

May 2025

20th Anniversary Recognition

Theresa Grate, our amazing Children and Youth Coordinator, will celebrate 20 years of service to All Saints' on May 1! We couldn't be more grateful for her tireless work and compassionate heart, and we will honor her on **Sunday, May 4** at coffee hour following the 10:15 service.

Theresa is truly part of the glue that holds our parish together. She coordinates the nursery, Godly Play, Children's Chapel, and the youth group; organizes special children and youth events throughout the year (Singers and Dingers, Youth-Senior Teas, and the Easter egg baskets/hunt, to name a few); and



plans, coordinates, and executes the best Vacation Bible School in the Tri-Cities - maybe in the country, but we might be biased.

Bring a box of tissues, and help us honor her contributions on May 4!

Youth Sunday, May 11

We have wonderful youth here at All Saints', and we're excited to celebrate them on Sunday, May 11! We will recognize our graduating high school seniors during the 10:15 service and afterwards at coffee hour - you can read a bit about them here.

Miriam Slonecker is graduating from Prosser High School as valedictorian. She was a 4-year varsity cross country runner, senior drum major, participant in National History Day, honor choir, Washington State Honor Band, and president of the Drama Club for the last two



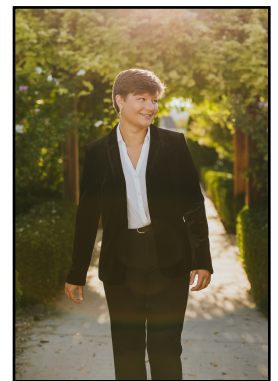
years. At All Saints', Miriam has served as an acolyte, lector, active youth group member, and attended the national Episcopal Youth Event in 2023. Miriam will be attending Whitman College in Walla Walla.

Jack Spencer is graduating from Hanford High School. He has been heavily involved with



computer clubs there and enjoys technology. At All Saints', Jack has been an integral part of the AV team providing the livestreams of services, and an active member of our youth group. Jack will be going to Hermiston to work at the Amazon Data Center after graduation.

EJ Wallace is graduating from Delta High School. EJ swam for Hanford's varsity swim team and was team captain as a senior. EJ also competed in National History Day at the state level for four years, and was a research assistant for a project at Eastern Washington University about the Manhattan Project. At All Saints', EJ has served as lector, acolyte, and LEM, been active with our youth group, and attended the Episcopal Youth Event with the Spokane delegation in 2023. EJ will be attending CBC and majoring in nursing, with plans to eventually become a nurse practitioner.



Join us May 11 to celebrate these great young people! In addition, members of our youth group will be serving in most of the worship leader roles during the 10:15 service this day, including as guest preacher!

Children and Youth Ministries— May 2025

Godly Play in May. Godly Play is our education time for our younger students, ages 3 through 5th grade. We meet each **Sunday at 9:00 AM**. We hear the story, wonder, work with materials in the room, feast and pray together. Stories through the end of the school year are:

May 4 — Synagogue and Upper Room
May 11 — The Story of Mary
May 18 — Circle of the Holy Eucharist
May 25 — No Class/Memorial Day weekend
June 1 — Mystery of Pentecost

June 1 will be our last day in class for this school year. On June 8 there will be a Pentecost Party for all ages outside. We also use Godly Play at our Vacation Bible School in July (see below)! Our Godly



Play Sunday classes will resume on the Sunday after Labor Day in September. Children's Chapel at the beginning of the 10:15 Sunday service continues through the summer.

Youth Class in May. The Youth Class on **Sunday mornings from 9 AM to 10 AM** will meet up in the loft through June 1, with the exception of May 25 for Memorial Day weekend. They will be visited by various parishioners discussing their own faith journeys. What led them to the Episcopal Church and All Saints' in particular? Anyone in middle or high school is welcome.

Youth Group, May 18, 5-7 PM. Youth Group is for all young people in middle and high school. We start with dinner together, work on a service project, play some games, and end with Compline. You are welcome to invite friends—please let Theresa know that they are coming.

Leaders in Training (LIT), June 22-25. Interested in being a counselor at Camp Cross? If you will be entering 10th grade in the fall, or older (adults, too!) and are willing to volunteer a week of your summer mentoring young people, please consider being a

camp counselor. All counselors must attend this leadership training. Cost is \$100 (covers food and all essentials for staying at camp) and All Saints' can provide scholarship money if needed. Visit www.campcross.org for more information and to register.

Scholarships for Camp Cross. We want everyone to be able to enjoy all that our diocesan camp has to offer. Any student attending Camp Cross for the first time is eligible for a full scholarship from All Saints' First Timer Fund. Returning campers can apply for a full or partial scholarship from the Robison Fund. Contact Theresa Grate in the church office for more information. Camp session information is available on the website www.campcross.org. Registration is now open! See page 5 for dates.

