

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

April 10, 2026

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

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Earth Camp 2026: The Search Continues



It takes a village to make Earth Camp possible. If you are able to volunteer for Earth Camp 2026, please contact Camp Director Kyler Vogt so he can find the right place for you! Five-day volunteers are always very much needed and appreciated, however, we understand not everyone has such availability. We ask that volunteers do their best, though, to participate for at least three days of the camp. Please talk to Kyler if you're interested in volunteering for the first time!

We continue our search for an Assistant Director to work alongside the Camp Director to help with organizing and running Earth Camp 2026. The Assistant Director manages pre-camp administration, aids in volunteer coordination, and assists the Director throughout the week of camp. The position is part time and pays a \$2,500 stipend. If interested, check out the description under the "Job Openings" tab on St. Andrew's website. Contact Kyler to apply.

To learn more about Earth Camp 2026, being held **June 22 - 26**, visit the Earth Camp page on the St. Andrew website, or go to this link: standrewlutheran.com/earth-camp.

Buy Nothing Project Free Swap on April 11

St. Andrew is invited to join the local Buy Nothing Project for a free swap event on **Saturday, April 11**, from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to come and take home as many items as they would like - all FREE! (Yes, really!)

Contributing items to the swap is welcome, but not required to take items. All items need to be in very good or like-new condition. Please, no fall or winter items (including holiday décor) and do not bring items larger than a paper grocery bag - you may bring a photo with contact information for large items.

Early drop-off will be available **Friday, April 10**, from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm, or on **Saturday, April 11**, one hour prior to the event. For more information, and to volunteer for set-up or clean-up, please contact Lindsay Delaney.

Personal Care Kit Supplies Still Needed, Baby Care Kit Collection Is Complete!

Thanks to your generosity, we've met our goal to fill 30 Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR)! We still need your help, however, to collect enough supplies for the 200 Personal Care Kits that we would also like to ship out during the LWR Spring 2026 Ingathering. These kits show our love and kindness to those in need. Below are two lists - one for Baby Care Kits and the other for Personal Care Kits - of what supplies we already have and those we still need you to donate.

Our contact for LWR has encouraged us to add that most soap bars come in multipacks pricing from \$4.78 to \$6.99! **PLEASE** follow the directions carefully, as we must refuse and dispose of improper donations. Your attention to detail also shows respect for the less fortunate in our world. For an exhaustive list of directions regarding the items needed for each type of Kit, you can visit lwr.org/kits to download instruction sheets.

PERSONAL CARE KITS	Have	Need
Light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 27" x 52"), dark color recommended	56	160
Bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars	184	441
Single adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging	216	43
Sturdy comb	200+	0
Metal nail clippers (attached file optional)	182	26

Light Opera of Portland Presents *The Gondoliers*



The Light Opera of Portland (LOoP) has been renting space from St. Andrew to rehearse before their upcoming productions for more than a year now. As a way to thank members of St. Andrew for their generous support of the company, LOoP is offering a preview concert of its upcoming performance, *The Gondoliers*. This concert will be held on **Sunday, April 12**, at 2:00 pm in the St. Andrew sanctuary. The event is open to the public and will be collecting a freewill offering at the door.

Upcoming Adult Ed. Series – ProFuture

Faith: The Prodigal Species Comes Home

We are living in challenging and confusing times when religion and science each have a vital role to play in assisting humanity in coming home to reality. Given our impact on Earth's climate, soils, seas, forests, and other species, we are already in the early stages of what could be called the Great Reckoning. The good news is that this could also be the Great Homecoming: humanity—the prodigal species—after squandering our inheritance, coming home to life by honoring evidence as authoritative and ecology as the heart of theology.

ProFuture Faith: The Prodigal Species Comes Home is a curriculum developed by the Reverend Michael Dowd which features video presentations and group discussion. Rev. Dowd was a minister and author of the highly acclaimed book, *Thank God for Evolution*, as well as a well-known lecturer and passionate advocate for ecotheology. Join Pr. Colleen Nelson and Ruth Nickodemus for this six-week course during the adult education hour on Sundays in Fellowship Hall beginning **April 12** at 11:00 am.



Contemplative Prayer

Monday evening Contemplative Prayer, led by Kim Taylor-Blakemore, is held each week at 7:00 pm in the chapel. This worship opportunity continues through **May 11**, and will resume in the fall after a summer hiatus.



