

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

July 24, 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

Worship in Sanctuary of the Firs This Sunday



St. Andrew continues its summer series of worship services out in Sanctuary of the Firs **this Sunday, July 26**, at 9:30 am. Due to technical limitations outdoors, we are unable to offer livestreaming or playback via YouTube for this service. As such, online worshippers are encouraged to attend live via Zoom instead. For those joining us in-person who may find it difficult to navigate through our outdoor space, a concurrent service will be held indoors.

Upcoming outdoor worship dates are **August 30** and **October 4**.

Spirituality Book Group Is Sunday Afternoon

The Spirituality Book Group will meet **this Sunday, July 26**, at 2:30 pm to discuss the book *Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers: A Novel* by Jesse Q. Sutanto. This humorous novel is a delightful read that explores the themes of loneliness, family (both biological and "found"), and the surprising capabilities of older women.



All are welcome to join the discussion, which will be held in the upstairs library. Elaine May will lead this month's book group. Below are the dates, leaders, and titles selected for future meetings of the book group:



August 23: LuAnn Staul leads discussion on *54 Miles: A Novel* by Leonard Pitts, Jr.

September 20: Mary Smith leads discussion on *Human Nature: Nine Ways to Feel about Our Changing Planet* by Kate Marvel.

October 25: Fran Miller leads discussion on *The Lion Women of Tehran* by Marjan Kamali.

November 22: *Born Survivors: Three Young Mothers and Their Extraordinary Story of Courage, Defiance, and Hope* by Wendy Holden (discussion leader TBA).

Join Young-Adult Wildwood Hike on Sunday!

You are invited to join a hike along the Wildwood trail in Forest Park with other young adults from Cedar Hills United Church of Christ, Christ United Methodist Church Cedar Mill, and Spirit of Grace! Hikers will meet at Cedar Hills UCC (11695 SW Park Way) **this Sunday, July 26**, at 5:30 pm, then carpool to the trailhead from there. Food will be offered afterward. If you're interested in joining, please RSVP with Pastor Sam Holland at 336-485-5618, indicating whether you'd like to drive one of the carpools or just ride along.



Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Committee

This is a reminder that you are invited to participate in the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Committee meeting that St. Andrew is hosting in Fellowship Hall **this Wednesday, July 29**, between 1:00 pm and 2:30 pm. The Interfaith Committee of Habitat for Humanity Portland Region is a community of leaders and volunteers from a diverse array of faith backgrounds who share the common goal of helping individuals and families in the community build strength, stability, and independence through affordable homeownership.

Interfaith Committee members roll up their sleeves at Habitat ReStores, provide snacks and meals for volunteers on build sites, and organize hands-on opportunities that make it easy for faith communities to serve together.

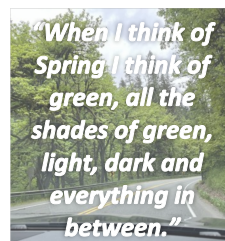


At this Wednesday's meeting, you will hear updates on current projects, learn how faith communities are engaging with Habitat in 2026, and help shape what's ahead. Are you interested in being part of a work crew?! Habitat facilitators will also discuss opportunities. Light refreshments and coffee will be provided.

To learn more about the Interfaith Committee, you can visit this link: habitatportlandregion.org/volunteer/interfaith-committee.

Tom Mehlhorn

Time after Pentecost: God's Green Season



Ann Kirsten

"God's Green Season" has a double meaning. Green is the liturgical color of the time after Pentecost, the season between Pentecost in spring and Advent in late fall. Green is also abundant in nature during our summer months. Please enjoy this article about the green season, written by Ann Kirsten, on the St. Andrew website at: standrewlutheran.com/gods-green-season.

The page linked above includes activities adults can do with children during this green season. You can also view the page through the "Green Season" slide in the slideshow at the top of the St. Andrew home page.

Food Pantry Donations Update for July

This month, a total of 76 pounds of food donations from St. Andrew were delivered to the St. Matthew Food Pantry. Thank you to every who donates in support of this important, Neighbor Care ministry. Donations of non-perishable items may be placed in the wooden barrel in the narthex under the AED. Your generosity feeds our neighbors who are struggling with food insecurity due to rising costs.



