

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

February 14, 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

Music for Black History Month

During the month of February, the American Guild of Organists encourages church musicians to play music by black composers for worship services. This Sunday, the prelude, offering, and postlude are all based on African American spirituals. The prelude and postlude were composed by black church musicians and the offering is an arrangement by Deacon Susan Werner Reiser.

The prelude, a setting of the spiritual *A Little More Faith in Jesus*, was composed by John Wesley Work III (1901 - 1967). He was an American composer, educator, choral director, musicologist, and scholar of African-American folklore and music. Work was born in Tullahoma, Tennessee, to a family of professional musicians. His grandfather, John Wesley Work, was a church choir director in Nashville. His father, John Wesley Work, Jr., was a singer, folksong collector, as well as a professor of music, Latin, and history at Fisk University. His mother, Agnes Haynes Work, was a singer; his uncle, Frederick Jerome Work, collected and arranged folksongs; and his brother, Julian, became a professional musician and composer.

Work's musical training was at the Fisk University Laboratory School, Fisk High School, and Fisk University, where he received a B.A. degree in 1923. He also attended the Institute of Musical Art in New York City (now the Juilliard School of Music), received an M.A. degree from Columbia University with his thesis *American Negro Songs and Spirituals*, was awarded two Julius Rosenwald Foundation Fellowships and obtained a B.Mus. degree from Yale University. Work spent the balance of his career at Fisk University, until his retirement in 1966.

The postlude, a setting of the spiritual *Talk about a Child who Do Love Jesus*, was composed by Calvin Taylor (b. 1948). Born in Los Angeles, California, composer, pianist, and organist Calvin Taylor was drawn to music as a young child. The active cultural and musical life of the church provided his earliest impressions and inspiration. He began playing piano at five years old, and by age fourteen was serving as organist in several southern California churches. Taylor was exposed to a variety of the symphonic repertoire as a member of the trumpet section of both the Los Angeles Junior Philharmonic and Southwest Youth Symphony. He received the Bachelor of Music degree from Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, Master of Music degree from the University of Michigan, Diploma from the Grove School of Music, and the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree from the University of Kentucky.

Deacon Susan Werner Reiser
Interim Minister of Music

Celebrating the Work of 2024:

Living Our Mission

In this Stewardship season, we take time to reflect on the many ways St. Andrew's ministries have flourished over the past year. From caring for our neighbors to deepening our worship and expanding community connections, these efforts reflect our shared commitment to faith in action.



Throughout this season we will highlight the work of different teams, celebrating their achievements in 2024 and looking ahead to the ways they will continue to serve in 2025. We give thanks for all who contribute their time, energy, and gifts to sustain and strengthen our congregation's mission.

Caring Ministries

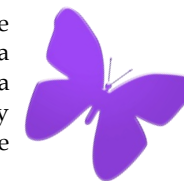
Caring Ministries, led by Sister India Jensen Kerr, embodies the spirit of compassion at St. Andrew, providing support to those facing health challenges or unable to attend church. Through home and hospital visits, coordinating Eucharistic ministers, offering grief resources, and preparing the Prayers of the People, this ministry ensures that no one feels forgotten. Highlights of the year included a moving Blue Christmas service, joyful caroling to homebound members, and gatherings like SoulCollage and a weekly spirituality book group, which fostered community and spiritual connection. Caring Ministries reminds us that God's love is present in every act of care and kindness.

Church Council

In 2024, St. Andrew's Church Council remained committed to overseeing worship, finances, and property, ensuring all efforts reflected the church's mission. A major milestone was the call of Pastor Allison Bengfort as full-time Lead Pastor, a process shaped by collaboration and a renewed Mission Statement. The Council also finalized a Use Agreement with the Red Cross, preparing the church to serve as a community care site in times of disaster. Additional initiatives included forming a Minister of Music Search Committee, launching a Safety Task Force, and re-establishing a Stewardship Team to support a vibrant future. Looking ahead to 2025, the Council aims to strengthen communication, embrace diversity, and expand youth and young adult programs.

Alleluia Butterflies

Children of all ages are invited to decorate "alleluia" butterflies which will be placed in a box on the First Sunday in Lent, **March 9**. It is a tradition of St. Andrew to put these butterfly "alleluias" in a box and hide them somewhere in the Sanctuary from a member of the staff.



You're encouraged to stop by the table in the Narthex where you will find paper butterflies and art supplies for you to decorate one yourself! This project will continue throughout the month of February. If you have any questions, please see Deacon Susan.

