

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

February 28, 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

Baby Rose



The rose on the altar this Sunday celebrates the birth of Hallie Irene Williams, first great grandchild of Jerry & Anne Williams. Welcome to the world, little one, and congratulations to all!

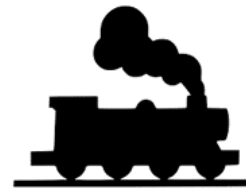
Alleluia Butterflies

Children of all ages have an extra week to decorate "Alleluia" butterflies to place in the box on the first Sunday of Lent, March 9. It is a tradition at St. Andrew to put the butterfly "alleluias" in a box that day and to hide them somewhere in the Sanctuary from a member of the staff.



Visit the table in the Narthex this Sunday to pick up butterflies and art supplies for you to create your own "alleluia" butterflies for the box. If you have any questions, please see Deacon Susan.

Lenten Food Train Begins Its Journey



The engine is revved up and ready to begin hauling boxcars of food and hygiene products destined for the St. Matthew food bank. Beginning **Sunday, March 9**, and continuing throughout Lent, we hope to fill multiple boxes of food to feed the hungry and help the needy in our community.

The train will begin in the Sanctuary and as we add boxcars it will wind its way around the church. Please bring your non-perishable food items (such as spaghetti and spaghetti sauces, canned corn, white sugar, rice, beans, etc.), as well as hygiene products (shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, etc.) to fill the boxcars.

If you prefer to donate money instead, please write a check with Lenten Food Drive on the memo line or donate online, selecting Lenten Food Drive from the drop-down menu on the church website. A new boxcar will be added with every \$250 added to the fund.

As inflation continues to impact the ability to purchase food and other necessities, this is a critical time for those living on the edge. Your donations could make their lives less stressful.

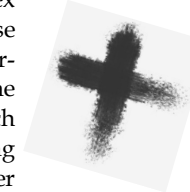
Let's see where this train will take us.

Nursery Attendants Needed

With the departure of our Nursery Attendant, St. Andrew urgently needs people to staff the nursery. Contact Sonja Ackman (call or text 412-320-5672 or email sonja.ackman@gmail.com) 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.

Ashes to Go

Take-home ashes will be available in the Narthex this **Sunday, March 2**. These bags are for those who are unable to attend Ash Wednesday services on March 5 and allow them to have the ashes for themselves and family members. Each bag holds a container of ashes, a liturgy for using the ashes on Ash Wednesday, and daily prayer cards that follow our Sunday theme for Lent, "Everything in Between."



Ash Wednesday Worship

Along with Christian churches worldwide, St. Andrew marks the beginning of the penitential Lenten season with Ash Wednesday worship services next week, **March 5**, at Noon and 7:00 pm. The ashes remind us of our own mortality and our need to turn our hearts toward God as we prepare to celebrate the Easter season.

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 are highlighting 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.

Next Generational Ministry

In 2024, St. Andrew's next generational ministries flourished, nurturing faith and community in remarkable ways. Eight high school students and three adult chaperones proudly represented our congregation at the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, an unforgettable experience of worship, service, and connection. We celebrated milestones in our young people's faith journeys as we graduated three high school seniors, gifting them handmade quilts to remind them of our love and prayers. Middle schoolers deepened their understanding of faith during a beach retreat in Seaside, where they crafted their statements of faith, and two eighth graders affirmed their baptism through confirmation. The Roots children's program remained a hub of creativity and spirituality, with teachers and volunteers fostering faith formation in innovative and loving ways. Earth Camp welcomed 40 children, inspiring them to care for creation as an expression of God's love. In addition, the Andy's Room Podcast debuted as a fresh platform for the younger voices of St. Andrew. Through thoughtful conversations, our youth explored what faith and church mean for their generation, paving the way for a vibrant future.

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.



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.

Save the Date for Bachathon

On **Sunday, March 16**, 2025, the Portland Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will present their annual Bachathon at St. Andrew from 2:00 – 5:00 pm. The program begins with members of the chapter playing the Fritts organ in the Sanctuary. At 4:00 pm, those attending will move to Fellowship Hall to view an hour of Bach that guild members pre-recorded and submitted; this portion will highlight other organs in the Portland area. A cookie reception will be provided during the 4 o'clock hour. This event is open to the public for free. Although the Bachathon raises funds for the Portland AGO chapter's organ lesson scholarship fund, donations to that fund are not required to attend, but will be accepted as freewill offering.

Western Farm Workers

St. Andrew supports the Western Farm Workers in two ways: through distribution of a portion of the church's benevolence fund and by holding a clothing and food drive annually in September.

Volunteers from the Western Farm Workers will attend the Service Committee meeting in the church library on **Tuesday, March 11**, at 2:30 pm to share ways the organization provides for its members. If you're interested in learning what the Western Farm Workers organization does for its clients who work in the fields, please attend that presentation. You do not need to be a member of the Service Committee to attend.



