



St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church

eNews

November 27, 2024

(503) 246-4276, admin@standrewspdx.com

3228 SW Sunset Blvd, Portland, OR 97239

Office Hours: 8:30am – 2:30pm, Mon - Thurs

Join us in person for worship every Sunday at 10:00am, or on Zoom & Facebook.

An online version of the weekly worship bulletin can be found on our website – www.standrewspdx.com

Thoughts from Pastor Sarah

Dear Kindred in Christ,

Thanksgiving is so late this year. I think we all are ready for a pause. I hope that there will be grace in this holiday for all of us. Advent is right around the corner. In fact, this Sunday, December 1, is the first Sunday of Advent. We will be decorating the church after worship. Many hands make light work. I hope you'll join us on Sunday, bring family in town for the holiday and help to make St. A's shimmer.

Each week of Advent will have some special component to it-- decorating week one, healing prayer week 2, Cantalina choir week 3, and possibly baptisms and welcoming new members week 4. If you are interested in joining the church, please let me know and mark your calendar for Sunday, December 22.

At Supper Church last week we decorated Christmas bags for the Safe Rest Village and on December 8 we'll fill the bags. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this holiday generosity project. Supper Church on Sunday, December 22 at 5pm, will be an early Christmas service tailored to families. We hope this will simplify matters for families on Christmas Eve. But no worries, we will have worship at 9pm on Christmas Eve with candlelight and carols.

But first we pause to give thanks.

I'll log onto Zoom at 10 on Friday if anyone cares to have a coffee chat.

I'm thankful for all of you.

Peace be with you, Pastor Sarah

SCRIPTURE

December 1
Daniel 6:6-27

December 8
Joel 2:12-13, 28-29; Luke 11:13

New News & Announcements

The office will be closed Thursday, November 28, through Monday, December 2. We will be back on Tuesday, December 3. Krissy will still be in her office on Monday.

FALL FOOD DRIVE - *FINAL WEEK*

This is the last week to give to our annual food drive for the Neighborhood House Free Food Market. Help us fill the barrel in the narthex with food that can go directly onto their shelves for those who depend on this program. Money donations can also be made, in an envelope by the barrel or through the St. A's website. See below for a list of most needed items. Thank you for your generosity!

CHRISTMAS THEMED PERFORMANCE AT ST. ANDREW'S

The Oregon Chorale continues its annual tradition, Christmas with the Chorale, with a concert of holiday music guaranteed to put you in the spirit of the season! These concerts will also feature festive sing-a-longs and selections from this year's Comfort & Joy concert with the Oregon Symphony. The St. Andrew's performance is on Saturday, December 7th, at 4:00pm. Tickets can be purchased online at the Oregon Chorale website.

HOLIDAY DONATION DRIVE FOR THE MULTNOMAH SAFE REST VILLAGE AND SOUTHWEST OUTREACH

Support individuals experiencing homelessness in our community by donating new - undergarments, socks, and long johns - and new or gently used - coats & rain gear, backpacks - winter/warmth items that will go to MSRV participants and those who are served by the Southwest Outreach weekly shower program (see below for more info on this ministry). Drop off locations listed above, or you can bring them to the office and we'll make sure they get to where they should go. Contact Katy or Marilyn for more info.

Learning & Fellowship Opportunities

OPPORTUNITIES TO SEE YOUR FAITH FAMILY PERFORM

If you have a concert, play, or other event in which you're performing to which you'd like to invite your faith family, please let us know. We'd be happy to share in this spot in the e-news.

- **JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCE**

Jesuit High School is hosting a free student concert featuring the three school bands and string ensemble, and three choirs on Wednesday, December 11th at 7:00 in the Moyer Theater.

Performances will include classic and modern standards, and lots of holiday cheer! Aubrey Schiefelbein will be playing drums with the jazz band and accompanying the choir for some of their songs.

- **STARBIRD THEATER CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE**

Nancy Goering will be performing in Christmas is in the Airwaves at the Starbird Theater in Vancouver, WA. This is a trio of radio plays performed live in front of an audience: Dickens' A Christmas Carol, Sherlock Holmes: The Night Before Christmas, and Henny's Christmas Mackerel. Performances are on December 14th at 2:00 & 7:00pm. Tickets can be purchased online.

SUPPER CHURCH

Join us for SUPPER CHURCH on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 5PM, as we celebrate one another, share fellowship, prayer and praise. We'll have food from a neighborhood restaurant, so please RSVP. Hope to see you Sunday! Guests are welcome.