Thrivent Members—Quick Reminder!

If you are a Thrivent member, please add your name to the sheet on the coffee bar. Thrivent Action Team grants (up to \$250) can help support St. Andrew ministry activities like retreats, outreach, and care for homebound members.

Thank you for helping us make these ministries possible!

Connecting with St. Andrew's

Wetlands and Woodlands

At St. Andrew, we are blessed to have not only a beautiful place to worship and enjoy each other's fellowship, we also have over seven acres of riparian forest and wetland. This spring the Earth Care Team invites you to engage more fully with this beautiful space. We have several events planned that will allow you to "come home to Earth."

All-Generations Earth Camp: You are never too young, or too old, to come home to Earth. The Earth Care Team is offering an opportunity for everyone to experience the fun and learning that occurs at our annual children's Earth Camp. On **Sunday, June 14**, at 11:00 am, participate in interactive teaching stations, crafts, music, and celebration. Lunch will be provided for those who sign up in advance.

Invasive Weed Removal: You can call them invasive, misplaced, or "no thank you plants," but they need to go as they crowd out the native plants which should flourish. On **Saturday, April 11**, join us as we work to rid the St. Andrew woods of the ivy, Himalayan blackberry, English holly, and bindweed.

Invasive Weed Removal Party

- All ages welcome

When

- Saturday, April 11**, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

What to Bring

- Weed removal tools
- Garden or work gloves
- Closed-toe shoes or boots
- 5-gallon bucket
- Water to drink

We Will Have

- Coffee and cookies
- Advice on native plants and invasives
- Extra tools, buckets, and gloves

Nature Walks: Experience the St. Andrew woods beyond the Sanctuary of the Firs. We will offer mindful walks to connect mind, body, and spirit to nature; an exploring walk for families with young children to find nature's treasures; and an adventure walk to visit the rugged areas of the St. Andrew woods. Look for dates and times on the Earth Care bulletin board across from the coffee bar.

Exploring Walk

- Sunday April 18th 11-11:30am
- For pre-school and elementary age children and their families
- Venture into the St Andrew woods to search for nature's treasures

Mindful Walks

- Connect with mind, body, and spirit in the St. Andrew Woods
- Saturday April 18 11:00- 11:30 am
- Wednesday, April 22 1:30 – 2:00pm
- Thursday, April 30 11:00-11:30 am
- Thursday, May 14 11:00-11:30 am

Adventure Walk

- Visit the rugged areas of the St. Andrew Woods
- May be strenuous
- Wear boots
- Saturday, May 9 - 10-11am

Look for more information about these events in upcoming Weekly News articles and on the Earth Care bulletin board across from the coffee bar in the narthex.

LuAnn Staul
Earth Care Team Chair

Pastor Randy Schutt

The news that Pastor Randy passed away on the 8th has saddened the staff of Saint Andrew Lutheran as well as many who knew him as a prominent member of our community. We ask you pray for his family during this time, especially his wife, Choice. May they have peace and may God's comfort reach them at this time. Information regarding memorial services are to be announced.

What Really Happens After You Drop Off Recycling?

Adapted from Earth911, March 2026

Most of us feel a small sense of satisfaction when we take out the recycling. Whether you place materials in your curbside bin or bring electronics to a drop-off center, it can feel like the final step in doing the right thing. But that is just the beginning of a complex journey. Once your recyclables leave your hands, they enter a global system shaped by local policies, international markets, technology, and consumer demand.

First step: Collection and transportation. After recyclables are collected from homes, businesses, or drop-off points, they are transported to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). The type of collection system your community uses—single-stream (all recyclables in 1 bin) or multi-stream (you separate the materials yourself)—significantly affects what happens next.

Single-stream systems are convenient for households, but they often result in higher contamination rates. When paper, plastics, metals, and glass are mixed together, broken glass can embed in paper fibers, food residue can spoil cardboard, and plastic bags can tangle machinery. That contamination increases processing costs and can cause entire batches of recyclables to be sent to the landfill.



Step 2: Sorting at the Materials

Recovery Facility. Once materials arrive at the MRF, a combination of human workers and automated systems separate materials by type. Screens separate items by size and shape. Magnets pull out ferrous metals like steel. Other separators eject non-ferrous metals like aluminum. Optical sorters use infrared

technology to identify different types of plastics. Other machines separate shredded material by density.

