

SAINTS ALIVE!

March 2026

Spring Gathering Day

Sing to the Lord a new song! It's time for the annual Spring Gathering Day for the Southwest region of our diocese. Please join us to take a deep dive into our corporate and personal prayer life through the Daily Office.

Gathering Day will be held on **Saturday, March 21, from 9:30am-3:30pm** at St. Paul's Episcopal, located at 323 Catherine St. in Walla Walla. Lunch will be provided. Please bring: a BCP, a notebook, and a personal devotional item (such as prayer beads, an icon, a cross, etc).

All, both clergy and laypeople, are invited to a day of togetherness with friends from across the diocese. This is a time to connect, share, and enjoy fellowship. See you there!

All Saints' Website Makeover

Our church website is getting a fresh new look this month! The former site was hosted by Digital Faith through a contract with the Diocese of Spokane. That contract has come to an end, and so each church has been instructed to develop a new website on the platform of their choosing.

As it so happens, our new(ish) church management system, Realm, offers website hosting as part of our package at no additional cost. Al Wells, one of our resident tech experts, has spent the last several weeks building a new site, with input from the staff. Theresa and Eva Grate have been busy designing a new, colorful logo.



The address, allsaintsrichland.org, will stay the same. The new site should go live in the first week of March, so be sure to swing by and check it out!

Rector's Corner

Like most people these days, I am online a lot. I receive and send email, participate in Zoom and other web conference meetings, listen to music, watch movies, read a variety of news sources (including the local "paper"), learn from how-to videos, and more. That's only off the top of my head; a full list would probably be twice as long.

For many years, my online presence has included the interactive options of Facebook and the like. It has allowed me to develop relationships I value with people across the globe I would never have met otherwise. It has been a literal window to the world, and I've been grateful for the opportunities it has afforded me to keep in touch and to learn.

However, the evolution of social media over time has changed the dynamic. Advertising and content creators flood my page, outnumbering people I know; created AI "bots" show up in ways that can be difficult to distinguish from actual human beings; and programmed algorithms tailor content to garner "clicks" and keep users engaged.

I am just as susceptible to that as anyone else, and I don't like it. It disturbs me when I log in to catch up with friends and suddenly find myself drawn into mindless consumption. Five or ten minutes of checking in becomes half an hour (or more) of scrolling aimlessly through memes and videos designed to push my political, religious, or cultural hot buttons. It means I am consuming information that I did not intend, and too often is neither true nor helpful. I find myself becoming stressed, anxious, or angry—and sometimes all three. I have realized the choices of the algorithm are not healthy for my mind or my spirit, no matter how they draw me in. It is not good stewardship of the time God has given me.

So this year my Lenten devotional practice includes curtailing my personal use of social media. I have removed the apps from my phone and tablet, and I set a timer if I need to log in through the computer. I hope to use the time I regain in life-giving ways.

Lenten disciplines, at their best, serve to strengthen holy connections with God and others. Whether giving up something that takes time and attention away, or adding a practice that helps bring them into better focus, such disciplines make us more aware. They can help us to know ourselves a little better, and thereby open ourselves to the Holy Spirit a little more easily.

What are you doing for Lent? It's never too late to begin.

God's peace, Jane+

Adult Formation

In March we continue to focus on one of the questions in our Baptismal Covenant: "Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?" When we say "I will, with God's help," we are committing ourselves to seek God's justice in our own lives and in our world. But what does that mean, exactly? We'll spend some time "Seeking God's Justice Together" by exploring the teachings of scripture to learn more about different aspects of biblical justice and wholeness.

- Mar 1: Numbers 27:1-11
Challenging unjust rules & customs
- Mar 8: 2 Samuel 12:1-15
Calling leaders to account
- Mar 15: Esther 2-8
Using power to protect the powerless
- Mar 22: Leviticus 25
Working for freedom and fairness
- Mar 29: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
Confessing harm

Grab your cup of coffee or tea and join us each Sunday morning at 9:15am! You'll be glad you did.

B4 in March

Building Bridges Between Believers continues! "B4" is a year-long program seeking to combine monthly opportunities for learning and spiritual practice, with small group reflections 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.

