

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

November 26 , 2023

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
12405 SW Butner Road, Beaverton, OR 97005

Worship Service:
Sunday, 9:30 am

www.standrewlutheran.com ■ Telephone: 503-646-0629

Barnes School Christmas Giving Tree— The Tradition Continues



The Service Committee is excited to continue our annual support of families at Barnes Elementary School at Christmas. The Christmas tree in the Narthex has gift tags with the recipient's name and age or a request for a retailer gift card. You may also support our efforts by donating online or by writing a check with Christmas Giving Tree in the tag line.

Gifts and gift cards must be returned to the church by **Sunday, December 10**, so we have time to deliver them to the school before winter break. Donated funds will also be used to provide each of 20 families with a WinCo gift card to buy food for a holiday meal. This is a wonderful opportunity to share Christ's love with those in need; please consider contributing.

MACG Leadership Institute for Public Life Training Coming Soon

St. Andrew is experiencing a critical time as we make the transition to new pastoral leadership. We are blessed to have a solid base of strong lay leaders, but we can accomplish more when we have more people to guide our various ministries. This IAF-based Leadership Training is designed to empower leaders like you and create new leaders with the skills and knowledge needed to make a real impact within St. Andrew and the broader community. The skills you learn will be valuable in your life both inside and outside of the church community.



Please join us for two sessions on **Sunday afternoons: December 3 and 10**, from 1:00-5:00 pm, at Bethel Lutheran Church in NE Portland. This institute is free to us because we are members of MACG. For more information, and to register for this exciting opportunity, click on this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/mra7dvxe>.

If you have questions, please talk with a member of the MACG Core Team: Gretchen Bancroft, Larry Bliesner, Pat Christiansen, Lynn Santelmann, Jan Smith, or Scott Taylor.

Baby Rose



The rose on the altar today celebrates the miraculous birth of Melody Lisa Marie Krause, grandchild of Lee Anne Knapp. Melody arrived early, weighing only 4 pounds, 1 ounce, but was able to go home after only 24 hours in the hospital. Congratulations!

Blue Christmas

Even the glorious news of Christ's birth cannot lighten our hearts when we've experienced a great loss or are suffering from depression. While many around us are singing carols ("Joy to the World," "I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve," and others), we are simply trying to maintain some sort of equilibrium to see us through the day. It's not easy being sad when others are filled with so much joyful anticipation.



If you are feeling down this Christmas for any reason, big or small, please join Sister India in the Chapel on **Friday, December 1**, at 7:00 pm for a Blue Christmas worship service.

Adult Ed: Do Black Churches Matter?

In the ELCA, do black churches really matter? What are some of the struggles they face? Pastor Lenny Duncan spoke to bishops, church leaders, and members across the country for two videos titled *Do Black Churches Matter in the ELCA*. Beginning at 11:00 am on **Sunday, December 3**, join Sister India in Fellowship Hall to discuss ways we might better support our siblings in Christ. This is a three-week class.



The Season of Advent



In just a week, we'll enter the season of Advent, the beginning of the Christian calendar. One might expect that the year would begin with the heralding of trumpets on Easter, the sweet softness of Christmas Eve, or the fires of Pentecost.

But, on the contrary, we begin in the shadows of despair, war, sorrow, and hate. For it is precisely there that the God of grace will arrive. It is precisely there that God's church is called to light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love. As the Christian new year begins, we join hands and enter the darkness, actively waiting, singing, and praying anew for God's light to overwhelm the world.

On the Wednesdays of Advent, we'll hear meditations on the themes of:

- December 6:** Pause (Lee Anne Knapp)
- December 13:** Prepare (Steve Christiansen)
- December 20:** Ponder (LuAnn Staul)

The 30-minute worship service will begin at 7:00 pm in the Chapel and will also be available via Zoom.

Stock Transfer Donation Process for Tax Year 2023

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

Contributions must actually be paid before the close of the year to be deductible in 2023. Therefore, please allow at least 3 weeks or more for the completion of the transfer. **Please start the process as soon as possible. The deadline is Friday, December 8, 2023 for it to be included in the 2023 tax year.**

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). **We cannot do this for you.**
3. Complete the form including your intentions for the use of the donation **and** email a copy to financial_secretary@standrewlutheran.com.

If you prefer, you may 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, and the sale of the stocks you've donated to St. Andrew.

On behalf of the Financial Secretaries and the Finance Team, thank you for your generosity to the Mission and Ministry of St. Andrew.

