

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

July 18, 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

The Spirituality Book Group will meet in the St. Andrew upstairs library this **Sunday, July 20**, to discuss *The Butterfly Tree: An Extraordinary Saga of Seven Generations* by Woody Woodburn.

“One magical story across seven extraordinary generations—filled with love and faith and hope.”
-[Goodreads.com](https://www.goodreads.com/review/show/1111111111) review.

Details:
Date & Time: **Sunday, July 20**, 2:30 pm
Discussion Leader: Connie Losk

Future Reading:

Sunday, August 24, 2:30 pm

Book: *Better Living Through Birding: Notes from a Black Man in the Natural World* by Christian Cooper

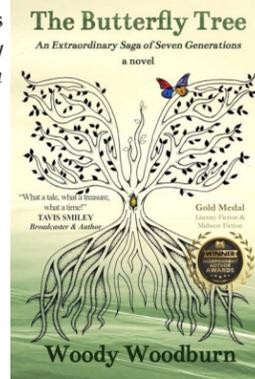
Location: St. Andrew Library
Discussion Leader: Elaine May

September's Selection (date is yet to be announced)

Book: *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar

Location: St. Andrew Library
Discussion Leader: Fran Miller

Two more books have been selected for reading, but have not been assigned dates: *The Last List of Mable Beaumont* by Laura Pearson, and *The Longest Road: Overland in Search of America, from Key West to the Arctic Ocean* by Philip Caputo.



Driver Safety Course Presented by AARP

Become a safer, more confident driver with the AARP Smart Driver™ course. Refresh your driving skills and you could be eligible for a multiyear discount on your car insurance! You do not have to be a member of AARP to attend this course. This course is being hosted by St. Andrew, and will be held on **Wednesday, August 13**, beginning at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall.

 This is a single, six-hour course, with an hour break for a sack lunch. Call the church office to sign up. Cost is \$25, which covers the supplies distributed during the course. AARP members receive \$5 off.

Bruce & Marlene Maxwell

Memorial Service
Saturday, July 19
2:00 pm, Sanctuary

Light refreshments at
Coffee Bar to follow



Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Here's what we still need to meet our goal of 400 school kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR):



School Kits	Have	Need
Ruler, 30 centimeters long or with inches and centimeters on either side	146	254
Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)	618	1382
Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)	200	200
Notebooks, 70-sheet of wide- or college-ruled paper; no loose-leaf paper	85	1515
Crayons, box of 16 or 24	43	357
Eraser, 2 ½ inches	225	175
Pencil sharpener	201	199
#2 pencils with erasers (preferably not sharpened)	1057	943

Help us assemble the school kit bags by joining us in Fellowship Hall each Monday through **August 11**, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Please contact Pam Jelineo if you would like to participate in the bag assembly and she'll add you to the email chain. Contact Pam by email at pjelineo@hotmail.com or text her at 971-221-2600.

June 2025 by the Numbers

Average Weekly Worship Attendance

In-person:	98
Online:	102
Total:	200

Weekly Revenue

Average Weekly Revenue, including offerings, building use, etc.:	\$9,953
Average Weekly Revenue needed to fully cover all budgeted expenses and end the year without a deficit:	\$13,409

Fiscal Year to Date Revenue

Actual:	\$653,610
Budgeted:	\$615,050

Fiscal Year to Date Expenses

Actual:	\$682,159
Budgeted:	\$697,250

Fiscal Year to Date Surplus/(Deficit)

Actual:	(\$28,549)
Budgeted:	(\$82,200)

Painless Ways to Go Plastic-Free This July

We are in the middle of Plastic-Free July, a month during which millions of people worldwide renounce single-use plastic. If you'd like to attempt Plastic-Free July, Anne-Marie Bonneau, author of *The Zero Waste Chef*, has put together a list of steps to help us eliminate plastic from our lives. I've also added a few tips myself! Remember, the main reason to move away from as much plastic as possible is the damage done to the climate and environment during the manufacturing process. Recycling plastic is only slightly better than sending it to the landfill.

The fossil fuel industry has promoted recycling as the ideal solution to plastic pollution. This push to recycle more shifts the responsibility and cost of clean-up onto consumers and municipalities that played no role in producing the waste and diverts attention away from the true source of the problem: production. Corporations produce more plastic than our waste management systems can possibly absorb. Reducing production (by reducing consumption/demand) is the best solution to plastic pollution.

