

# St Andrew Presbyterian Church

# LOAVES & FISHES

## March 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

## QUICK LOOK AHEAD

**Sat 3/3** **Best of Loudoun Voting Ends**  
Vote to get our NLC on the Best of Loudon list! You can vote every day until 3/3

**Sat 3/7** **Game Night | 7-9pm**  
Bring an appetizer to share and your favorite games!

**Sat 3/14** **Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event**  
Join us to pack meals of rice, soy, and other shelf-stable foods that will then be shipped to nations in need. See the Mission update on **PAGE 5** to sign up and donate.

**Sun 3/29** **Sign Up Deadline for Youth Retreats!** See the Youth Update on **PAGE 4** for more details.

### Easter Flowers

Starting March 15<sup>th</sup>, you can sign up to provide tulips for our Easter service! See the Worship update on **PAGE 4** for more details, including costs and how to sign up.



### Holy Week

Easter is fast approaching! See **PAGE 3** for more details about our services and fellowship opportunities.



### Save the Date!

Mark your calendars now for VBS this summer!  
July 6-10<sup>th</sup> | 5:30-8pm

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# MARCH CALENDAR

<b>Sun 1</b>	9:00a	Sunday School* for Youth
	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Worship Service with Communion*</b>
		Worship Committee Meeting (after service)
	6-8:00p	Youth Group (MS + HS)
Thu 5	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation (@Doppio Bunny)
	6:30p	Deacons Meeting
	7:00p	Choir Practice
	8:00p	Handbell Practice
<b>Sun 8</b>	9:00a	Sunday School* for Youth
	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Worship Service*</b>
		Mission Committee Meeting (after service)
Mon 9	10:00a	Bible Bunch (Youth Lounge)
Tue 10	6:30p	St. Andrew Stitchers (Youth Lounge)
Thu 12	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation (@Doppio Bunny)
	7:00p	Choir Practice
	8:00p	Handbell Practice
Sat 14	10a-12:00p	<b>RISE AGAINST HUNGER MEAL-PACKING EVENT</b>
<b>Sun 15</b>	9:00a	Sunday School* for Youth
	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Worship Service*</b>
	6-8:00p	Youth Group (MS + HS)
Wed 18	10:00a	<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>
	10:30a	Communications Meeting
Thu 19	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation (@Doppio Bunny)
	6:30p	NLC Board Meeting
	7:00p	Choir Practice
	8:00p	Handbell Practice
<b>Sun 22</b>	9:00a	Sunday School* for Youth
	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Worship Service* + Food on the Fourth</b>
		Session Meeting (after service)
Thu 26	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation (@Doppio Bunny)
	7:00p	Choir Practice
	8:00p	Handbell Practice
Sat 28	7:30p	Book Club
<b>Sun 29</b>	9:00a	Sunday School* for Youth
	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Palm Sunday Worship Service*</b>

\*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](mailto:newsletter@standrew-pres.org) by **March 18th**

# Lent & Holy Week

## Lenten Series



Lent was originally a season for new converts to learn and prepare for their baptism on Easter. During that time, they would study what was central to Christianity. At the heart of Jesus' teachings, we find liberation, love, mercy, and grace—all of which are meant to be very good news for us all.

The good news should bring us back to our roots. Emulating Jesus and embodying his teachings should ground us in who God created us to be. Can we be "good news" people in a world too often burdened by bad news?

This Lent, let us remember that the good news really is good news. It is joyful—like fine wine saved for celebration. It grows like a mustard seed and smells like perfume poured from an alabaster jar. It tastes like bread passed endlessly through a hungry crowd. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. The good news is alive in the world.

**Join us in worship on Sundays at 10am and email Pastor Amanda if you are interested in connecting with a small group at [amanda@standrew-pres.org](mailto:amanda@standrew-pres.org).**

Mark your Calendar!

### Palm Sunday

**March 29 @ 10:00 am**

Kick off the week with a parade! Join us as we process into worship with palms and enjoy a high-energy service featuring special music and liturgy led by our talented SAPC youth. It's the perfect way to start the Holy Week journey to Easter.

### Maundy Thursday

**April 2 @ 6:30 pm**

Dinner, devotion, and community. We're gathering around the table for a contemplative evening of remembrance. This service includes dinner, communion, and a time of optional foot/hand washing. It's a quiet, beautiful space to reflect on Christ's journey to the cross before we experience the joy of Sunday.

### Easter Sunrise Prayer

**April 5 @ 6:30 am**

First light and fire. Meet us on the front lawn for a simple, soulful start to Easter morning. We'll share a prayer, gather around the bonfire, and place fresh blooms on the cross as the sun comes up. It's worth the early alarm, we promise!

### Easter Sunday Worship

**April 5 @ 10:00 am**

The "Tell Me Something Good" Finale! We're wrapping up our series with the best news of all. Expect incredible music, communion, and a whole lot of Hallelujahs. This is the perfect Sunday to bring a friend or family member along—everyone is invited to the celebration!

### Egg Hunt

**April 5 @ 11:15 am**

Ready, set, hunt! Right after worship, children (all ages!) can head to the playground for annual egg hunt. Just wait outside the gate for our volunteer's signal to start the scramble. Want to help? Grab a bag of empty eggs from the bins in the Welcome Area, and return them filled (no nut products) by March 22nd.

# youth + children

This Month

March 1  
March 15

Youth Group

*a Note from Lisa*

## Thoughts for Caregivers: Cultivating a Family Culture of Conversation

I often find myself caught flat-footed by the questions my 5 year old asks about life, faith, and all manner of other things. I wanted to see if there were faith-led ways to answer his questions and encourage his curiosity. When I found the book *When Kids Ask Hard Questions*, edited by Bromleigh McCleneghan and Karen Ware Jackson, I thought it may be helpful for me to summarize my reading.