Humans are still essential in removing contaminants such as plastic bags, food waste, garden hoses, and other non-recyclable items that can damage equipment or reduce material quality.

The goal at this stage is to produce clean, marketable streams of materials; bales of cardboard, aluminum, PET plastic, HDPE plastic, and so on. The cleaner the input, the higher the value of the output.

Step 3: Processing into raw materials. After sorting and baling, materials are sold to reprocessors. These facilities transform recyclables into raw materials that manufacturers can use to make new products.

- Paper and Cardboard are baled, shredded and mixed with water to create pulp. Contaminants like staples, tape, and plastic coatings are removed. The clean pulp is turned into new paper products. However, paper fibers shorten each time they are recycled, meaning it can only be recycled about 5-7 times before the fibers become too weak for reuse.
- Plastics are more complicated. Different resin types like PET (#1) and HDPE (#2) must be separated because they melt at different temperatures and have different properties. After sorting, plastics are washed, shredded into flakes, melted, and formed into pellets. These pellets become the feedstock for new plastic products.
- Glass is crushed, cleaned and melted down to form new bottles or jars. Unlike paper and plastic, glass can be recycled indefinitely without losing quality. However, contamination such as ceramics or heat-resistant glass disrupts the process.
- Metals such as aluminum and steel are highly valuable and can be recycled repeatedly without degradation. Recycling aluminum uses significantly less energy than producing it from raw ore, making it one of the most successful recycling categories.

By learning what happens after recyclables leave our homes, we can improve our habits and strengthen the system as a whole. Recycling doesn't end at the curb; it continues through a chain of processes that depend on informed, engaged consumers.

Next week, look for part II of the recycling story.

Liz Hardy, Earth Care Team

Spirituality Book Group News

The Spirituality Book Group will meet in the upstairs library on **Sunday, April 12**, at 2:30 pm with Pr. Colleen Nelson leading the discussion on *Faith after Doubt: Why Your Beliefs Stopped Working and What to Do about It* by Brian D. McLaren.

In this book, the author proposes a four-stage model of faith development in which questions and doubt are not the enemy of faith, but rather a portal to a more mature and fruitful kind of faith. The four stages—Simplicity, Complexity, Perplexity, and Harmony—offer a path forward that can help sincere and thoughtful people leave behind unnecessary baggage and intensify their commitment to what matters most.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mary Smith.

All are welcome to join the Spirituality Book Group for any of their meetings, which are held monthly in the St. Andrew Library (Main Level) at 2:30 pm. Below are the upcoming dates and the titles selected:

May 17: Sandy Koch will lead discussion on *Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson.

June 7: Lindsey Trowbridge will lead discussion on *A Year of Biblical Womanhood: How a Liberated Woman Found Herself Sitting on Her Roof, Covering Her Head, and Calling Her Husband Master* by Rachel Held Evans.

Have You Signed Up to Help with LWR Yet?

We still need your help to make the Spring 2026 Ingathering a success! You can greet vehicles as churches drop off their boxes of kits and quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR), or load the shipping container with those same boxes (some of which may weigh up to 40 pounds). On **Friday, May 1**, volunteers will have their choice of a 2-hour shift between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, while on **Saturday, May 2**, a single three-hour shift starts at 9:00 am. The Ingathering takes place in the St. Andrew parking lot near the community garden. If you can help, please sign up on the sheets posted in the narthex, or email Randy Sinn at sinn78home@gmail.com or Rochelle McIntire, at her LWR address, pacificnwlwrgroup@gmail.com.

An Introduction

Hi all,

The sunny weather of changing seasons is upon us and I am thankful for the warmth and the beauty of spring. Martin talks about the cherry trees on our property and I couldn't agree more that the SALC property is abuzz with glorious spring.

My Great Grandmother used to say "There has never been a winter not followed by spring" and while that statement is true, I like to reflect upon it as a reminder that there is always hope and sunshine and beauty just around the corner.

This week the Weekly News was compiled by and edited by me, the Temporary Office Admin, Amber. Martin, our Office Assistant, is out sick this week and we are praying for his health and return next week!

I wanted to put a small letter in here in case we haven't met before to introduce myself as well as share a few things I have been working on.

I have been very impressed with SALC and the values the church promotes. I was quite involved with several equity and environmental focused groups at university and a professional background of people and office management so I am finding myself quite at home here. (Thank you for the warm welcomes!)

