

St Andrew Presbyterian Church

LOAVES + FISHES

www.standrew-pres.org

October 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**

This fall, our stewardship season is inspired by one of Fred Rogers' most famous questions: "Won't You Be My Neighbor?". It's an invitation to explore how we build a community where everyone belongs and are welcomed just as they are. It's an invitation to live our faith out through acts of kindness and compassion.

Communities like ours don't just happen; they are built with intentionality when we listen to one another and share what we have so others can feel cared for. Your generosity is a way to care for one another and helps create a safe, welcoming space for anyone looking for connection. Your gifts also help us extend our reach out into the community to those who need it most.

This month I look forward to celebrating the ways we are already living out our call to be good neighbors and also dreaming together about what that might look like in the months and years to come. Be sure to pencil in Nov 9th on your calendars, which will be a celebration of all things SAPC as we look to the coming year.

You make this place a special place just by being you.

Until next time,
Pastor Amanda

amanda.kemery@standrew-pres.org

Stewardship
@ St Andrew

WON'T YOU BE
my NEIGHBOR?

WORSHIP SERIES AND STUDY
OCT 5th-NOV 9th



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October Calendar

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

Wed 1	6:30p	St Andrew Stitchers (<i>Youth Lounge</i>)
Thur 2	all day	LCPS Closed, NLC Open for School Age Drop-In Day
	6:30p	Deacons meeting
Sun 5	9a	Sunday School* for adults & youth w/ breakfast (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>)
	10a	Worship Service with Communion* WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY Children's Church during worship
		Special Coffee Hour to celebrate Mr. Charles' Birthday!
		Worship Committee meets after worship
Wed 8	6-8p	Youth Group (MS/HS)
Sat 11	6:30p	St Andrew Stitchers (<i>Youth Lounge</i>)
Sun 12	7am-??	Tag Sale Donation Drop-Offs
	9a	Sunday School* for adults & youth w/ breakfast (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>)
	10a	Worship Service* Children's Church & Minis meet during worship
	9:30-11:30a	PaperPie Book Fair open (NLC Fundraiser)
		Mission Committee meets after worship
Mon 13	all day	Church Office & NLC CLOSED for Indigenous Peoples' Day
	10a	Bible Bunch (<i>Youth Lounge</i>)
Wed 15	10:30a	Communications Committee Meeting
	6:30 p	St Andrew Stitchers (<i>Youth Lounge</i>)
Thur 16	6:30p	NLC Board Meeting
Sun 19		Pastor Appreciation Sunday - Special Coffee Hour
	9a	Sunday School* for adults & youth w/ breakfast (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>)
	10a	Worship Service* Children's Church during worship
		Session meets after worship
	6-8p	Youth Group (MS/HS)
Mon 20	all day	LCPS Closed, NLC Open for School Age Drop-In Day
Wed 22	6:30p	St Andrew Stitchers (<i>Youth Lounge</i>)
Fri 24	5p	Newsletter Deadline
Sat 25	7:30p	Book Club (<i>By Any Other Name</i> by Jodi Picoult)
Sun 26	9a	Sunday School* for adults & youth w/ breakfast (<i>Fellowship Hall</i>)
	10a	Worship Service* Food on the Fourth Children's Church & Minis meet during worship
Wed 29	5:30-7p	TRUNK-OR-TREAT
Fri 31	all day	LCPS Closed, NLC Open for School Age Drop-In Day

*child care is available 4 years old & under

Weekly Intergenerational Study

SUNDAYS OCTOBER 5-NOVEMBER 9 @ 9AM

AGES 4-99

We've got something special to share! We'll be doing a study starting October 5th at 9am called "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" based on Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood that brings people of all ages together. We will create meaningful conversations, do fun activities, sing, pray, and foster moments of true welcome and connection.

Whether you want to explore what it means to love the stranger, to feel accepted just as you are, or to build peace where there's conflict, we hope to meet you where you are with this 6-week study. Our goal for these hands-on sessions is to help neighbors become friends and strengthen our Church community.

