

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

September 19, 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

Adult Ed Classes Start This Sunday

Prophets & Politics: Throughout history prophets have been known for speaking truth to power. In the second edition of his book, *The Prophetic Imagination*, Walter Brueggemann writes that the Hebrew prophets, far from being loners, were in fact representatives of social constituencies. Viewed in this light, the ancient prophets may not be so different from today's prophets.

This class will focus on the Hebrew prophets, especially Amos, Micah, and Jeremiah. How did they preach truth to power? Were they successful? What can we learn from them as we face our critical task of proclaiming truth today? Steve Christiansen will lead this five-week class Sundays at 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall.

WomanSpirit Rising: This book written in 1992 has been called the classic anthology of feminist spirituality. It consists of a collection of essays about God and about women's experience. Join teacher Janet Vorvick on Sundays at 11:00 am in the St. Andrew Room for this five-week class in which you will read several essays and discuss different images for God, different ideas about God, and different spiritual practices.

Join the Action on Sun Day!

Sun Day is a day of action on **September 21, 2025**, celebrating solar and wind power, and the movement to leave fossil fuels behind. The goal at the event in Portland is to raise broader public awareness about the affordable clean energy solutions available right now. The need for a more rapid transition to clean energy, which will provide jobs and a more stable economy, demonstrates the growing support for a safer and more equitable energy future for all Oregonians.



Join Liz Hardy at the Tom McCall Park along the Waterfront (221 SW Naito Pkwy) between 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm **this Sunday, September 21**. Experience the Waterfront transformed into a celebration of clean energy and learn more about how everyone can contribute to the Sun Power Revolution!

MACG Delegate Assembly

This year, the Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good (MACG) has been moving through the organizing cycle. At this September assembly the Healthcare Access and Immigration Response Teams will present their findings and propose actions to be taken this fall.

Delegates from MACG member organizations will then vote on MACG's next steps. As a member of St. Andrew Lutheran, you're invited to attend this important assembly being held at St. Andrew Catholic in NE Portland this **Sunday, September 21**, from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Learn more about this event, find directions, and register for it by visiting the MACG website: macg.org/september_21_delegate_assembly.



Fall Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Ingathering

We are preparing for our next LWR Ingathering and there are two opportunities for you to volunteer! On **Friday, October 24**, volunteers have their choice of a 2-hour shift between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. On **Saturday, October 25**, we need volunteers to staff a single three-hour shift starting at 9:00 am.

The Ingathering takes place in the St. Andrew parking lot near the community garden. We have two types of assignments:

- * Loading the shipping container. Boxes can weigh up to 40 pounds.
- * Greeting vehicles as churches drop off their donations.

To volunteer, please sign up on the sheets in the narthex. You can also contact Rochelle McIntire at pacificnwlwrgroup@gmail.com or Randy Sinn at sinn78home@gmail.com to sign up or to learn more.



We are also in need of small and medium sized boxes—used or new—for packing quilts and school kits from St. Andrew. These boxes can't be too large or else they would exceed the weight limit. An example for size are the small and medium sized boxes available from UHaul or Home Depot. If you can save and donate any used boxes, please contact Mike McDowall by email at mcdowall.ml@gmail.com or call 503-869-5685. Thank you!

August 2025 by the Numbers

Average Weekly Worship Attendance

In-person:	110
Online:	97
Total:	169

*No online attendance recorded
August 3 & 31, so total is skewed.*

Weekly Revenue

Average Weekly Revenue, including offerings, building use, etc.:	\$13,292
--	----------

Average Weekly Revenue needed to fully cover all budgeted expenses and end the year without a deficit:	\$15,115
--	----------

Fiscal Year to Date Revenue

Actual:	\$157,952
Budgeted:	\$117,471

Fiscal Year to Date Expenses

Actual:	\$108,708
Budgeted:	\$130,995

Fiscal Year to Date Surplus/(Deficit)

Actual:	\$49,244
Budgeted:	(\$13,524)

Mama & Hapa's Zero Waste Store

Ross Ching had a goal when he and his wife Nadia Takla opened their first zero-waste store in Milwaukie. He knew he could not singlehandedly cure climate change, but he did hope to change people's mindset about what products they buy. "When someone runs out of dish soap at home, they don't think, 'I'm gonna go refill this bottle.' They toss the bottle and get a new one the next time they're at the grocery store," he said. "Once we can achieve that mindset shift, we can then begin to think about changing the habits of the community as a whole." he added.

Mama & Hapa Zero Waste Shop: The name of the shop reflects Ching's family, his heritage and the shop's goal. He noted that he and his wife have children, so Takla is the "Mama" in the store's name, and he is the "Hapa." In Hawaiian, Hapa is a person who is of mixed race, and Mr. Ching is half Chinese and half White. As for the rest of the shop's name, it's a place where customers can get all their household and personal care products minus all the extraneous packaging. People can bring in their own containers to refill, or they can take some of the free glass jars in the shop and fill those. And it is also a place where people can donate their empty glass containers to be reused instead of recycled.

RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) system: Mama & Hapa's uses a unique pumping system to dispense liquids such as household cleaners and face wash, so customers do not have to weigh their containers at any point. When customers arrive, they pick up an RFID card, head to one of the pumps, hold the empty container under the spout, hold the card in front of the scanner and keep a careful eye on the volume dispensed. The shop provides labels to attach to the containers, so customers can identify the products when they get home. Once the containers are filled, customers give the RFID card to the cashier who uses it to determine how much was dispensed and how much they owe.

Variety of products: Mr. Ching noted that the most popular products in Mama & Hapa's are the staples like dish soap, laundry liquid, hand soap and dishwasher tablets. He said his favorite product is the store's deodorant because "it's a line that we personally make at our warehouse and it actually works."

The shop is about more than just refillable bottles. There are many household products, like bamboo utensils, bamboo toilet paper, reusable straws, bar soap and toothpaste. They have cleaning solutions, dental floss, lotions, produce bags, personal hygiene products and much more. They carry many brands and also have their own Mama & Hapa's brand, just like Costco has Kirkland Signature branded items. This cuts out the middleman to sell a less expensive product while retaining the same quality as branded products. Mama & Hapa's brands come in 55 gallon drums which get cleaned and reused, thus eliminating single-use plastic packaging.



Check it out; I think you'll be impressed! There are four locations locally: 12695 SW Crescent Ave, #130, Beaverton; 1389 SE Stark St., Portland; 3806 N. Mississippi Ave., Portland; and 11122 SE Main St., Milwaukie. The beauty of having local waste-free stores is that in addition to avoiding plastic packaging, it eliminates a lot of the transportation and shipping carbon footprint.

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Volunteer for the Church Office

For well more than a decade Ed & Linda Fransen have faithfully set aside a couple of hours each week to assemble the church bulletins we all depend on to guide us through worship on Sunday mornings. While the folder is printed and folded by office staff, the Fransens have collated and stapled the booklet on Thursday mornings. It's time to offer them some assistance!



Ideally, this task is most efficient when two people work together, one collating the pages and the other stapling them together. If you can help provide backup for Ed & Linda, please contact Martin Mills at the church office.

Another job we could use help with is ensuring that the pews are stocked with Doodle Cards, giving envelopes, sharpened pencils, etc. This can be done any day of the week and could take up to an hour. If you're interested but can't commit to weekly service, contact the church office anyway as all assistance is welcome!

Stewarding Our Forest and Wetland

All creation testifies to the power and presence of God.

We at St. Andrew have an obligation to steward our beautiful forest and wetland. Over the last decade more than 25,000 native plants have been planted on our property. Unfortunately, the invasive blackberry, holly, and ivy are also still thriving. Please join the Earth Care Team on St. Francis' Day, **October 4**, to help us remove the invasive weeds.

Invasive Weed Removal Party

- All Ages Welcome

When

- Saturday, October 4**, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

What to Bring

- Weed Removal Tools
- Garden or Work Gloves
- Closed Toe Shoes or Boots

We Will Have

- Coffee and Cookies
- Advice on Native Plants and Invasives
- Extra tools and gloves

Please let us know if you will be joining us as we steward the beautiful forest and wetland that God has given us. You can email LuAnn Staul at ljstaul@gmail.com for questions and to let the Earth Care Team know that you plan to attend.

Also please consider joining the Earth Care Team in our stewardship of the Earth as we commit to:

- ◆ Restoring the carbon balance in our atmosphere, soil, and seas by starting our efforts in our homes and yards;
- ◆ Taking personal responsibility for the choices we make and the ways our lives impact other inhabitants of our world;
- ◆ Celebrating God's gift of creation in worship;
- ◆ Spreading the word by educating others about their potential to make positive change for the planet; and
- ◆ Lobbying businesses, organizations, and government entities to enact practices and protections for our common environment.

In Need of Prayers...

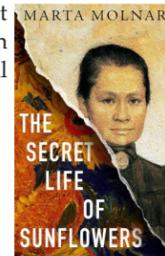
<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
K.C. (brother)	Peace in his heart and healing in his soul	Kim Taylor-Blakemore
Stacye (cousin)	Comfort and healing	Dana & Kim Taylor-Blakemore
Jeannine Douglas	Healing and recovery	Carol Harker
Donna (brother-in-law's wife)	Peace and comfort on hospice	Carol Hogan
Don (brother-in-law)	Peace and comfort	Carol Hogan
Mary (sister-in-law)	Successful surgery on September 24	Carol Hogan
The unemployed and underemployed	Successful search for meaningful & fulfilling employment	Lee Anne Knapp
Tammy Piscitelli & Warren Blanchard	Blessings on September 20 nuptials	Staff
Those receiving ongoing pastoral care, including Bob Brown, Dave Bumgardner, Bettye Eldridge, 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 Peace Lutheran (Pendleton)	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. Requests will remain on the prayer list for two weeks unless otherwise specified.