You Are What You Eat

We've all heard the phrase "you are what you eat," often used to encourage us to consume more fruits and vegetables and eat fewer cheeseburgers. Well, it turns out that what we eat also affects Earth, the planet we depend on for life.

It's difficult for one person or one family to have a significant impact on the amount of carbon accumulating around us, warming our planet and releasing climate chaos. But the most impactful steps we can take to reduce our own emissions center around adjusting our diet, something pretty much all of us can afford to do. The BBC's Future Earth recently outlined six ways to make our diets more climate friendly.

1. Rely on plant-based foods with a vegetarian or vegan diet. One study has shown that vegans have diets emitting just 25% of the carbon emissions of the diets of big meat-eaters.
2. Cut out meat for short periods of time. Meatless Mondays could eventually lead to eating more plant-based foods all week long.
3. If you don't want to give up meat, try lower-carbon meat options such as chicken or turkey. Rarely eat beef and lamb, which are far more carbon-intensive. Cut down on cheese, too, which is a surprisingly large emitter of greenhouse gases.
4. Reduce the amount of food you throw away. Shop smarter, use up leftovers, make soup with vegetable peels. Food waste accounts for 8% of global greenhouse gas emissions.
5. Rely more on locally grown food to lower transportation emissions. Consider planting a garden, where the food you eat grows right outside your door.
6. Eat more carbon-negative foods such as nuts, olives, kelp, blueberries, and celery – all of which suck carbon from the atmosphere!

It's not likely to happen, but if we all stopped eating animals and permanently relied on plant-based foods, we could return 7 billion acres of farmland to forests and natural grasses. That's an area the size of the U.S., China, the European Union, and Australia combined, a mind-boggling expanse sequestering carbon instead of spewing it into the atmosphere.



Today, on average, every person on Earth is responsible for around 4,400 pounds of food-related emissions per year. Changing our diets could reduce that to -353 pounds of CO₂ per year. Our diets have an enormous impact on climate change.

Carol Harker
Earth Care Team

Epiphany Singing Opportunity

Singers of all ages are invited to prepare and present the anthem, "Arise! Sing Forth!" by Henry Purcell (arranged by Hal Hopson) to sing during worship on **Sunday, February 23**. You don't have to be a regular member of the Sanctuary Choir to join us. We will gather for rehearsal on that morning at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary. Please see Deacon Susan if you are interested. She has copies of the music available for you if you would like to review the piece in advance.



SoulCollage® Event This Sunday!



Do you know who your inner children are and how they appear in your life? Join Sister India this **Sunday, February 16**, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm in Fellowship Hall where we will discover what our inner children have to say. SoulCollage® is a form of self-discovery through art. We glue images to 8x5 cards and read from the images to learn new things about ourselves. It is a truly transformative process!

Don't worry if you are not a skilled artist; this is a place where you can join in community, have fun, and access your inner wisdom. If you want more information about SoulCollage® visit soulcollage.com. Hope to see you there!

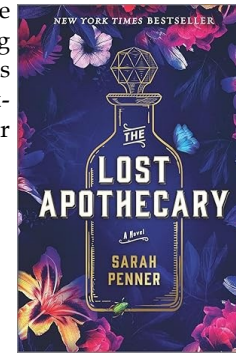
Spirituality Book Group News

On **Sunday, February 23**, at 2:00 pm, the Spirituality Book Group will be discussing *The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner. This is a provocative historical novel that explores how women have addressed their rights over the course of centuries.

Details:

February 23

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



All are welcome! Please contact Mary Smith (dbits2@gmail.com) or Connie Losk (connielosk46@gmail.com) for directions to Connie's house.

Future reading:

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

No meeting in April

May 18

Book: *The Butterfly Tree: An Extraordinary Saga of Seven Generations* by Woody Woodburn
Discussion Leader: Connie Losk
Hostess: Susan Werner Reiser



On **June 22**, we will discuss *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. The book group will meet at St. Andrew for this session, and has yet to announce a discussion leader.

