

February 2025

## Annual Meeting February 2nd

Please plan to attend All Saints' **Annual Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 2 at 9am**, beginning with a potluck brunch. Bring your favorite dish to share! This is a wonderful opportunity not just for business but also to visit with folks from "the other service."

The main purpose of the Annual Meeting is to elect new Vestry members and convention delegates, and to present reports on the state of the parish. Stay late, or come early, depending on your usual service, but please come - we need your voices and votes! Brief biographies of the vestry and delegate candidates can be found on pages 5-6.

## Rector's Corner

*Whoever plants a seed beneath the sod  
And waits to see it push away the clod  
He trusts in God.*

(“No Unbelief,” by Elizabeth York Case)

It's still very much the middle of winter— grey skies, bare trees, cold weather and short days; but inside our house we're getting ready for spring. It's seed planting time! I'm giving a head start to my garden by starting some seeds indoors. Soon I'll plant tomatoes and peppers; cucumbers and lettuce will follow in a few weeks. The goal is to have seedlings ready to transplant outdoors in mid-April, after the last frost dates in spring.

As we were reminded by our VBS program last year, seeds are often mentioned in scripture. Given the virtues that growing plants from seed demands, this is no surprise. A few that occur to me...

—*Commitment*: growing seeds will reward dedicated effort. While it is certainly possible for a seed to

grow into a healthy plant on its own, regular care and intention will increase the odds of success, both in quantity and quality of the resulting plants.

—*Generosity*: giving seeds an environment in which to thrive requires an investment of time as well as money. It means starting with good soil, and ensuring sufficient light and water on an ongoing basis.

—*Trust*: there is no guarantee of success. Most seeds will germinate, but some won't, and there's no way to tell from the outside which is which. So all the seeds get the care they need, regardless.

—*Patience*: seeds will sprout when they're ready and not before!

Jesus featured seeds in several of his parables precisely because they have so much to say about the practice of faith. Commitment, generosity, patience and trust are key to developing a grounded, life-giving spirituality that will bear fruit each and every day.

What seeds are you planting these days? And what are you doing to nurture them?

God's peace,  
Jane+



# Children and Youth Ministries— February 2025

**Godly Play in February.** Godly Play meets in the classroom on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM. We hear a story, wonder together, work with materials in the room, feast and pray together. Godly Play is for children age 3 through 5th graders. Come join us! We are telling Parables this month!

Feb. 2\*—Parable of the Good Samaritan

Feb. 9—Parable of the Sower

Feb. 16—Parable of the Leaven

Feb. 23—Parable of Parables

**\*NOTE for February 2: Our story will begin at 9:30 AM (approx.), following the voting at the Annual Meeting.**

**Youth Class.** The youth class meets in the loft on Sunday mornings from 9 to 10 AM. Anyone in 6th-12th grades is welcome to join us. We are continuing our discussions on Dismantling Racism through the month of February.

**Winter Cross, February 14-16, 2025,** will be back at Lazy F Retreat Center in Ellensburg! Register NOW if you have not already! This retreat weekend is a fun Camp Cross-like experience in the wintertime for youth in middle and high school from around the diocese. There will be large and small group time, arts and crafts, tubing in the snow, ice skating, prayer stations, a camp fire and s'mores. Cost is \$150 per camper (All Saints' has scholarship money if you need it). Please contact Theresa or Katy O'Callaghan if you want to carpool.

**Youth Group, February 23, 5 to 7 PM.** Our Youth Group will be meeting this evening to share a meal together, work on a service project, and have some fun. Youth Group is for middle and high school students, and friends are welcome! Dinner is included, and we end with Compline.

**Singers and Dingers.** We are trying to determine if there is enough interest to do a spring “caroling” tour to the retirement homes this year. If you are interested in singing and playing chimes (children, youth or adults!) on **Saturday, April 19** (Holy

Saturday, the day before Easter), along with delivering the Easter baskets we make, please let Theresa Grate know. Soon! We would rehearse a few times in March.