- Drink more water (but not bottled water!). If you drink more water, you'll drink fewer bottled beverages, almost all of which are packaged in plastic, which is not only bad for the planet, but also bad for you. It leaches toxins and microplastics into your drinks. You'll also save money. If you need filtered water, consider a Brita water filter pitcher. Most Americans pay for bottled water not out of necessity but due to marketing ploys. Don't get sucked in! Take your own reusable water bottle wherever you go.
- Look for a farmers market near you or sign up for a CSA (community-supported agriculture). Take your own cloth produce bags to the market to avoid using the plastic produce bags provided by the vendors. In addition to reducing the amount of plastic you use, more of your money goes to the farmer (90 cents on the dollar versus about 15 cents at an American supermarket). Unless you grow the food yourself, you can't beat the flavor of farmers market produce!
- Many grocery stores have nice bulk food sections and paper bags to fill. Or bring your own bags and containers to fill with bulk dry goods. You can weigh your container ahead of time and ask the checker to deduct that amount from the weight of the food. If buying in bulk is not possible, buy the largest container—as long as you will eat it all. One giant package requires much less overall packaging than many small packages. For example, buy the great big container of grated parmesan cheese from Costco rather than the smaller containers at the grocery store.
- Make or buy some cloth mesh produce bags, and use them! Let's say you use 6 produce bags per week: 6 bags times 52 weeks equals 312 plastic bags per year you can avoid wasting by using cloth! Just toss them in the wash when soiled.
- Learn to make a few staples yourself. Anne-Marie Bonneau, mentioned above, has an entire recipe index full of foods in her book that big food companies manufacture and sell swathed in plastic: granola, crackers, pasta, bread, yogurt, pickles, natural soda, etc. We can make these things ourselves! These homemade versions taste fabulous and cost less money. She even has a recipe to make your own deodorant!



- Do you really need to buy all that stuff in the first place? You can forego lots of *thneeds*, some made of plastic and some wrapped in it. Thneed is a word coined in 1972 by Dr. Seuss in the children's book *The Lorax*. A thneed is a useless product which is advertised as being needed by everybody, but which in fact no one needs. You may feel pressured to throw out all of your plastic stuff and replace it with shiny new, plastic-free versions but that type of consumerism helped create this mess. Try to make do with the stuff already cluttering your home. We can't shop our way out of global warming. Save all your jars and lids, and get used to storing and freezing food in washable glass jars. Ask your neighbors to give you their jars if they don't want them and they're destined for the glass recycle bin; they are free containers that you can see through to see what food is inside!
- Try using shampoo and conditioner bars that don't come in plastic bottles. Look for these bars at Mama & Hapa's, health food stores, co-ops, New Seasons, Fred Meyer, and online stores such as Grove Collaborative and Zerowastestore.com, two online stores that are tried and true by several of us on the Earth Care Team.
- Switch to laundry sheets or powder. Look for these also at Mama & Hapa's, health food stores, co-ops, and the above mentioned online stores. If you'd still prefer to use detergent pods, consider switching to Dropps brand pods (found online) which are made out of polyvinyl alcohol that breaks down into carbon dioxide and water, and is even used in some eye drops! Must be pretty safe.

Not sure where to start with your plastics reduction? Start by cutting out the top 4 most commonly used single-use plastics: plastic bags, plastic water bottles, disposable coffee cups, and plastic straws. You can buy straws from the same types of stores mentioned above, switch to paper straws, or forego a straw altogether. Treat yourself. Enjoy coffee or tea in a real cup at your favorite café that serves drinks in reusables, get an ice-cream cone (as opposed to ice cream in a cup with a plastic spoon), or order takeout at restaurants and bring your own container.

And remember, reducing plastic pollution should be fun. Happy Plastic-Free July!

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Earth Camp 2025 Lost & Found



Do you think you might have left something behind after attending or volunteering at this year's Earth Camp? We have a box full of lost and found items here in the office that are waiting to be returned to their rightful homes.

Please contact the church office at 503-646-0629 if you believe something of yours might have been left behind. These items will be held by the office until the middle of August.

In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Family & friends of Laura Carol Lenerd	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Patty Jones
Family & friends of Ethel Ritchey	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Jerry EntriKin	Comfort and recovery from pneumonia	Jerry EntriKin
CeCe Saavedra (relative)	God's guidance and enlightenment of the Holy Spirit	Alex Stinekraus
Janet Shaw (mother)	Healing and recovery	Lee Anne Knapp
Stacye (cousin)	Healing and recovery	Dana Taylor-Blakemore
Jane Harper (spouse)	Healing and recovery	Elaine May
Curt Walters (son-in-law)	Healing and recovery	Bill & Sharon Roos
Pam Walters (daughter)	Peace and strength while caring for husband Curt	Bill & Sharon Roos
Clay Gustafson	Successful surgery	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Scottie Jean Evans (granddaughter)	Thanksgiving for healthy birth	Sharon Carlson
Those receiving ongoing pastoral care, including Bob Brown, Dave Bumgardner, Bettye Eldridge, Jean Fredrickson, Margaret Herder, Vera Hutchinson, Glenath Moyle, 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 Hope Lutheran (Klamath Falls) and Ascension Lutheran (Medford)	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.