Vacation Bible School 2025

Vacation Bible School is **July 14-18, 2025!** Our theme for this summer's VBS at All Saints' is **"God's Great Family."** We will be exploring how the church is a family and how we create that community and build those relationships.

We will be talking about Baptism and Holy Communion - two sacraments that build our family and keep it together through shared experience. We'll also be talking about how we treat one another in our family, and our art and science activities will focus on different parts coming together to make something bigger, and putting things together that can't be separated. One afternoon of VBS week we will hold a special "Game Day" where people of different generations can get better acquainted by playing board or card games together. We will end the week with our traditional potluck lunch, and sing a song in church on the following Sunday (July 20).



VBS will be held July 14-18, from 9 AM to noon, Monday through Friday, and is open to campers age 4 up through 6th grade (just finished 5th grade). The cost is \$15 per camper, with a maximum cost of \$40 for a family. Camperships are available if needed—we want everyone to come to VBS! Invite your friends! Register now at <https://form.jotform.com/250935343049054>

VBS would not happen without all of our wonderful volunteers, so if you are a youth in 7th–12th grade, or an adult, and would like to help at VBS this summer, please attend the planning meeting on **Tuesday, May 6 at 7pm** in the multi-purpose room.

There will be some prep days in June for people to help, and the food donation list will be out in June. Contact Theresa at school@allsaintsrichland.org with any questions.

GOD'S GREAT FAMILY

Wanted for VBS:

These items can be dropped off in the church office, or brought in on a Sunday:

- half pint (approx. 8 ounces) clear glass jars with a tight fitting lid. We will be using these to make snow globes, and they can be canning jars (we can get lids for the canning jars), or small recycled jars with their lids. The shorter, rounder jars are ideal!
- potholder looms (if you would like yours back, please make sure it has your name on it).
- plastic bottle caps, but only in COLORS (no black, white or clear, please!) We especially need ORANGE and YELLOW.
- food list will be out in June!



VBS Volunteer Meeting

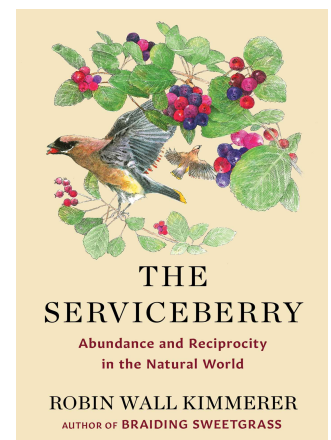
On **Tuesday, May 6, at 7pm** come find out more about our plans for this year's Vacation Bible School, "God's Great Family." This meeting is for anyone (youth entering 7th grade or older, or adult) interested in helping with this summer's VBS, either during the week of the event in July, or in preparation. We need group leaders, storytellers, craft and science leaders, music leaders - anyone who would like to help!

Please consider sharing your gifts with our young people this summer! We will meet in the multi-purpose room for our meeting. If you are interested in helping, but can't attend the meeting, please contact Theresa Grate at school@allsaintsrichland.org.

All Saints' Book Group

Our next book to read is *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*, the new book by Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*.

Kimmerer asks, "How can we learn from Indigenous wisdom and the plant world to reimagine what we value most? Our economy is rooted in scarcity, competition, and the hoarding of resources, and we have surrendered our values to a system that actively harms what we love... Serviceberries show us another model, one based upon reciprocity rather than accumulation, where wealth and security come from the quality of our relationships, not from the illusion of self-sufficiency."



We will meet on **Tuesday, May 13 at 6pm** for potluck and discussion of this book. Anyone is welcome to join in! Contact Theresa at school@allsaintsrichland.org if you would like to be added to the Book Group email list.

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 one Friday each month.

Our next gathering will be at the church on **Friday, May 16** with Ed and Pat Revell and Linda Munson hosting. We will meet at 6pm for wine and non-alcoholic beverages, with dinner at 7pm.

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. You can sign up the Sunday before in the Narthex or call or text Linda by Wednesday, May 14 to let her know you are coming (509-521-8981).

We hope to see you there.

Musicians Wanted!

The choir will be taking a break during the summer, and we would love to invite members of All Saints' to provide music for our offertories. We are looking for volunteers to fill the Sundays from June 15th through August 31st.



Whether you sing, play an instrument, or have a group you'd like to perform with, we welcome your gifts! No need to be nervous - All Saints' is a safe and supportive environment for musicians of all ages and skill levels.

A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex. Accompaniment is available if needed. If you have any questions or need help selecting an appropriate piece, please contact one of our music directors: John Spencer (document_spencer@yahoo.com) or Adam Muhlestein (admuhles@icloud.com).

Lost and Found Items

Did you know that we have a basket for lost and found items out in the narthex? We do indeed, and lately it's been overflowing! There are hats, jackets, bags, cords, glasses - all kinds of things that want to go back home with you.