Finally, these books have been selected for reading, but have not yet been assigned dates:

- *The Last List of Mable Beaumont* by Laura Pearson
- *Better Living through Birding: Notes from a Black Man in the Natural World* 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 Bongor, Vincent van Gogh's Sister-In-Law* by Marta Molnar
- *James: A Novel* by Percival Everett

In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Ira Schab	Comfort and peace	Ira Schrab
Don Parsons (husband)	Comfort and peace	Claudia Parsons
Robin Vachal (daughter)	Healing and positive outcome	Larry & Phyllis Vachal
Mary Smith	Healing and recovery	Mary Smith
Rafael and family	Protection and peace	Rebecca Uecker
Lee Taylor (step-father)	Successful surgery	Sr. India Jensen Kerr
Darryl Eldridge	Well-being and peace	Sr. India Jensen Kerr
Theodore (grandson)	Safe travels and thanksgiving for baptism on Feb. 9	Bob & Judy Scholz
Those receiving ongoing pastoral care, including Bob Brown, Dave Bumgardner, Bettye Eldridge, Jean Fredrickson, Margaret Herder, Vera Hutchinson, Marlene Maxwell, Glenath Moyle, Don Parsons, Lenore Rasmussen, Ethel Ritchey, Helen Rogers, Sharon Roth, Ira (Ike) Schab, Erin Tarum, Ida Trullinger	Assurance of God's presence	Staff
All who are imprisoned	Peace and strength	Staff
Churches serving with us in the Oregon Synod, especially Calvary Lutheran (Hillsboro) and Cooperative Ministries (McMinnville)	Blessings on their ministry	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.

In Search of Event Coordinators

We need interested individuals who want to become a part of the event coordinating team who could serve as leaders to organize and plan larger events for organizations renting our space. Recently, we have had to decline to host certain events that would require more effort than the staff or Facilities Team could manage. Please contact the church office to express your interest so the Facilities Management Team can begin compiling a list of volunteers. Thanks!

New Books in St. Andrew Library

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

Fiction

- *James: A Novel* by Percival Everett
- *Cross Down: An Alex Cross and John Sampson Thriller* by James Patterson and Brendan DuBois
- *The Princess of Las Vegas: A Novel* by Chris Bohjalian
- *The Russian: A Detective Michael Bennet Thriller* by James Patterson and James O. Born

Non-Fiction

- *Voices of a People's History of the United States in the 21st Century: Documents of Hope and Resistance* by Anthony Arno and Haley Pessin
- *Things Seen and Unseen: A Year Lived in Faith* by Nora Gallagher
- *Public Church: For the Life of the World* by Cynthia D. Moe-Lobeda
- *Psalms through the Year: Spiritual Exercises for Every Day* by Marshall D. Johnson

Nifty Notters

Calling all knotters! We need people like you to help us tie together the quilts that we assemble. We use double-square knots, so if scouting is in your background, this might just be the group for you! Our upcoming meetings are **February 15** and **March 1**. We meet from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Drop in for any part of the session, or stay the whole day! All supplies are provided except your lunch. Everyone is welcome!



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 srwyner.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

Women's Retreat 2025

Save the date for a one-day retreat for women and femme-identifying people in our congregation! **Saturday, April 26**, from 9:00 am–5:00 pm. The theme is "Welcome Home: Journeying into the Wholeness of Creation." Light breakfast, hot lunch, and snacks will be served. It should be a restorative and relational time! Registration will open in early March.

Nursery Attendants Needed

With the departure of our Nursery Attendant, we urgently need people to staff the nursery. Contact Sonja Ackman to express your interest in serving as a volunteer nursery attendant. Individuals who do not have a current background check on file with the church will need to undergo one before being able to volunteer. These background checks are paid for by the church.

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, February 23, 2025

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
Luke 6:27-38

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, February 14—Building closed

Saturday, February 15—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

8:45 am Tree Planting Staging Event with Friends of Trees Community Garden Parking Lot
 9:00 am Nifty Notters Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 16

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: Explore Your Abilities as a Christian Writer St. Andrew Room
 11:00 am Adult Ed: Quantum 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 Soul Collage Fellowship Hall

Monday, February 17—Church Office Closed

Tuesday, February 18

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
 7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 19—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com & charker@standrewlutheran.com

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, February 20

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
 2:45 pm Girl Scout Troop 81217 Library, Children's Library
 7:00 pm Council Meeting Fellowship Hall, Chapel
 7:00 pm Wing Chun Class Children's Commons

Friday, February 21

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall


Saturday, February 22—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com


Sunday, February 23

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

9:30 am Portland Taiwan Worship Service Chapel
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 11:00 am Adult Ed: Explore Your Abilities as a Christian Writer St. Andrew Room
 11:00 am Adult Ed: Quantum 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 Twirlers Meeting & Practice St. Andrew Room, Fellowship Hall
 5:30 pm The Last Sunday Fellowship Hall, Chapel

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