You may have noticed our Facebook is a lot more active recently (and if not, maybe give us a follow? <https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewLutheranBeaverton>) - a lot of that is because I enjoy social media management. I am thinking we need a few more memes on there and want to encourage a younger crowd to find us so we can continue to grow SALC's congregation!

I would like to encourage you to engage with our posts, especially ones that ask questions! We want to converse with you!

I have been busy compiling the Annual Report as well and hope that my abilities hold up to Carol Harker's. I really enjoyed her story telling about the saga of the woodpeckers from last year and hope to bring some entertainment to my version as well! If you are someone who has an Annual Report due, please remember to get them to me!

Wishing you all a blessed week.

Amber Sterlinski
Temporary Office Administrator



New Member Sunday!



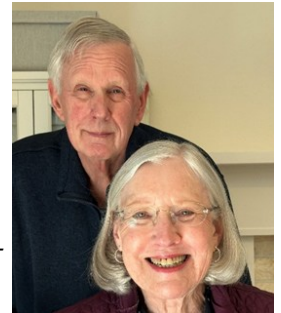
Paul & Michelle Garcia

Paul (he/him) and Michelle (she/her) Garcia are thrilled to be joining the St. Andrew Lutheran Church family. Paul moved to Portland, Oregon in 2008 from Southern CA, and Michelle moved to Portland in 2016 from Southern Oregon. They're avid hikers/travelers/

campers, passionate gardeners, and love spending time with their little dog, Groot. They also have a wonderful 16-year-old son, Niko, who's a big Seahawks fan. However, Paul and Michelle are maniacal Broncos fans. They're looking forward to connecting with the church community, sharing in fellowship, and growing in faith together.

Phil & Phyllis Mannan

Phil (he/him) and Phyllis (she/her) Mannan have lived in Manzanita, on the North Oregon Coast, for the past 18 years. Last summer they moved back to the Beaverton area, where they had lived for 40 years and raised three children. Phil worked as a commercial building specialties salesman and estimator for forty years. Phyllis was a high school English substitute teacher and a writer of poetry and memoir. They look forward to meeting everyone at St. Andrew.



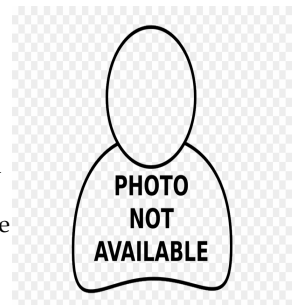
Janice Fairlee

Janice Fairlee (she/her) has been a lifelong spiritual seeker with an interest in many traditions and a love for nature and music. Looking for a calmer life, she and her husband Mic moved to Cedar Hills from their native California home in the SF Bay Area almost 4 years ago. It was a trip to Italy last summer which inspired her to find a church that embraced nature, love for God, creativity, and giving to others. St. Andrew's Sanctuary of the Firs initially caught

her attention and the welcoming spirit of the community continues to feel like home.

Rae Marion

Rae Marion (she/her, they/them) is a Southern transplant who moved to Portland five years ago who has fallen in love with the area and culture. She hasn't had much chance to worship at a church due to her mobility issues and is very excited to have found one that suits her needs and values! Rae is a bit shy and due to a brain injury they can get overwhelmed easily, and are a bit more forgetful than they'd like. Rae is most often seen zooming around on their motorized wheelchair, enjoying nature, crafting, doing art, and/or exploring. You may notice that Rae does not like to be touched - this is nothing personal. She is very easy to injure on accident and prefers to mitigate that risk when and where she can! Rae found this church through the Reconciling in Christ program, and is thrilled to be here!



In Need of Prayers...

NAME	PRAYERS FOR...	CONTACT
Walt Catino	Release from hospital and better test results	Gretchen Bancroft
Bob Primrose's Family	Prayers of peace and God's comfort for the family after his passing	Patty Jones
Becky (cousin)	Comfort and Treatment	Mrs. Parsons
Nathan (grandson)	Recovery and swift healing form surgery	Linda Alvis
Pastor Randy Schutt's Family	Prayers of peace and God's comfort for the family after his passing	Pr.Allison Bengfort
Susan Reiser	Comfort and swift healing from knee replacement surgery	Susan Reiser
Lauren Concoleo	Healing and strength after an accident	Sue Cahlander
David (son)	Healing as he enters a VA residential program	Pr. Colleen Nelson
Lee Anne Knapp	Continued healing and recovery from severe dog bite	Lee Anne Knapp
St Andrew Council and Staff	Wisdom and Discernment	Staff
St Andrew Foundation Board	Wisdom and Discernment	Staff
Taiwan Lutheran Church	Blessing on their ministry	Staff
All who are caregivers for a loved one	Encouragement, strength, and support	Staff
Seminarians and theology students	Encouragement and support	Staff
Churches serving with us in the OR Synod	Blessing 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.



