



St. Andrew's  
Presbyterian Church

eNews

May 7, 2026

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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](http://www.standrewspdx.com)**

### Thoughts from Pastor Amy

Dear friends in Christ,

What have you been curious about lately? Ever since preparing for last Sunday's sermon, I have found myself asking more curious questions and looking at the world in a new way.

Recently our oldest grandchild turned five years old. He is a stellar example of curiosity. One of his gifts from us this year was a kaleidoscope. Remember those? This one has a glass marble at the end of the tube and so what you see depends on where you look. Pointing it at the border on the floor rug makes different patterns in the kaleidoscope than what you see when you look at your toes. When he figured out how it worked, he spent a long time finding the best patterns and color choices and, as we were leaving, he pronounced to his parents that the best pattern was found by looking at the quilt on his bed.

When was the last time you were curious?

One of the book groups I participate in is online. We began many years ago by reading books on social justice, and then moved to environmental issues. Now we are much more eclectic. But in our environmental phase one of my favorite books was "The Hidden Life of Trees" by Peter Wohlleben. It was also turned into a documentary. Reading that book introduced me to some of the many recent advances in scientific understanding of the world we live in. And now I look at a grove of trees and give thanks for the support, the nourishment, and the defenses they share with one another.

This Sunday long-time member, lawyer, and conservationist Steve Cook will be our guest preacher, and will share with us his thoughts about loving God, loving neighbor, and caring for the earth. Are you curious about his message? I hope to see you there!

In Christ,

Pastor Amy

## SCRIPTURE

May 10  
Luke 10:25-37  
Isaiah 55:12

May 17  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Luke 6:43-45

## News & Notes



### MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CAROL PEBWORTH

Will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Sunday, May 24 at 2:00pm

*Dear brothers and sisters in faith: When I served on the St. Andrew's staff (1990s-2009), I was encouraged and financially supported as I worked my way through the extensive PC(USA) Certified Christian Educator training. Now, as Elder of Christian Formation, I'd like to share a bit of what I've learned, with a brief message each month.*

Continuing with the ORDINATION QUESTIONS that Elders and Deacons respond to, the next ordination question is about the New Testament definition of "love," the active seeking after the good of the other.

**Question 5:** *Will you in your own life seek to FOLLOW the Lord Jesus Christ, LOVE your neighbors, and work for the RECONCILIATION of the world? AND Will you seek to SERVE the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?*

Prayerfully we are to submit the work before us to the leading of God's spirit. Otherwise, we lose our sense of direction. Follow, love, reconcile, serve. Historically the faithful looked to the Church as a training ground for the Godly life. That invitation has never been withdrawn. We ask leaders to publicly declare their walk of faith, but it's a walk we take together.

SO, WE ASK: Do we feel charged and equipped to prayerfully examine our measure of love, reconciliation and service? If not, who is to hold the church accountable?

Roberta Schlechter, CCE

## INTERFAITH EARTH SUMMIT

Join Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) on a joyful journey at the 13th annual Oregon Interfaith Earth Summit on **May 17** from **1-3pm**. This year's Earth Summit is an invitation to:

- Re-Connect with people like you across Oregon who seek a safe, healthy, abundant and beautiful world for all.
- Re-Imagine your community, resilient and thriving with nature.
- Re-New your commitment to action, and find your place in the movement.

The Interfaith Earth Summit is an opportunity for people of faith and goodwill to gather locally around a shared care for our neighbors and the environment we all depend on. Through Zoom, we will connect our statewide community. For more information, visit EMO's website. REGISTER NOW!

## CUBA CORNER

As our hearts are turning ever to our Cuban siblings, this is an opportune time to provide an update on the trip taken to Santa Clara, Cuba by our friends from First Presbyterian Church of Spartanburg. Like St. Andrew's, the Spartanburg church has had a relationship with the Santa Clara church for over a decade.

