

The Episcopal Church of the Atonement



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 28, 2025

8:00 a.m. | Interfaith Service @ Stanley Park 10:30 a.m.

*Please observe silence during the musical prelude.
The 10:00 a.m. service is live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.*

Prelude

Entrance Hymn 546

Awake My Soul Stretch Every Nerve

Presider Blessed be the One who creates all things
People **The Holy One's love is new every morning.**

Come, let us follow Lord Jesus Christ, who inspires us to hope and act for justice and righteousness.
We give glory to God, who restores the groaning Creation and the vulnerable.

Come, let us move with the Holy Spirit, striving to establish justice and produce the first fruits of hope.
We praise God for the abundant life that is assured to all Creation.

Heavenly Triune God and Creator of all, we gather here, made in the image of the Creator.
Who created in love.

We gather in the name of the redeemer, our Savior, Jesus Christ,
Who reconciles all of Creation.

We gather in the presence of the life Giver, your Holy Spirit,
Who inspires new life and instills hope.

The Presider and People offer the Collect of Purity

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly
love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Song of Praise

by Clifton J. Noble

Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us...

— Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. —

— Lord, have mer - cy Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. —

The Creation Collect of the Day

Presider The Creator be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O Creator God, you are known by your loving embrace of the underserved and those who suffer:
Grant us sight of your justice and conviction to love all creatures; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom
of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever **Amen.**

Reader A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah. Jeremiah has been confined to the king's palace in Jerusalem for prophesying the king's capture by the Babylonians. He speaks of buying land, an action of hope in the midst of turmoil.

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him.

Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me: Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours." Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself." Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 91: 1-6, 14-16

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 He shall say to the Lord,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust."
- 3 He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover you with his pinions,
and you shall find refuge under his wings;
his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.
- 5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night,
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the plague that stalks in the darkness,
nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.
- 14 Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him;
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him;
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him,
and show him my salvation.

Reader A reading from the first letter to Timothy. Paul tells Timothy to be strong and virtuous in the race of faith as they wait for the appearance of the Lord Jesus. He warns against the love of money and instructs the rich to be generous and to store up the treasure of true life.

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time-- he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Luke 16:19-31

Presider The Holy Gospel of Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus said, "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames. But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. Who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence is kept.

For all people and creatures in their daily life and work

For our families, friends, neighbors, companions, those who are alone, and all living beings.

For our waters, lands, and air; for this community, the nation, and the world.

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For all who work for the just and proper sharing of your Creation.

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all your creatures who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble.

For the sick, the friendless, and the needy; and for those facing climate change and extinction.

For the peace and unity of the Creation of God.

For all people and all of nature who proclaim the Gospel.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Sandi, our Priest; and all bishops, other ministers, and spiritual leaders.

For all who serve God in Creation.

We thank you, Lord, for the blessings of this life and the gifts of your Creation.

Thank you for all the gifts you give us.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

The People may add their own prayers silently or aloud at this time.

We pray for all who have died, especially remembering Robert and Priscilla Cole and Ira and Katheryn Lewis, for whom altar memorials have been given; and David Warren Spinning and Warren Howard Spinning for whom the sanctuary lamp burns, that they may they have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own prayers silently or aloud at this time.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Presider may add a concluding Collect.

The Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our God's creation.

Silence is kept

Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to honor you by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures. We have walked heavily on your earth, overused and wasted its resources, taken for granted its beauty and abundance, and treated its inhabitants unjustly, holding future generations hostage to our greed. Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin. Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts, through your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Presider says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider: Peace with yourself
Peace with Creation.
The peace of Christ be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Great Thanksgiving

When we gather, we are happy to offer "our life and labor," which we present to God. The ushers will pass the offering plate to receive your donations. You may also give online at Tithe.ly or scan the QR code in the pews.

