

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

News Notes for the Week of June 23, 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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**THIS SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024**  
**THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

This Sunday as we gather around Word and Table we sing with the Psalmist:

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good,  
for God's mercy endures forever!"*

As we listen to the Gospel story of Jesus stilling the storm at sea,  
we are invited to listen to and trust in his voice  
in the midst of moments of fear and turbulence in our lives.

Look around you this Sunday and greet someone you have not yet met.  
Welcome them with good cheer and open arms!

**And after worship this Sunday...**

Gather in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour and to hear the latest updates  
as the people of Grace, Plainville, and Zion and St. Andrew, Bristol,  
continue to move forward toward the formation of a new Lutheran congregation to serve the greater  
Bristol/Plainville area.

Bill Golden, Karen Biernat and Bob Herold, members of the Steering Committee for a new church, and  
Pastor Swenson, will share the news  
and welcome your questions.

## **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

### **Sunday, June 23, 2024; 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

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/Informal Congregational Meeting Regarding The Formation of New Congregation

### **Wednesday, June 26, 2024**

6:30 p.m. Summer Bells

### **Thursday, June 27, 2024**

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

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

### **Sunday, June 30, 2024 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

3 Congregation Joint Worship Service

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

10:30 a.m. Naming of the New Congregation/Special Social Hour

## **SUNDAY, JUNE 30, WILL BE NAMING DAY!**

Members and friends from Grace, Plainfield and Zion and St. Andrew, Bristol, will join together for worship at St. Andrew Church on Sunday, June 30, 9:30 as we continue to lean in expectation toward the beginning of a new ministry — three congregations becoming one. The Rev. Steven Wilco, Associate to the Bishop of the New England Synod, who has helped guide the process of this consolidation over the past year, will be the preacher.

Immediately following worship will we turn our attention to the naming of the new church. What will our name say to the community around us about who we are and what we are about? Will it be an inviting name that others are drawn to? The five names currently being considered are: Hope Lutheran Church, New Hope Lutheran Church, Living Hope Lutheran Church, Faith Lutheran Church, United in Faith Lutheran Church. Having a name for the new congregation will bring the reality of the new day ever closer.

A special Coffee Hour and Ice Cream Social Hour will follow in the Hall. (Did someone say ice cream before lunch?! Yes!!) Plus during the Social Hour there will be outdoor activities (like Corn Hole) for kids and adults who like to play with kids.

## **Notes from New Church Steering Committee, June 12**

The Steering Committee, comprised of members from each of the three congregations committed to the formation of a new ministry, continues its diligent work on the details of consolidation. Highlights of the Committee's most recent meeting held June 12, at Grace Church, Plainville, included:

- Discussion of election of officers for the Steering Committee. They will be elected at the next Committee meeting.
- Continued work on the optional sections of the Model Constitution for ELCA congregations. Bylaws will include an outline for the relationship of Meals for Neighbors housed at the current Zion Church building and the new congregation. A special Board, accountable to the Steering Committee, is being appointed to oversee this important ministry to the community.

- Reviewed plans for the joint worship service and new church naming event on June 30.
- Heard reports from various committees as they begin work on shaping various dimensions of the new ministry. Committees include: Property (working especially on making the current Stafford Ave. property a home for everyone); Worship and Music; Faith Formation for children, youth and adults; Community Outreach; Parish Life; Reconciling in Christ process; Finance; Stewardship; and Evangelism. Brief descriptions of the Committees will be shared on June 30 along with opportunities for folks to express their willingness to help develop these ministries.
- Heard that Call Committee is in process of writing the important Ministry Site Profile describing the projected aims and goals of the new congregation to be used in search for candidates to serve as the new pastor of "Soon to be Named Lutheran Church."
- Affirmed that the meetings of the Committee are open to members of the current three congregations to attend with voice but no vote regarding decisions and directions being made.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be Tuesday, June 25, 6:30, at 1125 Stafford Ave.

### **St. Andrew's Music Makers Celebrate**

The St. Andrew choirs and instrumentalists who sing, ring, play and pray together, celebrated by enjoying a feast and fellowship at the "end of the choir season party" graciously hosted by Terry and Jean Gustafson.



## VBS AND ST. ANDREW CRAFT GROUP

The VBS and St. Andrew Craft Group want to extend their thanks and appreciation for the Amazon Wishlist donations, as well as for the coffee cans, and paper towel rolls that were dropped off for creating the VBS Rainforest. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



## 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 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Free for all – dinner included

To register, go to [www.standrewct.org](http://www.standrewct.org) and click on VBS. Registration opens April 1<sup>st</sup>.



### 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



We remain committed to continue our relationship with the St Pauly organization. Not only does it generate income between \$5,000-\$10,000 each year for the church, it provides us an opportunity to reach out into our own community with clothing and other items. And saves literally TONS of items from landfills. **Good stewarding of the earth!** Please continue to use the shed and let all your friends and family know!

## **GROCERY CART**



As we maneuver readying the building for new life, the grocery cart will remain for the time being, it may find a new place to be parked..... but WHEREVER it is it will be welcoming your grocery donations to feed our neighbors!

## **PRAYERS**

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

- those known to us in need of healing: Freda Ahl, Lori Boisvert, Nancy Carpenter, Charlie Caston, Patricia Castro, Nancy Denehy, Lee Hardin, Denise Holyst, Larry Holyst, Bob Lagasse, Joan Lagasse, Ann Maher, Pamela Murphy, Bill Murtha, Donna Ouellette, Marge Pearson, Callum Rescsanski, Paul Rescsanski, Charles Schissler, Steven Siecienski, Tracey Simpson, Johanna Tessman, Carole Wedler, John Werner, Todd Wish, Anna Zurell, Roy Zurell.

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.*



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3	Arlene Creswell	14	Luis Cardenas Jr.
4	Brian Tessman	15	Renae Smith
6	Heidi DellaBianca	15	Caden Tampellini
8	Carlina Mazzarella	17	Irene Nelson
9	Roger Narvesen	19	Robert Boisvert
9	Skylar Neumann	21	Thomas Golden
10	Robert Cunningham	21	Ralph Landrette
10	Joyce Killiany	22	Margaret Beauregard
13	William Golden	22	Leslieann Koonz
13	Sharon Modeen	25	Kathleen Winter
13	Nikolas Shackford	26	David Sonstrom

The June 23, 2024 bulletin can be found here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IRZNCaouiB83sQHTJ76hikATf-xxaa3D/view?usp=sharing>