

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

News Notes for the Week of April 7, 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, April 7, 9:30 a.m.
Second Sunday of Easter
Liturgy of Holy Communion**

Easter is not just a single day but a fifty-day season of rejoicing in the good news of the resurrection, of new life, unending love and persevering hope.

For Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Join the continuing festival this Sunday as we hear of the fearful Thomas' stunning encounter with the risen Jesus, and sing with the Psalmist:

"How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!"

Prepare for worship by reading the Bible texts we will be hearing on Sunday:
Acts 4.32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1.1-2.2; John 20.19-31

Practice hospitality to old friends and new worshippers!
Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you!

Then after worship this Sunday...

participate in the specially called Congregation Meeting
at which we will be voting on the
proposal for a New Lutheran Ministry in Bristol and Plainville,
joining together into one our four area Lutheran congregations —
Grace, Plainville, Zion, Gloria Dei and St. Andrew, Bristol.

The Proposal has been distributed to the congregation in previous mailings. It is also available currently
in the church office.

If the vote on the Proposal is positive, we will then vote to appoint three members of this congregation
to serve on the new Transition Steering Committee that will guide the process toward consolidation and
serve as the Congregation Council

for the first 12 months of the new congregation's existence. We will also appoint two people to serve
on the Call Committee which will be responsible for the process leading to the call of a new pastor to
serve the new congregation. Each of the four congregations will have equal representation on these
important Committees. Nominated by our Congregation Council to serve on these Committees are:

Bob Herold, Karen Biernat and Bill Golden for the Steering Committee, and Britt Lynch and Arlene
Creswell for the Nominating Committee.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, April 7, 2024; 2nd 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.facebook.com/Standrewct/)

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLSSna5Ti_WSwRJ_ySbMA3Q.](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLSSna5Ti_WSwRJ_ySbMA3Q)

10:30 Coffee Hour/Special Congregation Meeting for the purpose of voting on recommendations of
the Four Church Collaboration Committee

Monday, April 8, 2024

6:00 p.m. Bristol Chorale

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

6:45 p.m. Hand Bells

7:30 p.m. Voice Choir

Thursday, April 11, 2024

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

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

Sunday, April 14, 2024 3rd Sunday of Easter

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

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

Dear Friends,

What a joyous, festive Easter Day celebration we had this past Sunday morning! How good it is to gather together to share the good news of the resurrection and the life-giving hope and love it provides us.

And how grateful we are for the splendid musicians — choir members, instrumentalists, and bell ringers — who graced our worship with their rich gifts, all under the direction of Gwynne. And for the dozens who helped make worship work so well — altar guild members, ushers, the folks who helped decorate the worship space in all of its Easter splendor, worship assistants, and to Nicole our secretary — thanks so much for your generous and skillful gifts. And to all who contributed to the festive coffee hour and to the happy Easter egg hunt after worship — standing O's to you too!

Now we continue our celebration as the Great Fifty Days of Easter unfold before us! Let us join together in these days to rejoice with one voice in the promise of new life in Christ!

This coming Sunday also brings us to an important step in the month's long process we have been engaged in — the process leading toward the consolidation of our four area Lutheran congregations in Bristol and Plainville into one new ministry. All four of our congregations will be voting at nearly the same time on Sunday on the Proposal toward consolidation that will lead us to taking formal steps toward organizing a new congregation, a proposal that offers so much promise for the days ahead. We have witnessed in a variety of ways over the past months — through common worship services (including our shared Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services last week), and the large four church gatherings to share our visions for a new church in a new day — how much better life can be when we are together. Through all the bumps and twists and surprises and joys of the days ahead, we will continue to trust in God's guiding hand.

With gratitude for your faithful and expectant partnership along the way,
Les Swenson,
Transition Pastor

SOME RANDOM PHOTOS FROM EASTER DAY AT ST. ANDREW CHURCH...

(For more pictures go to St. Andrew Facebook page)





CONFIRMATION CLASS UPDATE

Holy Week instruction in pictures..



Coming up: The students and chaperones are heading to Camp Calumet in NH on Apr 12-14 for "Confirmation Camp".....if you'd like to make a donation to keep their snack supply full for the weekend, please see Arlene Creswell.

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. Participate 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)

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

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, 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, 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 Mazarella
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 McMahon	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

The April 7, 2024 bulletin can be found here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/15JZ9K-igE2Gt_UFZgoX6u8JZfGK1trkz/view?usp=sharing