**Save the Date: VBS is July 14-18, 2025!** Our theme for next summer’s Vacation Bible School at All Saints’ is “**The Great Family.**” We will be exploring how the church is a family and how we create that community and build those relationships. VBS will be held 9 AM to noon, Monday through Friday, and is open to campers age 4 through 6th graders (just finished 5th grade). If you are a youth in 7th–12th grade (or an adult!) and would like to help at VBS this summer, please contact Theresa at [school@allsaintsrichland.org](mailto:school@allsaintsrichland.org). Save the dates and invite your friends!



## Winter Cross February 14-16

Join us for an exciting youth winter camp in the heart of Ellensburg at Lazy F! This camp experience is for all 6th-12th graders offering the perfect mix of outdoor winter activities, team-building challenges and inspiring sessions. Enjoy snow games, crafts, campfires, and make lasting memories with friends, all while growing in community and faith.

It's a great opportunity to embrace the winter season and experience adventure in a safe, fun and supportive environment. Don't miss out on this unforgettable weekend! Register ASAP - the cost is \$150. Partial and full scholarships are available. Contact Katy O'Callaghan at [irishwomano@aol.com](mailto:irishwomano@aol.com) for transportation and event questions. Registration is now open at <https://theepiscopaldioceseofspokane.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2605524>.

# All Saints' Book Group

Our next book to read is

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer's**

*The Cost of Discipleship*.

First published in German

in 1937, this text is

Bonhoeffer's answer to the questions, "What did Jesus mean to say to us? What is his will for us today?"

Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran pastor and theologian, and a Nazi resistor, and is recognized

as a saint and martyr in the Episcopal Church. His feast day is April 9, the day he was executed by the Gestapo in a concentration camp in 1945.

Drawing on the Sermon on the Mount, *The Cost of Discipleship* illuminates the difference between "cheap grace" and "costly grace," and the demands of sacrifice and ethical consistency in living the Christian faith. This book will challenge you to consider what discipleship truly means.

We will meet to discuss this book on **Tuesday, February 25**, beginning with a potluck dinner in the parish hall at 6:00 PM. If the weather turns wintery, we will switch to a Zoom discussion. Anyone is welcome to join in! Contact Theresa at [school@allsaintsrichland.org](mailto:school@allsaintsrichland.org) if you would like to be added to the book group email list.

## Chili & Cornbread Cookoff

Calling all chili & cornbread lovers! Let's chase away the winter chill with a chili cook-off on **Saturday, February 22nd at 6pm**. Share your talents by feeding the rest of us, and we'll

vote on the best in a variety of categories (sweet or not-sweet cornbread, chili with beans, chili without beans, vegetarian/vegan chili, et cetera).



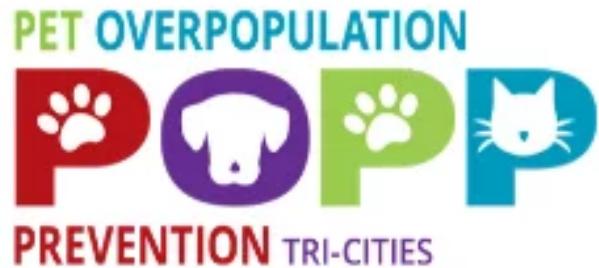
Each vote costs \$1, and the money raised will be donated to Outreach. Voting is optional -- you're welcome to come & eat and *not* vote.

In addition to cooks & bakers, we'll need folks to eat all these goodies. Sign-up sheets will be available in the narthex in February.

For more information, contact Kim Kremer at [kmkremer@gmx.com](mailto:kmkremer@gmx.com) or 509-251-9353.

## Outreach Focus for February: POPP

During the month of February, the Outreach Committee is collecting items for Pet Overpopulation Prevention (POPP) Tri-Cities. POPP's mission is to promote responsible pet ownership by educating the public regarding spaying and neutering their pets, offering spay/neuter assistance, and providing various methods of caring for and finding homes for feral, abandoned and/or homeless pets.



POPP needs clinic supplies and care items for dogs and cats including premium brands dog/cat food, fleece blankets, potty pads, waste disposal bags, litter (unscented), plush cat beds, dog/cat toys, chew treats, laundry soap/dryer sheets. POPP's full donation wish list is posted on the donation box in the narthex (additional copies are available on the table).

