

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

December 24, 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

Advent Devotional: The Dawn Chorus

The congregation is invited to enrich the season of Advent with a new devotional from SALT. Pick up "The Dawn Chorus" at the entrance to the Sanctuary and initiate a weekly devotion as we prepare for the birth of the Christ child. The devotional comes in two parts: a booklet and a sheet of ornaments to cut out and decorate.



Week four of Advent
Hen of Love

Once again, the creators at SALT give us a new perspective on an age-old tradition. What can we learn from our fellow creatures who begin their day by bravely singing into the dark? The cardinal, bluebird, sparrow, hen, and dove each represent one of the themes of Advent and remind us that we're all God's creatures.

Christmas Eve we light the four candles and the Christ candle. The Mourning Dove is the fifth and final bird for this advent season. Now that you have all five birds cut out and on your tree (the cardinal, the bluebird, the sparrow, the chicken, and the dove) pray this prayer:

- * God of light and wings, we pray for everyone who feels discouraged. Help us become cardinals of hope for a weary world.
- * God of light and wings, we pray for everyone who suffers in the midst of conflict. Help us become bluebirds of peace for a war-torn world.
- * God of light and wings, we pray for everyone who's overwhelmed by sorrow. Help us become sparrows of joy for a broken-hearted world.
- * God of light and wings, we pray for everyone who's hurt by hate. Help us become brave roosters and hens who tenderly, fiercely fight for love.
- * God of Mary and Joseph, angels and shepherds, thank you for coming to live with us, for gathering us together under your wings. Thank you for Christmas! Help us become birds of a feather with you and with our neighbors, near and far. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Christmas Eve
Mourning Dove

St. Andrew's Wednesday Book Group

Wednesday Book Group with Sister India will be discussing the book *Watching Myself Be Borderline: A Smart Sufferer Says How It Started and How She Survives* by our very own Janet Vorvick. The group meets in the St. Andrew Room on Wednesdays, 1:00-2:30 pm



Note: There will not be a meeting this Wednesday December 27. The book group will resume on **Wednesday January 4.**

New Year's Eve Pinochle Party Is BACK!

After a COVID-induced hiatus of three years, St Andrew pinochle enthusiasts will be meeting once again at the home of Don and Mickey Nearhood on...wait for it!...**Sunday, December 31!** We'll gather at 7:00 pm to greet and eat and begin playing promptly at 7:30 pm. The cost is minimal (\$1.00 per person) and you have the chance of going home the winner of BIG BUCKS!



With only 24 slots on the registration board in the Narthex, it's important that people sign up ASAP! Only one name per line and indicate if you will be bringing finger foods or dessert. Non-alcoholic drinks will be provided. You may bring your own if you have a particular favorite. (Champagne and sparkling

cider for the New Year's toast will be provided by your hosts.) You'll find the Nearhoods at 11045 SW Berkshire St; call them at 503-644-0972 if you need directions or you have questions. **PLEASE NOTE: Due to Mickey's seafood allergies, please do not bring any food containing fish or shellfish.** Thank you!

Job Openings at St. Andrew

St. Andrew is currently advertising for two part-time positions: Evening Facility Caretaker and an Interim Keyboardist.

The Evening Facility Caretaker completes custodial work, light maintenance duties, and security for the building and grounds weekday evenings. In addition, this position provides a welcoming environment for those using the facility in the evenings.

Applicants for the Interim Keyboardist position are not required to be proficient on the organ. Instead, the church is looking to identify someone to provide piano accompaniment for Sanctuary Choir during Wednesday night rehearsals and twice a month on Sunday mornings. The person will also serve as the keyboardist for one Sunday worship service each month. This 10-hour-per-week position is expected to continue through May 31, 2024, with the possibility of extension.

If you know of qualified individuals who might be interested in this position, please direct them to

<https://standrewlutheran.com/job-openings/>

for complete job descriptions and information on how to apply

Merry Christmas

St Andrew Mission Site Profile - Programs

The Mission Site Profile (MSP) provides key information for the synod and prospective pastors about St. Andrew and our community. In the Vision and Mission section of the MSP, we are asked to describe our congregation's current mission and ministry programs and use our core values to describe our programs. This provides a robust view of St Andrew as a thriving Christian community.

God Care - The foundation of our Ministry encompasses Worship, Music, and Christian Education. Worship is offered in person, via Zoom, and live-streamed. The Minister of Music position is currently vacant and will remain so until a new Lead Pastor has accepted a Call. Our Christian Education Programs include Adult Education; The Roots, for elementary-age children; Confirmation, a three-year program for Middle School youth; the High School Program supported by the Director of Next Generation Ministry; and adult and children's libraries.

Earth Care - Our Earth Care Team supports initiatives that educate and support others in making positive changes for the planet. Many members serve as faculty and support the annual Children's Earth Camp. The team also sponsors an annual Earth Care Fair.



