

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, NEW PALTZ

PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS

OCTOBER 1, 2026

Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi

Readings: Job 39:1-18; Psalm 121; Luke 12:13-21

[For readings see: www.lectionarypage.net]

Worship Schedule

Sunday	Mon.	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
9:30 am Eucharist (in-person & livestreamed) Coffee hour (following the service)		10:00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom		10:00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom		
10:30 am – 11:30 am – Sunday School on the 1 st & 3 rd Sundays of each month at Redeemer Lutheran Church (fall schedule begins October 4)		12:30 – 2 pm – Body & Soul: The Tuesday Book Group on Zoom				

Church YouTube Live Stream link for Sunday services:

<https://www.youtube.com/@standrewsepiscopalchurch-n6936>

Church ZOOM link: <https://zoom.us/j/570270415>



A PRIEST'S PONDERINGS...

The Rev. Allison Moore

I am inflating my Halloween dragon on September 29, the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, who in the book of Revelation defeats “the dragon who is Satan, the Devil.” My dragon is on the side of the good angels, working with us to create a safe place for all people. This year I’m adding to the sign out front an inflatable flamingo (aren’t you glad I’m retiring?!) who is inviting people to the Blessing of the Animals this Sunday.

Inflatable animals are great. So are birdbaths with statues of St. Francis. But every year I also try to learn something more about this irascible character whose interest in animals was the least of his contributions to Christian faith. His commitment to poverty as a way to identify with the excluded and deepen daily dependence on God; his commitment to peace-making through hard negotiations about setting down any sort of weapon; and his challenge to the greed he saw in society and in the church made him hard to live with and essential to Christian witness. This year I found a [blog post by Sr. Eileen Dooling](#) of the Roman Catholic Sisters of Mercy with several quotations and brief stories to share.

“St. Bonaventure described Francis as “searching for God and finding him in all the broken places of humanity.” For Francis, holiness required an active engagement with the poorest of persons and attention to all of creation. He desired to live in close proximity to those excluded from society, but no one—rich or poor, saint or sinner—was excluded from his care.”

“Francis did not believe in hierarchy or any type of superiority. His brothers vowed obedience, not to Francis, but to the Gospel way of life. Francis saw Christ in everything and everyone. All people, all creatures and all creation deserved respect because all reflected the God who made them.”

“I am who I am in the eyes of God, nothing more and nothing less.”

Francis, Angelo, and the three thieves: “Francis was out begging for food for the community, due to low provisions, three robbers/murderers came to the door of the monastery and asked for food. Angelo, the guardian of the community, knew who they were and sent the three away to reflect on their sins. When Francis heard that Angelo had sent them away, he immediately confronted him: “It is you who have sinned!” And Angelo was sent out to find the robbers and bring them the food for which Francis had begged. Angelo found the robbers and ate with them; all prayed for forgiveness. And, you guessed it, the three robbers joined Francis and the Franciscan community and stayed for the rest of their lives.”

What's going on with Accessibility Renovation Plans??

The Building Renovation Committee-- Noa Simons, MaryAnn Lis-Simmons, and Allison-- has been busy behind the scenes working with Allen Ross and John Vett, architects. After exploring many options to improve accessibility into the sanctuary and undercroft, we put a plan for a "LULA Elevator," (no machine room so much less expensive), and accessible bathrooms on both floors, and necessary adjustments to fire and safety codes, out to two contractors.

Sigh. Both bids came back at around 1 million dollars, almost twice as much as the \$500,000 gift we received almost two years ago (it has now made some interest). At the September vestry meeting we talked about several options:

Do nothing: we're fine the way we are.

Use the gift we were given to make repairs on the vicarage roof, possibly the church roof, HVAC improvements on both levels, kitchen upgrade, other capital improvements but no elevator or other accessible entrance to either sanctuary or undercroft or bathrooms.

Close the roughly \$500,000 gap with a capital campaign, grant applications to several church restoration foundations when funding cycles open next year. There's no guarantee that the amounts we could ask for would address our need.

