

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

December 20, 2020—The Fourth Sunday of Advent

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
12405 SW Butner Road, Beaverton, OR 97005
www.standrewlutheran.com; 503-646-0629

Worship Services:
Sunday, 8:30 am
Sunday, 11:00 am

Our church community is OPEN and gathering ONLINE and BY TELEPHONE. We welcome you to meet up with us there!
For your safety and to protect the most vulnerable, access to the church building remains HIGHLY RESTRICTED.

Worship Connection Problems



If you have trouble connecting to worship on Sunday morning, you can simply call the church office between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm to get help from the pros. Just dial 503-646-0629. Remember that Rebecca Fako Uecker also continues to offer technical help for church-related purposes. You can contact her at RLS.HOPE@yahoo.com.

Adult Education: The Miseries of Job

Steve Christiansen concludes his exploration of the Book of Job at 10:00 am on Sunday, December 20, with Session 8 You'll find a course outline on St. Andrew's website and can access the class using the same Zoom link needed for Sunday worship.



Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesdays

This coming Wednesday, Julie Aageson will offer a meditation from her new book, *Finding Home*, as part of Holden Evening Prayer. Please join us on Wednesday, December 23:

- 6:30 pm: Informal Gathering Time
- 7:00 pm: Holden Evening Prayer
- 7:30 pm: Centering Prayer & Other Opportunities

Advent offers the perfect opportunity to engage in Centering Prayer as we sit in silence to await the celebration of Christ's coming.

The Zoom connection link is sent out Wednesday afternoons, so watch your inbox for it.

Coming in January: The Gospel of Mark

St. Andrew's Adult Education offering in January will focus on "The Gospel of Mark: A Narrative Theology," taught by Jim Aageson. Mark's gospel presents its theology in narrative form where the actions and words of Jesus reveal a powerful vision of God's reign. As Aageson notes, "in this kingdom, things are turned upside down: the first are last, the sinners and the dishonored are invited to the table of fellowship, and those closest to Jesus are often filled with fear rather than faith." The class will begin at 10:00 am on Sunday, January 10.



A-Caroling We Go

Sing along or just listen. The Werner sisters invite you to enjoy a short recording of favorite carols (all in the public domain) [online](#).

Scroll to the bottom of St. Andrew's worship page to find the video.

Christmas Week Worship

Sunday, December 20, 4:30 pm:

Blue Christmas Service (via Zoom)

While Advent is a season of hope and Christmas is a season of joy, not everyone feels like celebrating. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and loss are magnified. As we enter into the longest night of the year, join us at sunset for a Blue Christmas worship service in the St. Andrew Zoom room. Then, if you'd like to talk with our caring ministers or Pastor Robyn, just bring your own beverage and stick around afterwards for conversation.

Sunday, December 20, 7:00 pm:

Advent/Christmas Vespers (online)

Birthday Party for Jesus!

For a family-focused celebration, please join us at 4:00 pm on Thursday, December 24, via Zoom for a special Birthday Party for Jesus. We'll be featuring carols, games, and a visit from our favorite furry friends! Families are encouraged to dress for the occasion, whether in ugly Christmas sweaters or with party hats and balloons! Plus, we'll be giving a special birthday gift to Jesus by purchasing Shoes That Grow for children in need around the world. If you'd like to contribute to this gift, you can do so online via the church website or by mailing a check to the church; just make sure to mark it for the Birthday Party for Jesus. Keep an eye out for the Zoom link for this event in the "Worship Links" e-mail the week of Christmas Eve.



**WORSHIP ON THE EVE OF
CHRIST'S BIRTH**
Thursday, December 24

6:45 pm, Musical Prelude
7:00 pm, Candlelight Service
(livestreamed and recorded)

Friday, December 25, 1:00-4:00 pm on Zoom

Stay Home, but Not Alone!

- 1:00 pm: Christmas Social Time—share your favorite Christmas stories.
- 2:00 pm: Games—join Scott Taylor, Pastor Robyn, and Janet Parker for hilarious fun.
- 3:00 pm: Show & Tell—share your favorite gift or play us a Christmas song.
- Anytime: Notify Rebecca Fako Uecker (fallpryncess@me.com) to be assigned a Zoom breakout room where you can meet with family or friends to support one another in **Staying Home to Save Lives**.

