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All Saints'
 1322 Kimball Avenue
 Richland, Washington 99354

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EQUIPPING THE SAINTS TO SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST IN ALL PEOPLE

Church Office

Mon.-Thurs., 8:00am-2:30pm
 Closed Friday and Saturday
 Phone: 943-1169, Fax: 946-6102
 e-mail: admin@allsaintsrichland.org
 Web site: www.allsaintsrichland.org
 Diocese: www.spokanediocese.org

Clergy

The Rev. Jan Griffin, Rector
 The Rev. Dorothy Carlisle, Deacon
 The Rev. M. A. Hawkins, Deacon, Retired
 The Rev. Sandra Robison, Deacon, Retired

Worship Services

Sunday, 8:00am & 10:15am
 Wednesday, 12:10pm

Major Weekly Programs

September – June
Midweek Bible Study
 Wednesday, 1:00pm
Music Rehearsals
 Choir - Thursday, 7:30pm
 Handbells - Thursday, 6:15pm



***Christmas
 Service Times***

***Christmas Eve
 December 24
 5:00pm/11:00pm***

***Christmas Day
 December 25
 10:00am***



Saints Alive!

All Saints' Episcopal Church, Richland, Washington

December 2009



Many activities are planned during this holiday season. Below is a list of what's coming up at All Saints'. Check the newssheet in the Sunday bulletin or our website at www.allsaintsrichland.org for updates and additional information, or call the office.

December 2

Three Rivers Youth Chorus Concert: 7:00pm

December 5

Silent Morning: 9:00am - 11:00am

Advent Activities: 2:00 - 4:00pm

December 6

AGO Choral Festival: 4:00pm - CUP Church

December 11

Saints & Sinners: 6:00pm - 371 Quailwood Place

December 13

Service of Lessons and Carols: 10:15am

December 19

Food Box Packing & Delivery: 9:00am

December 20

Greening of the Church: 11:45am

December 22

Candles and Carols: 5:00pm

December 24

Festival Eucharist: 5:00 and 11:00pm

December 25

Holy Communion: 10:00am

Candles and Carols

by Lisa Richmond



All Saints' Candles and Carols Celebration is scheduled for Tuesday, December 22. This is our church family Christmas celebration. It's a time to socialize, eat, laugh, and sing carols together. The social hour begins at 5:00pm, and dinner will be served at 6:00. Caroling will take place afterwards in the sanctuary, about 7:30.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex to let us know what you intend to bring. Hams will be provided, so we need salads, side dishes and desserts. There is also a sign-up sheet if you can help with set up, decorating, and clean up. You can also call the church office at 943-1169.

Guadalupe Feast is Dec 12th!

We're invited to the Feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe, Saturday, December 12th. Our sister congregation, Nuestro Salvador, will be celebrating at St. Paul's in Kennewick, with a service at 6:00pm.

This festival commemorates the appearance of the Virgin Mary to the indigenous people of Mexico. This celebration finds its roots in Mexico City in the town of Tepeyac. The Virgin Mary of Guadalupe has become a symbol of strength for women and Hispanic people. We will join together to celebrate this feast, and the service will be in Spanish and in English. There will be a potluck in the parish hall after the service. Please come for a cross-cultural experience of Episcopal worship!



Newsletter Deadline
Monday,
December 21

Rectors Corner

by Joan Yetter



The season of Advent begins the church year. And the first mystery in which we are asked to engage is waiting. We are not fond of waiting. Phone calls often place us on hold and fill our waiting with irritating music. Our order has been placed on backorder. The elevator must be stuck. Our partner is late. Will the rain never stop? Life is a series of hopes and waiting.

The church moves into the natural rhythm of the season as we enter the dormant season of winter. Nature seems asleep. The days are shorter and the season is dark. All that is becoming is hidden from our sight. The season of Advent invites us to understand with a new patience the state of being, waiting.

