

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

February 20, 2026

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
12405 SW Butner Road, Beaverton, OR 97005

Worship Service:
Sunday, 9:30 am

www.standrewlutheran.com ■ Telephone: 503-646-0629

Tree-Planting with Friends of Trees



This Saturday, February 21, St. Andrew will serve as the staging site for the Friends of Trees Cedar Hills and Cedar Mill tree-planting event. Join Friends of Trees to plant trees, connect with your community, and green the surrounding neighborhood!

Seven trees will also be planted on the St. Andrew property during this event. If you are interested in planting trees, please arrive at St. Andrew by 9:00 am, dressed for the weather, along with sturdy shoes or boots and gloves. Volunteers wanting to join the event are asked to register at tinyurl.com/FoTFeb2026. If you would rather not volunteer for the larger tree-planting event, you can also forego registering and just help with planting the seven trees at St. Andrew.

We need trees more than ever. Heatwaves, flooding, and all of the increasingly catastrophic effects of climate change make it clear that every day needs to be the day for climate action, and planting trees is a key part of a comprehensive climate strategy. For more information, you can email one of these two members of our Earth Care Team: Don Nearhood (dnearhood@gmail.com) or LuAnn Staul (ljustaul@gmail.com).

Portland Polar Plunge and 5K Is Tomorrow!

Attention St. Andrew friends of all ages! You are invited to join the Neon Monks for the 2026 Portland Polar Plunge & 5K, benefitting Special Olympics Oregon, on Saturday, February 21, at Willamette Park in South Portland. This joyful (and chilly!) event supports year-round sports training and health programs for athletes with special needs. You can run or walk the 5K, take the Polar Plunge into the Willamette River, or come cheer wildly from dry land – every role matters!

Our St. Andrew team, the Neon Monks, will be easy to spot: think bright neon colors, definitely a few monks' robes a la Martin Luther, and a whole lot of laughter and encouragement. The cost to take the plunge or run the 5K is \$60, and all participants help raise funds for an incredible cause.

Whether you're fast, fearless, festive, or just there for the fellowship, we would love for you to join us. Let's show up together, support our neighbors, and have some fun while doing it! Come be a Neon Monk. To join the team, use the link below, click on "Register," then select "Join a team" and search for "Neon Monks." You can register for, donate to, and learn more about this event by going to tinyurl.com/2026PDXPolarPlunge.



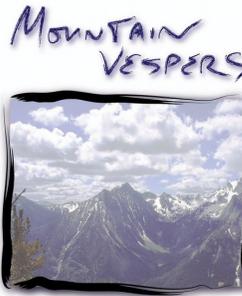
Multigenerational Listening Sessions Follow-Up, Gathering, and Light Lunch

Do you hear what we hear? We held listening sessions last fall about creating a multigenerational congregation. It's time for us to report what we heard and get your feedback. Where do we go from here? Please join us for an interactive gathering followed by a light lunch this Sunday, February 22, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.



Wednesday Evening Lenten Worship

We are pleased to offer mid-week worship every Wednesday of Lent at 7:00 pm in the chapel, beginning this Wednesday, February 25. This year we will be singing the Mountain Vespers service, a folk-inspired setting of Vespers (using the same text as Holden Evening Prayer) coming out of Holden Village. Each service will include a scripture reading and reflection from a member of the congregation. We hope to see you there!



Intent Card Progress Update

Thank you to everyone who submitted their intent cards last Sunday and throughout the week! We are happy to report that, so far, we have received 83 intent cards toward our goal of 125. Of these cards, 77% represent growth in generosity, either through increasing intended giving or submitting a card for the first time. This is truly incredible! Given this wonderful generosity, we are well on our way to meeting or exceeding our goal of increasing giving intentions by \$1,300 per week. Stay tuned for further updates!

If you have not yet submitted your giving intention, we would be more than grateful for your participation! Intent cards are available in the narthex of the church or can be submitted online at standrewlutheran.com/give. This year, a generous donor will contribute a bonus \$100 for every household that submits an intent card for the first time or increases their intention by any amount. Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of St. Andrew!



Pr. Allison Bengfort
Lead Pastor

New Adult Education Series Start on March 1

Beginning Sunday, March 1, our Lenten series of adult education opportunities will begin following worship. We're delaying the start of these sessions from what was previously planned so as to give space this Sunday for a gathering to follow-up on the multigenerational listening sessions held last year.



Join Paul Navarre in the St. Andrew room for a series on "What Can the Epistles Teach Us About Our Church" where you will look at the problems faced by the early Christian churches, to whom these letters were written. In reviewing the advice and counsel given by the apostles, the class will then look to see what can be learned about the challenges faced by St. Andrew and the wider Church today, and seek out guidance from the apostles to meet those challenges.