They travelled to Cuba in early March, intending to take 14 singers who would perform concerts in Havana and Santa Clara. As it turned out, 10 individuals dropped out after the US incursion into Venezuela in January, and the concerts were cancelled. The remaining travelers persisted, due to the worsening fuel crisis and the strained relationship between the US and Cuban governments — they felt increased urgency to travel as they were delivering supplies and much-needed cash, as well as a Living Waters of the World (LWW) water filtration system. Hearing just prior to their trip that no transportation was available in the Havana area because of the severe fuel shortage, they had to abandon their stay at Havana First Pres. Pastor Reile Marrero, Pastor at Santa Clara Presbyterian, sent a van to pick them up at José Martí Airport in Havana to drive them directly to Santa Clara.

The Spartanburg group ported a large suitcase full of over-the-counter medications and medical supplies as well as a large suitcase full of non-perishable food including dry beans, rice, sugar, and dry milk. (The dry milk is reconstituted and provided to the senior citizens at church-sponsored meals.) A third suitcase, funded by St. Andrew's, contained light bulbs and printer cartridges (for the laser jet printer St. Andrew's donated and previously carried to Santa Clara). St. Andrew's also donated a new laptop and Spanish language keyboard for the Santa Clara church office. As noted, the Spartanburg travelers also ported a LWW water filtration system to be installed at the Santiago de Las Vegas Seventh-Day Adventist Church on the outskirts of Havana. This type of cooperation between denominations, groups, churches and travel has become more and more common as US groups are forming "partnerships of partners" for the LWW and Cuba Partners Network (CPN).

As of today, the funds we have collected at St. A's for our Cuba Mission efforts (through the recent Dine to Donate events) total \$1,718.50. As you will see from the full report (attached to the end of this update) from Patti Foy, a representative of First Pres. Spartanburg, this money goes a long way to doing a great deal of good for and with our Cuban kindred.

## ROSE GARDEN UPDATE

Mike House and others have coordinated the installation of an irrigation system, which should be here within the next week or two. This was made possible thanks to private donations, and we thank those who contributed. In efforts to continue to allow our roses to flourish and impress all who visit the St. A's garden, every three weeks someone will come and spray for fungus.

## NEWS FROM PRESBYTERY OF THE CASCADES: COLLABORATIVE CONVERSATIONS

If you missed the last one, there is one more Collaborative Conversations event happening soon -- register now and help "build a greater sense of community across the Presbytery."

### *Service of Justice and Hope*

Tuesday, May 19 at 7:00pm

Hosted by: Rev. Tom Ulrich, Presbytery of Santa Fe

#### Summary:

This will be a time to come together as a community of faith to:

- name what is heavy on our hearts
- listen for God's presence in the midst of struggle
- offer one another words of peace and encouragement

You are invited to come as you are. Bring your concerns. Bring your laments. Bring your wisdom. Together, we will hold space for one another and trust that God meets us.

## Learning & Fellowship

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THIS 2027 EVENT

The Association of Partners in Christian Education (APCE) is made up of those who are serving or have served in educational ministries, as ministers, professional or volunteer educators, or students, in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Reformed Church in America, The Presbyterian Church in Canada, and the Moravian Church in America. The purpose of the APCE is to advance educational ministries in the Church and increase the ongoing witness of our faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Please save the date(s) for the **2027 APCE Annual Event**, which will take place from **January 27-30** (in person at the Marriott Downtown Waterfront and online). The theme of the event will be from the same Ezekiel passage that Rev. Carmen will preach on this Sunday and there will be a number of workshops to attend and vendors to support.

Our very own Roberta Schlechter is co-chairing the organization of this event alongside Pastor Joyce Emery. We lift up prayers for wisdom, peace, and stamina as their team addresses logistical hurdles present in any event planning project; for team unity, clear communication, and a shared experience of the joy of service; and for attendee impact (may the event serve its purpose for every individual who participates).



**CAN THESE  
BONES LIVE?**  
*Rediscovering What Matters*  
THE APCE ANNUAL EVENT  
PORTLAND, OREGON | JANUARY 27-30, 2027

Please visit the APCE's website for updates about this event as they're made available.

