

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

June 26, 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



Join St. Andrew in Pride Beaverton Parade

St. Andrew will be walking in Pride

Beaverton's parade on **Sunday, June 28**. The parade begins at 11:00 am on the corner of 2nd & Washington, one block north of the farmers market lot. If you are interested in walking, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. It is a short course out into the neighborhood and back to the festival booths at the farmers market lot. You can also just watch the parade along the route, and stay to enjoy the festival and local vendors afterward. However you decide to participate, we hope to see you there!

Earth Camp wraps up:

St. Andrew Lutheran's 2026 Earth Camp wrapped up today. We wanted to extend a special thank you to everyone who donated supplies, volunteered time, and taught our campers. We couldn't have done it without you! Thank you!

A Few Bittersweet Farewells:

Glorian Lezama, our Nursery Attendant, was offered a last minute job opportunity she just couldn't turn down in Indiana. While we are sad to see Glorian go, we are so happy she has this amazing opportunity and are wishing her luck, prosperity, and blessings. Her last day will be Friday, the 26th.



While SALC will continue to provide nursery care as we look for a replacement for Glorian, she will be greatly missed!

As a reminder, other staff are saying goodbye soon too:

Amber, our Temporary Office Admin's last day is the 2nd of July, bridging the gap until Kacey joins us the 7th!

Kyler, our Next Generation Minister, will be leaving us at the end of July.

June Council Corner

The Annual Congregational meeting was held on Tuesday, June 16th. I believe it was the 73rd annual meeting since the Congregation officially started in 1953. Rick LeRoy's mother attended the first meeting at Sunset Valley Elementary; we can probably all guess why she did not bring Rick, since he was a preschooler! This year's annual meeting accomplished all of the items on the agenda.

Two Council members were reelected to serve second 3-year terms: Cindy Stadel & Noelle Mehlhorn. Three Council members were elected to serve their first term: Amy Harker, Jon Thorpe, and Karen Zucchi. Next year's council will be a great balance of new and experienced members.

To help select nominees for the next council, Gretchen Bancroft, Claudia Parsons, and Linda McDowell were elected to the nominations committee. The congregation voted to approve the 2026-2027 budget as recommended by the Council and presented by Tim Duggan at the Budget Forum. As a special bit of trivia, meeting attendees learned that we have a "tracker" organ and that the name has nothing to do with the CBS TV show Tracker!

The first meeting of the new Council was on Thursday, June 18th. The meeting started with introductions by all members. We reviewed the financial results through May and anticipate a significant surplus due to generous giving (thank you). The end of the year financial reporting will be reviewed in July. The Council appointed Joel Johnson and Jon Thorpe as Co-treasurers. We also appointed the Financial Secretaries: Jim McGravey, Sonya Lister, Ruth Baker, Amy Harker, and Tim Duggan. We are thankful for Sonya's and Ruth's service as they transition off the Financial Secretary team. We are blessed that they are willing to continue serving during this transition.

The election of council officers was postponed until the July meeting. Because I am leaving the Council, Council Vice President Allison Katsufakis will serve as President until the election.

Pastor Julia presented her recommendations and learnings to the Council: she has been with St Andrew's for 9 months. Her report summarizes her observations and ideas for our future. It's quite a lengthy report with lots of opportunities to consider. I know that the Council will continue to ponder and discuss the report as they plan next year's goals at their July Council Retreat. Pastor Julia will create a summary of the report for distribution to the Congregation. The St. Andrew community continues to be a congregation of possibilities. Let us carry that spirit forward.

Chuck Weswig, Council President

Beaverton City Library is hosting:



COMMUNITY IMPACT EXPO
Support Beaverton Homelessness Services

Thursday, July 9 | 5-7 PM

Community Impact Expo: Support Beaverton Homelessness Services

Thursday, July 9 | 5-7 PM | Meeting Rooms A & B (Main Library) | BeavertonLibrary.org

Want to lend a helping hand to your unhoused neighbors? Join us to explore a variety of ways you can support social service organizations serving the unhoused community in Washington County.

We invite you to connect with organizations that have current volunteer opportunities, learn about their donation needs, and build awareness of the services and resources available in our county. Discover meaningful ways you can make a difference!



Plastic-Free July: What's Wrong with Using Plastic Anyway?