Tammy Piscitelli
SALC Financial Secretary

Financial_Secretary@standrewlutheran.com

(with an underscore **not** a dash)

Homes Needed for Guinea Pigs



Nel, granddaughter of Bob & Mary Brown, is moving soon and needs to find good homes for her six sweet guinea pigs. Mary says the animals are used to being handled and are very tame. If you're interested in taking one or two or all, please contact Mary Brown at 503-297-1841.

Life Beyond Breakup: Collective Healing

Do you have an interest in a support group for those healing from divorce or challenging breakups. Bring your authentic self with all your hurt, confusion, hope, and wisdom to share as we work through the healing steps based on the book *Rebuilding When Your Relationship Ends*, by Drs. Bruce Fisher and Robert Alberti.

"Grieving Loss—A Role for Anger" will be the topic of our next meeting on **Saturday, December 16, 2023**, at Cedar Hills United Church of Christ, 11695 SW Park Way, Portland, OR 97229, 10:00 am—12:00 noon in the Duncombe Room.

For more info, visit:

<https://lifebeyondbreakup.com/> or <https://tinyurl.com/mt5va5tx>



Advent and Christmas Schedule

Blue Christmas, December 1

For anyone dreading the season
7:00 pm—8:00 pm, Chapel



SoulCollage®, December 9

An Adult Education workshop with Sister India
1:00 pm—4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall



Wednesday Evening Advent Services

7:00 pm, Sanctuary

December 6: Pause

December 13: Prepare

December 20: Ponder

Christmas Eve Intergenerational Worship, December 24

9:30 am, Sanctuary

Cookie Decorating after Christmas Eve Worship, December 24

11:00 am, Fellowship Hall

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, December 24

9:00 pm, Sanctuary



Christmas Day Worship, December 25

Pre-recorded on YouTube and available starting at 11:00 am

(Search YouTube for "St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Beaverton, Oregon.")



Christmas Eve Details

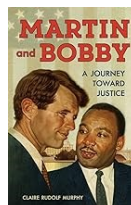
We will celebrate the birth of Jesus with two services on **Sunday, December 24.**

9:30 am: Festive service of Readings and Carols. Come hear the cherished story of Christ's birth told in new ways and sing your favorite carols. This service with Communion will be very child-friendly and a meaningful way for people of all ages to worship Christ the newborn king. We will gather after the service to decorate (and eat!) Christmas cookies together. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**



9:00 pm: Traditional Christmas Eve candlelight service with Holy Communion. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

New Library Books



Non-Fiction

Rest Your Dreams on a Little Twig, by Joyce Rupp &

Barbara Loomis

Martin and Bobby: A Journey toward Justice,

by Claire Rudolf Murphy

Undelivered: the Never-Hard Speeches that Would

Have Rewritten History, by Jeff Nussbaum

Fiction

A Tale for the Time Being, by Ruth Ozeki
Gallant, by V.E. Schwab



Climate Corner

Residential Food Scrap Collection

From the Washington County Master Recycler Class.

Being able to add your food waste to your yard waste bin (also called curbside composting) is relatively new around here. You can include all food scraps, including bones and shells, in your yard waste rolling cart along with yard debris.

Who can compost curbside? See below –

Clackamas County

Lake Oswego
Milwaukie
Wilsonville

Multnomah County

Portland

**Gresham and Wood Village have a community compost cart that folks can sign up for and drop off their materials.

<https://greshamoregon.gov/compost>

Washington County

Beaverton
Cornelius
Durham
Forest Grove
Gaston
Hillsboro
King City
North Plains
Sherwood
Tigard
Tualatin

Beginning October 1, 2023, Unincorporated Urban Washington County is included, too. And my daughter, who lives in Vancouver, can also add her food waste to her yard waste bin.

The life cycle of your food scraps. The food scraps and yard debris travel from your curbside to a local commercial compost facility where it is transformed in only 60 days into a nutrient-rich soil amendment. The average household composts 1,000 pounds each year! The finished compost can then be purchased for use in gardens and on farms.

What can you include?

- Yard debris such as weeds, grass clippings, small branches (not large branches), garden waste, and house plant clippings.
- Food scraps such as meat, seafood, bones, eggshells, cheese, bread, grains, beans, produce, coffee grounds, plate scrapings and spoiled food. Make sure you keep the bin outside with the lid closed to control odor, especially if your yard waste gets collected every 2 weeks.
- Other things such as food-soiled paper napkins, paper towels, coffee filters and tea bags, and pizza boxes.
- BPI-certified compostable liners (not regular plastic bags).

What can you **not** include?

- Plastics, compostable tableware and utensils, pet waste, diapers, takeout containers or wrappers, paper plates, paper cups, cartons, or anything that belongs in your recycle bin.



