

St Andrew Presbyterian Church

LOAVES + FISHES

www.standrew-pres.org

September 2025

Mission

CHRIST IS CALLING ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TO BE
A BEACON OF PEACE AND LOVE WHERE EVERYBODY BELONGS



Vision

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST, WE ARE BEING TRANSFORMED
THROUGH THE COURAGEOUS AND HEALING WORK OF RECONCILIATION

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY - *LIGHTS! CAMERA! VOGUE!*

You are cordially invited to stop by before or after worship September 14, 21, or 28 to have your individual or family photo taken for a new church directory. Our talented photographer Kevin Burel has agreed to take the pics.

Please watch your email and the church newsletter as we work to verify the accuracy of each person's information (e.g., spelling of names, mailing address, email addresses, phone numbers, etc.). Everyone associated with the church, whether friend or member, is encouraged to participate so that we can improve our overall communications.

Questions? Reach out to Marcia Owens at 703-431-5642 or mowens.teach@gmail.com.



**Sunday,
September 7
@ Loudoun
Valley
Community
Center**

**NOTE the
location change!**

FALL PICNIC & MINISTRY FAIR

Nurture your volunteer spirit! A Ministry Fair, featuring representatives from a variety of church committees and programs, will be held during the Fall Picnic. A great opportunity to join church committees and to be an active volunteer who supports the various ministries of our beloved community of faith.

The deacons will be providing a taco bar, and everyone is invited to bring a side or desert to share.



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September Calendar

Mon 1	all day	Church Office & NLC closed for Labor Day
Wed 3	6:30-9:30a	NLC New School Year Celebration @ morning drop off
	6:30p	St Andrew Stitchers (<i>Youth Lounge</i>)
Thur 4	5p	NLC closes early for Best of Loudoun Celebration
	6:30p	Deacons meeting
Sun 7	10a	Worship Service with Communion* Children's Church during worship CHURCH PICNIC after worship (Loudoun Valley Community Center Pavilion)
Mon 8	6-8p	Youth Group (MS/HS)
Wed 10	10a	Bible Bunch (<i>Youth Lounge</i>)
	6:30p	St Andrew Stitchers (<i>Youth Lounge</i>)
Thur 11	6:30p	NLC Board Meeting
Sun 14	9a	Youth Sunday School (6th-12th grades, <i>Youth Lounge</i>)
	10a	Worship Service* Children's Church & Minis meet during worship Mission Committee meets after worship CHURCH WORKDAY after worship
Wed 17	6:30 p	St Andrew Stitchers (<i>Youth Lounge</i>)
Sun 21	10a	Youth Sunday School (6th-12th grades, <i>Youth Lounge</i>) Worship Service* Children's Church during worship Session meets after worship
	6-8p	Youth Group (MS/HS)
Wed 24	6:30p	St Andrew Stitchers (<i>Youth Lounge</i>)
Fri 26	5p	Newsletter Deadline
Sat 27	7:30p	Book Club (<i>The Battle for Loudoun County by Wayde Byard</i>)
Sun 28	9a	Youth Sunday School (6th-12th grades, <i>Youth Lounge</i>)
	10a	Worship Service* Children's Church during worship

Please send committee updates, articles, and photos to newsletter@standrew-pres.org

*child care is available 4 years old & under



SAVE
the
DATE
TRUNK OR TREAT
WED OCT 29



CHURCH
WORKDAY

After worship on September 14.
Mostly yardwork and cleaning
out closets - many hands make
light work!

Staffing Changes

Comings and goings are natural and vital phases of any church's journey, bringing with them new opportunities for growth and fresh expressions of our shared faith. It is with great joy and faithful optimism that we look toward the future God has in store for St. Andrew.

It is with both gratitude and sadness that we announce the departure of our beloved Director of Music Ministries, **Caleb Bates**. He has accepted a new position at a church closer to his home.

During his two years with us, Caleb's exceptional talent and leadership have been a tremendous gift, deeply enriching our worship and strengthening our music program.

While we will miss him greatly, we are filled with gratitude for his service and wish him God's blessings in this new chapter.



We are thrilled to announce that we have hired **Lisa Massey** as our new Director of Children and Youth Ministries! As a member of our congregation since 2020, some of you may already know Lisa and we are blessed to have her step into this vital role. With a passion for Christian formation and a wealth of experience leading everything from VBS and youth retreats to serving as a Ruling Elder, Lisa brings incredible knowledge and creative energy to this position. She is a strategic thinker whose vision is to deepen our congregational connection with children, youth, and families. We are excited for the ways she will bring fresh insight and leadership to our ministries.



