

Inquiring Minds

Maybe you are new(ish)— to All Saints', or the Episcopal Church, or church in general. Maybe you've been around a while but want to learn more or refresh your memory. Maybe you're considering a deeper commitment—whether to be received or confirmed in the Episcopal Church. These are all good reasons to sign up for our Inquirers' Class! Bring your questions and your curiosity so we can learn together.



We're planning a total of 6 sessions, beginning **Thursday, September 18 at 6:30 PM**. Among the topics we'll cover:

- "Where We Begin" - the Bible, how we read and apply Holy Scripture to our lives
- "How We Got Here" - Church history
- "Praying Shapes Believing" - the Book of Common Prayer, and our forms of worship
- "Living in Community" - Episcopal Church Structure & Governance, and All Saints' mission and ministry

Please sign up at church on Sunday, or by calling the office to add your name to the list.

Fall Bible Studies

With the beginning of the program year comes the return of Bible Study! There are two groups that will be meeting this fall, one on Mondays and the other on Tuesdays, both at 1pm in the multipurpose room. You are warmly invited to join one or both!

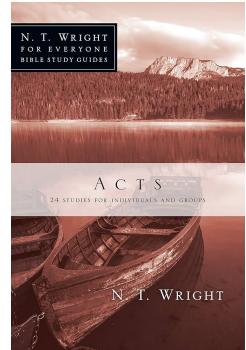
Monday Bible Study

Monday Bible study will resume on **September 8 at 1pm** in the Multi Purpose room. We will be studying the book of Acts, using a book by N.T.

September 2025

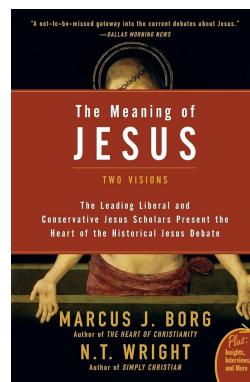
Wright, a leading Anglican scholar. The book we're using is a readings/questions/discussion format, with minimal direct teaching from the author. Please feel free to join us - just have your favorite Bible in hand.

It's never too late to order the book: *Acts (N.T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides)* by N.T. Wright. If you'd like a direct link to purchase, please contact the church office. Contact Liz Carter with any questions at 2lizandgeorge@gmail.com.



Tuesday Bible Study

We are starting up our Tuesday Bible Study at All Saints' on **September 9 at 1 pm**, in the multipurpose room, led by Jan Wells. We will be studying *The Meaning of Jesus - Two Visions* written by Marcus Borg and N.T. Wright. All are welcome to join us in this study. Please note that we are continuing this study that we started last spring. For all members of the group, we are starting with Part V, Chapter 9.



The Meaning of Jesus - Two Visions is by two leading biblical scholars, one liberal and one conservative. They present sometimes very different views of the Historical Jesus Debate. We have found ourselves agreeing, disagreeing, and often having interesting discussions about who this Jesus was and what he was doing and saying.

If you are interested and have questions, you can contact Jan by phone or email (509-940-7173, or jan@awells.net).

Rector's Corner

The rhythm of summertime is usually different than the rest of the year - a little slower-paced, with time for a bit of breathing space. This year at All Saints' hasn't seemed to follow that pattern. We've been busy! Our church grounds have seen a whole lot of attention in the last few months: replacement of the weather-beaten, inefficient windows in the office wing; major repairs to our organ; and perhaps most visible, construction of the Memorial Pavilion and improved lighting for the playground and yard. And we're not quite done. In the coming weeks, the parking lot will be repaired and repaved, and property security will be improved with outside cameras and updated door locks and keys.



These tangible improvements are not the only things we've been up to. In addition to developing and renewing our usual Formation opportunities (Christian Ed for all ages, Youth Group, and the fall Inquirers' Class), we have been working on "Building Bridges Between Believers."

Our "B4" program seeks to combine monthly opportunities for learning and spiritual practice, with small group connections and mutual prayer. We hope to develop connections with one another, as we learn to recognize the connections between our lives and work and the roots of our faith. All this takes time, effort, and prayer from many people in order to come together.

