

# SAINTS ALIVE!

September 2026

## Mission Possible!

All Saints' is hosting the kick-off panel discussion event for *Mission Possible!* in our Parish Hall at **5pm on Tuesday, September 1**. A light supper of soup and bread will be offered beginning at 5pm, followed by a panel presentation at 6pm. Speakers knowledgeable about the scope of homelessness in Tri-Cities will include Sara Bumgardner, Community Health Improvement Plan coordinator; Dr. Amy Person, data analyst with the Benton County Health District; and Officer Jesus Contreras, from KPD.

There is a flyer which highlights more *Mission Possible!* events at other churches throughout September - they will have additional speakers and topics concerning homelessness. You are invited to one or all of these events! Pick up a copy of the flyer from the table in the narthex.



## 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 library. You are warmly invited to join one or both!

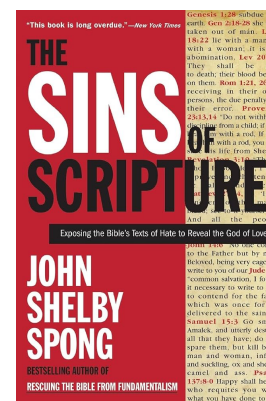
### Monday Bible Study

When the Monday Bible study group resumes, we will also resume our study of "*Great Figures of the New Testament*" by Dr. Amy Jill Levine. She is a Jewish woman, retired from teaching New Testament studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School. She provides unique background information from the Jewish perspective, while deeply honoring the sacredness of the New Testament.

Each week will focus on a specific NT figure, or occasionally a small group of figures. There is no book to buy; we will be listening to an audio-only DVD (think podcast). Classes will resume **Monday, September 14** at 1 pm in the library. Please join us. Contact Liz Carter with any questions at [2lizandgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:2lizandgeorge@gmail.com).

### Tuesday Bible Study

We are starting up our Tuesday Bible Study at All Saints' on **September 15 at 1 pm**, in the library, led by Jan Wells. We will be studying *The Sins of Scripture: Exposing the Bible's Texts of Hate to Reveal the God of Love* by John Shelby Spong. Spong was the Episcopal Bishop of Newark until retiring in 2000.



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

## Senior Warden's Update

The vestry has completed the process for calling an interim (priest in charge) to serve during our rector search (calling process). As you have been told by email, we called The Rev. Rachel Endicott to this position. See the accompanying bio and picture on page 2.

The Administrative Committee of the Vestry has gathered information for a "State of the Congregation Report" that has been submitted to the Bishop. The vestry will be preparing to select a chaplain (a lay person) to serve throughout the Calling Process. Please remember that this is a Calling Process, not a hiring process, a discerning of God's will for us. Hold All Saints' in your prayers,

and the work of the vestry and committees that will be working on the process, as we try to discern God's will for us and our future.

As Senior Warden, I will do my best to keep you, the congregation, informed. If you have questions, please ask, remembering that we may not be able to respond. Confidentiality is important, and we will tell what we can.

Soon, you may be asked to serve on a committee doing work to prepare us for our Calling and Discernment process, gathering information about our congregation and our community. These will be of short duration, so an extended commitment will not be required. Check the Wednesday Word for appeals for help on committees.

Finally, we, the congregation, will be participating in a Spiritual Life Inventory. It will be sent out by email, or you will be able to get a hard copy to fill out if you prefer. Please respond, as it is important to the profile process. Discerning who we are and where we live is an important part of attracting a new rector.

## Meet the Interim

The Rev. Rachel Endicott, Priest-in-Charge



Pastor Rachel, a graduate of Virginia Theological Seminary, has specialized training and experiences with Interim Ministry,

having served a variety of parishes in the Diocese of Olympia and the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane. Rachel's passions in ministry include supporting the faith journey of people of all ages; evangelism; preaching, liturgy and music; and peace and justice issues. Rachel enjoys reading (most genres) and almost anything having to do with God's creation: walking/hiking, running, swimming, and riding her mustang, Chance. She is married with adult children.

Rachel will be with us as our interim priest for about a year. She will start here in the office on Monday, October 5, with her first Sunday service being October 11.

During the intervening weeks, the Revs. Jan Griffin and Rachel Jackson have graciously agreed to serve supply priests, so worship will continue as normal as we await Pastor Rachel's arrival.