In March, we'll spend some time digging into the doctrine of the Apostolic Succession, an ancient theology that still impacts the church today. Then we'll learn about the use of prayer beads to support habits of prayer. Participants will have the opportunity to create a set of Anglican prayer beads for themselves! Please join us on **Tuesday, March 10 at 6pm** for dinner. We'd love to see you there!



Children and Youth Ministries – March 2026

Godly Play in March. Godly Play is our education time for our elementary-age students. We meet each **Sunday at 9am**. We hear the story, wonder, work with materials in the room, feast and pray together.

In March, we will be telling The Greatest Parable, the story of Jesus' life and ministry. It's a BIG story that has been recently reworked by Godly Play with updated materials, so this story will be brand new for all of us! Come and listen!

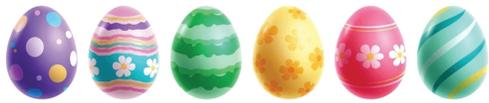
- Mar 1: Greatest Parable 1
Mar. 8: Greatest Parable 2
Mar. 15: Greatest Parable 3
Mar. 22: Greatest Parable 4
Mar. 29: Jesus and Jerusalem

Youth Class during Lent. The youth class during March will be practicing different Prayer Practices on **Sundays at 9am**. Come try using prayer beads, walking the labyrinth, meditating, or the ancient practice of *lectio divina*. Anyone in grades 6-12 is welcome to join us in the loft, including visitors.

Making Easter baskets in March. Any children, youth, parents, or other adults who would like to help make the paper baskets for residents of a local retirement home, we will have basket-making parties on Sundays in March, following both services. A table will be set up in the parish hall during Coffee Hour to work on the baskets. Our target is 100 baskets - come make a few! All abilities welcome!

Youth Group, March 15, 5-7 PM. Our Youth Group will meet March 15 to share a meal together, work on a service project, and have some fun. We will be making the invitations for the Spring Youth-Senior Tea and prepping for Easter. Youth Group is for 6th-12th grade students, and friends are welcome! Dinner is included, and we end with Compline.

Candy needed for Easter Egg Hunt and baskets. We are now collecting donations of wrapped candy for the Easter Egg Hunt and the senior baskets. Please no bags of loose jelly beans or malt balls! Please bring the candy to the church office, or give to Theresa, **no later than Sunday, March 22**, as we are stuffing the eggs and baskets that week.

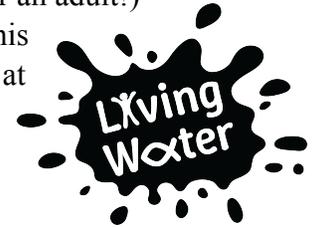


Rehearsal for Stations of the Cross, March 29. Beginning at noon in the nave, we will assign readings and parts, and practice for the Stations of the Cross to be presented to the congregation on **Good Friday, April 3, at 7pm.** The choir will be joining us again this year!

Anyone who wishes to take part in the actions **MUST** be present at this rehearsal. This will be our **ONLY PRACTICE**. There are non-speaking parts for anyone in preschool or older, plus 2 to 4 youth readers are needed. This service is designed for children, but loved by adults as well. We also will need a couple of parents “back stage” for tech support. Get a bite to eat at coffee hour, and plan to stay for rehearsal until 1:30pm.

If you are unable or don't want to participate, I do hope you will come experience the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.

Save the Date: VBS is July 13-17, 2026! Our theme for next summer's Vacation Bible School at All Saints' is “**Living Water.**” Our stories will include Creation, Jesus Stills a Storm, and the Woman at the Well. Art and science will involve water, and we will have a dedicated time to play in the water at the end of each day. 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. Save the dates and invite your friends!



Parenting Workshop

Our parenting workshop continues to meet about once per month to give time for participants to read our selected book sections. We will finish reading *Raising Humans in a Digital World* by Diana Graber by **Sunday, March 8** when we will meet at noon in the church Library. Our focus will be on Chapter 7: Thinking Critically, and Chapter 8: Digital Leadership.

We will also be considering where to go from here. One book we have considered in the past but not yet read is *Good Inside* by Becky Kennedy, subtitled “a guide to becoming the parent you want to be.” Our meetings last about an hour. Please join us if interested.

