

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

November 27, 2022

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

Thanksgiving Devotional



We have many things to be thankful for at St. Andrew. In years past we expressed our gratitude at a Thanksgiving Eve service, but when the pandemic forced changes in so many of our rituals, the worship planners turned to preparing a devotional for people to use during Thanksgiving celebrations at home. This year Pr. Mark has prepared a devotional based on a Thanksgiving worship service in 2014. Digital copies can be downloaded and printed from our [website](#).

Hanging of the Greens

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, December 3**, from 9:00-11:00 am, for decorating the Sanctuary, Narthex, and exterior of the church for Christ. We'll have garlands and wreaths to hang and the Christmas tree to assemble and decorate! Please contact Deacon Susan if you have any questions.



Table Talk: People of Faith in the Wake of Mid-Term Elections

Tuesday, November 29, 7:00-8:00 pm, Fellowship Hall



Table Talk

Gathered around the table in his home, Martin Luther talked freely and openly with his colleagues and students about matters of faith, theology, and varied aspects of daily life. In an effort to cultivate this kind of spirited discussion, Pastor Brocker invites you to gather for a Table Talk in Fellowship Hall at St. Andrew on **Tuesday, November 29, 7:00-8:00 pm**.

On November 29, 2016, almost 30 people gathered at St. Andrew for a conversation in the wake of the election of Donald Trump as the 45th President of the United States. The 2022 Mid-Term election may not seem quite so monumental, but as people of faith it is important to reflect on where we are six years later. How are people of faith being called to respond to the results of this 2022 election? How are we as responsible citizens to engage in the public sphere in 2023 and beyond? What is encouraging? What is concerning?

To prepare for this Table Talk, it would be helpful if each of us identified a couple of questions or issues we would like to address in our conversation. This will be the final Table Talk that Pastor Brocker leads.

Thank You!

I've been blessed over the past eight weeks by numerous prayers, phone calls, cards, and other support as I recover from a broken hip. Thank you, all, for your care and concern!

In Christian love,
Claudia Parsons



RSVP for Brocker Send-off

The time has come to [RSVP](#) for the December 11 dinner and program honoring Pastor Mark & Donna Brocker. **Please respond no later than Saturday, December 3**, to help our caterers and party planners get ready for the big day.

Ernesto's will be preparing our meal, with a vegan option available. Be sure to indicate your dietary needs on the RSVP, as well as any childcare you need for the event.

Plan to attend the Brass Syndicate concert in the Sanctuary beginning at 3:30 pm on December 11 to get in the Christmas spirit. Enjoy the joyous sound of 10-15 talented brass musicians performing the music of the season! It will be the perfect prelude to the party.

Welcome Sunday!

St. Andrew will welcome new members during worship services on **Sunday, December 11, 2022**. We're delighted to already have several people indicating they would like to officially become members in our faith community. If you would like to join them or have questions about membership, please contact Pastor Mark Brocker.



Sharing the Christ in Christmas

Once again, Donna Brocker is coordinating with counselors at Barnes Elementary so that St. Andrew can sponsor about 20 families during this glorious season of expectation and joy.

The Giving Tree will be up in the Narthex soon after Thanksgiving and **gift tags will need to be returned by Sunday, December 11**. Each tag will include

the recipient's name and age. We'll also be providing parents a variety of gift cards so they can shop for their children. This worked wonderfully during the pandemic and parents were so thankful to be able to select gifts for their children, so we want to continue the practice.

This ministry brings cheer to children and parents alike. It also entails providing each family with a WinCo gift card to buy the food they prefer for their holiday meal.

If you'd like to participate, please indicate "Giving Tree" on your check or select the "Giving Tree" option on the church website. Questions? Please call Donna at 503-502-6156.



A Growing Welcome Movement!

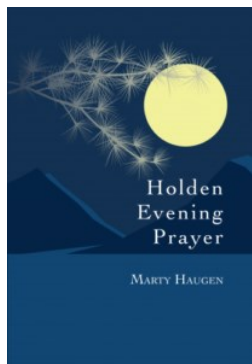


Lutheran Immigrant and Refugee Service (LIRS) has received a \$15 million gift from philanthropist Mac-

Kenzie Scott. This is the largest one-time contribution from an individual in the 83-year history of the organization and will transform immigration services and help fulfill a vision where all immigrants and refugees are protected, embraced, and empowered in a world of just and welcoming communities.

LIRS will put this generous gift to work in accelerating groundbreaking projects, including trauma-informed mental health care and the expansion of holistic Welcome Centers for asylum-seeking families. The record-breaking gift will also support the New American Cities workforce development program and reinforce LIRS's capabilities to care for unaccompanied children with foster care programming and other community-based services.

