

**ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRISTOL, CT**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS for the Week of April 30, 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, April 30, 2023; The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

**Sunday, April 30, 2023 ; Fourth 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

Options for Missional Sustainability/Consensus on St. Andrew's WHY (after worship)

**Monday, May 1, 2023**

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

**Tuesday, May 2, 2023**

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

No Choir Rehearsals

**Thursday, May 4, 2023**

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

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

**Sunday, May 7, 2023;**

9:30 Fifth Sunday of Easter

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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, 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 Eastford Congregational Church, Eastford, CT and Faith Lutheran Church, Cambridge, MA. May God provide them courage, strength, and vision for new paths ahead as they discern their future through the days ahead without their beloved buildings. We will stay alert for ways we might provide help for them.

## **Transition Team Updates**

### **Upcoming Dates for St. Andrew's Transition/Discernment Work**

St. Andrew has important decisions to make about the congregation's future. The discernment work and the conversations cannot be done by a few people. This work will only be successful and productive if we have the thoughts, reflection, and engagement of all our members.

Please mark your calendars and commit to participating in the following discussions:

**April 30 at the end of worship** – the congregation meets to come to consensus on St. Andrew's WHY. Following the vote, we will meet in the fellowship room to learn about the New England Synod's **Options for Missional Sustainability** and begin discussion on which option St. Andrew's will choose to explore.

- The options are: Call Process, Holy Closure, Status Quo/Maintenance Ministry, Merger, Partnership, and Radical Redevelopment.
- Each option has particular prerequisites and requires specific action steps on the part of the congregation.

**May 7 after worship** – we continue our discussion on possible options for St. Andrew's future; we will have focused discussion with small groups sharing their thoughts with the large group.

**May 21 after worship** – we will meet to determine if there is consensus among the membership of St. Andrew as to which option St. Andrew will explore for its future.

If you have any questions prior to our next gathering, please feel free to contact:

Transition Consultant: *Deacon Natalie Bloomquist* at [natalie.bloomquist61@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.bloomquist61@gmail.com)

Transition Team: *Karen Biernat, Emily Gdovin, Roy Ouellette, Kristen Pratt, Owen VanBrocklin*

**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 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.

**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, 2023 .....watch for details in the May newsletter.....mark your calendars!



**COME ONE, COME ALL**

**SPRING CLEANUP – SATURDAY MAY 13, 2023  
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

On May 13, 2023, St. Andrew will be having a Spring Clean Up, inside and out!  
The sign-up sheet is located in the Fellowship Hall.

Any and all help will be greatly appreciated!



# **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 30, 2023 Bulletin is found here

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/127aXAvdRsLu6QGFBZlkG6staXM\\_DBrX0/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/127aXAvdRsLu6QGFBZlkG6staXM_DBrX0/view?usp=share_link)