ANTI-RACISM DISCUSSION GROUP

In our October gathering we agreed to turn our attentions to "The Enduring Legacy of Portland's Black Panthers: The Roots of Free Health Care, Free Breakfast, and Neighborhood Control in Oregon" by Joe Biel. We'll meet next to discuss this final book of the year on Thursday, December 12 at 6pm on Zoom. This is a

relatively short book that will help you understand some of the racial history of our own city. Mark your calendars and plan to join us.

STREET ROOTS CIVIC CIRCLES BACK AT ST. ANDREW'S

On December 19th at 10am, St. Andrew's will host the next Street Roots Civic Circle, in partnership with the Pathways Home team that includes Pastor Sarah, Katy, and Marilyn. Join us for an opportunity to hear and learn from Street Roots vendors who currently, or have recently, been living outside, in this facilitated conversation with Q&A format. It would be great to have St. A's people there to welcome the community to our building. If you'd like to help with hospitality contact Katy in the office. [Click here to register.](#)

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to help make our post-worship coffee and fellowship happen each Sunday. Sign up online or contact Becky Schiefelbein for more info.

CHOIR NEWS

Join the St. Andrew's choir. All are welcome! Rehearsals are immediately after worship. Simply talk to Don Feely or meet us in the choir room downstairs after the service.

LEARNING TO DISCERN – FALL AND WINTER CLASS SERIES

Discernment is the process of making decisions when we put on the mind of Christ, so that our choices move us toward becoming who God wants us to be. Discernment is both a gift and a habit of faith.

These classes will examine the scriptural and theological underpinnings of discernment, and the spiritual freedom it requires of the discerner. We'll also cover helpful practices, which use not just rational thought but also memory, imagination, body practices, nature, and more. Finally, we'll learn to test our tentative decisions by asking God for confirmation.

Our text will be *The Art of Discernment: Spiritual Practices for Decision Making* by Elizabeth Liebert, Professor of Spiritual Life at Union Theological Seminary. It's available through Powell's, and Westminster John Knox, which is the Presbyterian publishing house.

The classes are on the first and third Wednesdays from 12:30 to 2:00 in the chapel, and will run through February.

We'll be using the "flipped classroom" method: we prepare by reading the entire chapter before the meeting, to prepare for an in-depth session and engaging in the practices when we meet. Questions? Contact Amy Houchen or Jan Reynolds.

NEXT STEPS IN ENNEAGRAM EXPLORATION

Join us on the fourth Saturday of each month, at 1:00pm on Zoom, for our Enneagram discussions. We are reviewing various aspects of Enneagram theory, focusing especially on the many triads in the system. We're taking a break in December, but we'll resume on the fourth Saturday in January with a focus on levels of health within our types. Not sure what this means, come learn!

Service & Mission

If you have any questions about our ministries or would like to be a part of our Mission Team, contact the St. Andrew's office.

GIFT BAGS FOR THE MULTNOMAH SAFE REST VILLAGE

At the last Supper Church those in attendance decorated the gift bags that will be filled with goodies for the current participants of the Multnomah Safe Rest Village. The Mission Team has allocated funds for these gift bags but if you would like to help offset the cost you can make a donation, designated for MSRV gift bags. Thank you to Gail Planck for spearheading this project!

MULTNOMAH SAFE REST VILLAGE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Would you like to show your support for the Multnomah Safe Rest Village? Here are some ways to help:

- Winter Welcome Items - As the weather cools and new participants arrive at their brand new homes there is an increased need for necessary supplies to help them flourish in the months ahead. The requested items are new or gently used cold weather & water resistant clothing, men's shoes of all types and sizes (in good condition), men's belts, sheets & pillowcases, warm blankets, pet supplies (food, treats, toys). Donations can be dropped off onsite, daily from 10:00-2:00, at 2731 SW Multnomah Blvd, or bring them to the St. Andrew's office.
- Make Sandwiches! Sandwich Mondays are still happening! There are three volunteer slots for each Monday, and each volunteer is asked to make about 12 sandwiches, or the equivalent of another lunch item. Sign-ups and drop-off instructions are online.
- Holiday Feast- We will be providing a holiday feast for the village participants and staff on Wednesday, December 18. More information and sign-ups are online. All contributions need to be dropped off to the SRV front gate on that day, between 11:30 and 12:00pm. There are now 100 folks to feed with the SRV expansion, so this will be our biggest feast yet! Thank you so much for all your generous support.

For frequent MSRV updates visit the Friends of Multnomah Safe Rest Village website, and join their Facebook group for updates, news, photos, connections. For more information about any of these programs contact the St. Andrew's office. Katy is happy to answer any of your questions.

