

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

May 9, 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

St. Andrew Orientation Meeting



The Connections Team of St. Andrew is hosting an informational meeting where Pr. Allison Bengfort and representatives from the various ministry teams will provide information, answer questions, and detail avenues for participation.

This event is for anyone considering joining the church, those who are joining this month or have done so recently, as well as anyone who just wants a refresher on what it means to be Lutheran at St. Andrew and what ministries the parish offers. This orientation will be held **Saturday, May 10**, from 10:00 am until noon in Fellowship Hall. Light snacks and a tour of the campus will be available.

MACG Listening Event

The Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good (MACG) is hosting another listening event on **May 13**, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in Northeast Portland at St. Andrew Catholic Church. Come to listen, connect, and build new relationships. You'll hear stories from people across organizations – both inside and outside of MACG – and have the opportunity to share your own story in a small, facilitated group. Learn more, find directions, and sign up by visiting: macg.org/5.13.25.



Beautifying Our Worship Space for Easter



As you may have noticed, the Sanctuary is being enhanced with the beauty of plants, foliage, and flowers during this Easter season. You are invited to share your potted plants and cut flowers with us. Please place your offering on the floor in front of the Altar and Susanne Wells will care for your additions with loving kindness. For more information, you can text Susanne at 503-481-6381.

Milestones Sunday

In keeping with our Easter theme, "Joy as Resistance," we will be pulling out all the stops and having a worship service/party on **Sunday, May 18**! This party will be in honor of the many milestones our members are celebrating this year. Are you celebrating a major birthday, wedding anniversary, workiversary, or sobriety anniversary? Are you celebrating getting a new job, moving into a new home, or beginning a new program of study? Perhaps you are graduating or celebrating your entry into retirement. Whatever you are celebrating, we would like to share in your joy as a community. In the Narthex (the area between the front doors and the entry to the worship space) you will find a table with notecards and pens. Please write your milestone along with your name on a notecard and place it in the box provided. You can submit as many milestones as you'd like! These milestone cards will be displayed on **May 18**.



SoulCollage® Event Coming Soon!



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. If you want more information about SoulCollage® visit soulcollage.com. Hope to see you there!

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 me an email at kvogt@standrewlutheran.com so I can find the right role for you!



Kyler Vogt
Earth Camp 2025 Director **Earth Camp 2025**



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.

Please RSVP by Friday, May 16 on the sign-up sheet at the Coffee Bar or online at forms.gle/3oJKuLXMxrCdRQW8A.

Reason for Hope: Clean Power Beat Fossil Fuels in March on the U.S. Grid!

Article reprinted from Canary Media, Dan McCarthy, April 11, 2025

For the first time, fossil fuels accounted for less than half of U.S. electricity production across an entire month as clean power generation surged in March 2025.

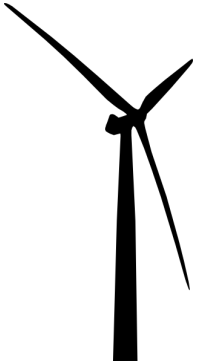
New data from think tank Ember shows that nuclear, as well as solar, wind, hydropower, biofuels, and other renewables met 51% of demand in March, while fossil gas and coal made up the remaining 49% of power generation.

The data point is a striking example of how far the U.S. energy transition has come in recent years.

A decade ago, the U.S. got nearly two-thirds of its power from fossil fuels. But after years of building mostly solar, wind, and batteries, the country has started to close that gap. In March 2025, solar and wind generation jumped by 37% and 12% respectively, compared to March 2024. Meanwhile, fossil-fuel generation fell by 2.5%.

It’s worth noting that this happened at the start of the spring “shoulder season,” which runs from March to May in the U.S., and is a sort of stars-aligning time for clean energy performance.

There are a few reason why. Milder temperatures mean people use less energy to heat and cool their homes, so power demand tends to contract. That has historically made shoulder seasons—the fall version runs from September to November—a good time to take fossil-fuel and nuclear power plants offline for maintenance. Meanwhile, wind production peaks in the spring, and solar production comes more alive with the longer days of stronger sun. In March, solar and wind alone met over 24% of overall U.S. power demand.



But still: The shoulder seasons are always a stars-aligning time for clean energy. They were last year and the year before that and the one before that, too. Yet, in the U.S., clean energy has never before beaten out fossil fuels for a whole month, no matter the season. That’s what makes this a significant moment.

It’s also notable given the current political hostility toward clean energy in the U.S.—and the federal government’s re-embrace of fossil fuels.

President Donald Trump wants to halt all wind turbine construction. Congressional Republicans are considering cutting Inflation Reduction Act tax credits that incentivize clean energy projects. Trump’s aggressive tariffs on China—which remain in place even after he paused “reciprocal” levies on every other country—could drastically slow the battery storage boom. And the president signed a clutch of executive orders aimed at boosting coal, a highly polluting energy source that also happens to be in structural decline because it cannot compete with fossil gas or renewables on cost.

