

ST. ANDREW WEEKLY NEWS

October 23, 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

Wear Red for Reformation Sunday!



This Sunday, October 25, we remember and celebrate St. Andrew Lutheran's roots as a church of reform! We believe that the Holy Spirit, which moved Martin Luther and other early reformers to agitate for change, continues to stir us to evolve and grow. In honor of this fiery and holy Spirit, all are invited to wear red. There will be a table of red garb for anyone who may forget, or were not aware, and would still like to participate.

Wearing red isn't the only way we'll be making this Sunday special, however. A brass quintet will also be accompanying our worship, so don't miss it!

Transition Report Presentation This Sunday

Over the course of the last program year, St. Andrew engaged the services of Pr. Julia Nielsen, a consultant recommended to us by the Oregon Synod. Pr. Julia spent many hours in conversation, observation, research, and collaboration with the St. Andrew community in order to better understand and recommend a course of action regarding the hiring of additional pastoral staff. We had a preview of her report in last year's Annual Report, but now the complete Congregational Report has been handed over to the Council and we would like to share its contents with the whole congregation. Everyone is invited for a presentation and discussion during the Education Hour **this Sunday, October 25**, at 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall. We will distribute copies of the report, present some of its findings, and respond to it together as a community.

After this initial presentation, we hope that you'll take the time to read it, pray over it, and discuss it with your fellow members, especially in your own small ministry groups. In December, we plan to hold a series of conversations during the Education Hour to break down some of its findings on a more detailed level. More information about those sessions will arrive soon.



If you cannot attend this Sunday's session, we will make the report available to you afterwards. Please contact me by email at president@standrewlutheran.com should you have any other questions or concerns.

Allison Katsurakis
Council President

Dear St. Andrew Family,



Thank you very much for all the cards, gifts, emails, postings, texts, hugs, and prayers at the passing of our son, Barak. We are grateful for the people who prepared and participated in the service, and those who set up, did clean up, and brought food for the reception.

In appreciation,
Carolyn & Gordon Teifel

Spirituality Book Group News

The Spirituality Book Group meets **this Sunday, October 25**, at 2:30 pm to discuss the book *The Lion Women of Tehran* by Marjan Kamali. Fran Miller will lead discussion in the upstairs library.



"A touching portrait of courage and friendship...played out in the midst of the Iranian Revolution of the 1970s, regime change, political persecution, emigration, and devastating loss."
— Kirkus Reviews

All are welcome at Spirituality Book Group discussion. For more information, contact Mary Smith (dbits1@gmail.com).

Next month, on **November 22**, Connie Losk will lead discussion on *Born Survivors: Three Young Mothers and Their Extraordinary Story of Courage, Defiance, and Hope* by Wendy Holden.

The Spirituality Book Group will not meet in December. Discussions resume in the new year, with these titles already selected:

- **January 2027:** *Theo of Golden: A Novel* by Allen Levi
- **February:** *Laziness Does Not Exist* by Devon Price, Ph.D.
- **March:** *Whistling past the Graveyard: A Novel* by Susan Crandall

Discussion leaders and meeting dates are to be announced.

September 2026 by the Numbers

Average Weekly Worship Attendance

In-person:	117
Online:	166
Total:	283

Weekly Revenue

Average Weekly Revenue, including offerings, building use, etc.:	\$14,615
Average Weekly Revenue needed to fully cover all budgeted expenses and end the year without a deficit:	\$15,115

Fiscal Year to Date Revenue

Budgeted:	\$189,994
Actual:	\$165,716

Fiscal Year to Date Expenses

Budgeted:	\$197,627
Actual:	\$162,589

Fiscal Year to Date Surplus/(Deficit)

Budgeted:	(\$7,633)
Actual:	\$3,128

Your Guide to a Zero-Waste and Plastic-Free Halloween

Adapted from post by Eve Fox, The Story of Stuff Project blog, 10/8/26.

