



BRINGING YOU GOOD NEWS Luke 2:10

OCTOBER 2023

Reflections with Your Rector

Happy Fall! School and other programs begin again, work returns to its post-summer patterns, and we are harvesting our last fruits and vegetables before we put our gardens to bed. I hope we are all enjoying the cooler weather and the beginning of Fall flavors and festivities.



A busy October. Wow, September rolled by quickly. Now we move into October, with lots of activity at St. Luke's. Mark your calendars for these days—

September 30 – Northeast Regional Gathering Day for Episcopal congregations in the Parish Hall, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., including refreshments and lunch All congregation members are welcome, and any group and team leaders are encouraged to come. We are hosting the nine congregations from Cheney, Spokane, Spokane Valley, Sandpoint, and Bonners Ferry for a day of shared learning and encouragement.

October 8 – Pet Blessing and Celebration of St. Francis at Henry & Debbie Lane's home, 10 a.m. This is our final outdoor service of the year. Bring your pets for a blessing, as we celebrate and give thanks for all of creation. See p. 4 of this newsletter for the address and more information.

October 14 – "St. Lukeangelo's" Italian Dinner in the Parish Hall, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Men's Group members and other helpers will serve a great pasta dinner. This is a fun evening – invite friends, neighbors, or work colleagues. Helpers are always welcome, earlier in the day or at clean-up time! See p. 10 of this newsletter for more information.

October 15 – St. Luke Sunday. Our worship services will lift up the life and witness of St. Luke, and will celebrate the life of this congregation and its long history in this region. We will have special prayers for healing as part of our worship, along with prayers for the ongoing mission of this church.

See Rector (continued on page 2)

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER'S REVERSE OFFERING WILL GO TO SAFE PASSAGE

October 3—Women's Guild, 1 p.m.;
Contemplative Prayer on Zoom, 5:30 p.m.; Men's Group, 6 p.m. at Elmer's

October 5—Sukkot celebration with Family Promise, 6 p.m. at Q'emiln Park

October 6—Parish Hall Conversations, 10 a.m.

October 8—Blessing of the Animals, Lane Family home, 5815 Colfax St., Dalton Gardens

October 10—Men's Study Group, 6-7 p.m.

October 14—Italian Dinner, 4:30-6 p.m.

October 15—St. Luke Sunday

October 17—Contemplative Prayer on Zoom, 5:30 p.m.

October 19—Daughters of the King, 11 a.m. in the Alison Library; Vestry meeting, 5:30 p.m.

October 20-22—59th Annual Diocesan Convention

November 1—All Saints Day

November 2—All Souls Day

November 5—All Saints Sunday with baptisms

November 7—Women's Guild, 1 p.m.;
Contemplative Prayer on Zoom, 5:30 p.m.; Men's Group, 6 p.m. at Elmer's

November 14—Men's Study Group, 6-7 p.m.

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Rector (continued from page 1)

October 20-22 – Diocesan Convention in Wenatchee, WA. Clergy, delegates, and a few other lay leaders from St. Luke's will be at Diocesan Convention through Sunday morning. Worship at St. Luke's that day will be either Morning Prayer (led by congregation members) or participation in the diocesan worship service via livestream. Watch your Friday e-news for details and links.

November 5 – All Saints Sunday. Our worship services will include baptisms! If you or someone you know is seeking to be baptized, please have them contact me soon.

In the meantime, other activities continue as always – weekly Noonday Prayer and Intercessions on Wednesdays, bi-monthly Contemplative Prayer on the first and third Tuesday evenings of the month, two book groups on Wednesdays, and Prayer Shawl knitting and crocheting on Mondays.

From October 23-28, I will be in Baltimore to help guide the process of training 16 Episcopal instructors in Mental Health First Aid, and to lead our churchwide Task Force for Ministry with People with Mental Illness. Later this year, I will lead a Mental Health First Aid training day for churches in our area.

Rooted in God's Abundance. October also marks the beginning of our season focused on stewardship. Our stewardship team selected this theme for this year: Rooted in God's Abundance. This theme helps us remember that all that we give and offer in the world – and all that we have – is God's gift. As Rev. Mary noted in her sermon last week, none of us are self-made people; everything we have and hold and give and are come through the hands and hearts of others, and in the end is all part of God's continuing gift of creation. And God's creation is abundant. At times, it may not seem abundant – it may seem like “just enough.” This is how God fed his beloved people in the desert wilderness after they left behind their slavery in Egypt, with food enough for each day, the strange bread from heaven that was manna in the morning and the quails in the evening (Exod. 16), and with water from a rock in the middle of dry wasteland (Exod. 17). Later this month, we will hear Jesus tell of the lavish wedding banquet prepared for guests, and how the host kept inviting more and more people to fill the halls (Matt. 22). God's abundant generosity does not stop simply because some people refuse or turn down the invitation. God's generosity keeps flowing and overflowing.

