

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

November 7, 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

Listening Sessions: Becoming an Intentionally Multigenerational Church



What does it mean to be an intentionally multigenerational congregation? How do we support our younger generations with creativity and trust? How do we support our older generations with confidence and hope? These are the kind of questions we will be pondering during the adult education hour on Sunday mornings in November.

Your input will shape the direction of our congregation's culture, programming, and staffing. We hope you will join us in Fellowship Hall Sundays at 11:00 am through **November 23**.

A Convening on Immigrant Justice

The Immigrant Justice Research Team from Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good (MACG) will be hosting a Convening of those concerned with bringing about just treatment of immigrants in our community.



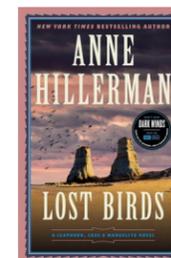
It will take place **this Sunday, November 9**, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 p.m. at Spirit of Grace Church (7400 SW Scholls Ferry Road).

This meeting will have multiple purposes: to conduct a landscape analysis of immigration justice work being done in the tri-county area in order to see what is being done and what has yet to be accomplished; to be intentional about not duplicating services unnecessarily; to build relationships with concerned parties; and to learn where the power and influence are and seeing how they can be accessed.

It would be great to have several people from St. Andrew attend this meeting so that we as a congregation can see where we might fit into the larger picture. We can share what we are already doing—especially the work of our Sanctuary Team—and we could discover how we might be able to work with others to accomplish greater justice for our immigrant community.

You may register for this event at: tinyurl.com/macg251109. If you don't get a chance to register, you're welcome to come anyway! Please contact Mary Smith (dbits1@gmail.com) if you have any questions about this event.

Men's Book Club News



The Men's Book Club will meet **this Monday, November 10**, at 7:00 pm to discuss the book *Lost Birds: A Leaphorn, Chee & Manuelito Novel* by Anne Hillerman. Ted Miller will host this discussion at his home.

At the next meeting on **December 8**, members will discuss *Things Seen and Unseen: A Year Lived in Faith* by Nora Gallagher. The title for January has not been announced yet.

Let's Talk About Balance and Preventing Falls



Aging with Grace, a small faith group of Holy Trinity Catholic, is pleased to announce they will have a guest speaker, Barry Jacoshenk, for the meeting on **Friday, November 14**, being held in Fellowship Hall at St. Andrew. Barry (affectionately known as "Dr. Barry") has been a Physician Assistant in Orthopedic Surgery in the Portland area for more than 22 years.

He specializes in adult reconstructive surgery (joint replacements) but speaks to a wide breadth of orthopedic and rehabilitation topics. He is an adjunct teaching professor in Pacific University's PA program and regularly has students train with him and his group. In the last few years he has taken an interest in longevity research and fall prevention.

Barry will join Aging with Grace to talk about fall prevention and present some balance exercises—important topics for all aging persons. His presentation will be held at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Fellowship Hall at 1:00 pm. This event is free and open to the public—everyone is welcome to attend.

If you have any questions, please contact Hilary Hutchinson at hilaryhutch@yahoo.com.

Thank You to Ingathering Volunteers!

We had more than 52 volunteers participate in the Lutheran World Relief Fall Ingathering on Reformation Sunday weekend! These volunteers boxed up, collected, and loaded 19,674 lbs. of:

- * Quilts (2284),
- * Blankets (79),
- * School Kits (2744),
- * Personal Care Kits (394),
- * Fabric Kits (88), and
- * Baby Care Kits (347).



We especially want to thank the six volunteers from St. Matthew Lutheran who gave their time and energy over the two days, and to the many volunteers who work behind the scenes to donate supplies, sew quilts, and assemble school kits.



Our 2026 Spring Ingathering will be the first weekend in May.

Grateful for our partnership in ministry,

The St. Andrew LWR Coordinating Team

Upcoming Church Office Closures

Please be aware, the Church Office will be closed on **Tuesday, November 11**, in observance of Veterans Day. We will respond to emails and calls when we return to the office on Wednesday.



Looking ahead, the Church Office will be closed at the end of this month on **November 27 & 28** for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Recycling Mystery: Expanded Polystyrene

Adapted from Earth911 article originally posted October 30, 2025.

It's the eternal question: Can I recycle expanded polystyrene (commonly known as Styrofoam)?

Expanded polystyrene (EPS) is everywhere: It holds your food, secures items in packages, provides insulation in homes, and even helps protect your head in your bike helmet. It's designated by the plastic recycling code #6 PS, which (in unexpanded form) you'll find in plastic cups and CD & DVD cases.

Here's a sobering fact: Americans dump approximately 1,500 tons of polystyrene in landfills daily, and less than 1% of it is recycled. That recycling rate is particularly disheartening when you consider that EPS is 98% air, making it technically recyclable, yet most communities lack the equipment and infrastructure to process it economically.

