

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

February 21, 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

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

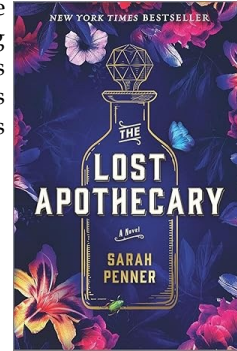
On June 22, we will discuss *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. The book group will meet at St. Andrew for this session, and has yet to announce a discussion leader.

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 Bonger, Vincent van Gogh's Sister-In-Law* by Marta Molnar
- *James: A Novel* by Percival Everett

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 this Sunday, February 23. You don't have to be a regular member of the Sanctuary Choir to join us. We will gather for rehearsal Sunday morning at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary.



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.



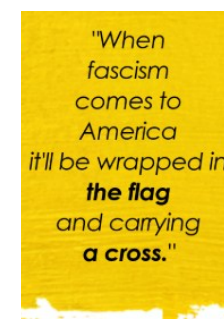
Service Committee

In 2024, the Service Committee exemplified St. Andrew's commitment to Neighbor and Community Care, donating \$8,500—1.5% of our Ministry and Mission funds—to local nonprofits tackling hunger, housing instability, domestic violence, and poverty. The committee also led special initiatives such as the Lenten Food Drive, Thanksgiving Meals, the Barnes School Christmas Giving Tree, and more, relying on the generosity of our congregation to support these impactful efforts. Through these projects, we continue to extend God's love to our community in meaningful ways.

Earth Care Team

In 2024, the Earth Care Team exemplified stewardship of creation through impactful efforts like restoring habitats on St. Andrew's property and achieving Backyard Habitat certification. They educated and inspired action through the Earth Care Fair, Earth Camp, and weekly updates, while also advocating for environmental change by participating in the Oregon Synod Climate Resilience cohort and working with local officials to promote sustainable practices. Their work reminds us of our responsibility to care for God's creation in both personal and communal ways.

The Last Sunday



It's that time again for The Last Sunday, a new event that began last month, created by Kyler Vogt and Forrest Nameniuk. The Last Sunday centers around a meal, a short talk, and group discussion. The nursery will be staffed for children ages five and under to hang out while parents attend the gathering. As The Last Sunday continues to build its network of community, this month's iteration will return to St. Andrew this Sunday, February 23, at 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

If you have questions or would like to know more about this event, you can contact Kyler Vogt, and you can follow this event on Instagram, YouTube, and Bluesky @TheLastSundayPDX.

Turn Temp of Water Heater Down

The following information is from Energy Star: Water heating is the second largest energy expense in your home at 15% or more of your utility bill, depending on the temperature at which it is set. Take a few minutes to lower your water heater temperature setting and you can save both energy and money!



Most water heater manufacturers set their temperature to 140°F by default. However, 120°F is generally hot enough and safe for most residential uses. Water heated to 140°F not only wastes energy, but it also poses a serious scalding hazard. Trust me, I've taken care of plenty of scalded patients, especially children and the elderly.

Lowering your water heater temperature from 140°F to 120°F is one of the easiest ways to increase your home's energy efficiency and save money. It's free, simple, and can be done in just a few minutes! I have mine turned down to 110° which is plenty warm for showers. I wash my clothes in cold water anyway, as do most of us on the Earth Care Team and our clothes get just as clean!

Check your dishwasher for a built-in heat booster. In order to clean and sterilize dishes effectively, dishwashers require a water temperature of 130-140°F. Most dishwasher models come with built-in heat boosters to raise the heat coming from your water heater and achieve this temperature. It's a shame to keep an entire water heater constantly set at 140°F in order to run the dishwasher a few times a week. Before you lower your water heater temperature, check your dishwasher manual to make sure your model has a heat booster.

Lowering the temperature will also extend the life of your water heater by slowing corrosion and mineral buildup in your unit and pipes. Since water heaters consume 15% or more on average of your home's energy bill, this is an easy way to save energy and money and can reduce both carbon emissions and air pollution.

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Time to Play!

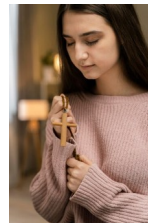
Join us in Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, March 15**, from 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm for the first Game Night of 2025, sponsored by the St. Andrew Connections Team. This event provides a casual way to connect with other members of our faith community to play board games, laugh with each other, spend time with some really fine folks, and build deeper relationships.

Bring a snack to share, if you like, along with any games you'd like to play.

Questions? Contact any member of the Connections Team: Gretchen Bancroft, Bobbie Larson, Sonja Likumahuwa-Ackman, Connie Losk, Patty Jones, or Jan Smith.



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.

Interfaith Earth Summit: Climate Safety & Health

"The Earth Summit is a valuable opportunity to revitalize our community connections and raise up local leadership as together we take faithful action in response to climate change."

-Rev. Richenda Fairhurst, Chair, EMO Creation Justice Committee

Join Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) for its 12th annual Oregon Interfaith Earth Summit on **Sunday, March 16!** The Earth Summit will take place in communities all over Oregon. Explore how climate change affects your safety and health—and what you can do about it. Connect with your community and key organizations. Learn how to protect yourself and your neighbors.

This gathering is both in-person and on Zoom, held simultaneously with 15 other locations across the state. The first part of the event will be a plenary session on Zoom, with participants watching together from their hub locations. Practical workshops will follow on Zoom and in-person.