Please plan to visit the temporary lost and found table in the parish hall and see if any of these items belong to you. Any items not claimed by **May 5th** will be donated or otherwise re-homed.

Pavilion Update from our Junior Warden

Construction of the storage shed next to the pavilion is well underway. The framing of this was completed first so that the pillars for the pavilion could be braced from the shed frame to assure proper alignment. Pavilion construction should start soon.

In addition, the property committee will begin to design the memorial element to honor those in whose names substantial contributions have been made to the pavilion. If you would like to honor someone in this way please consider a minimum \$1000 donation.

Also, the property committee will begin to consider the furnishings we will need for both picnics and meetings in the pavilion and begin looking for vendors. Suggestions on this can be made to Linda Munson at 509-521-8981.

We can't give a firm completion date yet, sorry to say, but stay tuned!



Outreach Focus for May: Grace Clinic

For May, the Outreach Committee is collecting **new** bottles of sunscreen and tubes of lip balm for Grace Clinic. Grace Clinic is the only free clinic in the Tri-Cities providing medical, dental, and mental health services to uninsured adults in our community.



Grace Clinic began operating in 2002, founded by two local physicians who saw a need to provide medical care for low-income, uninsured residents of Benton and Franklin counties. The clinic is operated primarily by healthcare volunteers who donate their time (find out more about volunteering at gracecliniconline.org).

The vast majority of the clinic's patients work in low wage jobs for employers who do not offer medical benefits. Grace Clinic's stated goals include "to look beyond the medical treatment of disease to seek healing for the whole person" and "to uphold and defend the dignity and value of every human as created in God's image."

Grace Clinic gives some of their patients healthy food from their food cupboard when needed, and last year began offering sunscreen to field workers (not being a food item, it is not covered by SNAP benefits) to help prevent skin cancer.

Please bring sunscreen and lip balm to the box in the narthex during May and we will get it to Grace Clinic for the summer. Thank you!

Camp Cross 2025

Camp Cross on Lake Coeur d'Alene provides a safe and quality camp experience for youth and adults across the Diocese of Spokane. Enjoy hiking, boating, swimming, campfire songs, relaxation, and wonderful community. As part of the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane, Camp Cross emphasizes relationship, prayer, discipleship, and service.

Dates have been released for this summer's camps! You can register and find out more about each session at campcross.org. Registration is now open!

Labor of Love: May 16-21

Leaders in Training (LIT): June 22-25

Women's/Men's Weekend: June 27-29

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

Young Adult Camp: September 18-21



Parish Directories Available!

The eagerly anticipated All Saints' 2025 picture directories are here! Thanks are owed first and foremost to parishioner Ava Barlow, who donated her services as both photographer and digital designer.



You can pick up a copy in the narthex, or come by the church office to request one. Directories are free for all parishioners, but donations to offset the cost of color printing are warmly and gratefully received. (It costs approximately \$3 per directory to print).

Thanks to our Artists!

For Easter services this year, we once again asked the congregation to help us create cover artwork for the bulletins, and you came through! Thank you to Lisa Richmond, Layna Kinsman, Nicholas Loer, and Chris Walling for your lovely submissions.

In case you missed them, here are all the art pieces that helped make the Easter bulletins so special.



(clockwise from top left: Layna Kinsman, Lisa Richmond, Chris Walling, and Nicholas Loer)

We Give Thanks...

- to Diane Goheen and Sue Havre for helping the Altar Guild to prepare for Palm Sunday and Easter.
- to Susi Czarnek for stepping in and helping out with Holy Week bulletins when the admin was feeling very overwhelmed!
- to EVERYONE who participated in making all of the Holy Week services and celebration happen; there are far too many folks to name, but one thing is clear: we certainly do make church together.

- to Ava Barlow for her tremendous work on the directory.
- to Linda Munson, our Junior Warden, for her care and attention in shepherding the pavilion project.



- And a special thank you letter:

“Dear Saints,

My heartfelt thanks to the many of you who stepped up and filled in for me during Holy Week and Easter when I (and Jay) came down with the most ill-timed case of Covid!

Special thanks to Katy O’Callaghan, who led making prayer beads with the youth class, fed the Stations participants, delivered Easter baskets, put out Easter butterflies, and coordinated the Easter Egg Hunt.

Andie Slonecker wrangled the children and youth for the Stations of the Cross (and you all did a beautiful job—I watched from home!), and Cindy Cross headed up stuffing the eggs and baskets, and also delivered some baskets. Thanks to all of you who brought candy, made baskets, helped stuff, and hid eggs.

I truly appreciate all who helped out and stepped in cheerfully to keep things going for our children and youth. It is never just the work of one person—we all make church together!

Love, Theresa”

