

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

December 20, 2024

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

Worship Service:
Sunday, 9:30 am

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

Christmas Worship Service Schedule

We will have two opportunities for worship on Christmas Eve this year. Our 4:00 pm Service of Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight will be a festive worship experience for people of all ages! The service will include telling the nativity story, singing our favorite carols, Holy Communion, and will end with the traditional candle lighting. Children attending this service will receive a Christmas Bag with activities for them to do during worship. The bags will include an activity booklet that they can color, as well as stickers to place on the pages of the booklet. They will also have jingle bracelets they can "ring" while we sing, a heart to place in the offering plate, and an ornament to put on their Christmas tree at home.



The service at 9:00 pm will be a traditional service with lessons, a Christmas message, beloved carols, Holy Communion, and candlelight. Pre-service music begins at 8:45 pm and will feature organ, piano, flute, marimba, the Sanctuary Choir, and the Bells of Grace handbell choir.

Please note: There will be no live worship service on Christmas Day. Rather, we invite you to watch our Christmas Eve services on our website on Christmas Day, or at any time during the following week.

Christmas Eve 9:00 pm Candlelight Service Singing Opportunity

Singers of all ages are invited to join the Sanctuary Choir on **Tuesday, December 24**, at the 9:00 pm Candlelight Service. The choir will be singing two anthems that evening. One is *The Friendly Beasts* and the other is an arrangement of *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*. You don't have to be a regular member of the Sanctuary Choir to join us. There will be a rehearsal opportunity for these pieces in the Sanctuary following worship on **December 22**. Rehearsal will end by 11:00 am so you can attend the education class that morning. A final rehearsal is scheduled for Christmas Eve at 8:00 pm, preceding the worship service. Please see Deacon Susan if you are interested and to receive a copy of the anthems in advance.



New Member Sunday

Our next New Member Sunday is scheduled for **January 19!** If you are considering the possibility of joining St. Andrew, please contact Pr. Allison. She would love to get to know you, give you an overview of the St. Andrew community, and answer any questions you have. If you have already been oriented to the church and are ready to join, please notify Pr. Allison so she can add you to the list!



Mortgage Match Challenge



Good news! We have a generous donor who has stepped forward to match donations up to \$50,000 to pay down the balance on our church mortgage!

- * Current mortgage balance: \$210,445
- * Funds on hand: \$39,607
- * Current shortfall: \$170,838

If we are able to raise the full \$50,000, we will receive \$50,000 from our donor, which would bring our mortgage shortfall to only \$70,838! If you would like to contribute to this mortgage match challenge, please indicate this on your check or on your giving envelope. You may also give online by visiting our website at standrewlutheran.com/give. Please select "Mortgage Match Challenge" in the dropdown menu. Thank you for your support!

St. Andrew Does the Good that Is Ours to Do

Over the last month the people of St. Andrew generously provided more than 65 store gift cards, six boxes of diapers, dozens of books, and 20 WinCo \$75 gift cards for 20 Barnes School families. These gifts will make Christmas special for some of the neediest in our community.



Barnes Elementary School has a diverse student population with 66% of the students being Hispanic and 21% White; those of two or more races and African Americans each make up 4% of the student population. More than 65% of Barnes students qualify for free or reduced lunch. Thank you for sharing your love and Christmas Spirit.

Furoshiki Fabric Gift Wrapping

Adapted from article originally written by Debbie Chapman, April 2024

Ah, Christmas. The most magical time of the year, but also the most wasteful. The food waste, unwanted gifts, and tons of unwanted packaging that barely fit into the recycling bin can be overwhelming with the sheer amount of consumption and waste. On top of this, gift wrapping is also wasteful.

Furoshiki Wrapping is the traditional Japanese art of wrapping packages in fabric. It is super easy and very decorative. All you need is a square piece of fabric; the fabric needs to be about 3-5 times larger than the box. Once gifted, it can be used again and again by either yourself or the recipient of the gift. This is a truly waste-free wrapping method. You can embellish the package with flowers, greenery, cinnamon sticks, or anything you can think of. Visit onelittleproject.com/furoshiki-gift-wrapping, or search online, for videos of Furoshiki fabric gift wrapping ideas. And on top of that, it's fun to do!