This Advent is especially meaningful to our family as we await the birth of our granddaughter, Madeline Elise. As in pregnancy, all things of value emerge following a period of quiet incubation: healthy baby, a loving relationship, reconciliation between friends, a new understanding, a work of art.

During Advent we are invited to be vulnerable to our longing and open to our hope. Like the pregnant mother who counts the days till her labor and prepares little things for the child on the way, we count the days and increase the light as we light the candles on our Advent wreaths and prepare our gifts. We work our way toward Christmas. With quiet excitement we complete those simple gestures that acknowledge the mystery. Advent is full of comforting hints and tastes and signs to sustain us in anticipation of the birth of the Christ Child.

Christmas Choral Festival

Please join the All Saints' Choir for the lovely music of Advent and Christmas at the American Guild of Organists Choral Festival on Sunday, December 6 at 4:00pm. This warm and joyful service, to be held at Central United Protestant Church, 1124 Stevens, in Richland, will feature church choirs from throughout the Tri-Cities. A free-will offering will benefit the Tri-City Food Bank.



Holiday Greetings Page

It's that wonderful time of the year for our 2009 Christmas Card to the Parish. For several years, All Saints' has asked you to contribute \$5.00 to send your warm greetings to each other, and a tangible and concrete gift to others.

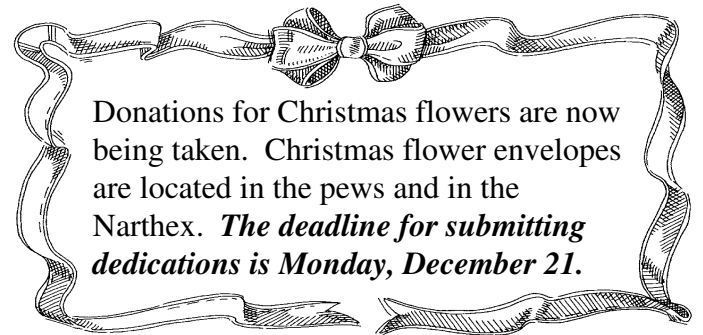


Season's Greetings

The Outreach Committee has once again chosen to send the money raised to Domestic Violence Services of Benton-Franklin Counties. DVSBF is focused on providing advocacy and support to domestic violence victims in our community. It is a 501(c)(3) and receives state and private grants, and community donations.

Visit their website at DVSBF.org to learn much more about their services and to learn how you can donate items they constantly need or how you can volunteer.

Please sign this year's Christmas Card in the narthex after both services.



Donations for Christmas flowers are now being taken. Christmas flower envelopes are located in the pews and in the Narthex. ***The deadline for submitting dedications is Monday, December 21.***

Advent Silent Morning

Deacon Dutch Carlisle

The silent morning this year will be held on December 5th from 9:00 to 11:00am. I have shortened the time in hopes more of you can get away from the busyness around Christmas. I have chosen the theme for my meditations to be "Won't You Let Him In." Three meditations and quiet time between to reflect and meditate ending in noon prayers are what is involved. I hope YOU can come this year. It is heart warming and focused on the true meaning of what we anticipate in the celebration of the birth of Christ.

The Outreach Corner



Our Thanksgiving Boxes were packed on Saturday, November 21st by some 20 people, mostly from All Saints' and Nuestro Salvador. Each of the 90 boxes had about 22 different food items and a \$20.00 gift card for the meat to go with their festive meal, or for whatever the family needs. Packing started at 8:00 and most boxes were distributed by 1:30. Many hands make for fast work – and it's a great time together. We thank you for so generously giving a lot of food, and your time, and your energy.

The night before, on Friday, November 20th, Safe Harbor held its' Beggars' Banquet and Auction. This is a major fund raising event for Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery and we purchased a table for 10 persons. We had 8 people attending and enjoying the tasting of some 20 special soups, salads, and breads. This is a wonderful event for a great cause.