Plastic-Free July: Did You Know?

In today's world, completely eliminating all plastic use is not possible. So many products—from electronics devices and home appliances to toys and clothes (think polyester and acrylic)—are at least partially made of plastic. But one area that we can control and make a meaningful impact in is eliminating single-use and disposable plastics.

From product packaging to water bottles and toothbrushes, our daily lives are filled with plastic items that are designed to be disposed of after only one or a few uses. Most people working toward plastic-free living try to eliminate single-use plastics one product type at a time. But where do you start?

Use the chart below to calculate your personal plastic consumption. Then start by eliminating (or at least reducing) the amount of plastic items you use most.

	Per Day	Per Week	Per Month
Plastic water bottles			
Disposable coffee cups			
Plastic grocery/shopping bags			
Plastic produce bags			
Plastic resealable bags (eg. sandwich baggies)			
Plastic wrap			
Plastic utensils/cutlery			
Plastic food containers (eg. restaurant to-go boxes)			
Plastic straws			
Plastic packaging of food			

You might decide to buy a reusable water bottle and coffee cup, keep cloth shopping and produce bags in your car, replace cling wrap with beeswax wrap, buy a head of lettuce not wrapped in plastic instead of pre-packaged lettuce, or carry with you reusable straws, utensils, and take-home containers when you go out.

We can do this thing!!

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

PLASTIC FREE JULY



LWR School Kits Supply Collection

It's that time of year again: back-to-school! Each year, St. Andrew collects donations and assembles school kits that equip children with the supplies they need to keep learning even during a crisis. Once assembled, these kits are boxed up and shipped by Lutheran World Relief (LWR) to those all around the world coping with poverty, disaster, conflict, and more.



St. Andrew's goal this year is to fill 300 school kits. Each kit uses a drawstring backpack-style cloth bag to carry the supplies listed below. 85 bags have already been completed for this purpose, while more than 130 are in the closet by the chapel doors in Fellowship Hall ready to be serged. If you would like to help with sewing the bags, just take however many you are able to work on from the closet and return serged bags to the labeled bin in the closet.

A sign-up sheet is available on the coffee bar if you want to help pin and sew the remaining bags needed. Signing up gives us an idea of the days and times people are available to help with this project. In the grid that follows you will find what is currently needed to fill the bags. These numbers get updated each week.

SCHOOL KIT SUPPLY LIST	Have	Need
Notebooks, 70-sheet of wide- or college-ruled paper; no loose-leaf paper	179	1021
Crayons, box of 16 or 24	15	285
Pencil sharpener	19	281
Ruler, 30 centimeters long, or a ruler with inches on one side and centimeters on the other	93	207
Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)	167	133
#2 pencils with erasers (preferably not sharpened)	695	805
Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)	820	680
Eraser, 2 ½ inches	145	155

An important note regarding supply donations:

It is imperative that donations follow the above guidelines. LWR will **not** accept supplies that do not fit the above requirements. Some of the donations received thus far are not able to be used to fill school kits. If you'd like to return items that are unable to be used, or donate them to a collection that does accept them, they have been left inside a paper Fred Meyer bag in the LWR collection bin. For more information about LWR's specifications, visit lwr.org/kits/school-kits/instructions.



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

In Need of Prayers...

NAME	PRAYERS FOR...	CONTACT
Family and friends of Katie Kelly (aunt)	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Lynn Santlemann
Mary Ann Snider	Comfort and renewal of strength	Beth Johnson
Brian & Lori Tubbs (brother & sister-in-law)	Continued healing and recovery after being struck by a vehicle	Francine Cach
Connie Losk	Healing and recovery	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Martha (aunt)	Healing and recovery	Carol Hogan
Amy Fiegenbaum	Healing and recovery following kidney stone removal	Pr. Allison Bengfort
Rhonda Powell (St. Andrew's fmr. admin. assist.)	Pain relief and peace	Carol Harker
Lee Anne Knapp	Rest, support, and recovery	Lee Anne Knapp
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, Arden Tarum, Megan Webber	Healing and assurance of God's presence	Staff
Churches serving with us in the Oregon Synod, especially Ascension (Medford) and Trinity (Tulelake, CA)	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.

Water, Water, Everywhere...



