

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

News Notes for the Week of May 12, 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



Christ is Risen! *He is risen indeed!* Alleluia!

**THIS SUNDAY, MAY 12,
THE SEVENTH 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 from Jesus' prayer for his disciples as prepares them for a new day...
"Holy Father ... may they be one as we are one."
Come taste God's goodness at the Table.

In preparation for worship, read prayerfully the Scripture texts we will hear this Sunday:
Acts 1.15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5.9-13; John 17.6-19.

Look around you this Sunday. Greet those you have not yet met.
Welcome them to come join you at the coffee hour. Introduce them to others.
"Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you!"

Dear Friends,

This past Sunday after worship during a brief special Congregational Meeting we unanimously re-affirmed our commitment to move ahead with the formation a new Lutheran ministry in the Bristol-Plainville area. The partnership of our Zion, Grace and St. Andrew congregations is now ready to take the steps necessary to weave our congregations into one. A new day awaits! This is a time of great excitement and expectation!

The Steering Committee for the new ministry including three members from each congregation plus the pastors from each church will be meeting for the time next Monday, May 13. Representing St. Andrew on that team will be Karen Biernat, Bill Golden and Bob Herold. Look forward to hearing news of this meeting in next week's NewsNotes. In the meantime, and through the days ahead, keep our three congregations in your prayers that the Spirit will lead us with courage and wisdom as we move toward a new day of life together!

And one more piece of good news ... our friend Ryan Heckman, who led worship at St. Andrew Church last fall a few times and who has been leading the fine Confirmation Ministry program for our four Bristol/Plainville Lutheran congregations this year, has received a call to serve as Associate Pastor at St. Matthew Church in Avon. Congratulations and best wishes to Ryan! He will be ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacraments in the ELCA this Saturday, May 11, 4:00 p.m., at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Manchester. You are invited to attend this special service. Embrace Ryan in your prayers as he begins his new life in service to the church! (See the invitation for the service below in this edition of the NewsNotes.)

With gratitude for your continuing prayers and expectant hearts!
Les Swenson, Transition Pastor

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, May 12, 2024; 7th 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

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

6:45 p.m. Hand Bells

7:30 p.m. Voice Choir

Wednesday, May 14, 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=QWpDazltQmdzeUM2WlV1QTU2Y0Y3Zz09>

Thursday, May 15, 2024

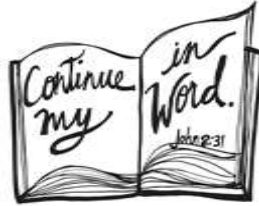
7:00 p.m. AA (Fellowship Hall)

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

Sunday, May 19, 2024 Day of Pentecost

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

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour



**“THE CHURCH’S EXPANSIVE MISSION...
STORIES FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS”
Easter Season Study
Wednesdays on Zoom, 7-8 P.M.**

There’s still time to join in the Easter season Bible Study on Wednesday evenings! Even if you haven’t had the chance to share in the previous weeks, please join us for the final session next week, May 15, when we take a close look at the lively, life giving story of Pentecost in the second chapter of Acts.

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. Together we’re discussing stories from the book of Acts and catching 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 takes place over Zoom to make it easier for people to attend. Pastor Swenson is leading. We 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.



**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.

And wear something red when you come to worship! Red is the color for this festival day!

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!

If you would like to share in this noisy excitement of Pentecost please let Pastor Swenson know either this Sunday or by emailing him (pastorlrs@comcast.net). He will supply you with the information (and the text in your language) you need. Thanks!

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.



2024 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sponsored by the following Lutheran Churches
Gloria Dei, Grace, St. Andrew and Zion

DATE: JULY 8 – July 12, 2024
TIME: 5:30 – 8 PM
LOCATION: St Andrew Lutheran
1125 Stafford Avenue
Bristol, CT 06010
Ages: Pre-K through 6th grade

Free for all – dinner included

To register, go to www.standrewct.org and click on VBS. Registration opens April 1st.

**BY THE GRACE OF GOD
& THE CALL OF THE CHURCH**

Ryan David Muralt Heckman

**WILL BE ORDAINED TO THE HOLY OFFICE OF
WORD & SACRAMENT DURING THE
CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**



SATURDAY MAY 11, 2024 at 4:00 PM

Emanuel Lutheran Church
60 Church Street, Manchester, CT 06040
The Rev. James Hazelwood, Bishop of the New
England Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America will preside.

**You are invited! Clergy are asked to vest
and process, the color of the day is red.**

A reception will follow.

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) 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: Charlie Caston, Patricia Castro, Lee Hardin, Denise Holyst, Larry Holyst, Bob Lagasse, Joan Lagasse, Ann Maher, Bill Murtha, Donna Ouellette, Marge Pearson, Vincent Provenzano, Callum Rescsanski, Paul Rescsanski, Charles Schissler, Steven Siecienski, Tracey Simpson, Johanna Tessman, Carole Wedler, John Werner, Todd Wish, Anna Zurell, Roy Zurell, 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.*



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 May 12, 2024 bulletin can be found here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HLQZdwWGFPJ8RWYK5SkgtDvBZ7Db6JsQ/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>