

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

December 6, 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

Hanging of the Greens



Please join us this **Saturday, December 7**, 9:00 am to 11:00 am, as we decorate the church for Christmas. We'll have garlands and wreaths to hang, as well as the Christmas tree to assemble and adorn with Chrismons.

A special note to our younger congregants: It's time to pitch in and help our senior members in this joyful preparation for celebrating Christ's birth. Volunteers in their 70s and 80s should not be climbing ladders and would really appreciate your assistance!

Civic Life & Faith: The ELCA's Stance on the Relationship between Church and Politics

In the words of the Rev. Michael Cooper-White, "much of the conflict we experience in the church today is generated by differing views about the proper relationship between church and state, faith and politics." For example, should churches take a stand on political issues or completely steer clear of them? What does it mean for modern Christians to live out their faith in all areas of their lives?



ELCA logo

We each carry our own perspectives on this issue, and as an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) congregation, it is important for us to be aware of our church's social teaching. During this three-week session, Pr. Allison will introduce the ELCA's teaching on this topic. We will learn about the ELCA social message titled, "Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy," as well as the social statement, "Civic Life and Faith," that is currently under development. Please join Pr. Allison on Sundays at 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall beginning **December 8**. You can visit the website: elca.org/faith/faith-and-society/social-messages/government to learn more about this social message.



Anne Newell Memorial Service

Saturday, December 7
2:00 pm, Sanctuary

Reception to follow in
Fellowship Hall.

Spirituality Book Group News

On **December 8**, at 3:00 pm, the Spirituality Book Group will be discussing *The Women*, by Kristin Hannah. For any questions, you can call Mary Smith. All are welcome!

A few words from a review on Goodreads.com:

"*The Women* is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten. A novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism...."

Details:

December 8, 2024

Book: *The Women*, by Kristin Hannah
Discussion Leader: Fran Miller
Hostesses: Dianna Carlson and Fran Miller
Location: Fran Miller's home

Future reading:

January 12, 2025

Book: *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity*, by Robert P. Jones
Discussion Leader: Elaine May
Hostess: TBA

February 23, 2025

Book: *The Last Apothecary* by Sarah Penner
Discussion Leader: Sharon Fako
Hostess: Connie Losk

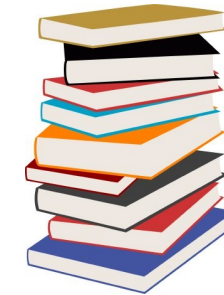
March 16, 2025

Book: *The Ride of Her Life: The True Story of a Woman, Her Horse, and Their Last-Chance Journey Across America* by Elizabeth Letts
Discussion Leader: Mary Smith
Hostess: Sandy Koch

On **April 27**, we will be discussing *The Butterfly Tree* by Woody Woodburn. And on **May 18**, our book discussion will be on *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. Discussion Leader and Hostess for these last two dates will be announced in the new year.

Finally, these books have been selected for reading, but have yet to be assigned monthly meeting dates:

- *The Last List of Mable Beaumont* by Laura Pearson
- *Better Living Through Birding* by Christian Cooper
- *The Longest Road: Overland in Search of America from Key West to the Arctic Ocean* by Philip Caputo
- *The Secret Life of Sunflowers: A Gripping, Inspiring Novel Based on the True Story of Johanna Bonger, Vincent van Gogh's Sister-In-Law* by Marta Molnar
- *James: A Novel* by Percival Everett



Oregon Chorale Concert



The Oregon Chorale is kicking off its 40th year with its holiday concert *Christmas with the Chorale* this **Sunday, December 8**, at 4:00 pm, in the St. Andrew Sanctuary. Tickets may be purchased online before the event at oregonchorale.org/current-season or they may be purchased at the door.

James Recycling Depot Now Open

You may recall that I have written about James Recycling earlier this year. The following is adapted from jshrecycling.com: "James, age 26, was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder at age four. James has found his passion in protecting the environment and the welfare of animals. James Recycling helps James understand the powerful impact that recycling can have and gives him the opportunity to provide customers with a meaningful service. James has overcome many challenges and is an amazing young man."

James Recycling recycles difficult-to-recycle plastics. James Recycling now has a drop-off depot at 5541 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway that is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. They will also be open on **December 14** and **January 11** from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. Other Saturdays will be offered in the new year.



Pop-up events occur monthly at The ARC Portland Metro, 6929 NE Halsey St., Portland, and at Beanstalk Children's Resale Fremont, 3527 NE 15th Ave, Portland. Note that these pop-up events do not take Styrofoam, caps, straws, or utensils. For more details on upcoming events and what will be accepted at them, you can visit jshrecycling.com and click on "Events."

At the drop-off depot, you can recycle:

- * Plastic screw-on and pull-off caps of all sizes
- * Plastic straws and utensils
- * #1 PET plastic, including clamshells and other #1; must not be colored and must have the #1 imprinted
- * #2 HDPE, #4 LDPE, #5 PP, and #6 PS plastic; must have the # imprinted, usually found in a small triangle
- * Empty contact lens blister packs with foil removed
- * Styrofoam (must be clean, dry, and without tape, labels, glue, ink, paint, or food residue; and sorted into categories: For example, packing peanuts, take-out containers, meat trays, egg cartons, and foam blocks must be in separate bags)

Note that the imprinted numbers can be very small and hard to see. You might need a magnifying glass!

Lids, such as ones for yogurt and sour cream, need to be sorted by number. Screw-on caps do not need to be sorted by number. Caps must be taken off of prescription pill bottles.

Fees: James Recycling charges \$3 for each grocery bag of sorted recycling (or similarly sized container) and \$10 per 45-gallon bag of Styrofoam.