Apply this fall for a grant from the Ulster County Housing Action Fund, where we can ask for up to a million dollars for capital improvements IF we make a multi-year commitment to have the undercroft serve as a warming center for 5-15 individuals with various special needs from October through May, probably evenings only. St. Andrew's would not be able to use the undercroft when the warming center is open.

The Center would be administered by a team of professionals who have a good record of running warming centers in Kingston and Ellenville. They are experienced at addressing concerns of security, people hanging around the building, and most of all treating guests with tough and genuine love. New Paltz usually has between 8-12 people living on the streets in need of such a center, says the Police Department. The County will consider this because we need a warming center in the southern part of the county, and we have great access to public transportation. This could put St. Andrew's on the map as a church willing to meet the needs of our community with some sacrifice and some blessings. For me it's one way Christ's love gets incarnated in our undercroft, currently used maybe 20 hours a month (most activities could be relocated upstairs).

The vestry has decided to pursue all funding options and wait until a new clergy person is on board to decide what you want to do as a congregation.

Thank you to Noa, to Tyler Jones who served briefly, to MaryAnn who will be stepping down from this project, having valiantly steered it to this point, and to the architects, John Vett and Allen Ross.

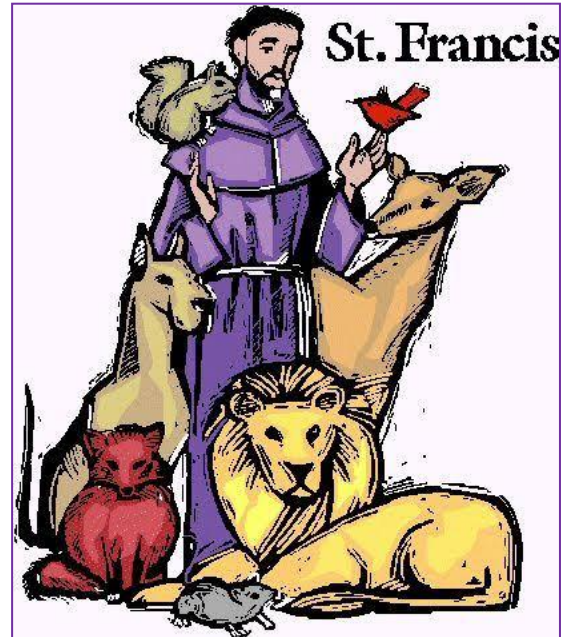
SCHEDULE AT ST. ANDREW'S FOR SUNDAY (October 4)

LEM: Valerie McAllister
Lector: Kappa Waugh
Usher: Martin Bend
Altar Guild: Charlene Wynkoop
Organist: Janet Frommer
Live Stream Tech: Charlie Burgner

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

On October 4, actual feast of St. Francis, please bring "restrained" pets (e.g. cages or leashes), or pictures of pets, or stuffed animals, to church for the (shorter than usual) service. We will bless pets at the communion rail.

If you'd prefer, Allison will be outside the church at 11 -11:30 for "walk by blessings".



WINTER WEAR CLOTHING SALE

ST. ANDREW'S FUNDRAISER

November 14

10am – 4pm

Winter Wear: Coats, jackets, hats, gloves, scarves, boots, sweaters

Bring donations week prior Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9:30am – 2pm

UNCAGED TOY PIANO

**2026 FESTIVAL FOR TOY PIANOS AND
KEYBOARDS**

*Festival led by our church next-door neighbor,
Phyllis Chen*

October 15, 7:30pm, Denizen Theatre, New Paltz

October 17, 1:00 – 3:00, The Living Room, Gardiner

October 13, 7:30pm, The Falcon, Marlboro

See more information at <http://uncagedtoyiano.org>



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ACTION CORNER

Steps you can take to work on justice. Ideas welcome!!

Actions for this week

Meeting tonight (Thursday, Oct. 1)! Support Clean Energy!