Neighbor Care - The Service Committee leads initiatives that provide food, clothing, and housing support to the local community. They are also responsible for the distribution of a percentage of St. Andrew Ministry and Mission funds to support local non-profits. The Sanctuary Team works through Lutheran Community Services to sponsor an Afghan refugee family. The Nifty Knotters make quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR), the community, and our graduating seniors.



Community Care - St. Andrew is a longtime supporter of LWR. During our biennial drives, we collect and

assemble health kits and school kits for distribution by LWR. We are also the distribution collection site for the regional biennial donations. We are a Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good (MACG) member. Our own MACG committee has supported community organizing leadership training, community efforts to reduce healthcare disparity, and member fellowship events. We began hosting a Head Start program in our preschool space in September 2023. The St. Andrew Foundation supports internal and community ministry, including scholarships to graduating seniors.

Self-Care - Pastoral care is led and coordinated by the Parish Chaplain, an ordained Deacon. Member volunteers provide Eucharistic Ministry. We offer many self-care activities for members and the community, with weekday Tai Chi, exercise, and yoga offerings. The Spirituality Book Group meets monthly to examine works of fiction and nonfiction through a spiritual lens. The Health Ministry Team is available for support with any struggles members are having with mental or physical medical conditions.

We recognize that we may have missed important volunteer and fellowship groups in this summary, and we apologize for any omissions. Please let us know what we missed so we can share it with pastoral candidates during the interview process.

The Call Committee:

Steve Christiansen, Allison Katsufarakus, Mike McDowell, Amy McQueen, Tom Mehlhorn, Jan Smith, Mary Smith, LuAnn Staul

Wrestling with God: Encountering the Divine in the Hebrew Scriptures

Sister India is one of the instructors offering an eight-week Zoom course beginning January 4, 2024 through the Oregon Synod Lay School of Theology. Like Jacob wrestling with the Divine, class participants will grapple with texts.

What wisdom can we wrestle from these texts to help us live more faithfully? What might we learn, and what might we need to unlearn? We'll explore names and images for God, including female imagery for the Divine, and offer ways to use this imagery in our spiritual practices. This course will provide opportunities for relationship-building, critical thinking, and spiritual practice.



Presented by Sister India Jensen Kerr (St. Andrew Lutheran, Beaverton), Pr. Jesse Christopherson (Milwaukie Lutheran) and Pr. Emerson Remy Remmers (Grace, Corvallis). **Eight Thursdays, January 4-February 22, 6:30-8:00 pm on Zoom.**

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/v7cr9sw9>.

New Paraments

During the Christmas Day worship, Pastor Laurie will bless the beautiful new paraments commissioned by the Altar Guild for St. Andrew. Portland liturgical artist Bryan Paatz designed and stitched the pieces, which are made of silk and decorated with gold threads applied by hand. Now located in the back of the Sanctuary.



Paatz developed his career as a liturgical artist out of his love of sewing, a talent cultivated by his mother and grandmother. Textile art suits him because it combines art, sculpture, religious symbolism, and history.

The pieces echo the colors at the very top of Eleanor van de Water's iconic tapestry, providing a lovely transition between the Sanctuary carpet and her work. As a side note, Bryan knew Eleanor so it's appropriate that this project brings their artistry together in one place.



Nurturing Conversations

Start off 2024 right by taking a moment now to reserve your place at the table Monday evenings in January. Tira Nasset, Parish Nurse, will host "Nourishing Conversations," dinners and conversation rooted in St. Andrew's core values of Self-Care, Earth Care and Community Care.

Beginning **Monday, January 8**, and continuing through **Monday, January 29**, individuals and families, young and old, are invited to gather in the St. Andrew kitchen starting around **5:00 pm** to begin food prep. Tira will discuss the benefits of plant-based, whole food eating patterns for our health, the health of our planet, and social justice. She will share recipes that can easily be incorporated into our individual meal planning. After working together to create our dinner, we will sit down at table together about 6:00 pm to eat and strengthen our relationships through conversation with one another.

Watch for more details to be revealed in the newsletter in the coming weeks. This course is sponsored by the Adult Education, Earth Care, Health Ministries, and Social Justice teams.

Save the date – MACG game gathering!

The MACG Core Team is organizing another game gathering, on **Sunday, January 21**, from **1-3 pm**. You can bring your own lunch and stay here after worship and Education Hour or return at 1:00 pm. Join us as we play board games, card games, or whatever type of games you like. We will have some games here for you to choose from, but please feel free to bring a favorite game from home. You can also bring a snack to share. Whether you are newer to our community or a charter member, this is a great way to connect with others in a low-pressure and fun atmosphere. Any questions? Contact any member of the MACG Core Team: Gretchen Bancroft, Larry Bliesner, Pat Christiansen, Lynn Santelmann, or Jan Smith



Andy's Room: St. Andrew's First Podcast

The second episode of St. Andrew's brand new podcast, Andy's Room, will be available on Friday December 22! Andy's Room is created especially for the people of St. Andrew, hosted and created by our Director of Next Generational Ministry, Kyler Vogt. A focal point of this podcast is amplifying the voices of younger members of our congregation.

