



SAINT ANDREW
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Beacon

AUGUST 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

Sun 8/16

Blessing of the Backpacks

Join us as we welcome in the new school year by
praying for and blessing our students!

Youth Group Kickoff |

5:00 pm Parent Meeting, 6:00 pm Gathering

Mark your calendars for the first Youth Group
gathering of the new school year! Parents, join us at
5:00pm for a quick meeting and then we'll kick things
off at 6:00pm with dinner

Sun 8/23

Food on the Fourth

The tradition continues, but we want to celebrate the
chance to support Loudoun Hunger relief during
worship. On 4th Sundays, we will bring our food
donations to the communion table during the offering
time.

Handbells are Back!

Rehearsals for our Handbell Choir
start back up on **August 20th!**

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www.standrew-pres.org

August Calendar

Sun 2	10:00a	Worship Service* & Communion Worship Committee Meeting (after service)
	6:00p	Youth Group (MS/HS)
Thu 6	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation @ Doppio Bunny
	7:00p	Choir Practice Deacons Meeting
Sun 9	10:00a	Worship Service*
Tue 11	6:30p	St. Andrew Stitchers
Thu 13	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation @ Doppio Bunny
	7:00p	Choir Practice
Sun 16	10:00a	Worship Service* Blessing of the Backpacks Session Meeting
	11:30a	
	5:00p	Youth Group Kick Off - Parent Meeting
	6:00p	YOUTH GROUP KICKOFF!
Wed 19	10:00a	Newsletter Submission Deadline
	10:30a	Communications Meeting
Thu 20	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation @ Doppio Bunny
	6:30p	NLC Board Meeting
	7:00p	Choir Practice
	8:00p	Handbell Choir Practice
Sat 22	7:30p	Book Club
Sun 23	10:00a	Worship Service* + Food on the Fourth Mission Committee Meeting (after service)
Thu 30	9:15a	Coffee & Conversation @ Doppio Bunny
	7:00p	Choir Practice
Sun 30	10:00a	Worship 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 **August 19th**

youth & children

VBS 2026 Snowball Mountain Challenge



We had a great Vacation Bible School from July 6-10. We welcomed 38 children and volunteers of all ages as we learned more about the Bible, sang fun songs, and played fun games. We learned our Mountain Motto: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13.

We're already looking forward to our visit to the Boardwalk next June 28-July 2! Save the Date!

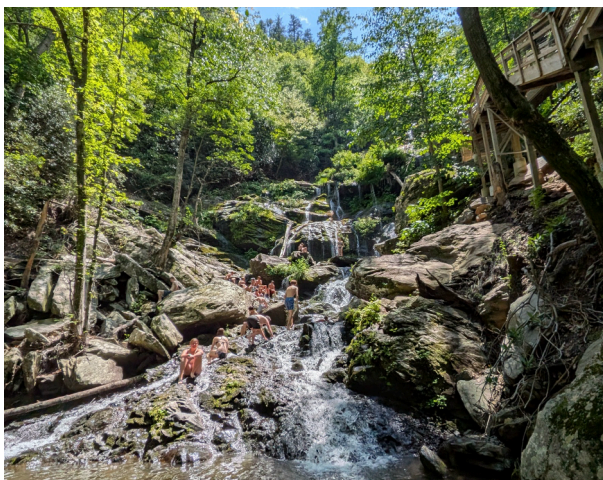


Montreat 2026 Recap

Our wonderful, intrepid group of high schoolers went to Montreat and had an excellent time wondering about their faith as we wandered through the Bible. We got to see Mary's Call in a new light, journey with the Magi as they approached the Christ child, wrestle with God's call alongside Jonah, learn that God's grace finds us in the most unlikely situations, and find God's provision in whatever wilderness we may face.



There was much fun and laughter in our trip - from the Foam Party to Nine Square to Trivia Night to the Variety Show and Coffee House.



We spent an afternoon at Catawba Falls, experiencing more of God's creation while finding out just how cold mountain falls really are.

Most importantly, we learned that God is calling each of us to a greater thing and working wonders in each of our lives.



Happy New (Program) Year for Children and Youth Ministries!

We're kicking things off soon with programming for all ages!

YOUTH Grades 6-12

Weekly 9am Sunday School, "**Dads with Donuts**," where our youth discuss the morning's scripture lesson to prepare for worship.

Also, join us for **Youth Group** every **first and third Sunday**, we meet **at 6pm** to eat dinner, learn more, and have fun.

OLDER ELEMENTARY Grades 3-5

Our **Minis group** meets every **second and fourth Sunday during worship**. They have a lesson on our morning scripture, do a craft, and enjoy being together.

YOUNG ELEMENTARY Pre-K - Grade 2

Children's Church meets every Sunday during worship to play, learn about the day's scripture lesson, and do an activity or craft based on the lesson.

Every week, we have **professional childcare available before and during worship** for babies and younger children.

