



St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church

eNews

September 19, 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,

Last Sunday, we had another wonderful hour of worship in the chapel. Congratulations to Roberta on her ordination to the office of elder! And thanks be to God for all those who are stepping into or continuing service as elders or deacons. Presbyterians operate with shared leadership and it takes many people to keep our church running and faithful. Your Session is meeting tonight to revisit our strategic plan and goals and set priorities for the coming year. Please hold your elected leaders in prayer.

Even if you are not an elder or a deacon (or aren't serving currently in those roles), you have gifts you could share for the upbuilding of the church. A gift we have need of at the moment, it seems, is hospitality. Do you know how to make coffee? Do you enjoy baking or shopping for snacks? Can you come early to set up post-worship fellowship? Last Sunday it appears no one had stepped up for this role and folks were surprised not to have coffee hour after worship. I believe the people who usually fill gaps just happened to be away that week. Might you consider hosting coffee hour in the coming weeks? Please reach out to Becky Schiefelbein, our fellowship elder, if you want to claim a week. You don't need to be an elder or a deacon. You don't need to make a recurring, long term commitment. If everyone with the spiritual gift of hospitality took a week, no one would be doing it all the time or all that often. I know that many of you have this gift. I pray you will consider sharing it to enhance our time of connecting with one another.

Speaking of connecting with one another, we had such a marvelous in-person coffee chat last Friday. I will return to Zoom coffee chat this Friday, but think I might do monthly in person chats. Let me know if you'd be interested in joining me! I hope several of you will join me on Zoom Friday between 10 and 12, and that many more will join us for 10am worship in the chapel or on-line Sunday morning.

Due to travel schedules and health circumstances, Supper Church is being postponed to Sunday, September 29, at 5:30 in the chapel. Please spread the word and consider joining in this lovely time of community building, faith strengthening, and food!

In Christ, Pastor Sarah

SCRIPTURE

September 22

Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-34; 50:15-21

Luke 6:35

September 29
Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8
Luke 22:14-20

New News & Announcements

SUPPER CHURCH

For the past several months the regular schedule for Supper Church has been the second and fourth Sunday evenings at 5:30 in the chapel. That would mean that THIS Sunday should be supper church. But we have a bonus week in September and we're pushing the second Supper Church of the month to Sunday, September 29 at 5:30 pm. There will be another simple dinner, catered from local restaurants, so reservations are kindly requested. We don't need cooks but DO need a few volunteers to help with set up, etc. RSVP and Volunteer registration is online.

All are invited: families, singles, seniors, teens. Enjoy an hour's fellowship with your St. A's family and no dinner to prepare. We look forward to seeing you.

The next Supper Church is Sunday, September 29.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS SUNDAY

On Sunday, October 6 we will be receiving the Peace & Global Witness special offering. The way this offering works is that 50% of what we collect is sent to our national church to support large scale efforts in peace and global witness, 25% goes to the presbytery where it is pooled with resources donated by other congregations and then redistributed as grants, and 25% of it stays with us to support our own peacemaking ministry. This year the Mission Team has decided to give our 25% to Don't Shoot PDX, an arts and education organization that promotes social justice and civic participation, and supports community members facing racism and discrimination by providing legal representation and direct advocacy.

You can write a check to St. A's and put "Peace and Global Witness" on the memo line or you can give on-line selecting this designation for your gift. Thank you for your support!

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.

Learning & Fellowship Opportunities

ANTI-RACISM DISCUSSION GROUP

Thanks to those who gathered and helped choose the next book for discussion. Our next book will be 'Voter Suppression in US Elections', edited by Jim Downs, Stacey Abrams, Carol Anderson, Kevin M. Kruse, Heather Cox Richardson, and Heather Ann Thompson. As we are approaching another major US election this seemed a timely topic to consider. Please order this book asap if you'd like to join us. It is a small book and we will discuss it in full at our next meeting. We'll meet on Thursday, October 10, at 6pm on Zoom. Even if just for this book, we hope you'll join us.

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 discerners. 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 will be on the first and third Wednesdays from 12:30 to 2:00 in the chapel, starting September 18, and running 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. For our first meeting, please read the Introduction and Chapter 1: Discernment, What Is It?

Questions? Contact Amy Houchen or Jan Reynolds.

NEXT STEPS IN ENNEAGRAM EXPLORATION

We will gather on Zoom on the fourth Saturday in September at 1pm to find out what we learned this summer and share what we hope to explore this fall. If you've been curious, this is a good time to jump in.

Join us on Zoom, Saturday, September 28, at 1pm, to grow in knowledge of self and others.

CHOIR NEWS

The St. Andrew's choir is taking a break for the summer. We look forward to seeing everyone in the fall!

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.

SUMMER FUN IN CUBA

St. A's Cuba partnership lets us share in the life of our sibling church in Santa Clara, through prayers, stories of hope, stories of sorrow, and also through pictures of joy! Here are some pictures Pastor Sarah received from Pastor Reile, of some joyous events and activities that took place over their summer.





MULTNOMAH SAFE REST VILLAGE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Would you like to show your support for the Multnomah Safe Rest Village? If so, there are many ways to do so!

- Still needed: bedding for the new units. If you can donate sheets (twin size only, please; the units are small!!), blankets, pillow cases, they'd love to have them. But don't bring them to the door; right now that causes confusion. Also needed: men's clothing, new or gently-used, all sizes. Please email Hana at the MSR/V to arrange the right time to donate, or bring your items to the St. Andrew's office.
- Make Sandwiches! Sandwich Meal Train is now on Mondays. Sign up online for your Sandwich Monday. We know that once there are 100 people in the Village we won't be able to provide enough weekly sandwiches—we're working with Sunstone Way (formerly All Good NW) to figure out what will be helpful and manageable. But for now, it's still SANDWICH TIME!!
- Support the MSR/V's Street Books Library. Buy a book from the wish list at Annie Bloom's in Multnomah Village.
- Post a lawn sign supporting the MSR/V! Send an email to FMSR/V to request one and we'll deliver. Show the neighborhood we have lots of supporters out there, despite some negative reactions.
- Learn more about the expansion, and give the City your feedback. The Safe Rest Village team encourages everyone with questions to contact them. They truly want to hear from neighbors.
- Be brave and talk with neighbors who may be upset, angry, or fearful about the expansion of the MSR/V. Here are some things to emphasize in conversations that might be difficult:
 - We are in a desperate citywide crisis and it is important for to get more people off the streets. Safe Rest Villages are one way to alleviate the suffering around us.
 - Expanded numbers = expanded resources. Sunstone Way will have strong financial backing, more staff, better infrastructure, and increased ability to manage this complex village.
 - Try just saying, "Hi, how're you doing?" Sure, some of the Participants in the MSR/V or people you pass camped on the streets may be troubled, have substance use or mental health issues; or have been

traumatized by being forced from their homes. And they are also interesting, valuable, thoughtful people, who are trying to make it in a rough situation.

For frequent MSR/V 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, October 5

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, September 22 & 29

10:00am Worship

Zoom & Facebook

(also in person)

Friday, September 20 & 27
10-12pm Virtual Coffee Chat
Zoom

Saturday, September 28
1:00pm Enneagram Discussion Group
Zoom

Reminders & Ongoing News

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 Blumthal 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 & Tuesdays

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