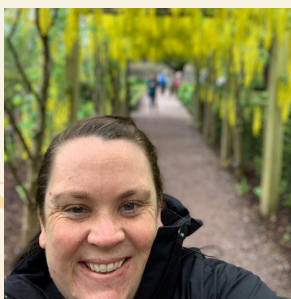
Caleb Bates



Laura Westfall



Lisa Massey



Chelsea Williams

A Heartfelt Farewell to **Laura Westfall** - Well... it's more of a "see you around." For three years, Laura has been a steady, welcoming presence at the heart of our church's daily life in her role as Office Manager and Communications Director.

We are immensely proud of her as she follows a new calling into a career in nursing after being accepted into an intensive program at Shenandoah University. While we will miss her presence on staff, we are so glad that we will continue to journey alongside her and her family as members of our SAPC family.

Please join us in thanking Laura for her incredible service and wishing her all the best in her new program and career.



Say "Hello" to **Chelsea Williams**, Interim Communications Coordinator. Chelsea currently serves as the Online Learning Project Librarian at Candler School of Theology in Atlanta, GA. With a Masters of Theology from Edinburgh University, and a MDiv and PhD from Princeton Theological Seminary, we are more than lucky to have her stepping in to serve as our Interim Communications Coordinator. With special experience in digital content creation, she will be producing our worship bulletin, digital content, and weekly e-news.

SMOKY HILL RV
PARK IN
JUNCTION CITY,
KANSAS

CHRIS
HENDERSON
& (STEP)
GRANDSON
NOAH



ON THE BLUFF
OF FREEDOM
PARK WHICH
OVERLOOKS THE
AIRFIELD AT FT.
RILEY IN
KANSAS.



FLAT JESUS

Flat Jesus had many adventures traveling with his St. Andrew family this summer. Here are a few photos you shared with us!

(cont. on next page)



Lobster rolls at The
Eagles Nest in
Brewer, Maine
NANCY GILMORE



Emerald Isle!
Debra & Drew
Gutenson, and Wendy
Chapman (Debra's best
friend since 9th grade!)





The Howard FAMILY @ Hershey



FLAT JESUS

...continued



HIGH ADVENTURE!



GILLISPIE FAMILY

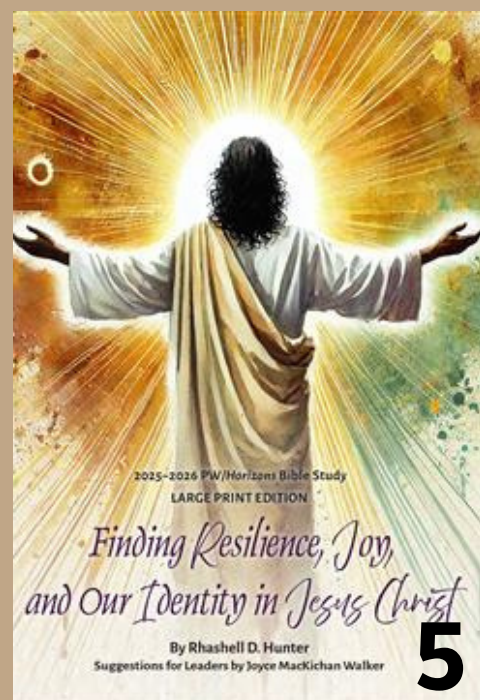
Next meeting
Sept 8 @ 10am

Bible Bunch

2ND MONDAYS @ 10 AM, IN THE YOUTH LOUNGE

The Bible Bunch is a member-guided fellowship, study, and prayer group that uses the Presbyterian Women Horizon Bible Study, "Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ" by Rhashell D. Hunter. This study will explore the above by using several biblical characters, Gospel and epistle writers, as well as Jesus. Please contact Nancy if you would like to join us or have any questions.

nancy.gilmore@standrew-pres.org



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Worship

We are especially looking for ushers and door attendants. Thank you, as always, for sharing your time and talents! Email secretary@standrew-pres.org for ways to get involved.

Your siblings in Christ can share in your joys and concerns when you **provide flowers** for any worship service in honor of birthdays, anniversaries, or graduations, or in memory of a loved one. Sign up on the flower calendar in the narthex or email nancy.gilmore@standrew-pres.org.

Liturgists help lead Worship every Sunday by reading Scripture, guiding prayers, and inviting song. Pastor Amanda makes it very easy to be a liturgist - you don't have to be a public speaker, you just have to be able to read! Volunteers for serving as liturgists can contact lynn.krepich@standrew-pres.org

Share your gifts on Sundays!

