

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

July 25, 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

LWR School Kits Collection Almost Complete



Thank you to everyone who has donated so far to help us meet our goal of 400 school kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR)! Your donations have exceeded our goals for many of the supplies requested. But we're not quite through yet! We still need 15 boxes of crayons, as well as over a thousand each of pens and notebooks. Here's our current tally:

School Kits	Have	Need
Ruler, 30 centimeters long or with inches and centimeters on either side	474	0
Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)	832	1,168
Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)	526	0
Notebooks, 70-sheet of wide- or college-ruled paper; no loose-leaf paper	337	1,263
Crayons, box of 16 or 24	385	15
Eraser, 2 ½ inches	432	0
Pencil sharpener	401	0
#2 pencils with erasers (preferably not sharpened)	2,277	0

You can place your donations in the collection box in the narthex. 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.

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://www.whitecase.com/insight-alert/amendments-ira-tax-credits-senate-budget-bill)

Caring for St. Andrew's 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 the 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 are high density weedy species such as Canada thistle, common teasel, reed canary grass, and Himalayan blackberry that lie directly adjacent to the private properties along our western 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

Reverend Don Parsons

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

Reception to follow
in Fellowship Hall



Reduce Your Plastic Consumption

One Product at a Time

As we all know by now, plastic is a problem in a lot of ways: The fossil fuel-based material generates greenhouse gas emissions throughout its lifecycle, is rarely recycled, contributes to ocean pollution, and even accumulates in the human body. But plastic is so ubiquitous, you can't just wake up one morning and decide to live plastic-free. Plastic-free living is hard and must be pursued one step at a time. The first step is figuring out where you are by conducting a plastics inventory.

Completely eliminating all plastic is not possible in today's world. So many products—including electronics, home appliances, toys, and clothes—are at least partially made of plastic. But one area that we can control, and make a meaningful impact in, is single-use and disposable plastics. From product packaging to water bottles and toothbrushes, our daily lives are filled with plastic items that are designed to be disposed of after only a few uses (or even just one use!). Most people working toward plastic-free living try to eliminate single-use plastics one product type at a time. But where do you start? EarthDay.org has developed a [plastic calculator](http://earthday.org/plastic-pollution-calculator) (earthday.org/plastic-pollution-calculator) to help you figure out how much plastic you use and dispose of every year and to set your goals for improvement. This week, I invite you to take a few minutes to fill out the two charts in the calculator. The first chart examines single-use items like cling wrap and cotton swabs, while the second calculates items that are used less often or last a bit longer, like cleaning containers and menstrual products. The tool will calculate your yearly consumption of each product type.



Once you figure out how much plastic you go through, you can identify which of your habits to change that would make the most difference in your personal plastic footprint. You might decide to buy a reusable water bottle, keep cloth shopping bags in your car, replace your cling wrap with beeswax wrap, or carry a reusable straw and utensils when you go out.

Or you can choose to "Up Cup". Single-use cups are one of the biggest single-use items we use. We think they are paper cups, but they are lined with plastic. As more people realize they can't be recycled, it's getting easier to avoid them. You can up your cup game too; either bring your own reusable cup, borrow or swap a cup from some cafes (there are some coffee cafes starting to do that), or take ten minutes to enjoy your favorite drink at the cafe. I find that even at coffee shops, they automatically serve your java in a disposable cup. Ugh! I have gotten into the habit of asking for mine in a ceramic cup. Help avoid the billions of single-use cups that end up in the landfill or litter each year. Bring, Borrow, or Stay!

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Worship In Sanctuary of the Firs on August 3

A beloved summer tradition at St. Andrew, we will meet again for worship in the Sanctuary of the Firs on **Sunday, August 3**, at 9:30 am. Due to technical limitations, this service will only be available live via Zoom for our online worshippers. For those joining us in-person who find it difficult to navigate our outdoor space, a concurrent service will be held inside, as usual.



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.

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.



Book Report on *Serving Justice*



Serving Justice: A History of the Oregon State Bar 1890-2000 by Gordon B. Dodds and Cathy Croghan Alzner is a lovely book. I admit I only read the bits in the green boxes, and looked at all the pictures, but all that I read was easy to understand and interesting.

There are lots of women included in the green bits, even though it took a while for them to be allowed in as lawyers or justices, and whatever else they wanted to be. Although really, the first lady lawyer was in 1885, while the first black man to pass the bar wasn't until 1903. Please note that women got the right to become lawyers before black men, while black men were able to vote before women...interesting. But the book follows the slow moving forward of justice and growth for women as well as for the entire state.

It also tells of the lawyers' retreats (no...lawyers never retreat!). They have them once a year—they called them annual meetings—at some nice location outside of any big city. For several years they were held in Baker, then in Bend, and later in Gearhart, and were events where they could kick up their heels, have a dance and comedy show, and—from 1950 on—a tent show as well, though the location changed several more times.

Actually, I would like to have time to read the whole thing, as it is full of pictures and not full of big words, but rather winds the evolution of law and state into an entertaining story of where we were and how far we have come.

Pam Farr
Adult Librarian

Looking for Altar Guild Volunteers

For many of us, we arrive at worship on Sunday mornings to an Altar already set for our weekly celebration of the sacrament of Holy Communion; the paten and chalices (bread plate and cups) are always prepared and in place, and the paraments (linens adorning the Altar and ambo) are coordinated to the color of the day or season.



