

# ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

December 19, 2021

St. Andrew Lutheran Church  
12405 SW Butner Road, Beaverton, OR 97005  
[www.standrewlutheran.com](http://www.standrewlutheran.com); 503-646-0629

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

## Adult Ed: "The Kairos Hermeneutic" with Kyler and the HS Youth!

It's hard to read the Bible. Modern biblical readers have massive separations in history, culture, and language to overcome in the process. Yet, reading the Bible gets even tougher when Christian tradition tells us that the Bible—containing fantastic tales of miracles, gory acts of violence, and outdated legal text all set in a culture bearing little resemblance to our own—is supposed to be the pinnacle of truth and the ultimate authority for our modern lives. To many modern people, this has become a deal-breaker in their faith. In this class, I will show you a way I have learned over the last several years that allows me to read the Bible as truthful, authoritative, and deeply meaningful—even if it isn't always right.

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE! My vision for this class is to give our congregation a glimpse into a typical Sunday morning with our high school youth. You'll get to see how we check-in about our weeks, what kind of conversations we have, and witness how deeply we can dive into difficult and complex issues together. So you can get the full experience, the final class in this series will be held in-person at 10:00 am in the Youth Room on **December 19**. If you have any questions, or if you just want to let me know you'll be there, contact me at [kvogt@standrewlutheran.com](mailto:kvogt@standrewlutheran.com). I hope you will join us!

## Advent Evening Prayer

Allison Katsufakis will offer a meditation focused on how darkness holds God at Advent Evening Prayer this **Wednesday, December 22**. Join in worship in the Sanctuary or via Zoom at 7:00 pm. Our theme for the season is "Holy Darkness."



## A Christmas Tradition



preschool program and share this with them? Such a great preschool and experience for my son.

I'm not sure if you still have a preschool at St. Andrew, but I wanted to share this photo with you. My son attended your preschool 13 years ago. While he was there (we had a great experience!), he made this manger scene. We put it up every year.

Is it possible to reach some of the former teachers of the

Blessings to you all,  
*Kim Karper*  
Sherwood, OR

## An Advent Journey Towards Anti-Racism

Please join St. Andrew's Reckoning With Racism cohort as we conclude our six-part exploration of how racism has played a role in the history of Oregon, and how we can all move toward being anti-racist.

Whether or not you are able to attend, you are invited to take part in a congregation-wide Racial Equity Challenge. The goal is to do at least one thing each week that brings each of us closer to becoming anti-racist. The website [21-Day Racial Equity Challenge—America & Moore](https://www.21dayracialequitychallenge.com) is filled with suggestions for ways to read, listen, watch, notice, connect, engage, act, reflect, and stay inspired in the journey. Watch this newsletter for a description of each week's class and suggestions for which challenges are related to that topic. A complete schedule can be found on the St. Andrew website.

We are hoping to document our efforts as a community of faith toward the goal of becoming anti-racist. In the narthex, you will find a display board and paper candle cut-outs. Please write what you did in the past week on one of the candles, and add it to the board. Together, we can shine some light in the darkness of racism.

**December 19:** Elaine May will lead *Living in the Shadows of Hope*. Join Elaine in putting it all together. Where do we go from here? How can we be White Allies?

This week's Racial Equity Challenge suggestions: [21-Day Racial Equity Challenge—America & Moore](https://www.21dayracialequitychallenge.com)

**Read:** [Ally or co-conspirator?: What it means to act #InSolidarity](#)

**Listen:** [Do the Work](#) podcast. (episodes 30 - 50 mins)

**Watch:** [#BLM How Can We Win? Kimberly Jones Powerful Speech Video Full Length Black Lives Matter #BLM 2020](#)

**Notice:** Notice how much of your day you are speaking about racism. Who are you engaging with on these issues? Who are you not? Why do you think this is?

**Connect:** [Racial Equity Tools | Home](#)

**Engage:** Research racial justice speakers and see who might be coming to your local university, church, community center, or speaker series.

**Act:** Interrupt the pattern of white silence by speaking openly with family, friends, and colleagues about what you're doing and learning in the 21-Day Challenge.

**Reflect:** Take time everyday to reflect on what you chose to do, what you're learning, and how you are feeling.

**Stay Inspired:** Create a Soundtrack4Justice playlist that fuels you and/or can serve as a conversation starter with people of all ages.

## Candle Lighting Litanies

If you have an Advent wreath in your home and ceremoniously ignite another candle each week prior to Christmas, you might appreciate the Advent litanies we share on the church [website](#). To help proclaim that God's new world is at hand, the people of the Salt Project begin each litany by telling the truth about our broken world and then cry out with all people of faith—past, present, and future—that God is, even now, overwhelming the world!

