

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

May 23, 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

SoulCollage® Event Is This Saturday!



Are you grieving someone or something in your life? SoulCollage® is a wonderful practice to work through feelings about grief. Join Sister India Jensen Kerr on **Saturday, May 24**, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm in Fellowship Hall where we will discover what our unconscious mind has to say.

SoulCollage® is a form of self-discovery through art. We glue images to 8"x5" cards and read from them to learn 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 and access your inner wisdom. For more information about SoulCollage® visit soulcollage.com. Hope to see you there!

St. Andrew Movie Night: *Conclave*

You are invited to join us for a showing of *Conclave* in Fellowship Hall on **May 24**. We will start with pizza at 5:30 pm, then begin the movie at 6:00 pm. So that I know how many pizzas to order, please RSVP by sending me an email at elisabethhardy6@gmail.com or text me at 360-632-4900. I also ask for a donation of \$5 to help cover the cost of food. Water will be available, or you can bring your own beverage from home. I hope you will join us! *Liz Hardy*



Volunteers Needed for Church Housekeeping

Do you appreciate our building and how presentable it appears? For the next couple of months, while our housekeeper Carol Hogan is unable to work, St. Andrew could really use some volunteer help to keep our building clean and welcoming.

No one person would be tasked with doing everything. We are looking to separate jobs and create teams. Do you like to vacuum? Are you able to empty trash cans and recycling bins and take everything out to our Garbage Palace? Do you love the look of a gleaming floor that's freshly mopped? Could you wash and fold the napkins and other miscellaneous laundry that accumulates?

Some people have already stepped up, and we thank them all! But we still need your help, too. Remember that our call as Christians is to share our time, talents, and treasures. Would you be willing to donate some of your time and talents each week, or even just occasionally, to help with housekeeping? To learn more and to offer your assistance, please contact the church office at 503-646-0629 or email office@standrewlutheran.com.

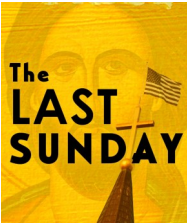
Prescription Pill Bottle Collection

Good news, your questions are answered! There is a now a box on the shelving in Fellowship Hall where you can deposit empty prescription pill bottles. Liz Hardy will recycle them through Ridwell or James Recycling. Thanks!



CANCELLED: The Last Sunday on May 25

After listening to our community and hearing how busy everyone is this Memorial Day week-end, The Last Sunday has cancelled our **May 25** event. We will be taking a break during the busy summer months while looking forward to gathering with you all again in the fall. We hope you have a wonderful summer and find joy with your community and families!



St. Andrew T-Shirts



Jan Smith is getting ready to order St. Andrew T-shirts for anyone who would like to purchase one or several. These are available in nearly all colors of the rainbow and in sizes for adults and children. Think about what you'd like and then contact Jan (jansmith59@earthlink.net or 408-242-3838) to place your order. She'll collect payment when shirts are delivered: about \$25 each.

We Have New Books in Our Adult Library

"Check out" these new titles in the St. Andrew library:

Fiction Books

- *The Butterfly Tree: An Extraordinary Saga of Seven Generations* by Woody Woodburn
- *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride
- *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin
- *The English Girl (Gabriel Allon, #13)* by Daniel Silva

Non-fiction Books

- *How to Be Here* by Rob Bell
- *Praying with Visionary Women* by Bridget Mary Meehan
- *Black Earth Wisdom: Soulful Conversations with Black Environmentalists* by Leah Penniman
- *Creative Ministry* by Henri J. M. Nouwen



Prayer for Those Who Have Given Their Lives

Eternal God, we give thanks for all those who have shown the greatest love by laying down their lives for others. We especially thank you for those in our military throughout history who have sacrificed their lives for their fellow citizens and for us who came after. As we remember their service, keep us mindful of all those for whom Memorial Day is a burden, and send your spirit of comfort to them. Be present with all who are serving in the military today. Let them live for the peace known only from you.

Help us to be worthy of their legacy, and keep us mindful of their service, that in all things we may live our lives in praise and thanksgiving to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



Prayer adapted from the ELCA's Prayer Book for the Armed Services.

Choose Reusable Flatware Instead of Plastic

Adapted from article by Kristen Rogers, CNN, April 22, 2025

Plastic is made from chemicals derived from fossil fuels. Burning those fossil fuels drives the climate crisis by producing planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions such as carbon dioxide and methane. Disposable flatware in particular is typically produced from a rigid plastic called polystyrene, which is made from a byproduct of petroleum.

Plastic contributes to climate change at every stage of its life cycle. Plastic production is warming the planet 4 times faster than air travel. In addition to its climate impact, it is also contributing to air and water pollution during the drilling and fracking process, and toxic emissions that come out of the plastic production plant.

