

Rector's Corner

*"Try to remember the kind of September
When life was slow, and oh, so mellow..."*

These lyrics - the opening lines to a song from the musical “The Fantasticks” - are running around in my head this morning. It’s a lovely bit of music that taps into feelings of wistful nostalgia.

However, I must admit that there is very little resemblance in that song to September 2024—or any September in my memory. This always seems to me to be a time of renewed energy and anticipation. It’s the beginning of the school year with all the excitement (and anxiety) that can mean for students, parents, teachers and other school staff. Harvest season is in full swing; farm crews are busy working very long days, and the Farmers’ Market is bustling. With the general election coming up, various candidates and initiatives kick campaigns into high gear, with supporters and opponents making their final push before ballots are sent out in October.

At church, it also means the beginning of the program year. Christian Formation for children and youth starts up again; the choir returns to enriching our weekly worship; various ministries have fall projects that they’re working on in earnest. And the list goes on. It’s a busy time; busy in good ways, but hardly what I’d call “slow” or “mellow.”

Isn’t that the way nostalgia works? We’ve all experienced a bittersweet wish for “the good old days” that, inevitably, doesn’t tell the whole story. Not that anyone’s memories are dishonest, but rather, they simply can’t encompass the fullness of a whole era and culture. One person’s childhood may have been idyllic; another child, in the same neighborhood and time frame, may have been traumatized. One woman may have been happy in her life, either

inside or outside her home; another, in the same circumstances, may have felt trapped and miserable. And so forth.

That’s one reason Jesus’ example of acknowledging the whole reality of people’s lives is so powerful, and so important. In common vernacular, he met them where they were— all people, of all backgrounds and experiences— offering comfort and challenge, healing and hope.

Following in Jesus’ footsteps means we needn’t pretend that everything is all right when it’s not; nor that we be unwilling to hear the whole story of a time, or a place, or a person. Just the opposite: Jesus shows us that we can love more fully, and serve more faithfully, by moving beyond idealized versions of “the way things were.” When we open our eyes, ears, and hearts to more, we can better glimpse the Holy Spirit’s presence in ourselves, our community, and our world. We can work for that same Spirit to be more visible in all the ways we live, whatever kind of September (or other month) it is.

God’s peace,
Jane+



Adult Education

All Saints' will offer a variety of options for study, learning, and growth during our Adult Formation time in September.

September 1: Those who attend All Saints' on Sunday will conclude our summer study of scriptures centered on "Listening to God and our Neighbors." The Rev. Rachel Jackson will facilitate this week's discussion of Luke 18:1-8, the parable of the persistent widow and the unjust judge. Those at Camp Cross on "Family Camp" retreat will spend some of their time with the Gospel story of Jesus' meeting with the Samaritan woman at the well, John 4:1-42.

September 8: We will kick off the program year with a combined class: Godly Play for all ages. We'll gather in the Multipurpose Room, where Katy O'Callaghan will share the story of The Holy Bible.

September 15: We'll spend some time reflecting together on the baptismal covenant, and the promises we make when we are "received into the household of God." Where do those promises come from? Where do they lead us?

September 22: Issues of homelessness and hunger continue to be an ongoing concern in the Tri-Cities and around the country. Cindy Fish, who works with unhoused people through a weekly meal service in Kennewick, will share her experiences and insights; together we will consider what's possible, and discuss faithful responses to the needs of our neighbors. For some local background on this issue, go to: <https://www.tri-cityherald.com/news/local/article290852944.html#storylink=cpy>

September 29: Remember the RenewalWorks survey we were asked to complete in June? It gave us a snapshot of our congregation's spiritual lives. The team working with the diocesan "Building Bridges, Healing Divides" grant initiative has been spending time prayerfully considering the collected data, and beginning to discern where it might lead us. We hope to share some of what we're learning, and invite you into further discussion.

Please grab a cup of coffee or tea and join us each week, between services (roughly 9:15ish - 10:00 AM); you'll be glad you did.

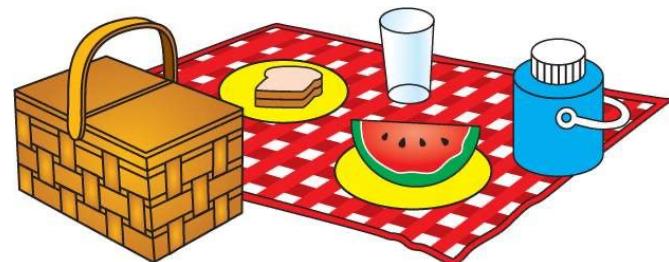
Children and Youth Ministries—September 2024

Back to Sunday School for all ages!