If you don't want the hassle of making your own compost, remember that you can now add food waste to your yard waste bin. Check the counties and cities listed above to see if you're included.

Keep the kitchen pail clean. Keep a small kitchen compost container/pail in a convenient place in your kitchen. (I have an extra one if anyone wants it.) Line it with a BPI-certified compostable liner; you need to take it out to the yard bin frequently before food scraps start to break down. Or if you don't want to buy the compostable bags, you can wash your kitchen pail, sprinkle baking soda in the bottom of the pail, and keep it lined with newspaper or a brown paper bag.

Keep the yard waste rolling cart clean. Keep the lid closed. Set it out weekly if possible. Line the bottom with newspaper or paper bags. Use soap and water to clean your cart. Pour the dirty water onto the grass or gravel, not down the storm drain.

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

As if to Demonstrate an Eclipse

by Billy Collins

I pick an orange from a wicker basket
and place it on the table
to represent the sun.
Then down at the other end
a blue and white marble
becomes the earth
and nearby I lay the little moon of an aspirin.



I get a glass from a cabinet,
open a bottle of wine,
then I sit in a ladder-back chair,
a benevolent god presiding
over a miniature creation myth,

and I begin to sing
a homemade canticle of thanks
for this perfect little arrangement,
for not making the earth too hot or cold
not making it spin too fast or slow

so that the grove of orange trees
and the owl become possible,
not to mention the rolling wave,
the play of clouds, geese in flight,
and the Z of lightning on a dark lake.

Then I fill my glass again
and give thanks for the trout,
the oak, and the yellow feather,

singing the room full of shadows,
as sun and earth and moon
circle one another in their impeccable orbits
and I get more and more cockeyed with gratitude.

When gathered around the Thanksgiving table, most people offer up family and friends when asked what they're thankful for. But former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins takes a cosmic view – enjoying it with some wine and becoming “more and more cockeyed with gratitude”!

Do you remember Julie Andrews singing about “a few of her favorite things”? What would you put on your list?

“As if to Demonstrate an Eclipse” is reprinted from SALT's weekly email to subscribers.

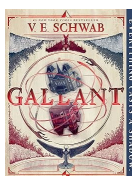


In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Friends and family of Mary DiMento (Liz Andersen's daughter)	Comfort and strength at her death	Sister India
Family of Imogene Kippenbrock	Comfort and strength at her death	Rebecca Uecker
Friends and family of Anna Wessel	Comfort and strength at her death	Rebecca Uecker
Friends and family of Nic Ferraro (Diane Bancroft's father)	Comfort and strength	Gretchen Bancroft
Friends and family of Kathy Jennings (friend)	Comfort and strength at her death	Rhonda Powell
Pastor Laurie Newman & her parents	Healing and comfort on the anniversary of her brother's death (Lance)	Staff
Cordelia Vogel	Healing and comfort	Cleo Bradshaw
Warren McAlpine	Healing and recovery from surgery	Donna McAlpine
Mary Brocker	Healing and recovery from surgery	Staff
Randy Sinn	Healing and recovery from surgery	Michelle Sinn
Cleo Bradshaw	Healing and recovery	Cleo Bradshaw
Individual friends and loved ones	Whatever they most need	Staff
All those who are caregivers for a loved one	Strength and support	Staff
All who are affected by war and conflict	Protection, safety, and comfort	Staff
Those confined to their homes	Assurance of God's presence Dave Bumgardner, Jean Fredrickson, Tara Harper, Marlene Maxwell, Dorothy Moore, Ethel Ritchey, Helen Rogers, Sharon Roth	Staff
Portland Public Schools, educators, the union, and board	Resolution of differences	Staff
All who are imprisoned	Peace and strength	Staff
Peace Lutheran (Pendleton)	Serving with us in the Oregon Synod	Staff
Ecumenical and interfaith partners in ministry	Blessings on their work	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.

Gallant, by V.E. Schwab



This is a strange book; you will find it in the young adult section, and in it you will find ghouls. Not ghosts, mind you, but ghouls, a very different sort of creature, as the book is quick to point out. Are they dangerous? Well, no, they don't seem to be; actually they seem to be rather helpful, in a vague sort of way. But are they the main characters in this book? Well, no, I can't say that they are, though they play a rather large role – so don't forget what they are.

The main character is, if not an orphan, certainly as abandoned as if she were, and, more to the point, since she will turn 16 soon, soon to be homeless. The school/orphanage keeps no-one beyond that age—they are sent out to rise or fall, get a job, or become a statistic. It doesn't much matter.