Spirituality Book Group News

The Spirituality Book Group will meet in the St. Andrew Adult Library at 2:30 pm on **Sunday, September 28**, with Fran Miller leading the discussion on *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar. At this meeting, we will also be selecting books to read and discuss for the next several months.

This historical fiction novel tells the story of the sister-in-law of Vincent Van Gogh, Johanna Bonger Van Gogh, who was instrumental in ensuring that the amazing art works of Vincent Van Gogh were put in front of the public. According to Kirkus reviews, this is "an engrossing, impeccably researched tale connecting passionate, creative women across time."



Future Reading: On **October 26**, Sharon Fako will lead discussion on *The Last Life of Mable Beaumont* by Laura Pearson. And on **November 23**, Mary Smith will lead discussion on *James: A Novel* by Percival Everett.

St. Andrew Needs YOU! Volunteer with High School Youth

We continue to look for 2-4 more people to commit to spending this school year building relationships with our high school students. Mostly, this job is just showing up—joining Sunday morning youth group, hanging out at game nights, going bowling, or carving pumpkins at a Halloween party. Very little preparation or training is necessary to volunteer! This is a great way to show our youth how much they mean to our congregation. Please reach out to me if you are interested. This ministry is not possible without you!

Kyler Vogt

Director of Next Generational Ministry

Volunteers Needed at Clothes for Kids

St. Andrew has supported Clothes for Kids both financially and physically for many years. Currently, the program needs volunteers to work on site sorting clothes and assisting families seeking adequate clothing for their children. Various days and times are available for volunteers. Those who may be available and interested in volunteering are asked to contact Bonnie Bliesner by emailing her at larrybliesner@comcast.net.

The Service Committee

St. Andrew Contacts

Council President Chuck Weswig.....	president@standrewlutheran.com
Lead Pastor Allison Bengfort.....	pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com, 563-210-6304
Associate Pr. Colleen Nelson.....	pastorcolleen@standrewlutheran.com, 269-274-1365
Minister of Music John Gladen.....	jgladen@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 Nessel.....	503-866-5099

WFWA Collection Drive

We continue to collect clothing and food for the Western Farm Workers Association (WFWA) during September. Last year we collected more than 330 food and clothing items.

This year WFWA requests we collect:

- Coats
- Sweatshirts
- Sweaters
- Work pants
- Rain jackets
- Work boots



All clothing must be new or gently used, in good repair, and not soiled. In addition to clothing, tuna, beans, rice, peanut butter, jam, and cooking oil are needed for the WFWA food pantry.

Please place clothing items in the barrel in the narthex and food donations in bags or boxes nearby. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Reiser.

Walk to End Alzheimer's

Rick & Becky LeRoy will be walking in the 2025 Walk to End Alzheimer's taking place on **October 11** at the Oregon Zoo. Won't you consider joining them and helping raise funds for this very worthwhile cause? You can donate to the organization—\$100 will earn you a purple T-shirt!—and sign up to walk at tinyurl.com/2025LutheransWalking. Donations are not required to walk. You may also donate without walking.

Preparing for Worship Sunday, September 28, 2025

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15
Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16
Luke 16:19-31

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, September 19

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, September 20—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

Sunday, September 21

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 | Prophets and Politics Fellowship Hall

11:00 am Adult Ed | WomanSpirit Rising St. Andrew Room

11:00 am Confirmation for Middle School Youth Library

11:00 am High School Youth Group Youth Room

1:00 pm Twirlers' Meeting & Practice St. Andrew Room, Fellowship Hall

2:00 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Children's Commons

Monday, September 22—Church Office Closed

All day Light Fixture Retrofitting Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, September 23

All day Light Fixture Retrofitting Fellowship Hall

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 TBD

12:00 pm Bridge Group TBD

12:15 pm Earth Care / Community Carbon Leadership Meeting Library

5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting Library

7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary

7:00 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Children's Commons

Wednesday, September 24—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com & charker@standrewlutheran.com

All day Light Fixture Retrofitting Fellowship Hall

11:00 am Alzheimer's Support Group St. Andrew Room

6:00 pm Bells of Grace Rehearsal Sanctuary

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Thursday, September 25

10:00 am Strength + Stability with Susanne Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm IT Meeting Offsite

7:00 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm Wing Chun Class Children's Commons

Friday, September 26

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, September 27—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

10:00 am New Member Class Fellowship Hall, Kitchen

Sunday, September 28

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 | Prophets and Politics Fellowship Hall

11:00 am Adult Ed | WomanSpirit Rising St. Andrew Room

11:00 am Confirmation for Middle School Youth Library

11:00 am High School Youth Group Youth Room

2:00 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

2:30 pm Spirituality Book Group 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.