28, 2023**

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

6:45 Handbell Choir (Chapel)

7:30 Voice Choir (Chapel)

**Thursday, March 30, 2023**

7:00 p.m. AA (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 p.m. Al Anon (Youth Room)

**Sunday, April 2, 2023;**

Passion/Palm Sunday

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**Worship Services and Special Events**

**We invite you to join into the rhythm of worship life at St Andrew Church!** Together, all who gather in the presence of God will find the gifts of godly grace and mercy, of community centered in Christ and encouragement to live faithfully in our daily lives.

We worship in person **Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.** Sunday's service is streamed on Facebook and YouTube: <https://www.facebook.com/Standrewct/>;

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLSSna5Ti\\_WSwRJ\\_ySbMA3Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLSSna5Ti_WSwRJ_ySbMA3Q). Following the live stream, the video of worship will be posted so that you can worship as you are able any time after that.

## **PRAYER**

We strive to keep the prayer lists updated both during worship and in our weekly announcements. If you have people or concerns that you would like to add to our communal prayer, please email [churchoffice@standrewct.org](mailto:churchoffice@standrewct.org), or leave a comment on our Sunday worship live feed. We will keep any requests made on for a month and then remove them.

### **We offer prayers of thanksgiving and supplication for:**

- those known to us in need of healing: Bill Murtha, Arthur Potz, Jim Prior, Callum Rescsanski, Paul Rescsanski, Charles Schissler, Steven Siecienski, Johanna Tessman, Carole Wedler, Trudi Wedler, Marge Pearson, Anna Zurell, Owen VanBrocklin, Nancy Denehy, and all those in nursing homes and the homebound: Marie Ouellette and Jean Wentland.

## **Update from the Transition Team**

### **Our Next Transition Event – Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> after worship: “Finding Our WHY”**

We've heard the results of St. Andrew's Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT), and now it's time to use that information to get to work. This event is the first step.

Where are you sitting?

You heard in the CAT results that 60% are sitting “on the fence” in Overall Satisfaction and 56% are sitting “on the fence” in Overall Energy. Perhaps you are one of the members on that fence or you are someone who is struggling to understand why anyone would be on the fence. Well, St. Andrew, here is your opportunity to take a good look at that fence and decide if you want to leave folks sitting there or engage them in conversation and action that moves them off the fence. We can't do the work of discernment if so many remain on the fence.

Often, we're on the fence because we have no sense of direction or purpose. We need to know our WHY. The “Finding Our WHY” event is the first step in articulating St. Andrew's WHY statement. This statement expressing our purpose will be the foundation for any decisions we make about our future. We need everyone to be a part of this important work.

In preparation for this event, please make time to reflect on the question: *Why are you a part of St. Andrew's?* And then engage others in conversation about their thoughts during coffee hour this Sunday.

Your Transition Team:

Karen Biernat, Emily Gdovin, Roy Ouellette, Kristen Pratt, Owen VanBrocklin

Your Transition Consultant,

Deacon Natalie Bloomquist [natalie.bloomquist61@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.bloomquist61@gmail.com)

**Children's Bible Story Time Continues:** Attention parents, guardians, and grandparents of youth age 18 months through grade 6. Our caring and dedicated team of volunteers are delighted to continue holding Children's Bible Story Time (CBST) during the 9:30 am service in this new church year. Join us each Sunday as children and a rotation of two adult volunteers read from a children's bible, sing songs, and participate in activities that help children comprehend Sunday's gospel and connect it to their lives today. Children are invited to leave with our CBST leaders before the first lesson and return during the hymn of the day. **There will be Children's Messages during worship on Palm/Passion Sunday (April**

2) and on Easer Sunday (April 9). The children will be invited to join Pastor Swenson at the front of church.

Children's Bible Story Time at St. Andrew is geared to children in preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Our curriculum is built to accommodate a span of ages and development. If your child is 18 months to 2 years old (or simply shy), they can still attend with a parent. Got a teenager in the household? We'd love to welcome them as a helper.

Please contact Britt Lynch (860) 302-6538 ([ray.britt.2015@gmail.com](mailto:ray.britt.2015@gmail.com)) or see her in church if you have any questions.

**HELP NEEDED - LOOKING FOR COFFEE HOUR LEAD – See Roy Ouellette during coffee hour. Roy will train his replacement.**

**" The Easter Bunny will be spreading eggs on Easter!!"**

Thanks to the Galvin family for stepping in to coordinate the Easter Egg hunt.

We will be passing out bags of empty eggs, won't you take some home and fill them with individually wrapped treats?

They can be returned to church by April 2nd.

Thank you!

#### **COZY COVER MINISTRY**

Be sure to stop at the Cozy Cover Basket on the table in the Fellowship Hall at the door to the office lobby. See the sample recycled Easter cards hanging above the basket. Please consider donating Easter cards you may receive that you would not usually keep. Names are covered and given to nursing home residents next year. Your card may be the only one that lonely person receives. You are doing God's will. Call Trudi

860-583-0554 with questions. Thank you.

**The March 26, 2023 Bulletin is found here**