



SAINT ANDREW
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Beacon

SEPTEMBER 2026

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

Month At-a-Glance

Wed 9/2

Wednesday Supper Club | 5:30 - 7:30 pm

We're kicking off a brand-new monthly gathering **on the first Wednesday of each month**, and you're invited! **Starting September 2nd from 5:30-7:30 PM**, drop-in for an easy night of good food, relaxed conversation, and community with both our church and school families.

Sun 9/13

Celebration of Children

Join us during worship as we celebrate our children and those who volunteer each week to teach, lead, and support them!

Potluck Lunch | After Worship

Join us for some fellowship over a good meal. If you can, please bring a dish to share!

Sat 9/26

Hike and Day at the Park! | 12:00 pm

Join us for a leisurely hike around Reservoir Park in Ashburn as we take in the scenery, enjoy good conversation, and spend time together outdoors. Check out the **Fellowship Update on PAGE 7** for more information

Bible Bunch is Back!

Join us for an all new study beginning on September 13th! Check out the **Fellowship Update on PAGE 7** for more information

Look out for "Activities of Interest"

Fellowship will start posting other Activities of Interest that will not be an organized outing, but people can list their names as interested and decide to attend/carpool as desired. Our members are involved in concerts, plays, sports. **For example:** Hailey Shields & Sam Seipt are drum majors for Loudoun Valley marching band this year - **who wants to attend a Friday night football game?!**

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September Calendar

Wed 2	5:30p	Wednesday Supper Club
Thu 3	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation @ Doppio Bunny
	7:00p	Choir Practice
	8:00p	Handbell Choir Practice
Sun 6	10:00a	Worship Service*
		Worship Committee Meeting (after service)
Tue 8	6:30p	St. Andrew Stitchers
Thu 10	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation @ Doppio Bunny
	6:30p	Deacons Meeting
	7:00p	Choir Practice
	8:00p	Handbell Choir Practice
Sun 13	9:00a	Sunday School
	10:00a	Worship Service* + Celebration of Children
	10:15a	Youth Group - Minis (3rd-5 th Grade)
	11:30a	Potluck Lunch!
	10:00a	Bible Bunch
Mon 14	5:00p	Newsletter Submission Deadline
Wed 16	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation @ Doppio Bunny
Thu 17	6:30p	NLC Board Meeting
	7:00p	Choir Practice
	8:00p	Handbell Choir Practice
	9:00a	Sunday School
Sun 20	10:00a	Worship Service*
		Mission Committee Meeting (after service)
	11:30a	Session Meeting
	6:00p	Youth Group (MS+HS)
Thu 24	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation @ Doppio Bunny
	7:00p	Choir Practice
	8:00p	Handbell Choir Practice
Sat 26	12:00p	Hike & Day at the Park
	7:30p	Book Club
Sun 27	9:00a	Sunday School
	10:00a	Worship Service* + Food on the Fourth
	10:15a	Youth Group - Minis (3rd-5 th Grade)
		Outreach Committee Meeting (after service)

*child care is available
4 years old & under

Want to be included in the next newsletter?

Please send committee updates, articles, and photos to
newsletter@standrew-pres.org by **September 16th**

youth & children

A Big
thank you!

Thank you, Volunteers!

We appreciate all our volunteers throughout the year. You each have made important contributions to our programs, ensuring our children know that they belong in our community. We are so grateful for the love and learning you've shared with our kids.

Each week, our volunteers use the age-appropriate curriculum to teach the children a lesson related to Pastor Amanda's sermon to give families the opportunity to discuss their spiritual life together. From our youth Sunday school - Donuts with Dads - to our Minis and Children's Church programs, our leaders share one Sunday each month with our children.

Interested in Volunteering?!

Contact Lisa (lisamassey@standrew-pres.org) **with any questions or for more information.**

Would you like to volunteer to help make our ministries happen?

Scan the code to sign-up and let us know!



Upcoming Events

Sep 6	10:15 am	Children's Church
Sep 13	10:15 am	Children's Church + Minis
Sep 20	10:15 am	Children's Church
	6:00 pm	Youth Group
Sep 27	10:15 am	Children's Church + Minis
Oct 4	10:15 am	Children's Church
	6:00 pm	Youth Group
Oct 11	10:15 am	Children's Church + Minis
Oct 18	10:15 am	Children's Church
	6:00 pm	Youth Group
Oct 25	10:15 am	Children's Church + Minis

New this fall

Calling All God's Critters!

Find your place in the BRAND NEW
St. Andrew Children's Choir!

We'll be gathering **every Sunday Morning at 9:15 beginning September 13** to learn some fun music together.

We hope all of our PreK and up Critters will join us!

Contact Lisa for more information
(lisamassey@standrew-pres.org)

mission

Recycling Update

**Second Quarter
Goal**

250 lbs!



Third Quarter

114 lbs

136 left

by
Sep 30

We met our 2nd quarter goal of 250 pounds for plastics recycling.
As of mid-August, we have collected 114/250 pounds so far in quarter 3.
We need 136 more pounds by September 30th



Please remember to bring food to donate to Loudoun Hunger Relief on the fourth Sunday of each month. Donated food can also be left in the box near the front door on any other Sunday.