Outreach Focus for March: Skills Development Mission

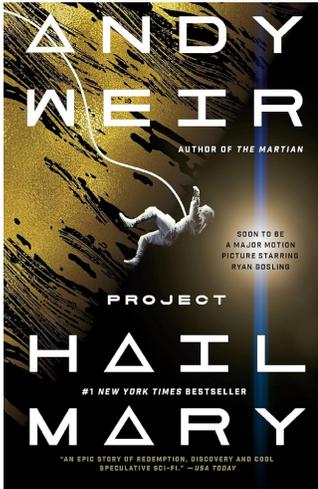
For March, we are collecting healthy after school **snacks, juice boxes, and Kleenex** for the Skills Development Mission (SDM) in Kennewick. Examples of snacks: individually wrapped items like granola/fruit bars, applesauce/fruit cups, jerky, nuts, crackers with cheese/peanut butter, fruit snacks, trail mix, Goldfish crackers, pudding cups, etc.

Please bring donation items to the church narthex during March. Thank you for supporting SDM!

All Saints' Book Group

Our next book to read is *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir. This 2022 novel is a sci-fi thriller with the fate of humanity and the earth in the hands of a lone astronaut. Its motion picture adaptation opens soon, starring Ryan Gosling.

Ryland Grace is the sole survivor on a desperate, last-chance mission to save the planet. He wakes to find himself millions of miles from home, with nothing but the corpses of his crewmates for company. And he can't remember anything about who he is, the mission, or how to complete it. He thinks he's all alone on a tiny ship hurtling through space.



We will meet to discuss the book on **Thursday, March 26**, beginning at 6pm with a potluck dinner. We will meet in the parish hall. 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 (and get first notice of the next book to read!).

Jr. Warden's Report

John Wells is a new member of the Vestry and our Jr. Warden for the coming year. Read on for his report on the physical state of the parish!

As a new member of the Vestry and Junior Warden I can report that Linda and I have met and discussed ongoing and new projects at the church. I would not say I am fully up to speed, but I am getting there especially if you note the many good people of the parish who have offered their help, which includes several who have previously served as Jr. Warden.

We are continuing to work with the Fire Department to ensure both compliance with local regulations and safety for all at our facility. As Linda has done such

an excellent job, many major projects are completed, and she points out that there is a need for some renovation in the Narthex and the Sanctuary. We will be investigating proper steps forward and holding discussions on this subject.

Also, I welcome all who have suggestions on both maintaining the existing resources and perhaps starting on new projects, or who have a desire to work on buildings and grounds projects to please get in touch with me.

Easter Bulletin Covers

Artists of all ages: we would love to feature your artwork on our Easter bulletins. We've had some wonderful, home-grown art on our Christmas and Easter bulletins in the last few years, and we want to continue that tradition.

The art needs to be reproducible with a color copier onto a half-legal sheet (roughly 8.5" tall by 7" wide, or able to be reduced to that size effectively) and should reflect your take on the joy and wonder of the Resurrection.

If you're interested, please talk with Rev. Jane or call the office. We need submissions **by March 25**.



Altar Guild Workdays

Many hands make light work (and an opportunity to socialize). You are invited to assist in the preparation of the church for Palm Sunday and Easter.

We need volunteers to participate in one or both workdays where we will prepare the church for these important events. The dates for the workdays will be **March 28 from 2-4pm** (the Saturday before Palm Sunday) and **April 4 from 1-3pm** (the Saturday before Easter).

Examples of tasks to be performed are polishing brass and silver, preparing candle cups, veiling small crosses, arranging palms, arranging potted flowers in front of the altar, and cleaning the pews.

We also need a volunteer to launder towels after the Maundy Thursday Service. This is a good opportunity for someone who will attend the service but will not be able to attend the workdays.

There will be signup sheets available in the Narthex starting March 15. You can also call, text or e-mail to volunteer. Please contact Ann Barry (barryann579@gmail.com or 509-551-3304) or Ruth Arisman (rarisman@akagaha.com or 478-501-3311) if you have questions or to volunteer.

Kairos Outside Women's Retreat

Kairos Outside is a Christian ministry offering an annual weekend retreat for women whose lives have been impacted by incarceration, either their own or that of a family member. Each retreat offers a series of talks by women sharing their life journeys, interspersed with music, prayer, activities, food, fun, and general support. The retreat is Christian in nature, although no affiliation is necessary to attend. This year's retreat will be held from Friday evening, April 24 through Sunday April 26, at Kennewick First Presbyterian Church.