In other words, we have been busy growing, inside and out.

The thing is, people usually think "growing" simply means increasing the size of the congregation, and sometimes it does. We have added some new faces to our congregation, and we have increased the facilities in our physical plant. However, "growth" in a life of faith means far more than a numbers game. I think it's more like what Elizabeth Barrett Browning expressed in her famous sonnet:

*How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of being and ideal grace.*

Imagine growing in God's love as a 3-dimensional thing. Think of "depth" as our relationship with Jesus, with the Holy Spirit anchored more and more within us over time; "breadth" as building godly relationships with our neighbors in community, an ever-widening circle; and "height" as expanding the Body of Christ in our congregation.

Those are good ways indeed to be busy.

God's peace,
Jane+

Adult Formation

September 7 is the beginning of our program year! Christian Formation for all ages will be held each Sunday between services. As we often do, we will kick off with a combined Godly Play time for all ages. This year we will listen and wonder with "Jesus and the Women," which is a new story for us!

On **September 14**, we'll resume our practice of meeting in the library each week around 9:15. That day we will spend some time catching up, reflect on what we have learned and think about where we'd like to go deeper in the year ahead. Then we'll begin a series delving into "Transforming Questions."

This is a course designed to help both new Christians and longtime churchgoers move into deeper life in Christ. Over the course of these sessions, participants

engage some basic questions of the Christian faith through a combination of teaching and conversation.

- Sep 7: All Ages Godly Play
Jesus and the Women
- Sep 14: “*Can we question our faith?*”
- Sep 21: “*Who is Jesus?*”
- Sep 28: “*Why did Jesus have to die?*”
- Oct 5: “*What do we have to do to be a Christian?*”

Please pour yourself a cup of coffee/tea and join us!

Children and Youth Ministries: September 2025

Back to Sunday School for all ages!

Welcome back to Sunday School on **September 7!** 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 **9am** for the Godly Play story of “Jesus and the Women.” This is a new story for us! There will be art response materials available for all ages following the wondering, and we will end together 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:

- Sep. 14: Circle of the Church Year
- Sep. 21: Creation
- Sep. 28: The Flood and the Ark

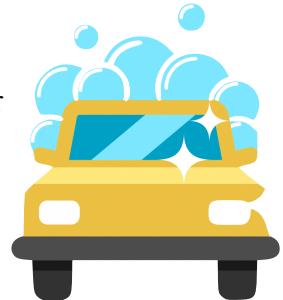
Youth Class in September: Our Sunday morning education class for youth in grades 6-12 will resume meeting in the loft on **September 14**. The first two weeks we will spend some time getting to know each other. This is the perfect time for all young people in middle and high school to come join our class, 9 - 10am on Sundays.



Youth Group, September 21, 5-7 PM. 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 6th to 12th grade is welcome, including friends. Dinner is provided, with vegetarian options (and we can accommodate other dietary needs as well, just let us know!). For our September meeting, we will be working on finishing the second panel of the new bottle cap mural!

If you would like to be added to the youth group mailing list, contact Theresa at school@allsaintsrichland.org.

Youth Car Wash Fundraiser, September 28. On this Sunday, our youth class will be out in the back of church washing cars for donations during the education time. The youth will be deciding where these funds will go, but really wanted to hold a car wash as a fun activity.



Children’s Chapel: Children’s Chapel/STAR Time meets year-round at the beginning of the 10:15 service in the multi-purpose room downstairs, and is open to all children, including visitors, up through 6th grade. We have a child-friendly Liturgy of the Word when we listen to the same Gospel reading as upstairs, and have a chance to discuss or reflect on it, with prayer time, and then some play time. We come upstairs to join the rest of the congregation for Holy Communion. Parents should sign in their child(ren) each week.

We are looking for one more volunteer to lead Children’s Chapel. With eight leaders, each one serves one Sunday a month, working in pairs. Materials are given to lead the discussions and activities, and you would be paired with an experienced Chapel leader. You will need to pass a background check, and take some online Safeguarding training before starting. Please contact Theresa Grate if you are interested, at school@allsaintsrichland.org.