Foundation Core Values, Part 2

Your St. Andrew Foundation adopted six core values at our recent strategic planning retreat. These are fundamental principles that guide the Foundation's activities and decision-making. This week, we highlight three of these core values:

COMPASSIONATE/CARING: We are compassionate and caring in all that we do, aligning with the core values: God care, Earth care, community care, neighbor care, and self care.

ACCOUNTABILITY: We are transparent, we acknowledge gifts and we communicate our efforts with the congregation. We will regularly monitor that we are being inclusive and acting within our Christian values.

PARTNERSHIPS: We are partnering with the congregation and other organizations in the community to provide for the well-being of individuals and the community as a whole.

Did you know that last year the Foundation awarded \$5,550 in grants (to four organizations) and \$2,300 in scholarships (to four individuals)? We are actively seeking new members for our Board of Directors as we carry out our core values and vision.

Are you interested in learning more? Contact Sonja Ackman: sonya.ackman@gmail.com.

Meet the EcoFaith Match

EcoFaith Recovery has been offered a \$2,000 year-end matching grant that will match every first-time donation, the amount of increase of any annual donation, and/or the one-year value of any monthly sustaining donation that you set up before December 31. Your generous gifts help EcoFaith Recovery fund this year's "Just Vote Harnessing Our Values for Climate and Racial Justice Initiative" and our "Community Carbon" pilot community initiative. Thank you so much for helping EcoFaith meet the match with your generous donations to

www.EcoFaithRecovery.org/Give

or EcoFaith Recovery, P.O. Box 12612, Portland, OR 97212.

With gratitude,
Pastor Robyn Hartwig

Preparing for Next Sunday December 27, 2020

Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40



Sound Investments

As equipment has reached the end of its useful life, the sound system in St. Andrew's Sanctuary has gone through various upgrades in recent years in an attempt to make the spoken word more understandable throughout the room.

- 2010: We switched from lapel microphones to earloops to reduce feedback
- 2013: We replaced the amplifier and crossover to further reduce potential feedback and to equalize amplified voice sound in the room.
- 2016: We replaced the speakers to distribute sound better into pews beyond the center of the room. This also finally opened up the top of the tapestry to full view. (project cost—\$7,800)
- 2017-2019: We replaced all wireless microphones due to changes made to the wireless spectrum by the FCC. (cost—\$2,000+)



And, in just the past few weeks, Chris Weiss spent about 15 hours installing new wiring and setting up a new (currently borrowed) soundboard, aka mixer, in the Sound Room. As Weiss points out, our needs and expectations for the audio mixer shifted once the pandemic forced St. Andrew to stream its services. At this time, when we are all worshipping remotely, we need to mic things that don't need amplification when we wor-

ship in-person, namely the organ, piano, bells, and vocalist. And, when we move back to in-person worship, we'll also need to mic the congregation and the choir to provide a full experience for those who continue to worship from their homes.

As Weiss explains, "On any given Sunday before the pandemic, we were only mixing 4-5 microphones, whereas I am now using 16 channels on the new mixer." He anticipates using 20-24 channels when in-person worship resumes.

Managing Your Mental Health During This Holiday Season

Many of us have found it particularly challenging to manage our own mental health as the pandemic continues, holiday plans are changed, and life as we knew it seems farther and farther away. The Caring Ministries Team recommends a series of articles found on the website for Mental Health USA. This week, take a look at their "Latest News & Updates" and read one or more of the four short articles on the page <https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/>. Devote some time this week to work on one of St. Andrew's Core Values: Self Care.

St. Andrew Caring Ministries Team



*May PEACE & HEALTH be your gifts
this Christmas season—
and your blessings
all the year through!*



Pastor Mark Brocker (on call Fridays & Saturdays)
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cell: 503-502-8762
brockerm@standrewlutheran.com

Pastor Robyn Hartwig (on call Sundays & Mondays)
Office: 503-646-0629 (extension 211)
PastorRobyn@standrewlutheran.com

Both pastors are on call Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

In Need of Prayer...