During the final three weeks of September, St. Andrew will participate in the Season of Creation, an ecumenical world-wide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. The theme for this year is "Living Water." Each Sunday of this season, our worship will focus on gratitude to God, Creator of all things, especially water, lamenting our failures to steward this precious gift, and exploring ways in which we can protect our environment and work toward a more just and life-giving world for the entire human family as well as the non-human creation.

As part of this celebration, there will be a Blessing of the Waters. You are invited to bring a small sample of water from any source that is meaningful to you. It can be from a vacation trip, from your favorite fishing hole or swimming pool, from rainfall, even from the water you drink or give to your thirsty plants. Small watertight bottles are available in the narthex. Collect your sample (safely, please!), label it with your name and the source location, then bring it with you to place along the windows in the sanctuary. Feel free to check out where all the different samples have come from. During a worship service in September, all of the waters collected will be poured into the baptismal font (along with a sanitizing solution) as a symbol of our unity with each other and all creation.

We hope this is a meaningful part of your summer activities.

Worship Planning Team



St. Andrew Walks with You

Since 1968, Outside In has supported those in need by breaking the cycles of homelessness, poverty, and health issues.



This successful program provides safe spaces for people to receive judgment-free care and support. St. Andrew has supported this wonderful organization for many years by collecting what is needed for those who drop in for help. St. Andrew will begin collecting **new adult socks** on **Sunday, August 2**. More information about this drive will be included in next Friday's edition of Weekly News. To learn more about the work of Outside In, go to outsidein.org.



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, August 2, 2026

Isaiah 55:1-5
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
Matthew 14:13-21

St. Andrew Contacts

Council President	president@standrewlutheran.com
Lead Pr. Allison Bengfort	pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com, 563-210-6304
Assoc. 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
Church Admin. Kacey Woodbridge	administrator@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, July 24

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, July 25—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

9:00 am Council Retreat Fellowship Hall, Chapel

Sunday, July 26

9:30 am Outdoor Worship Sanctuary of the Firs and via Zoom

9:30 am Indoor Worship Sanctuary

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

2:30 pm Spirituality Book Group Library (Main Level)

Monday, July 27

Tuesday, July 28

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 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 29—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to office@standrewlutheran.com & administrator@standrewlutheran.com

1:00 pm Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Committee Meeting Fellowship Hall

7:00 pm Al-Anon Family Group Meeting Chapel

Thursday, July 30

10:00 am Strength + Stability with Susanne Fellowship Hall

10:30 am Constitution Team Meeting St. Andrew Room

1:00 pm Staff Meeting Library (Main Level)

7:00 pm Wing Chun Class Children's Commons

Friday, July 31

10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, August 1—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

9:00 am Nifty Notters Fellowship Hall

Sunday, August 2

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

See Award-Winning Art by Ty Hjelmeland Now on Display

This past spring, Ty Hjelmeland was encouraged by their eighth grade social studies teacher to enter an art contest for the Minoru Yasui Day event as part of a celebration and remembrance by the Japanese American Museum of Oregon (JAMO). Their drawing came in second place in the middle school division! Ty was honored during an event held at the Oregon Historical Society, which included being presented with a cash award. The Hjelmeland family was greatly impressed and moved by the stories shared at that event by the Japanese American community.

The subject of Ty's painting, Minoru Yasui, was a lawyer, poet, and activist who stood up to injustice (particularly that experienced by Americans of Japanese descent) in the United States during and after World War II, when Japanese Americans were sent to internment camps, having to give up their property and abide by curfews.

Ty's artwork is now on display at JAMO through [October 25](#), along with art by other current and past participants, in an exhibit titled "Standing for Justice: The Japanese Americans Shaping Oregon." This wonderful little museum on the corner of NW 4th & Flanders in Portland's Old Town tells a very important story. JAMO is open Wednesday through Sunday; for more information (including hours) and to purchase tickets, visit JAMO.org. There is a very interesting permanent exhibit as well; definitely worth a visit!

Kelly Hjelmeland, proud Mom



*From left to right:
Ms. Thackeray, a teacher of
Ty at Arts & Communication
Magnet Academy; and
Ty Hjelmeland, holding their
painting, done in colored pencil.*

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.