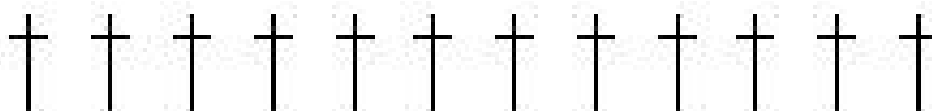
How will each of us share the gifts from our lives? What will we offer from our time, our skills and abilities, and our resources and assets? Many folks at St. Luke's offer their time, talents, and treasure freely – here for this church and in the wider community. My wife and I continue our practice of pledging at least 5% of our income to St. Luke's and St. John's Cathedral where we serve, and another 4%-5% to other religious and social organizations, as part of our practice of gratitude and devotion. Whatever each of us is able to give is our best possible offering from what God has given us.

So much has been done this year to continue to pave the way for a bright continuing future for St. Luke's. The building and grounds are in excellent shape and continue to be refreshed and renewed. The ministry of Children's Chapel continues to develop, now with the helpful energies of Rev. Mary in partnership with other adults. Christian Formation for adults continues to flourish and expand. St. Luke's continues to be a unique beacon of care and hope in our communities and is known for its message of God's abundant grace and love.

It is my hope that we will continue to let the light shine and to be that magic-like yeast in the dough that is the kingdom of God at work through us in our communities. It is my hope that, through this year, we embark with fresh energy and new creativity to fulfill our vision of sharing, celebrating, and showing the overflowing, unconditional love of Jesus with the world around us – through our sharing of gifts that enable our deliberate discipleship, courageous conversations, purposeful partnerships, and authentic action across this region.

Christ's peace be with you,

Fr. David



Prayer & Worship

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Mary Ayers	14 Jo Keller
6 Bill Caisley	17 Laurie Cook
6 Robbyn Thomas	19 Lily Mihara
7 Tim Hunt	28 Wanda Quinn
7 Catherine McLandress	28 Walt Siring
8 Fran Blankenship	31 Jackson Khorsand
13 Wallace Van Houten	31 Meredith McAlpine



ANNIVERSARIES

2 Catherine & Dick McLandress
4 Judi Horton & Tom Bacon
16 Heather Van Deventer & David Gortner

If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or does not appear, please notify the office so it can be corrected or added to the parish records.

PRAYERS

Healing, Strength and Peace — Barbara Webb, Chris and Robbyn Thomas, Sean Whelan, Daniel Brooks, Walt Siring, Dan Dolan, Andre Smith, Claudia, Jo, Julian Wheeler, John McTear, Michael Fain, John Albee, David Brooks, Jane Brooks, Lynn Curry, Eric Paavola, Ruth Ann Jones, Ted and Beverly Jordan, Mary Kay Hanson, Martha Vilandr , Hal Worth, Bill Watt, Kenneth Smith, Carl Vanslyke, Christine Benson, Mike Magura, Catalina Rose, Marilyn Otto, Carol Owren, Weston Nishimura, Lois Harbaugh, Karen Gillenwater, Richard Doney, Jamie Ziegler, Jane Jackson, Summer Taylor, Cassie Gortner, Robin Reyes, Mary Jensen

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

October 1: **St. Michael's Episcopal Mission**, Yakima

We pray for this shared mutual learning community, in that place between communities, where we can truly listen to one another, face the reality of our shared history, and seek a new vision of reconciliation. We also give thanks for the birthdays of The Revs. Mary Ayers (10/1), Kimmy Meinecke (10/2), Elaine Pitzer (10/2), Chris Hagenbuch (10/3), Tony Green (10/3), Linda Young (10/5) and John Grabner (10/7).



October 8: **For all Bishops and for our Bishop**

We give thanks for our Bishop Gretchen Rehberg and her ministry. We also give thanks for the ministry of the Bishops of the Episcopal Church. We also give thanks for the birthdays of The Revs. Frances Harland (10/12) and Robin Biffle (10/14).