B4 Project Kickoff!

The Building Bridges Between Believers (B4) Project launches on **Tuesday, September 9 from 6-8pm!** Sign up in the narthex if you haven't yet to



join us in the parish hall for the first large group gathering over dinner.

The B4 Project is a chance for adults and older teens to deepen your faith, learn about core Christian

teachings, and form lasting connections within our community. Whether you're new to the faith or a longtime believer, this is a year of growth, prayer, and fellowship.

Each month, we'll come together as a large group for a shared meal, reflection on Christian doctrine, and the introduction of a spiritual discipline to practice in the month ahead.

Each week, small groups of 3-4 (Companion Circles) will meet to share your walk in faith, offer prayer and encouragement, and hold each other accountable.

Participants will be assigned to a Companion Circle at that first meeting on Sep. 9, if desired. You can also just attend the monthly large group meetings if that is easier for your schedule!

We're so excited to launch this year-long opportunity to grow in faith and build relationships. For more information, contact Katy O'Callaghan (irishwomano@aol.com), Marjie Mack (mmack3108@comcast.net), or Caleb Thomas (cmtthomas001@gmail.com).

Saints and Sinners

Saints and Sinners is a Social Group open to all adults - please give it a try! We meet for a pot-luck supper and fellowship one Friday each month, often at the church but this month we will be meeting

Friday, September 12 in Joyce McClanahan's home and yard, at 418 Shaw Street, Richland.

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 Joyce at 509-713-5244 to let her know you are coming. We hope to see you there.

The Great Church Re-Keying

The keys, they are a-changing! It's official: on **Friday, October 3**, All Saints' will be changing our locks! It has been many, many years - decades! - since this was done; so many that we honestly don't know anymore who has keys and how many of them are out there. It seems a prudent time to update.

As you might imagine, this has taken careful planning. Between all the exterior doors, offices, and classrooms, there are a lot of locks to take into account! Junior Warden Linda Munson and Bruce Schmoetzer spent quite a bit of time over the last several months working out the details, getting estimates, and recommending a locksmith for vestry approval. In addition to changing locks, a couple of problematic door latches and/or crash bars will also be repaired or replaced.

Now that we have a date, we can work to make sure that keys are available to everyone who needs to gain access after hours— staff and parish leaders, as well as outside groups who use All Saints' facilities.

Please watch for announcements, both on Sunday and in the Wednesday Word, for specifics. We hope to make this process as smooth as possible.

There is no need at this time to call the office to request a copy! We'll make sure you have the opportunity to do so. As always, if you have any questions please talk with Rev. Jane, Linda, or any member of the vestry.



Jr. Warden's Report

At last the pavilion is finished except for a few punch list items! The new cross walk and lane markings were painted by the Boy Scout Troop led by Caleb Berry and Colin Thomas as a fundraiser. The pavilion project has had its final inspection. We hope that by the time you read this you are enjoying it!

A special thanks to all who worked on furnishings, our portions of the work, advice on landscaping, etc. Our work is not all done but the pavilion is usable, as we put the finishing touches on it.

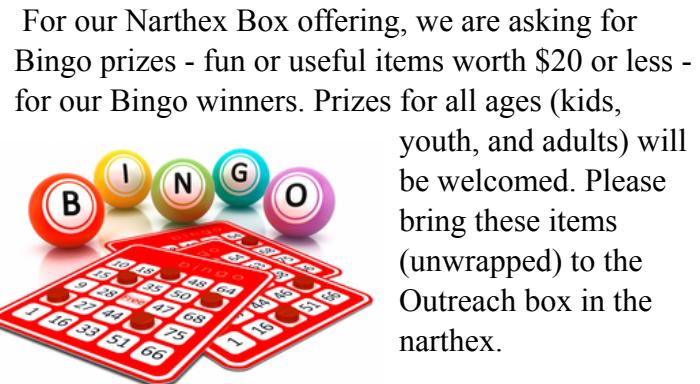
You will also notice that we now have concrete curbing in place of the timbers around the playground and additional curbing to support plantings around the pavilion.