In this episode, Kyler has a conversation with Pastor Laurie all about Christmas. You can access Andy's Room on Spotify by searching Andy's Room Podcast, or you can use the link below.



For those curious about the title: aside from being somewhat of a homonym with St. Andrew, Andy's Room is a reference to the Toy Story movie series. While the movies follow the stories of the toys, their stories shed light on the transitions going on in the life of Andy, the child to whom they belong: leaving his childhood home, growing up, going off to college, etc. The hope for this podcast is in the same vein—that through hearing the thoughts/stories of individuals we learn more about who we are as a whole and where God is calling us to go. I hope you enjoy it!

<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/kyler-vogt>

Say NO to Junk Mail and Phone Books

Tired of filling your recycling container with mail you never even opened? I am!

Metro's "Stop Junk Mail" webpage provides postcards and contacts to notify marketing firms that you want to stop their mailings. You can also get a kit from the Metro Recycling Information Center by calling 503-234-3000.

Here are some tips to reduce junk mail:

- Contact catalogs and companies that send unwanted mail directly. Please give the name and address exactly as it reads on the envelope.
- When unwanted mail comes with a postage-paid envelope, use the envelope to return the mailing label along with a written request to remove your name from the organization's mailing list.
- Ask organizations you've donated to and anyone who sends you a bill not to sell or exchange your address.
- If you move, directly contact everyone yourself instead of submitting the post office change of address form.
- Don't submit product registration cards.
- Don't use a store's buyer's club card when making purchases.
- Avoid participating in sweepstakes or contests unless you are able to prevent your information from being shared.
- List only your telephone number in your local directory, or choose to be unlisted.
- You can also visit Metro's "Opt out of phone books" webpage to find contacts to opt out of delivery.



Copied from Metro's Master Recycler Handbook, page 2:8:13

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

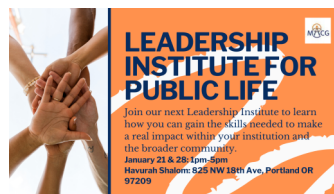
MACG

Leadership Training Institute

Register HERE:

<http://tinyurl.com/3ww6e8by>

St. Andrew is experiencing a critical time as we make the transition to a 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 will learn will be valuable in your life both inside and outside of the church community.

Please join us for two sessions, both on Sunday afternoons: **January 21 and January 28**, from **1-5 pm**, at Havurah Shalom in NW Portland. This institute is free to us because we are members of MACG. For more information, click on this link

<http://tinyurl.com/387eht9c>

Questions? Talk with any member of the MACG Core Team: Gretchen Bancroft, Larry Bliesner, Pat Christiansen, Lynn Santelmann, or Jan Smith.

Havurah Shalom
825 NW 18th, Portland OR 97209

In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Jennifer Trom Weiss	Healing and comfort from fall	Gretchen Bancroft
Kristie Herder	Healing and comfort	Margaret Herder
James Vogt (father)	Healing and comfort from recent back injury	Kyler Vogt
Dave & Ramona Kinash	Healing and comfort from Covid	Sister India
Anjilyne Dutt	Healing and comfort from surgery	Tracie Semenchalam
Family of Claris & Corky Poppert	Comfort and strength at their death	Pastor Laurie Newman
Patricia Santelmann	Comfort and peace	Lynn Santelmann
Aubrey (Lydia's friend)	Comfort and peace	Martha Ragan
Mary Broucker and Family	Comfort and peace	Staff
Individual friends and loved ones	Whatever they most need	Staff
People in Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine	Protection, safety, and comfort	Staff
People in Prague	Comfort and peace	Staff
Those facing ongoing illness or distress	Healing and assurance of God's presence	Staff
	Tandy Brooks, Bob Brown, Dave Bumgardner, Vic Claar, Hal Douglas, Sabrina Garrison, Gary Grafwallner, Gary Magnuson, Hugh Mason, Carol Means, Doug Morrell, Jolie Reyna, 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
Zion (Port Orford)	Serving with us in the Oregon Synod	Staff
Zion (The Dalles)		
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, email office@standrewlutheran.com, or fill out the prayer request form on the church website.

EcoFaith Recovery Matching Grant Opportunity

EcoFaith Recovery develops leaders who organize their communities to advance climate justice and racial justice. Leaders from our own 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 \$13,478 end of year fundraising goal. Currently, EcoFaith has \$4597.85 left to meet the match on new and increased donations. Every dollar helps us get closer!

