

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

August 21, 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

Choir as Community



There's a special kind of community that develops when we create music together. It happens over weeks, months, and years as we get to know each other's voices, spirits, stories, strengths, and quirks. It happens when we practice a tricky passage and finally get it right,

when we laugh at our mistakes, support someone having a difficult day, and look forward to seeing the people who sing beside us each week.

That's community. That's connection.

Choir asks us to be vulnerable with one another. We open our mouths and make sounds that may not be perfect. We trust the people singing next to us. We listen, not just to the music, but to each other. We acknowledge when we don't know something and try again when we mess up. Somehow, through our work and the grace of God, our individual voices become something unified and beautiful.

None of us creates that final offering alone. The altos need the sopranos. The melody needs the harmony. What emerges is something we simply cannot create by ourselves.

In a time when true community can be difficult to cultivate, choir gives us a reason to show up for one another. Each week, we gather. We sing. We talk, laugh, learn, and occasionally commiserate about the tricky rhythm in measure 47! Church choir also creates connections across generations and walks of life. Teenagers can sing alongside retirees, newcomers can quickly find belonging, and people who might otherwise never meet discover a shared love of music. **Childcare is available during rehearsals**, because we want this musical community to reflect all of God's family, including yours. Ultimately, we hope to create a community where people are **named, known, and needed**. A place where we can be imperfect and yet together make something magnificent.

You don't need to know anyone before you join. You don't need to be an experienced singer. You don't need to have everything perfectly in order.

Just show up.

We'll learn music together. We'll learn about each other together. And before long, you may discover that you joined not just a choir, but a community.

John Gladen

LWR School Kits Supply Collection Update



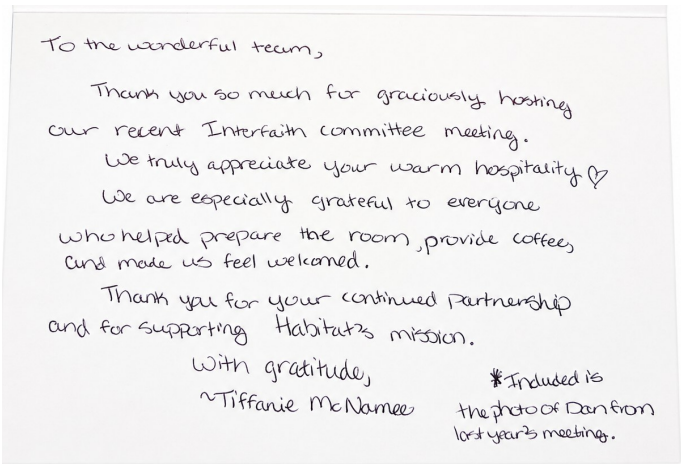
St. Andrew continues to collect donations for school kits that, once assembled, are boxed up and shipped by Lutheran World Relief (LWR) to those all around the world coping with poverty, disaster, conflict, and more.

A sign-up sheet is available on the coffee bar if you would like 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. Below you will find what supplies are still needed to accomplish St. Andrew's goal of filling 300 bags. These numbers are updated every week until the goal is met.

SCHOOL KIT SUPPLY LIST	Have	Need
Notebooks, 70-sheet of wide- or college-ruled paper; no loose-leaf paper	1,097	103
Crayons, box of 16 or 24	406	<u>0</u>
Pencil sharpener	197	103
Ruler, 30 centimeters long, or a ruler with inches on one side <u>and</u> centimeters on the other	218	82
Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)	427	<u>0</u>
#2 pencils with erasers (preferably unsharpened)	1621	0
Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)	1236	264
Eraser, 2 ½ inches	263	37

A Thank You from Habitat

We received a lovely note from Tiffanie McNamee and the Habitat team following their recent Interfaith Committee meeting at St. Andrew:



Trees and Wetlands: Part I

Adapted from the Treekeepers of Washington County's newsletter

History of the St. Andrew Wetland and Woods



Native people thrived for generations as they stewarded the wetlands and other ecosystems of our region. Things changed significantly with European colonization; many wetlands were drained or filled for agricultural purposes. In the second half of the 19th century, the widespread upland forest around the church property was nearly completely cut down for lumber and farming. There is a small remnant of the original forest encompassing five douglas firs and one Oregon oak (all estimated to be about 230 years old) along the forest margin with our wetland. All other trees in our Sanctuary of the Firs range in age from 100 to 140 years, post cutting. Between 1916 and 1936 the farmer of our wetland moved the location of Johnson Creek from the eastern margin of the flood plain to his western property margin by digging a ditch across the flood plain and then along the west property line. The creek's previous location on the eastern margin indicates that it had also been moved by earlier farmers. Both creek locations are atypical of natural creeks. Naturally, Johnson Creek would have meandered back and forth across the flood plain.

