

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRISTOL, CT
1125 Stafford Ave., Bristol, CT

News Notes for the Week of July 30, 2023

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

Church Phone: 860.583.5809

The Rev. Les Swenson, Transition Pastor

Nicole Gergler, Church Administrator

St. Andrew Church's "Why" Statement...

To come together as a worshipping community, nourished by God's love so that we may reflect God's love to others.

Adopted April 2023



July 30, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
9th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, July 30, 2023

9:30 a.m. Worship followed by coffee hour and informal congregational meeting (see below)

Tuesday, August 1, 2023

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Summer Bells

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Bible Study

Thursday, August 3, 2023

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

7:00 p.m. Al Anon

Sunday, August 6, 2023; 10th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran Church

222 Farmington Ave., Plainville, CT

Website: GracePlainville.org

Facebook (for viewing the service online):

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceinPlainville>

We look forward to seeing you in person every Sunday at St. Andrew Church, but if you can't join worship in person Sunday's service is streamed on Facebook and YouTube:

[https://www.facebook.com/Standrewct/;](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.

Notes about this Sunday...

Informal Congregational Meeting, July 30, to Discuss Transitions, Collaborative Ministries

You are invited to participate in an informal Congregational Meeting after worship on Sunday, July 30, to hear the latest news as we move forward in conversations about collaborative ministry with our partner Bristol Lutheran congregations. An important time to receive information, ask questions and propose constructive and thoughtful ideas. Join the conversation as we shape future ministry!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023 ... A TREMENDOUS TIME FOR EVERYONE!

"Who is my neighbor?" was the theme for this summer's lively and joyful Vacation Bible School here at St. Andrew Church the week of July 17-21. Twenty-three children participated in song, games, learning and crafts focused on the theme. Every early evening session began at 5:30 with a hearty supper enjoyed by the children. It was a wonderful week with the church hall, classrooms and courtyard all filled with the excitement and delight of the children singing, learning, playing and crafting.

Our thanks to the terrific group of adults from St. Andrew Church who made this such a special week for the children: Arlene Creswell, Coordinator; Bob Herold, Roy Ouellette, and Carol Edmund, the kitchen crew; Nancy Carpenter and Emily Gdovin, crafts; Vicki Trudel, Matt Girard, and Matt Stojanov, teaching staff; Vera Herold, registrar; Dawn Stitham, and Robin Landrette, greeters and helpers. They were joined by a host of friends from our neighboring congregations, Gloria Dei and Zion Lutheran Churches, St. Gregory and St. Matthew Roman Catholic Churches, and New Boston Congregational.

See a collage of pictures from the week later in this issue of the News Notes. And for more pictures that were posted almost daily by Arlene, see the St. Andrew Facebook page!

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD PRESENTED TO KYLE GALVIN

At the conclusion of worship on Sunday, July 23, the Pastor Perry and Sally Beaver Scholarship Award was presented to Kyle Galvin by Congregational President Bob Herold. Kyle will be attending American University in Washington, D.C. this fall and is intending to major in Communications and Political Science. Our best wishes and prayers go with Kyle as he begins a new chapter in his life!



In the pictures with Kyle and Bob Herold are Kyle's parents, John and Tricia, and his brother, Noah.

Coming Soon! Shared Worship Services in August!

For the four Sundays in August, we will be joining the people of Grace Lutheran Church of Plainville, Zion and Gloria Dei Lutheran Churches of Bristol for shared worship providing us all with the opportunity to build community together as partners in ministry.

On Sunday, August 6, we will gather at Grace Lutheran for worship at 9:00 a.m. (Please note the earlier worship time for this Sunday only — on the remaining three Sundays, worship will begin at 9:30). Grace Church is located at 222 Farmington Ave. The Rev. Chris Dion, Pastor of Grace Church, will lead our shared worship that day.

Zion Lutheran Church of Bristol will host the worship service on August 13. St. Andrew will welcome our neighboring churches on August 20. Gloria Dei will host on August 27.

Special coffee hours will be held each of the four Sundays allowing worshippers to meet one another in a more informal setting.

If you will not be able to worship in person on any of these Sundays, please participate via the live streaming possibilities posted below.

The idea for summer shared worship emerged from the energetic meeting held for people from these four congregations on May 14 which was convened by the Rev. Steven Wilco, Associate to the Bishop of the New England Synod. We look forward to exploring more avenues of shared ministry in the months ahead.

