

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

January 3, 2025

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

Worship Service:
Sunday, 9:30 am

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

A Few Words about Sunday's Gathering Hymn



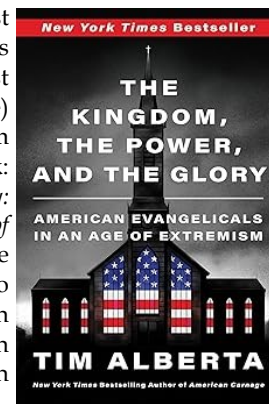
The gathering hymn for this Epiphany Sunday was composed by organist and hymn-writer Kathleen Thomerson. Kathleen is best known for her hymn, *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*, which was written in the summer of 1966 after a visit to the Church of the Redeemer in Houston, and set to her own tune, *Houston*. In addition, she is well known as a recitalist specializing in the music of Flor Peters and Jean Langlais. Deacon Susan Reiser studied with Kathleen for her bachelor's degree in Music Performance on organ in the 1970s. Kathleen, age 90, is retired and resides in Austin, Texas.

Deacon Susan Werner Reiser
Parish Musician & Interim Music Minister

5-Week Adult Education Course on *Christian Extremism: The Heresy and Its Consequences*

How do we untie the Gordian knot regarding the relationship between extremist religion and national politics? We might state the problem this way: religion and politics should remain separate because they have the potential to corrupt each other; religion and politics cannot remain separate because people's fundamental values will and ought to inform the social and political order.

But what happens when extremist religion (right-wing Christianity in this case) and extremist politics (extremist right-wing American politics in this case) join hands? This is the world that Tim Alberta leads us into in his recent book: *The Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory: American Evangelicalism in an Age of Extremism*. Using a discussion format, we will follow Alberta into this world to examine this contemporary Christian heresy and its many consequences. Join teacher Jim Ageson at 11:00 am on **Sunday, January 5**, in Fellowship Hall.



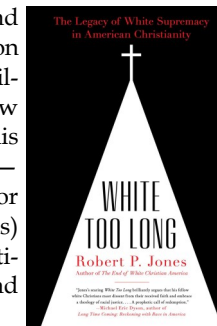
Nourishing Conversations

Popular last year, Nourishing Conversations returns this Monday. Beginning on **January 6**, from 5:00 pm–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.

Spirituality Book Group News

On **January 12**, at 2:00 pm, the Spirituality Book Group will be discussing *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity* by Robert P. Jones. For any questions, you can call Mary Smith. All are welcome!

White Too Long is part of a dynamic and growing field of contemporary non-fiction that calls the white church to task for its failings when it comes to racism." That review from the *New York Times* reinforces that this book is a call to all of us Christians—whether we are Evangelicals, Catholics, or Mainline Protestants (including Lutherans)—to examine our role in perpetuating attitudes of white supremacy in the church and in society.



Details:

January 12 at 2:00 pm (please note time change!)

Book: *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity* by Robert P. Jones

Discussion Leader: Elaine May

Hostess: Dianne Zupunski

Future reading:

February 23

Book: *The Last Apothecary* by Sarah Penner

Discussion Leader: Sharon Fako

Hostess: Connie Losk

March 16

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 discuss *The Butterfly Tree* by Woody Woodburn. Our book discussion on **May 18** will consider *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 coming months.

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

What's Really Happening at the Border?

Oregon pastors and laypersons who recently witnessed conditions at the Texas/Mexico border will share their insights during the program "God's Love Knows No Borders: Countering Myths and Uplifting Humane Treatment of Immigrants." This event will be held on **Saturday, January 11**, from 1:00 pm–3:00 pm at the Lake Oswego United Church of Christ, located at 1111 Country Club Road.



This presentation will also be available via livestream at youtube.com/live/ZAc0caSQnpM. Rev. Adam Hange, pastor of the Hillsboro UCC, and Rev. Keren Rodriguez, a Methodist pastor and community organizer for Portland-based Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (IMIrJ), will discuss their experiences meeting people affected by border conditions and politics, as well as those providing humanitarian aid. The program will also include a documentary on immigration realities. This event is a fundraiser for the United Church of Christ Rio Grande Valley's crucial work supporting immigrants as they face possible deportation.

Doing the Good that Is Ours to Do: Community Warehouse Donation Drive



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.

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!

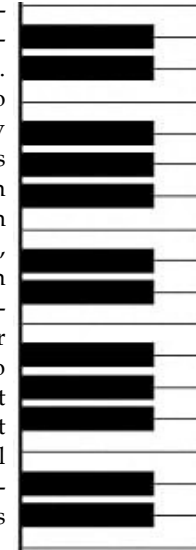
Removal of the Greens



As the saying goes, all good things must come to an end. We're reaching the conclusion of our Christmas celebrations here at St. Andrew, and it's time for us to remove the greenery and put away the Chrismon tree until next year. Join us **Saturday, January 11**, at 9:00 am, as we gather to carry out this important task. Please bring gloves and wire-cutters to help with disassembling the greens hung around the church. As a reminder, we ask our younger congregants to pitch in and help, as our older volunteers shouldn't be climbing ladders and would really appreciate your assistance!

About Last Sunday's Contemplative Music

The instrumental music used during the Contemplation portion of our worship on December 29 was provided by Paul Christiansen. Paul grew up here at St. Andrew and is so grateful for the support of this community over the years. If you enjoyed his recordings on Sunday and would like more information about him or to listen to his music, you can visit paulschristiansen.com. On his website, you can also find links to his music on YouTube and Spotify, the latter of which supports him financially (although not enough for him to give up his day job). You're invited to chat with Pat or Steve Christiansen if you want to learn more. St. Andrew played an important role in Paul's formative years, and we are all grateful. Please remember that your involvement with our young people reaps benefits beyond what we may see in the short term.