This important work is done by the members of our Altar Guild, and they are looking for a few more people to join their efforts. For more information and to express interest in volunteering, contact Dcn. Susan Werner Reiser at srwerner.reiser@gmail.com.

In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Family & friends of Ethel Ritchey	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Ramona Moore Kinash & family	Peace and God's comfort at death of husband, Dave	Judy Heidinger
Criss Robinson	Peace and God's comfort at the death of her cat, Nala	Pr. Allison Bengfort
CeCe Saavedra (relative)	God's guidance and enlightenment of the Holy Spirit	Alex Stinekraus
Clay Gustafson	Healing and recovery from surgery	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Stacye (cousin)	Healing and recovery	Dana Taylor-Blakemore
Jane Harper (spouse)	Healing and recovery	Elaine May
Dan (father)	Healing and recovery	Casey Tkacz
Shonn (friend's son)	Healing and recovery	Lee Anne Knapp
Janet Shaw (mother)	Healing and recovery	Lee Anne Knapp
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
Jean Fredrickson	Peace and comfort	Judy Heidinger
Criss Robinson	Safe return of missing cat, Mr. Blue	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Scottie Jean Evans (granddaughter)	Thanksgiving for healthy birth	Sharon Carlson
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, Arden Tarum, Megan Webber	Healing and assurance of God's presence	Staff
Churches serving with us in the Oregon Synod, especially Trinity Lutheran (Tulelake, CA)	Blessings on their ministry	Staff

From the Family of Helen Rogers, to the People of St. Andrew

My mother moved to Beaverton from Astoria soon after my father died, around 1992. She was so happy to find St. Andrew, to make friends who shared her values and made her feel at home.

I looked at the empty church the other day and remembered all the wonderful people she kept busy with ushering, making coffee, cleaning up, doing Meals on Wheels, helping sew quilts, gathering school supplies, collecting food for homeless teens at Outside In, and especially playing pinocle. At the 11:00 o'clock service, several of them sat together in what they called the "Widows' Pew." The people of St. Andrew made her life so happy and meaningful. Her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were made welcome to celebrate several of her birthdays by bringing cake for coffee after service and visiting with everyone.



When I think of my mother and St. Andrew, I think of all those she cared about who are now also gone. Maybe some of you can remember them with me, along with my mother Helen Rogers, as they were also your fellow members at a different time. These are some names I remember, in no particular order: Thora Hooke, Eunice Harrum, Fran Kauffman, Marilyn Carlson, Dorothy Moore, Lorraine Covert, Bob Thompson, Nan Thompson, Marvel Lund, Mary Zummallen, Phyllis Morris, John Fritz, Hal Douglas, Don Parsons, and Corky & Claris Poppert.

Sincerely,

Her children Charlene and Charles; her grandchildren Esther and Chris; her great-grandchildren Cameron and Chaya; and her five great-great-grandchildren Gabriel, Roland, Oliver, Faye, and Bastian.

Editor's note: The preceding letter was written by Charlene Rogers, daughter of the late Helen Rogers, on behalf of her entire family. On the occasion of Helen's birthday (July 31), the Rogers family wanted to share a few memories and a picture here with this article. You can also find some copies of the original letter, which includes an additional picture from her 100th birthday celebration that was held at St. Andrew in 2021, on the counter under the bulletin board in the narthex.

St. Andrew Contacts	Council President Chuck Weswig.....president@standrewlutheran.com
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	Parish Executive Carol Harkercharker@standrewlutheran.com
	Administrative Assistant Martin Mills.....office@standrewlutheran.com
	Parish Nurses Diane Reiner 503-201-4222 Tira Nesset..... 503-866-5099

St. Andrew Walks with You

What a beautiful summer we have had! But soon, rain will return in the fall. Following Jesus' example of meeting the needs of all people, we, the people of St. Andrew, have an opportunity to show God's love to the youth and young adults in our city who are without a home. Throughout the month of August, the Service Committee will be collecting **new adult socks** for the people who stop by Outside In for a meal, a shower, or clothing. To contribute, you will find two barrels in the narthex (one blue and one yellow) in which you can place your donations of **new adult socks**. Thank you for demonstrating God's love to our young people!



A Prayer for Afternoon

O God, in you we live and move and have our being. Guide and govern us in this day by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but remember that always we are walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

-ELW page 330

Preparing for Worship Sunday, August 3, 2025

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
Psalm 49:1-12
Luke 12:13-21

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

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

Monday, July 28—Church Office Closed

10:00 am School Kits Bag Assembly Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, July 29

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

7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary

Wednesday, July 30—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com & charker@standrewlutheran.com

Thursday, July 31

10:00 am Strength + Stability with Susanne Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm Wing Chun Class Children's Commons

Friday, August 1

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, August 2—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

2:00 pm Memorial Service for Don Parsons Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Kitchen

Sunday, August 3

9:30 am Outdoor Worship Sanctuary of the Firs and via Zoom

9:30 am Indoor Worship Sanctuary

9:30 am Portland Taiwan Worship Service Chapel

10:45 am Taiwanese Church Fellowship Gathering Chapel

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.