In addition, plastics contribute to environmental injustice, as plastics tend to be both manufactured and disposed of in lower-income communities and communities of color. Plastics pollutants have led to a higher rate of cancer in those areas.

Processing crude oil also requires a significant amount of energy and water. A typical refinery will use about 1.5 barrels of water for each barrel of oil it processes.

And then there is the concern about the use of plastic food containers, plastic dishes, and plastic flatware causing microplastics to reside in you. Studies have found microplastics in human blood, lungs, placentas, brains and testicles. This is concerning because a lot of the chemicals in plastics are associated with cancer, hormone disruption, diabetes, fertility issues, and more. The more we learn, the scarier it gets!

The impact of switching to reusable flatware: Some reports estimate that 36 to 40 billion plastic utensils are used every year just in the US, which is more than 100 million per day. The intentional durability of plastics means that the fork you ate lunch with today could be taking up space in the landfill 500 years from now!

In landfills, plastic utensils are weakened by the friction of moving and being compressed by tons of trash, as well as biological and chemical means such as the bacteria and corrosive chemicals present in landfills. This leads to the release of more microplastics, which can travel with leachate (the liquid that drains or “leaches” from a landfill), and eventually contaminate ground water.

Producing plastics has a much worse impact on the environment than individuals’ use of them does. That’s why managing plastic waste won’t do much to curb the crisis. It is more important to stop the pollution at the source, which means producing a lot less single-use plastic in the first place.

What can we do? We can limit our use of plastic flatware by switching to bamboo or metal options, which require or produce significantly less energy, water, waste, and greenhouse gas emissions. Producing a pound of bamboo forks for example, expends 0.46 kilowatts of energy per hour, whereas making a pound of plastic forks expends 11 kilowatts per hour. “Compostable” flatware is another option, but remember that “compostable” tableware is not actually compostable unless it goes to a special composting facility, of which we have none in our area.



Another option (and the one I use) is to keep the plastic flatware that I unintentionally end up with and reuse it. It washes well in the dishwasher. Or just wrap up a few utensils from your kitchen drawer to keep in your car so you always have it on hand. Easy peasy!



Obviously, one person switching to reusable silverware is not going to change the global environmental impacts of plastic utensils. But as more and more people change their behavior, it becomes contagious, and can have an impact in the long run. And no matter what everyone else does, reducing the use of single-use plastic in your own life will likely lower the amount of microplastics in your own body.

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Oregon Chorale Presents *Carmina Burana*

Experience the electrifying brilliance of Carl Orff’s *Carmina Burana*—a true cultural sensation known for its dramatic opening and vibrant celebration of life, love, and renewal. This exhilarating performance will be enhanced by two grand pianos, percussion ensemble, youth choir, and soloists.



The Oregon Chorale will be joined by guest pianist Colin Alexei Shepard, the PSU Percussion Ensemble, Pacific Youth Choir, soprano Madeline Ross, tenor Steven Evans-Renteria, and baritone Erik Hundtoft.

Performances will take place at 4:00 pm on **June 7 & 8** at Liberty High School, 7445 NE Wagon Drive, Hillsboro.

Tickets are available through the Oregon Chorale’s website at: oregonchorale.org/current-season.

Next Steps for the Associate Clergy Position



With Sr. India Jensen Kerr concluding her call as Deacon of Caring Ministries on **June 30**, you may be asking what will happen next. Pr. Allison Bengfort is in conversation with the bishop’s office to guide us through the clergy transition process. Most likely, the synod will bring us two people to assist:

- 1) A pastor or deacon who will ensure that consistent pastoral care is offered to our members during the transition, and
- 2) A transition consultant who will help us discern what size position would be financially sustainable and what vision we have for the position.

Please hold the congregation in your prayers as we enter into this clergy transition process, and reach out to Pr. Allison Bengfort if you have any questions.

Retirement Announcement for Deacon Susan Werner Reiser

After ten years serving as Parish Musician for St. Andrew and three years as the Interim Minister of Music, Dcn. Susan Werner Reiser will be retiring at the end of June. We are so grateful for her many years of dedicated service and beautiful music making in our community! Stay tuned for details about her retirement celebration coming up in June.



In Need of Prayers...