## Adult Formation

Adult Formation will be on hold for the month of September given the absence of a rector, and the interruptions of Labor Day weekend and the Tri-Cities Ironman.

In lieu of formation classes, the Revs. Jan Griffin and Rachel Jackson, along with Senior Warden Jan Wells and various members of the Vestry, will be available in the parish hall during coffee hour for conversation and questions. Grab a cup of coffee or tea and come chat!



## Children and Youth Ministries – September 2026

### *Back to Sunday School for all ages!*

Welcome back to Sunday School on **September 13!** 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 "Holy Baptism." This is a favorite story at All Saints'! 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:

Sept. 20 - Creation

Sept. 27 - The Falling Apart

**Youth Class in September:** Our Sunday morning education class for youth in grades 6-12 will resume meeting in the loft on **September 20** (they will be part of the combined class on September 13). 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 to 10am on Sundays.

**Youth Group, September 27, 5-7pm.** 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 putting together hygiene packs for people displaced by wildfires.

If you would like to be added to the youth group mailing list, contact Theresa at [school@allsaintsrichland.org](mailto:school@allsaintsrichland.org).



**Hygiene pack items needed:** Any donations of the following items would be very much appreciated, as our youth put together hygiene packs for people displaced by wildfires. Please bring any of the items listed below to the church by **September 27** - we are trying to put together at least 50 packs.

Items needed: small shampoo and conditioner bottles, bar soap, washcloths, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs, razors, lip balm.

Thank you for your donations!

**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.

## Intro to Godly Play Storytelling

During the Adult education time, 9:15-10:00am on **Sunday, September 27**, Theresa will lead an Intro to Godly Play Storytelling for adults who may be interested in telling the Godly Play stories. Come find out more about this amazing program!

There is no requirement to then tell Godly Play, though we are looking for a few more people to do that. We have a group of teachers who take turns telling the story, or being the "door person" in the Godly Play room, serving about twice a month, but more people are needed. We will talk about both roles, as well as see what is involved in storytelling.

## Outreach Focus for September: White Swan

For September, Outreach is continuing to support families who lost homes and were impacted by the White Swan area fires. The most needed items are:

- New blankets and pillows
- New clothing and undergarments (all sizes)
- Items for baby (diapers, baby formula baby bottles)
- Hygiene and first aid kits
- Totes
- Flashlights
- Batteries
- Portable power banks and charging cables
- Dog items (bowls, leashes, collars)

Please bring donations to the box in the narthex. Members of the Outreach Committee will deliver collected items to the Yakama Nation. Thank you for your compassionate support.

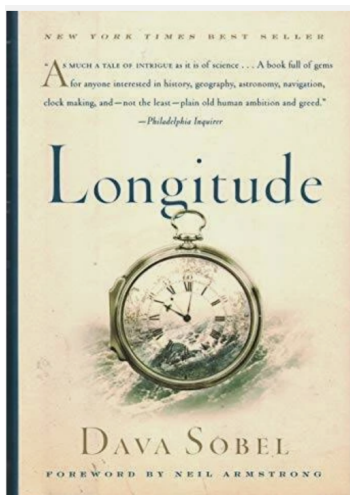


## All Saints' Book Group

The Book Group will meet on **Thursday, September 24** at 6pm to discuss *Longitude*, by Dava Sobel. The subtitle for this book is "The True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time."

Anyone alive in the eighteenth century would have known that "the longitude problem" was the thorniest scientific dilemma of the day - and had been for centuries. Lacking the ability to measure their longitude, sailors throughout the great ages of exploration had been literally lost at sea as soon as they lost sight of land. Thousands of lives, and the increasing fortunes of nations, hung on a resolution.

Everyone was looking for a celestial answer, but one man, John Harrison, imagined a mechanical solution - a clock that would keep precise time at sea, something that was not possible at the time. He spent forty years building his perfect timekeeper, now known as the chronometer. This book is a fascinating brief history of astronomy, navigation, and clockmaking.



We begin Book Group with a potluck dinner in the multi-purpose room at 6pm. All are welcome!

## Saints and Sinners

Saints and Sinners will have a rare change of pace from our normal meeting at All Saints'. On **Friday, September 11**, we will meet at Joyce McClanahan's house and yard at 418 Shaw Street in North Richland. Beverages will be served at 6pm and dinner by 7pm.