Even in spite of those headwinds, renewables continue to soar to new heights, underscoring the fact that clean energy is no longer a marginal part of the U.S. power system but a cornerstone that is here to stay.

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Spirituality Book Group News

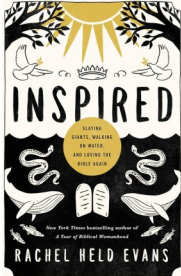
The Spirituality Book Group will meet on **Sunday, May 18**, at 2:30 p.m. in the St. Andrew Library (upstairs). We will be discussing the book, *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans.

“When you stop trying to force the Bible to be something it’s not—static, perspicacious, certain, absolute—then you’re free to revel in what it is: living, breathing, confounding, surprising, and yes, even magic.... My aim with this book is to recapture some of that Bible magic, but in a way that honors the text for what it is—ancient, complicated, debated, and untidy, both universally relevant and born from a specific context and culture.” -Rachel Held Evans

All are welcome to the Spirituality Book Group. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Smith by phone at 503-332-9732 or by email at dbits1@gmail.com.

Details:

Sunday, May 18, at 2:30 p.m.
Book: *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans
Location: St. Andrew Library
Discussion Leader: Colleen Nelson



Future Reading:
Sunday, June 22, at 2:30 p.m.
Book: *The Butterfly Tree: An Extraordinary Saga of Seven Generations* by Woody Woodburn
Location: St. Andrew Library
Discussion Leader: Connie Losk

Sunday, July 20, at 2:30 p.m.
Book: *Better Living Through Birding: Notes from a Black Man in the Natural World* by Christian Cooper
Location: St. Andrew Library
Discussion Leader: Elaine May

Sunday, August 24, at 2:30 p.m.
Book: *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molner
Location: St. Andrew Library
Discussion Leader: Fran Miller

Tulip Vases

If you took home tulips on Easter Sunday in a vase, please return the vase when convenient. We would appreciate if you cleaned it prior to returning. You can place vases on the island in the kitchen or on the Coffee Bar. Thank you!

Final The Last Sunday before Summer Break

The Last Sunday event takes place this month on **May 25**! The event will be hosted at Hillsdale Community Church in Southwest Portland, with folks from Riversgate Church providing our meal and childcare. Although this event falls on Memorial Day weekend, it is our last event before we take a couple of months off for the summer, so we hope you can make it! To let us know if you can attend, add the event to your Google calendar and RSVP at this link: bit.ly/TLSmay25.

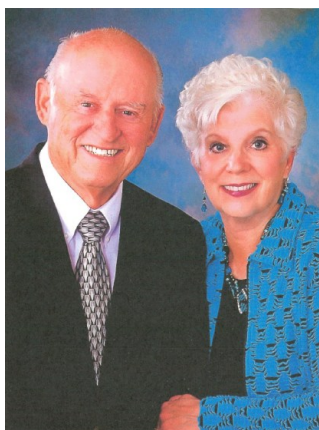
The Last Sunday is an ecumenical event focused on dismantling Supremacist Christianity and replacing it with a hopeful Christianity that is good news for the world. This event is made for ages 18-55. Free dinner and childcare (for kids 5th grade and under) are provided for all participants.





Welcoming New Members This Sunday!

Please join us for worship this **Sunday, May 11**, as we welcome and affirm six new members to the St. Andrew community:



Frank (he/him) and **Ann** (she/her) **Cannon** have been married for almost 30 years. They moved from the Austin, Texas area last July to be closer to their daughter and son-in-law. Frank and Ann have many wonderful shared experiences in international travel, golf, couples card games, attending musical theater performances, and community service. Frank served as a university professor and administrator for many years. Ann has worked as an ER nurse and an administrative assistant. She currently enjoys playing mahjong at the Hillsboro Senior Center several times a week. Prior to moving to Hillsboro, they were leaders of a large Prayer Group at a Senior 55+ Facility in Georgetown, TX.



Pastor Colleen Nelson (she/her) is a retired Lutheran pastor. She moved to Portland from La Grande where she served at Zion Lutheran Church for five years. She previously served churches in Battle Creek, Michigan and Chicago. Colleen has specialized training and interest in Spiritual Direction and Community Organizing. She grew up in East Moline, Illinois along the Mississippi, near Pastor Allison's home, and went to high school and college while living in Des Moines, Iowa. Her mother is 103 and living in Ames, Iowa near her older brother. When she is gone for extended periods, that's where you'll find her. Colleen has three children and six grandchildren. Since she is retired, she likes to spend her time playing her flute, hiking, cooking, reading, sewing, and hanging with her cohousing neighbors.



Julie (she/her) and **Mark** (he/him) **Ostley** were born in Minnesota, where they were baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church. 10 years ago, they moved from Minneapolis to Portland and consider it the best move ever! Julie is retired and thoroughly enjoys spending time with grandkids and participating in tai chi and stretching classes every week at St. Andrew. Mark is a former teacher and a 52-year and counting Graphic Arts professional who enjoys time in his studio, grandkids, and joining Julie in exercise classes. Both are excited to become a part of a vibrant and growing faith community at St. Andrew!