INFANTS TO PRE-K



Starting this Fall, we'll also have a 9:15 AM music time for children ages Pre-K - Grade 5. We'll learn some classic Christian favorites and some fun pieces to share in worship.

Interested in Volunteering?!

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

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



Upcoming Events

August 2 - Youth Group

BYO Art Supplies - Markers, paint, crayons, stickers, etc. Oh my! We'll be working on a special project to support the new school year.

August 16 - 10 AM Blessing of the Backpacks

August 16 - 5 PM Youth Group Parent Meeting
and Kick-Off

Potluck style - SAPC will provide main dish!

September 6 - No Youth Group due to Labor Day

mission

Summer Blood Drive

Summer is often a time of critical shortages in the blood supply.
By donating blood you can give a simple yet life-saving gift.

Key Info:

- Donations can be made through the American Red Cross or INOVA
- Platelets are especially needed
- Minimum age is 17, or 16 with parental permission, and minimum weight is 110 lb

For more information:

To find local Red Cross blood drives & sign up, go to www.redcrossblood.org

There is a blood drive at **Loudoun Valley Community Center on August 19** with time slots available from 1 pm to 5:30 pm.

Inova's Dulles Donor Center is located at 45745 Nokes Blvd in Sterling

Hours:

Monday to Saturday 9am – 4:30pm and
Sunday 9 am – 3 pm

Did you Know:

- 62% of people are eligible to give blood but only 3% do
- Every 2 seconds someone in the US needs blood

They also sponsor mobile blood drives.

For more information and to schedule an appointment, go to www.inovablood.org or call 1-866-256-6372.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Sunday, August 23
Sunday, September 20
Sunday, October 11
Sunday, November 8
Sunday, December 13

Food on the Fourth!



Please remember to bring food to donate to Loudoun Hunger Relief on the fourth Sunday of each month. As of the end of June, we have only donated 467 pounds. **Items that are especially needed right now are cooking oil, tuna, and pasta.**

Mission Update, cont.

Pasta Dinner for VBS!



In July, the Mission Committee served a pasta dinner for Vacation Bible School students and their families along with teachers and helpers.



Blood Drive at Children's Hospital Center in October

The Mission Committee is looking to organize folks interested in taking a field trip to Children's Hospital in DC for the purpose of donating blood. Donors must be at least 17 years old, and at least 110 pounds. We are looking primarily at week day dates in October. If you might be interested in participating, please contact either Marj Diehl, marjoriediehl@gmail.com or Pat Quinn, hokiequinn@verizon.net. Thank you!

worship

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.

**Find the sign-up
sheet in the
church entryway!**

fellowship & deacons

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

**Bible Bunch
Returning in September!**

The Bible Bunch is taking the months of July and August off but will begin to our new study in September. We will begin on Monday, September 14th at 10:00, meeting in the downstairs Youth Lounge. Our 2026-2027 Presbyterian Women/Horizons Bible Study is entitled "United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other" (Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians). We would love to have you join us!

Upcoming Deacons Meeting Schedule

August 6
September 3
October 1
November 5

@ 6:30pm

**July 5th
Brunch Church**

71 people attended this special service and catered breakfast in the Fellowship Hall on a holiday weekend. It was great fun to worship in a different space and eat together!



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

Celebrate Purcellville & Tag Sale

October 10-17

All proceeds going to
retreat scholarships
for the youth group!

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

Did you Know?

The NLC has over
170 children
currently enrolled!

NLC Update

Want to Volunteer?

The NLC will always welcome volunteers from SAPC, especially to help the school-age kids with homework after school (roughly 2:30pm). Anyone interested would have to do a simple background check which the NLC would pay for. **Please contact Ally Fetch for more info.**

New School Year!

**BEGINS ON
AUGUST 3RD!**

The new school year for the NLC starts Monday August 3rd - this is when all the children ages 2 through rising kindergarten move to new classrooms/areas so they can get used to things before Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) starts 8/17

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

Book Club

4TH SATURDAY

@ 7:30 PM

MEET AT A MEMBER'S HOME

Interested in joining?

Email bookclub@standrew-pres.org

Coffee & Conversation

THURSDAYS, 9:15AM

@ DOPPIO BUNNY

All are welcome!



Key Fobs

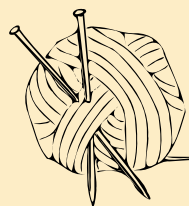
Any member of St Andrew may request a key fob for entry to the church on Sunday mornings for worship!

If you would like a fob, please contact

Josh Shields or Ally Fetch.

josh.shields@standrew-pres.org

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



The Bible Bunch is a member-guided fellowship, study, and prayer group. We are taking a break for the summer but will be back with a new study in September! Hope to see you there!

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Gilmore

540-454-3219 or 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!

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

Deacons

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| • Marie Cahoon (co-chair) | • Nancy Gilmore |
| • Robin Laybourne | • Leslie Dragon |
| • Susan Cassutto | • Pat Quinn |
| • Frank Diehl | • Katie Schweiger |

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

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