Your contribution will help EcoFaith advance leadership development initiatives such as the

- [Electrify Everything Campaign](#), the 37 young adult and seminary interns hosted to date, and
- EcoFaith's [Knowing the Land: Seeking Repair with her People initiative](#).
- Learn more at ecofaithrecovery.org or [donate now!](#)

EcoFaith Recovery

For the Recovery of Life and the Healing of Creation

Thank you for advancing climate justice leadership through EcoFaith!

Candy Cane Poem

Look at a candy cane.
 What do you see?
 Stripes that are red like the blood
 shed for me.
 White is for my savior
 who's sinless and pure.
 "J" is for Jesus, my Lord
 that's for sure!
 Turn it around
 and a staff you will see
 Jesus, my shepherd
 Was born for me!



Your St. Andrew Staff

Council President Liz Hardy president@standrewlutheran.com, 360-632-4900
 Interim Pastor Laurie Newman.....laurienewman@standrewlutheran.com
 Sister India Jensen Kerr india@standrewlutheran.com
 Deacon Susan Reiser, Parish Musician and
 Interim Minister of Music.....srwerner.reiser@standrewlutheran.com
 Dir. of Next Generational Ministry Kyler Vogt.....kvogt@standrewlutheran.com
 Parish Manager Carol Harker.....charker@standrewlutheran.com
 Administrative Assistant Rhonda Powelloffice@standrewlutheran.com
 Bookkeeper Karen Mallaribookkeeper@standrewlutheran.com
 Housekeeper Carol Hogan..... 503-646-0629
 Evening Facility Caretaker 503-646-0629
 Parish Nurses Diane Reiner 503-201-4222
 Tira Nessel..... 503-866-5099

Preparing for Worship

1st Sunday in Christmas
Sunday December 31 9:30 am
 Isaiah 61:10 -62:3
 Psalm 148
 Galatians 4:4-7
 Luke 2:22-40

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Sunday, December 24

- 9:30 am **In Person Christmas Eve Intergenerational Worship with Communion (also livestreamed and via Zoom)** Sanctuary
- 9:30 am Portland Taiwan Worship Service.....Chapel
- 10:45 am Taiwanese Lutheran Fellowship GatheringChapel
- 10:45 am Cookie Decorating after Christmas Eve Worship..... Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 pm **In Person Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**Sanctuary

Monday, December 25—Church Office Closed

MERRY CHRISTMAS

- 11:00 am **YouTube prerecorded Christmas Day Worship** LiveStream

Tuesday, December 26

- 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

Wednesday, December 27 **Weekly News deadline 4:00 pm**; submit material to charker@standrewlutheran.com & office@standrewlutheran.com

Thursday, December 28

- 9:30 am Seekers of the Heart of God Bible StudySt. Andrew Room
- 10:00 am Strength and Stability with Susanne..... Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 pm Wing Chun Class Children’s Commons
- 7:00 pm IT Meeting Offsite

Friday, December 29

- 10:00 am Tai Chi..... Fellowship Hall

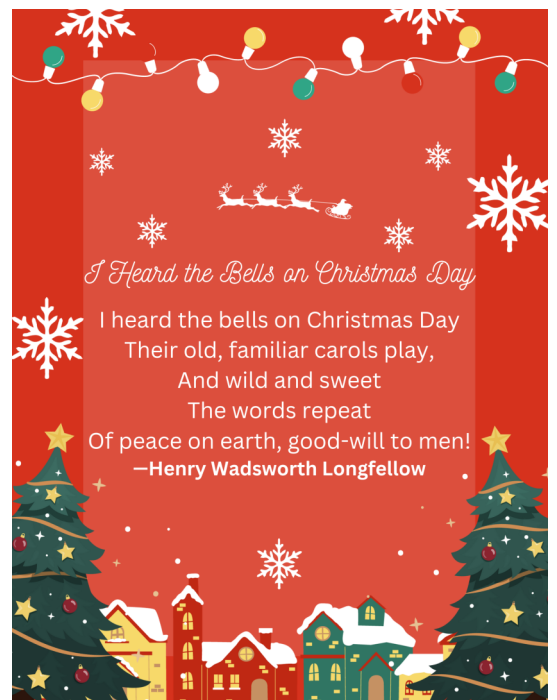
Saturday, December 30

Sunday, December 31

- 9:30 am **In-Person Worship (also livestreamed and via Zoom)**Sanctuary
- 9:30 am Portland Taiwan Worship Service.....Chapel
- 10:45 am Taiwanese Lutheran Fellowship GatheringChapel



On a table in the Narthex, there is a Christmas box.
In that box, there are ribbons with jingle bells attached.
Please grab one on your way into the Sanctuary on
Sunday. We will all make a joyous noise together.



Worship at St. Andrew or Connect to Virtual 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.