Zoom Orientation on MACG

Curious about MACG? St. Andrew is a member of this organization of organizations, and you may have heard it referred to from time to time. If you are wondering what MACG means and what it does, this is a perfect opportunity to learn more. Come to this Zoom orientation to learn how community organizing in an alliance of faith, labor, and nonprofit organizations creates positive change in our communities.

The Zoom orientation will take place **Monday, March 17**, from 6:30-8:00 pm. It's free! [Register here](#).

Questions? Ask any member of St. Andrew's Organizing Team: Pastor Allison, Sonja Ackman, Larry Blesner, Pat Christiansen, Criss Robinson, or Lynn Santelmann.



Easter Worship Planning Session

Even though Lent is only about to begin, it's time to start looking ahead to the season of Easter! We have received consistent feedback that the congregation yearns for services that are filled with joy and celebration, and we believe Easter would be a perfect season for vibrant celebration.

The Worship Planning Team would like to invite you to join us on **Saturday, March 8**, from 10:00 am-12:00 pm in the Main Library for a Worship Planning Session where we will brainstorm how to craft an Easter season that overflows with joy. Please bring your ideas and an attitude of openness to the ideas of others. We look forward to designing with you!



Lenten Devotional Materials

Enrich the upcoming Lenten season with a special devotional from **A Sanctified Art**, as well as daily devotional cards that we invite you to cut apart into a handy deck for use at home. Congregants will find these materials at the entrance to the Sanctuary beginning this **Sunday, March 2**.

The [devotional booklet](#) is also available on the church website. See the letter accompanying this newsletter for the password necessary to access it.

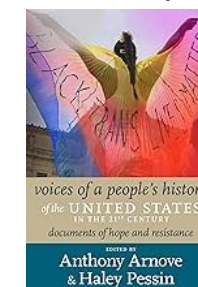
New Books in the Library

Fiction

James by Percival Everett
Cross Down by James Patterson and Brendan DuBois
The Princess of Las Vegas by Chris Bohjalian
The Russian by James Patterson and James O. Born

Nonfiction

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
Things Seen and Unseen: A Year Lived in Faith
by Norma Gallagher
Public Church: for the Life of the World
by Cynthia Moe-Labeda
Psalms through the Year: Spiritual Exercises for Every Day
by Marshall D. Johnson



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	Comfort and peace	Sister India
Diane Kaylor	Comfort and peace	Diane Kaylor
Del Mahler (father)	Comfort and peace	Diane Reiner
Lee Taylor (stepfather)	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
Mary Ann Snider	Comfort and healing	Sister India
Joeine Taylor (mother)	Comfort and healing	Sister India
Mary Nell Mahler	Comfort and healing	Diane Reiner
Helen Rogers	Comfort and healing	Sister India
Anna (sister)	Strength and healing	Casey Tkacz
A Friend	Safety and protection from losing birthright citizenship	Beverly Briggs
Hallie Irene Williams (great grandchild)	Thanksgiving for her birth	Jerry & Anne Williams
Robin Vachal (daughter)	Thanksgiving for positive outcome of medical concerns	Larry & Phyllis Vachal
Family of Raven Krause Imhoff (son's dog)	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Lee Anne Knapp
Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar	Strength and wisdom	Staff
Oregon Synod Council and Staff	Courage and wisdom	Staff
Refugees, asylum seekers, and immigrants	Acceptance, safety, and just treatment	Staff
Military Personnel, especially Justina Hailey Hope Brockner, Carly Keyser, and Clay Keyser	Safety and guidance	Staff
Churches serving with us in the Oregon Synod, especially First Immanuel Lutheran (Portland)	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.

Things Seen and Unseen by Nora Gallagher

This is a lovely, thoughtful book, like going to church, being in church, and all the peace and the prayers that surround it. I loved it. It was like being on Council without making any decisions and being part of a warm and friendly group without having to share.

The author is "up there" in responsibility in the church, but she is not the pastor, sort of a lay leader. This is an Episcopal Church so they do things a bit different, which is both interesting and familiar because they are much like us. Starting with Advent, Gallagher goes through the entire church year with all its joys and sorrows, conflicts and choices, and meetings, meetings, meetings!



It's good to read about someone else's conflicts as a church, many of which we have battled through ourselves, and some we may yet get to. They have a gay pastor to call—or not, a soup kitchen that runs really well, but some people don't like it anyway, and a labyrinth that people aren't sure about either. And they have the leaving and the dying, which are as hard for them as they are for us.

Gallagher writes in thoughts rather than a true story line, but it makes for a light touch. The book offers a contemplative walk through someone else's church year that may refresh or give you rest about your own. Sit and watch it all unfold.