**Over the next several weeks, I will be sharing insights I glean from this collection of essays in the weekly St. Andrew emails, so stay tuned!**

The first essay, "Crafting a Family Culture of Conversation" by Rev Karen Ware Jackson, she suggests that a culture of conversation is the first step to having more robust connection with your children. Whatever your role with the children in your life, having regular conversations builds trust for those tough questions ahead. These talks can happen in the car, on a walk, at bedtime, or really any time you have the opportunity for less distraction.

One method Rev. Ware Jackson highlights is the FAITH5 from Faith Inkubators:

- **SHARE** your highs and lows - What did you do today? What was good? Focus on the things that made an impact. Make sure you share as you children do - it is important that this is a bidirectional conversation.
- **READ** a Bible verse or story - Share stories of faith in ways that make sense for your family. If you struggle with this, I suggest the Whirl Story Bible as one we use for the younger kids. I am also developing a list of titles we use in Childrens' Church and Minis. For older kids, we recommend the Common English Bible as an accessible text.
- **TALK** about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows - Connect the faith stories to daily life for yourself and your children.
- **PRAY** for one another's highs and lows - This helps reinforce the sharing from earlier and supports teaching empathy along with the ability and willingness to pray for and with others.
- **BLESS** one another - This was a new one for me, but has become a meaningful part of our routine together. We just give a hug or a kiss, depending on preference, and say, "Sleep well, Child of God. God loves you and so do I." This can take many formats, but it has really been a surprisingly good add-on for us.

**Take some time and see whether you can add some of these things to your daily rituals with the children in your life - I'll be curious to hear how it goes!**

COMING  
SOON!

Summer  
Retreats!

Save the upcoming dates for Youth Retreats!

### Massanetta Middle School Conference

June 18-21, 2026

Perfect for rising 6th-8th graders

Cost is \$500 including housing and transportation to/from St. Andrew.

Scan the QR code for more information and to register

Our group password is: SAPCPURMSC26.



### Montreat Youth Conference

July 12-18, 2026

Perfect for rising 9th-12th graders

Cost is \$500 including housing and transportation to/from St. Andrew.

Scan the QR code to fill out the online form for pre-registration!



**Registration Deadline  
March 29th**

**If cost is a barrier for either retreat, please reach out to Lisa at [lisamassey@standrew-pres.org](mailto:lisamassey@standrew-pres.org).**

# mission



## Community Coalition for Haiti Student Sponsor Update

Check your enews for a look back on our partnership in 2025!

SAVE THE DATE!



# Rise

AGAINST HUNGER

Pack food with us  
on **Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**  
from **10:00 am - 12:00 pm!**

Scan the QR code to sign up and/or donate today!

# fellowship



SAVE THE DATE!

## Game Night!

**March 7 | 7-9pm**  
Come join us at the church for a night of community fun and gaming.  
Please bring an appetizer to share and your favorite game!



SAVE THE DATE!

## Visit to the National Cathedral

April 11<sup>th</sup> | \$15

Mark your calendars for our next trip to the National Cathedral. We will have a private tour of the main floor and the gardens should be in bloom!

**RSVP with Leslie Dragon by March 11**  
(leslie.dragon@standrew-pres.org)

## Chili Cook-off Winners



Frank Huff



Lindsay & Bill Vannoy



Pastor Amanda

# worship

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](mailto: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](mailto:nancy.gilmore@standrew-pres.org) if interested in displaying a floral arrangement in the sanctuary.



## Easter Tulips!

Starting March 15<sup>th</sup> you can sign up to provide tulips for our Easter service!

**\$12 each | Variety of Colors to Choose From**

It is yours to take home after the service!

Thank you for joining us for Ash Wednesday and our annual Pancake Supper!



# 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!  
[josh.shields@standrew-pres.org](mailto:josh.shields@standrew-pres.org)

## Book Club

MEET AT MEMBERS HOMES  
4<sup>TH</sup> SATURDAY  
@ 7:30 PM

Interested?  
[bookclub@standrew-pres.org](mailto:bookclub@standrew-pres.org)

## Coffee & Conversation

THURSDAYS, 9:15AM  
@ DOPPIO BUNNY

All are welcome!

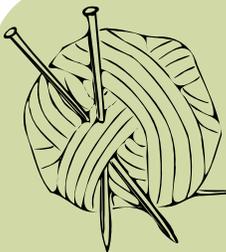


## Key Fobs

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](mailto:josh.shields@standrew-pres.org)  
[ally.fetch@standrew-pres.org](mailto:ally.fetch@standrew-pres.org)



## St. Andrew Stitches

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](mailto: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 that uses the Presbyterian Women Horizon Bible Study, "Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ" by Rhashell D. Hunter.

Interested or have questions? Email [nancy.gilmore@standrew-pres.org](mailto: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](mailto:hillkid@earthlink.net)

### Fellowship

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

[fellowship@standrew-pres.org](mailto: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!

[josh.shields@standrew-pres.org](mailto:josh.shields@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](mailto:nlcboard@nlcenter.com)

### 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](mailto: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 2026

- Stephen Fike
- Daniel Gillispie
- Josh Shields

#### Class of 2027

- Randy Dragon
- Deborah Hill
- Kyle Hottinger

#### Class of 2028

- Lynn Krepich
- Sarah Read
- Rob Weaver

[session@standrew-pres.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@standrew-pres.org)