



GOOD NEWS – November 2018

Pastor's Letter

Reformation is days away, celebrating the ways we are called in this Lutheran church to be a body that is always reforming, transforming. We as Lutherans have in our make up, in our formation, the need to move with God, to acknowledge our mistakes, to change the ways we speak the love of God we know in Christ Jesus, to reach out to people in pain who are experiencing hunger, poverty, homelessness, loss. We are a people who are gathered around the cross and marked with the cross of Christ living lives that speak the truth of this love laid bare in the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus.

In the wake of our Reformation Celebration rises All Saints Day. We name our dead aloud. We recognize the ways death permeates life here on earth, as trees bare, bones stiffen in the cold, ground browns and cracks. We speak the names of those beloved by us who have died, and yet remain a part of us. They live in the ways we have been formed and shaped as people, in the choices we make for ourselves, for our families. We give thanks for their life, and speak their place in our communion of saints, reminding us that we are all part of an eternal table and fabric through God. We allow God to wipe away our tears.

In the middle of these days of celebrating and remembering, Stewardship committee is inviting us to "Stir It Up!"

Stir up in your people the gift of the Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever.

It's a part of our baptismal rite, used in baptisms, confirmations, bringing in new members, congregational renewals. We have had the joy of hearing these words a few times recently as we baptized Azalea Louise, Avery Rose, and Maverick Grae, a beautiful reminder to us of God's powerful promises to us, the prayers spoken for us, the promises made by us. A reminder of the life of faith we seek to live in the presence of God. In these young vulnerable children, we see clearly the power of God's promise to be with us, to rejoice in us, to keep us, remind us who and whose we are when we lose ourselves.

We are God's people. Christ's body for the sake of the world. We are united in life as the body of Christ, the body that is re:membered each time we share in the meal, the body and blood of Christ

broken and shed for us in bread and wine. We are united in death as part of the eternal communion of saints, as we gather at the table that has no end, the feast of the universe. We pray together. We mark each other with the cross of Christ that connects us. We pray together, with and for one another, that God's spirit would come and stir us up. Rouse us from indifference or complacency. Move us out of our usual spot. Sing with us a new song, with our lips and with our lives. It is not a lament, but a song of joy sharing in the life of God.

Stir us up with wisdom... that we might see what is just and right and true.

Stir in us understanding... that we might view each person through the lens of your love.

Stir in us counsel... that we might be wise stewards of the life, the time, the possessions you have given us.

Stir in us might... that we might be empowered to do the things that we can, beyond our imagining, but with your help.

Stir in us knowledge and fear of the Lord...that we might be confident and humble in your presence, viewing our lives through your loving eyes.

Stir in us joy...that we might delight in this life you have given us, and the people with whom we are blessed to share it.

Peace+

Pr. Stephanie

Council Corner

From the President

Thanksgiving...Giving Thanks...Thanksgiving...Giving Thanks...Thanksgiving...

Yes, November is the month when we celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday, but, giving thanks is something we should be practicing all the time. Having said that, I will try to practice what I preach in the following words:

Thanks to all who participated in "The Taste of Bristol – Lutheran Edition". The planning team, the set-up crew, the chefs, those attending including our guests from Gloria Dei and Zion Lutheran Churches, and the clean-up crew all worked very hard to create this enjoyable event. In addition to the food and fellowship \$1186.00 was raised for world hunger. **Thank -you!**

Thanks to Owen VanBrocklin for his carpentry work in the sanctuary. The exposed heating pipes in the sanctuary bothered Owen for some time. Now, thanks to his efforts and materials, those pipes are hidden - making for a much-improved appearance. **Thank-you!**

Thanks to all who worked on our prayer tapestry. It was nearly a two-year project, but it now hangs in the chancel, adding beauty to our worship space. The tapestry will be dedicated on Sunday, October 28. It will be a lasting memory of our collective prayers. **Thank-you!**

Thanks to a member who wishes to remain anonymous. Recently the lock hardware on the door of the parking lot entrance has been giving us some grief. A couple nights it was impossible to lock the door. Our locksmith, Dave Hartley, took a look and informed us that the 27-year-old hardware (that has

been used multiple times every day) needed to be replaced. The cost estimate was just over \$ 1000.00. Knowing that the checkbook could not handle that right now, I decided to share the news with others and hopefully come up with the funds. It took only one person...and the bill will be paid. **Thank-you!**

Thanks to a number of new comers to our list of Worship Leaders - assisting ministers, lectors, ushers, acolytes. **Thank-you!**

