

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

News Notes for the Week of October 29, 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

Gwynne Hopko, Deacon, Minister of Music

Nicole Gergler, Church Administrator

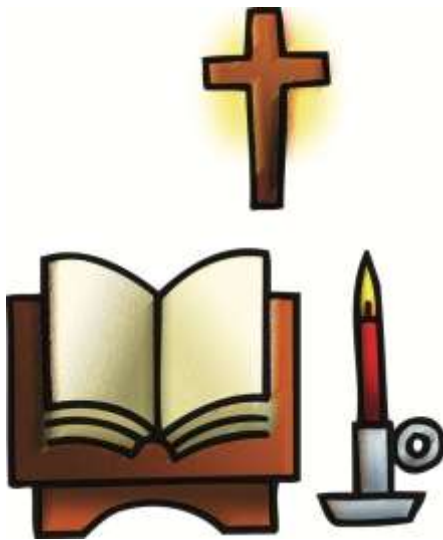
St. Andrew Church's "Why" Statement...

*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

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October 29, 2023 9:30 a.m.  
Reformation Sunday  
Holy Communion



This Sunday, October 29, 9:30 a.m., at St. Andrew Church, we celebrate the Reformation Festival  
With our partners in ministry from Gloria Dei, Zion and Grace Lutheran Churches of Bristol and Plainville.

As we come together this day remembering our deep roots in God's Word and giving thanks for the hope that is ours as a Church always being reformed and made new in the risen Christ, let us sing and pray and lean into the future with one joyful and expectant voice.

Let's fill the church with celebration and greet one another with warm and welcome hospitality. Invite friends to share the day!

- A combined Festival Choir with voices from the four congregations.
- Instrumentalists.
- The Rev. Steven Wilco, Associate to the Bishop of the New England Synod, ELCA, will be our guest preacher.
- A message for children too.
- Wear something red, the color of the day!

A coffee hour with a great spread of refreshments follows worship. Greet old friends and meet new ones too as we build community with one another!

### **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

#### **Sunday, October 29, 2023; Reformation Sunday**

Service of Holy Communion

(Sanctuary, You Tube, Facebook)

Facebook and YouTube:

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

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLSSna5Ti\\_WSwRJ\\_ySbMA3Q.](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLSSna5Ti_WSwRJ_ySbMA3Q)

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

#### **Monday, October 30, 2023**

6:00 p.m. Bristol Chorale

#### **Tuesday, October 31, 2023**

No Choir or Handbell Practice

#### **Wednesday, November 1, 2023**

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Bible Study

#### **Thursday, November 2, 2023**

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

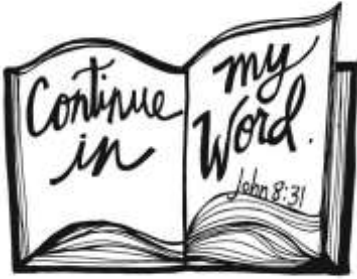
7:00 p.m. Al Anon

#### **Sunday, November 5, 2023; All Saints Day**

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

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

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour



## **BIBLE STUDY**

### ***Wednesday Nights at St. Andrew Church, Live from 7-8 p.m. ...***

Come build 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.

## **CHILDREN'S STORY TIME**

Children ages 2-12 are invited to join adult leaders in our Sunday School room from the first lesson through the sermon to learn about the day's lessons and gospel and enjoy related activities and song. In lieu of CBST on the fourth Sundays of the month, children will remain in the sanctuary and hear a Children's Message.

Please contact Britt Elise Lynch if you have questions, wish to participate as a helper or leader, or would like more information.

## **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY WORSHIP, NOVEMBER 5**

**As we approach All Saints Sunday, November 5**, please let us know of beloved church and family members and dear friends who have died in the past year (since last November) that you would like included in the prayers of remembrance that day. Call the church office (860.583.5809) or send an email ([churchoffice@standrewct.org](mailto:churchoffice@standrewct.org)) with names. Thank you.