And in Fellowship Hall, Pr. Allison Bengfort and the St. Andrew Connections Team will be hosting New Member Orientation. These sessions are for anyone who is considering membership at St. Andrew, those who are newer to this Lutheran community, as well as all who would appreciate a refresher on who we are as a congregation and what it means to be a member.

Both of these adult education offerings will be held at 11:00 am on Sundays, March 1 - 22, so choose the one that calls to you for this season of Lent. More information about these and all our educational opportunities can be found on our website under the "Education" tab.

Easter Season Planning Meeting



Easter is more than one Sunday. It is the season between Easter Sunday and Pentecost, inclusive. Soon it will be time to plan our worship services for this season. What ideas do you have for worship? How can this joyful season be brought to life?

Please join members of the worship planning team on Saturday, March 7, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. We will meet in the library upstairs. If you have any questions, talk with Pr. Allison Bengfort or John Gladen. We hope to see you there!

The Sound of Democracy

You're invited to a peaceful sing-along protest at the ICE facility in South Portland on Sunday, March 8, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm. Raise your voice alongside singers from across Oregon in songs of resilience, solidarity, and hope. You will join with others coming together to stand up against ICE's violent detention and deportation sweeps which separate families, detain individuals without due process, and cause profound harm to communities.

Counter that hate with joy and solidarity by carrying on the singing traditions of protest movements past and present. Thirteen songs have been selected, all of which should be familiar favorites or easy to learn on-the-spot.



Selections include Here Comes the Sun which reminds us that "ice is slowly melting," along with the finale It's OK to Change Your Mind which invites ICE employees to defect and join the resistance movement. The setlist will be sung through twice, with a brief pause between sets.

All voices are welcome, along with costumes! No memorization, rehearsals, or experience are required. This gathering will be peaceful, lawful, and inclusive. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. You are asked, however, to print out the lyrics sheet ahead of time to bring to the protest. Learn more, get directions, and find the link to the lyrics sheet at mobilize.us/s/bRN65Q.

Save the Date! Sunday, April 19, at 3:00 pm

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend the next gathering of people from all Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good (MACG) member institutions as we hear what has been happening and discern together where we go from here. The Delegate Assembly will be on Sunday, April 19, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, at St. Andrew Lutheran Church.

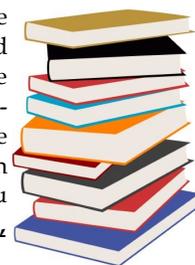


Yes, we are the hosts again! Stay tuned for details about how you can help offer hospitality as people from the tri-county area gather in our Fellowship Hall. If you have questions about this event, or MACG, you can ask any member of the St. Andrew Organizing Team:

Sonja Ackman, Gretchen Bancroft, Pr. Allison Bengfort, Larry Bliesner, Pat Christiansen, Amy Peahl, or Lynn Santelmann.

St. Andrew Book Sale Is Three Months Away

Help us prepare to hold a successful book sale this May by bringing in all your unwanted books and magazines! Proceeds from the sale will go to benefit the St. Andrew Library. Donations can be piled on or set underneath the desk in the upstairs library. There are even some empty boxes available there should you need them. The book sale will be held Sunday, May 24, following worship.



Lenten Food Train Has Returned to Narthex

The 2026 Lenten Food Drive has begun its journey and will go through Easter Sunday, April 5. This year there are three trains: one for food, one for hygiene products, and one for baby supplies. Local food pantries have been reporting a lack of staple foods this year as the needs are great. Flour, sugar, rice, pasta, canned vegetables, and soup are especially needed. Hygiene products such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, and sanitary products are always needed. Baby supplies, like diapers, wipes, and baby shampoo, are necessary as well.



If you do not have time to shop for items, you can give through our Online Giving portal at standrewlutheran.com/give by selecting "Lenten Food Drive" in the drop-down Fund menu. You can also place a check in the offering plate during worship with "Lenten Food Drive" written in the memo line. Thank you!

Community Warehouse Drive a Success!

"Thank you so much for hosting such an amazing collection drive for Community Warehouse and for continuing to be an ongoing community partner."

Dryden Driggers, Outreach Coordinator

"Thank you so much for this tremendous donation!"

Emma Hoyle, Development Director

"We so appreciate your support!"

Phil Gerigscott, Senior Manager of Communications



"Thanks!"

Aaron Ramirez, Fleet Manager



USED GOODS TO GOOD USE

In Need of Prayers...