Thanks to all who work so hard to make "WoW", our intergenerational faith formation program, successful. Thanks also to those who faithfully attend. **Thank-you!**

Thanks to the stewardship committee members who are encouraging us to "Stir it Up". Plan to attend the brunch on November 4 when "stirred up" stories will be told. Special thanks to those who made the "reverse offering" happen. **Thank-you!**

Thanks to all who helped with the recent Pork Dinner. Planners, shoppers, decorators, kitchen help, and that all-important clean-up crew – all helped to make the event another success. **Thank-you!**

Thanks to the many folks who worked so hard at our recent Tag Sale another huge success. Those who donated, those who polished the "treasures" to make them look better, those who set up, those who welcomed the shoppers, those that served the food, those that baked cookies and other goodies, and those who packed up the left-overs – all worked very hard. Together we earned over \$ 3,500.00. **Thank-you!**

Thanks for your generous response to the stewardship committee's appeal for "lunch-type" non-perishable foods for our "shopping cart". Our "WoW" group will be assembling bag lunches with these items. With the closing of the Christian Fellowship soup kitchen, many of our neighbors will be without meals over the weekend and these lunches will provide needed nourishment for them. Thanks also to Thrivent for their grant money to help support this project. **Thank-you!**

Thanks to those generous people who prepare and serve goodies at Coffee Hour every Sunday. Your efforts are noted and appreciated. **Thank-you!**

Finally, I offer you a challenge – join me in thanking God for all the good around us and then go out of your way to say thank-you to those around you.

See you in church,
Bob

Giving Thanks...Thanksgiving...Giving Thanks...Thanksgiving...Giving Thanks

Worship with us weekly
Saturdays at 4 p.m.
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

These November days grass browns, harvest comes, plants die, trees bare their branches, families gather and give thanks. Our worship reflects this natural and national rhythm, as we remember those who have died, pray for our Veterans, offer our commitments as disciples of Jesus towards God's mission in and through this place, recognize and share in God's abundance, offer our thanks for all God has given us, and see in Christ the one who reigns in and through it all, beginning to end. These weekly services of Holy Communion make us again and again the body of Christ sent for the sake of the world.

All Saints Day. November 1st is All Saints Day. On this day, we celebrate the victory won over death through the death and resurrection of Christ for all the faithful dead, but we grieve for our beloved dead as well, knowing that God honors our tears. We bring our grief to the table and find there a foretaste of Isaiah's feast to come. We will remember and pray for those known to us who have died since last All Saints Day at services Saturday, **November 4th at 4 p.m. and Sunday, November 5th at 9:30 a.m.** God wipes away all our tears.

Commitment Weekend
Saturday, November 10th
&
Sunday, November 11th

We have been praying for God's spirit to move us, inspire us, stir us up. We have been praying for wisdom and courage, understanding and might. Now we offer ourselves, our pledges, our prayerfully considered courageous commitments towards God's work through this place in the year to come. Pr. Joe McGarry will preach and preside, as he and Pr. Stephanie swap pulpits for the day. Pr. Joe is the new pastor at Prince of Peace in Kensington. He is half of the Two Bald Pastors podcast team (if you want to catch a sneak peak, take a listen).

Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service: Before feasting with family or friends, come feast at the everlasting table with all the saints. Join the combined faith communities of Bristol at Prospect Methodist Church, 99 Summer St., Bristol, in offering our thanks and praise to God. While we differ in our understandings of God, we agree that there exists one beyond our understanding, source of all we are and all we have. We agree that what we have is a gift of God meant to be shared with our neighbor. Come **Wednesday, November 21st** at 7:30 p.m. and add your voice and presence to our united prayers. Joint adult and children's choirs are singing, and we are helping with the fellowship after service. If you are able to bring something to share, speak with Rosemarie Tessman.

Christ the King crowns our church year. On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' and Pilate's conversation about who Jesus is before his crucifixion. We look forward to the day Jesus is given dominion, when his kingdom comes and will is done, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent overcoming of love. This year we celebrate **Saturday-Sunday, November 24-25** at 4 p.m. and 9:30 a.m. respectively.

Faith Formation



: If you have been following us on Facebook, you know, you've seen, we are having fun Tuesday nights singing and storytelling, painting and playing, praying and blessing. If you haven't yet, check out this intergenerational, out of the box, faith formation event.



Our 2018-19 theme invites us to think about how we walk with God, looking to the example of Jesus. God invites us to live courageous, generous lives that celebrate the gift of life God has given to each of us. God invites us to honor and serve one another – to treat one another as a good gift of God. God invites us to join in loving and caring for the world and all that God made. Each week we'll explore this ongoing invitation to walk with God.