Community support is vital to help a Kairos Outside retreat run smoothly. Above all, we rely on your prayers, but we also need volunteers to give us just a few hours of their time during the weekend. Because the retreat is offered at no charge to guests, we welcome donations to pay for meals and to cover other expenses.



Look for a Kairos Outside table in the Parish Hall after both services on **March 8 and 22**. There you will be able to sponsor a guest's meal, sign up for our prayer vigil, and much more. Brochures and applications will be available if you or someone you know would be interested in attending the retreat as a guest. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Barry (barryann579@gmail.com or 509-366-0604).

Episcopal Church Survey

All Episcopalians are invited to complete a 15-20 minute survey offered by the Task Force on LGBTQ+ Inclusion to help the church better understand how it honors the dignity of all people and where work remains to be done.

The task force was established in 2022, charged with conducting an audit of how the Episcopal Church has lived into its public commitments affirming the inclusion of LGBTQ+ people. A survey report will be shared at the 82nd General Convention in 2027.

Members across the church - both those who are LGBTQ+ and those who are not - are encouraged to share their experiences with pastoral care, sacramental access, representation in leadership, and institutional accountability.



Read more and complete the survey by **March 15** by visiting the national Episcopal Church website: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/organizations-affiliations/lgbtq/>.

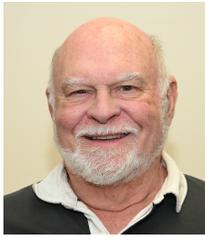
Meet the 2026 Vestry

After our Annual Meeting, All Saints' newly constituted vestry met in retreat on February 20-21 to spend time coming together and developing priorities for the next year.

Rev. Jane and Senior Warden Jan Wells (2027) will share Vestry leadership as a whole. Rev. Rachel Jackson will fill out Kim Kremer's (2027) service. Elizabeth Arnold (2026) completed her term on the vestry but will remain as church Treasurer.



Paige Andrew (2029), Bruce Gillespie (2028), Liam Larsen (2029), and Marjie Mack (2027) serve on the



Administration Team, responsible for primary oversight of financials (budget, balance sheet, etc.), personnel concerns, and working with the Finance committee to oversee the annual audit and fall pledge drive.

Rev. Rachel Jackson (2027), Meg Milligan (2028), and Blake Slonecker (2027) will serve on the Ministry Team, responsible for organizing the annual Ministry Fair, checking in with parish ministries to identify needs, and providing other opportunities for learning and service for parish members in keeping with the All Saints' Mission of "Equipping the Saints to seek and serve Christ in all people."



Junior Warden John Wells (2029), Matthew Lawrence (2029), Caleb Thomas (2028), and Bill Powell (2028)

serve on the Property Team, responsible for the care of our buildings and grounds. This includes maintenance, repairs, and improvements to the facility as needed.



Our vestry meets on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M. Everyone in the parish is welcome and invited to attend any meeting. Please feel free to contact vestry members with your questions, comments, compliments, and concerns. We love to hear from you!

We Give Thanks...

- to Dave DeGrenier for taking photos of the newly elected Vestry members for 2026 so we can update the photo array in the parish hall.
- to Eva Grate for making the logo for VBS 2026 and to both Theresa and Eva Grate for updating the All Saints' logo for our new website.
- to Al Wells for donating considerable time and talent to the development of our new All Saints' website.
- to Katy O'Callaghan and Marjie Mack for helping put together the Lent-at-Home bags.
- to all who supported the Valentine's Theater event, and to all the performers. Over \$2,000 was raised for Outreach!
- to the volunteers who helped hang the Stations of the Cross on Feb. 15. You all made the work go very fast!
- to the Men's Group for hosting another wonderful Shrove Tuesday pancake supper!
- to the many hands who made dough and rolled and baked pretzels on the first Sunday in Lent, especially Elizabeth Arnold and Cindy Cross in the kitchen baking, and Kris Wood, Katie Maikis, and Rachael Black at the tables helping to roll. Your help was much appreciated and the pretzels were delicious!