Preservation of Wetlands

Wetlands are disappearing three times faster than forests. With growing recognition of the importance of wetlands, efforts are being made to protect and restore them. By conserving and rehabilitating wetlands, their many benefits can continue to support the well-being of both humans and wildlife for our shared future. Land use laws have changed how wetlands are managed. You cannot fill in wetlands on your property without explicit legal authorization. Under federal law of the Clean Water Act, as well as state and local regulations, placing fill material, dredging, or draining a regulated wetland is strictly illegal without a specialized permit. During our 2012 building of the fellowship hall and chapel these regulations required we create water diversion strategies to preserve the wetland. What we do on or to the land affects both the amount and quality of the water in our wetlands.

Here are some ways you can make a difference.

- Retain mature trees that shelter wetlands
- Avoid using nitrates and phosphates to fertilize your lawn and convert your lawn to help capture more stormwater and filter it before the water drains into wetlands.
- Join a volunteer effort to plant stream-side trees with The Wetland Conservancy, Tualatin Riverkeepers, Friends of Trees, and others. St Andrew will be hosting a Friends of Trees Planting event on November 21, 2026.
- Keep track of how Washington County protects areas of Significant Natural Resource (SNR) along stream corridors. Lift your voice to make sure that they provide the strongest protections.
- Support The Wetland Conservancy in their mission to conserve and steward Oregon's wetlands in partnership with communities.

Beyond their ecological importance, wetlands and their trees also offer benefits people can see and feel every day. They cool surrounding areas, store carbon, soften noise, and create beautiful natural spaces for recreation and reflection. We at St. Andrew are blessed to have this natural resource to steward.

LuAnn Staul

MACG Foundations of Organizing Training

"I joined MACG because I wanted to be more involved at church and make an impact in my community. I didn't expect it to also strengthen my professional skills. Through MACG, I've become a more confident public speaker, facilitator, and communicator. The hands-on training builds skills that benefit both your career and personal goals."

— Amy Peahl

Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good (MACG) brings organizations together to act on issues important to their communities. St. Andrew has been a member since 2018. MACG training develops practical skills in leadership, relationship building, organizing, and strengthening institutions. The next training will be held **Saturdays, August 22 & 29, from 9:00 am–1:00 pm at St Anthony Catholic Church in Tigard.**

Learn more and register at macg.org/august-2026.

Amy Peahl and Pat Christiansen, members of the MACG Training Team, will help lead the event and are happy to answer questions.

Gathering of the Waters



Have you collected water from your summer travels, adventures, or time spent close to home? As we prepare for our annual Gathering of the Waters, you're invited to bring your collected water to St. Andrew!

Empty collection jars are available in the narthex for those who need one. Simply place your labeled jar of collected water on the window ledge in the sanctuary with the others. The waters will be used during our upcoming Gathering of the Waters. Whether your water traveled home from somewhere far away or came from a meaningful place right here in Oregon, all are welcome to contribute.

St. Andrew Walks with You

For many years, St. Andrew has supported Outside In by collecting necessities for those seeking its help. Thus far, the total number of new adult pairs of socks collected are: 125 men's and 122 women's, totaling 247. Last year, 483 pairs of socks were delivered to the organization. We do have a ways to go—please check the back to school sales.

We appreciate all the socks that has been donated, but, due to hygiene and health of all concerned, Outside In **cannot** accept used socks. You have an opportunity to show God's love and live out St. Andrew's values of Community Care and Neighbor Care by purchasing **new adult socks**, which may be placed in either the blue or yellow barrels in the narthex. The collection drive will continue through **August 30**. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause!



Service Committee

In Need of Prayers...

