

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

News Notes for the Week of February 11, 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, FEBRUARY 11, 9:30 a.m.
Transfiguration of Our Lord
The Last Sunday in Epiphany
Liturgy of Holy Communion

*As we gather around Word and Table this Sunday,
we stand within the wonder of the brilliant light of the mountaintop epiphany moment
when the fullness of Jesus' identity is revealed to his cadre of closest disciples.
In the confusion of the moment, the voice of God breaks through and declares:
"This is my Son, the beloved, listen to him!"
God's spoken words through the clouds and our uncertainty still ring in our ears:
"...listen to him!" And follow in Jesus' way!
Come and worship this week
as we conclude our Epiphany journey
and lean toward the beginning of Lent!*

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, February 11, 2024; Transfiguration of Our Lord

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 a.m. Council Meeting

Monday, February 12, 2024

6:00 p.m. Bristol Chorale

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

6:45 p.m. Handbell Choir

7:30 p.m. Voice Choir

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

12 noon — Ash Wednesday Service at Zion Lutheran Church.

Lunch following.

7:00 p.m. – Ash Wednesday Service at Grace Lutheran Church, Plainville

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Bible Study

Thursday, February 15, 2024

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

7:00 p.m. Al Anon

Sunday, February 18, 2024; First Sunday in Lent

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 a.m. Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm. – Open House at St. Andrew



LOOKING AHEAD TO LENT...

THE LENTEN JOURNEY BEGINS NEXT WEEK...

It seems early, but yet the season of Lent, the time of returning to and renewal in the very roots of our faith lives, begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 14.**

We will join with our partners in ministry from Gloria Dei, Zion, and Grace Lutheran Churches to mark the beginning of this 40-day season.

There will be two Ash Wednesday services:

At Zion Lutheran Church, 12:00 noon.

27 Judd St., Bristol.

Following the worship service, you are invited to share in a special lunch served by the people of Zion Church.

You are encouraged to email the church to indicate you plan to stay for lunch: office@zionbristol.comcastbiz.net. Thanks!

And at Grace Lutheran Church, Plainville, 7:00 p.m.

222 Farmington Ave, Plainville.

Hear the blowing of a shofar as we read from the prophet Joel. Receive a cross of ashes traced on your forehead or the back of your hand as a sign of our human mortality, frailty and dependence on God. Be fed with Jesus' forgiveness at his holy meal.

An inter-generational service.

Watch for more information about Midweek Lenten gatherings to be held at Gloria Dei and St. Andrew Churches, February 28, March 6, 13, and 20. Soup suppers, table conversation and worship, beginning at 6:00.

FOUR CHURCH COLLABORATION NEWS...

A LOT IS HAPPENING!

Please read all this very carefully!!

- The Four Church Collaboration Committee met at Zion Church on January 31 to follow up on the

large Four Church Forum held at Gloria Dei Church on Sunday afternoon, January 28. Over 100 people from the four congregations participated in lively and constructive small and whole group conversation facilitated by the Rev. Steven Wilco, Associate to the Bishop of the New England Synod. The Committee continues to work on a formal **"Proposal for a New Ministry"** that will be presented to the next Four Church Forum to be held at St. Andrew Church on Sunday afternoon, March 10, beginning at 1:00.

- In order to help the members of our congregations determine where a new congregation will be housed in the future, **Open Houses** will be held at St. Andrew Church on Sunday, February 18, 11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m., and at Gloria Dei Church, on Sunday afternoon, February 25, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The buildings will be open for members of our congregations to tour and assess the potential for a new ministry to be centered in them. Guides will be available in each location in order to answer questions and receive feedback. The Proposal for a New Ministry presented by the Collaboration Team will include a recommendation for the site. (It will also include the recommendation that the New Ministry will retain the Zion Church building in order to continue the vital Meals for Neighbors ministry.
 - Questions about the process? Please speak to our fine congregational representatives serving on the Four Church Collaboration Team: Karen Biernat, Arlene Creswell, Owen VanBrocklin, Bob Herold, and Pastor Swenson.
 - Please read the very informative *"Join Us for More Input on the Collaboration Process"* prepared by the Four Church Collaboration Committee as we move forward together in this process as we get closer to making critically important decisions about the future. **This document is being sent in a separate email to all our members this week. Watch for it.** The next meeting of the Collaboration Committee will be Tuesday, February 27, 6:30 p.m. at Grace Church.
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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.

HOSPITALITY AT ST. ANDREW CHURCH...

In order to extend our ministry of hospitality at St. Andrew Church, we invite you to serve as a greeter in the area inside the doors from the parking lot (in the lobby outside the church offices). Many people use that entrance to the church, and if they arrive as guests it is always helpful for them to be greeted with a friendly welcome and to be offered directions to the worship space. Our thanks to Wendy Cunningham who has been serving as the greeter over the last few weeks. Offer to join her in this ministry of hospitality! Have a small stack of bulletins, wear your friendly smile and be your best welcoming self! Thanks much!

"Welcome one another...just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God!" (Romans 15.7)

"I BELIEVE"

Confirmation class learns the history of The Apostle's Creed



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

Annual TAG SALE

The tag sale is Friday, March 22nd 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, March 23rd from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Donations are needed as well as help! We will need help especially on Friday to bring items out of storage and place on the tables. Hopefully, we will have enough volunteers to help bring the boxes out and arrange the

items in groupings on the tables. Please contact Robin or Dawn to volunteer for either the set up or the tag sale.

Hopefully you will all spread the word of our sale on social media and by word of mouth. You can reach Robin at rnlrand@comcast.net or Dawn @ dstitham@gmail.com!

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 Sicienski, Johanna Tessman, Carole Wedler, Marge Pearson, Anna Zurell, Susan Provenzano, Tracey Simpson, Donna Ouellette, Larry Holyst, Denise Holyst, Robert Gergler, Roy Zurell, Lou Usala, Lee Hardin, and all those in nursing homes and the homebound: Nancy Denehy.

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.*



A gift was given, to the Glory of God,

In memory of:

Joan Usala

Jean Wentland

By:

Ken and Barbara Soden

Ken and Barbara Soden



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Holden Karp | 12 Marlies Kolhossor |
| 2 Parker Dayton | 12 Zachary Shackford |
| 3 Lucien Griffin | 14 Kasey Simpson |
| 3 Connor Pratt | 14 Daniel Stitham |
| 5 Grace Alling | 17 Vera Herold |
| 5 Joan Lagasse | 17 Amanda Hintz |
| 8 Mike Beaudoin | 18 Timothy Treacy |
| 8 Louis Usala, Jr. | 20 Keith Hintz |
| 10 Mona Rindfleisch | 21 Linda Prior |
| 11 Ursula Kaminsky | 22 Eleanor Miller |
| | 27 Rick Koonz |

The February 11, 2024 bulletin can be found here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GXBa7syO1X2ecTvaNDOYLHTDNoou_egs/view?usp=sharing