Pam Farr
Adult Librarian

Nifty Notters

Calling all knotters! We need you to help us tie the quilts that we assemble. We use double-square knots, so if scouting is in your background, this might be just the group for you! Our upcoming meetings are **Saturday, March 1**, and **Saturday, March 15**. We meet from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Drop in for any part of the session or bring a lunch and spend the whole day in fellowship. 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

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 9, 2025
Luke 10:25-37

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

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

Monday, March 3—Church Office Closed

10:00 am Communications Team Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, March 4

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, March 5—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com & charker@standrewlutheran.com

12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship Sanctuary, livestream, and via Zoom

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

6:00 pm Bells of Grace Rehearsal Sanctuary

7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship Sanctuary, livestream, and via Zoom

Thursday, March 6

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

5:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom

7:00 pm Wing Chun Class Children's Commons

Friday, March 7

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

6:00 pm High School Youth Lock-in St. Andrew Building

Saturday, March 8—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

10:00 am Easter Season Worship Planning Meeting Library

Sunday, March 9

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: The Christian Disciplines St. Andrew Room

11:00 am Adult Ed: Getting to Know Us; Deepening Relational Culture 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, and Presentation St. Andrew Room, Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary

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.



ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 21, 2025

Dear St. Andrew Family,

On Sunday, March 2, we will celebrate Generosity Sunday, the culmination of our stewardship season. We are filled with gratitude for the countless ways you bring life to St. Andrew. Through your generosity, our community continues to grow in love, justice, and hope, sustaining the vibrant ministries that define who we are.

This year, our stewardship focus is on the Ministry and Mission Operating Fund, which is the backbone of St. Andrew. Increased offerings to the Ministry and Mission Operating Fund in 2025 will be used for:

- Supporting a New Minister of Music
- Sustaining Vital Ministries
- Saving for the ELCA National Youth Gathering

Enclosed, you'll find a brochure highlighting these three areas as well as St. Andrew's giving trends and hopes for the year to come.

This year, our goal is to increase congregation-wide offerings by \$1300 per week. This goal is achievable if we work together, with each household prayerfully considering how they can grow their giving in gratitude to God.

We are also excited to announce that **a generous donor will give \$100 for every intent card submitted. We have also set a goal of collecting at least 80 intent cards, and if we reach this goal, we will receive an additional bonus gift of \$10,000!** Your participation not only strengthens our community, but also unlocks these bonus funds to further our ministry.

Please complete the enclosed intent card and bring it to worship on March 2. If you can't join us in person, you can mail your card or submit your intention online at standrewlutheran.com/give. Once submitted, the intent cards will greatly assist the Church Council in financial planning for the coming year.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and continued generosity. We hope you join us in building a strong future for St. Andrew and all the lives we touch through our ministry.

In gratitude,

The 2025 Stewardship Team:

Robert Casteel, Dwight Jerde, Kim Taylor-Blakemore, and Pastor Allison Bengfort

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 Ten, March 2025

To Do:

- Make a smaller kit for your vehicle.
- Purchase and install an emergency escape ladder for upper story windows.

To Collect:

- Toothbrushes* / toothpaste
- Hammer
- Screwdriver
- Pliers
- Assorted nails and screws

* For everything followed by an asterisk, be sure to multiply by the number of people in your household (e.g., a family of four will need 4 toothbrushes).

How to Prepare for a Power Outage

Power outages are the most frequent weather-related issue complicating our lives. They can happen during winter storms, floods, windstorms, and wildfires, if there's an issue with the power equipment, or even if wildlife interrupt the electrical grid.

Squirrels are the worst wildlife offenders, earning their own acronym in the industry, POCBS—power outages caused by squirrels. It sounds laughable, until you learn that in the U.S. as of 2017, there have been six deaths associated with squirrel interference.



It's important to be aware that power loss can be more than inconvenient; it can cause real harm if we're uninformed and unprepared.

Ways to Prepare Ahead of Time

- If you use any medical devices that need power, talk to your medical device provider about backup power sources.
- Consult your pharmacist about what to do with refrigerated medications.
- Keep a flashlight for each person in your home.
- Stock up on water and nonperishable food.
- Install a carbon monoxide detector on every floor of your home and keep extra batteries on hand. Test detectors regularly.
- Have a cooler and frozen ice packs available just in case.

During the Power Outage

- Keep meat, poultry, fish, and eggs at or below 40°F and frozen food at or below 0° F. Keep freezer and refrigerator doors closed as much as possible. Unopened, a refrigerator will keep food cold for 4 hours, and a freezer for 48 hours. Use a food thermometer to check food before cooking and throw away any food that has a temperature of more than 40° F.
- Do NOT use a gas stove or oven to heat your home. This can cause a buildup of carbon monoxide, which can be fatal.
- If you use a generator, camp stove, or charcoal grill to stay warm, do so outdoors at least 25 feet away from windows and vents to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
 1. Keep fuel at least 25 feet from windows as well.
 2. Keep generator dry. Touching a wet generator could cause an electrical shock.
 3. If you need to refuel, let the generator cool first. Fuel that spills on hot engine parts could catch fire.

GENERATOR SAFETY TIPS

- Never connect a standby generator into your home's electrical system.
- Set up and run your generator outside the home away from garage doors, windows and vents.
- Start the generator before connecting appliances.
- Use a heavy-duty extension cord to connect appliances directly into the generator's outlet.



Source: SafeElectricity.org