Presentation Hymn 615

Thy Kingdom Come on Bended Knee

Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3

Old Hundredth, Isaac Watts

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures
here below, Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Praise
Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Presider: The Creator be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Creator.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to our loving God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

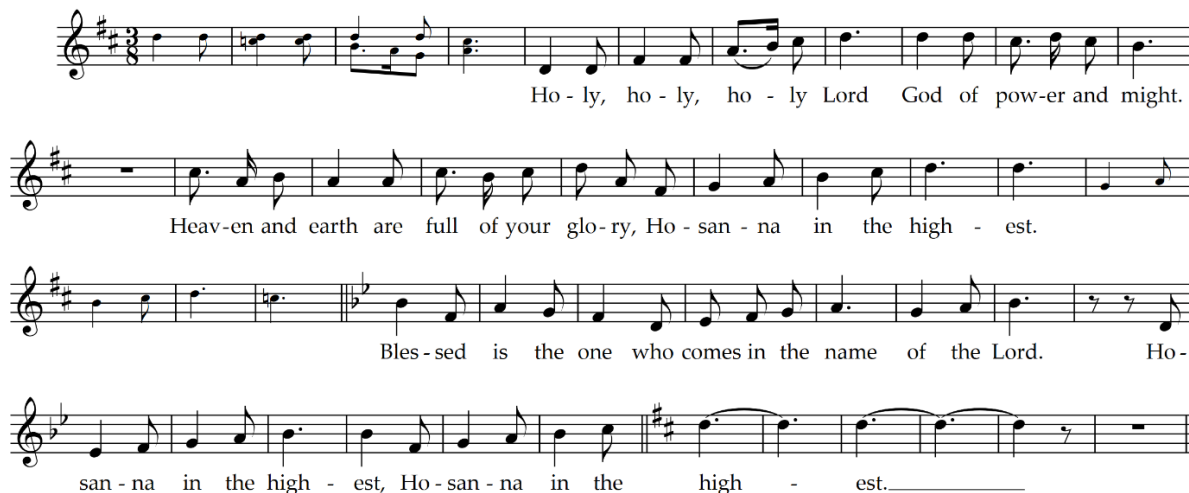
The Presider proceeds

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus

by Clifton J. Noble



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow-er and might.
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bles-sed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presider continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his friends and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

The Presider and the People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Presider continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit, may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever and for ever. Amen.

Presider: This is Living Bread, given for all Creation;
People: **All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.**

The Breaking of the Bread

by *Clifton J. Noble*

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The lyrics are: Je - sus, lamb of God, You take a-way the sins of the world. Have mer-cy on us. Je - sus, lamb of God, You take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us, Je - sus, lamb of God, You take a-way the sins of the world, Grant us your peace.

All are welcome to receive the presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. In the Episcopal Church we believe that God is uniquely present with us in the Bread and the Wine—and we also believe that receiving only Bread or only Wine does not limit God. Bread is offered in the form of a small wheat wafer. Gluten-free wafers (wrapped to prevent cross contamination) are available—ask for one if you need it. Both wine and grape juice are available—ask for juice if you prefer it. All are welcome to take a small sip from the Common Cup or you may intinct (dip the bread) into the cup. Please cleanse your hands with the alcohol-based hand cleanser in the dispensers at the foot of the stairs leading to the altar rail prior to receiving.

Spiritual Communion

Let us pray together in solidarity with those who are unable to receive communion in person this prayer of Spiritual Communion:

O God, we are united here in your transcendent power of love. From this center of goodness, you appear to us now in a new way, a new light, a new understanding, a new power of friendship and unity. We receive this life from you; we share this life together. You appear in our midst as Life itself, and we rise up together, beyond the resistant forces around us and within us. We receive you. This is the Body of Christ. Amen. — (Ilia Delio, OSF, adapted)

Communion Meditation

After Communion, the People stand when the Presider says

Let us pray.

Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God, that these gifts of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth. May we be one with you so that our work is yours and your work is ours. Lead us to transform our lives to reflect your glory in Creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Concluding Hymn 568

Father All Loving Who Rulest In Majesty

The Dismissal

Presider: Let us go forth into all Creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit and the beauty of God's Creation.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Postlude

PERMISSIONS

Except as noted within the text of the service leaflet: The structure and words of our service are taken from The Book of Common Prayer, Expansive Language; Enriching Our Worship; The Book of Occasional Services; Liturgy for the Whole Church, by Susan K. Bock, and Prayers for an Inclusive Church, by Steven Shakespeare; Hear Our Prayer by Jon White and Lisa Graves (all by Church Publishing). Today's Greeting and Call to Worship are from the World Council of Churches, Eco-School at the Orthodox Academy of Crete, Greece, 11-18 November 2023. The Biblical texts of the Old Testament, New Testament, and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA. Hymns are taken from The Hymnal 1982, Lift Every Voice and Sing II, and Wonder, Love, and Praise (all by Church Publishing) and Songs & Prayers from Taizé, (GIA Publications, Inc.). Permission to print/post hymns for congregational use is granted by Rite Song and/or One License and permission to podcast/stream the music in this service is granted by One License: #A-723294.

THE MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider	The Rev. Sandi Albom
Opener	Kara Noble
Linens	Dianne Legalos
Flower Guild	Tanya Kellogg
Counters	Kathy DeJean, Karen Newman
Office Angels	Karen Newman, Margo Halton
Closer	Holly Rodriguez

	8:00 am	10:30 am
Altar Guild	Linda Zielinski	Interfaith Service
Greeter(s)	Chris Steger	Interfaith Service
Eucharistic Minister(s)	Kara Noble	Interfaith Service
Lector(s)	Sandra Chamberlain	Interfaith Service
Usher(s)	Chris Steger	Interfaith Service
Stream Team	Holly Rodriguez	Interfaith Service

PARISH PRAYER LIST

*Please use this list in your daily prayers. We are happy to add your concerns.
Contact office administrator at program@atonementwestfield.org or call 562-5461.*

Altar Memorials are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Robert and Priscilla Cole and Ira and Katheryn Lewis.

Sanctuary Lamp burns to the Glory of God and in loving memory of David Warren Spinning and Warren Howard Spinning.

Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer for the Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan.

Diocesan Prayer for Trinity Episcopal Church, Ware; Global Missions Team; Administrative Assistant, Lydia Rosado; the Greater Springfield Council of Churches; and for the mission of the Church

For those suffering throughout the world especially from the ravages of war, violence, hate, environmental changes, and disease.

For these families and individuals Gail, Mark, Jessica, John, Ray, Chris, Richard, Uncle Billy, Mark P., Jim L., Kate, Rick, Lee, Teresa, Candi, John, Coralee & Gemariah; Nancy, Tracy Davis; Lily and her parents, Leianne, Fran, Madeline, Debra, Brad, Colin, Bill, Samantha, Jimmy, Billy, Les, Sally, Denise, Heather, Pearl, Sandy & George, Lily, Bill, Jim, Kathy, Fred, Tom, Shannon, Joan, Deborah, Matt, Darlene, Rick & family, Anne, Ann, Jean, Ruth, Thelma, Connie, Candy, Jeff, David, Christina, Sharon, Marcia, Jan, John, Addison, Hannah, Donna, Jack, Mickie, Chris, Josh, Tim, Mike, Juan, John, Sheila, Ann, Gary, David, Sabrina, Wendy, Bernie, John, James, Jeffrey, Brittany, Rick, Katie, Sherry, Niko, Mervin, Frances, Toby, Theresa, Philadelphia, David, Jean, Jonathan, Natalie, Lisa, Jacques, Elaine, Tracey

THIS WEEK AT ATONEMENT

Sunday September 28

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 am Holy Eucharist (*in person*)
10:30 am Interfaith Service @ Stanley Park
6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15

Monday, September 29

5:00 pm *Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) (SMGR)*
8:00 pm *Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)*