TUESDAY EVENINGS

5 – 5:40 p.m. Youth Choir*

5:40 p.m. PIZZA dinner

6 – 7 p.m. WoW

October 30	Fortified: Reformation Celebration!
November 6	No WoW (School is closed for Election Day)
November 13	Manna from Heaven (Service Project)
November 20	10 Commandments
November 27	Hannah: Singing and Praying

Wednesday Bible Study.

Join us Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. as we read, discuss, explore God's Word given to us in scripture. Written by an array of accomplished theologians, this series provides terrific insights into scripture through questions, prayer, suggested memorization, and daily readings. Each session explores the meaning of the text for the original writer and audience, and for today.

November 7	God Creates, Humans Sin (Genesis 3)
November 14	God's Fierce Determination (Genesis 6)
November 21	OFF (Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service)
November 28	God Works with Noah's Family (Genesis 11-12)

Book Group!

Nadia Bolz Weber has been an important voice in our church for the last decade. With considerable wit and emotional honesty, she has given a fresh voice to the grace of God that has claimed her – as a person, as a Christian, as an addict, as a Lutheran pastor. She has spoken around the country about her books and her ministry. We'll gather to discuss **Monday, October 29 at 7 p.m.** at Panera Bread 1214 Farmington Ave., Bristol.

In a month when we think about the role of gratitude in our lives, and how we live out grateful lives, this seemed a fit. Diana Butler Bass, the author of the multiple award-winning *Grounded* and leading trend spotter in contemporary Christianity, explores why gratitude is missing as a modern spiritual practice, offers practical suggestions for reclaiming it, and illuminates how the shared practice of gratitude can lead to greater connection with God, our world, and our own souls. We'll gather **Sunday, November 25th** after worship to discuss.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR REHEARSALS

begin on Tuesday, **November 13**, 7:30 PM.

Please consider joining the Voice Choir as we focus on the sometimes meditative, sometimes joyful, "music of the season". You will appreciate the opportunity to relax and focus on the purpose of this divine season in our Christian faith.

- The choir meets every Tuesday until Christmas, beginning on November 13.
- For further information feel free to speak with Gwynne Hopko or any member of the Voice Choir.

ADVENT PLANS

If you have a favorite religious Christmas carol (one that tells us something about Jesus birth or the love God makes known), I would love to hear about it: Which song, carol is your favorite? Why is it your favorite? Think about the words, how do they help you to understand or appreciate Christmas? I am working on this year's Advent devotions, and would love to record some different groups singing their (and our) favorite carols. Please speak with me, or email me Pastorstephanie@standrewct.org.

VOTING MEMBERS NEEDED!:

On June 6-8, the 2019 New England Synod ELCA Synod Assembly will be held in Worcester, MA. Each congregation sends 2 voting members (we have a 3rd category available, youth aged 14 -18 with one person ready for balloting so far). Expenses are covered by the congregation per our constitution.

This is an excellent opportunity to witness interesting and varied worship styles, participate in the business of the Synod, and meet new and old friends. There are some St. Andrew folks who will go as visitors, so you'll know somebody there already.

We will be electing our voting members at our St. Andrew Annual Meeting on **January 27th**.

If interested please let Council Pres. Bob Herold or Council Secretary Ellie Miller know so you can be put on the ballot, Nominations from the floor will also be taken on meeting day.

Outreach & Events

CLEAN UP DAY

November 3, 2018 from 8:00 to 2:00

There are a few things we do every year, clean up flower beds, rake leaves and things we have not done in years like clean the roof drains.

We need your help to prepare the church and grounds for winter !
Please sign up in the fellowship hall.

Rain date is November 10, 2018 at the same time 8:00 to 2:00.

**Remember many hands make light work.
Thank you in advance!
The Property Committee**

Youth Fellowship for November:

Calling all confirmation class students and older! Please join us on **Sunday, November 11th** for a fun-filled duckpin bowling adventure at Highland Bowl, in Cheshire with easy bowling and snacks and pizza. The fun starts after Sunday worship when we carpool from the parking lot. We will leave approximately at 11 am and return there at approximately 3:00. \$10.00 suggested donation covers the bowling, shoes, and food. For more information or to sign up please contact Tricia Galvin at trigalvin@sbcglobal.net.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Members spent an enjoyable afternoon on October 9th being involved in the making of holiday ornaments. Sue, Pam and Nancy explained and walked us through the steps involved so that we could make our own finished product(s).