Breakfast and coffee will be provided, as well as childcare for children 3 and under. Everyone age 4 and above will be joining in the fun with these sessions. Please join us for this time of connection and community. lisa.massey@standrew-pres.org



TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Wednesday, October 29
5:30-7:00 pm

In partnership with the NLC, Trunk-or-Treat is one of THE largest events St. Andrew offers annually! To make this super fun event a success, **we need volunteers** to help make things happen. [Click here](#) to sign up to decorate a trunk, volunteer your time, make a donation Or just come for the fun! ally.fetch@tnlcenter.com

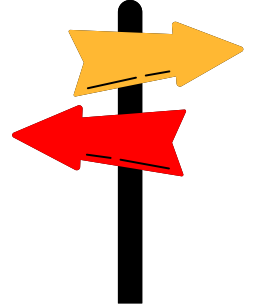


Finance

Dear Saints! There is about \$500 that we have reserved for greater than 5 years where there is not a clear purpose. At the last Session meeting we voted to give these funds to the Mission Committee unless someone has a recollection of where these funds should be spent and disagrees with this shift. We try to be respectful of designated contributions of significant amounts, but some of these get lost to time when the amounts are relatively low. Please reach out to Daniel Gillispie should you believe that providing these funds to the Mission Committee contradicts the intent of the funds that were given. daniel.gillispie@standrew-pres.org



2085 Adult Ministries	10
2042 Special Music	11.33
2054 Children's Offering	121.57
2041 J. Masters Memorial	127.4
2090 Phoebe's Sisters	249.49



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 or 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

Purcellville Tag Sale

**Donations
Needed!!**



St Andrew will be hosting some Girl Scouts in our parking lot during the Purcellville Tag Sale on October 11 from 8am-4pm.

Deborah Hill
(deborah.hill@standrew-pres.org)

and Lisa Massey
(lisamassey@standrew-pres.org)

will be on hand with tables to accept the items you wish to donate as well as some popcorn and fun prizes. Please only **drop off donations on October 11 starting at 7am.**

Welcome, Susan!

We are excited to welcome Susan Yantis as our Interim Director of Music Ministries. She will be leading us in worship through the Advent and Christmas season, and we are so excited that she will be sharing her unique gifts for ministry with us.



Youth

SAPC Youth Group "kicked" off with a slip-n-slide kickball competition on Sept 7th. Youth brought a number of new friends to help celebrate and set goals for the new school year.

The month's second gathering on Sept 21st included a t-shirt design contest and toilet paper dodgeball.

SAPC Youth Group is for youth in grades 6-12 and meets the first and third Sunday of every month from 6-8pm. Meetings include dinner, devotions and interactive games and activities. Clearly. 🤔

lisa.massey@standrew-pres.org

Youth Group (MS/HS)

1st and 3rd Sundays

6-8pm

Bring a friend!

SUN OCT 5

SUN OCT 19



High School Youth Retreat

Keep Awake! is a super cool opportunity for our high schoolers and our Youth have LOVED it the past two years! This year's dates are **Friday, Nov 21 - Sunday, Nov 23** (weekend before Thanksgiving) at Massanetta Springs Conference Center. We leave after school on Friday and return early afternoon Sunday. The cost is "pay what you can." We recommend \$100 per youth, but you decide what works best for your family.

There are limited spots available for this retreat, and other churches are already waitlisted. Please get your registration in ASAP. The **registration deadline is Wednesday, Oct 15th** and will not be extended.

All Youth families should have received an email with details on how to register. If you haven't seen it, or if you have any questions, please contact Clark. clark.seipt@standrew-pres.org

A conference for high school students and their leaders, centered on worship, leadership development, and small group discussion inspired by PC(USA)'s Matthew 25 vision.



Children Children's Church

Pre-K 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.