Tuesday, September 30

6:00 pm *Adult Children of Alcoholics (Little Chapel)*
7:00 pm Dinner Church

Wednesday, October 1

12:15 pm Healing Service & Holy Eucharist
1:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study
7:00 pm *Overeaters Anonymous (SMGR)*

Thursday, October 2

12:00-5:00 pm *Farmers Market*
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)
7:30 pm *Narcotics Anonymous (Great Hall)*

Friday, October 3

7:00 pm *Stairway to Serenity Al-Anon (SMGR)*

Saturday, October 4

4:00 pm *Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)*
9:00 am -12:00 pm *Blessing of the Animals (Westfield Feed)*

Sunday, October 5

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 am Holy Eucharist (*in person & live-streamed*)
10:30 am Ecumenical Service at Stanley Park
4:30 pm Bill & Lois: Their Journey in Letters (*Sanctuary*)
6:00 pm Ecumenical Recovery Service (*Sanctuary*)
6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15

SMGR= Saint Margaret's Guild Room (Parlor)

"Drawn in by Grace; Reaching out in Love"

God calls people of any age, race, ethnicity, gender, or sexuality to join us in worship and work in the world. God's grace draws us in—all of us. And together all of us reach out with God's love.



The Episcopal Church of the Atonement

36 Court Street · Westfield, MA · 01085 · (413) 562-5461 · www.atonementwestfield.org

Drawn in by Grace · Reaching out in Love

The Rev. Sandi Albom, *Priest in Charge*

Jerry Noble, *Music Director*

The Rt. Rev. Douglas J. Fisher, *Bishop, The Episcopal Church of Western MA*

The Rt. Rev. Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop and Primate*

The Vestry

Holly Rodriguez, *Sr. Warden* ~ Robert Frazar, *Jr. Warden* ~ Gene Giacometti, *Treasurer* ~ Deborah Bruno, *Clerk*

Mike Ehresman, *Asst. Jr. Warden* ~ Bonnie Adams ~ Raymond Brown ~ Sue Cole

Tanya Kellogg ~ Phil Siska ~ Josh Vélez

ECOTA Happenings

September 28, 2025

Ecumenical Worship & Picnic @ Stanley Park ~ Sunday, September 28, Service begins @ 10:30 am VOLUNTEERS Needed @ 10:00 am for Setup

We could use some volunteers to help with setup for the Interfaith Worship Service at Stanley Park this Sunday. If you can arrive at the park around 10:00 am to set up tables and chairs, please let Rev. Sandi know. We will have our 8:00 am Holy Eucharist service at ECOTA as usual this Sunday; the interfaith service at Stanley Park will begin at 10:30 in the pavilion. Worship will be followed by a fellowship picnic.

Leis in Lieu of Mums

Our annual Mums Sale to raise funds for Action Centered Tutoring Services (ACTS) is always popular, but the farm that provides the mums had a devastating fire in March and cannot provide flowers this year. ACTS, a faith-based nonprofit that provides one-on-one tutoring to elementary students in Springfield, still needs funds to ensure tutoring is available to all students who need it. So we're holding a special fundraiser called *Leis in Lieu of Mums*. Donors will receive a *lei*—a garland of flowers that is a traditional symbol of love, respect, and unity in the South Pacific—along with a big thank you for your continued support! Fill out the order form and drop it in the donation box in the Narthex as you leave.

Dinner Church ~ Tuesday, September 30 @ 7:00 pm

There are five Tuesdays in September—and that means there will also be Dinner Church! Good food. Good company. Good conversations. Uplifting worship. Genuine sharing of experiences. Prayer. Scripture. Art and music. Dinner Church has it all! Join us in the Saint Margaret's Guild Room (the parlor) on Tuesday, July 30 at 7pm! Please sign up in the Narthex so we can be sure we have enough seating for everyone.

Brown Bag Bible Study ~ Wednesday, October 1 @ 1:00 pm

Brown Bag Bible Study continues next week as we continue reading Paul's first letter to the young church in Corinth. Please read Chapters 5-8 before we meet on Wednesday, October 1 after the 12:15pm Healing Service.