The Vestry has allocated funds from the Bradley estate to resurface the parking lot and that will be done starting September 22 and should be finished before the week is over. Areas of the parking lot are in such bad shape that they cannot be satisfactorily resurfaced and the entire parking lot will be removed and replaced. During that time our neighbors at Anthology Event Center will keep the gate open and the only off street parking will be there. (See pg. 6 for more info)

We have had some unfortunate incidents of gang graffiti on the playground and dumpster in the last month. At the suggestion of the Richland Police department we have added motion censor lights to the pavilion. Cameras and associated signage are coming soon.

Outreach Focus for September: Bingo Fundraiser Donations

In September, your donations are needed to make our Bingo Party fundraiser a success, so that Outreach can continue to offer support to organizations throughout our community. This event - fun for all ages - will be held from 3-5 PM on Saturday, October 4. (See pg. 7 for more info)



For our Narthex Box offering, we are asking for Bingo prizes - fun or useful items worth \$20 or less - for our Bingo winners. Prizes for all ages (kids, youth, and adults) will be welcomed. Please bring these items (unwrapped) to the Outreach box in the narthex.

Or, you might want to support the Outreach fundraiser by providing snacks or beverages for everyone to enjoy while they play. A sign-up sheet for fundraiser refreshments will be available in the narthex. If you have questions about refreshments, contact Cindy Cross at cindy_n_paul@yahoo.com.

At past fundraisers, we have enjoyed a Silent Auction where guests have bid on items such as gift baskets, handmade crafts, and gift certificates donated by other members of the parish. Unfortunately, the Outreach Committee does not have enough members to run a Silent Auction this year in addition to the other jobs that will need to be done.

If you would be willing to be in charge of the Silent Auction, please contact Gayle Ransom (509-521-2222 or gayleransom@gmail.com) no later than September 8.

Fall Gathering Day

Saturday, September 27 is Gathering Day! This time St. Paul's (1609 W. 10th Ave. in Kennewick) will be our regional host for a day of formation, fellowship and worship. This is open for all members of our congregation - anyone who wants to reflect on what it means "to live all week long like we believe what we say on Sunday morning."



Doors open at 9:30am; the schedule for the day runs from 9:50am-3:30pm. Lunch is provided; there is no charge to attend. Watch for the sign-up sheet in the narthex so we know how many to plan for.

External Ministry Fair

Join us for our **Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 28**, and explore ways to get active in the community outside our parish.

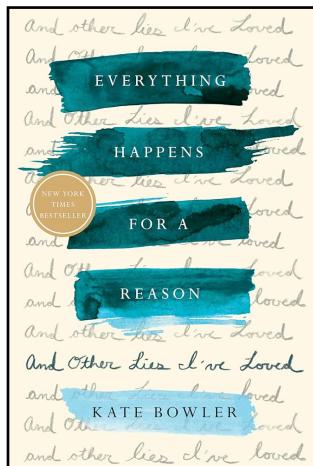
If you're involved in a local nonprofit or community group, we want to hear from you! Whether you volunteer at a food bank, art organization, or support any community cause, this is your chance to inspire others to get involved.

Sign up to host a table and help us shine a light on the incredible work happening beyond our church. For more information or to participate, contact Meg Milligan (ramm1994@icloud.com), Layna Kinsman (kinsmanlo@gmail.com) or Blake Slonecker (blake.Slonecker@gmail.com).

All Saints' Book Group

The Book Group will meet on **Tuesday, September 30** at 6pm to discuss ***Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved***, by Kate Bowler. This book is an autobiography of sorts, where Kate tells her story of being diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer at age 35, with a thriving career, wonderful marriage, and a newborn son.

Kate is a professor at Duke Divinity School specializing in the study of the prosperity gospel, that sees fortune as a blessing from God and misfortune as a mark of God's disapproval. She is very sick, and no amount of positive thinking or prayer will shrink her tumors.



