

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

News Notes for the Week of September 29, 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



WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY!
SEPTEMBER 29, 2024, 9:30 A.M.
THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Gather together with thankful hearts around Word and Table on this historic day in the life of St. Andrew Church (see below)!

Hear Jesus warn of stumbling blocks to holy ministry and pray that we will continue to open new ways of being a servant community in Jesus' name!

With the Psalmist we pray:

*Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts
be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, our strength and our redeemer.*

There will be a Children's Message this Sunday and the children will remain with the congregation for worship.

Prepare thoughtfully and prayerfully for worship by reading the texts we will hear together:
Numbers 11.4-6,10-16,24-29; Psalm 19.7-14; James 5.13-20; Mark 9.38-50.

As we worship and greet and converse with one another, welcome guests and help make them feel at home in this community of faith!

Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, September 29, 2024; 19th 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.youtube.com/channel/UCLSSna5Ti_WSwRJ_ySbMA3Q.

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting to Vote on Legal Documents for Closure of St. Andrew and Legal Incorporation of Faith Lutheran Church, Approval of Constitution, Approval of Distribution of Legacy Gifts.

Monday, September 30, 2024

4:00 p.m. Kids Choir

6:00 p.m. Bristol Chorale

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

6:45 p.m. Hand Bell Choir

7:30 p.m. Voice Choir

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Thursday, October 3, 2024

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

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

Sunday, October 6, 2024 20th Sunday after Pentecost

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

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

THIS SUNDAY...

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

TAKING FINAL, FORMAL STEPS TOWARD FORMATION OF FAITH CHURCH!

A special Congregational Meeting for the members of St. Andrew Lutheran Church has been called by the Congregation Council for this Sunday, September 29, following worship. This meeting marks the final steps toward becoming a part of an exciting new venture in ministry!

The meeting's key purpose is to vote on a series of documents regarding the legal closure of St. Andrew Church and the legal incorporation of the new Faith Lutheran Church. Approval of the Constitution of the new congregation will also be voted on. A fourth matter will be to approve the proposed distribution of our Legacy Gifts. The Congregation Council, after careful conversation at its August 25 meeting, has proposed \$2,500 gifts to the Camp Calumet Lutheran Campership Fund, the ELCA Fund for Leaders (supporting students preparing for the ordained ministry), Agape House, Bristol, and St. Vincent DePaul Center, Bristol.

Copies of the legal documents for the church closure and new church incorporation, as well as the Constitution for Faith Church, have been emailed to all voting members of the congregation. Due to the large amount of paper involved, a very limited amount of hard copies are available in the church office. Call if you would like to stop by and pick up copies or you need someone to drop the copies off to your house.

All three congregations in the new partnership — Zion, Grace and St. Andrew — will be voting on these and similar proposals this Sunday. May God empower us all to act wisely and boldly!

SHARE YOUR FAVORITE STORIES, MEMORIES FROM ST. ANDREW'S HISTORY!

There is a wonderful Hasidic story told by Elie Wiesel that ends with the line: "God created people because God loves stories."

The church itself is a storehouse of stories. Each one of us is a beloved living story. And we each have our splendid stories to tell. And God loves our stories!

Now as we reach the days when we will conclude the nearly 40-year story of St. Andrew Lutheran Church and celebrate the birth of the new Faith Lutheran Church, I want to invite you to share in writing your own favorite stories of your life with St. Andrew Church — fond memories of your experiences, of special people who have inspired and befriended you, of special moments that will remain with you.

We would like to gather your stories into small booklet that will be available to everyone on October 20 when we celebrate our final worship service together as St. Andrew Church and anticipate the new beginnings of Faith Church the following Sunday.

Please submit your stories to the church office by October 7 so we will have time enough to compile them. Make sure you include your name on the document!

If you do not have access to a computer to compose your story, feel free to submit it in your best handwriting and we will do our best to type it so it is included in the booklet.

Send via email to: churchoffice@standrewct.org. Or send via mail or drop off a printed copy to the church office: 1125 Stafford Ave., Bristol, CT 06010.

With gratitude for your rich stories that are woven together in such a rich tapestry at St. Andrew Church!

ANTICIPATING OCTOBER 20 ... CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY OF ST. ANDREW CHURCH!

As we near the final service of this congregation's ministry as St. Andrew Church and celebrate nearly 40 years of life together on October 20, we invite you to forward the names and addresses/contact information of former members or friends of St. Andrew that you are still in contact with so we can send invitations to them to join the celebration. We have a letter ready to be sent so please forward their names and addresses to the church office (via land mail or email — see above for addresses) and we will send them a welcome to join the worshipping congregation that day. We look forward to having a joyful day of reunion and thanksgiving on October 20. Thanks!