Blessing of the Animals ~ Saturday, October 4 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm @ Westfield Feed

Rev. Sandi is going to the dogs (and cats, parakeets, guinea pigs, goats, and other critters) at a special Blessing of the Animals at Westfield Feed, 288 Union Street, Westfield on Saturday, Oct. 4. Let her bless your pet! If your animal is uncomfortable in crowds, feel free to bring a photo instead. All pets and humans are welcome! Rev. Sandi could also use a couple of volunteers to help her that day; let her know if you can lend a hand.

Bill & Lois Wilson: Their Journey in Letters ~ Sunday, October 5 @ 4:30 pm

As part of our recognition of National Recovery Month, ECOTA is delighted to present this performance, which uses the letters of Bill and Lois Wilson, co-founders of Alcoholics Anonymous, to tell the story of their strength, resilience, and creativity. The one-hour dramatic reading will feature Sam Noble as Young Lois, Rev. Sandi as Older Lois, Dan Harvester as Young Bill, and Raymond Brown as Older Bill. The performance begins at 4:30pm; doors open at 4:00 pm. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the work of Stepping Stones Foundation and Bridge Fellowship @ Atonement.

Ecumenical Recovery Service ~ Sunday, October 5 @ 6:00 pm

Recovery is worth celebrating—and it is easier to achieve with the support of a caring community that encourages the recovery journey. Offer your support for those celebrating recovery and those working to achieve it at this ecumenical worship service on October 5 at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary at ECOTA.

Free Narcan Training Course Sessions Available on:

Thursday, October 9: ~ 12:30-1:30 pm OR 3:30-4:40 pm

ECOTA has two Narcan stations to assist people in the event of an opioid drug overdose (one outside the church office and the other in the Great Hall). The Westfield Farmers Market, in conjunction with Tapestry Health, will hold a free training course to teach Market and church volunteers, staff, vendors, and customers how to recognize the signs of an opioid overdose and how to administer Narcan, the opioid overdose reversal drug. Each one-hour training session includes the complete course. All participants will be given a free Narcan kit if they would like one. Sign up for the session that best fits your schedule on the sheets in the Narthex.

Monthly Drop-In Grief Support Group ~ Beginning Sunday, October 19 from 12:00 – 2:00 pm

A grief support group allows time and space to share our common, yet different journeys on this path of grief and bereavement towards healing and peace. This group is for all bereaved and grieving individuals who are looking for a welcoming, confidential, and non-judgmental conversational grief support group. Our first meeting will take place on Sunday afternoon, October 19 in the Saint Margaret's Guild Room. We will meet monthly; our next two sessions are planned for **November 16** and **December 14**. For more information, contact Josh Vélez (velez.olv@gmail.com or (413) 386-4707.

New Book Group Book Selection ~ *The Years of Ripening* by Joyce Rupp

Our book group is reading *The Years of Ripening* by Joyce Rupp. It focuses on personal transformation, the wonder and goodness of our hidden self, how the qualities of our personhood have been expressed, and in what ways we can claim ever more of the truest reality of our inner being. Rupp is a member of the Servite (Servants of Mary) community and the codirector of the Boundless Compassion program. She is well known as a writer, spiritual midwife, international retreat leader, and conference speaker. We'll read the book over the next few weeks and meet to discuss it in late October.

Bridge Fellowship: A Community of 12-Step Spirituality for Everyone ~ Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm

Looking for a way of living that works? Curious about 12-Steps? Seeking a welcoming community of faith and discovery? Bridge Fellowship offers all that and more! We meet every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm. On the first and third Tuesdays of each month we have a healing service with music and fellowship. On the second and fourth Tuesdays, we join in a prayer circle with reading, discussion, sharing, and fellowship. If there are five Tuesdays in the month, we'll use the fifth one for Dinner Church! We hope you'll join us!