Welcome back to Sunday School on **September 8!** Our first day of the new school year will be a combined session, with adults, teens, and younger kids meeting in the multi-purpose room at **9:00 AM** for the Godly Play story of The Holy Bible. This is a new story for us! There will be art response materials available for all ages following the wondering, and we will end with "feast."

After this first day, Godly Play for children in preschool and elementary school, meets in the classroom on Sunday mornings from 9 to 10 AM. Our Godly Play stories for the rest of September are:
Sept. 15—Circle of the Church Year
Sept. 22—Creation
Sept. 29—The Flood and the Ark

Youth Class in September: Our Sunday morning education class for youth in grades 6-12 will resume meeting in the loft on September 15. The rest of September (following the combined class on September 8—see above) will be dedicated to getting to know each other. Our youth go to different schools all over the Tri-Cities, and we have taken for granted that they know each other, when maybe they don't really. This is the perfect time for all young people in middle and high school to come join our class, 9 to 10 AM on Sundays.



Youth Group—Parent Picnic, September 15, 5-7 PM. We will kick off the year for youth group with a welcome picnic for all youth in grades 6-12, and their parents. We have some incoming 6th graders, as well as some new youth, and it's a great time to get

together and have some fun, and have a short meeting as well. Dinner will be provided for you, with vegetarian and dairy-free options. Our Youth Group meets once a month on a Sunday evening to share a meal, work on service projects, have some fun, and pray together. Any youth in middle or high school is welcome, including friends. If you would like to be added to the youth group mailing list, contact Theresa at school@allsaintsrichland.org.

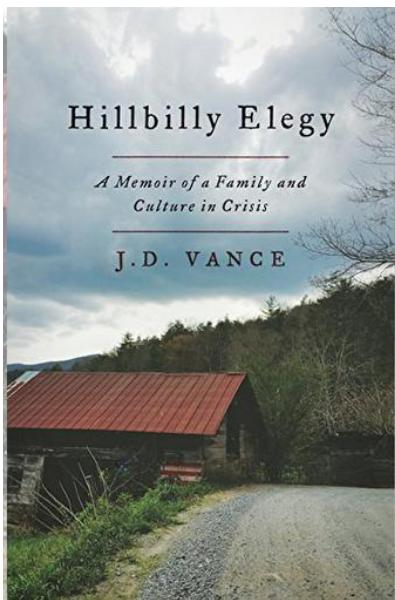
Children's Chapel: our Children's altar is moving into the classroom off the parish hall. Chapel/STAR Time will still meet in the multi-purpose room to begin with, but will now process to this other classroom, instead of the Godly Play classroom, for Chapel time. I think it will give us a little more room. Children's Chapel meets at the beginning of the 10:15 service, and is open to all children, including visitors, up through 6th grade. We come upstairs to join the rest of the congregation for Holy Communion. Parents should sign in their child(ren) each week.

All Saints' Book Group

The Book Group will meet on **Thursday, September 5** at 6 PM to discuss *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*, by J.D. Vance. We chose this book before Mr. Vance was

selected as the Republican candidate for Vice President, but it will be a timely read and discussion.

We begin with a potluck dinner. All are welcome! We will be choosing our next read on this night, so look for info about the next book to read soon!



Outreach Fall Fundraiser

We are planning a Silent Auction and Bingo Family Fun afternoon in the Parish Hall on Saturday, **October 12, 2024!** Join us from 3-5pm for appetizers, desserts and fun for all. Bring the family out to play a few rounds of bingo, with prizes for all ages. One bingo card will cost \$10, with a maximum of \$40 per family. In between rounds of bingo, bid on items in the silent auction!



This event will benefit our Outreach Ministry that provides much needed support throughout our community. To make the silent auction a success, we need your help - please donate items for others to bid on! Past items have included gift baskets, handmade crafts, gift certificates, vacation sites, and more!

We need your donations for the silent auction by October 1st. A signup sheet will be available in the narthex. Please contact Marlo Wallace for details about donations. 763-250-3130 or mwhikeinthewoods@gmail.com.

Outreach Focus for September: Bingo Prizes

In September, Outreach is soliciting donations of Bingo Prizes for our Bingo Party Fundraiser. You can read more details about the event above! We need prizes for all ages (kids, youth, and adult) and they should cost \$20 or less. Please bring unwrapped items to the Outreach box in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Goheen at riversideeast2@yahoo.com.