## Commemorating a Project for the Good of All

The Butner Road that runs in front of our church building looks different now than it did a couple of years ago. During the pandemic, the Butner Road project initiated by our neighbor Betty Baldwin was completed. Although Betty has since died, she would celebrate the difference this project has made for people living along Johnson Creek and for all those who walk, ride bicycles, or drive on our street.

Continually impacted by high water, Betty and her neighbors were regularly sandbagging their homes or cleaning up after the floodwater receded. Now, a much larger culvert under Butner Rd enables creek water to move toward its destination without encroaching so much into yards and homes. Plus, a stepping stone water collection system installed between two of our church driveways slows and contains water rushing toward the creek from higher ground.

Working in conjunction with Vic Claar, former Council president, and others at St. Andrew, Betty endorsed expanding her project to include the installation of bicycle lanes, sidewalks, and a crosswalk at 126<sup>th</sup> Ave for safety and community livability. The church joined Betty in advocating for the project and hosted community gatherings to keep people informed and to build support.

As the Clean Water Services sign posted across Butner Rd near Johnson Creek says, "Thanks to Betty's advocacy, the project became the impetus for an Oregon Solutions designation and the eventual creation of the Tualatin Watershed Enhancement Collaborative." This was St. Andrew's first Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good sort of project and it worked—for the good of all.

### Preparing for Next Sunday

The First Sunday of Christmas  
December 26, 2021

Reading: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

## Prayer for Unpacking the Christmas Creche

Do you have a manger scene or creche among your Christmas decorations? This prayer, to be used as you unpack each piece, was shared with us by Libby Calhoun and originally printed in *Alive Now!*, a Methodist magazine, in 1983.

*As we unpack the Christmas creche, let each piece become a prayer that our lives will be changed during Advent.*

*As we place the stable, let us remember how a place never meant to be a home sheltered our Lord. Let us pray that our own homes will be places of hospitality for all who enter them.*

*As the star shone to give direction to the magi, let us hold high to a faith in Christ to give direction to our lives.*

*As the shepherds were the most common of folk and yet the only ones to be summoned by angels, may we never forget that God calls the simplest among us to tasks of greatest glory.*

*As the magi moved in the deep belief that God was acting in this world, may we always look for that same redemptive activity and never be so proud that we cannot seek our Lord with childlike faith.*

*As sheep and donkey, oxen and lamb looked on the holy miracle in wonder and sang the newborn child to sleep, may we too stand in awe before each miracle, wondrous or simple, which our God will work.*

*As the angel proclaimed the tidings of God, may we be open to hear God calling us to be a part of God's plan.*

*As Joseph wondered, then obeyed where he could not understand, may we be obedient—even in the face of our own lack of understanding.*

*As Mary opened herself to the miraculous working of God through her, may we be instruments of God's love in whatever humble way we are summoned.*

*As God was in Christ, reconciling the world, may we in prayer kneel before the manger and wonder again at the miracle of Christmas. Amen.*

## Preservice Music on Christmas Eve

The Music Ministry team is eagerly anticipating the opportunity to share Christmas Eve worship with all of you. As usual, we are planning a set of pre-service musical selections to get us all in the mood for worship. This will start 15 minutes before each of the candlelight services on Christmas Eve, so please arrive in plenty of time to find your seat and enjoy the music. For those worshipping online, the livestream and Zoom rooms will be turned on in plenty of time for you to enjoy the music!

## Christmas Week Services

### Sunday, December 19

Lessons and Carols, 8:30 and 11:00 am, Sanctuary

### Wednesday, December 22

Advent Evening Prayer, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary

### Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24

The Roots Children's Gathering, 4:00 pm, Sanctuary/  
Fellowship Hall

Candlelight Service with Children's Sermon and Communion, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary  
(Preservice music begins 6:45 pm)

Candlelight Service with Communion, 10:00 pm, Sanctuary  
(Preservice music begins 9:45 pm)

### Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25

Carol Sing and Communion with Pastor Susan preaching, 11:00 am, Sanctuary

### Sunday, December 26

Worship with Communion, 8:30 and 11:00 am, Sanctuary (Karen Klingelhafer preaching)



## Thanksgiving Thanks

The good news for today is that St. Andrew has no shortage of generosity. Donations for the Thanksgiving food drive allowed us to provide \$50 gift cards for needy families to buy food for Thanksgiving. When Linda McDowell and I met with Leslie from Community Action of Washington County we learned of the work they do to support families at risk. Community Action provides hope, help, and change for families in transition to reduce the potential for child abuse and neglect. In addition to the gift cards we donated in the amount of \$3,750, we are also able to donate \$3,000 to the St. Matthew Food Pantry. The pantry uses monetary donations to purchase items to supplement food donations it receives and spends about \$5,000 per month to make purchases. The generosity of St. Andrew members makes life a bit easier for those in need. Thank you.