NAME	PRAYERS FOR...	CONTACT
Family and friends of Ali Alajrab	Peace and God's comfort at his death from COVID-19	Staff
Family and friends of Bobbie Jo Lynn (friend)	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Bev Briggs
Mary Lynn	Support and assistance in securing care	Bev Briggs
Colleen Warnes	Peace and comfort in hospice care	Suzanne Warnes
Alvina Heidinger (mother-in-law)	Peace and comfort in hospice care	Judy Heidinger
Carol Hogan	Accurate diagnosis and effective treatment	Carol Hogan
Pam	Successful radiation treatment	Patty Jones
Tammy Piscitelli	Healing and recovery from COVID-19	Ed & Linda Fransen
Elaine May	Healing and recovery from knee replacement surgery	Elaine May
Gary Grafwallner	Healing and recovery from skin cancer surgery	Gary Grafwallner
Dr. Cara Steinkeler	Strength and protection	Gary & Gail Grafwallner
Melanie Waller, Aniyah and Tanner Alcorn	Support and well-being	Melanie Waller
Dr. Don Scholz (Bob's father)	Thanksgiving for coronavirus vaccination (12/30)	Bob & Judy Scholz
Hank Scholz (son)	Thanksgiving for coronavirus vaccination (12/17)	Bob & Judy Scholz
Everyone	Availability of effective vaccine and few side effects	Judy Scholz
Everyone affected by COVID-19	Strength and support	Staff
Health care workers	Strength, courage, protection, and support	Staff
Those confined to their homes	Assurance of God's presence	Staff
Mareline Barnes, Dave Bumgardner, Jean Fredrickson, Tara Harper, Douglas Hooke, Betty Horst, Dorothy Moore, Phyllis Morris, Ed Pacey, Helen Rogers, Dave & Sharon Roth, Margie Schindele		
All who are imprisoned	Peace and strength	Staff
Individual friends and loved ones in need of prayer	Whatever they most need; say their names in your heart or aloud	Everyone
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon	Blessings on their work	Staff
Holy Trinity Catholic Church		
Zion Lutheran Church (Port Orford, OR)	Serving with us in the Oregon Synod	Staff
Zion Lutheran Church (The Dalles, OR)		
Masjid An-Noor (Portland, OR)	Blessings on our interfaith partners	Staff

If you know someone in need of prayers, please contact the church office by phone at 503-646-0629 or e-mail office@standrewlutheran.com Tuesday-Friday, prayerchain@standrewlutheran.com Saturday-Monday.

Refugee Family Suffers a COVID Death



Ali Alajrab, patriarch of the Syrian family St. Andrew assisted when they first came to the US from a refugee camp in Jordan in 2016, died on November 21, 2020, due to COVID-19. He was the sole support of his wife Fouza and two younger children, Omar and Ahed. The already-struggling family, which left Portland for Southern California in 2017 and later moved to Ohio, now faces even more challenges. For more information or to help them meet their needs, go to <https://www.gofundme.com/f/alajrab-family-relief>.

Creation Justice Summit

Saturday, January 30, 2021

1:00-4:15 pm

Our Kinship with Oregon's Sacred Waters

The 8th annual Creation Justice Summit (formerly the Earth Care Summit) will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Columbia River Watershed Pastoral Letter. The virtual event will include a keynote panel, breakout workshops, and a closing address from U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley.

[Register now.](#)

\$20 general, \$10 students, scholarships available

Presented by EMO's Creation Justice and Oregon Interfaith Power & Light.



Your St. Andrew Staff

Lead Pastor, Mark Brocker.....brockerms@standrewlutheran.com
Associate Pastor, Robyn Hartwig.....pastorrobyn@standrewlutheran.com
Min. of Music, Allison Katsufakis.....allisonk@standrewlutheran.com
Parish Musician & Deacon Susan Reisersrwerner.reiser@standrewlutheran.com
Children & Youth Ministry Coord., Kyler Vogt.....kvogt@standrewlutheran.com
Seminarian, Karen Klingelhaferkakling@sbcglobal.net
Parish Manager, Jennifer Trom.....jtrom@standrewlutheran.com
Office Manager, Carol Harkeroffice@standrewlutheran.com
Housekeeper, Carol Hogan.....503-646-0629
Evening Facility Manager, Brad Barclay503-646-0629
Sunday School Director, Lisa Staulsundayschool@standrewlutheran.com
Parish Nurses, Diane Reiner503-201-4222
Tira Nesset.....503-866-5099