Our local hub for this climate summit will be St. Luke Lutheran, 4595 SW California St., Portland, OR. All are welcome to join! You're asked to pre-register online at:

emoregon.org/event/oregon-interfaith-earth-summit-2/

Sliding scale fee options are available. St. Luke's Climate Justice Ministry Team will cover the fee for anyone experiencing economic hardship. Contact David Medford at parkarmedford@gmail.com with any questions.

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.

Insights into Downsizing: Rethinking Your Possessions with Purpose and Priority

Downsizing comes with countless decisions, often leading to mental exhaustion and decision fatigue. You're invited to attend this free community event, part of the Ageless Insights Seminar Series, for adults 55+ to discover simple, effective steps to confidently decide what to keep.

Guest Speaker Kimberly Shute, a Certified Senior Housing Professional, is dedicated to guiding mature adults through the often overwhelming process of downsizing to more manageable living. As the former owner of *Mature Moves Made Easy Downsizing*, Kimberly has helped countless clients navigate both the practical and emotional challenges of transitioning to a simpler lifestyle.



This seminar will be held on **Thursday, February 27**, 11:00 am to 12:30 pm at Beaverton Library, 12375 SW 5th St. You can learn more, as well as RSVP, by visiting agelessinsights.net.

In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Family and friends of John Bingen (father)	Peace and God's comfort at his death	Megan Bingen
Family and friends of Russ Field (friend)	Peace and God's comfort at his death	Warren & Donna McAlpine
Family and friends of Lenore Rasmussen	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Pam Nameniuk (mother of Forrest Nameniuk)	Comfort and peace as her death draws near	Kyler Vogt
Don Parsons (husband)	Comfort and peace	Claudia Parsons
Mary Smith	Healing and recovery	Mary Smith
Lee Taylor (step-father)	Healing and recovery	Sr. India Jensen Kerr
Vaughn Wilson (Larry's sister)	Healing and recovery	Larry & Phyllis Vachal
Pope Francis	Healing and recovery	Gary Grafwallner
Anna (sister)	Strength and healing	Casey Tkacz
Robin Vachal (daughter)	Thanksgiving for positive outcome of medical concerns	Larry & Phyllis Vachal
Raven Krause Imhoff (son's dog)	Comfort, peace, and a good end-of-life	Lee Anne Knapp
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)	Blessings on our ministry	Staff
ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton	Strength and wisdom	Staff
ELCA Church Council and Staff	Courage and wisdom	Staff
Ecumenical, interfaith, and secular partners in ministry	Blessings on their work	Staff
Loved ones in need of ongoing prayer, including Tandy Brooks, Rhonda Powell, Jennifer Shaw, Donna Szopko, Megan Webber	Healing and assurance of God's presence	Staff
Churches serving with us in the Oregon Synod, especially Joyful Servant Lutheran (Newberg) and Christ the King Lutheran (Tigard)	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.

Hello, Neighbors at Heart!

I found y'all on the Reconciling Works website. In the middle of all these executive orders, and living as a transgender pastor in a purple parish, I needed the reminder that we're not alone in trying to navigate these days faithfully. So I'm choosing a few RIC (Reconciling in Christ) communities at random to write thank-yous to.

We've got to stay connected, to stay human, and I thank you for being bold in proclaiming your values, your welcome, your commitment to the earth and all people of every race, class, gender, and sexuality. I know its been over a dozen years since you made that commitment. And of course we are always learning more about what it means to live into our Baptismal covenants, but our dedication to follow in the Way of Jesus is such a life saver for those who are being hounded, hated, and harassed on account of bigotry and fear.

Your witness makes such a difference when the voices of the "evangelical right" try to force conformity and the erasure of God's Beloved diversity. May your faith grant you courage and strength in these days and in the months and years ahead. May God bless and protect you all, and fill your community with abundant joy.



God bless +
Pastor Andrew
from Schenectady, NY

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**. 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.



*Alleluia cannot always
be our song while here below;
alleluia our transgressions
make us for a while forgo;
for the solemn time is coming
when our tears for sin shall flow.*

Alleluia, Song of Gladness
ELW 318

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 sr Werner.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

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, March 2, 2025

Exodus 34:29-35, Psalm 99,
2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4:2
Luke 9:28-36{37-43}

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, February 21

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall
 2:00 pm Immigrant Story Sanctuary

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

Sunday, February 23

8:30 am Sanctuary Choir & Pick-up Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary
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 Twirlers Meeting & Practice..... St. Andrew Room, Fellowship Hall
 5:30 pm The Last Sunday Fellowship Hall, Chapel

Monday, February 24—Church Office Closed

Tuesday, February 25

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
 12:00 pm Bridge Group..... Fellowship Hall
 12:15 pm Earth Care / Community Carbon Leadership Meeting Library
 5:00 pm Stewardship Team Meetingvia Zoom
 7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal..... Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 26—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com & charker@standrewlutheran.com

11:00 am Alzheimer’s Support Group..... St. Andrew Room
 1:00 pm Minister of Music Search Team Meetingvia Zoom
 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 27

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 SusanneSanctuary of the Firs (subject to change)
 1:00 pm Staff Meeting Chapel, Library
 7:00 pm IT Meeting.....Offsite
 7:00 pm Wing Chun Class..... Children’s Commons

Friday, February 28

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall


Saturday, March 1—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com


9:00 am Nifty Notters Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 2

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

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.