**LuAnn Staul** and the Service Committee

## Community Action Appreciation

Dear People of St. Andrew,  
On behalf of Community Action, please accept our sincere thanks for your generous in-kind donation of 75 \$50 Winco gift cards for our Healthy Families program. These gift cards were a big help to the families we serve, especially during this holiday season.



Your partnership with Community Action is bringing hope, help, and change to the thousands of local families who are striving to overcome conditions of poverty and build a safe and secure future for their children. Together we are creating opportunities for families and communities to thrive.

Again, thank you for joining us in our efforts to ensure that all Washington County residents can live with dignity and security. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,  
**Kemp Shuey**  
Executive Director

## How Cool Is That?

Members of St. Andrew's Earth Care Team are getting started on an ambitious agenda for 2022, having just submitted two entries to Interfaith Power & Light's Cool Congregations Challenge. The team applied for Sacred Grounds Steward and Community Inspiration recognition, two of the six categories available.

Although judging doesn't conclude until February, team members marveled at how much they've accomplished since 2019:

- Conducted 15 yard surveys
- Published more than 100 Earth Care articles in our newsletter
- Hosted a congregation and community forum featuring Kristin Ohlsen with representatives from Backyard Habitat and committee members highlighting our work
- Consulted with United Church of Christ, Lake Oswego; provided a tour of our property for United Church of Christ, Waverly; made a presentation to the Pachamama Alliance, etc.
- Presented commentary in forums following the viewing of the documentaries *The Human Element* and *Kiss the Ground*, which were made possible by Interfaith Power & Light

- Inspired Camp Lutherwood to implement additional Earth Care content in their curriculum
- Created an Earth Care informational kiosk for the church
- Performed 5 Soil Garden blessings at the church and members' homes
- Added 2,500 native trees and shrubs to our forested upland with the help of Clean Water Services
- Provided Earth Care children's sermons during Advent and Lent, focusing on carbon storage and native plants
- Added 5 mason bee houses near our Community Garden
- Created a Reformation Earth Garden with the planting of 2 native Oregon white oaks and several other native trees, as well as 80 native shrubs and more than 60 native perennials
- Conducted a congregation survey to evaluate current soil garden practices
- Held our first Earth Care Camp for 30 children 6-11 years old
- Incorporated Earth Care-focused music and liturgy into our weekly worship



If you would like to join the Earth Care Team and do more to protect the planet, contact LuAnn Staul, Eric Luttrell, or Carol Harker.

## Disaster Response for Tornado Victims



Mayfield, Kentucky, in the wake of the storm.

On the night of December 10 and early morning of December 11, an outbreak of at least 30 powerful tornadoes swept through six states, leaving swaths of destruction and dozens of people dead.

Lutheran Disaster Response is collaborating with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod and other partners in the area to assess the damage and develop an immediate and a long-term response plan, sharing hope with our neighbors in their time of greatest need.

If you give electronically, you may now direct funds to Lutheran Disaster Response (a designated fund) on the church website. If you prefer to write a check, please indicate "U.S. Tornadoes" on the subject line. Gifts will be used in full to help people impacted by the tornadoes.

## Highlights from the Finance Team as of 11/30/2021

### Fiscal Year 2021-2022, Report Date 12/14/2021

Thank you for your continued support for the ministries of St Andrew

M&M Giving is 97% of FYTD budget and 78% of monthly budget

Expenses are 92% of FYTD budget

We paid an additional \$4,100 towards the mortgage principal in November

### Monthly Attendance & Giving

Date	In Person	YouTube	Zoom / Call In	Total Service Attendance	M&M Fund Monthly Total	Mortgage Fund Offering
Sunday Average	39	147	69	255		
Monthly Total	311	588	275	1174	\$ 43,154	\$ 14,489
<i>To Meet Budget</i>					\$ 55,342	\$ 12,732

### 3 Main Funds: Current Status

Ministry & Mission (M&M) Fund (AKA "Operating Budget")	FYTD Budget	Actual		The M & M Fund supports the general operations of the church, including worship, education, and office supplies; property maintenance; synod benevolence; staff; and utilities.
		FYTD \$	% of FYTD Budget	
Giving FY 2021-2022	\$ 276,708	\$ 267,472	97%	
Expenses FY 2021-2022	\$ 283,008	\$ 259,852	92%	

Mortgage Fund	FYTD Actual Giving	FYTD Actual Expense	Balance on Hand	Mortgage Principal Balance	Monthly Mortgage Payment
FY 2021-2022	\$ 94,467	\$ 63,660	\$ 80,885	\$ 666,509	\$ 12,732
FYTD Principal Only Payments		\$ 24,310	The Mortgage Fund holds contributions designated to pay mortgage and payments to Capital Campaign (A Hope for All).		