All the necessary supplies were provided along with help when needed. Since our scheduled speaker was unable to be present, we really appreciate the gals on the committee who did their presentation a month early!

The business meeting included a review of the dinner @ Nuchie's, the success of the bake sale and the clothing drive for local children beginning a new school year. A decision must be made at the next meeting re: who/which organization or group should be designated the recipient. Various charities were discussed.

The next meeting will be held on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH @ 1:30 PM**. Committee members will be Joan Usala, Kathy Smith and Marcia Theer. Sue Provenzano will lead devotions. The presenter of the program will be Karin Tyrrell. (She had been scheduled to come in October with a sewing machine and ideas for a sewing project...but had fallen just before our meeting.) This month we will be making 3-D stars from fabric...no sewing required. We will fold, iron and glue to put together our Christmas stars. **THIS IS OPEN TO ALL**. Please plan to attend.

Joan Strecker

**SMILE: COMMITTEE WORK IS LIKE A SOFT CHAIR---
EASY TO GET INTO BUT HARD TO GET OUT OF.**

Stewardship

Stir It Up! Brunch Sunday Nov. 4th After Worship

Join us for a festive coffee hour sponsored by the Stewardship Committee. We'll enjoy fellowship and celebrate the stories of generosity in our midst. If you chose a Stir It Up! envelope with \$10 in it for doing good in the community, we'd love to hear about it.....but no public speaking required :) Or just come for the foodit's all good!

Commitment Sunday November 11th

We will celebrate our gifts from God as we return our commitment cards during worship, showing our support for the church and the world for 2019. And, one of the things we do best, eat, there will be a celebratory coffee hour following worship. We welcome Pr. Joe McGarry from Prince of Peace Lutheran in Kensington to preach that day as Pr. Stephanie preaches at his church. (Pr. Joe is the one that took the best pictures at the "Taste of Bristol" event!) See you there.

Thank You from WoW

Thanks to ALL who have donated food and water for the WoW lunch bag assembly coming up **Nov 13th**.

Due to the recent closing of a weekend meal service, Bristol's homeless are in need of food. The WoW attendees will be assembling brown bag lunches of non-perishable, ready-to-eat, dental friendly

food for weekend distribution. The distrobution will be done by Brian's Angels, a coalition serving Bristol's homeless community. This is our first venture in lunch bag assembly, but we are committed to continue it as we are able.

You can help by:

- Continuing your food donations
- Stopping by to help on Tuesday, November 13th at 6pm (5:40 p.m. if you'd like pizza) to help with the assembly.

Thank you!

November Birthdays

1st Noreen Simmons

4th Walter Schmidt

5th Connor Akerley

6th Katie Sykes

9th Sierra Narvesen

Julieanne Voight

12th Nathaniel Gleicher

Leah Gustafson

Marcus Gustafson

13th Ashley Provenzano

Barbara Soden

18th Gwynne Hopko

Jennifer Alling

20th Cindy Heyl

Eric Neumann

23rd Gerry Beaudoin

Mark Voight

24th Ruth Vontell

25th Tessa Segreve

Brian Siecienski

Steven Siecienski

26th Jenny Culin

27th Gabriel Ricciardella

Joan Usala

28th Kathy Golden

Herbert Wedler

November Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
				6:30 PM Council Meeting 7:00 PM AA (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 PM ALANON (Youth Room)		8:00 AM Work Day 4:00PM Worship Service (Chapel)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All Saints Sunday 9:30 AM - Worship Service 10:45 AM Stir It Up Brunch Daylight Savings Time Ends	6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:45 PM Bristol Choral Society	Election Day 12:30 PM Pericope Study @ St. Andrew 6:00 PM WoW Leaders Meeting NO WoW NO Choir	5:00 PM Interfaith Meeting @ Prospect Methodist 7:00 PM Bible Study	7:00 PM AA (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 PM ALANON (Youth Room)		4:00 PM Worship Service (Chapel)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Veteran's Day Commitment Sunday 9:30 AM - Worship Service 10:45 AM Coffee Hour 11:00 AM Youth Bowling	Veteran's Day (Observed) Pastor at Bishop NO Confirmation Class 6:45 PM Bristol Choral Society	1:30 PM Women's Guild Convocation 5:00 PM Youth Choir 5:40 PM Dinner 6:00 PM WoW 6:45 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	-->----->-----> 7:00 PM Bible Study	4:00 PM Best for Bristol 7:00 PM AA (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 PM ALANON (Youth Room)		4:00 PM Worship Service (Chapel)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:30 AM - Worship Service 10:45 AM Coffee Hour	6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:45 PM Bristol Choral Society	5:00 PM Youth Choir 5:40 PM Dinner 6:00 PM WoW 6:45 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	7:00 PM NO Bible Study 7:30 PM Interfaith Thanksgiving Service @ Prospect Methodist	Thanksgiving Day 7:00 PM AA (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 PM ALANON (Youth Room)	Office Closed	4:00 PM Worship Service (Chapel)
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
9:30 AM - Worship Service 10:45 AM Coffee Hour 11:00 AM Book Group	6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:45 PM Bristol Choral Society 7:00 PM Youth Committee	5:00 PM Youth Choir 5:40 PM Dinner 6:00 PM WoW 6:45 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Voice Choir	10:00 AM Mulberry Gardens 1:00 PM BAAM 7:00 PM Bible Study	3:00 PM Meals for Our Neighbors 7:00 PM AA (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 PM ALANON (Youth Room)		

