

**ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRISTOL, CT
ANNOUNCEMENTS for the Week of April 23, 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.

Sunday, April 23, 2023; The Third Sunday of Easter

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, April 23, 2023 ; Third Sunday of Easter

Service of Holy Communion

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

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

First Communion Informational Meeting (after worship)

Monday, April 24, 2023

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

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

No Choir Rehearsals

Thursday, April 27, 2023

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

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

Sunday, April 30, 2023;

9:30 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Options for Missional Sustainability (after worship)

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. 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, 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, Andrew Alling, and all those in nursing homes and the homebound: Marie Ouellette and Jean Wentland.

In your prayers and in this congregation's prayer include and embrace the people of Faith Lutheran Church in Cambridge, MA whose 113-year-old church building was tragically destroyed by fire on Easter Sunday evening. May God provide them courage, strength, and vision for new paths ahead as they discern their future through the days ahead without their beloved building. We will stay alert for ways we might provide help for them.

Preparing to Receive First Communion... An Easter Season Invitation

Parents ... if you have a child (or children) eager to receive Holy Communion, Pastor Swenson is eager to meet with you and your children to prepare the way. A meeting to help plan special gatherings for parents and children at church and for learning times at home in the family will be held after worship this Sunday.

What is the appropriate age for children to begin receiving Holy Communion? The guidelines from our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America do not specify an age (in some congregation's infants receive the Meal). Rather, "Baptized children begin to commune ... at a time determined through mutual conversation that includes the pastor, the child, and the parents...".

One helpful thing ... is your child curious about the meal, does s/he express a desire to participate? It's a good clue s/he might be ready. Remember, our appreciation and understanding of the meaning and mystery of the gift of the Meal grows through a lifetime of receiving it and sharing in the life of the gathered community of faith.

Parents... if you have questions ahead of this Sunday's meeting, feel free to contact Pastor Swenson.

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.

Children's Bible Story Time at St. Andrew is geared to children in preschool through 6th 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) or see her in church if you have any questions.

GROCERY CART CHALLENGE: "Tuna, turkey, chicken and ham, Vienna sausages and even SPAM"! Confirmation students AJ and Connor are collecting canned meats for this month's challenge. The food items will be donated to Gloria Dei's food drive and will be delivered by the students and their families at the end of the month. Please grab an extra can or two when you're shopping to help AJ and Connor end their confirmation year serving others!

St Pauly Shed: **TIME TO SWAP OUT YOUR SWEATERS AND BOOTS FOR SHORTS AND SANDALS**
Tired of packing away those same old fall clothes? donate them to the St Pauly shed at St Andrew. Clean out your closets of clothes, shoes and linens and help the church and people around the world. Time for some new fall/winter clothes this year anyway, right? Are your snow boots old enough to vote? Is your fall wardrobe bordering on being "vintage"? Out with old, in with the new! ...every item will help someone. Please donate!

Stuffies needed: Our Soothing Stuffies team is back to making blankets for Stuffies for the Bristol PD. New/like new stuffed animals are needed, please consider picking one up for the team.

COZY COVER MINISTRY A huge thank you to all who have left donations for the Cozy Cover Ministry and the Greeting Card Ministry. All will be used. Anyone interested in becoming part of these activities, please call Trudi @ 860-583-0554.
Also, will the crafter who created and donated the outstanding quilt with the pocket and cross , please call Trudi. May our Lord continuo to bless these generous friends.
You may not be able to donate anything. Your prayers for the success of these Ministries are the very best donations and bring glory to the God we serve.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL COMING TO A FELLOWSHIP HALL NEAR YOU
VBS July 17-21, 2023watch for details in next month's newsletter.....mark your calendars!



Spring DIABETES SUPPORT-EDUCATION SERIES- 2023

WHETHER YOU ARE NEW TO DIABETES OR NOT, IF YOU WOULD LIKE UPDATED INFORMATION, TIPS, TRICKS, SUPPORT, THESE FREE SESSIONS MAY BE FOR YOU !!!

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED – Just show up
6 SESSIONS 1.5 HOURS: April 10,17, 24,May 8,15,22

Where: Bristol Public Library 5 High Street, Bristol CT

When: Afternoon session starts 1:00 pm, repeated session begins 7 pm- same topic at both sessions

By: Betsy Gaudian MSN, RN-BC, RDN, CDCES

Questions:

April 10- Diabetes, what, why, the basics

April 17- Nutrition- and the DIET !

April 24- Monitoring + CGMs

May 8- Medications- and all that jazz (BP & Chol)

May 15- How to cope, emotions, problem solving

May 22- Exercise, open forum, resources, show + tell

The April 23, 2023 Bulletin is found here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aB1MDemm23sXRVon6RwYgCW-PkMassG7/view?usp=share_link