NAME	PRAYERS FOR...	CONTACT
Lee Anne Knapp The Hanchett Family	Strength and Support Healing and strength for a young man following a serious self-inflicted injury	Lee Anne Knapp
Jenn Palm and her family Rebecca Uecker	Comfort and peace following the death of a son Prayers of Thanksgiving for a normal immune system After many years of struggle.	Lee Anne Knapp Rebecca Uecker
Brandt Schafer John Gladen	Healing and comfort and strength for their family Joy and blessings for a marriage beginning	Steven Schafer Staff
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry ELCA Church Council and Staff	Blessings on our ministry Strength and wisdom Courage and wisdom	Staff Staff Staff
Ecumenical, interfaith, and secular partners in ministry	Blessings on their work	Staff
Those receiving ongoing pastoral care, including Tandy Brooks, Stacye Erickson, Rhonda Powell, Arden Tarum, Megan Webber	Assurance of God’s presence	Staff
Churches serving with us in the Oregon Synod, especially Bethesda (Eugene) and Centra (Eugene)	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 ,		

Spirituality Book Group News

The Spirituality Book Group will meet on **Sunday, August 23**, at 2:30 pm to discuss the book *54 Miles: A Novel* by Leonard Pitts, Jr. As historical fiction, this novel chronicles the fateful weeks of March 1965 –from the infamous “Bloody Sunday” march at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, on March 7 to the triumphant entry into Montgomery on March 25 that climaxed the voting rights campaign – and the lives of the families who find themselves confronting the past amid this historic flashpoint in American history. All are welcome to join the discussion, which will be held in the upstairs library. LuAnn Staul will lead this month’s book group.

Are You Two Weeks Ready?

Could your household manage on its own for two weeks following a disaster or major disruption? Oregon’s Be 2 Weeks Ready program offers practical guidance to help you prepare before an emergency happens. Join a free community preparedness workshop on Saturday, September 12, from 9:00–11:00 am at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Beaverton. Participants will learn how to build a go-bag, create an emergency plan, assemble a two-week food supply, and take other practical steps toward being prepared. No reservations are required. The workshop will be held in the Fireside Room at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 13715 SW Walker Rd., Beaverton.



Next Young Adult Event

Young adults are invited to bring a white piece of clothing to tie-dye at Spirit of Grace’s Young Adult Summer Bash on **Sunday, August 23**, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. This event, being held at Spirit of Grace (7400 SW Scholls Ferry Road, Beaverton), will also include snacks, games, and ice cream! Pick up a flyer in the narthex, and invite a friend to join you for this event. The Summer Bash is also sponsored by Cedar Hills United Church of Christ, Christ United Methodist Church Cedar Mill, and St. Andrew Lutheran Church.

St. Andrew Contacts	Council President Allison Katsuftrakis.....	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
	Church Admin. Kacey Woodbridge	administrator@standrewlutheran.com
	Administrative Assistant Martin Mills	office@standrewlutheran.com
	Parish Nurses Diane Reiner	503-201-4222
	Tira Nesset	503-866-5099

**Meal Train®**

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 30, 2026
Romans 12:9-21
Psalm 26:1-8
Matthew 16:21-28

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, August 21		
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall
Saturday, August 22		
Sunday, August 23		
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	Spirituality Book Group	Main Library
6:00 pm	Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
Monday, August 24		
Tuesday, August 25		
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)
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall
12:00 pm	Bridge Group.....	Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm	Narcotics Anonymous Meeting.....	Chapel
7:00 pm	Adult Education Team Meeting	Main Library
7:00 pm	Brass Quintet Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, August 26—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit material to administrator@standrewlutheran.com		
11:00 am	Alzheimer’s Support Group.....	St. Andrew Room
6:30 pm	Al-Anon Family Group Meeting	Chapel
Thursday, August 27		
10:00 am	Strength + Stability with Susanne	Fellowship Hall
11:00 am	Earth Care Team Meeting	St. Andrew Room
6:30 pm	Wing Chun Class.....	Children’s Commons
7:00 pm	IT Meeting.....	Offsite
7:00 pm	Light Opera of Portland Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
Friday, August 28		
10:00 am	Tai Chi	Fellowship Hall
Saturday, August 29—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com		
Sunday, August 30		
9:30 am	Outdoor Worship	Sanctuary of the Firs and via Zoom
9:30 am	Indoor Worship	Sanctuary, livestream, and via Zoom
9:30 am	Portland Taiwan Worship Service	Chapel
10:45 am	Taiwanese Church Fellowship Gathering	Chapel
6:00 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.