Halloween has morphed into a terrifying specter of hyper-consumerism. Starting in September, we are all bombarded with tons of cheaply made, short-lived plastic costumes and Halloween decorations designed to be used once before heading to the landfill. We can't shop our way to a sustainable future, but we can reclaim the simple fun of this spooky holiday and build better traditions by choosing waste-reduction, sharing, using natural materials, and reusing things rather than endless buying. Below are some ideas for a fun-filled Halloween with creativity and community fun.

Costumes: **REUSE**, share, and do-it-yourself.

- Plan ahead to avoid last-minute fast-fashion costumes that are cheaply made, non-recyclable, and designed to be worn only once before falling apart and being tossed in the trash.
- Shop at thrift stores for pre-loved costumes, vintage clothing, and unique accessories.
- Crowdfund the "ingredients." Need a top hat, a cape, or a specific prop? Reach out to friends or post on your local Buy Nothing Project group to see if you can find it that way.
- Organize a costume swap with your neighbors, friends, or school. Sharing keeps money in your pocket, builds community, and keeps usable textiles and items out of the landfill.



Decorations: Use natural materials and make your own. Retailers are working overtime for months to convince you to buy a set of larger-than-life animatronic plastic skeletons, witches, and zombies, along with disposable novelty banners, garlands of fake autumn leaves, and sticky synthetic spider webs that tangle up wildlife and create microplastics.

- Nature produces a beautiful, non-toxic, 100% compostable line of fall décor: pumpkins, gourds, hay bales, dried reeds, fallen leaves, and ornamental corn. These are ready-made to grace your front door, porch steps, dining room table, and more with minimal effort. Not to mention, they're compostable and—best of all—free! You can also check with local farms and animal rescues; cows, pigs, goats, and chickens love munching on leftover, unpainted pumpkins.
- Carve pumpkins with friends. Turn jack-o-lantern carving into a fun and memorable gathering with your family, friends, and neighbors. Serve up warm spiced apple cider in reusable ceramic or metal cups. Collect all the discarded pumpkin parts for composting. Toast the pumpkin seeds.
- Make a "Halloween tree." Find a fallen gnarled branch outside and "plant" it in a pot filled with dirt to serve as your "tree." Cut bats, black cats, and ghosts out of leftover cardboard or paper scraps to hang with string or natural-fiber twine. Paint flat stones as mini gravestones and nestle them in the dirt surrounding your "Halloween tree" to create a spooky faux-graveyard. Sculpt small pumpkins and figures out of clay. Save your creations to enjoy and build upon year after year.

- Build an old-fashioned scarecrow. Check your rag bag or scrap pile for old clothes. Stuff them with hay, top them with a pumpkin or a stuffed burlap/paper grocery bag head, and draw on a face. After Halloween, the hay can be used as garden mulch or composted. Wash the clothes for future use, or donate them, and compost the rest.
- Light wisely. If you want to illuminate your spooky set-up, use high quality long-lasting LED lights to reduce energy use. Take care of them so they last for decades rather than ending up in the electronic waste stream. If you're using candles, try to avoid anything that has to be thrown away once it's been used, and buy local.

Candy: Minimize packaging and trash. Candy packaging is a classic example of designed-for-the-dump packaging; tiny bits of multi-layer plastic film and foil engineered to be impossible to recycle.

- If you are hosting a party, visit your supermarket's bulk section. Fill reusable bags with various candies, and portion them into small compostable brown paper pouches or fabric tie-bags that can be used again to store tiny treasures or as small gift bags.
- If you are greeting trick-or-treaters, choose treats packaged in cardboard boxes or simple paper wrappers rather than plastic film. Examples include Dots, Milk Duds, Junior Mints, and Tootsie Rolls.
- Give something other than candy such as coins, or even local gift certificates or coupons from neighborhood ice cream shops, bakeries, or sweets shops to support your local economy while cutting out wasteful packaging.



Remember that refusing to participate in seasonal landfill-maxxing does not mean skipping the fun. The goal is to replace plastic pollution and hyper-consumption with creativity, resourcefulness, imagination, and making memories!

Happy Halloween!

Liz Hardy
Earth Care Team

Volunteers Needed: Event and Kitchen Hosts

St. Andrew is looking for individuals interested in helping us welcome community groups and organizations that use our facilities!