## CHOIR REHEARSAL

Rehearsals take place after service in the chapel each week. Everyone is welcome; just bring a love of singing. For more information, contact Don Feely.

#### SPIRITUAL FORMATION AT ST. ANDREW'S

Our next class starts in a little less than two weeks! We hope you will join us! If you've been wondering about this group and/or want to join the discussion of the next book (*Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Richard Rohr), stop in to the lounge on **Wednesday, May 20** from **12:30-2:00pm** in the lounge. This group is always a drop-in gathering -- no need to have read the book! Please contact Amy or Jan if you have questions.

#### SUPPER CHURCH

Supper Church is mixing things up and will now meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month after service -- we'll see how it goes and determine future gathering dates and times as we hear from those in attendance (and anyone who's wanted to join us but hasn't yet been able to make it!). Please mark your calendars and plan to attend Supper Church on **Sunday, May 17**. Guests are always welcome! Questions? Please email Roberta Schlechter.

#### ST. ANDREW'S BOOK CLUB

Our next meeting will be at **10am** on **Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>** at which time we'll discuss the book will be *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. Whether it's your first time attending a book club (ours or one in general), or if you're a seasoned reader with lots of book club experience, ALL are welcome. We hope you will join us! If you have suggestions or questions, contact Sarah (Sadie) Pullen.

#### BE A "COFFEE ANGEL" DURING FELLOWSHIP

Volunteers are always needed on Sundays to make post-worship coffee hour & fellowship happen. If you would like to sign up for one or more Sundays, please do so on the SignUp Genius link. Contact Marie Dolson or Gail Planck for more info.

#### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Whether you are new to studying the Bible or someone who considers themselves a student of the Word, this men's study group is looking for you. Come as you are (in comfy clothes and/or with coffee in hand) and log on to Zoom **every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00am**. Set your alarm and jump right in to group discussion, contemplation, and prayer. Contact Larry Kelley for more information.

#### Mission & Ministry

*If you have any questions about our ministries  
or would like to be a part of our Mission Team, contact Marilyn Palumbo.*

#### ST. ANDREW'S QUILTERS

Come join us at 9:30am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month (in the quilting room at St. A's) and find out about the beautiful creations this group makes and donates to organizations that provide warmth to those in need. All are welcome! Please contact Gail Planck for more information.

#### ZIPLOC MINISTRY

First Saturday of Each Month

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

Each month, St. Andrew's sends large Ziploc bags filled with essential items to distribute to those in our community who have found themselves without a home. 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 **June 6<sup>th</sup>** Ziploc bag filling, at worship on Sundays, or during office hours.

#### LEND A HAND TO MSRV

St. Andrew's supports the Multnomah Safe Rest Village (MSRV) in partnership with the Friends of Multnomah Safe Rest Village. Under the ownership of Urban Alchemy, our unhoused neighbors are provided clean hygiene facilities and offered healthy meals, through an approach that supports guests' physical and mental health, as well as by empowerment and skill training.

How can you help?

- Speak out to support the MSRV and dispel misconceptions!
- Sign up to make and drop off sandwiches (and easy-to-chew snacks, if you're so inclined) for FMSRV Sandwich Mondays.
- Drop off donations of food, gently used clothing, new hygiene items, and pet food.
- Get involved! Opportunities are available to serve meals, assist with art or garden projects, and engage with the community by Tabling at Hillsdale Farmers Market.
- Put up a "We Support FMSRV lawn sign." (Text Robin at 503-703-7183 for info.)
- Visit the Friends of Multnomah Safe Rest Village website, and join their Facebook group for updates, news, photos, and connections.

*St. Andrew's supports the Multnomah Safe Rest Village in partnership with the Friends of Multnomah Safe Rest Village. Under the new ownership of Urban Alchemy, our unhoused neighbors are provided clean hygiene facilities and offered healthy meals, through an approach that supports guests' physical and mental health, as well as by empowerment and skill training.*

#### SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS AT WEST WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S SHELTER

We prepare and deliver monthly, homemade casseroles and other food items to this domestic violence shelter. Recipes and instructions are provided (and reimbursement for the cost of ingredients is available). Casseroles are dropped off at St. A's during the first Saturday Ziploc event. We always need more volunteers who love to cook. If you'd like to share in serving our neighbors at WWCS, you can use the usual SignUp Genius link (Kara can assist, if necessary).