- What: New Paltz Town Hall Meeting & Public Comment
- When: Tonight, Oct. 1, 7:00 PM (Arrive by 6:45 PM)
- Where: New Paltz Courthouse
- The Goal: Fill the seats to demonstrate public support for BESS (Battery Energy Storage Systems)

Tonight (Thursday, Oct 1st) at 7:00 PM is an important Town Hall meeting in New Paltz regarding local clean energy battery storage. A strong turnout is needed to show town leadership that our community supports clean energy infrastructure. Please consider joining supporters at New Paltz Courthouse to show your support or give a brief public comment.

“VOTE FAITHFULLY” CALLS FROM THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Episcopal Church invites you to join their monthly “Vote Faithfully” networking calls Thursdays, Oct. 1 and Nov. 5

Join the church’s public policy and witness team on the first Thursday of each month through November for “Vote Faithfully” calls to support voter engagement in ways consistent with Episcopal values.

Hosts share resources and ideas to help congregations promote voting and civic participation while remaining nonpartisan.

The Oct. 1 call will feature Kent Anker, the church’s chief legal officer, addressing frequently asked questions about this year's election

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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ULSTER DEANERY OCTOBER GATHERING

All are welcome to join us for our Ulster Deanery Gathering on **October 10th, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Church of the Holy Spirit/Espiritu Santo (formerly Holy Cross/Santa Cruz) in Kingston**. We'll gather in the Parish Hall for Morning Prayer and a conversation with our Regional Canon, the Rev. Nicole Hanley. Please bring along any flyers, calendars, or other information about ministry offerings in your parish or community context to share with the wider group. [RSVP using this link.](#)

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SAVE THE DATE

October 3	Lamentations (at Redeemer) 6:00 pm
October 4	Sunday School begins regular schedule of 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month at Redeemer 10:30 – 11:30
October 4	Blessing of the Animals
October 10	Ulster Deanery October Gathering, 9am - noon
November 7	Grief Support Project 1-4pm Community Center
November 14	Winter Wear Clothing Sale, 10am – 4pm
December 21	Longest Night Service at New Connexions Methodist Church

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NEW PALTZ COMMUNITY DINNERS

New Paltz Community dinners have begun again. They are held **every third Wednesday this fall at New Connexions Church**, Main Street at Grove Street, 6:00-7:30--sometimes there is a need for helpers but it's fun just to be there, eat, play cards and board games, and connect with others.

New York Lamentations

**A dialogue between “residents”
of the St. James’ Hyde Park
cemetery about slavery and its
legacy in the Hudson Valley**

**Sat., Oct. 3, 2026 6pm
Redeemer Lutheran Church
90 S. Rte 32, New Paltz**

Free Will Offering

Talk back with the writer and producer

**Episcopal Diocese of NY
Reparations Commission
and Margaret Wade Lewis Center
contact standrewsrev@gmail.com**

For more info
about the play,

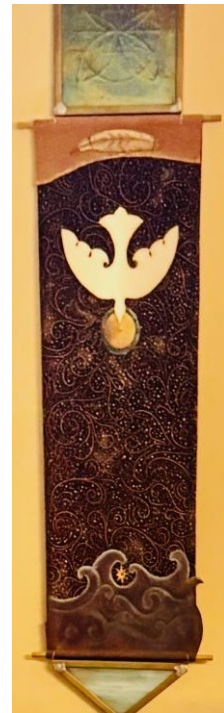


New York Lamentations

Allison says: Please help me share news of an amazing play, New York Lamentations, coming to Redeemer Lutheran Church, a partnership of the Diocesan Reparations Commission, Episcopal Campus Ministry, and the Margaret Wade-Lewis Center for Black History and Culture. It was written by the former rector of St. James Episcopal Church in Hyde Park, about some of the folks buried in their cemetery. The writer and producer will lead a talk-back session after the show. It would be fun for some of us to go together. The play is 90 minutes long.

BLESSING OF THE ALTAR PENDANTS

We are hopeful that Robyn Henry, the artist who made our beautiful altar pendants, will come to church this Sunday, and whoever didn't bring animals can hang out and talk with her in coffee hour. We will bless them during the service.