There will be another box-packing opportunity on Saturday, December 19th for Christmas. Everything will go about as it did for Thanksgiving. We hope to see you there, ready to set up tables, pack boxes, and help put the room back into Sunday condition.

A Spiritual Journey with Dutch Carlisle

Merciful Lord, Our Father, Blessed Savior, Gracious God! I came across an article in a book I got at my annual book sale that mentioned the many names of God. I got to pondering, "Just what did I call God when I was praying or talking to Him?" I recalled many years ago a dear friend sent me three or four pages of all the names used in the Bible referring to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Fascinating as I realized how many names I use when I pray.

If you think about it, I wonder if you too use different names. When I pray for others I find I also use different titles for God depending on the severity of the situation or if I am praying to God through Jesus Christ. And when I am just conversing with God, I use different ones. In our

Eucharist and special services we use a variety of names.

Compassionate prayers lead us to use our most endearing words and in this way we are deeply moved. I find many occasions when I am praying in private and when praying for others that I am moved to tears. It is a tender and revealing sense of the presence of God in the moment.

God cannot be seen, He can only be recognized. God be with you!

Adopt a Family!



Our Christmas Outreach aims to make a lasting difference in peoples' lives in two ways: one, we'll give families money to meet family needs, and two, we'll have more Outreach funds for such things as health care and domestic violence aid.

This year, instead of buying and wrapping clothes or toys for our Outreach children, we're asking you to adopt one or more families. The cost for adopting a family is \$50, although you're not limited to that amount. You can adopt a portion of a family, or more than one family, whatever fits your budget. All you need to do is write a check to All Saints Outreach. Every donation helps! When you think of the time and money spent shopping for several children, this is a bargain.

For the most part, the families on our list have other resources for clothes and toys. Rather than wondering whether what we buy fits a particular child or is what they would really like to have, we're focusing on giving funds to the family that the family can use as their needs dictate.

This year we're asking you to consider what you have been spending for gifts and gift cards to support this program, and then write us a check for that amount (or more!). We'll take care of buying the gift cards and you'll save time and gas. Outreach will use less of our limited funds on Christmas and more on important programs like domestic violence prevention and counseling, and medical care for the indigent. The need is so great and, through your generosity, All Saints' is making a difference in people's lives.

From the Treasurer

by John Deichman

As of November 23rd, when I wrote this, our Pledge Drive produced about \$286,000, against a goal of \$295,000. Most pledges were received on All Saints Sunday; however, some were received since then, and I expect a few more from those who pledged last year and have not turned in pledge cards yet. Thank you for your pledges.

In order to keep our various ministries from being impacted by the unusual costs of securing an interim and obtaining a new rector, the Vestry decided to take these costs from savings. This keeps ministries functioning fully as planned. The unusual costs involved in the search tend to be costs of preparing various writings, advertising, visitations, and relocations, etc. These can be quite significant and would severely cut into ministry programs if we were budget-limited. Taking these funds from savings eliminates these impacts.

We will send out your Personal Giving Reports in December showing your giving through December 1st. This will give you a chance to see your giving progress for the year. Your final giving report for 2009 will be issued about mid-January 2010 in time for tax preparation.

2009 Stewardship Campaign

by Mark Hoffmann, Senior Warden

The All Saints' 2009 Stewardship Campaign culminated with the in-gathering of pledges on All Saints Sunday. As reported by John Deichman, the pledge results to date are very good and are close to supporting the proposed 2010 budget.

I want to thank the parishioners who pledged for 2010. Your commitment to provide the resources to do God's will is greatly appreciated. It was vitally important that the Vestry have a solid footing budget-wise in 2010 to support efforts to keep All Saints' on course until a new Rector arrives. There are some uncertainties with 2010 forecast operating expenses, including the new Rector compensation and moving expenses. This should be better defined in the spring of 2010. If you have not had the opportunity to pledge yet, pledges are still gladly accepted.