Here's the problem: Even if your community recycles unexpanded plastic #6 cups and containers, it may not accept expanded polystyrene #6 (Styrofoam) because you can't un-expand the plastic resin. However, facilities that are equipped to process EPS can grind it for use in other applications. Because it's so lightweight, EPS accounts for only 0.01% of the total municipal solid waste by weight, but its volume takes up a lot of space in landfills and doesn't biodegrade. Because of the significant recycling challenge, several states, including Oregon and Washington, have banned some EPS products such as Styrofoam food service containers and packing peanuts due to the microplastics it generates and its non-biodegradable properties.

Recycling and reusing EPS: While curbside recycling of expanded polystyrene is limited, recycling markets and innovative solutions are emerging. The form your EPS takes is the biggest factor that determines how to get rid of it. EPS packaging, especially packing peanuts, is often accepted at shipping stores for reuse, but these locations won't take large blocks of Styrofoam, to-go containers, or cups.

In our area, Green Century Recycling at 2950 NW 29th Ave., Portland will take Styrofoam in pretty much all forms. Also, James Recycling and Ridwell will take all forms of Styrofoam; they then take it to Green Century Recycling. All three places charge a small fee of \$10 per 45-gallon bag of expanded polystyrene. Make sure all containers are clean, empty, and free of tape, labels, plastic film, or other contaminants as they ruin the recycling process. Do not mix packing peanuts made of cornstarch in with the EPS peanuts. To tell the difference, get a peanut wet; if it dissolves, it's made of cornstarch.

Reuse it: The simplest reuse of expanded polystyrene peanuts is to store them for use later in another package you need to ship. You can also donate them to The UPS Store outlets or other shipping stores, which will gladly reuse clean packing peanuts. You might be able to think of ways to re-purpose blocks of Styrofoam for crafts. The EPS Industry Alliance has real people answering questions about local options at 800-828-2214.



EPS alternatives: As more governments consider and implement EPS bans, and businesses phase out Styrofoam packaging, you'll likely start seeing alternatives. You can already find food packaging made from bamboo, cornstarch, mushrooms, and peat plastic, not to mention plantable packaging (who knew?). If you must use expanded polystyrene, try to purchase EPS made from recycled content. Usually, green packing peanuts are made with a high recycled content, so if you ship a lot of material, spring for the off-white color EPS for your packages.

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Thanksgiving Meals for Community Action

We need your help sponsoring Thanksgiving meals for Community Action families! Community Action works with families on parenting, financial stability, housing, and education. It also runs the Head Start program here at St. Andrew. Our goal for this year is to collect \$5,460, enough to buy seventy-eight \$70 WinCo gift cards for these families. Any donations that exceed our goal will be used for our upcoming Barnes School Christmas Giving Tree or donated to the St. Matthew Food Pantry.

If you wish to give online, select "Thanksgiving Community Action Donation" in the drop-down menu below "Fund," or you can send a check made out to St. Andrew Lutheran with "Thanksgiving Donation" in the memo line.



This is a wonderful way to live out our faith, as well as giving families in need the chance to truly celebrate Thanksgiving. Our deadline to receive donations is **Monday, November 17**. If you have any questions, contact LuAnn Staul or Linda McDowall.

Finding Our Collective Power: Basics of Community Organizing



We are stronger together than we are alone. The Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good (MACG) uses this fundamental principle to train leaders to take action on issues important to our community. Currently, MACG is focusing efforts on immigrant safety and access to healthcare.

Intrigued? Join us on **Sunday, November 23**, from 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm and learn skills that will transform people into effective public actors. Topics include the Organizing Cycle, the art of building public relationships, building collective power, and much more. The training will be held at the SMART Local 16 Union Hall in NE Portland. Find directions and register for this event by visiting: tinyurl.com/macg251123.

Questions? Speak with Pat Christiansen or any member of the St. Andrew Community Organizing Team: Pr. Allison Bengfort, Sonja Ackman, Gretchen Bancroft, Larry Bliesner, Amy Peahl, or Lynn Santelmann.

Save the Date: November 30 at 2:30 pm

Big Horn Brass and the St. Matthew Exaltation Handbell Ensemble invite you to their 2025 annual concert "Christmas Joy" on **Sunday, November 30**, at 2:30 pm. This is a free community concert being held at St. Matthew Lutheran, 10390 SW Canyon Rd. in Beaverton. You can learn more about this free event by visiting: erikweswig.com.



In Need of Prayers...

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRAYERS FOR...</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Family and friends of Gary Magnuson	Peace and God's comfort at his death	Pr. Colleen Nelson
The Palo family (cousins)	Peace and God's comfort at death of daughter, Ronalee	Linda Fransen
David Rodriguez (son)	Healing	Pr. Colleen Nelson
Mary (sister-in-law)	Healing and recovery	Carol Hogan
Randy Schutt	Healing and recovery	Pr. Colleen Nelson
Rebecca Uecker	Peace, hope, and mental wellness	Rebecca Uecker
Warren Blanchard	Physical healing and mental fortitude	Pr. Allison Bengfort
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 Kim Taylor-Blakemore	Encouragement and support	Staff
Churches serving with us in the Oregon Synod, especially Trinity Lutheran (Gresham)	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.