October 15: **St. Luke's**, Coeur d'Alene and Wenatchee

We pray for the mission and ministry of St. Luke's Episcopal Churches in Coeur d'Alene and Wenatchee. We also give thanks for the birthday of The Rev. Margaret Fisher (10/18).

October 22: **Diocesan Convention**

We pray for the work of our Diocesan convention, for all involved and for the mission of our diocese. We also give thanks for the birthday of The Rev. Gaye Lagana (10/28).

October 29: **All Saints'**, Richland

We pray for the mission and ministry of All Saints', Richland. We also give thanks for the birthdays of The Revs. Barbara Carver (10/29), Linda Bartholomew (10/30), and Jan Griffin (10/30).

World Council of Churches' ecumenical prayer cycle: <https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle>

Worldwide Anglican Church prayer cycle: https://www.anglicancommunion.org/media/422641/acp_from-aba-to-zululand-2021-to-2023_web.pdf

COVID Protocols for In-Person Worship and Outside Groups

At all services, please use your judgment regarding masking or not, in keeping with your own health and concern for others. Please practice COVID etiquette, respecting those exercising caution. If you have symptoms or have tested positive, please wait until you are healthy again to come to church – join us online. Zoom links are shared in the weekly Friday memo email.

Prayer & Worship

Blessing of the Animals and Celebration of Creation, Sunday, October 8, 10 a.m. at the Home of Debbie & Henry Lane



A Blessing of the Animals and Celebration of Creation will take place on Sunday, October 8, at 10 a.m. at the home of Debbie & Henry Lane, 5815 Colfax St. in Dalton Gardens. The 8 a.m. service will take place in the nave as usual.

Please bring your own chair (and pet waste bags!) and please make sure your pets are properly leashed or kenneled. It's fine to bring photos of your pets or even stuffed animals to be blessed!

Midweek Worship Opportunities

Noonday Intercessory Prayer: The service, found on page 103 of the Book of Common Prayer, is offered weekly on Wednesdays in person in the sanctuary and on Zoom. A brown bag lunch and open conversation follows the service.

Contemplative Prayer Service: This service is offered on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 5:30 p.m. by Zoom only.

Check the weekly Friday Memo email for Zoom links.



<https://www.functorirmingham.org/midweek-prayer-on-zoom/>

Praise Dance



Praise Dance, taught by Lyndi Phifer, is offered at church on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. You can direct questions to Lyndi at lyndiphifer@icloud.com. All ages are welcome.

Learning Opportunities

Tending the Vine Monthly Zoom Series

All are invited to attend this free series, which takes place on the first Thursday evening of each month on Zoom from 7-8 p.m. The next session will be on Thursday, October 5, and the topic will be "Experiencing Transformation through Civil Discourse."

If you need the Zoom link, call the diocesan office at 509-624-3191 or email Administrative Assistant Jeremy Armstrong at jeremya@spokanediocese.org.



Diocesan Guided Book Group: *My Grandmother's Hands* An In-Depth Exploration of Healing Racialized Trauma



Meetings will take place on Zoom from 7-9 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month throughout 2023, thus allowing plenty of time to process the material between sessions. A donation of \$100 is requested. Space is limited. For more information and to register, visit https://www.spokanediocese.org/digital_faith/events/3187499.

Learning Opportunities

Who Is This Jesus?

Biblical Windows for Followers and Seekers of Christ

Please read the passage below, then prayerfully consider the questions at the end. To prepare yourself, set some time aside, quiet yourself, and pray this prayer:

Lord Jesus, as I read and listen to these beloved sacred texts, open my mind and heart to see you more clearly and come to know you more deeply, that I may love and adore you more and more, and follow where you lead me and walk with me each day. AMEN.

Mark 12:28-34 – Jesus names what matters most

In the midst of any religious, political, cultural debates that various folks bring to Jesus, we come to the most central and heartfelt question: What is most important? What matters most to God in all of this? Jesus answers – and by now, the answer does not surprise us. But Jesus urges us to take stock of our lives and our decisions day by day, in light of these two great commandments. Let what matters most to Jesus sink in.