Caring for Our St. Andrew Forest and Wetland



Like many of you, I cherish our Sanctuary of the Firs, a place where we can connect with God's creation. You may not realize that this beloved place, along with the almost 8 acres of forest and wetland, takes a great deal of resources to restore and maintain. Over the years, St. Andrew has partnered with Clean Water Services and Tualatin Soil & Water Conservation District (TSWCD) to remove invasive species and plant natives. This work is most evident as you walk the path to the Sanctuary of the Firs. The continued work to control invasive blackberries, ivy, and bindweed is endless. On the west side of the property adjacent to Johnson Creek there is even more work that needs to be done to restore the habitat where we have Earth Camp teaching stations and access to the creek. In this area there is high density weedy species such as Canada thistle, common teasel, reed canary grass, and Himalayan blackberry that is lying directly adjacent to the private properties along our western property boundary.

The Earth Care Team has been considering applying for a grant to help pay for this restoration work. After meeting with a team from TSWCD, they have offered to include the area adjacent to the creek within the current Habitat Conservation Project (HCP) scope. This expansion in project area would allow TSWCD to cover costs with weed reduction cutting, spot spray treatments, and replanting with native shrubs and trees in this border area. They will also coordinate with us regarding plant species and placement, which would take place during fall 2026 or 2027, after weediness is greatly reduced. This is wonderful news and would not have been possible without the work and persistence of Don Nearhood and Susanne Wells.

Restoring and maintaining our forest and wetland will still need more work. As we move forward, the Earth Care Team will be coordinating with conservation partners as well as asking for your help. Please consider being part of this work.

LuAnn Staul
Earth Care Team Chair

Clean Energy Tax Credits

Because of the recently passed "Big Beautiful Bill," the phase-out dates and timelines for clean energy tax credits will end soon. But there is still a short grace period for those who want to take advantage of them.

Of the clean energy tax credits being rolled back, the EV (electric vehicle) tax credits have the quickest phase-out, and are set to expire by the end of September. Other consumer credits, such as the 30% residential clean energy tax credit and the home energy efficiency tax credits, will be available until the end of the year.

If you have been thinking about taking advantage of the tax credits for any clean energy projects, now is the time to do it. This website offers a comprehensive list of the expiration dates and timelines:

[whitecase.com/insight-alert/
amendments-ira-tax-credits-
senate-budget-bill](https://whitecase.com/insight-alert/amendments-ira-tax-credits-senate-budget-bill)

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Birth Announcement



The flower on the Altar this Sunday celebrates the birth of Scottie Jean Evans, granddaughter of Sharon Carlson.

Preparing for Worship Sunday, July 27, 2025

Colossians 2:6-15
Psalm 138
Luke 11:1-13

St. Andrew Contacts

Council President Chuck Weswig.....	president@standrewlutheran.com
Lead Pastor Allison Bengfort.....	pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com
Dir. of Next Generational Ministry Kyler Vogt.....	kvogt@standrewlutheran.com
Parish Executive Carol Harker	charker@standrewlutheran.com
Administrative Assistant Martin Mills.....	office@standrewlutheran.com
Parish Nurses Diane Reiner	503-201-4222
Tira Nesset.....	503-866-5099

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, July 18	
10:00 am	Tai Chi Fellowship Hall
Saturday, July 19—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com	
9:00 am	Nifty Notters Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm	Celebration of Life for Bruce & Marlene MaxwellSanctuary, Narthex
Sunday, July 20	
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
2:30 pm	Spirituality Book Group Library
Monday, July 21—Church Office Closed	
10:00 am	School Kits Bag Assembly Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, July 22	
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
1:00 pm	Immigrant Story Music Rehearsal Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary
Wednesday, July 23—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com	
10:30 am	Immigrant Story Music Rehearsal Sanctuary
11:00 am	Alzheimer’s Support Group St. Andrew Room
Thursday, July 24	
10:00 am	Strength + Stability with Susanne Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm	Celebration of Life for Ed PaceySanctuary, Narthex
7:00 pm	IT Meeting Offsite
7:00 pm	Wing Chun Class Children’s Commons
Friday, July 25	
10:00 am	Tai Chi Fellowship Hall
Saturday, July 26—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com	
9:00 am	Council Retreat Fellowship Hall
Sunday, July 27	
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
1:00 pm	Twirlers Meeting & Practice Fellowship Hall



Ed Pacey

Memorial Service
Thursday, July 24
2:00 pm, Sanctuary

*Light refreshments at
Coffee Bar to follow*

Reverend Don Parsons

Memorial Service
Saturday, August 2
2:00 pm, Sanctuary

*Reception to follow
in Fellowship Hall*



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.