AV Team

To help behind-the-scenes with AV at worship services and special events, contact Tom Hill.

hillkid@earthlink.net

Fellowship

Everything our Fellowship Committee does provides fun and important times to visit with our siblings in Christ! If you want to get in on this action, even if just to provide snacks after worship, email:

fellowship@standrew-pres.org

Deacons

- Debra Gutenson (co-chair)
- Sarah Sassak (co-chair)
- Susan Cassuto
- Frank Diehl
- Nancy Gilmore
- Leslie Dragon
- Pat Quinn
- Evan Read
- Katie Schweiger

deacons@standrew-pres.org

Please sign up to help greet one Sunday! Smiling faces are the best welcome!

If you or someone you know needs meals, help with errands, rides, or simply prayers, please reach out.

Next meeting
Sept 4

Session

Class of 2026

- Stephen Fike
- Daniel Gillispie
- Josh Shields

Class of 2028

- Lynn Krepich
- Sarah Read
- Rob Weaver

Class of 2027

- Randy Dragon
- Deborah Hill
- Kyle Hottinger

Next meeting
Sept 21

session@standrew-pres.org

Property

Work Day Sun the 14th after Worship

Help us catch up on yard work and beautify our campus for fall! A GREAT service day for all ages!

josh.shields@standrew-pres.org



Youth

Youth Sunday School Starts September 7!
9am in the Youth Lounge



Please **sponsor one Sunday of donuts** this year to bribe, er, I mean nourish this hungry crew!

To sign up please contact
kevin.burel@standrew-pres.org

Youth Group (MS/HS)
1st and 3rd Sundays

Sun
Sept 7

6-8pm

Bring a friend!

Sun
Sept 21

lisa.massey@standrew-pres.org

Minis

2nd Sundays Starting
September 13!

This is a group that meets during worship and is exclusively for 3rd-5th graders!

This group will need another volunteer adult to lend a hand as it has grown from last year! If you can help, please contact
sarah.read@standrew-pres.org

Children

Children's Church



Kindergartners through 3rd graders start the worship service sitting with their family. After the Children's Moment, they head to the basement with their teachers for their very own lessons, crafts, and fun time. Please contact Sarah S to volunteer for one or more Sundays with this super fun group.
sarah.sassak@standrew-pres.org

Childcare is available for children 4 and under in the Fellowship Hall with Ms. Michelle, one of our awesome NLC teachers. All children are welcome in worship all the time. Don't forget we have coloring sheets and clipboards available in the Narthex.

Loudoun Hunger Relief

"Donating food and/or grocery cards is one of the most critical things the community can do for the hungry in Loudoun County. We are always available to help brainstorm food drives and events that help feed those in need."

— Jennifer Montgomery, LHR Executive Director

Year-round LHR food list

1. Dry beans
2. Whole grain pasta, rice
3. Fresh fruits & vegetables
4. Whole grain cereal
5. Canned meats (tuna or chicken)
6. Healthy cooking oil (ex: olive)
7. Peanut butter
8. Low Sodium soups (under 350mg per serving)





Sponsored Student Update

Hi St Andrew Presbyterian Church,

Summer break was delightfully interrupted for 3 weeks in July as CCH led camps for about 600 kids at our 3 main partner schools.

Campers enjoyed a variety of art and science activities around the theme of "Let's Join Together to Give the Country a New Face."

We once again worked with our friends at Red Cross using the "Pathway to Health" interactive game. We continued our education on body development and safety with the "Days for Girls" and "Men Who Know" curricula. Also along the theme of "health and safety" our Occupational Therapist, Sachelie Jean Louis and some of her Clinic staff visited camps to work with kids who have special needs.

The campers also had lessons on art, history, science experiments, games, song and dance. They played with all kinds of building blocks and toys—special thanks for the Legos donated by Vienna Presbyterian Church families!

The kids especially looked forward to a hot, nutritious lunch each day of camp. They had so much fun interacting with their teachers and each other every day they were together!

It's because of generous donors like you that CCH can host these enriching summer camps and work with our school partners all year-round. Thank you for being a Student Sponsor!

Your partner in mission,

Abby Gwaltney
Director of Communications & Outreach

Did you know?