UPDATING OUR MEMBERSHIP RECORDS...PLEASE HELP

If you haven't already, please fill out the forms to update our church records which were sent to everyone via land mail the week of September 8. The mailing included a cover letter and the form to provide your most recent contact information and to affirm your ongoing church life as a participant in the ministry of Faith Lutheran Church. If you have not received the letter, please call the church office.

Make sure you make use of the self addressed, stamped envelope in your letter and return it to church by September 30! Thanks much!

CONNECTICUT HANDBELL MUSICIANS – LETTER OF THANKS

A letter of thanks was received from Samantha Beschta, Director of the Connecticut Handbell Musicians, extending their deep gratitude for allowing them the use the facilities at St. Andrew Lutheran Church for their rehearsals and final concert during their summer season.

The letter will be posted on the bulletin board for everyone to have the opportunity to read it.

STEWARDSHIP

Your giving matters! As we near our close as the people of St Andrew, there are many, many things to "take care of", your generosity is appreciated!

Faith Lutheran's Stewardship campaign is coming soon!



YES!! There will be a FALL Tag Sale. It is scheduled for Saturday, October 12th from 8 to 2pm. Items can be left in the Parish Life Room (Clean and in good working condition.) **No large items and no clothing please** . Donations will be accepted thru the month of September.

Volunteers are needed for the cookie sale and for set up on Friday October 11th. See signup sheet in the hall.

Questions???? contact Robin at 860-582-7807 or rmland@comcast.net.

The Pumpkins are Coming! The Pumpkins are Coming!!

To assist with the expense of changing the building signage from St. Andrew to Faith Lutheran Church, a pumpkin patch fundraiser will be held at St. Andrew/Faith Lutheran Church, 1125 Stafford Avenue, Bristol.

You are invited to **Join Us** on Friday, October 11 at 3:30 PM for Pizza and to help unload the truck.



Sales will begin on Saturday, October 12 at 11:30 AM daily until Halloween (or until all the pumpkins are sold).

To celebrate Sock-tober, along with selling pumpkins we'll be collecting socks for St. Vincent De Paul in Bristol and The Friendship Center in New Britain as well as non-perishable food items for Gloria Dei and Meals for Neighbors.

Volunteers are needed for set-up and unloading the truck.

Join us for Pizza and Pumpkins to support Faith Lutheran Church.

Contact Jon at jfitzgerald01@att.net to volunteer or for more information.

ST. PAULY SHED



St. Pauly Shed is here to stay!

Faith Lutheran will continue to utilize the shed, helping clothe people around the world, our neighbors, and bringing income to the church. IT'S ALMOST TIME TO CHANGE OUT THOSE WARDROBES TO FALL

Tired of those old summer clothes? PUT IT IN THE SHED

Tired of last year's flannel shirt? PUT IT IN THE SHED

Those corduroys don't quite fit the same? PUT IT IN THE SHED

GROCERY CART/MEALS FOR NEIGHBORS



Watch for details in the next 90 days for ways that we can continue to support the food insecure in Bristol. Meals for Neighbors (MFN) will be needing volunteers and support, Gloria Dei will still be handing out over 200 bags of groceries twice a month..... etc. etc.

Whether you buy food to donate, cook for MFN, volunteer at a food drive, YOU are important to your neighbors!

Keep watch for details!

PRAYERS

We offer prayers of thanksgiving and supplication for:

- those known to us in need of healing: Freda Ahl, Sandy Bidwell, Nancy Carpenter, Charlie Caston, Susan Caston, Patricia Castro, Rusty Cunningham, Nancy Denehy, Jean Gustafson, Terry Gustafson, Lee Hardin, Denise Holyst, Larry Holyst, Patti Kelley, Bob Lagasse, Joan Lagasse, Ann Maher, Pamela Murphy, Bill Murtha, Marge Murtha, Donna Ouellette, Marge Pearson, Callum Rescsanski, Krista Rescsanski, Paul Rescsanski, Charles Schissler, Steven Siecienski, Tracey Simpson, Johanna Tessman, Carole Wedler, Todd Wish.

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.*



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2	Peggy Hoyt	18	Marianne Beaudoin
3	Joelle Stairs	19	Joelle Rindfleisch
4	Angela Provenzano	20	Matthew Girard
5	Maci Smith	21	Peter Mitchell
6	Robert Herold	21	Donna Ropp
6	Mark Shackford	22	Sharon Werner
7	Megan Beauregard	23	Laurence Beaulieu
9	Robert Deveau	25	Hilda Schauss
16	Joan Strecker	26	Carol Emond
16	Maverick Treacy	26	Jared Procko
17	Lori Calloway	26	Nancy Siecienski

The September 29, 2024 bulletin can be found here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GkPVqZ05WH38YSU1GD48i3Jxj02u0Vhl/view?usp=sharing>