Minis

2nd & 4th Sundays During Worship

This is a group that exclusively for 3rd-5th graders!

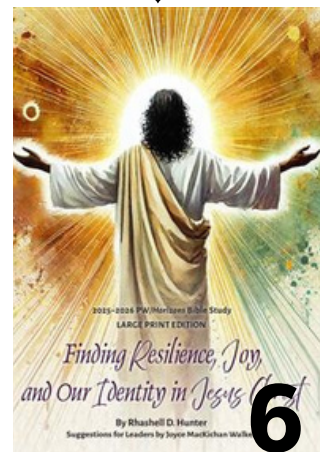
This group will need another volunteer adult to lend a hand as it has grown from last year! If you can help, please contact sarah.read@standrew-pres.org

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





race FOR
every child
5K RUN/WALK

October 18, 2025

A letter from congregant Marj Diehl:

I will be participating in "Race for Every Child", an annual fundraising event for Children's National Hospital. I will be on the team "Brain Tumor Trouncers" that raises funds for the neuro-oncology program. The current research effort involves a clinical trial using immune-therapy through identification of tumor cell proteins, sourced from the patient tumor, then tailored to expand the child's immune cells to recognize and kill those tumor cells.

Childhood brain cancer is almost uniformly fatal, with a few very lucky children who have successful outcomes with the current therapies of radiation and chemotherapy. They often leave the child brain damaged in some way and they need to be followed lifelong to identify any recurrence. It is hoped that new immune therapy treatments will avoid the damage left by the current aggressive therapies and save the lives of more children.

The race will be on October 18th in downtown DC and allows for in-person participation and virtual participation.

Donations can be made to the Brain Tumor Trouncer Team or to me as a participant on that team through the [Race For Every Child portal](#).

Thank you,
Marj



BOOK FAIR

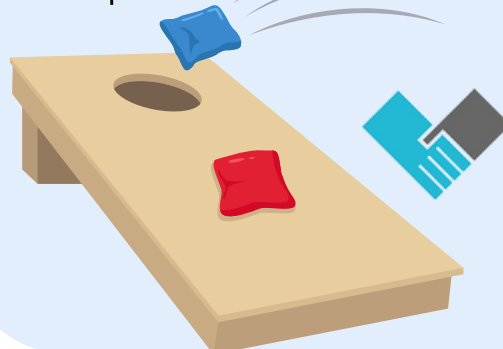
The NLC is hosting a Paper Pie Book Fair! Start your holiday shopping early, and the NLC earns 50% of sales in books for the school!

**Monday-Friday, October
6th-10th 6:30am - 6pm**

**Sunday, October 12th
9am - 12pm**

CCH Cornhole Classic 2025

Community Coalition for Haiti is hosting its first-ever Cornhole Tournament at Lost Rhino Brewing Company (in Ashburn, VA) after church on **Sunday, October 5th from 2-5pm**. Rain or shine, we'll be indoors and ready for a great time. Admission is free for non-players, and we'd love to see folks come out to enjoy delicious Lost Rhino food and beverages, cheer on the teams, and spend a fun afternoon together. All proceeds support CCH's work in healthcare, education, and community development in Haiti.

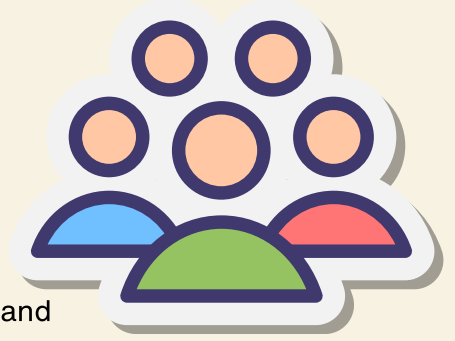


COMMUNITY COALITION FOR
HAITI

Other Committees & Groups

A/V

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!
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@tnlcenter.com