Designated Funds	FYTD Actual Giving	FYTD Actual Expense	Balance on Hand	Designated Funds support many different ministries such as Local Benevolence, Community Garden, WELCA, disaster relief, etc.
Total Designated Funds			\$ 107,015	
PIPE Fund †	\$ 2,345	\$ -	\$ 31,557	
COVID Hunger Relief	\$ 920	\$ 1,600	\$ 393	
Thanksgiving Food Drive	\$ 4,050	\$ 3,759	\$ 3,306	
Christmas Giving Tree	\$ 2,785	\$ -	\$ 3,304	
<b>ECE loan balance from Designated</b>	<b>\$6,272</b>			

† Includes \$9,900 for Wetlands Improvements

YTD figures represent Fiscal Year starting 7/1/2021

#### FINANCE TEAM:

Treasurers: Gretchen Bancroft (Finance Team Chair), Joel Johnson, Linda Sah Olshausen

Financial Secretaries: Brian Cheney, Tammy Piscatelli, Tracie Semenchalam

St Andrew Foundation Treasurer: Luis Falucho

Scout Troop 618 Treasurer: Johanna Au

## In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Family and friends of Nan Thompson	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Staff
Family and friends of Lysie Paul	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Eric Luttrell
Family and friends of Roy Winkel (uncle)	Peace and God's comfort at his death	Susan Werner Reiser
David Kippenbrock (grandfather)	Peace and God's comfort	Rebecca Fako Uecker
Herb	Peace and God's comfort	Sharon Fako
Susan Palo Cherwien	Peace and God's comfort	Michelle Sinn
John Fritz	Peace and comfort	Staff
Aaron Miller	Successful treatment and recovery	Jan Smith & Sue Cahlander
Faith (granddaughter)	Successful treatment and recovery	Judy Heidinger
Barb Zurstadt	Healing and recovery	Jan Smith & Sue Cahlander
Max Lampros (grandson)	Healing and recovery	Liz Andersen
Amy Fiegenbaum	Healing and recovery	Ed and Linda Fransen
Christopher Foss	Healing and recovery	Isaac Brocker
Carlos Sosaguerra	Healing and recovery	Isaac Brocker
Sister Anne Clare Keeler	Healing and recovery	Isaac Brocker
Ron Means	Healing and recovery	Staff
Marcie Welge	Healing and recovery	Allison Katsufraakis
Sam Harker	Healing and recovery	Carol Harker
Dr. Cara Steinkeler	Strength as she supports dying COVID patients and their families	Gary & Gail Grafwallner
Midwest tornado victims	Comfort and assistance as they recover	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	Peace and strength	Staff
All who are imprisoned	Blessings on their work	Staff
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon	Serving with us in the Oregon Synod	Staff
Holy Trinity Catholic Church		Staff
Atonement Lutheran Church (Newport, OR)		Staff
Faith Lutheran Church (North Bend, OR)		
Masjed As-Saber (Portland)	Blessings on our interfaith partners	Staff
Individual friends and loved ones in need of prayer	Whatever they most need: say their names in your heart or aloud	Staff

## Spirituality Book Group News

The Spirituality Book Group will discuss the memoir/novel of Ocean Vuong, *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*, on **Sunday, December 19**. This book achieved much literary praise when it was published in 2019 and was nominated for several book awards.

*"Lyrical...with this book, [Vuong] is creating an account of lives that are at once overlooked and thoroughly American. These days, this feels like a political act."* –Wall Street Journal

We will meet via Zoom, at 3:00 pm on **Sunday, December 19**. The Zoom link will be sent to those on the Spirituality Book Group email list a few days before the meeting. If you would like to attend, contact Mary Smith to get the link, at [dbits1@gmail.com](mailto:dbits1@gmail.com).



## Spirituality Book Group Reading List

### January 23

*The Vanishing Half* by Britt Bennett  
Discussion Leader: Mary Smith

### February 20

*Nomadland* by Jessica Bruder  
Discussion Leader: Carol Horton

### March (TBA)

*West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge  
Discussion Leader: Susan Reiser

## Thanks and a Request

The staff of St. Andrew are enjoying the delicious food gifts that have been brought to the office thus far!