Fall Ministry Fair

The All Saints' Fall Ministry Fair is **Sunday, October 13**. If you lead or are part of a ministry at All Saints', now is the time to begin thinking of setting up a table at the fair to let our parishioners

know about it. These ministries include, but might not be limited to: Altar Guild, Acolytes, Bell Choir, Bible Study, Book Group, Choir, Coffee Hour, Pastoral Care, Flower Guild, Kitchen Angels, Library, AV/Tech, Memorial Garden, Men's Fellowship, Offering Counters, Outreach, Prayer Shawls, Prayer Angels, Reception Coordinators, Saints and Sinners, Stewardship, Wedding Coordinator, and United Thank Offering. Contact Ava Barlow (barlowavac@gmail.com) with questions or to make arrangements for your table. Thank you.

Eucharistic Visitors Needed

If you have ever been curious as to what it takes to become a Eucharistic Visitor, you're in luck: we will be conducting training next month!

If you have interest in taking the bread and wine to our parishioners who are unable to attend All Saints' in person, contact Deacon Mark Sluss at mdsluss@gmail.com.

NOTE: "Safe Church Safe Communities Certification" is needed prior to being active on the rotation.

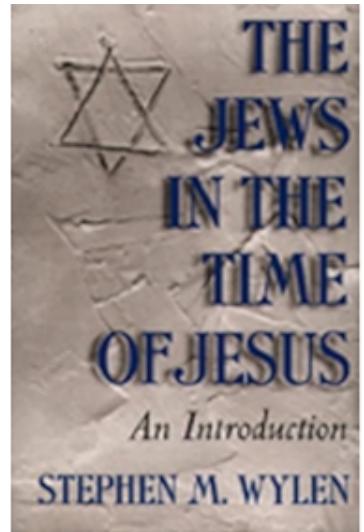


You're Invited! Fall Bible Study

We are all an inescapable product of our culture, our faith (or perhaps non-faith) background, and influenced to differing degrees depending on whether we are at the perceived top of the contemporary socio-economic ladder, or somewhere much lower. In reading and contemplating the gospels, it can be a challenge to seriously engage them, while attempting to also understand that Jesus was born, raised and died a Jewish man in Roman-occupied Israel in the first century.

This fall, the Bible study group will be engaging in study of a book, *The Jews in the Time of Jesus* by Stephen Wylen. The book discusses Jewish history, the influence of Greek culture on Israel, Jewish worship practices and major festivals, as well as

study texts available to Jews in Jesus' time. Wylen also discusses Jesus' trial, the various Jewish sects that may have been involved, as well as one of Jesus' contemporaries and his influence. The book concludes with chapters on development of various gospel types, and how and when Judaism and early Christianity parted ways.



We will be joined in our discussions, via Zoom, by a no-longer-local Jewish woman, Miriam Kerzner, and her mother in Canada. Miriam has been a source of explanation, correction and inspiration of all things Jewish to our Bible study group for years. She will provide all of that, and more, in our weekly discussions.

The Bible study group meets Mondays in the Parish Hall from 1:00-2:30. We will begin **Monday, September 9**. This is an exciting opportunity to learn about Jesus, his culture, and his religious heritage from a perspective that is totally new to most of us. Please join us!

Contact Liz Carter if you have any questions at 2lizandgeorge@gmail.com. If you are joining as a new member in the fall, please purchase a copy of the book.

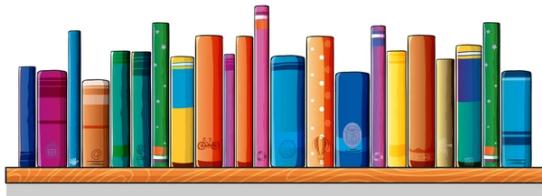


Scam Alert!

Friendly reminder as a new texting scam targeting clergy makes the rounds: If you receive an email or text message purporting to be from Rev. Jane and asking for financial assistance, please IGNORE IT. Rev. Jane or any of us at All Saints' will NEVER request financial aid, gift cards, or directory information via email or text message. When in doubt, please reach out!

Save the Date: Fall Book Sale

Save the date (and especially your books!) for the upcoming Used Book Sale! This year the sale will be held the weekend of **November 8-10**, but in order to make it a success we need your gently used books, puzzles, and DVDs. Donations will be accepted the week prior to the sale. Stay tuned for more details.