What does it mean to die, she wonders, in a society that insists that everything happens for a reason? Her frank and funny observations teach her (and us) how to live.

We begin Book Group with a potluck dinner in the parish hall at 6pm. All are welcome!

Traffic and Parking Notices

Ironman Triathlon September 21

On **Sunday, September 21**, the Tri-Cities will once again play host to an Ironman 70.3 Triathlon. You may remember from last year, that while this is exciting news, it will mean that streets throughout Richland and beyond will be impacted, especially in the morning. 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 (hopefully coming soon!) anticipated impact times on the race website: <https://www.ironman.com/races/im703-washington-tri-cities>.



Parking Lot Repaving Sep. 22-25

You may have noticed that our parking lot has seen better days. Over the years the asphalt has shifted and heaved; many cracks have developed and grown deeper. Needed repairs are beyond simple sealing and striping, so it is time to do the job right.

Beginning **Monday, September 22**, All Saints' parking lot will be unavailable for 3-4 days while it is completely milled and repaved. Once that is complete, Boy Scout Troop 190, led by Caleb Thomas and Colin Berry, will see to re-striping parking spaces and walkways. During that time our neighbors at Anthology Event Center will keep the gate open and the only off street parking will be there.

By the end of September the area will be restored and ready to welcome all to our church home for many years to come.

Outreach Fundraiser: Bingo!

We are planning a Silent Auction and family-friendly, fun Bingo event in the Parish Hall on **Saturday, October 4!** Bring the whole family from 3-5pm for fun, light refreshments, and prizes, prizes, prizes!

Join us for some fellowship and the opportunity to learn about and support the great work of our



Outreach Ministry. 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 is the biggest fundraiser of the year for Outreach, so plan to come out and help us make a difference. Let's have some fun!

Fall Classes with Iona

The Diocese of Spokane is excited to continue our partnership with the Iona Collaborative at Seminary of the Southwest to offer free, high-quality Bible and preaching classes for everyone! These free classes are a great opportunity for spiritual growth and leadership for any curious minds - no prior background required. Two classes will be offered over Zoom this fall:

Belief and Other Problems: A Deep Dive on the Nicene Creed

In honor of the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed, this class offers a rich opportunity to explore one of Christianity's most enduring statements of faith. *Belief and Other Problems* will delve into the creed's historical origins, theological context, and the ways it continues to shape Christian belief today.

Classes meet on Zoom on alternating Thursdays from 7:00–8:30 PM on the following dates:

September 4 & 18, October 2 & 23,

November 6 & 20.

Register here: <https://theepiscopaldioceseofspokane.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3071190>

Jesus' Bible: A Survey of the Old Testament

Join us for an engaging exploration of the Hebrew Scriptures in *Jesus's Bible: A Survey of the Old Testament*. Building on the foundation of our New Testament class last spring, this course will guide students through the diverse genres of the Old Testament, introduce key insights from contemporary biblical scholarship, and invite thoughtful reflection on how Christians engage with these ancient texts.

Classes meet on Zoom on alternating Thursdays from 7:00–8:30 PM on the following dates:

September 11 & 25, October 9 & 30, November 13, and December 4.

Register here: <https://theepiscopaldioceseofspokane.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3071130>

You can also contact the office to have these links forwarded to you, or see the Spokane Diocese Facebook page.

We Give Thanks...

- to Linda Munson, Steve & Diane Goheen, Al Wells, Luna Watters, Bruce Gillespie, Bill Powell, Mike Dodson, and Jane Schmoetzer for assembling the racks to store pavilion tables and chairs.
- to Mike O'Neill, for purchasing the needed handrails.
- to Mike & Nancy Dodson for providing and serving sno-cones at the annual Picnic in the Park.
- to Ed Revell for his continued enthusiastic (!) deliveries of bottle caps for the VBS mural.
- to Caleb Thomas, Colin Berry, and Boy Scout Troop 190 for restriping enough of the parking lot and walkway so we could use the pavilion!