#### SOUTHWEST OUTREACH

Southwest Outreach is an active civic group connecting with our neighbors living outside in SW Portland through visits, conversation, and relationship-building through a variety of programs and services.

If you see (or know of) someone living outside in our area and you are uncertain how or whether to approach, you can always contact Southwest Outreach for a team to visit them. Call Marilyn Palumbo at 971-235-5788.

##### Shower Program

Located at Riversgate Church in Multnomah Village, this weekly SW Outreach 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.

##### Request for Electronic Devices

Many of our neighbors who live outside desperately need electronic devices: phones, tablets, laptops, and portable WiFi hotspots. This connects them to the world of housing, medical care, employment, emergency services and other resources. If you have a device in any condition that is usable or can be repaired, please contact Marilyn Palumbo. The device should be reset to factory status from the settings menu. We'll help with that if needed! Thank you.

## Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering with this important and effective group, contact Marilyn Palumbo. You can also contact them if you're worried about someone in the neighborhood who might be houseless and needing help. St. Andrew's is the fiscal sponsor of SW Outreach. You can make money donations through our website, choosing 'SW Outreach' in the drop-down menu.

## Virtual Gatherings & Events

Sunday, May 10 & 17  
10:00am Worship  
Zoom & Facebook  
(also in person)

## Quick Reminders

### NEED A RIDE?

If you need assistance getting to or from the church, please call Larry Kelley at 503-724-1966.

## A NOTE FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Kara's working on adding some website management and graphic design to her list of skills -- the updates to our current website seem easy enough to do, but require some time and testing before we're able to "go live." We appreciate your patience! That said, as soon as the website has been updated, you'll be seeing the new format for this weekly newsletter rolling out, with links to information about fellowship groups, mission work, and other activities at St. A's that happen on a recurring basis.

As noted previously, this will provide readers with a "TL;DR" (Too Long; Didn't Read) snapshot of what's happening in and around the church, reduce the need for endless scrolling to check something in the eNews, and allow us to keep this newsletter focused on the very latest announcements we feel you should aware of while keeping key resources available elsewhere.

## ST. ANDREW'S NAME TAGS

We've created all new name tags for everyone! Stop by the tower by the sanctuary doors in the narthex and grab your new name tag and wear it during worship. (Don't forget to return it there after service so you'll have it next week too!) If you don't see yours, ask one of our welcome team members if we already have an updated one on hand. (Kara updated all of the tags that were previously on the tower, and there is now a "backup" bin full of tags -- what's on the tower are folks in our current directory ... rest assured, we haven't forgotten the many folks who make St. A's such a wonderful, welcoming space and want to have tags available for anyone who may only be able to make a service in-person on occasion.)

As part of our welcome and when passing the peace, name tags help put names with faces - a crucial part of fellowship! If you're new or we missed creating a new name tag for you, please contact the office and we will be happy to make you a name tag for future use.

## DISABLED STREET PARKING ACCESS

Please note that the street parking along SW Sunset is reserved for picking up and dropping off those who need extra assistance getting inside for worship on Sundays. We ask that you please leave these spaces open and not park there. There is plentiful parking in our lot across Dosch. Those needing assistance can also use the driveway on Dosch for

dropping off and picking up, and take the elevator up to the main level. If you have any questions or need further assistance on Sundays, please contact the office.

#### FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

If you would like to recognize a special occasion or person (e.g., 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.)