All Saints Sunday is a wonderful time to remember and rejoice in the whole community of God's baptized people, those among us and those who have gone before us.

**Ryan Heckman**  
**to Coordinate Collaborative Confirmation Ministry Team (and more)**



Ryan Heckman, a spring graduate of Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota and an approved candidate for ordination in the ELCA, will soon be helping build an important ministry in our collaborative efforts with Grace, Zion and Gloria Dei Lutheran Churches. He will be serving as the Coordinator of a new shared Confirmation Ministry that we anticipate will include 7-10 young people. A teaching team is currently being organized and a new season of Confirmation Ministry will begin soon thereafter.

Ryan was enthusiastically endorsed for this position by the Confirmation Ministry Collaborative Committee comprised of representatives from the four congregations.

Many people from St. Andrew Church have already met Ryan as he recently preached and led worship here in September. At its October meeting, the St. Andrew Congregational Council also approved having Ryan assist this congregation by providing occasional pastoral care to our members. We look forward to his sharing his gifts for ministry with the people of St. Andrew Church!

Ryan served a two-year pastoral internship at Emanuel Lutheran Church, Manchester, from 2021-23, and is currently awaiting a full time call to serve in the New England Synod. But in the meantime, he is finding exciting ways to be engaged in ministry!

**Team from St Andrew participates in Trivia Night at Grace Lutheran Plainville**



Our Eight-person team took on 19 other teams in rounds of questions from General Knowledge, School Days, Movies & TV, Sports and more at Grace's Trivia Night Oct 20th.

After 2 rounds we were tied for 9th place.....we dug deep, and we racked our brains til we crept up to a tie for 7th place. True, we didn't know how many sides on a triangle, or what TNT was originally used for.....but with perseverance and luck we ended up tied for 6th place!!!

Heads held high, we left grateful for the opportunity!



## Yes, we are all called!

In this time of change and uncertainty, we are called to be a strong and brave witness to the certainty of God's presence and promise to one another, to the world and to the community that surrounds us. We are called to be Church, the living, vibrant body of Christ!

In the coming weeks you will be hearing more of this theme as we move toward our Stewardship Sunday on November 19, the day on which we will all offer our estimates of financial giving to help strengthen and grow the ministry of St. Andrew Church in 2024.

In the meantime, watch for letters, listen attentively to temple talks, and pray thoughtfully over how you will respond to this invitation to build up the ministry of this congregation and the whole church in the year ahead.

And watch for the displays at the front entrance and in the fellowship hall that will soon invite you to write down the names of people you know who are offering their gifts to enrich the lives of others and gracing them with the love of God. And with that name tell us how the people you name are living out their calling. Celebrate the gifts of one another! Rejoice and give thanks for our many callings that serve one purpose!



**COFFEE HOUR** - On the 29<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting the 4 Lutheran Churches for Coffee Hour.

We are anticipating around 125 people to participate in our service and coffee hour.

We are asking those who plan on attending to please help by contributing baked goods. To those of you that are willing to bake for this Sunday we really appreciate your help. We will be at St. Andrew on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. It would

help us if you could drop off your baked goods on Saturday as it will help us determine how to set up and arrange the food tables.

THANK YOU for always supporting our events!

WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOU AND ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR HELP!

### **GROCERY CART CHALLENGE:**

Do you have a favorite holiday food? Some canned cranberry or package of stuffing or cherry pie filling for that favorite dessert? You can't forget those canned green beans, crunchy onions and mushroom soup. Green bean casserole!

What about that cup of peppermint hot cocoa and cookie at Christmas.

**When you are going shopping please remember your neighbors.**

### **ST. PAULY SHED**

The shed continues to help us and others. Clothes are being donated to other churches for clothing ministries, some clothes generate income for us to financially support food banks.

Your donations of clothes are vital to our outreach. Thank you



### **YES! THERE WILL BE A TAG SALE.**

There will be a tag sale late March (date TBD). Please start going through items you may want to donate. No big items please.