November Serving Schedule

	4-Nov-18	11-Nov-18	18-Nov-18	25-Nov-18
Assisting Minister	Terry Gustafson	Bob Herold	Kelly Simpson	Kathy Cutter
Lector	Arlene Creswell	Nancy Siecienski	Jean Gustafson	Nancy Denehy
Communion Assistant	Denise Martin	None Needed	Sue Phaneuf	Joelle Stairs
Front Door	Paul & Robin Caron	Gary & Brenda Dubnansky	Donna Ropp & Family	Chuck & Noreen Simmons
Side Door	Ted & Cora Neumann	John & Renee Werner	Nancy Denehy Carol Brunelle	Steve & Nancy Siecienski
Coffee Hour	Stewardship Committee	Robin Landrette Dawn Stitham	John & Renee Werner	Chuck & Noreen Simmons Rosemarie Tessman
Altar Guild	Sue & Ashley Provenzano	Same	Same	Same
Acolytes	Noah Galvin Kyle Galvin	Sydney Adam	Luke Adam	Weller Simmons Nate Simmons
Ushers	Raymond Ellsworth, Laurie Ellsworth, Denise Martin	Brian Tessman, Susan Provenzano, Ashley Provenzano	Brian Tessman, Susan Provenzano, Ashley Provenzano	Confirmation Class
Counters	Kathy Dayton, Jerry & Tina Beaudoin	Same	Same	Same
Bulletin Helper	Peggy Delkescamp	Same	Same	Same

Please Remember in Your Prayers...

Those in need of healing:

John Gacek, David Hoyt, Wes Long, Bill Murtha, Ted Neumann, Jim Prior, Paul Rescsanski, Arlene & Charles Schissler, Carole Talmadge. Jamie & Cody Watkins, Herb Wedler, Anna Zurell.

Those in nursing homes and the homebound: Dorothy Forrest, Dermott & Virginia Luckner, Adeline Nevulis, Marie Ouellette.

We re-set the prayer list monthly. If you wish to add someone to the list, please fill out a prayer request or contact the office at (860) 583-5809 or via email churchoffice@standrewct.org

Purpose Statement

We are committed to seeking out people for membership in Christ's family, studying God's Word together that we may grow in his grace, strengthening our lives with regular worship and fellowship and sharing our time, talents, and treasure that Jesus will be known to all people through our words and deeds.

Pastoral Care

Pastor Pope is frequently in the office Monday through Thursday. Please call (860) 583-5809 for an appointment. Help us to provide good pastoral care by keeping the church up-to-date with what's going on in our lives as part of God's family. Please call the church office and let Pastor know if:

- You are in need of prayer;
- You are ill or hospitalized;
- You wish to be anointed for healing;
- A baby is born in your family;
- A family member dies;
- You wish to be married;
- You wish to be baptized or have a child baptized;
- You wish to receive communion;
- You are moving, or have changed your contact information, or;
- You would like to join St. Andrew

Pastoral Acts: Baptism: Avery Rose Motta, Maverick Grae Treacy
Deaths/Funerals: Elsie Piasecki, Eleanor Block

About St. Andrew



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Robert Herold
Vice President: Carol Emond
Secretary: Ellie Miller
Treasurer: Stephen Adam
Faith Formation Liaison: Karen Biernat
Mission and Outreach Liaison: Arlene Creswell
Parish Life Liaison: (open)
Stewardship Liaison: Don Zurell
Youth Council-at-large: Kelly Simpson
Young Adult Council-at-large: Joelle Stairs

St. Andrew Evangelical Lutheran Church | (860) 583-5809 |

churchoffice@standrewct.org | www.standrewct.org