You can bring your donations to the box in the narthex through the month of February. You can also shop online (Amazon Wishlist) and have your donations delivered directly to POPP. Thank you!  
<https://www.popptricies.org/donate/donate-goods/>

## Saints and Sinners

Saints and Sinners is a Social Group open to all adults. If you've never tried it we would love to have you. If you have tried it we would love to have you back. We meet for a potluck supper and fellowship once each month or two. Saints and Sinners will meet **Friday, February 28** at 6:00 pm in the parish hall.

Couples, please bring either a main dish or two of the following: starter, salad, side dish, or dessert. Singles, bring one of these. Also, please bring your own table services and a \$5 donation if you would like wine. Please call or text Linda Munson at 509-521-8981 so we know how many to set up for. (Yes, even though it's at church, please RSVP!) We hope to see you there.

## Help with Stations of the Cross!

Our parish is fortunate to own a unique set of the Stations of the Cross, created in a wide variety of media by artists in our own congregation. In preparation for Lent, these will be hung after the second service on **Sunday, March 2**.

The Altar Guild could use a few volunteers to help hang these works of art and the lamps which illuminate them. If you are interested in helping (and would enjoy the opportunity to get a close look at these works of art,) please contact Ann Barry at 509-366-0604 or [barryann579@gmail.com](mailto:barryann579@gmail.com).



## Lent-At-Home Bags

Lent is a little later this year - March 5 is Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. Lent at Home bags will be ready to pick up on **Sunday, March 2**. These bags contain materials to help you observe a holy Lent at home. Call the office if you would like a bag delivered to you.

## Lenten End of Life Workshop

Steve Goheen and Ed Revell are planning to start an End of Life workshop in the All Saints' Library after the 10:15am Sunday service starting on **March 9th**, the first Sunday of Lent. The workshop is expected to meet weekly after the service for about an hour and is expected to conclude by mid-to-late May.

The first session will focus on brainstorming to develop a list of questions and issues attendees would like to have addressed before the workshop concludes. Each attendee will be provided a personal profile packet at the end of the first session to fill out the best they can until we meet again on March 30.

We plan to invite several guest speakers who are experts in their fields to discuss special topics. A full agenda will be available soon.

If you are interested in attending, please call the office or contact Steve (509-946-6626) or Ed (509-943-5144) to sign up so we know who plans to attend and how many copies to make.

## Camp Cross 2025

Dates have been released for this summer's camps! You can find out more about each session under the Sessions tab at [campcross.org](http://campcross.org).

Leaders in Training (LIT): June 22-25

Days at the Lake: July 3-6

Mini Camp: July 8-11

Sr. High Camp: July 20-25

Arts and Music Camp: July 27 - August 1

Intermediate Camp: August 4-8

Mid-High Camp: August 11-16

Labor Day Family Camp: August 28 - September 1

Queer Camp: September 4-7

## Candidate and Delegate Bios

During the Annual Meeting on Feb. 2nd, we will be voting on our new vestry members and delegates to Diocesan Convention. Read up on the candidates you will get the opportunity to vote for:



**Rachael Black** (*vestry and delegate*): I am a returning Northwesterner and All Saints' parishioner (2023), having been in the Las Vegas area with my daughter's family for six years. I retired from Boeing (Seattle) after 30 years of managing various

computer programming efforts. In younger years, my spare time was spent hiking/backpacking/climbing in the States and in England, Europe, and New Zealand. During my prior sojourn here, I served on Outreach, Pastoral Care, and Vestry; now I serve on Pastoral Care and Coffee Hour, as a Eucharistic Minister, Lector and LEM, as Convention delegate (2024) and volunteered at our Warming Shelter (2023). All Saints' has enriched my path with Christ in many incredible ways. I would be honored to serve on Vestry and represent us at Convention again.



**Bruce Gillespie** (*vestry*): I have been at All Saints' since we moved here in 2002. I have been on vestry once before and was Senior warden for one year. I am an active member of the choir and the Men's Group. I also served for several years on the finance committee. Being retired, June and I enjoy doing a lot of travel. I feel that it is important to keep the church strong and vital, and look forward to serving on the vestry again.