Saints and Sinners



Saints and Sinners will meet on Friday, December 11, at the home of Peter and Jeanne Smith, 371 Quailwood Place, in Richland. The social hour begins at 6:00pm and dinner is at 7:00pm. Singles are asked to provide dessert or salad, and couples may bring a main dish or salad and dessert. Please bring silverware, plate, cup, and \$2.00 for beverage. **Please RSVP the Smiths' by December 9 at 627-0105.**

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
FROM THE
STAFF

The Church Office Will Be Closed
Thursday, December 24
Through Sunday, January 3.

Telephone Directories

Parish Directories are located in the Narthex and office reception area. If you find an error, please e-mail the office at admin@allsaintsrichland.org so we can make the correction. Be sure to check out the "All Saints' Business Directory" in the back. Contact the church office or Jim Noyce if you'd like to be added to the Business Directory.



ADD


Johns, Mr. and Mrs. Wendell 831-402-9206
534 Lakeview Dr., Burbank, WA 99323
-Wendell -Mary
Yetter, The Rev. Joan and Mr. Ben 713-3440
2550 Duportail, Apt. G141, Richland, 99352
-Ben -Joan

CHANGE

Hendrickson - new address & phone number
12903 W. 351 PR NW, Benton City, 99320
phone number - 366-3229

Thank You Everyone!

We give Thanks!

- To Paul Ellis for giving the rector's office a fresh coat of paint. It  looks fabulous!

- To Ellen Baer for shepherding the new sprinkler system into existence, just in time for winter. But it's going to be great next summer!

- To everyone who planned, prepped, and participated in Jan's Retirement Celebration. From the food, to the decorations, to the entertainment, it was a great party and a wonderful send-off for Jan.

-To all those who helped with Dutch's book sale, especially Lois Price and those who helped move books from the shed to the Parish Hall, as well as those who helped box up and carry out the books afterwards. And thanks to those who donated and purchased books! Almost \$800 was raised for Dutch's discretionary fund.

-To Outreach and their helpers for putting together another successful day packing the Thanksgiving boxes. Here's hoping the Christmas box packing will go as well!

-To Wayne and Donna Underwood for the donation of their (used but not old) tractor to All Saints'.

-To all who turned out to rake leaves and learn how to operate our new tractor. The grounds look great!

Thank you all!

Dear Friends in Christ

Thank you for the wonderful retirement send-off! I truly felt like "queen for a day," though I've felt blessed every day that I served as your rector.

Your gifts and good wishes overflow my heart, and your generous financial gift challenges me to a bold adventure: Cruise around the world? Work on a doctoral degree? Invest in a new car? Surgery for the cat's ear? The possibilities are wonderful! (Retirement is wonderful!)

I miss you all, but I know you're in very good hands - Christ's, each other's, and Joan's.

Again, thank you!

Faithfully, Jan+

Adult Ed in December

"Comfort, comfort my people . . ." are the familiar words that many of us associate with Advent. They are the words that begin both Isaiah 40 and Handel's *Messiah*, connecting them with the comfort that comes to us in the birth of Jesus Christ.

During Advent please join the adult discussion as we study Handel's *Messiah*.

November 29: Comfort, Comfort my People – What may these words of comfort have meant in their original context?


December 6: Who May Abide the Day of his Coming? How do the ancient prophecies transcend thousands of years and remain relevant to us in the modern world?

December 13: For Unto Us a Child is Born – Join us as we explore how we seek to frame the words of ancient Scripture in the context of 21st century lives.

December 20: Glory to God in the Highest – When the authors of the Old Testament spoke of a "messiah," what precisely did they have in mind?

Join us for these weekly conversations that will enhance your appreciation of this holiday favorite. We will meet at 9:10am in the library.

Announcements

Effective communication is essential to our life together in the All Saints' community. We strive to get pertinent information out to everyone via many channels: "Saints Alive" newsletter, email, snail mail, the website, and announcements in church on Sundays. 