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Sunday, December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 am	Livestream Worship.....	listen/watch via telephone or online
9:30 am	Virtual Coffee Time	participate via Zoom
10:00 am	Sunday School.....	via Zoom
10:00 am	Confirmation Class.....	via Zoom
10:00 am	High School Youth Group.....	via Zoom
10:00 am	Adult Education: The Book of Job	via Zoom
11:00 am	Online Worship.....	participate via Zoom
12:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Time.....	participate via Zoom
4:30 pm	Blue Christmas Service.....	via Zoom
7:00 pm	Advent/Christmas Vespers.....	watch online

Tuesday, December 22—Weekly News submissions due by 4:00 pm

10:00 am	T'ai Chi.....	former Bales Thriftway on Cornell Rd.
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Wednesday, December 23

6:30 pm	Informal Gathering Time	via Zoom
7:00 pm	Wednesday Evening Prayer.....	via Zoom
7:30 pm	Centering Prayer & Other Breakout Room Opportunities	via Zoom

Thursday, December 24: Christmas Eve; Church Office Closed

4:00 pm	Birthday Party for Jesus	via Zoom
7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service	listen/watch via telephone or online

Friday, December 25—Christmas Day

1:00 pm	Stay Home, but Not Alone! Gathering	via Zoom
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Sunday, December 27, First Sunday of Christmas

8:30 am	Livestream Worship.....	listen/watch via telephone or online
9:30 am	Virtual Coffee Time	participate via Zoom
11:00 am	Online Worship.....	participate via Zoom
12:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Time.....	participate via Zoom

Connecting to Worship at St. Andrew

8:30 am: Watch the livestream of worship on YouTube. *The link will be sent to you via e-mail and the church app.*



- The same link will bring you to the recording of the service to watch anytime after the livestream ends.
- If you have a Facebook account and are a member of the "St. Andrew Lutheran Church Beaverton" Facebook Group, please note that a link to the YouTube livestream will be posted on Sunday mornings.
- An audio recording of the 8:30 am service will be available Sunday afternoon by simply dialing 503-643-9416.



11:00 am: Participate in worship via Zoom. *The link will be sent to you via e-mail and the church app.*

To participate via "Zoom" you can use a computer, smart phone, tablet, or a telephone.

office@standrewlutheran.com: Not getting church e-mails? Contact the office to receive the livestreaming worship link and Zoom invitations.

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Ways to Give: Thank you for supporting our ministries!

As we maintain social distancing for physical health, it is important to support the fiscal health of St. Andrew. We thank you for your support of the ministries of St. Andrew. If you are able, please give now using any of the following options:

Postal Mail

Simply mail a check to the church office. Let us know if you'd like giving envelopes mailed to your home each month by calling 503-646-0629 or e-mailing office@standrewlutheran.com.

Text Giving

Text 503-386-9646 with the amount you wish to give. You can give a one-time donation or set up a recurring donation. Text "funds" to receive a list of funds.

NEW! Church App (<https://app.ministryone.com/landing/nBv>)

The newest way to stay connected—and to give—is by using St. Andrew's new church app! Download "Church by Ministry One" from the App Store and use it to watch St. Andrew videos, submit a prayer request, and give a one-time or recurring gift.



Online at www.standrewlutheran.com

Click on "Give Now" on the church website. You can also view your giving and print your Contribution Statements here.

Direct Deposit / "Simply Giving"

Request a form from the [church office](#) to enable automated giving from your checking or savings account through the "Simply Giving" program.

Stock Transfer

The required form is available through the church office or website and should be submitted at the [beginning](#) of the process. See article on page 3 for more information.

Thank you for supporting the ministries of St. Andrew!

Need Help?

If you discover that you need help connecting to St. Andrew's online worship services and meetings, please e-mail Rebecca Fako Uecker at RLS.HOPE@yahoo.com. She will be available by 9:30 am on Sunday mornings and 5:30 pm on Wednesday evenings to provide same-day help for church-related purposes.