**Theresa Grate** (*delegate*): I have been a member of All Saints' since 1993, and your Children and Youth Ministries Coordinator since May 2005. In that role, I develop programs for and organize the Nursery, Christian Education/Sunday

School, Children's Chapel, Youth Group, Vacation Bible School, and special events for our families and young people. I also facilitate the All Saints' Book Group, serve on our Outreach Committee, and am involved in planning diocesan youth events. I currently serve on our Diocesan Council, and have previously served as a delegate to diocesan convention, and as a deputy to General Convention 2022. All Saints' is my church family and I would be honored to represent you all again.



**Marjie Mack** (*delegate*): I have been a member of All Saints' for just over two years, and I'm currently serving as a vestry member, leader of Pastoral Care ministries, lector, usher, and money counter. I'm a lifelong Episcopalian and grew up with the deep influence of my two grandmothers—both strong in their faith: one Christian Scientist, the other Anglican. I learned so much about joy, love and peace from each of them and admired them both. All Saints' is full of dedicated and faithful people who have helped inspire and equip me to grow deeper in my faith, my curiosity, and as a leader; I would be honored to serve as a convention delegate this year.



**Meg Milligan** (*vestry and delegate*): I have been a member of All Saints' since that snowy day in January 2017, when I was finally able to navigate through all the drifts and get here. I'd never been in a church where they asked if there were visitors who would care to be introduced; I had been planning to check out St. Paul's, but that nugget of outreach drew me into what is the best church community to which I've ever belonged. Randy and

I sing in the choir, I serve as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, and I've been lucky enough to lead the Coffee Hour Host teams since 2022—I love playing with food and then serving it to other folks, and we have extremely talented coffee hosts here. I have been on the vestry for one term already, but would be honored if granted another term. All Saints' ROCKS!!!



**Bill Powell (vestry):** Bill has been an All Saints' member for about 40 years. During that time he did not learn much about the Bible because he did not go to church much. He is trying to remedy that now, after retirement.

He is into Bible study and doing interesting things for people like helping in the warming shelter and giving away Blessing bags. He also heads the Men's Group of All Saints' and does fun things with them, like poker parties, pancake supper and Superbowl parties. He likes Bishop M. Budde for her recent request to our new President to be merciful with his actions. What would Jesus do? If you vote for Bill, count on additional strangeness and disruptions like questioning weird things in the Bible, suggesting we paint the outside wooden steps of the church pink or green, or not a boring color of brown. Hopefully we run out of brown paint soon. Please note we have other excellent choices with this group of somewhat wild and crazy people.



**Caleb Thomas (vestry):** I have been attending All Saints' since my partner Colin and I first walked in the door in September of 2023 and was confirmed during the Bishop's visit last year. I am very grateful to all the wonderful people here who have made us feel not only accepted but loved,

valued, and welcomed and now that my post-graduation life has begun to settle into a routine, I have been looking for a more concrete way to contribute to parish life. To date I have helped with setting up and tearing down events, staffed the warming shelter, and currently serve as a member on our parish's Building Bridges, Healing Divides grant

committee. Outside of church, I volunteer as an Assistant Scoutmaster for Scouting America Troop 190, have served on several local and regional committees for Scouts, and was Vice President of the WSU Tri-Cities Coding Cougs. I believe my past volunteer experience and work on committees has prepared me well for a position on vestry and appreciate your prayerful consideration. When not behind the keyboard or in a Scout uniform, I can usually be found out in the garden, in the kitchen baking, or chasing after our 6 month old puppy, Tuxedo.

## We Give Thanks...

- to the many parishioners, plus members of Linda Munson's homeowners group, who donated items or money for the Blessing Bags. We packed 70 bags with all the things you sent in! Bags are ready to be picked up in the narthex or education wing.
- to Jill Gilbert and Theresa Grate for their help folding, stuffing, stamping, and mailing the Giving Statements.
- to Elizabeth Arnold and Cynthia Nicacio for their patient assistance as the new bookkeeper navigated end-of-year finances for the first time.
- to our outgoing Vestry members for giving their time and talents to the leadership of All Saints': Ava Barlow, David Goheen, Rachael Black, and Rick Walling.
- to Linda Munson and Marjie Mack for finishing up the project to install new directional and fire escape signs around the church.

