

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

News Notes for the Week of January 21, 2024

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



THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 21,

WORSHIP AT ST. ANDREW CHURCH, 9:30 A.M.

Gather to hear the stories of Jonah's disappointment in God's willing to welcome the repentance of the people in Ninevah, and of Jesus calling to fishermen to come and follow him; and to consider the grace and surprise of the God who continues to call us to do unexpected and life-giving things! Celebrate the feast of forgiveness and new life!

AND THEN...

FROM 1-3 P.M.

**GATHER WITH OUR FRIENDS FROM ZION, GRACE AND GLORIA DEI CHURCHES
AT GLORIA DEI...**

to continue our conversations regarding the possibility of the creation of a new congregation and new ventures in ministry.

There will be discussions in the large and small groups as we build on all the constructive conversation and work over the past seven months and think and dream together about the days ahead. There will also be time for questions about the process and directions ahead. The Rev. Steven Wilco, Associate to the Bishop of our New England Synod, will lead and facilitate our time together.

This is an exciting time, but not without questions and concerns about how the future will unfold.

This will be the first opportunity for people from all four congregations to gather together to focus on the possibilities of partnering for ministry since last spring. Since that meeting we have worshipped together a number of times, and the Four Church Collaboration Team has been meeting regularly to help move the process along. Great progress has been made. The Spirit is stirring. And now at a critical time in the process, it's time to gather again in a large group to think, hope, plan and pray together.

So after morning worship and coffee hour, head home for a quick lunch, maybe an even quicker nap, and then join the conversation! Your participation, your insights, ideas, concerns are all critically important as we move forward!

Gloria Dei Church is located at 355 Camp Ave., Bristol.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, January 21, 2024; 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

9:30 a.m. 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)

1:00 p.m. - 3 p.m. Meeting for Four Churches at Gloria Dei, Lutheran Church, 355 Camp St., Bristol, CT

Monday, January 22, 2024

6:00 p.m. Bristol Chorale

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

6:45 p.m. Handbell Choir

7:30 p.m. Voice Choir

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

7 p.m. -8:00 p.m. Bible Study

Thursday, January 25, 2024

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

7:00 p.m. Al Anon

Sunday, January 28, 2024; 4th Sunday after Epiphany

9:30 a.m. 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 Coffee Hour

11:00 Annual Congregational Meeting

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, JANUARY 28

After nearly a year of thoughtful conversation about the future of this congregation's ministry, and as we stand on the verge of making important decisions about moving forward into deeper relationships with our three neighboring Lutheran congregations, the people of St. Andrew Church will gather for our Annual Congregational Meeting after worship on Sunday, January 28, 11:00 a.m..

We will review the year past and all the committed and fine ministry that has taken place, and discuss and continue to imagine the year ahead. Financial reports will be presented, a budget for 2024's ministry will be adopted, Congregation Council members and Synod Assembly delegates will be elected.

Annual Report packets will be available after worship this Sunday, January 21. You may request a packet electronically or ask for a hard copy to be mailed to you, by calling the church office, 860.583.5809 or by emailing churchoffice@standrewct.org.

Please plan on participating in the meeting! Lots to be grateful for! Much to anticipate!

If inclement weather causes us to postpone the meeting, we will gather for the Congregation Meeting after worship on February 4, 11:00 a.m.

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.

Processional pictures from combined Epiphany Services at Gloria Dei, January 6, 2024





Confirmation News

Our Four Church Confirmation Ministry began on Monday evening, January 11, at Gloria Dei. Eight young people from our congregations are participating. An enthusiastic teaching team led by Ryan Heckman will be helping the class focus on Luther's Small Catechism and all its lessons for living the faith in the church and in the world.

Pictured on the left are Ryan and our own Matt Girard teaching new confirmation class on the 11th.

"Gods Work Our Hands" T-Shirts

If anyone has any of the "Gods Work Our Hands" T-Shirts at home, can you please return them... they can be left in the Parish Life room.

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

TAG SALE DROP OFF REMINDER



Drop off for the Tag Sale is now in progress. Weekly times are Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to noon. If you need a time other than those days, please contact Robin at mrland@comcast.net or Dawn @ dstitham@gmail.com or bring your items on Sundays!

Also, on February 4, 2024, from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m., we will be holding a mini tag sale. This is for members and friends and family of St. Andrew. The items will include clothing and accessories only (shoes, purses, etc.).

CAN YOU PROVIDE A RIDE?

A retired Lutheran clergyman has recently moved to the Holiday Village Gate on Rt. 6, Farmington, and needs a ride on Sunday mornings in order to attend worship. If you would be willing to pick him up and give him a return ride home on Sunday mornings, please call Nicole in the church office and she will provide his name and phone number for you to call. Thanks!

PRAYERS

We offer prayers of thanksgiving and supplication for:

- those known to us in need of healing: Bill Murtha, Arthur Potz, Callum Rescsanski, Paul Rescsanski, Charles Schissler, Steven Siecienski, Johanna Tessman, Carole Wedler, Marge Pearson, Anna Zurell, Susan Provenzano, Tracey Simpson, Donna Ouellette, Larry Holyst, Denise Holyst, Robert Gergler, Karen Schumann, Roy Zurell, Joan and Lou Usala, Lee Hardin, and all those in nursing homes and the homebound: Nancy Denehy, 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, 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.*



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

7 Linus Clark	24 Vonda Deveau
9 Erik Glidden	24 Dennis Rindfleisch
11 Andrew Alling	24 Laurie Rindfleisch
14 Alex Vertefeuille	25 Donna Ouellette
15 Aiden Trudel	27 Evelyn Lynch
20 Bobbie Scoville	30 Judi Ferro
21 Arthur Potz, Jr.	31 Ian Karp

The January 21, 2024 bulletin can be found here:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uar\\$K0eHjHWnig-D46Ygx_IVO8wah_g0/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uar$K0eHjHWnig-D46Ygx_IVO8wah_g0/view?usp=sharing)