Adapted from
plasticfreejuly.org



We've all heard about the huge problem with plastic pollution, how it's in our food and in all the waterways of the world and in our bodies. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is twice the size of Texas, contains 1.8 billion pieces of floating plastic, and kills thousands of marine animals each year. It's so big that it has been nicknamed the "eighth continent."

But what about the manufacturing of plastic? Plastic is made from fossil fuel. Your plastic water bottle, your grocery bag, your foam tray full of meat are all made from oil or so-called natural gas which is really methane gas. And it takes a lot of energy to make that happen, which adds to the carbon footprint. "The real story of plastics' impact on the environment begins at the wellheads where it comes out of the ground," says Carroll Muffett, head of the Center for International Environmental Law. "And it never, ever stops."

By one estimate, emissions from producing and incinerating plastics could amount to 56 gigatons of carbon between now and 2050. That's almost 50 times the annual emissions of all of the coal power plants in the U.S.

It distresses me to see ads on TV about the wonders of plastic. The oil companies are seeing the writing on the wall as the world (finally!) begins to move away from combustion engine vehicles. So they are adopting a new campaign trying to get people to use more plastic which is made from the oil they extract from the Earth. Ugh! We desperately need those fossil fuels to stay in the ground because of the greenhouse gases emitted when they are extracted.

The only thing we as individuals can do about this problem is to use less plastic in the first place. It's true that we still need certain plastics such as that used in medical equipment and our cars and computers, but we can avoid using single-use plastics and try to stir clear of plastic containers. This month I will share ideas to reduce or better yet, eliminate single-use plastics from our lives.

Liz Hardy, *Earth Care Team*

Spirituality Book Group News

The Spirituality Book Group will meet on Sunday, July 26, to discuss the book, *Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers* by Jesse Q. Sutano. This humorous novel is a delightful read, and it also explores the themes of loneliness, family (biological and "found" families), and the surprising capabilities of older women.

All are welcome to the discussion, which will be held in the upstairs library on **Sunday, July 26, at 2:30 p.m.** Our discussion leader will be Elaine May!



Men's Book Club News

The Men's Book Club meets Monday July 13th at 2p to discuss *Here One Moment* by Liane Moriarty. Gary Grafwallner will host the discussion at his home at the Springs at Tanasborne: apt 307.

The story takes place on a flight off Australia. On which, suddenly, a woman traveling alone stands. She walks down the aisle making predictions about how and when passengers will die. Some dismiss her, they don't believe in psychics. Some are delighted with her prophecies! Their lives will supposedly be long. Others are appalled. Then: a few months later, the first prediction comes true.

Music as Ministry

When people think about a choir, they often imagine a performance. They picture people standing up front, perhaps in robes, singing beautiful music while the congregation listens. But in the church, choir is decidedly not a performance; it is a ministry. The choir's role is not to draw attention to itself, but to help the congregation pray, worship, and encounter the Divine. In many ways, the choir serves much like assisting ministers, lectors, ushers, communion assistants, and the many other folks who offer their time in our community for worship each week. Through music, choir members offer their gifts for all of our sake.

There are times in life when words alone are not enough. Joy, grief, gratitude, hope, fear, wonder—these experiences often run deeper than ordinary speech can reach. Music gives voice to what is difficult to say. As the saying often attributed to St. Augustine puts it, "Whoever sings prays twice." Whether Augustine actually said those exact words is uncertain, but the truth behind them resonates. Singing allows prayer to engage not only our minds, but also our hearts, bodies, and spirits. This is especially true in worship.



Sometimes the choir sings on behalf of the congregation, giving voice to prayers that others may not yet have words for themselves. Sometimes the choir introduces a new perspective, a scriptural image, or a musical meditation that deepens the congregation's understanding of God's love. In those moments, choir members are not performing for the congregation; they are carrying the congregation's prayer.

As Lutherans, we understand worship to be participatory. Worship is not something that happens for us while we watch from the sidelines. It is something we do together. Martin Luther valued music because it helps proclaim the Gospel and involves all people in the life of faith. The choir is one expression of that participatory faith. Each singer contributes a voice that becomes part of something larger than themselves. No one voice carries the melody alone. Together, the choir creates a ministry of encouragement, proclamation, and prayer.

You do not need to be a soloist. You do not need perfect pitch. You do not need years of musical training. What the church needs are people willing to offer their voices in service.

When you sing in the choir, you are not just making music. You are helping the congregation pray. You are proclaiming the Gospel. You are participating in a ministry that has sustained the church for generations.

That is why we sing.