COFFEE HOUR

Sign up to do coffee hour on sign up sheet in the parish hall. Information on how easy it is to participate in this ministry is on the sheet and in the kitchen.



BUILDING RENOVATION NEWS

The Building Renovation committee has prepared a document of their findings and has presented it to the vestry. See Allison's report above.

Save the Date

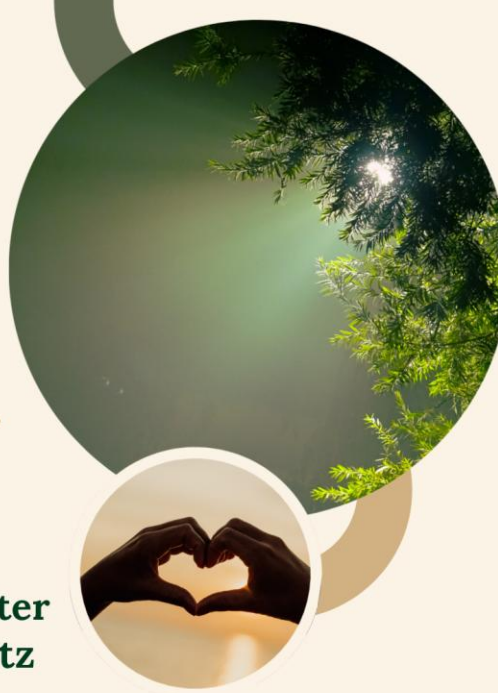
WALKING WITH GRIEF:

**A Space for Connection,
Community, and Support.**

November 7th

1PM - 4PM

**New Paltz Community Center
3 Veterans Drive, New Paltz**



Join us for a special afternoon as we come together in a supportive space where people know and understand how our life journey may change as we walk with the many different forms of grief that we may experience in life. Your experience is unique, but you do not have to walk alone. We hope to see you there.

Offerings include:

- Speakers with lived experience
- Conversation & Connection
- Compassionate Listening
- Connecting with Joy
- Sampling of Simple Supportive Practices

FREE!
OPEN
TO ALL

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

Contact: Phoenix Kawamoto
Phone: 845-275-5413
Email: pkawamoto@townofnewpaltzny.gov

FOOD COLLECTION

There is a basket at the entryway to the church where we ask that you place **non-perishable food items** for distribution to those who come by for Free Fresh Food as well as to Family of New Paltz.

THANK YOU to all those who served at St. Andrew's this week Rae, David, Jennifer, Janet, Jane, Dean, and Brenda. Thank you to those who help with the free fresh food project, those who tend to the grounds of the church and vicarage, and those who are helping with the live streaming of the Sunday service.

An extra special thank you to Brenda and David and everyone else who made the Friends & Family BBQ Celebration a success!

Church Office Hours

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays

9:30 am – 2:30 pm

If you need to reach someone when the office is closed, contact The Rev. Allison Moore at 845-633-8272 or by email to standrewsrev@gmail.com; Julie Mazur, Senior Warden at 845-853-3708; or David Slingerland, Junior Warden at 845-702-2552.



ON-GOING EVENTS, MEETINGS, ETC.

FREE FRESH FOOD!	Free Fresh Food 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. 1st Sundays: Reformed Church of New Paltz; 2nd Sundays: Redeemer Lutheran Church; 3rd Sundays: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church ; 4th Sundays: Methodist Church; 5th Sundays: New Paltz Friends Meeting, 8 N. Manheim
Andy's Peeps	Online forum for St. Andrew's community https://www.facebook.com/groups/andyspeeps/
Sunday School	First & third Sundays, 11:00 a.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church

St. Andrew's Website (www.standrewnp.org)

Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/standrewsnp/>)

Our Parish Prayer List:

We continue to pray for especially ***Charles, Edna, Sheila, Lisa, Mary, Gabriel, Joan, Gwenn, Nancy, Patricia, Ola, Joe, Janet, Charles, Martha, Elizabeth, James, Linda, Christine, Jen, Jacob, Gisela, Miles, Rodger, Jennifer, Ann, Laura, Terrell, Davette, Sally, The Copeland and Ward Families.***