Deacons

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

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

deacons@standrew-pres.org



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

Book Club

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

Oct 25 By Any Other Name
by Jodi Picoult

Dec 6 Time of the Child
by Niall Williams
bookclub@standrew-pres.org

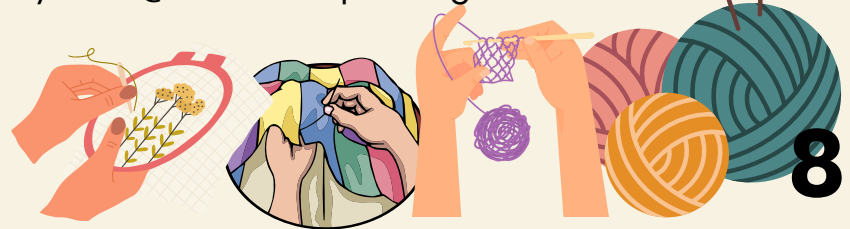


St. Andrew Stitchers

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

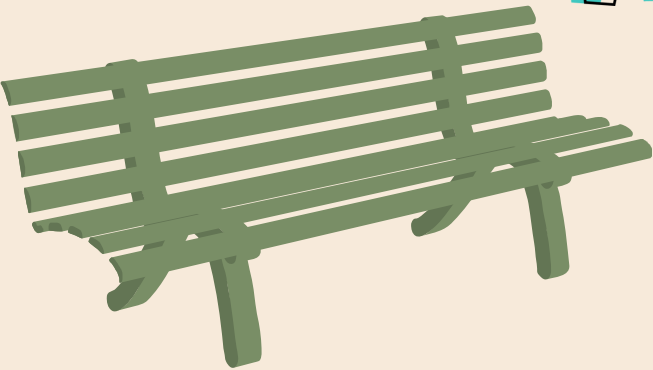
Bring a project you're working on and join friends to chat and craft! So far we have quilting, knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, cross stitch, and sometimes even "to do" projects like assembling goodie bags. Come hang out with us!

ally.fetch@standrew-pres.org



Mission

We Did It!



We collected ANOTHER 1,000 pounds of plastic bags!! WOW!

We've earned a second bench for St. Andrew and the NLC!

But, we're not done! Keep bringing your clean plastic bags to the drop off bins in the entryway and we'll keep going. Not only do we get to enjoy the benches on our campus, but we are also keeping all that plastic out of landfills.

KEEP GOING



Loudoun Hunger Relief

Donate Thanksgiving Dinner Bags for Loudoun Hunger Relief

Gather your family and collect Thanksgiving favorites to share with those in need!

Thank you for your generosity!



Please fill a **REUSABLE** grocery bag with the following **NONPERISHABLE** items and return to St. Andrew by **Sunday, November 9**.

1-2 bags or boxes of stuffing mix	Cornbread or biscuit mix
At least 4 cans of vegetables	Cranberry sauce
Boxed potatoes	Dry dessert mix/ingredients
Gravy (no glass jars, please)	(no ready-made pie crusts please!)

Gift cards ARE NOT being collected. LHR will be providing frozen protein with each bag of food.

“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)

THANK YOU!

Some church mice resealed the Ark!

Daniel G,
Randy D, &
Chris H



Did you know? Halloween has some Christian roots...



- All Saints' Day: In the 8th century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as All Saints' Day, a day to honor all saints.
- All Souls' Day: The following day, November 2, was established as All Souls' Day to pray for the dead, particularly those in purgatory on their way to heaven.
- Hallowtide: Together, these days became a three-day Christian observance called Hallowtide, a time to remember and honor the dead.
- Vigils and Prayer: The evening before All Saints' Day, October 31, was known as All Hallows' Eve (later Halloween). Christians would hold prayer vigils and other events to prepare for these important days.
- Souling: As an extension of these observances, "souling" developed, where poor people would go door-to-door asking for pastries called soul cakes in exchange for prayers for the souls of the homeowners' dead relatives.