

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

News Notes for the Week of April 28, 2024

Church Office Hours: Tuesday - 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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**Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 28,  
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER**

The Great 50 Days of Easter continue with shouts of "He is risen!"  
Gather with one voice to raise your voices in praise of the One  
who comes among us to make all things new!  
Hear the story of the Ethiopian eunuch who is graced with new life  
in the waters of baptism.  
Taste God's goodness at the Table.  
Children's message this week.

In preparation for worship, read prayerfully the Scripture texts we will hear this Sunday:  
Acts 8.26-40, Psalm 22.25-31, 1 John 4.7-21, John 15.1-8.

Look around you this Sunday. Greet those you have not yet met.  
Welcome them to and sit with them at coffee hour.  
"Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you!"

## **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

### **Sunday, April 28, 2024; 5th Sunday of Easter**

9:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion

(Sanctuary, You Tube, Facebook)

Facebook and YouTube:

<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

### **Monday, April 29, 2024**

6:00 p.m. Bristol Chorale

### **Tuesday, April 30, 2024**

No Hand Bells

No Voice Choir

### **Wednesday, May 1, 2024**

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Easter Season Bible Study, "The Church's Expansive Mission...Stories from the Book of Acts," via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81822006513?pwd=QWpDazltQmdzeUM2WlVlQTU2Y0Y3Zz09>

### **Thursday, May 2, 2024**

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

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

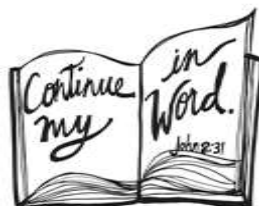
### **Sunday, May 5, 2024 6th Sunday of Easter**

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

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour /Special Congregational Meeting To Officially Endorse Moving Ahead With The Three-Church Collaboration

## **NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS EFFECTIVE APRIL 29, 2024**

Effective Monday, April 29, 2024 the church office hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



### **“THE CHURCH’S EXPANSIVE MISSION... STORIES FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS”**

**Easter Season Study**

**Wednesdays on Zoom, 7-8 P.M.**

You are invited to join in the Easter season Bible Study on Wednesday evenings!

As our Bristol and Plainville congregations move toward a consolidated ministry, new opportunities for learning from the Bible emerge. Being in the season of Easter and working to form a new church, the book of Acts makes sense as a text for study. In the coming weeks, we'll discuss the book of Acts and

catch a glimpse of the beautiful community that the Church is called to be. Acts is also the source for the First Readings we hear during Sunday worship each Sunday during the Easter season.

The study will take place over Zoom to make it easier for people to attend. Pastor Swenson will lead. We will gather on the screen Wednesday nights. Join the conversation. Please have a Bible at hand. Please let Pastor Swenson know of your interest by emailing him: [pastorlrs@comcast.net](mailto:pastorlrs@comcast.net).

Here is the outline for coming three sessions:

May 1. Acts 10 – “Peter and the Household of Cornelius.”

May 8. Acts 17 – “Paul in Cosmopolitan Athens.”

May 15. Acts 2 – “Pentecost and the Early Days of the Church.”

### **Special Congregational Meeting, May 5, to Re-affirm Consolidation Commitment**

A special Congregational Meeting has been called for Sunday, May 5, after worship, to vote on the revised Proposal for a new Lutheran ministry in Bristol and Plainville that now includes the joining of Grace, Plainville, and Zion and St. Andrew Churches of Bristol.

While we regret that Gloria Dei Church voted not to move forward with the Proposal for one Lutheran ministry, the three churches voted favorably for consolidation at special congregational meetings on April 7. It was decided at the last meeting of the Collaboration Committee on April 15 that the congregations that voted in favor of the consolidation should reaffirm that decision with votes on May 5. New days await us!

A copy of the revised Proposal was emailed or mailed to all St. Andrew members and friends on Tuesday of this week. Please read it carefully before the May 5 meeting. If you have not received a copy of the Proposal, please call the church office. Copies will be available at the church the next two Sundays.

Our thanks again to those from St. Andrew that served on the Collaboration Committee: Arlene Creswell, Bob Herold, Karen Biernat, Owen VanBrocklin, and Pastor Swenson. Once the revised Proposal is approved the development of the new ministry will be directed by the Steering Committee which will include three members from each of the participating congregations. Karen Biernat, Bob Herold, Bill Golden and Pastor Swenson will represent St. Andrew on this group. Arlene Creswell and Britt Lynch were elected to serve on the Search Committee that will nominate a candidate to serve as pastor of the new congregation.



## **Pentecost Sunday, May 19, Let the Spirit Move!!**

Come celebrate the festival of Pentecost, Sunday, May 19, as we rejoice in the empowering, life giving graces of the promised Holy Spirit moving through and enlivening the ministry of the Church!

Pentecost brings to conclusion the Great Fifty Days of Easter and lifts and carries us into the long season of being and becoming the living body of Christ, practicing resurrection and bearing witness to God's undying love for the world. Pentecost is a lively, even noisy festival of the Church (see below about the noise part and how you can be a part of the noise making!). It is a day for rejoicing, of knowing that God's Spirit is alive and at work among us. It is a day for affirming our baptismal faith, our trust in God's presence and leading.

### **More about Pentecost ... Help Make Noise! The Sounds of Pentecost!**

As we celebrate the festival of Pentecost, you are invited to help make a semblance of the noise of the first Pentecost day when the Holy Spirit breathed into the followers of Jesus and moved the Church into action.

In the Book of Acts we read: *"All of them (the followers of Jesus who had gathered in a small upstairs room in Jerusalem) were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability."*

Do you speak a language other than English, even in a very elemental way? You are invited to help in the reading of part the Pentecost story in that language. Don't worry if your Spanish or Italian or Greek or Swedish or French or German or Japanese or Latin or Zulu or Trukese is not perfect. You'll be speaking simultaneously with everyone else to make a wonderful cacophony of sounds, just like Pentecost!