ZIPLOC MINISTRY

Saturday, December 7

10:30-12:00-Ziploc bag filling and donation drop-off

Each month St. Andrew's sends large Ziploc bags filled with essential items to our ministry partner Operation Nightwatch, who then distributes them to the houseless people who utilize their services. Thanks to generous donors, along with additional Neighborhood Ministries funds, we receive enough funding each month to cover these costs. We are grateful to be able to continue this important work.

So what can you do to help? It has been brought to our attention the constant need for donations of new socks and new men's boxer-briefs, for many of our ministry partners. These can be dropped off at our first Saturday Ziploc bag filling, at worship on Sundays, or during office hours.

MEALS FOR WEST WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S SHELTER

Each month St. Andrew's provides meals to West Women & Children's Shelter. If you would like to participate in this ministry you can sign-up to make a casserole (or two, or three) using a specific recipe given each month and then drop it off at the monthly first Saturday Ziploc ministry day from 11:00-11:30. Volunteers are also needed to deliver these meals, and other items, to the shelter. Sign up to volunteer online.

WW&CS currently provides shelter and services to 35 people who are seeking a safe place to stay while they break away from a domestic violence situation, and they are expecting to grow to 55-60 people this month. Any number of casseroles we provide are appreciated and are mostly served on the weekends when only volunteers are on staff. All excess is frozen and served at a later time.

SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR OUR NEIGHBORS LIVING OUTSIDE

SW Outreach is an active group connecting with our neighbors living outside in SW Portland through visits, conversation, relationship-building, and a weekly shower program at Riversgate Church in Multnomah Village. If you are interested in volunteering with or donating to this important and effective group, contact Sandy Steinecker, or Marilyn Palumbo. You can also contact them if you're worried about someone in the neighborhood who might be houseless and needing help.

The weekly shower program is a welcome day center for people being displaced in our area. Our guests find a few peaceful hours to get a shower and a hot meal, connect with resources and engage in conversation. We currently are in need of bath towels. We always need underwear and t-shirts (men's and women's size medium). If you can help please bring your donations marked "SW Outreach" to the bench outside the church office. We appreciate the constant support and generosity of St. Andrew's!

ST. ANDREW'S QUILTERS

The St. Andrew's quilters meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 9:30. Their beautiful creations are donated to organizations that provide warmth to those in need. All are welcome to join them! Contact Gail Planck for more information.

Virtual Gatherings & Events

Sunday, December 1 & 8

10:00am Worship

Zoom & Facebook

(also in person)

Friday, November 29 & December 6

10-12pm Virtual Coffee Chat

Thursday, December 12

6:00pm Anti-Racism Discussion Group, Zoom

Reminders & Ongoing News

FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

If you would like to recognize a special occasion or person (i.e. birthdays, anniversaries) or memorialize a loved one by placing flowers on the chancel, please contact Bev Ruggles to confirm a date. Contact the office for Bev's phone number if you don't have it.

PRINTED COMMUNICATIONS BY MAIL

Did you know that we can send printed copies of the bulletin and eNews through the mail? There is a list of people who receive these each week, and there's room for more. If you would like to have us mail you a printed copy of the weekly worship bulletin and/or a text version of the eNews, contact the office and we'll put you on the list!

ST. ANDREW'S NAMETAGS

Would you like to make a new friend? Wearing your nametag each Sunday at worship can help. You can request a new nametag this coming week. They are being made for visitors and/or members of our worship community. Please contact Katy in the office or Connie Blumthall for a new (or renewed) nametag. "Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver and the other gold."

NATIONAL SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

People experiencing a mental health crisis have a way to reach out for help in the U.S., by calling or texting the numbers 9-8-8. The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is a national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the United States. It will function much like 9-1-1, but is solely dedicated to addressing mental health needs. See their website for more information on this potentially lifesaving program, and help spread the word.

RIDES TO CHURCH

Do you or someone you know need a ride to church on Sundays? If so our Deacons are on hand to give rides to church to those who need one. If you would be interested in receiving this service, or know someone else who would, please let us know so we can get you on our list. If you would be interested in being a driver, please let us know that too. Contact the office, Merrie Backer, or Larry Kelly to sign up, or if you have any questions.

Thank you for continuing to support the ministries of St. Andrew's through your online donations and checks sent by mail.

Office: 503-246-4276

Office hours 8:30am – 2:30pm, Monday - Thursday

Bookkeeper hours: 9:00am – 3:00pm, Mondays & Wednesdays

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sanderson-Doughty, Pastor and Head of Staff

Don Feely, Director of Music Ministry

Katy Rustvold, Office Administrator/Neighborhood Ministries Coordinator

Krissy Wilds, Bookkeeper