As of the end of July, **we have donated 538 pounds YTD and hope to collect 1,000 pounds by the end of 2026.**

Year round food donation requests include:

canned vegetables and fruit
100% fruit juice or vegetable juice
canned beans
spices and dried herbs

dry beans
whole grain pasta and rice
whole grain cereal
canned meats (tuna and chicken)
healthy cooking oil (ex: olive)
peanut butter
low sodium soups (under 350 mg per serving)

Non-food items are also accepted, including:

personal hygiene items
paper products
household cleaning items
baby items (diapers, wipes, food, formula, etc.)
feminine hygiene products

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Sunday, September 23
Sunday, October 11
Sunday, November 8
Sunday, December 13

Community Opportunity

Loudon Workforce Resource Center

Free professional development events are being offered throughout September in recognition of Workforce Development Month.

Opportunities include:

resume support, interview preparations, skill building, employer connections and more.

Mission Update cont.

Community Coalition for Haiti Update

Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church, by way of the Mission Committee, sponsors two students through the Community Coalition for Haiti (CCH). Similar to students here in Loudoun County, Haitian students take a nationwide grade level exam year end to determine if they “pass” and advance to the next grade level.

We’ve received a good news update, and wanted to share the news.

CCH’s 3 main partner schools all reported increasing pass rates for their students. At EMEVO Primary School, the 2026 pass rate was 95%. At Lavanneau, it was 80%, and at Mont Fleuri it was 90%. All pass rates were higher this year than last year. CCH Education Liaison, Roosevelt Adonis, attributes this success to the emphasis on small group professional development and better motivation for teachers. He said that parents at CCH partner schools are also key as “They know the meaning of education.”

Our financial support and student sponsorship allows kids in Haiti to prepare for the future with a high quality education. We all should feel great to be a part of the CCH students' success!



music

**Support our St. Andrew
Handbell Choir**

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**November 7
@ 6:00pm**

The St. Andrew Handbell Choir will once again participate in the **Herndon Handbell Festival on Saturday Nov. 7, 2026.**

We will play a solo piece as well as participate in the combined choir selections.

The public concert is at 6:00 pm. We invite you to come and support our Handbell Choir as well as enjoy the beautiful and uplifting music. This event is free and open to the public.

worship



Blessing of the Backpacks



Thank you for joining us **for Blessing of the Backpacks!** Our kids took bag tags with them to remind them of the support and love of God and their St. Andrew family as they head back to school!

Find the sign-up
sheet in the
church entryway!

Want to assist in worship?

Let your individual and familial light shine during Sunday morning worship by volunteering to be a **liturgist** who reads Scripture and guides prayers or **an usher** who passes the collection plates. You can even volunteer as a family, serving for an entire month and dividing the Sundays between the roles of readers and ushers. We welcome your radiant volunteer spirit as you offer your talents in serving our faith community!

Please contact lynn.krepich@standrew-pres.org

if you are interested.

Sanctuary Flower Sign-Ups

Celebrate special occasions and people in your life by providing flowers for any worship service.

Please contact

nancy.gilmore@standrew-pres.org

if interested in displaying a floral arrangement in the sanctuary.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

October 4

November 1

December 6

@ 11:15 am

fellowship & deacons

If you have any questions, please
contact Nancy Gilmore - 540-454-3219
or nancy.gilmore@standrew-pres.org.

Meeting Plan

Lesson One - September 14, 2026
Lesson Two - October 19, 2026
Lesson Three - November 9, 2026
Lesson Four - December 14, 2026
Lesson Five - January 11, 2027
Lesson Six - February 8, 2027
Lesson Seven - March 8, 2027
Lesson Eight - April 12, 2027
Lesson Nine - May 10, 2027
Lunch - June 14, 2027

Upcoming Deacons Meeting Schedule

August 6
September 10
October 1
November 5

-
@ 6:30pm

Bible Bunch is back!

Bible Bunch will begin our 2026-2027 monthly study on **Monday, September 14th at 10:00 am** in the downstairs classroom.

The study entitled, "United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other, Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians," explores the letter's setting, divisions within the congregation, and ultimately, the gifts given to all through the work of Christ.

This is member guided fellowship, study and prayer, using the Presbyterian Women Horizon Bible Study.

We hope you'll join in!

Upcoming Events

**SEP
13**

Church Potluck!

There will be a Potluck lunch after Church. Bring a dish to share. Come enjoy good company, warm conversation, and a chance to connect with friends old and new!