Your Voice and Your Help Are Needed on Sunday, April 19

Have you had trouble finding a Primary Care Provider? Are you concerned about the safety of our immigrant neighbors? Please 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, in Fellowship Hall at St. Andrew. Please register for the

assembly at: forms.gle/p9tA7kosSg1GfhLb6.

Yes, we are the hosts again! You can help offer hospitality as people from the tri-county area gather in Fellowship Hall. We will need folks to set up tables and chairs, guide people as they park and help them find the entrance to the building, greet attendees as they arrive, give directions to Fellowship Hall and the restrooms, offer food and drinks, and clean up.

Can you help? Look for a member of the Organizing Team with a clipboard during coffee time after worship on Sunday. You can help share our facility with members of the community who are working toward common good for all.

Questions? Please ask any member of St. Andrew's Organizing Team: Sonja Ackman, Gretchen Bancroft, Pr. Allison Bengfort, Larry Bliesner, Pat Christiansen, Amy Peahl, or Lynn Santelmann.

Caring Ministry

If you or another member of St. Andrew are hospitalized or homebound, please notify the Church Office or one of the pastors so that we may offer spiritual care. Spiritual care could include a visit, conversation, prayer, and/or home communion, as desired.



Pr. Colleen Nelson
Associate Bridge Pastor
of Caring Ministries



For short-term moments of need create a free personal Meal-Train®, or sign up to provide meals, at mealtrain.com/groups/standrewlutheranbeaverton.

For more information, or to notify when creating a new one, email meal-train@standrewlutheran.com.

Preparing for Worship Sunday, April 12, 2026

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16

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
Parish Nurses Diane Reiner	503-201-4222
Tira Nasset	503-866-5099

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, April 10

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall
4:00 pm Buy Nothing Project Neighborhood Swap Early Drop-Off/Set-Up Fellowship Hall

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

8:00 am Buy Nothing Project Neighborhood Swap Event Fellowship Hall
9:00 am Council Retreat Children's Commons
1:00 pm Earth Care – Invasive Weed Removal Trail to Sanctuary of the Firs
1:00 pm Immigrant Story Storytelling Rehearsal Sanctuary

Sunday, April 12

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 – ProFuture Faith: The Prodigal Species Comes Home Fellowship Hall
11:00 am Confirmation for Middle School Youth Library (Main Level)
11:00 am High School Youth Group Youth Room
2:00 pm Light Opera of Portland Preview Performance Sanctuary
2:30 pm Spirituality Book Group Library (Main Level)

Monday, April 13—Church Office Closed

7:00 pm Contemplative Prayer Chapel

Tuesday, April 14

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 Facility Management Team..... St. Andrew Room
10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm Bridge Group Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm Worship at the Springs..... The Springs at Tanasbourne (1950 NE 102nd Ave)
5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous Meeting The Springs
7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary
7:00 pm Community Organizing Team..... St. Andrew Room
7:00 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Children's Commons

Wednesday, April 15—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com

5:30 pm Santiam Alpine Club Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm Bells of Grace Rehearsal Sanctuary
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Thursday, April 16

10:00 am Strength + Stability with Susanne Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm Caring Ministries—Suicide Awareness St. Andrew Room
6:30 pm Wing Chun Class..... Children's Commons
7:00 pm Council Meeting St. Andrew Room and via Zoom

Friday, April 17

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

Saturday, April 18

9:00 am Nifty Notters Fellowship Hall
11:00 am Earth Care—Mindfulness Walks Sanctuary of the Firs

Sunday, April 19


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 – ProFuture Faith: The Prodigal Species Comes Home Fellowship Hall

Links for remote worship will be sent to you via email an 11:00 am Confirmation for Middle School Youth Library (Main Level)

11:00 am High School Youth Group Youth Room
11:00 am Earth Care—Explorers Walk Sanctuary of the Firs
2:00 pm MACG Delegate Assembly 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. *d 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.