We do have one simple request, however. Please be sure you label any baked goods or foods that may have nuts in them, as at least one of our staff is sensitive to nuts. You don't need to omit any nuts from a recipe, just indicate if they are included. That way, everyone can have a healthy and happy holiday season. And thank you for sharing such tasty treats with us!

## Your St. Andrew Staff

Lead Pastor, Mark Brocker .....	brockerms@standrewlutheran.com
Pastor of Caring Ministries, Susan Kintner .....	pastorsusan@standrewlutheran.com
Min. of Music & Media, Allison Katsufraakis.....	allisonk@standrewlutheran.com
Parish Musician & Deacon Susan Reiser .....	srwerner.reiser@standrewlutheran.com
Children & Youth Minister, Kyler Vogt.....	kvogt@standrewlutheran.com
Seminarian, Karen Klingelhafer.....	kakling@sbcglobal.net
Parish Manager, Carol Harker .....	charker@standrewlutheran.com
Office Assistant, Johanna Land .....	office@standrewlutheran.com
Housekeeper, Carol Hogan .....	503-646-0629
Interim Evening Facility Manager, Scott Taylor .....	503-646-0629
Children's Ministry Host, Donna Brocker .....	503-502-6156
Parish Nurses, Diane Reiner.....	503-201-4222
Tira Nasset .....	503-866-5099

# Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew Lutheran Church

## Sunday, December 19, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 am	Worship with Communion ( <i>masks required</i> ).....	Sanctuary and Livestreamed
10:00 am	Adult Ed: A Journey Towards Anti-Racism, Part 2.....	Fellowship Hall or via Zoom
10:00 am	Adult Ed: The Kairos Hermeneutic .....	Youth Room
10:00 am	Children's Ministry.....	Children's Library
10:00 am	Confirmation.....	Library and via Zoom
10:00 am	High School Youth Group with Adult Ed: The Kairos Hermeneutic.....	Chapel
10:30 am	Virtual Coffee Time .....	via Zoom
11:00 am	Worship with Communion ( <i>masks required</i> ).....	Sanctuary and via Zoom
12:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Time .....	participate via Zoom

## Monday, December 20

6:00 pm	Scout Troop 618 Meeting .....	Fellowship Hall, St. Andrew Room
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## Tuesday, December 21—Weekly News submissions due by 4:00 pm

7:00 am	Sunrise Women.....	Elmer's Restaurant on 158 <sup>th</sup> (1250 NW Waterhouse Ave)
7:00 am	Men's Gathering & Bible Study.....	Elmer's Restaurant on 158 <sup>th</sup> (1250 NW Waterhouse Ave)
10:00 am	Tai Chi .....	Fellowship Hall

## Wednesday, December 22

10:00 am	Yoga Class .....	Fellowship Hall
6:45 pm	Informal Gathering Time.....	via Zoom
7:00 pm	Advent Evening Prayer .....	Sanctuary or via Zoom
7:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

## Thursday, December 23

9:30 am	Seekers of the Heart of God Bible Study.....	St. Andrew Room
12:00 pm	Team Ministry Meeting .....	Chapel/Library
7:00 pm	IT Meeting.....	offsite

## Friday, December 24—Church Office Closed

4:00 pm	Christmas Eve Children's Worship Service.....	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service.....	Sanctuary
10:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service.....	Sanctuary

## Saturday, December 25

11:00 am	Christmas Day Worship.....	Sanctuary
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## Sunday, December 26

8:30 am	Worship with Communion ( <i>masks required</i> ).....	Sanctuary and Livestreamed
10:30 am	Virtual Coffee Time .....	via Zoom
11:00 am	Worship with Communion ( <i>masks required</i> ).....	Sanctuary and via Zoom
12:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Time .....	participate via Zoom



MERRY CHRISTMAS

May you have the gift of faith,  
the blessing of hope, and the  
joy of family.

## Worship at St. Andrew or Connect to Virtual Worship

**8:30 am:** Worship in the Sanctuary or watch the livestream of worship on YouTube. *The link will be sent to you via email and the church app.*



- The same link will bring you to the recording of the service to watch anytime after the livestream ends.
- An audio recording of the 8:30 am service will be available Sunday afternoon by simply dialing **503-643-9416**.



**11:00 am:** Worship in the Sanctuary or participate in worship via Zoom. *The link will be sent to you via email and the church app.*

To participate via Zoom you can use a computer, smartphone, tablet, or a telephone.