Holden Evening Prayer for Advent



The theme for meditations during Wednesday Evening Prayer Advent services in 2022 is "Make Ready for Holy Disruption." We'll be using the Holden Evening Prayer "Service of Light" as the liturgy.

Four members of the congregation will be providing contemplative meditations during the midweek series:

- November 30:** Susan Kintner (Breathing)
- December 7:** Ruth Nickodemus (Releasing)
- December 14:** Karen Klingelhafer (Receiving)
- December 21:** Allison Katsuftrakis (Rejoicing)

Wednesday Evening Prayer is scheduled at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary, with rehearsals for the Bells of Grace and Sanctuary Choir adjusted for the season of Advent.

Food for Memorial Reception

If you'd like to contribute finger food for the memorial reception St. Andrew is hosting for our beloved Suzanne Warnes next Friday, please sign up at the Coffee Bar. Volunteers are also needed for set-up and take-down. Thank you!



Memorial Service for Suzanne Warnes

Friday, December 2, 2022
2:00 pm
Sanctuary

Reception to follow
in Fellowship Hall.

Stock Transfer Donation Process for Tax Year 2022

Greetings from the Financial Secretaries of St. Andrew. As the end of the calendar year approaches, we want to inform you of the process for donating stock to the church.

Contributions must actually be paid before the close of the year to be deductible in 2022. Therefore, please allow at least 3 weeks or more for the completion of the transfer. **Please start the process as soon as possible.**

We ask you to take the necessary steps if you intend to donate stock to St. Andrew this tax year:

1. Download the Stock Transfer Form found on our church website or contact the church office.
2. Contact your brokerage firm to initiate an electronic transfer of securities (see form for instructions/details). **PLEASE NOTE: We cannot do this for you.**
3. Complete the form including your intentions for the use of the donation and email a copy to tammychef15@gmail.com. You may instead send a copy to the church office marked *confidential for Financial Secretaries*. **This form must be turned in at the beginning of the process. Without this form, we cannot complete your request.**
4. Upon receipt of the form, Tammy Piscitelli will be in contact with you regarding the progress of the electronic stock transfer to the church's securities firm, Charles Schwab.

Thank you for your generosity to the Mission and Ministry of St. Andrew.

Tammy Piscitelli, 503-307-8837, tammychef15@gmail.com

On behalf of the Financial Secretaries and the Finance Team

Adult Education Class

Join liturgical artist Greg Lewis, who designed the St. Andrew Chapel, for three weeks in December as he explores possibilities for establishing sacred spaces in our homes. The class begins at 10:00 am on **Sunday, December 4**, in Fellowship Hall.



All Are Invited!

Whether you've been involved for decades or are just getting to know the St. Andrew community, you are invited to come to the party in honor of Pastor Mark & Donna Brocker. [Please RSVP](#) for **Sunday, December 11**, now and join in wishing the Brockers Godspeed as Mark prepares to leave his 17-year ministry with us.



And, if you enjoyed the sounds of brass in the Sanctuary on Reformation Sunday, be sure to attend the concert beginning at 3:30 pm that afternoon. The Brass Syndicate is a gang of 10-15 talented brass musicians who perform beautiful music for all audiences. The instruments include trumpets, trombones, French horns, euphoniums, and tubas. Let the rafters ring as we prepare for a joyous Christmas!

Send-off Dinner & Program

Honoring Pastor Mark & Donna Brocker

Sunday, December 11
5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall

Childcare provided. Vegan option available. Freewill offering.
Please RSVP no later than December 3.



Plan to come early to experience the joyous sounds of the season.
3:30 pm, Brass Concert of Advent & Christmas music in the Sanctuary.

CLIMATE CORNER:

Aquamation for a Greener Afterlife

Adapted from an article written by Gemma Alexander,
Earth911, November 9, 2022

Death is just one point on the circle of life and dying sustainably takes just as much mindful planning as living sustainably does. Most people avoid thinking about death, but modern death care practices make funerals a tradition with some rather deadly environmental impacts. Fortunately, more sustainable options like aquamation are becoming easier to access, so environmentalists can rest a little easier now about how sustainably they are going to rest in peace later.



Conventional Death Care: In most places, regulations for death care don't leave a lot of room for the environment. Humans are no longer allowed to decompose six feet underground in a natural pine box. Modern burial requires the use of toxic, persistent chemicals for embalming. Caskets use the wood from four million square acres of forest each year. More than 1.5 million tons of concrete are used to construct burial vaults, while 104,000 tons of steel and 2,700 tons of copper and bronze are used in burial materials. All told, burials result in 178 tons of carbon dioxide emissions yearly. About 827,000 gallons of formaldehyde-based embalming fluid leak into the soil and groundwater annually.