Dear Members of St. Andrew Lutheran Church

School ended July 17th and the four weeks that followed flew by. All of a sudden, I was back and walking on newly stripped and waxed floors, ready to reassemble my classroom.

School began on August 26th and, as always, we ended the first day with a school-wide root beer float toast to commemorate the beginning of the new school year – our 36th! On the first day, I broke my students into small groups so they could discuss among themselves what they wanted our class to be this year. Here are some of their ideas:

- “I want the class to be friendly” -Aaron, 4th grade
- “I want the class to work together.” -Dylan, 5th grade
- “I want our class to be quiet at the right times.” -Deliyla, 4th grade
- “I want our class to be happy and have fun.” -Kim, 5th grade

At the end of the day, before our toast, I told them that this class has the potential to become a “fabulous class.” Those words were not merely hopeful, they’re my firm belief. There will be struggles, challenges, and disappointments; however, I believe they will succeed because they want to.



Thank you for your generous gift to our school, your ongoing support, and for your belief in our work and our students.

Cheryl M. Bickle

Principal/Lead Teacher at Community Transitional School

Thank You for Being Part of the EMO Community!

Your generosity impacts the lives of thousands in our state. For nearly 50 years Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) has been advocating for the marginalized and serving those in need. Our unique approach brings together advocacy, education, and direct service. Your gift helps to further our work, providing groceries to those struggling with the economic hardships of inflation; addressing the basic needs of individuals living with HIV/AIDS; housing unaccompanied high school students; providing immigration-related legal representation to refugees and immigrants throughout Oregon; and much more. Thank you for your membership and support.

Kristi Baack

Director of Development

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

A Couple of Thank-Yous

Thank you so much to everyone who helped with Dan Fako's memorial reception. From setting up and providing snacks to cleaning up and washing tablecloths, the Memorial went smoothly thanks to everyone's help.

We reached our goal of providing 400 School Kits for LWR with everyone pitching in to help! Thanks so much to all who participated.

Pam Jelineo

Join the Nifty Notters!

On the first and third Saturdays of each month, the hard-working members of our quilting group, the Nifty Notters, meet in Fellowship Hall to assemble quilts for the various missions of the church. This work needs you! All hands are welcome to drop in at any point between 9:00 am and 2:30 pm, or bring a lunch and stay for the whole work session. Please help us by offering your support to continue this important ministry!



Food Pantry Donations

Last Thursday, Mike & Mary Carroll delivered 141 lbs. of food donations from the barrel in the narthex to the St. Matthew Food Pantry. Thank you!

Preparing for Worship
Sunday, November 16, 2025
 Malachi 4:1-2a
 Psalm 98
 Luke 21:5-19

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, November 7

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, November 8—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

Sunday, November 9

9:30 am Worship with Children’s Church 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 | Listening Sessions: Becoming an Intentionally Multigenerational Church Fellowship Hall

11:00 am Confirmation for Middle School Youth Library

11:00 am High School Youth Group Youth Room

12:00 pm Safety Team Orientation Fellowship Hall

2:30 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

Monday, November 10—Church Office Closed

7:00 pm Evening Prayer Chapel

7:00 pm Finance Team Meeting via Zoom

7:00 pm Men’s Book Club Home of Ted Miller

Tuesday, November 11—Church Office Closed

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)

1:30 pm Service Committee Library

5:00 pm Stewardship Team Meeting Pastor’s Office

5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting Chapel

7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary

7:00 pm Community Organizing Team Meeting St. Andrew Room

7:00 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, November 12—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com & charker@standrewlutheran.com

6:00 pm Bells of Grace Rehearsal Sanctuary

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Thursday, November 13

10:00 am Strength + Stability with Susanne Fellowship Hall

12:00 pm Alzheimer’s Support Group St. Andrew Room, Library

5:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom

7:00 pm Contemporary Band Rehearsal Sanctuary

7:00 pm Foundation Team Meeting Library

7:00 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm Wing Chun Class Children’s Commons

Friday, November 14

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

1:00 pm Aging with Grace Fellowship Hall

Saturday, November 15—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

9:00 am Nifty Notters Fellowship Hall

Sunday, November 16

9:30 am Worship with Children’s Church 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 | Listening Sessions: Becoming an Intentionally Multigenerational Church Fellowship Hall

11:00 am Confirmation for Middle School Youth Library

11:00 am High School Youth Group Youth Room

2:30 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

Worship at St. Andrew or Connect to Virtual Worship



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.*



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.