

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

December 27, 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

Nourishing Conversations

Popular last year, Nourishing Conversations returns on Monday nights in January 2025. Beginning on **January 6**, from 5:00-7:00 pm, we will gather to cooperatively prepare a healthy meal, join together to eat and talk, and then clean up together. This is an opportunity to be introduced to plant-based, whole food cooking, but even more, a chance to be together and get to know each other better. All are welcome! Please sign up in the Narthex each week so adequate preparations can be made. Contact Tira Nessel for more information.

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 St. Andrew to develop more connections with the neighborhood, please join us for a memorable afternoon!

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.



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.

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're able to raise the full \$50,000, we'll 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!

Doing the Good that Is Ours to Do:

Community Warehouse Donation Drive

2025 begins in just a few days and that means it's time for the Service Committee's Community Warehouse donation drive—a January tradition here at St. Andrew. Your donations of clean linens, kitchen ware, and other items can help transform a house into a home for people in need in our area.



The purple bins will be available in the Narthex beginning on **Sunday, January 12** and continuing through **Sunday, February 2**, so begin going through your cupboards and linen closets to identify items you no longer need or use.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

How to Recycle Batteries & Why We Should

Single-use batteries are everywhere; we use them to power remote controls, computer mice, wall clocks, digital scales, toys, hearing aids, and so much more. With a steel shell, a brass pin collector in the middle, manganese dioxide and carbon cathode, and a zinc anode, single-use batteries are not very complicated. Steel is extremely recyclable and the other components can also be readily reused. It's important to reuse and recycle these non-renewable materials to conserve the resources our Earth provides for us.



Why not just put them into the trash?

How many times have you gone to change an old battery and found it to be corroded? The stuff in batteries may be volatile or hazardous. If mishandled, batteries can explode, especially if they get overheated or compressed as they do in a garbage truck or in a transfer station. They cause fires in garbage trucks, recycling trucks, transfer stations, and recycling facilities.

As a way to reduce the number of garbage and recycling truck fires, there is a growing trend for recycling facilities to accept batteries. I have not found specific data, but, anecdotally, managers of several waste management companies are seeing fewer truck fires since they have started accepting batteries in curbside recycling.

As we have all seen with corroded batteries, they do leak. That leakage seeps into the ground, contaminating soil and water. In California, it's illegal to put batteries into the trash.

Why recycle single-use batteries?

Because not only are they hazardous, but they also contain valuable materials that can be reused to make new product or batteries themselves. The materials used to make batteries are non-renewable and we should reuse those materials instead of sending them to the landfill. Reusing and recycling materials does take energy, but has less carbon footprint than mining for virgin materials.

Common types of single-use batteries used at home:

- Alkaline: the most common type of battery, found in flashlights, TV remotes, clocks, toys, etc. These are the AAA, AA, D, C, and 9-volt batteries.
- Button cell: commonly used in hearing aids and watches. These are also choking hazards for small children.
- Lithium single-use: found in cameras, watches, remote controls, handheld games, and smoke detectors. These sometimes have a special shape for the product they power.

How to recycle single-use batteries.

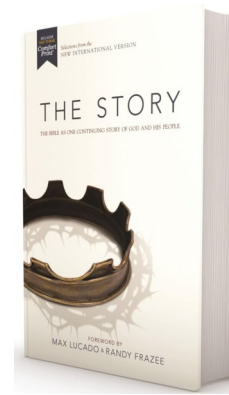
Start by checking with your hauler to see if they take batteries. Most in Washington and Multnomah counties do. Haulers accepting single-use batteries for recycling usually require you to put the batteries in a quart-size zip-lock bag and place it in your glass recycling bin on top of the glass. In addition, some retail stores such as Best Buy, Home Depot, Lowes, and Office Depot take them. Since small button batteries are used in watches, key fobs, and hearing aids, many jewelers, car dealers, and audiologists will also take them. Batteries + Bulbs takes them for a nominal fee. But best of all for us at St. Andrew, we can recycle our batteries at church! This is because those of us still allowed to have Ridwell can put them in our Ridwell box. Look for the red battery containers on the cart in Fellowship Hall.

The bottom line is to keep batteries out of the landfill.

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

New Nonfiction in St. Andrew Library

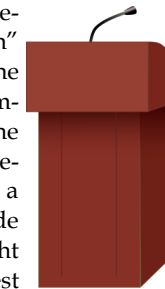
"Check out" these new titles in our Adult Library:



The Rocks Don't Lie: A Geologist Investigates Noah's Flood by David Montgomery
The Four Vision Quests of Jesus by Steven Charleston
The Story: The Bible as One Continuing Story of God and His People by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee
When God Whispers Your Name by Max Lucado
Dear Heart, Come Home: The Path of Midlife Spirituality by Joyce Rupp
Making It So: A Memoir by Patrick Stewart
Indian Legends of the Pacific Northwest by Ella E. Clark

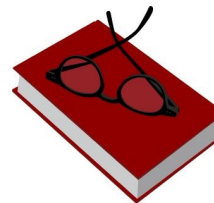
Announcements in Worship

The Worship Planners have decided to try something new for the "Our Ministry and Mission" portion of the worship service beginning in the new year. Instead of having congregation members come forward to share announcements, the presiding minister will make all the announcements on behalf of the community. If you have a request for a particular announcement to be made in worship, please email Pr. Allison by midnight the evening prior to worship to make your request (pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com). For the sake of time, Pr. Allison will prioritize the requested announcements, share those that are most pressing, and refer the congregation to Weekly News for other updates.