Cremation is better for the environment. Bodies are typically stored in cardboard rather than wooden caskets before burning. In the U.S., crematoriums are required to use filtering systems that remove pollutants such as the mercury in dental fillings. But burning still uses a lot of energy. Crematoria are usually powered by nonrenewable natural gas, a greenhouse gas. Although better than a traditional burial, each cremation still produces as much CO₂ as a flight from London to Rome, for a total of about 360,000 metric tons of CO₂ emissions each year.

There are some eco-friendly options for natural burials. A few states have even begun to allow human composting. Washington was the first to legalize it followed by Colorado, then Oregon. California may be next.

Aquamation: Initially developed in an agricultural context in the late 20th century for disposing of deceased farm animals, aquamation was then used by research institutions for human remains that had been donated to science. Aquamation has been commercially available in several states since 2011, including Washington and Oregon. But it has only recently received public attention after the body of Archbishop Desmond Tutu was aquamated early in 2022. Aquamation, like composting or cremation, is a method of rapid decomposition. Both methods use heat; composting uses the heat naturally generated by decomposition, while cremation uses powerful furnaces. But aquamation, as the name suggests, takes place in a liquid solution.

Sometimes described as "water cremation," aquamation is a chemical process called alkaline hydrolysis, which dissolves the body. Although chemical dissolution sounds more horrifying than ecological, it's no more gruesome than burning. The body is placed in a container with a liquid solution made of potassium hydroxide (aka lye) and water and heated to 300° F, a fraction of the 1,200° F required for cremation.

What Remains of the Remains? The chemical reaction leaves behind only bone fragments and liquid. The resulting liquid is a sterile combination of salts, sugars, amino acids, and peptides in water, with no residual tissues or DNA. This liquid can be safely discharged with wastewater. The remaining bone fragments can be heat dried or allowed to dry naturally to save energy. Then they are pulverized using the same method that follows heat cremation. Families can claim these "ashes" just as they can for cremains. Aquamation "ashes" will require a larger container than ashes from cremation, but will have a finer, brighter white appearance. All told, aquamation is estimated to have ¼ the carbon footprint of cremation. Aquamation is often considered a gentler process because medical devices like pacemakers (which can explode inside a furnace) do not have to be removed from the body before aquamation.

Aquamation Options: Aquamation is legal in most states, including Washington and Oregon. It is defined as a form of cremation and most providers are crematoria. Contact the Cremation Association of North America for more details. Where aquamation is available, costs average around \$3,500, placing it between the lower costs of cremation and the higher costs of burial.

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Family Promise



Thanks to all who have supported St. Andrew's commitment to Family Promise in 2022. We have one more opportunity to help this year. There are a number of families who have graduated from the program who could use a little Christmas cheer. We will be sponsoring one of these families. This will involve purchasing two gifts for each member of a family, one want and one need. There are funds available for reimbursement. We will be receiving more information in the following week. If you are interested in participating, please contact Beth Johnson.

Cars for Success at St. Matthew

Do you have a vehicle you no longer need? Our neighbor congregation, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, has a Cars for Success program that provides used cars in good condition to low-income people who are employed and would benefit from having a car to travel to work and attend to the needs of their children.

To donate a car to Cars for Success or to request more information, please call Bob Brown, a member of the St. Matthew committee overseeing the program, at 503-459-1001 or email him at carbobb8225@gmail.com.



A car can be donated whether it's running or not and will then be evaluated at a car shop. Donated vehicles go to one of three places: after any needed repairs, they're donated to an eligible family; they're sold by Cars for Success to

support the repair of other cars; or, if they are too expensive to repair, they're sold at an insurance auction. A car recipient never knows who has donated the vehicle.

In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Stan Svisend (family friend)	Comfort as death nears	Pat Hilliker
Amy Marks and Family	Peace and comfort	Judy Scholz
Gary Link	Healing and recovery	Ginny Link
Brenna Vogt	Healing and recovery after a car accident	Staff
Hallie (friend)	Comfort and healing	Rebecca Uecker
Carol Hogan	Comfort and healing	Staff
India Jensen Kerr	Help and discernment regarding health issues	India Jensen Kerr
Victims of gun violence	Comfort and support	Staff
People experiencing homelessness	Adequate shelter and protection	Staff
All those traveling for the holidays	Safe journeys	Staff
Those facing ongoing illness or distress	Healing and assurance of God's presence	Staff
Tandy Brooks, Dave Bumgardner, Vic Claar, Sabrina Garrison, Gary Grafwallner, Ian MacDonald, Gary Magnuson, Gerald Jensen, Hugh Mason, Brian McKiernan, Carl Means, Doug Morrell, Corky Poppert, Jolie Reyna, Peggy Smith, Shane Throckmorton, Gary Tubbs, Megan Webber		
Bishop Elizabeth Eaton	Wisdom and discernment	Staff
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	Blessings on our ministry	Staff
Taiwan Lutheran Church	Strength and wisdom	Staff
Grace and Mercy Lutheran (Umatilla, OR)	Serving with us in the Oregon Synod	Staff
Grace Lutheran (Vale, OR)		
Masjid Abu Bakr (Portland, OR)	Blessings on our Interfaith Partners	Staff
Individual friends and loved ones	Whatever they most need	Staff