Criss Robinson (she/her) was born Lutheran in Sacramento, CA. She was raised in the Los Angeles area, moved to Olympia, WA for school, and settled in Oregon shortly thereafter. She has followed many different spiritual traditions and has come full circle. She is a busy office manager who loves travel, reading, and writing, and she would love to change the world.

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. —ELW #641

In Need of Prayers...

NAME	PRAYERS FOR...	CONTACT
Family and friends of Mike Skillen	Peace and God’s comfort at his death	Lee Anne Knapp
Family and friends of Marlene Maxwell	Peace and God’s comfort at her death	Sue Cahlander
Family and friends of Aiden David (grand-nephew)	Peace and God’s comfort at his death	Rick & Sandy Koch
Family and friends of Donna Szopko (sister)	Peace and God’s comfort at her death	Tom Mehlhorn
Priscilla (friend)	Peace and God’s comfort at death of cousin	Judy Scholz
Carrie & Craig Evans (daughter & son-in-law)	Comfort and healthy delivery of pregnancy	Sharon Carlson
Bre (coworker)	Comfort and peace	Casey Tkacz
Sandra Meyer	Healing and assurance of God’s presence	Sandra Meyer
Keith (son-in-law)	Healing and recovery	Mary Ann Snider
Brad (nephew)	Healing and recovery	Judy & Bob Scholz
Brian Alvis (son-in-law)	Healing and recovery from surgery on May 9	Ed & Linda Fransen
St. Andrew Council and Staff	Wisdom and discernment	Staff
St. Andrew Foundation Board		
Portland Taiwan Lutheran Church	Blessings on their ministry	Staff
All who are caregivers for a loved one	Strength and support	Staff
Seminarians and theology students, especially Sister India Jensen Kerr, Kim Taylor-Blakemore, and Kyler Vogt	Encouragement and support	Staff
Churches serving with us in the Oregon Synod, especially Creator Lutheran (Colton), Our Savior’s Lutheran (Lake Oswego), and Spirit of Life (Gladstone)	Blessings on their ministry	Staff

Come Watch “Conclave” with Us!



At the Women’s Retreat a couple of weeks ago, a few of us thought it might be nice to see the film “Conclave.” You are invited to join us for this viewing 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

Western Farm Workers Mexican Fiesta

You are cordially invited to join Western Farm Workers Association (WFWA) members for a Mexican Fiesta complete with a traditional Mexican dinner as well as musical and dance performances to celebrate 37 years of struggle, growth, and successful organizing of farm workers and other low-paid workers in the Northwest. **Saturday, May 31**, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at Hillsboro United Methodist Church, 168 NE 8th Avenue, Hillsboro, Oregon 97124. St. Andrew supports the WFWA through our benevolence funds and holds a food and clothing drive in September. Please RSVP to Deacon Susan Reiser if you are planning to attend.



Hello, St. Andrew Lutheran!

THANK YOU for the use of your wonderful Fellowship Hall. We enjoy playing bridge in that space. Your generosity and warm welcome is greatly appreciated.

The Bridge Group

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

A Few Reminders

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.

We are still accepting applications for the Nursery Attendant position. See the posting on our website under “About > Job Openings.”

Do you have photos or videos of our 2011/2012 renovations? Please share any media with the office in advance of our Mortgage Burning on **June 1**.

“Christ in Our Home” is a daily devotional booklet published quarterly by the ELCA. St. Andrew provides these free of charge to parishioners. Pick one up today under the bulletin board across from the elevator in the Narthex.

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, May 18, 2025

Acts 11:1-18
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew


Friday, May 9		
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm	Immigrant Story Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Saturday, May 10—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com		
10:00 am	New Member Orientation	Fellowship Hall, Kitchen
Sunday, May 11		
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 Loyalty of Ruth and Esther	St. Andrew Room
11:00 am	Adult Ed: What Does It Mean to Be a Lutheran?	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, May 12—Church Office Closed		
7:00 pm	Finance Team Meeting	via Zoom
7:00 pm	Men’s Book Club	Offsite
Tuesday, May 13		
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)
9:00 am	Facility Management Team Meeting	St. Andrew Room
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm	Bridge Group.....	Fellowship Hall
1:30 pm	Service Committee	Library
7:00 pm	Brass Quintet Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
Wednesday, May 14—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
2:00 pm	Party Planning: Burning the Mortgage.....	Library
Thursday, May 15		
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	Minister of Music Search Team Meeting	via Zoom
6:15 pm	Band Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Council Meeting	Fellowship Hall, Chapel
7:00 pm	Wing Chun Class.....	Children’s Commons
Friday, May 16		
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall
Saturday, May 17—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com		
9:00 am	Nifty Notters	Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm	Band Rehearsal	Sanctuary
2:00 pm	Immigrant Story Rehearsal	Chapel
Sunday, May 18		
9:30 am	Milestones Sunday 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	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
2:00 pm	The Beat Goes On (Twirlers) Meeting.....	Fellowship Hall
2:30 pm	Spirituality Book Club.....	Library

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.