Book Report on *Lost at Sea* by Teri Brosh

I have to say, each time she writes a book, she gets even better. This one is fun and a fast read. You can hardly beat that. Brosh writes about the same two gangsters she has before. They remain the same delightful stooges they have been in previous books (may that never change). She also has Jacob Carlson, her main man, being very prosaic, buying diapers.



But, not so fast: The stooges are in a mine shaft, and Jacob is about to become a hero in a store shooting. There are also, of course, true bad guys, and folks who just want to get even. Finally, she has an airplane crash, a watery grave, and a wild woman not thinking all that clearly. Oh, and there are snakes.

This book moves quickly, and before you can wrap your head around all that's going on, you've reached the end. Read this one snuggled up on a cold winter's night and forget about the chilling rain for a while.

Pam Farr
Adult Librarian

A Prayer for New Year's Eve

Eternal God, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in the new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event that gives us joy forever – the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

-ELW page 63

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
Arden Tarum	Healing and recovery	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
Emmanuel Lutheran (Willamina)	Serving with us in the Oregon Synod	Staff
Immanuel Lutheran (Woodburn)		
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.

Recipe Idea: Vegetarian Enchiladas

I took this dish to the Council Christmas party last week, and it was a hit! There were no left-overs. Those of you who have been St. Andrew members for a long time may remember Darlene Buss; this is her recipe. Enjoy!

Quinoa, Zucchini, and Corn Enchiladas - Makes 4 servings

Most quinoa comes prewashed, and is usually labeled as such. If not, just place in a fine-meshed sieve and rinse thoroughly with running water to remove the bitter coating.

Ingredients

½ cup quinoa, rinsed if necessary	½ teaspoon salt
1 cup water	2 tablespoons canola oil
1 small yellow onion, diced	1 jalapeño, seeded and finely chopped
1 chipotle chili in adobo sauce, minced (optional)	1 clove garlic, minced
2 medium-sized zucchini, cut into ½ inch dice	1 cup corn kernels (thawed if frozen)
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste	3 ½ cups enchilada sauce (28 oz. can)
1 cup shredded Monterey Jack or Pepper Jack	8 flour tortillas (7 inch size), warmed

Instructions

Preheat oven to 375°F. Put quinoa in a small sauce pan with salt and water. Bring to a simmer, reduce heat, and cover. Cook quinoa 10-15 minutes, or until liquid is absorbed. Set aside.

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add onion, jalapeño and chipotle chili if using, and sauté 5-7 minutes more. Add garlic and zucchini and sauté 5-7 minutes more. Stir in corn and cook for another minute. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Stir quinoa into zucchini mixture.

Lightly oil a 13" x 9" baking dish. Spread ½ cup sauce on the bottom. Lay a warmed tortilla on the counter and place 1/3 - 1/2 cup of filling on the tortilla. Roll it up and place in the dish, seam side down. Repeat with the remaining tortillas and filling. Pour remaining sauce over tortillas, cover pan with aluminum foil and bake for 20 minutes. Remove foil, sprinkle cheese over enchiladas, and bake until the cheese is melted and the enchiladas are bubbly hot, 5-7 minutes more. Serve hot. Enjoy!

Happy New Year!
Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

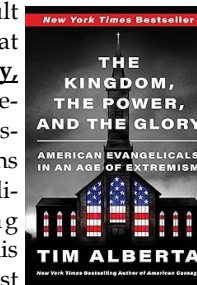
St. Andrew Contacts

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 Nasset 503-866-5099

Christian Extremism:

The Heresy & Its Consequences

In describing his adult education class that will begin on **Sunday, January 5**, Jim Aageson poses this question: "What happens when extremist religion (right-wing Christianity in this case) and extremist politics (extremist right-wing American politics in this case) join hands?" With a new U.S. administration preparing to take office in a few weeks, people will be watching.



Plan to join Jim in Fellowship Hall at 11:00 am next Sunday as he leads discussions based on Tim Alberta's recent book, *The Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory: American Evangelicalism in an Age of Extremism*. As Jim explains, the class will "...examine contemporary Christian heresy and its many consequences," concluding on Sunday, February 2 with a focus on the courage to push back.

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.

Preparing for Worship Sunday, January 5, 2024

Isaiah 43:16-21
Matthew 2:1-12

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

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

Monday, December 30—Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 31—Church Office Closed

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)
 12:00 pm Bridge Group Fellowship Hall
 12:15 pm Earth Care Meeting Library
 7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary

Wednesday, January 1—Church Office Closed—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office & charker@standrewlutheran.com

Thursday, January 2

9:30 am Seekers of the Heart of God Bible Study St. Andrew Room
 10:00 am Strength + Stability with Susanne Fellowship Hall
 10:30 am Nature Gazing with Susanne Sanctuary of the Firs (subject to change)
 1:00 pm Staff Meeting Chapel, Library
 5:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom
 6:30 pm Wing Chun Class Children’s Commons

Friday, January 3

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall
 1:00 pm Stewardship Team Meeting via Zoom

Saturday, January 4

9:00 am Nifty Notters Fellowship Hall

Sunday, January 5

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
 11:00 am Adult Ed: Christian Extremism; the Heresy and its Consequences Fellowship Hall
 11:00 am Confirmation for Middle School Youth Library
 11:00 am High School Youth Group Youth Room
 11:00 am The Roots Children’s Commons, Children’s Library, Lower Level Classrooms


Church Office Schedule Changes for Holidays


In observance of the Christmas and New Year holidays, the Church Office 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. Merry Christmas!

NOTE: You may disregard this notice if you have already made arrangements for your group to still meet during this time.



Worship at St. Andrew or Connect to Virtual Worship

 **YouTube** 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.

 **zoom** People participating in worship via Zoom are invited to join worship at 9:30 am. To participate via Zoom, you may use