Walk in Love: Moments in Nature

For this year's stewardship campaign, we are using the Episcopal Network for Stewardship's (TENS) theme, "Walk in Love," based on Year B in the lectionary cycle. The Very Rev. Matthew Woodward of Trinity Cathedral in Sacramento offers this reflection:

"Walk in love..." is in my neural pathways now. It's worn in; if I say those three words the rest of the offertory sentence flows with little conscious effort. It is almost pre-linguistic: a reflex.

You could argue that the idea has become rote. That is what people say about liturgy often repeated. It means nothing. But I don't think that is the case. I think that the idea has now been written into my brain so deeply that it has become a part of me.

"Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us an offering and sacrifice to God."

My walk is meant to imitate Christ's walk. My walk should emulate his self-offering. My walk is a reminder that everything I have and am comes from God, and living life with that attitude reminds me that I should walk through life as though it is a gift, not a possession.

I know this most in the summertime when I go for

long walks with my dog, or hike with friends. The first 10-15 minutes of any walk my mind is often turbulent, chundering and fussing about the stresses of the day. But at some point I will hear a bird, or see the sun breaking through a leafy branch. My attention will shift, and I will take a slightly deeper breath. My mind will still, and my walk will become one of love.

This is the moment I remember I am a beloved child of a loving God. This is the moment when I become me. This is the moment I become generous.

Icons in Transformation

St. James' Episcopal Church in Pullman, Washington, is hosting a dramatic 100+-piece major art exhibit, Icons in Transformation, featuring the work of Ludmila Pawloska alongside traditional Russian icons. The exhibit includes works across a range of genres and a wide range of mediums. A series of workshops, concerts, and speakers will accompany the exhibit. For more information and the schedule of events, visit

www.stjamespullman.org/icons-in-transformation

A composite image showing a traditional Russian icon of the Virgin Mary and Child on the left, and a modern abstract icon on the right, illustrating the theme of transformation.

St. James' Episcopal Church

1410 NE Stadium Way, Pullman, WA

is hosting

ICONS IN TRANSFORMATION

An exhibit of 100 contemporary works by internationally acclaimed abstract expressionist, Ludmila Pawlowska, along with traditional Russian icons on loan from the Vassilevsky Monastery.

September 15 - November 6, 2024

Sundays	1:00-4:00 p.m.
Wednesdays	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Fridays	4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
or by appointment	
<i>Admission is free</i>	

Money Counters (Still) Needed

A wonderful behind the scenes ministry opportunity is becoming a Money Counter. Money counters add accountability (get it? Math joke!) and help our bookkeeping by creating a paper record of donations received on Sundays. This often overlooked ministry is a great way to help in 20 minute doses.

Every Sunday after the 10:15am service, teams of two people are needed to count and record the donations received at both services. If we have enough teams, you'll only need to help about once a month.

We need just a few more brave souls to volunteer and then we can get this ministry up and running! Please contact Rachel Loer if you're interested, at admin@allsaintsrichland.org. She promises to make fewer terrible jokes if you volunteer.



Traffic Notice for September 22

On **Sunday, Sep. 22**, the Tri-Cities will host its first Ironman 70.3 Triathlon! While this is exciting news, it will mean that streets throughout Richland and beyond will be impacted, especially in the morning. You may want to plan ahead to ensure that you can make it to church without disruption (yes, we will still hold services!).

You can find the course map and anticipated impact times on the race website: <https://www.ironman.com/im703-washington-tri-cities-course>. Look down the page for the "2024 Traffic Impact Information" red banner.

Make a Joyful Noise!

Choir starts in rehearsals on Sep. 4th and our first Sunday back is September 8th. All are welcome to join the choir. During the season, rehearsals are every Wednesday at 7pm. Please join us!



Also starting in the fall, members of the congregation who play piano or organ are invited to accompany the choir on a communion hymn. This will be for individuals who can play hymns and are looking for experience accompanying singers. Contact John Spencer if you're interested at document_spencer@yahoo.com.

We Give Thanks...

- For the persistence and attention to detail shown by Krisandra Wood, Diane Goheen, and Liam Larsen at our August Altar Guild work day.
- to William, Jhivaun, and Joshua Pollard for donating two new glider rockers for the nursery. And thank you to Nathan Bartol for assembly!
- to David, Diane, & Steve Goheen for cleaning the carpets in the multipurpose room and the narthex.
- to Marjie Mack and Jill Gilbert for so capably filling in for the office administrator for almost two weeks.
- to Marjie Mack for helping to sort through the files in our archive closet.
- to Cynthia Nicacio for serving as our bookkeeper and for training Rachel (and being so patient with the calls and texts!).