80% of primary school teachers in Haiti did not receive any training in how to teach. 25% did not finish high school themselves. CCH partners with schools in Haiti to help bridge this gap and improve kids' quality of education



COMMUNITY COALITION FOR
HAI+I

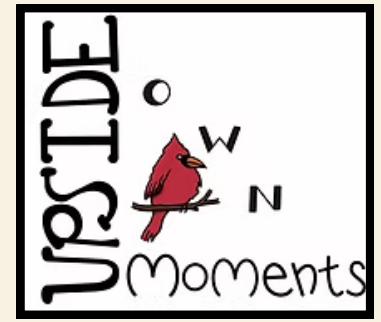
Share Your Harvest!

Do you have extra fruits, veggies, or herbs from your home garden? Bless our wonderful NLC staff by bringing in your surplus produce! It's a simple way to show appreciation and share God's abundance with those who care for our little ones each day. A small gift from your garden can go a long way in brightening someone's week!

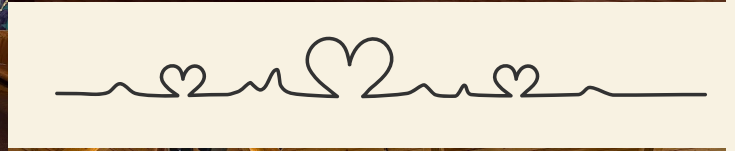


Mission

Summer Mission: COMPLETE! Care Packages for Teen Girls in Foster Care



This summer, we collected items for care packages for teenage girls in foster care, in partnership with UpsideDown Moments, a local charity we've supported in the past. THANK YOU to everyone who donated, and to all who lent a hand during worship to assemble the care packages.



Book Club

4TH SATURDAYS @ 7:30
PM, AT MEMBERS' HOMES

- Sept 27 The Battle for Loudoun County
by Wayde Byard
- Oct 25 By Any Other Name
by Jodi Picoult
- Dec 6 Time of the Child
by Niall Williams

bookclub@standrew-pres.org

Sermon Series

New Sermon Series Begins 8/31

"Thoughts and Prayers" – Prayer is foundational in our faith, but it isn't always easy. What do we do when we don't know what to say? How do we talk to God when we're grateful, hurting, or confused?

Guided by Scripture we will explore various forms of prayer and put what we learn into practice during worship each Sunday. We'll even create space to wrestle with the silence of unanswered prayer. Come rediscover the power and purpose of our "thoughts and prayers."

amanda.kemery@standrew-pres.org

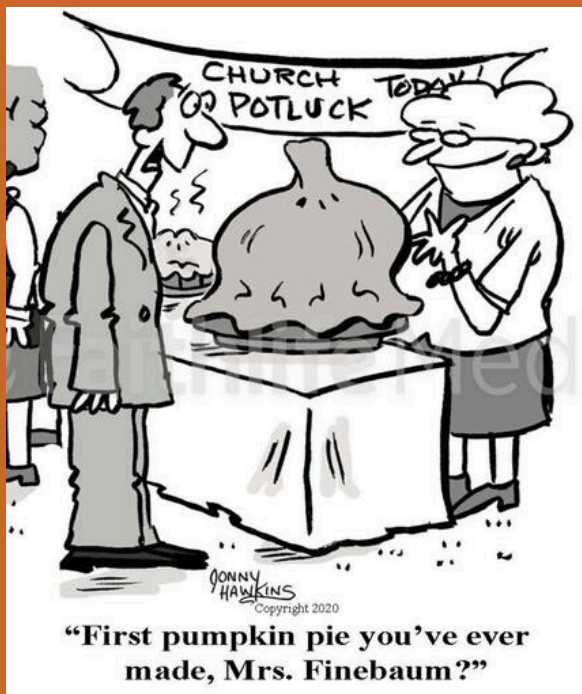
MISSING

A number of gray chairs from the basement used for the NLC pre-K have gone missing! Please return them if you borrowed them.
Thank you!

St. Andrew Stitchers

**EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 6:30 PM,
IN THE YOUTH LOUNGE**

Bring a project you're working on and join friends to chat and craft! So far we have knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, cross stitch, and sometimes even "to do" projects like assembling goodie bags. Come hang out with us! ally.fetch@standrew-pres.org



Did you know?

- The word "picnic" derives from the French term "pique-nique."
- Originally, a pique-nique was a social event, either indoors or out, where each guest brought a dish or contribution to the feast.
- In the 16th century, "pique-nique" described diners who brought their own wine when eating out.
- The largest ever picnic was attended by 22,232 people in Lisbon, Portugal, in 2009.
- The world's longest picnic table was assembled in Memphis, Tennessee, in May 2019. It measured 1,332 feet long and seated over 1,000 people.