NAME	PRAYERS FOR...	CONTACT
Del Mahler (father)	Comfort and healing	Diane Reiner
Ida Trullinger	Comfort and healing	Sr. India Jensen Kerr
Carol Hogan	Comfort, strength, and patience while healing	Carol Hogan
Jim Brosh (husband)	Healing and recovery	Teri Brosh
Janet Leake (mother)	Healing and recovery	Erin Castner
Linda Bengfort (mother)	Healing and recovery	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Camille Jackson	Peace and continued good health	Sr. India Jensen Kerr
The Staat Family	Joy and thanksgiving at the birth of Julia	Staff
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, & secular partners in ministry	Blessings on their work	Staff
Loved ones in need of ongoing prayer, including Tandy Brooks, Rhonda Powell, Jennifer Shaw, Arden Tarum, Megan Webber	Healing and assurance of God’s presence	Staff
Churches serving with us in the Oregon Synod, especially Milwaukie Lutheran (Milwaukie), Zion Lutheran (Oregon City), West Linn Lutheran, (West Linn), and Storyline Community (Milwaukie)	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.		

Sign and Share: Youth Open Letter to Make Polluters Pay

When the Make Polluters Pay bill – a top legislative priority of the Sacred Organizing Coalition – didn’t get called for a vote out of committee last month, it effectively died for this session. But the Coalition’s commitment to holding big fossil fuel companies financially accountable for their role in the climate crisis is still very much alive.

You have the opportunity to sign onto an open letter penned by the Youth Solidarity Movement, a Coalition member. The letter expresses their disappointment and calls on legislators to commit to passing Make Polluters Pay next session.



Read, sign, and pass along to others before **June 2** by visiting: tinyurl.com/YSMopenletter.

Earth Camp Volunteers Needed!

In case you haven’t heard yet...Earth Camp 2025 is all filled up! We have reached our maximum capacity of 48 campers registered, with a waitlist already forming. Many families are returning and they are bringing their friends to Earth Camp with them. This means we are going to have 20% more campers this year than we have ever had before!



With all these campers, we need ALL the members of St. Andrew to pitch in and make this year’s Earth Camp possible. Our biggest need is for “Guides” who help shepherd their group of eight kids around the camp throughout the week. With 48 registrants, we need about two dozen Camp Guides in total! We are also in need of one more teacher to lead our Earth Creatures rotation – an absolutely crucial role.

We can’t run the camp without everyone’s help, so please check your calendars for Earth Camp week, **June 23-27**, and send Kyler an email at kvogt@standrewlutheran.com so he can find the right role for you!

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 Nessel.....	503-866-5099

For Your Information...

You’re invited to attend a piano recital being held at St. Andrew on **Saturday, May 31** at 9:45 am, which will showcase the work and talents of the students of Jennifer Mohr Colett from Mohr Music Studio. The recital is free, and an ice cream truck will park out front for a reception which follows.

Please continue to share your potted plants and cut flowers to enhance our worship space this Easter season. For more information, text Susanne Wells at 503-481-6381.

The St. Andrew Foundation is looking to award a scholarship to a young organist to support their study of music. Read more about it and apply before **June 1** by visiting the St. Andrew Foundation’s page on our website.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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, June 1, 2025

Acts 1:1-11
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, May 23		
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	Immigrant Story Music Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
Saturday, May 24—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com		
11:00 am	SoulCollage®	Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm	Movie Night: Conclave	Fellowship Hall
Sunday, May 25		
9:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary, livestream, via Zoom, and Fellowship Hall
9:30 am	Portland Taiwan Worship Service	Chapel
10:45 am	Taiwanese Church Fellowship Gathering	Chapel
11:00 am	Adult Ed: The Loyalty of Ruth and Esther	St. Andrew Room
11:00 am	Adult Ed: What Does It Mean to Be a Lutheran?	Fellowship Hall
Monday, May 26—Church Office Closed, Memorial Day		
Tuesday, May 27		
7:00 am	Men’s Gathering and Bible Study	Elmer’s Restaurant on 158 th (1250 NW Waterhouse Ave)
7:00 am	Sunrise Women.....	Elmer’s Restaurant on 158 th (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
7:00 pm	Brass Quintet Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
Wednesday, May 28—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	Wednesday Book Group with Sr. India	St. Andrew Room
Thursday, May 29		
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)
7:00 pm	Wing Chun Class.....	Children’s Commons
Friday, May 30		
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall
Saturday, May 31—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com		
9:45 am	Piano Recital for Students of Jennifer Mohr Colett.....	Sanctuary
Sunday, June 1		
9:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary, livestream, via Zoom, and Fellowship Hall
9:30 am	Portland Taiwan Worship Service	Chapel
10:45 am	Taiwanese Church Fellowship Gathering	Chapel
5:00 pm	Burning the Mortgage Celebration	Fellowship Hall, St. Andrew Room, Kitchen




It’s a time to celebrate!

Burning the Mortgage Party


Sunday, June 1, 2025, 5:00-7:00 pm

Enjoy theme-appropriate mocktails, catered grazing tables, and fellowship with dreamers and doers at St. Andrew.

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.