Instructions:

- Cut a square piece of woven (not stretchy) fabric 3-5 times larger than the box you are wrapping.
- Place the square fabric wrong side up with a corner facing you, like a diamond shape.
- Place your gift box in the center with one of the sides of the box facing you; the sides of the box will face the corners of the fabric.
- Fold the bottom corner up and over the top of the box and tuck it under the box on the side opposite you.
- Fold the top corner down toward you and tuck it in under the side of the box closest to you.
- On the sides, fold the fabric in and pinch it together, holding it toward the box.
- Tie the tails together on top of the box, and secure with a double knot.
- You may embellish as you wish. Make a paper gift tag. And voila, you have a beautifully wrapped gift!



Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Bookkeeper Job Opening

St. Andrew has an open position for a part-time hourly bookkeeper to work on-site. For details, please visit standrewlutheran.com/job-opening. Interested applicants should email a cover letter and resume to Parish Executive Carol Harker at charker@standrewlutheran.com.



Minister of Music Search Team Update

A Search Team for a new Minister of Music has been instituted by the Church Council. Members of the team include: Robert Hawthorne (chair), Clay Gustafson, Christina Mantey, Chuck Weswig, Gretchen Bancroft, and Pr. Allison Bengfort. The team began meeting in November and is currently developing a job description for the position. When the position is posted, the team will alert the congregation that it is ready to receive applications. Please pray for this team in its discernment and upcoming search.



New Books in St. Andrew Library

“Check out” these new titles in our Adult Library:

Non-fiction

- *Empire of the Summer Moon: Quanah Parker and the Rise and Fall of the Comanches, the Most Powerful Indian Tribe in American History* by S. C. Gwynne
- *Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians* by Austen Hartke
- *I Lived to Tell the World: Stories from Survivors of Holocaust, Genocide, and the Atrocities of War* by Elizabeth Mehren
- *Drought-Tolerant Plants: Waterwise Gardening for Every Climate* by Jane Taylor
- *Yoga: The Iyengar Way* by Silva, Mira, and Shyam Mehta
- *The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity* by Julia Cameron
- *The Handy Weather Answer Book* by Walter A. Lyons, Ph.D.
- *Creation Myths: Man's Introduction to the World* by David Maclagan

Fiction

- *Black List* by Brad Thor
- *The Midnight Line* by Lee Child
- *Long Road to Mercy* by David Baldacci
- *Edge of Battle* by Dale Brown
- *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* by Christy Lefteri
- *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn
- *Island of the Mad* by Laurie R. King
- *Oxygen: A Novel* by Carol Cassella



Nourishing Conversations

Are you wanting to make wiser food choices as you enter the upcoming new year? Tira Nessel—one of our Parish Nurses—will again offer “Nourishing Conversations” on the four Monday evenings in January. Individuals and families, young and old, are invited to gather in the St. Andrew kitchen to food prep for a shared meal, during which Tira will discuss the benefits of plant-based, whole food eating patterns for our health, the health of our planet, and social justice for all. She'll share recipes that can easily be incorporated into our individual meal planning. After working together to create our dinner, we'll sit down at table to eat together and strengthen our relationships through conversation with one another. More information including times and topics will be announced in the coming weeks, and a sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex so you can indicate you'll be attending.



In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Family and friends of Barbara Ludwig (sister-in-law)	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Lee Anne Knapp
Pastor Katherine Brick and family	Peace and God's comfort at the death of her mother	Gretchen Bancroft
Bettye Eldridge	Peace and comfort	Sister India Jensen Kerr
Joshua Kingsley (boyfriend)	Healing and recovery	Pastor Allison Bengfort
Stacy Mann (daughter)	Healing and recovery	Jerry EntriKin
Arden Tarum	Successful cataract surgery	Sister India Jensen Kerr
Helen Rogers (mother)	Stabilization of sight/macular degeneration	Charlene
Sister Katie (deaconess)	Comfort and strength	Sister India Jensen Kerr
Adam (partner of Sr. Katie, listed above)	Comfort and healing	Sister India Jensen Kerr
Individual friends and loved ones	Whatever they need	Staff
All those who are caregivers for a loved one	Strength and support	Staff
Those facing ongoing illness or distress Tandy Brooks, Bob Brown, Dave Bumgardner, Vic Claar, Sabrina Garrison, Gary Magnuson, Hugh Mason, Rhonda Powell, Jolie Reyna, Jennifer Shaw, Donna Szopko, Shane Throckmorton, Gary Tubbs, Megan Webber	Healing and assurance of God's presence	Staff
Bishop Elizabeth Eaton	Wisdom and discernment	Staff
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	Blessings on our ministry	Staff
Taiwan Lutheran Church	Strength and wisdom	Staff
Immanuel Lutheran (Silverton)	Serving with us in the Oregon Synod	Staff
Trinity Lutheran (Silverton)		
Fir Lawn Lutheran (Sweet Home)		
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.