If recycling fees pose an economic hardship for you, please reach out to the James Recycling Depot at jshrecycling@gmail.com.

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

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 two rehearsal opportunities for these pieces following worship services on **December 15 & 22** in the Sanctuary; rehearsals will end by 11:00 am so you can attend the education classes those mornings. Please see Deacon Susan if you are interested and to receive a copy of the anthems in advance.

Men's Book Club News

The Men's Book Club will meet this **Monday, December 9**, at 7:00 pm to discuss the book *Facing the Mountain* by Daniel James Brown. Ted Miller will host this discussion at his home.



Future reading:

January 13, 2025

Book: *Voices of a People's History of the United States in the 21st Century: Documents of Hope and Resistance*, by Anthony Arnove and Haley Pessin

Host: Gary Grafwallner

February 10, 2025

Book: *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

Host: Larry Bliesner

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
Advent and Christmas Schedule



Blue Christmas, Saturday, December 14
For anyone struggling with sadness
2:00 pm, Chapel

Christmas Caroling, Sunday, December 15
Bringing joy to homebound congregants
1:00 pm, meet in Narthex



Wednesday Evening Advent Services: Starry Nights
7:00 pm, Sanctuary
December 11: Steve Christiansen, Peace
December 18: Kim Taylor Blakemore, Joy



Christmas Eve, December 24
4:00 pm Service of Lessons, Carols, & Candlelight
9:00 pm Candlelight Service

In Need of Prayers...

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>PRAYERS FOR...</u> | <u>CONTACT</u> |
|---|--|----------------------------|
| Family and friends of Anne Newell | Peace and God's comfort | Staff |
| Family and friends of Evelyn Friesen | Peace and God's comfort at her death | Deacon Susan Werner Reiser |
| Family and friends of Ruth Kerr (mother-in-law) | Peace and God's comfort at her death | Sister India Jensen Kerr |
| Anna (sister) | Healing and inner peace | Casey Tkacz |
| Mary Nell Mahler (step-mother) | Peace and comfort in hospice | Diane Reiner |
| Del Mahler (father) | Peace and strength | Diane Reiner |
| Isabella (housemate) | Mental health recovery | Pastor Allison Bengfort |
| Liz Roscoe (daughter) | Healing and recovery | Deacon Susan Werner Reiser |
| James Vogt (father) | Healing and recovery | Kyler Vogt |
| Pastor Allison Bengfort (daughter) | Blessings on the anniversary of her ordination (12/8/18) | Linda & Scott Bengfort |
| Individual friends and loved ones | Whatever they need | Staff |
| All those who are caregivers for a loved one | Strength and support | Staff |
| St. Andrew Council Executive Committee Staff | Wisdom and discernment | Staff |
| All seminarians and theology students, especially Sister India Jensen Kerr | Encouragement and support | Staff |
| St. Andrew Foundation | Blessings on their ministry | Staff |
| Trinity Lutheran (Dallas) | Serving with us in the Oregon Synod | Staff |
| Faith Lutheran (Keizer) | | |
| Our Saviour Lutheran (Lebanon) | | |
| 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.

Barnes School Christmas Giving Tree

This is the last week for you to provide support this holiday season for the students and families of Barnes Elementary School by selecting a tag from our Giving Tree. We still have a few tags, so if you'd like to give the gift of joy this Christmas to those in need, please pick a tag this Sunday. More information on how this process works is posted on the window behind the Giving Tree in the Narthex. For questions, you can contact LuAnn Staul, Fran Miller, or Linda McDowall. Thank you for sharing your love and your Christmas spirit!



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.



Nifty Notters Schedule Changes

The usual gathering of the Nifty Notters this Saturday is postponed so people can attend the Hanging of the Greens as well as the Newell Memorial. As such, we invite you to join us the following **Saturday, December 14**, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Please note, we'll be wrapping up a little early for this session due to the Blue Christmas Service that afternoon. Then on **Saturday, December 21**, we will resume our normal scheduling of meeting in Fellowship Hall from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. For either of these Saturdays, you're invited to stop by and help out for however long you're able; bring a lunch if you plan to stay the whole day. All hands are welcomed, needed, and appreciated!



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

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, December 15, 2024

Isaiah 58:9b-12
Luke 3:7-16

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, December 6

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 7

9:00 am Hanging of the Greens Sanctuary

2:00 pm Anne Newell Memorial and Reception Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 8

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: Civic Life & Faith 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

12:30 pm Fantasy Football Watch Party Youth Room

4:00 pm Christmas with the Chorale – Oregon Choral Concert Sanctuary

Monday, December 9—Church Office Closed

7:00 pm Finance Team Meeting via Zoom

7:00 pm Men's Book Club Home of Ted Miller

Tuesday, December 10

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)

9:00 am Confirmation Teachers Meeting Library

9:00 am Facilities Management Team Meeting St. Andrew Room

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

12:00 pm Bridge Group Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 11—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com & charker@standrewlutheran.com

1:00 pm Sanctuary Team Meeting Library

1:00 pm Wednesday Book Group with Sr. India St. Andrew Room

6:00 pm Bells of Grace Rehearsal Sanctuary

7:00 pm Mid-Week Advent Worship Sanctuary

7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Thursday, December 12

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 Stewardship Team Meeting St. Andrew Room

6:30 pm Safety Task Force Meeting Children's Library

6:30 pm Wing Chun Class Children's Commons

7:00 pm Foundation Team Meeting Library

Friday, December 13

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 14

9:00 am Nifty Notters Fellowship Hall

2:00 pm Blue Christmas Service Chapel

Sunday, December 15

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

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

1:00 pm Christmas Caroling Visits Narthex, offsite

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.