If you would like to share in this noisy excitement of Pentecost please speak to Pastor Swenson, Jill Little, chair of our Worship and Music team, or call Nicole Gergler, our Church Administrator, and they will supply you with the information (and the text in your language) you need. Thanks!

### **Memorial Service for George and Jean Wentland, May 4, 10 a.m.**

A Memorial Service to thank God the lives and ministries of George and Jean Wetland, faithful members of St. Andrew Church, will be held on Saturday, May 4, 10:00 a.m., at the church. George died in April 2020. Jean died on January 29 of this year.

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."*

### **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.

### **Scholarship Applications**

There is a link at the bottom of this email for the Pastor Perry and Sally Beaver Scholarship of St. Andrew Evangelical Lutheran Church. Graduating high school seniors and students currently enrolled in a post-secondary program are welcome to apply for this scholarship, which awards up to \$500 in scholarship(s) to eligible members annually. Applications are due in the church office ([churchoffice@standrewct.org](mailto:churchoffice@standrewct.org)) by **May 30, 2024**.



### **NEW ENGLAND SYNOD SCHOOL OF LAY MINISTRY BEGINS NEW SESSION IN THE FALL**

"Curious? Maybe interested? see Arlene Creswell,  
School of Lay Ministry (SLM) Class of 2010.  
Remote learning, flexible schedule, fits into your life - it's great!

The New England Synod offers a two-year educational program for laypersons through its School of Lay Ministry. It is an innovative program designed to give adult students an opportunity to grow in their faith for the purpose of personal spiritual development, biblical enrichment and life-long learning. The School embodies the belief in the "priesthood of all believers," empowering its students to greater service to God and their congregations.

Enrollment is open to anyone over 18 years of age interested in learning more about the history and development of Christianity, the Bible, Lutheranism and more. No educational prerequisite or expectation of prior biblical or theological knowledge is required.



### **SUMMER STEWARDSHIP**

Summer is coming soon (hopefully) and our thoughts turn to BBQs, vacations, sitting on the deck/patio and taking a deep breath. A time of restorative peace, perhaps. Vacations, beach days, yardwork! God wants us to rest, renew, revive.... physically and spiritually too.

Part of our spiritual discipline is giving. The Bible teaches us to be generous in our care for others, and we ask for your generosity this summer:

- to continue support of our community in Mission funds
- to continue the support of people in need in the region, country and the world
- to continue the care of our facility and staff
- to facilitate needed repairs and updates in preparation of a new ministry

Thank you for your generosity

### **ST. PAULY SHED**

WARDROBE CHANGE TIME!!!!!!

As you flip your wardrobe from fall/winter to spring/summer, remember to bring any unwanted clothes and shoes for our St. Pauly shed.

Haven't worn that in a year? It goes!

Now that shirt is a little tight/loose? It goes!

Thank you for supporting this ministry!

### **GROCERY CART**

HUNGER DOESN'T GO ON VACATION

When shopping, please pick up some extra items like boxed pasta salads, canned beans, cereal, powdered milk, pudding/fruit cups,

Items always needed are pasta sauce, canned meats and fruits, diapers of any size and baby wipes.

Watch for sales and feed your neighbor!

### **PRAYERS**

**We offer prayers of thanksgiving and supplication for:**

- those known to us in need of healing: Bill Murtha, Callum Rescsanski, Paul Rescsanski, Charles Schissler, Steven Siecienski, Johanna Tessman, Carole Wedler, Marge Pearson, Anna Zurell, Tracey Simpson, Donna Ouellette, Larry Holyst, Denise Holyst, Roy Zurell, Lee Hardin, Charlie Caston, Todd Wish, Patricia Castro, Ann Maher, Vincent Provenzano, and all those in nursing homes and the homebound, including 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](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.*



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Kiernan DuBay	16 Giada Mazzarella
1 Daria Fournier	17 Kenneth Delkescamp
3 Susan Provenzano	20 Keith Clark
5 Lee-Ann Mastrianni	21 Margaret Delkescamp
7 Nancy Carpenter	26 Jack Alling
9 Layla McMahan	27 Jack Beaudoin
15 Claire Lessard	28 Catherine Matulis
15 Britt Lynch	29 Lillian Milbrandt
15 Avery Motta	30 Lucy Kalat
16 Elizabeth Hintz	30 John Werner

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

2 Jon FitzGerald	19 Tina Beaudoin
3 Wesley Hoyt	19 Lisa Fournier
3 Tyler McMahan	20 Owen VanBrocklin
4 Andrew Trudel	21 Omar Ramirez
8 Michael Lynch	22 Lindsey Matulis
8 Charles Schissler	23 Quinn Vontell
12 Abigail Griffin	24 Zachary Fournier
13 Erin Avolt	25 Donald Milbrandt
13 Levi Avolt	26 Melissa Hoyt
14 Dawn Stitham	27 Karen Biernat
15 Kristin Beaudoin	28 Robin Caron
15 Olivia Beaudoin	28 David Hoyt
15 Erica Matulis	31 Mark Beauregard
15 Kenneth Soden	31 Brian Murphy
17 Kenneth Griffin	

**The April 28, 2024 bulletin can be found here:**

**<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cKE4hXsCzcc0pT8ldNe51RZZafYFWMcM/view?usp=sharing>**

**The Pastor Perry and Sally Beaver Scholarship Application can be found here:**

**<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16OpPurAOT4aOM9uIVJd-zlim9P9u3Wy4/view?usp=sharing>**