Drop offs will begin early February.

Main contact is Dawn Stitham, [dstitham@gmail.com](mailto:dstitham@gmail.com) or Robin Landrette at 860 582.7807.



## ***Join Us for the Annual Bristol Interfaith Thanksgiving Service***

We will come together as a community of many faiths, joined in our gratitude for each other and for the blessings we share. Our 2023 theme is **GRATITUDE.**

**Wednesday, November 22, 2023 7:30 p.m.**

**Saint Joseph's Church,  
33 Queen Street, Bristol, CT  
(also live streamed on our Facebook page)**

**Organized by Bristol Interfaith Coalition**

For more information, visit our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/BristolInterfaithCoalition/> or email  
[BristolInterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:BristolInterfaith@gmail.com)

A collection will be taken for Prudence Crandall Center. The Center is a leader in reducing the devastating impacts of domestic violence in the lives of survivors, their children, and our communities.

Services include: emergency shelter, 24/7 crisis hotline, supportive housing and more.

For information on how to make a monetary or supply donation, visit [prudencecrandall.org/donate](http://prudencecrandall.org/donate) or see the Bristol Interfaith Coalition Facebook page.





BSA Troop 1425 is hosting a



# Holiday Wreath Sale!

## 16" Double-Face Balsam Fir Wreath

Plain Wreath **\$25**

With Bow **\$27**

Taking orders until **November 16**

Local Delivery end of November  
around Thanksgiving



**Local from Bethany Farm & Nursery  
in Woodbridge, CT**



### Payment options:

- \*Cash
- \*Check to BSA Troop 1425
- \*Venmo



Please add order details to Venmo comments

### How to Order:

Fill out an order form from your local scout or email  
troop1425committee@gmail.com with order details

**Thank You For Your Support!**





## PRAYERS

### **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, Marge Pearson, Anna Zurell, Susan Provenzano, Tracey Simpson, Donna Ouellette, Michael Positano, Larry Holyst, Denise Holyst, Robert Gergler, Karen Schumann, Marilyn Cassareno, and all those in nursing homes and the homebound: Nancy Denehy, Marie Ouellette and Jean Wentland.

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.

*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.*

Dear Friends,

It appears as if someone has been hacking into my email accounts and a couple people from the congregation have falsely received emails from me requesting their help (e.g., to pick up gift cards for me) or for them to meet me at the church. If you receive a similar request it would be wise to give me a call. I am working on how to resolve the problem.

Thanks.

Pastor Swenson



**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

2 Peggy Hoyt	18 Marianne Beaudoin
2 Joelle Stairs	19 Joelle Rindfleisch
3 Angela Provenzano	20 Matthew Girard
4 Maci Smith	21 Peter Mitchell
5 Bob Herold	21 Donna Ropp
6 Mark Shackford	22 Sharon Werner
7 Megan Bearegard	23 Laurence Beaulieu
9 Robert Deveau	25 Hilda Schauss
16 Joan Strecker	26 Carol Emond
16 Maverick Treacy	26 Jared Procko
17 Lori Calloway	26 Nancy Siecienski

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

1 Noreen Simmons	22 Timothy Bearegard
4 Matthew Stojanov	23 Gerald Beaudoin
5 Krista Rescsanski	23 Mark Voight
9 Sierra Narvesen	24 Ruth Vontell
9 Julieanne Voight	25 Tessa Segreve
13 Ashley Provenzano	25 Steven Siecienski
13 Barbara Soden	26 Jenny Culin
18 Jennifer Alling	27 Gabriel Ricciardella
18 Gwynne Hopko	27 Joan Usala
19 Donna Stockman	28 Kathy Golden
20 Eric Neuman	

**The October 29, 2023 bulletin can be found here:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/132X9JEQLe-Vk4hcS406z7k9ygMwrmPXr/view?usp=sharing>