#### 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.

**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. Amy Delaney, Bridge Pastor**

**Don Feely, Director of Music Ministry**

**Kara Errico, Office Administrator/Neighborhood Ministries Coordinator**

**Krissy Wilds, Bookkeeper**

## **Reflections from Cuba from First Presbyterian Church of Spartanburg, SC**

*Dr. Patricia S. Foy, a member of First Pres. Spartanburg's International Missions Committee*

*April 24, 2026*

There were lots of hitchhikers along the road from Havana to Santa Clara, so we felt fortunate to be able to get transportation (though we recognize that our ability to pay for it made us more privileged than the average Cuban citizen who earns the equivalent of \$10-\$15/month).

Once we reached Santa Clara, we no longer needed a vehicle (since we could walk everywhere we needed to go), although Pastor Reile did arrange for a van to take us to the Santa Clara airport when we departed. If we wanted a ride within town, we hired a motoneta (usually a motorcycle pulling a covered cart that would hold 5-6 people). There were some gas-powered vehicles, but also many electric vehicles and a sizable number of horse-drawn carts.

Santa Clara Presbyterian recently installed solar power, so we were fortunately not affected by the numerous blackouts affecting the island. The church was busy on the weekday mornings, distributing water to the community from its Living Waters system. It was inspiring to see and talk with the people from the community who brought their own jugs to get the free water. Some people secured clean water for friends who were unable to come to the church to retrieve it. We were encouraged to see many of the recipients drop a few Cuban pesos in a collection box kept by community volunteers to offset the cost of processing the water. Pastor Reile said that money helps pay the people who process the water and serve as night watchmen. The church has also installed bright lighting which lights up the church campus at night to make it more secure."

The Spartanburg church further shared the following about the funds they carried, the activities of our sister church, and the situation in Cuba:

"Much of the money our church sets aside for Cuba in its annual budget goes to feed their senior citizens," who the government provides a pension of \$5/month and limited food rations. "To get an idea of how far the money goes, a bottle of cooking oil costs the equivalent of \$3 USD. The assistance our church provides for the senior feeding program for the seniors, many of whom might go hungry without the assistance. The Santa Clara church hosts three lunches for the senior citizens during the week as well as two breakfasts—they feed 90 people from the community on Sunday mornings. Our group ate with the breakfast participants on Friday and were given a hoagie roll with ham as well as a few bites of fruit and a cup of warmed, sweetened milk. On Sunday, when the larger group was fed, they were given the same rolls spread with mayonnaise, no fruit, and a cup of warm milk. Our translator, Maykel, told us that many Cubans can't afford to eat breakfast, so it was a luxury. The church is very important to their surrounding neighbors who are able to get food assistance, water, medication, and access to electricity when their homes are dark. Some people are losing power up to 30 hours at a time, and to make matters worse, they are prone to losing any fresh perishable food they may have in their refrigerators. Many are unable to work full-time because they can't afford the transportation. Our translator, Maykel, normally works in a hotel, but it has been temporarily closed because of the huge decrease in tourists.

Our Cuban friends were grateful for our visit and for the resources we took in, and we are confident we did the right thing by going. We don't know when it will be possible to take another trip, but the (American) Cuba Partners Network has encouraged small groups to go down to take money and supplies whenever they can, so the next FPC trip (depending on conditions in Cuba) might have to be limited in terms of participants. We know that the International Missions committee is interested in providing opportunities for more of our members to go to Cuba. Up to 16 people (sharing 2 bathrooms) can be housed at the church and it is quite possible we could schedule more than one trip per year if interest warranted after conditions there improve. My opinion is that we'd want any youth who traveled to Cuba to be very mature (or well-educated in advance about the conditions). The IPRC (Reformed Presbyterian Church of Cuba) has a summer camp called CANIP that hosts youth. It may be that some of our youth would be able to go there if there is interest after conditions improve. Of course, they would need a dedicated translator, just like we always use.

The money our church provides directly to Santa Clara as well as the monthly food shipments we send them using a private Cuban company, and the water system we support are all lifelines for the Santa Clara community. The Cuban people are resilient and sadly, accustomed to hardship, but they remain hopeful that things will change for them in the future. The combination of the communist Cuba government policies and the US government's decades-long embargo and current blockade for oil have made it difficult for improvements to be made. We are prayerful that conditions can change for the better with changes in government policies."