Neighborhood Climate Canvassing

This year, our Community Organizing Team (formerly MACG Team) is joining with the Earth Care Team to organize around climate justice issues. We would like to get to know the people who live in the neighborhood around the church, find out how climate changes are impacting them, and consider how we might work together on climate-related issues.

In order to do this, we invite you to join us **Sunday, January 12**, at 12:15 pm for our first Neighborhood Climate Canvas. We will begin downstairs in Children's Commons with lunch and a brief training on canvassing provided by climate resilience community organizers from the Sacred Organizing Coalition. Then we will courageously set out in pairs to knock on doors and meet our neighbors! The afternoon will conclude with a group debrief at church, ending at 3:30 pm. If you care about our Earth home and would like for St. Andrew to develop more connections with the neighborhood, please join us for a memorable afternoon!



Making Ends Meet

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to help St. Andrew's administrative assistant Rhonda Powell and her family meet life's expenses while she continues to undergo cancer treatment. To learn more, please visit gofund.me/d9a92c15.



Emergency Pastoral Care

Sunday and Monday, contact
Sister India Jensen Kerr

Friday and Saturday, contact
Pastor Allison Bengfort

At other times, please call the
church office at 503-646-0629.

St. Andrew Contacts

Council President Liz Hardy president@standrewlutheran.com, 360-632-4900
Lead Pastor Allison Bengfort.....pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com
Sister India Jensen Kerr india@standrewlutheran.com
Deacon Susan Reiser, Church Musician and
Interim Minister of Music srwerner.reiser@standrewlutheran.com
Dir. of Next Generational Ministry Kyler Vogt..... kvogt@standrewlutheran.com
Parish Executive Carol Harker charker@standrewlutheran.com
Administrative Assistants Martin Mills office@standrewlutheran.com
Rhonda Powell office@standrewlutheran.com
Parish Nurses Diane Reiner 503-201-4222
Tira Nessel..... 503-866-5099

Preparing for Worship

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Luke 2:10
Isaiah 9:2-3
Psalm 126:1-3
Isaiah 55:12-13
Luke 2:41-52

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, December 20

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 21

9:00 am Nifty Notters Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 22

9:30 am Worship Sanctuary, livestream, and via Zoom

9:30 am Portland Taiwan Worship Service Chapel

10:30 am Choir Rehearsal for Candlelight Service Sanctuary

10:45 am Taiwanese Church Fellowship Gathering Chapel

11:00 am Adult Ed: Civic Life & Faith Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 23—Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 24—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com & charker@standrewlutheran.com

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

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service of Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight Sanctuary, livestream, and via Zoom

8:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

8:45 pm Special Music before Candlelight Service Sanctuary

9:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Sanctuary, livestream, and via Zoom

Wednesday, December 25—Church Office Closed

Thursday, December 26—Church Office Closed

10:00 am Strength + Stability with Susanne Fellowship Hall

10:30 am Nature Gazing with Susanne Sanctuary of the Firs (subject to change)

6:30 pm Wing Chun Class Children's Commons

Friday, December 27—Church Office Closed

Saturday, December 28

Sunday, December 29

9:30 am Worship Sanctuary, livestream, and via Zoom

9:30 am Portland Taiwan Worship Service Chapel

10:45 am Taiwanese Church Fellowship Gathering Chapel

Church Office Schedule Changes for Holidays



In observance of the Christmas and New Year holidays, the Church Office will be closed beginning on **December 25** and will remain closed to the public through **January 1**. We will resume normal business hours in the new year beginning **Thursday, January 2**. For Pastoral Care emergencies while the office is closed, you may contact Sister India Jensen Kerr. A new edition of Weekly News will still be published on the Friday after Christmas. As such, submissions must be received by 4:00 pm on **Tuesday, December 24**. Have a merry Christmas!

NOTE: Please disregard this notice only if you have already made arrangements for your group to meet during this time.

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 may use a computer, smartphone, or tablet. Please note that Zoom worship is only available at 9:30 am.