We're hoping to build a team of **Event Hosts** who can assist with occasional gatherings by opening the building, ensuring rooms are set up appropriately, adjusting thermostats, and being available to answer questions or provide assistance during events.

We're also interested in identifying **Kitchen Hosts** who can help support those events that require use of our kitchen facilities.

Opportunities will vary depending on the size and needs of each event, and **some may include compensation for your time**. There is no regular schedule or ongoing commitment. You can simply help when your availability allows!

If you're interested in serving as an Event Host, Kitchen Host, or both, or you have any questions, please email events@standrewlutheran.com.

We'd love to hear from you!

Facility Management Team



Bring a Photo or Memento for All Saints' Day

"Since its earliest centuries, the church has set aside a day to remember the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us in the faith, stretching across the centuries and around the globe. However hard it might seem to follow the way of Jesus in our own time and place, this is a day to remember that we may be crazy, but we are not alone."

—Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals

Following Jesus is hard. It involves dying to old ways of being, becoming vulnerable in active love, and boldly risking the new and unknown. Luckily, we are not alone. We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, both living and dead, whose legacies continue to shape our lives and offer comfort and inspiration. On **Sunday, November 1**, we will remember these saints, giving thanks for their lives and grieving those who have passed away.

I invite you to consider a saint who has made an impact on your life. Maybe it is a loved one or other individual you know personally, a Bible character who has shaped your thinking, or a historical or modern figure who has inspired your passion for love and justice. Select an item—it may be a photo or memento—that represents this person, and bring it with you to worship on **Sunday, November 1**. You may bring more than one item if there are multiple saints you'd like to honor this year.

During the worship service, you will be invited to place your item/s on one of the altars of the saints that will be set up in the sanctuary. You will have the opportunity to pray and light a candle in honor of the saint/s you are remembering this year.

Those worshipping online are encouraged to create an at-home altar for your mementos. Be sure to include candles that can be lit during the candle-lighting portion of the worship service.



A Prayer for All Saints' Day, from
Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals:

Lord, your saints come from every nation and every tribe. Such is the beauty of your kingdom, where every race and people are honored and recognized as being made in your image. Help us live lives of peace and reconciliation that pay homage to the diversity of your great cloud of witnesses. Amen.



The Forerunners of Christ with Saints and Martyrs
by Fra Angelico, circa 1423/1424

Adult Education: God's Presence in Nature

Editor's note: Due to the absence of Pr. Colleen Nelson, November's adult ed. series is slightly altered from what was previous announced.

Join us as we open to deepening our relationship with all living beings in creation. We will explore God's Presence within the evolving, dynamic, creative process of our Universe and especially our planet home. God is not separate from Earth but Present in the reality of what is happening all around us. Come find hope, grounding, and trust as we open to Mystery and Wonder amidst the chaos, uncertainty, and fear in these times. Join us as you are able, for one session or all. Dr. Ruth Nickodemus will lead this four-week course beginning **Sunday, November 1**, at 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall.

DRESS AS YOUR FAVORITE SAINT!
Come as St. Thomas (for the doubters), Martin Luther King Jr. (for the activists), or any hero of the faith who inspires you. Any saint, past or present, is welcome!

DINNER

ACTIVITIES

COSTUME CONTEST
Best DIY • Best Saint •
Most Creative • Best Duo/Group

CHILD CARE
Nursery will be staffed for
children 5 and under.

Hosted by

St. Andrew LUTHERAN CHURCH
12405 SW Butner Rd., Beaverton, OR

Supported by

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026
5:00 PM

All Saints

COSTUME PARTY

FAITH ● FRIENDS ● FOOD ● FUN

On All Saints Day, young adults will gather to celebrate the heroes of faith, get to know each other, and have some fun along the way.

Thanks from the LWR Team

 Thank you to everyone who participated in the Lutheran World Relief School Kit collection drive. We passed our goal of 300 and were able to ultimately provide 313 bags to school-children in need around the world.