John Gladen, *Minister of Music*

In Need of Prayers...

NAME	PRAYERS FOR...	CONTACT
Scott Taylor	A safe trip home and healing after a motorcycle accident	Donna McAlpine
Pr. Susan Kintner & family	Peace and God's comfort at the death of her brother, Jack	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Joyce Bianucci (sister)	Effective treatment	Judy Scholz
Wayland Jensen (friend)	Healing and recovery from surgery	Erin Castner
Amy Fiegenbaum	Love, strength, and endurance	Tammy Blanchard
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, Stacy Erickson, Rhonda Powell, Arden Tarum, Megan Webber	Healing and assurance of God's presence	Staff
Churches serving with us in the Oregon Synod, especially Hopeful Saints (Heppner), and Grace & Mercy (Hermiston)	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.

Why Is It Difficult to Find a Primary Care Provider in Oregon?

Have you or a loved one tried to find a primary care provider, only to have to wait for months? Do you find it increasingly difficult to book an appointment with your primary care provider? Have prior authorization headaches impacted your ability to address health issues?

St. Andrew is a member of the Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good. MACG's Healthcare Access research team has spent the last year researching these questions. The team has learned a lot about how complex the problem is. It has also identified a possible avenue to address one of the barriers providers and patients experience as they try to access the best healthcare possible.

MACG is ready to share what has been learned, and propose a possible way forward. Please join MACG for this Civic Academy where you will learn what has been shared with the team about this complex issue. You will learn about some of the challenges of addressing this issue (spoiler alert: it is *very* complicated) and explore what ways are possible to move forward. This Civic Academy will be held **Sunday, July 19, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm**, at Havurah Shalom (825 NW 18th Ave) in Northwest Portland. For more information about this opportunity, and to RSVP, please visit macg.org/pcp_shortage_ca.



Pat Christiansen and Amy Peahl are members of the Healthcare Access team. You're welcome to speak with them regarding any questions you have.

A Heads-up:

Next week the church office will be **closed July 3rd** for an extra long July 4th weekend. We will resume regular office hours Tuesday the 7th.

If you have articles for weekly news, please be sure to get them in to Martin by the end of the day Tuesday the 30th!

St. Andrew Contacts

Council President.....	president@standrewlutheran.com
Lead Pr. Allison Bengfort.....	pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com, 563-210-6304
Assoc. Pr. Colleen Nelson	<i>out of town through July 19</i>
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 Admin Amber Sterlinski	assistant@standrewlutheran.com
Parish Nurses Diane Reiner.....	503-201-4222
Tira Nesset.....	503-866-5099

Thank You for Donations

To the Members of the St. Andrew Lutheran Church,

The total amount of donated food to the St. Matthew Food Pantry is 103lbs of food! OR approximately enough food to feed a family of four to five people for a whole week!



Way to go! And thank you for continuing to support our efforts to help those in need!



Sign up for Christina Mantey & Robert Casteel's MealTrain® at mealtrain.com/813d44.

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

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

Preparing for Worship Sunday, June 28, 2026

Romans 6:12-23
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Matthew 10:40-42

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Thursday, June 25

9:00 am	Earth Camp 2026	St. Andrew Parking Lot
10:00 am	Strength + Stability with Susanne	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	IT Meeting	Offsite
7:00 pm	Wing Chun Class	Children's Commons

Friday, June 26

9:00 am	Earth Camp 2026	St. Andrew Parking Lot
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall

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

Sunday, June 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
2:30 pm	Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall

Monday, June 29 – Church Office Closed

Tuesday, June 30 – Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com & assistant@standrewlutheran.com

7:00 am	Men's Gathering and Bible Study	Elmer's Restaurant on 158 th (1250 NW Waterhouse Ave)
7:00 am	Sunrise Women	Elmer's Restaurant on 158 th (1250 NW Waterhouse Ave)
9:00 am	Earth Camp 2026	St. Andrew Parking Lot
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

Wednesday, July 1

7:00 pm	Al-Anon Family Group Meeting	Chapel
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Thursday, July 2

10:00 am	Strength + Stability with Susanne	Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting	Zoom
7:00 pm	Wing Chun Class	Children's Commons

Friday, July 3 – Church Office Closed

Saturday, July 4 – Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

9:00 am	Nifty Notters	Fellowship Hall
10:00 am	Cedar Hills 4th of July Parade	Offsite

Sunday, July 5

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

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.