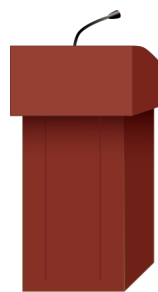


Pat Christiansen

Worship Planning Team and proud mother

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.



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.



BE PREPARED

BUILD AN EMERGENCY KIT

Include enough food, water, and medical supplies to prepare in case of an emergency.



Create a Disaster Preparedness Kit Month Eight, January 2025

To Do:

- Review insurance coverage to be sure you are covered for disasters that may happen in your area.
- Keep a card with important health information in your kit.

To Collect:

- 2 rolls toilet paper*
- Two buckets with tight-fitting lids (for pee and poo)
- 1 gallon regular household bleach (DO NOT USE scented, color-safe, or bleaches with added cleaners)
- Medicine dropper, to add bleach for purifying water
- Work gloves
- 50 foot rope
- Crow bar
- Cash (small bills and coins)

* For everything followed by an asterisk, be sure to multiply by the number of people in your household (e.g., a family of four people will need 8 rolls of toilet paper).

Waste and Hygiene Plan

Studies show that, when disaster strikes, damage to sewer and wastewater infrastructure is likely to take much longer to recover than other types of infrastructure. Get prepared with a waste and hygiene plan to maintain healthy living conditions!

Safety Considerations

- Don't bathe in contaminated water.
- Multiple people should not bathe in the same water.
- Use only clean water to brush your teeth; tap water may be contaminated.



During longer-term disasters when indoor plumbing may not be available, you need to keep your body clean to avoid infection and skin irritations. Some short-term options to help conserve water include:

- Baby wipes or other personal hygiene wipes.
- Dry shampoo.
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Bleach and water combination: Add 1/8 teaspoon of bleach per gallon of water; stir and let stand for 30 minutes.

Two-Bucket Waste Management System

Use a two-bucket system to manage human and pet waste, to protect yourself from illness, and to protect public health.

- Start with two 5-gallon buckets and several heavy-duty plastic bags.
- Label one bucket for pee and one for poo. Separating waste lessens volume and odor and makes storing and disposing of contents safer and easier.
- Line poo bucket with a heavy-duty plastic bag for easier disposal.

For Pee:

- If possible, add water to the bucket to dilute contents.
- Pour on the lawn, garden, or ground.
- Place toilet paper in the poo bucket.

For Poo:

- Cover each use with bark chips, dirt, etc., to help dry the waste.
- Fill the bucket no more than half full.
- Double-bag and store the waste separate from other garbage and away from food and water.
- Secure waste from pets, flies, rats, etc.

For Menstrual Product Waste:

- Place disposable tampons and sanitary pads in a separate garbage bag.
- Pour contents of a menstrual cup into the poo bucket.



Visit www.rdpo.net/emergency-toilet for more information.

In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Family and friends of James (fiancé's nephew) Camille Jackson	Peace and God's comfort at his death Comfort and healing	Tammy Piscitelli Sr. India Jensen Kerr
Individual friends and loved ones All those who are caregivers for a loved one	Whatever they need Strength and support	Staff Staff
Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar Oregon Synod and Staff	Strength and wisdom	Staff
Refugees and immigrants	Acceptance, safety, and just treatment	Staff
Military Personnel, especially, Justina Hailey Hope Brocker, Evan Dahlquist, Neil Fiegenbaum, Carly Keyser, Clay Keyser, Jerami Reyna	Courage and protection	Staff
Peace First Lutheran (Astoria)	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, email office@standrewlutheran.com, or fill out the prayer request form on the church website.

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!

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!

Book Report on *Oxygen* by Carol Cassella

This book is for the medical types who love reading about their occupation, as well as the rest of us who at one point or another have been anesthetized – and not just by a sermon! There's a lot more to the job of an anesthesiologist than I ever realized, including their ability to kill you off if they so choose.

Well, this story is about someone who did just that...but did she mean to? Was it truly her mistake? But whose else could it have been? The anesthesiologist is a nice lady with a lot on her plate, and one more thing being added spells real trouble. She also has an old friend/lovely new boyfriend who will help her get through this...won't he?



Pam Farr
Adult Librarian

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

Christmas with the Chorale

On December 8, the Oregon Chorale performed one of its many holiday concerts at St. Andrew, showcasing our beautiful sanctuary along with carols old and new. The Oregon Chorale was led by Artistic Director & Conductor Jason Sabino, and the Liberty High School Concert Choir joined for part of the performance under the direction of Joshua Pounders.

The concert was professionally recorded and is now available for all to enjoy at: youtu.be/ne4hu054_VM



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 12, 2025

Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, January 3

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

Saturday, January 4—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

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

Monday, January 6—Church Office Closed

7:00 pm Women's Retreat Planning Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, January 7

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

10:00 am Worship Planners Meeting Library

12:00 pm Bridge Group Fellowship Hall

4:30 pm HR Meeting via Zoom

7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary

7:00 pm Columbia Willamette Faceters' Guild Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm Community Organizing Team Meeting St. Andrew Room

Wednesday, January 8—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 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Thursday, January 9

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

6:30 pm Wing Chun Class Children's Commons

7:00 pm Foundation Team Meeting Library

Friday, January 10

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

1:00 pm Stewardship Team Meeting via Zoom

Saturday, January 11—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

9:00 am Removal of the Greens Sanctuary

10:30 am Connections Team Meeting St. Andrew Room

Sunday, January 12

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

12:15 pm Climate Justice/Resilience Neighborhood Door Knocking Children's Commons

1:00 pm Twirler's Meeting & Practice St. Andrew Room, Fellowship Hall

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.