The girl has a journal kept by her mother in which probably the most understandable thing

is that she should never go to Gallant, whatever and wherever that is. However, the orphanage/school has a letter requesting her and there willy-nilly she will be sent, all warnings and requests be hanged. And so she goes.

Gallant turns out to be a house, but is it the fine house it first appears; is she truly welcome here? Are these people the relatives she never knew she had? Who sent the letter? The house has more ghouls even than the orphanage; was it one of them? And why, if her mother did not want her to be there?

The answer is not what I expected.

Pam Farr
Adult Librarian

Your St. Andrew Staff

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Housekeeper Carol Hogan.....	503-646-0629
Evening Facility Caretaker Scott Taylor	503-646-0629
Parish Nurses Diane Reiner	503-201-4222
Tira Nessel.....	503-866-5099

Preparing for Worship

First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 3,

Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7,17-19
Mark 13:24-37

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 26

9:30 am	In-Person Worship with Communion (also livestreamed on YouTube and via Zoom).....	Sanctuary
9:30 am	Portland Taiwan Worship Service.....	Chapel
10:45 am	Taiwanese Lutheran Fellowship Gathering	Chapel

Monday, November 27—Church Office Closed;

9:30 am	Transition Team Meeting	St. Andrew Room
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Tuesday, November 28

7:00 am	Men's Gathering and Bible Study	Elmer's Restaurant on 158th (1250 NW Waterhouse Ave)
7:00 am	Sunrise Women	Elmer's Restaurant on 158th (1250 NW Waterhouse Ave)
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm	Bridge Group	Fellowship Hall
12:15 pm	Earth Care/Community Carbon Leadership Meeting	Library
6:30 pm	Scout Troop 198	Children's Commons

Wednesday, November 29 Weekly News deadline at 4:00 pm; submit material to charker@standrewlutheran.com

9:00 am	Hanging of the Greens.....	Sanctuary, Narthex, Portico
1:00 pm	Wednesday Book Group with India.....	St. Andrew Room
6:00 pm	Bells of Grace Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

Thursday, November 30

9:30 am	Seekers of the Heart of God Bible Study	St. Andrew Room
10:00 am	Strength and Stability with Susanne.....	Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Wing Chun Class	Children's Commons

Friday, December 1

10:00 am	Tai Chi.....	Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Bridge Group	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Blue Christmas Worship	Chapel

Saturday, December 2

9:00 am	Nifty Notters	Fellowship Hall
3:00 pm	Reading English Study Group	St. Andrew Room

Sunday, December 3

9:30 am	In-Person Worship with Communion (also livestreamed on YouTube and via Zoom).....	Sanctuary
9:30 am	Portland Taiwan Worship Service.....	Chapel
10:45 am	Taiwanese Lutheran Fellowship Gathering	Chapel
11:00 am	The Roots	Children's Commons, Children's Library, LL Classrooms
11:00 am	Adult Ed: do Black Churches Matter in the ELCA.....	Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm	Twirlers Meeting	St. Andrew Room
1:00 pm	Twirlers Practice	Fellowship Hall

Council Update

At its November meeting, the Council named three new members to fill vacancies on the Congregation Council. The Nominating Committee, consisting of Teri Brosh, Sharon Fako, Pam Farr, Ken Reiner, and Cindy Stadel, identified three individuals to fill partial terms.

Larry Bliesner will complete Becky Lamboley's first term, which ends in June 2024; Ken Reiner will complete Laura Geczy-Haskins' second term, also scheduled to end in June 2024; and Mickey Nearhood will complete Sue Lee's first term, which is scheduled to end in June 2025.

In other business, the Council elected a new vice president, Cindy Stadel, to fill the position vacated when Liz Hardy became president.

Many thanks to all those who serve the congregation through their leadership on the Council. As St. Andrew moves into a new phase in the process of calling a Lead Pastor, this is a particularly exciting time to be in the thick of things.

In other business, the Council approved the Lead Pastor Job Description created by the Transition Team and the Ministry Site Profile, both of which have been submitted to the Synod. Copies of these documents will be emailed to the congregation, some hard copies will be available in the Narthex, and the documents will also be shared on the church website.

Worship



9:30 am: Worship in the Sanctuary, watch the livestream of worship on YouTube, or participate in worship via Zoom. *Links for remote worship will be sent to you via email and the church app.*



People participating in worship via Zoom are invited to join worship at 9:30 am. To participate via Zoom you can use a computer, smartphone, tablet, or a telephone. Please note that Zoom worship is only available at 9:30 am. Anyone using YouTube for livestream worship may access the service at 9:30 am or any time after the livestream ends.