In addition to the School Kits, we boxed up 50 quilts (this year's goal) last Tuesday night for the Fall LWR Ingathering. Of those 50 quilts, 11 were tied by participants at Earth Camp 2026. Thank you to everyone who made meeting this goal possible, especially the campers!

LWR Team

Help Us Deck the Halls!

St. Andrew's annual Hanging of the Greens is being planned for **Sunday, November 29**, and we're looking for a small group of people willing to take on the coordination of this much-loved tradition.

In past years, many different individuals and ministry groups have helped carry this work, but there is currently no designated team overseeing it.

We'd love to find a few people who can help the Hanging of the Greens continue into the future.

The coordinators would help organize the greenery, gather volunteers, guide the decorating that prepares our church for Advent and Christmas, and coordinate the take-down and storage afterward. This is not a one-person job. We're hoping to build a small team that can share the work and help carry the tradition forward. If you enjoy decking the halls and would like to help make this happen, please reach out to Kacey Woodbridge by email at administrator@standrewlutheran.com.

Earth Camp 2027 Director Applications Close Soon

 The St. Andrew HR Team continues its search for a new youth director, whom the team expects will join the staff in 2027.

In the meantime, planning for Earth Camp 2027 needs to begin now! We have created a one-year Earth Camp 2027 Director position with a stipend of \$5,000. St. Andrew community members who have familiarity with Earth Camp are encouraged to apply! The position posting can be found on the St. Andrew website under "Job Openings," and will remain open until **this Sunday, October 25, 2026**.

PARENT FORUM

PARENTING IN THIS POLITICAL MOMENT



Have you wondered about the best way to talk to your youth about what they're seeing on the news (or tiktok) these days? With the election around the corner, what are some helpful ways to talk about what is happening in our country as a family?

Village Resilience, Together Lab, and Congregations of the West Side Youth Collective invite you into conversation about parenting in this political climate.



Oct. 25, 4-6pm

Christ UMC, in the Chapel
12755 NW Dogwood St
Portland, OR 97229



Scan to RSVP

RSVP: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/WSYCPARENTFORUM2026](https://bit.ly/WSYCPARENTFORUM2026)

Advent Season Planning Session

You have already seen the evidence in stores: Christmas is on the way. In the Church, we prepare for Christmas with the season of Advent, a time of waiting, watching, and wondering. This year, St. Andrew will once again be using resources from *A Sanctified Art* to guide our celebration of this season. ASA's theme for this year is "Until the Dawn." The resource packet includes ideas for worship, art projects, children's activities, and more.



The Worship Planning Team would love to hear your input about how we will observe this important time. Please join us on **Sunday, November 1**, from 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall as we look over the materials and decide which ideas are a good fit for our community. Vegan tortilla soup will be served (with cheese and sour cream available for those who want to add them), but you are also welcome to bring your own lunch if you prefer. Questions? Ask Pr. Allison Bengfort or John Gladen.



In Need of Prayers...

NAME	PRAYERS FOR...	CONTACT
Family and friends of Mary Brown	Peace and God's comfort at her death	Beverly Briggs
Dee Piscitelli and Michelle Poole (granddaughters)	Peace and God's comfort at the death of their father	Linda Fransen
Tracy Powell and family	Peace and God's comfort at death of mother, Mary Lou	St. Andrew Staff
Jerry Entrikin	Comfort and healing	Jerry Entrikin
Alan Jacobs (father)	Comfort, healing, and effective treatment	Sonja Ackman
Sharon T. (friend)	Continued healing and the strength to return home	Rebecca Uecker
Teri Brosh	Healing and recovery	Teri Brosh
Nora Duggan (daughter)	Successful surgery on October 28	Tim & Sharon Duggan
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, esp. Trinity (Silverton) and Fir Lawn (Sweet Home)	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.

High School Youth Pumpkin Carving and Halloween Party



St. Andrew High School Youth Group teens are invited to attend its annual Halloween pumpkin carving party **this Tuesday, October 27**, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the youth room. While snacks will be provided, we do ask that you bring your own pumpkin. We hope to see you there, and happy Halloween!