**SEP
26**

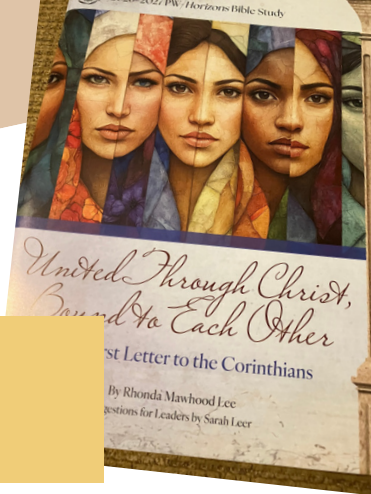
Hike & Fellowship at Reservoir Park

Let's gather together for a time of fellowship, fresh air, and enjoying the beauty of God's creation! Join us for a leisurely hike around Reservoir Park in Ashburn as we take in the scenery, enjoy good conversation, and spend time together outdoors. The park design includes a welcome center, boat rental facility, several picnic pavilions, trails, waterfront boardwalks, a bridge, site utilities, a restroom building, and educational exhibits.

Bring a packed lunch and stay awhile! We can sit by the water or gather at the picnic tables for a relaxing meal and fellowship.

Want to extend the adventure? Bring a life jacket and rent a paddleboard or kayak for an hour.

Come hike, laugh, fellowship, and enjoy the wonderful world God has created. Everyone is welcome!



outreach

We are excited to announce the formation of the brand new
OUTREACH COMMITTEE!

Meeting Schedule

4th Sunday of Every Month
After the Service

Upcoming Events

All proceeds going to
retreat scholarships
for the youth group!

Celebrate Purcellville & Tag Sale

October 10-17

This committee is all about "getting the Word out" to the congregation and the community about our church and the many ways we are helping others and having fun together.

John Howard is the Session liaison and current person to contact if you have any questions (john.k.howard@gmail.com)

"Celebrate Purcellville" week in October
Purcellville Christmas Parade in December

Now is a good time to clean out your house before the rush of the holidays and the new school year begins! Start collecting things for our **Tag Sale on October 17th**

Rent a parking space
with a table to sell
your own stuff

OR

donate items
to be sold

NLC Update

Sign Up for Extracurriculars!

September is when our weekly extracurricular offerings start up for the fall! Parents are invited to sign their child up for these classes which are provided here at the NLC by outside groups.

We are pleased to offer:

- Wee Little Arts, "The Elements of Art" for 3-year olds through pre-K
- Mercier School of Dance, "Mini Movers Dance" and "Jazz-Ballet Combo" for ages 2 1/2 through 6 1/2
- Soccer Stars, for ages 3-5

New School Year Celebration!

Wednesday, September 2, 6:30-8:45 am

Parents are invited to enjoy some goodies, fruit, coffee, and juice with their children at drop off!

bulletin board

RECYCLING HELP!

Do you have 15 minutes once or twice a week to help take the recycling from the building to the recycling container at the end of the parking lot?

Contact Josh if you can help!

property@standrew-pres.org

Book Club

4TH SATURDAY

@ 7:30 PM

MEET AT A MEMBER'S HOME

Interested in joining?

Email bookclub@standrew-pres.org

Wednesday Night Supper Club

1st Wednesday of the Month
Starting September 2nd
5:30-7:30 pm



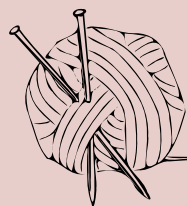
Key Fobs

Any member of St Andrew may request a key fob for entry to the church on Sunday mornings for worship!

If you would like a fob, please contact
Josh Shields or Ally Fetch.

josh.shields@standrew-pres.org

ally.fetch@standrew-pres.org



St. Andrew Stitchers

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

Interested or have questions?

Email ally.fetch@standrew-pres.org

Bible Bunch



2ND MONDAYS @10 AM IN THE YOUTH LOUNGE

The Bible Bunch is a member-guided fellowship, study, and prayer group. Starting this fall, we will be working through "United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other, Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians."

Interested or have questions?

Email nancy.gilmore@standrew-pres.org

committees & groups

CONTACT

A/V

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

hillkid@earthlink.net

Fellowship

Our Fellowship Committee seeks to provide fun opportunities to visit together as siblings in Christ!

fellowship@standrew-pres.org

Property

From light bulbs to air conditioners, the Property team makes sure our campus is well kept and welcoming. Hands are always needed!

property@standrew-pres.org

NLC Board

Church Members

- Suzanne Wade (President)
- Leslie Dragon
- Kirsten Shields

NLC Parents

- Jessica Cassidy (Treasurer)
- Kalena Moore (Secretary)

nlcboard@nlcenter.com

Deacons

Class of 2027

- Nancy Gilmore
- Susan Cassutto
- Debra Gutenson (co-chair)

Class of 2028

- Katie Schweiger
- Leslie Dragon
- Frank Diehl

Class of 2029

- Marie Cahoon (co-chair)
- Robin Laybourne
- Pat Quinn

deacons@standrew-pres.org

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

Session

Class of 2027

- Randy Dragon
- Sandra McDonnell
- Kyle Hottinger
- Hailey Shields

Class of 2028

- Lynn Krepich
- Sarah Read
- Rob Weaver

Class of 2029

- Stephen Fike
- Kevin Burel
- John Howard

session@standrew-pres.org

Want to join a group or have a question?

Feel free to reach out directly using the contact information above or email the Church Office at info@standrew-pres.org