Couples, bring a main dish or two side dishes, and singles, please bring one. Bring your own dishes and silverware, plus \$5 if you would like wine. Joyce

asks that you please also bring a lawn chair. This event is open to all adults. Sign up in the narthex the week before or RSVP to Joyce McClanahan.

## Traffic Notice

On **Sunday, September 20**, the Tri-Cities will once again play host to an Ironman 70.3 Triathlon. You may remember from the last few years, 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 anticipated impact times at Visit Tri-Cities website (scroll all the way down): <https://www.visittri-cities.com/events/signature/ironman/>

## Fall Gathering Day

**Saturday, September 26** is Gathering Day! This time All Saints' will be our regional host for a day of formation, fellowship and worship. These gatherings are an opportunity to strengthen relationships, share in ministry, and spend time with Episcopalians from neighboring congregations. This is open for all members of our congregation - clergy, lay leaders, and parishioners.

The program runs from 9:30am to 3:30pm. Lunch will be provided; there is no charge to attend. Watch for the sign-up sheet in the narthex so we know how many to plan for.



## Fall Iona Classes

Registration is now open for the Diocese of Spokane's fall Iona courses, Church History and Theological Ethics. Iona classes are free and meet online. They're taught by a local priest and your classmates will be lay and ordained people from across Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. These classes aim to go beyond the academic subjects to help you develop skills in managing



difficult conversations, hard decisions, conflict, and change. You can learn more and register at [spokanediocese.org/ionacollaborativeprogram](http://spokanediocese.org/ionacollaborativeprogram).

### **Theological Ethics**

In this course we'll learn about Theological Ethics, not for the purpose of becoming scholarly theologians and ethicists, but to discover how to become Spirit-filled church leaders, both lay and ordained, who embody the Good News in our contexts *through* studying theological ethics. This class is heavier on reading - about 100 pages per class session. Registration closes Sep. 2!

Classes meet online on alternating Saturdays from 10am-12pm on the following dates:

**September 5 & 19, October 3 & 24, November 7 & 21.**

### **Church History**

Church history is full of conflict, and effective church leaders have developed some skills for engaging with conflict in healthy, productive ways. Probably the most common thing that people have conflict over is change - and so through studying how the church has changed over time, we hope you will develop some practical skills you can use to address change and conflict in your congregations and communities. Registration closes Sep. 7!

Classes meet online on Thursdays at 7-8:30pm on the following dates:

**September 10, 17, & 24, October 1, 8, 22, & 29, November 5, 12, & 19.**

## **Save the Dates!**

Outreach is planning for their annual fundraiser on **Saturday, October 24!** Join us for a fun night of trivia and fellowship. Watch the Wednesday Word and upcoming newsletter for more information.

The Used Book Sale will be back **November 6-8!** While it's too early to start bringing in books, you can begin collecting donations and clearing out space for new finds. We'll need your gently used books, puzzles, CDs, and DVDs to make it a success.

## **Vestry Meeting Summary**

The All Saints' Vestry met on August 18 and spent its formation time discussing chapter 5 of *Following Jesus in a Culture of Fear*, which explored how communities can cultivate cultures that respond to uncertainty and fear in healthy and productive ways.

The Ministry Committee is preparing for the internal ministry fair, which will be held on October 11. The Property Committee reported on some nearly finished HVAC work and on the complete gutter overhaul. Cabinets and countertops have also been installed in the pavilion sacristy. The Administration Committee reported on the ongoing struggle to find a new choir director.

More happily, they facilitated the Vestry discussion that led to All Saints' becoming the official sponsor of Cub Scout Pack 231. After exploring an early draft of the 2027 budget and approving the State of the Congregation Report (which moves us along in our call for a new rector), the Vestry discussed the final stages of calling our new priest-in-charge, Rachel Endicott, and celebrated Jane's final Vestry meeting in the Parish Hall.

## **We Give Thanks...**

- to everyone who came to the Lay Minister Training Day and learned a new role! We make church together, and are grateful for your contributions.
- to all (too many to name!) who jumped in to help after Rev. Jane's accident, whether you offered a meal, your time, or your prayers.
- to the Vestry for their continued efforts toward calling a new priest, and to the Rev. Rachel Endicott for accepting the call to be our interim!





# Thank you!

TO THE REVEREND  
JANE SCHMOETZER  
FOR 16 YEARS OF  
MINISTRY  
AT ALL SAINTS!  
WE WILL MISS YOU!