Thanksgiving Meals for Community Action

Supporting families in need so they can truly celebrate Thanksgiving is a wonderful way to live out your faith. To that end, the Service Committee continues to collect \$6,525—enough to buy eighty-seven \$75 WinCo gift cards—for Community Action families. Any donations that exceed the goal will be used for St. Andrew's upcoming Barnes School Christmas Giving Tree or donated to the St. Matthew Food Pantry for feeding our neighbors in need.



If you wish to give online, select "Thanksgiving Community Action Donation" in the drop-down menu below "Fund," or you can send a check payable to St. Andrew with "Thanksgiving Donation" written in the memo line. Please consider helping with a donation of any amount this year. Deadline to receive donations is **Monday, November 16**.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact:

- LuAnn Staul (ljstaul@gmail.com / 503-314-6321), or
- Linda McDowall (mcdowall.ml@gmail.com / 503-649-5091).



Let's Talk

If you or someone you know is struggling with depression or suicidal ideation, you can call or text 988 for support. You are not alone.

A small group at St. Andrew has been talking about the challenges of ministering to those impacted by suicide. In April 2027, the group plans to hold a training for St. Andrew members that will explore ways of ministering to this population. What can we do for those who have lost someone to suicide? What can we do for those experiencing suicidal thoughts?



There isn't an easy list of dos and don'ts, but we can learn skills and approaches.

You'll hear more about this upcoming event as time passes. Please consider attending; ministering to people impacted by suicide is important.



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, November 1, 2026

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
Matthew 5:1-12

St. Andrew Contacts

Council President Allison Katsufakis.....	president@standrewlutheran.com
Lead Pr. Allison Bengfort	pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com, 563-210-6304
Assoc. Pr. Colleen Nelson.....	out of office until further notice
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 Nasset	503-866-5099

Highlights for the Week at St. Andrew

Friday, October 23

- 8:00 am Lutheran World Relief Fall 2026 Ingathering Community Garden Parking Lot
10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall

Saturday, October 24—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

- 9:00 am Lutheran World Relief Fall 2026 Ingathering Community Garden Parking Lot

Sunday, October 25

- 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 (Main Level)
11:00 am High School Youth Group Youth Room
11:00 am Transition Report Presentation Fellowship Hall
2:30 pm Spirituality Book Group Library (Main Level)
4:00 pm West Side Youth Collective Gathering Christ UMC Cedar Mill (12755 NW Dogwood St, Portland)
4:00 pm West Side Youth Collective Parent Forum Christ UMC Cedar Mill (12755 NW Dogwood St, Portland)

Monday, October 26

Tuesday, October 27

- 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
5:00 pm Evening Prayer Chapel
7:00 pm Brass Quintet Rehearsal Sanctuary
7:00 pm High School Youth Group Pumpkin Carving Party Youth Room

Wednesday, October 28—Weekly News deadline is 4:00 pm; submit to office@standrewlutheran.com & administrator@standrewlutheran.com

- 11:00 am Alzheimer's Support Group St. Andrew Room
5:00 pm Stewardship Team Meeting Library (Main Level)
6:00 pm Bells of Grace Rehearsal Sanctuary
7:00 pm Al-Anon Family Group Meeting Chapel
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

Thursday, October 29

- 10:00 am Strength + Stability with Susanne Fellowship Hall
1:00 pm Staff Meeting Library (Main Level)
7:00 pm Wing Chun Class Children's Commons

Friday, October 30

- 10:00 am HR Team Meeting via Zoom
10:00 am Tai Chi Fellowship Hall
4:00 pm Hoffman School of Music Fall Recital Chapel

Saturday, October 31—Sunday Worship Announcements deadline is 11:59 pm; submit announcements to pastorallison@standrewlutheran.com

Sunday, November 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 | God's Presence in Nature Fellowship Hall
11:00 am Confirmation for Middle School Youth Library (Main Level)
11:00 am High School Youth Group Youth Room
12:00 pm Advent Seasonal Worship Planning Meeting Fellowship Hall
5:00 pm Young Adult Group All Saints' Costume Party 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.