NAME	PRAYERS FOR...	CONTACT
Pr. Harvey Blomberg and family	Peace and God's comfort at death of wife, Carol	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Carmen (mother of her relative Lisa)	Comfort and effective treatment	Judy Scholz
Lisa and her family (relatives)	Comfort and peace	Judy Scholz
Rebecca Fako Uecker	Healing and discernment	Rebecca Fako Uecker
Cory (cousin)	Healing and recovery	Carol Hogan
Father of Leo Bancroft	Healing and recovery	Gretchen Bancroft
Michelle Smith (aunt)	Healing and recovery	Casey Tkacz
Randy Schutt	Healing and strength	Michelle & Randy Sinn
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)	Blessings on our ministry	Staff
ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry	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, Stacye Erickson, 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 Joyful Servant (Newberg) and Christ the King (Tigard)	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.

MealTrain® Is Now at St. Andrew!

One of the ways we live out our lives together at St. Andrew is by showing up for one another in very practical, human ways—especially when life throws an unexpected curveball.

We're now using MealTrain® as a simple, coordinated way to offer meals during short-term moments of need: a new baby, a surgery, an illness, or another sudden life event. This is **not** for ongoing food assistance, rather it's for those surprise seasons when a little extra care makes a big difference. Kim Taylor-Blakemore is the administrator of this program for St. Andrew.

If you or someone you love at St. Andrew could benefit from a MealTrain®, here's how to get started:

1. **Email Kim first** to let her know you're setting one up by sending an email to mealtrain@standrewlutheran.com.
2. **Create a free personal MealTrain®** at mealtrain.com and enter the details of what you need, such as dates, preferences, delivery notes, etc.
3. **Important final step:**
 - Go to mealtrain.com/standrewlutheranbeaverton,
 - click "Find Group Events," and
 - select "Add Events."

This connects your MealTrain® to our St. Andrew page so that the congregation can easily participate.

To see current MealTrain® needs and sign up to provide meals, you can visit the St. Andrew MealTrain® page at mealtrain.com/standrewlutheranbeaverton.

Need help or more information? Email Kim at mealtrain@standrewlutheran.com.



Join the Nifty Notters

Calling all knotters! We need people like you to help us tie together the quilts that we assemble. We use double-square knots, so if scouting is in your background, this might just be the group for you! We meet from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm on the first and third Saturdays of the month in Fellowship Hall. Our next meeting is **this Saturday, February 21**.



You are invited to drop in for any part of the session, or stay for the whole day! All supplies are provided except lunch. Everyone is welcome!

A Song from the Psalms

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy
of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

—ELW #188, text based on Ps. 51:10-12

**“Return to the Lord,
your God, who is
gracious and merciful,
slow to anger,
and abounding in
steadfast love.”**



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
Parish Musician Karl Gustafson.....	kgustafson@standrewlutheran.com
Dir. of Next Generational Ministry Kyler Vogt.....	kvogt@standrewlutheran.com
Administrative Assistant Martin Mills.....	office@standrewlutheran.com
Temporary Office Assistant Ella Murillo.....	assistant@standrewlutheran.com
Parish Nurses Diane Reiner.....	503-201-4222
Tira Nessel.....	503-866-5099

Preparing for Worship Sunday, March 1, 2026

Genesis 12:1-4a
John 3:1-17

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, February 20

- 10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall
5:00 pm Immigrant Story Recording Session Children's Library

Saturday, February 21—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

- 9:00 am Cedar Mills & Cedar Hills Tree Planting Community Garden Parking Lot
9:00 am Nifty Notters Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 22

- 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 Confirmation for Middle School Youth Library
11:00 am Multigenerational Listening Sessions Follow-Up Gathering & Luncheon Fellowship Hall, Kitchen
2:30 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

Monday, February 23—Church Office Closed

- 7:00 pm Contemplative Prayer Chapel

Tuesday, February 24

- 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)
9:00 am Constitution Update Team Meeting St. Andrew Room
10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm Bridge Group Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting Chapel
7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary
7:00 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 25—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com

- 11:00 am Alzheimer's Support Group St. Andrew Room
6:00 pm Bells of Grace Rehearsal Sanctuary
7:00 pm High School Youth Game Night Youth Room
7:00 pm Mid-Week Lent Worship Chapel
8:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Thursday, February 26

- 10:00 am Strength + Stability with Susanne Fellowship Hall
11:00 am Earth Care Team Meeting Library
1:00 pm Staff Meeting Chapel, Library
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, February 27

- 10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, February 28—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

- 9:30 am MACG Training Fellowship Hall, Kitchen

Sunday, March 1

- 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 | New Member Orientation Fellowship Hall
11:00 am Adult Ed | What Can the Epistles Teach Us About Our Church St. Andrew Room
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



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.