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

If you know anyone from St. Andrew who needs a Eucharistic minister or would benefit from a monthly visit or phone call, please contact Chaplain India Jensen Kerr at india@standrewlutheran.com or 503-860-5377.

Help Meet the Match for Climate and Racial Justice



EcoFaith Recovery develops leaders who organize their communities to advance climate justice and racial justice. Leaders from the St. Andrew faith community have participated in and directly benefited from EcoFaith initiatives. Now EcoFaith invites us to further advance climate justice by helping EcoFaith meet a \$3,000 matching grant on new and increased donations.

Your contribution will help EcoFaith advance leadership development with initiatives such as the [Just Vote](#) campaign, an internship program that has hosted 37 young adult and seminary interns to date, and EcoFaith's [Eloheh Indigenous Earth Justice](#) partnership. Learn more by visiting ecofaithrecovery.org or [donate now!](#)

Earth and all of creation thank you for helping EcoFaith meet the match and advance climate justice!

Giving Statements

If you have an email address in the St. Andrew database, you have received an email invitation with a unique password so that you can review your giving at any time. Please look at your giving history for 2022 now so that any issues can be corrected before late January, when you'll want to print out your statement as part of tax preparation.

If you have questions, please contact Tammy Piscitelli, a Financial Secretary, at tammychef15@gmail.com.

Your St. Andrew Staff

Council President, Barton Robison	317-695-9722
Lead Pastor, Mark Brocker	brockerms@standrewlutheran.com
Parish Chaplain, India Jensen Kerr	india@standrewlutheran.com
Deacon Susan Reiser, Parish Musician and Interim Minister of Music	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
Bookkeeper, Karen Mallari	bookkeeper@standrewlutheran.com
Housekeeper, Carol Hogan	503-646-0629
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 Nesset	503-866-5099

Preparing for Next Sunday Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19

Matthew 3:1-12

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 27

8:30 am	Worship with Communion	Sanctuary and Livestreamed
10:30 am	Virtual Coffee Time	via Zoom
11:00 am	Portland Taiwan Lutheran Worship	Chapel
11:00 am	Worship with Communion	Sanctuary and via Zoom
12:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Time	via Zoom
12:30 pm	Taiwanese Church Fellowship Gathering	Children's Commons

Monday, November 28

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

7:00 am	Men's Gathering and Bible Study	Elmer's Restaurant on 158 th (1250 NW Waterhouse Ave)
7:00 am	Sunrise Women.....	Elmer's Restaurant on 158 th (1250 NW Waterhouse Ave)
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm	Bridge Group.....	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Table Talk: People of Faith in the Wake of Mid-Term Elections	Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, November 30

10:00 am	Video-led Yoga	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	Bells of Grace Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Wednesday Evening Prayer Advent Service	Sanctuary
7:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Thursday, December 1

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	Executive Council Committee Meeting	St. Andrew Room

Friday, December 2

10:00 am	T'ai Chi	Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm	Memorial Service: Suzanne Warnes	Sanctuary

Saturday, December 3


9:00 am	Hanging of the Greens	Sanctuary/Narthex
9:00 am	Nifty Notters	Fellowship Hall


Sunday, December 4

8:30 am	Worship with Communion	Sanctuary and Livestreamed
9:30 am	Taiwanese Lutheran Church Bible Study.....	Chapel
9:45 am	The Roots.....	Children's Commons & Library
10:00 am	Adult Ed: Sacred Space in the Home.....	Fellowship Hall
10:00 am	Confirmation.....	Library
10:00 am	High School Youth Group	Youth Room
10:30 am	Virtual Coffee Time	via Zoom
11:00 am	Portland Taiwan Lutheran Worship	Chapel
11:00 am	Worship with Communion	Sanctuary and via Zoom
12:00 pm	Virtual Coffee Time	via Zoom



Worship at St. Andrew or Connect to Virtual Worship

 **YouTube** **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.* Use the same link to see a recording of the service anytime after the livestream ends.

 **zoom** **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.