

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

December 27, 2020—The First Sunday of Christmas

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.

Christmas Week Worship

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. Follow the Zoom link for this event in the accompanying e-mail.



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**.



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.

Family Promise Update 2020

Thanks to the strong participation and support of our congregation, St. Andrew's commitment to being a host site for Family Promise has remained steady this year.

We hosted on-site in January and February and then the world turned upside down! When host sites closed, families were then moved to the new day center on Erickson Ave. in Beaverton and also to an extended stay hotel. Hosting then became "remote." This involved providing meals, groceries, or restaurant gift cards to be delivered to families wherever they were staying. We hosted remotely in October and November using both gift cards and a team of "on-call" cooks. Flexibility is a Family Promise mantra that we have embraced!



Thanks to generous donations to the Family Promise designated fund, we have also been able to give much-needed money to a Family Promise COVID-19 fund. This has assisted "graduated" families who have struggled with the financial impact of the pandemic. In addition, we sponsored a graduated family for Christmas.

Remote hosting will continue in 2021. The hosting schedule will be made on a quarterly basis at this point. St. Andrew is scheduled for the weeks of **January 24** and **February 21**. Stay tuned for volunteer opportunities!

Many thanks for your donations of time, meals, money, and prayers. We are making a difference.

The Family Promise Leadership Team



And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Luke 2:13-14

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.**



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

Resolutions 2021



What will you do for the Earth in 2021? At this time of year, resolutions can help us focus our energies and live our values. For the good of the planet and generations to come, why not pledge to make your lifestyle more sustainable in 2021? Write down your goal. Keep track of the actions you take. A year from now you could be amazed by your accomplishments!

Preparing for Next Sunday January 3, 2020

Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14
Gospel: John 1:10-18



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

Raise Your Voice and Sing!

Opportunities to sing special music for upcoming worship services are now available. I will be organizing duets, solos, and other small ensembles for the offertory during the Epiphany season. Rehearsal time will be scheduled with the person(s) singing and myself and each offering will be pre-recorded at a time that works for one of St. Andrew's tech teams. If you're interested, please contact me.

Susan Werner Reiser
srwerner.reiser@standrewlutheran.com
503-334-6353

Fantasy Football Championship

Throughout a National Football League season like none before, members of St. Andrew's Schmalkaldic Fantasy Football League have followed their players on the field and off to escape some of the pressures of the pandemic. And it's been entertaining. A couple of weeks ago, the twelve teams were pared down to eight for the playoffs. And now there are two!



This week, Ben Moore's COVID Crushers take on The Wingmen, owned by Jeff Smith and his daughter Julia Emerson, for the championship. Good luck!

Bee-Attitudes



Not all bees make honey. Not all bees sting. And not all bees swarm around a communal hive.

Meet the MASON BEE, a bee that chooses solitude even when no pandemic requires it. These busy insects are pollinating power-houses!

Thanks to an idea from Brian Cheney, St. Andrew's Yard Science Team (part of our Community Carbon initiative with Eco-

Faith Recovery) has begun exploring the super powers that MASON BEES bring to the garden. Stay tuned to learn more in 2021.



Pastor Mark Brocker (on call Fridays & Saturdays)
office: 503-646-0629 (extension 201)
cell: 503-502-8762
brockerms@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
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 facing ongoing illness or distress	Healing and assurance of God's presence	Staff
Tandy Brooks, David Bumgardner, Vic Claar, Marvel Lund, Iam MacDonald, Gary Magnuson, Hugh Mason, Brian McKiernan, Ed Pacey, Corky Poppert, Jolie Reyna, Shane Throckmorton, Gary Tubbs		
Individual friends and loved ones in need of prayer	Whatever they most need; say their names in your heart or aloud	Everyone
Bishop Elizabeth Eaton	Wisdom and discernment	Staff
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	Blessings on our ministry	Staff
Taiwan Lutheran Church	Strength and wisdom	Staff
First Lutheran Church (Astoria, OR)	Serving with us in the Oregon Synod	Staff
Peace Lutheran Church (Astoria, OR)		
Congregation Beth Israel (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.....jstrom@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

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, Church Office Closed

- 1:00 pm Stay Home, but Not Alone! Gathering via Zoom

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

Tuesday, December 29—Weekly News submissions due by 4:00 pm

- 10:00 am T'ai Chi former Bales Thriftway on Cornell Rd.

Wednesday, December 30

- 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

Friday, January 1: New Year's Day, Church Office Closed

Sunday, January 3: Second 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
2:00 pm Mason Bee House Installation with the Yard Science Team outside near Reformation Earth Garden

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.

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

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.