In an effort to streamline the Sunday announcement time, we ask that you contact Joan in the church office by Thursday if you want to make an announcement in church on Sunday. If you have made arrangements to make an announcement, please make your way quickly to the lectern microphone following the Blessing so that your message will be heard by all. Verbal announcements should be concise and focus on events of interest to the entire church community.

Children & Youth Ministries

by Theresa Grate



Advent Activities, Saturday, December 5, 2:00 to 5:00pm. (note, this is a later start time than listed on the fall school calendar). Join us for a fun afternoon of learning about St. Nicholas, on the eve of his feast day. We'll have stories, snacks, crafts, and a viewing of the new Veggie Tales movie about St. Nicholas. For children ages 3 and up (the nursery will be open for younger siblings). Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex (or call the office), so we know how many to prepare for.

Youth Ice Skating, December 6. Bring a sack lunch to eat at the church after the service; we'll go together to the Toyota Center in Kennewick (open 12:00-2:30pm). Admission \$6, skate rental \$2. Friends are welcome!

Youth Christmas Party, December 13. Following the 10:15 service, the youth will have a Christmas party. More details to come in your class.

Combined class, December 20, 9:00am. Advent 4, Christmas will soon be here! Help us celebrate by making Christmas cookies and sharing them with our parish family at Coffee Hour. During the Sunday school hour, we will be in the Parish Hall making three kinds of cookies: gingerbread, sugar, and pressed Spritz. Helpers and bakers are needed, as well as volunteers to bring in the cookie dough (and extra baking pans). Recipes and sign ups will be in the narthex after Thanksgiving. The kids making the cookies will each get a plate of them to take home, too.

No separate Fellowship Potluck this month or next. Everyone is encouraged to come to Candles and Carols on December 22. This is a fun, intergenerational evening complete with carol singing. The nursery will be open. Christmas season winds up with the Feast of the Kings, another potluck night of fun (see article below).

Kids singing at 5:00pm Christmas Eve. Our kids have been practicing, now it's time for everyone to hear. For the children, one last rehearsal at 4:00pm December 24, upstairs in the sanctuary.

No Sunday School classes on December 27 – enjoy your Christmas Holiday!

Feast of the Kings, January 9, 5:30pm. Our

annual Epiphany celebration starts with crown-making, then progresses to a potluck dinner and fun games for the young and young at heart. Our youth will also be putting on a ?? We had to cancel last year's celebration due to the plumbing problems, so those wise men have been traveling a very long time (actually, about how long it really took them to get to Bethlehem)! Help us celebrate that they have finally arrived! Dessert is a king's cake, made by our last king, Jennifer Allstead, and family. If you find the bean this year, we will crown you "king" for the evening. All are invited!

Thank you, Debra Brown, for the donation of the new chair in the nursery! It's awesome!

Stand Up Report. 173,045,325 citizens gathered at over 3,000 events during the weekend of October 17-18 in more than 120 countries, asking that their governments eradicate extreme poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. "Stand Up, Take Action, End Poverty Now!" has been certified by Guinness World Records as a new world record and remains the largest mobilization of human beings in recorded history. Thanks to those All Saints' parishioners who came and stood with us!

Baskets and trays needed. We are gathering resources for implementing Godly Play in our preschool Sunday School room, and are in need of some baskets and trays. They should be about 1 foot wide and between 14 and 18 inches long, and no deeper than 4 inches. Some basic trays with handles would also work. If you have anything like this that you would like to donate, please contact Theresa Grate in the church office.

Search Committee Report

by Bill Cowley

The Search Committee will meet on Monday November 30, to begin work on developing procedures for interviewing and evaluating candidates. We have heard from the Diocese that we have a couple of potential candidates. The Diocese hasn't yet done any screening or background checks. We are going to let the ad run for about two months before the diocese starts forwarding candidates to us. With the holidays coming, we decided that it was better to give some extra time for candidates to respond.