August Worship Church Locations, Websites and Facebook links for viewing online

Sunday, August 6 at 9:00am

Grace Lutheran Church
222 Farmington Avenue
Plainville, CT 860-747-5191

Website: GracePlainville.org

Facebook (for viewing the service online):

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceinPlainville>

Sunday, August 13 at 9:30am

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
27 Judd Street
Bristol, CT 860-589-7744

Website: <https://bristolzion.org/>

Facebook (for viewing the service online):

<https://www.facebook.com/Zion-Evangelical-Lutheran-Church-263980580955036>

Sunday, August 20 at 9:30am

St. Andrew Evangelical Lutheran Church
1125 Stafford Avenue
Bristol, CT 860-583-5809

Website: StAndrewCT.org

Facebook (for viewing the service online): <https://www.facebook.com/Standrewct/>

Sunday, August 27 at 9:30am

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
355 Camp Street
Bristol, CT 860-582-0629

Website: gdeichurch.org

Facebook (for viewing the service online): <https://www.facebook.com/GloriaDeiBristol/>

Coffee hour will follow each worship service - enjoy some coffee, snacks and fellowship!

WEDNESDAY WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY – 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Please consider building community at our weekly Bible study on the parables of Jesus. Come in person Wednesday night 7-8 pm in the fellowship hall or phone in. No questions are out of bounds and snacks are provided. The Prodigal Son, Great Banquet, Pearl of Great Price, and Vineyard and Laborers are all discussed soon to be met by others. Please invite your friends. Questions, call Matt Stojanov for more information (203) 768-7194.

GROCERY CART CHALLENGE: "HUNGER IS NOT ON SUMMER VACATION" - please continue to support our shopping cart throughout the summer by picking up a few things while grocery shopping. Food insecurity continues to be high in our town, so anything you can give is welcome.



COFFEE HOUR – Coffee hour will continue in a reduced form over the summer, consisting of coffee and a snack or two. Please consider bringing in something to eat or to sign up to host. But join in this important time for lively conversation and community building.

THANK YOU FROM GLORIA DEI



Hello!!

A great big THANK YOU to the VBS families and volunteers and the people of St Andrew for the donations for the Back Pack Project!!! We have such a giving neighborhood!!!!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023

"WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?"

A week of discovery, joy, friendship and faith building.





2023 Retreat Theme: Sacred Rest: Recover Your Life, Renew Your Energy, Restore Your Sanity

based on the book by Sandra Dalton-Smith, MD

Our annual retreats are always a time to simply get away and have some fun. This year especially seems to be a good time to give some serious thought to getting some real rest in the company of those we spend so much time with during the course of the year to bring the Word to our congregation

and our community.

Check-in time is 3:00. Our weekend kicks off with a pot-luck picnic supper at 5:00 in the pool house. Time is spent with conversation and Bible Study related to our weekend theme, a book discussion (if interested) on a pre-selected book. This year's book selection is *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson. Saturday afternoon is completely free time to be spent however you choose!

We hope that women from St. Andrew, Zion, and Grace will join us this year as a special way to come together, rest, and have some fun at the Blue Gentian Lodge at the base of Magic Mountain in South Londonderry Vermont.

The flooding of earlier this week has caused major disruption to that area of southern Vermont, and the BGL. Our innkeeper, Lisa, feels confident that we'll be able to proceed with our plans.

When: Friday August 18 through Sunday August 20, 2022

Cost: Circle your choice

Per person, double occupancy: \$190.00

Single occupancy, by request: \$290.00

Includes: Room Friday and Saturday nights,

Breakfast Saturday and Sunday

Dinner Saturday

Friday dinner will be a pot-luck picnic as we've done in the past in the pool house

Lunch on Saturday on your own, or leftovers from Friday

Please complete the following and return with payment by July 30.

 Yes, I'd like to join you on the Aug. 18-20, 2023 Women's Retreat.

Per person, double occupancy: \$190.00

Single occupancy, by request: \$290.00

Name: _____ Phone: _____

* Checks should be made out to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Memo: Women's Retreat

Peace,
Sue Allaire, Retreat Co-Ordinator

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, Nancy Denehy, Susan Provenzano, Tracey Simpson, Chuck Provenzano, Donna Ouellette, Dan Stitham, and all those in nursing homes and the homebound: Marie Ouellette and Jean Wentland.

*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.*



A gift was given, to the Glory of God, in memory of Eleanore Brandt, by:

Joan & Louis Usala

JULY BIRTHDAYS



1 Wendy Cunningham	14 Matthew Keane
2 Scott Nadeau	14 Grant Scherling
3 Patricia Josephson	18 Thea Griffin
3 Weller Simmons	18 Azalea Nadeau
4 Pamela Murphy	21 Gary Dubnansky
5 Jill Little	22 Chadd Vontell
5 Charles Simmons	23 David Nelson III
6 Dylan McMahon	24 Cameron Ballash
8 Donna McCarthy	24 Brenda Dubnansky
9 William Mackey	25 Richard Procko
9 Susan Phaneuf	26 Nicholas Ropp
11 Jon Burkhardt	31 Christine Mitchell
11 Timothy Mckenna Jr.	31 Norman Schauss
11 Janet Redman	
13 Hope Flaherty	

The July 30, 2023 Bulletin is found here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/139XOX3XBAbAJUtW4tohbwcAkwqiFe5ju/view?usp=sharing>