One of the scribes came near and heard them [Jesus and the religious leaders] disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

Take a few minutes to let this text sink into your heart and mind. Consider one or more of these questions:

- ◆ How do you see Jesus live what he says is most important? How do your own priorities align with those of Jesus?
- ◆ What question do you want to ask Jesus? What is on your heart to know and understand Jesus' perspective? Ask, and open the conversation.
- ◆ If the leaders of our faith community were to get into a discussion and dispute with Jesus, what would it be about? What would we be saying, and what would Jesus be saying and asking?
- ◆ What do you imagine it is like to live so fully into loving God and others? What is it like to pour yourself into loving with everything you've got – everything you feel, desire, perceive, think, and devote yourself to?

A Prayer for Presiding Bishop Michael Curry as He Recovers from Surgery

O Lord, your compassions never fail and your mercies are new every morning: We give you thanks for giving our brother Michael both relief from pain and hope of health renewed. Continue in him, we pray, the good work you have begun; that he, daily increasing in bodily strength, and rejoicing in your goodness, may so order his life and conduct that he may always think and do those things that please you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A Prayer of Thanksgiving for a Beginning of Recovery
from the Book of Common Prayer*

Learning Opportunities

Book Studies at St. Luke's

- ***Picturing God***, by Ann Belford Ulanov, demonstrates the importance of confronting our unconscious selves and allowing our images of God — both positive and negative — to surface. Contact Jill Kalberg (jill.kalberg@gmail.com or 805-551-4048) for more information. **Wednesday afternoons at 1 p.m.**



- ***The Constitution of Knowledge: A Defense of Truth***, by Jonathan Rauch. In this pathbreaking book, Jonathan Rauch reaches back to the parallel eighteenth-century developments of liberal democracy and science to explain what he calls the "Constitution of Knowledge," our social system for turning disagreement into truth. The book is loaded with astute observations and wisdom. Contact Ian Hicks (ianhicks@icloud.com or 714-742-3412) for more information. **Wednesday afternoons at 4 p.m.**

If you are interested in being part of these book studies, sign up on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Watch the Friday Memo emails for more information on schedules and new book selections. Fr. David also encourages everyone to read from the diocese's scriptural meditations, "Who Is This Jesus?" (see p. 5).

Book Study Group Zooms with Author Brad Onishi

The Wednesday four o'clock study group recently read *Preparing for War: The Extremist History of White Christian Nationalism—And What Comes Next*. Author Dr. Bradley Onishi traced his own journey from being a young extremist evangelical to the serious scholar of religion he is today, warning us of the factors that led to the horror of January 6. One chapter dealt vividly and specifically with our societal climate here in North Idaho.

Our group was fortunate to have a recent Zoom discussion with this well-respected author and podcaster, thanks to the Emsalls' son, The Rev. Nathan Emsall, who knows Brad personally; lucky us!

We submitted in advance some questions to Brad that arose from our month-long study of the book.

Brad was pleased that a church group like ours would take up a conversation with him and be willing to discuss such controversial content. He was also impressed by our description of being a thinking group. As thinkers, we find the book deepened our faith as our understanding increased. It also helped define the role(s) we might play as we strive to be beacons of God's love in an often angry, extremist world, nation, state, county, town, and neighborhood.

One conversation topic with Brad was how do we deal with the anger and challenges we experience with those we love, owing to the intractable divisions in our country? He discussed at length how he has had to step around the issue and express a wish for dialogue. In his example, if a family member was demonstrating anger or frustration, Brad would ask the person to help him understand the source of that anger. The idea was to get the other party speaking as openly as possible, then not to challenge them, but to suggest, if the timing were right, some possible ideas or thoughts for consideration that may provide a slightly different perspective.

The biggest take away from our time with Brad was to get a conversation going in a non-confrontational manner and work our way back toward "good old fashioned discussion."

We recommend Onishi's book, which gave a clear sweep of American thoughts and beliefs about race, gender and religion. . . without being too difficult to read. It gave us a deeper understanding of what we see today; and yes, it left us with some hope. We also recommend the podcast he co-hosts with an Oxford colleague, "Straight White American Jesus."

Lisa Nunlist

Oct 2023 (Pacific Time - Los Angeles)

St Lukes CDA

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>8am - HE I @ St Luke's 10am - HEI service @ St 6:30pm - NA - Hope 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30am - Pr Shawl 10am - Family Promise @ 2pm - Robert Brekke art 4:30pm - FPNl @ Parish 6pm - AA Meeting - 12 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1pm - Book club @ Alison 1pm - St Luke's Women's 3:45pm - Girl Scout 2158 6pm - Men's Group @ 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12pm - Noonday 1pm - Book Study @ 2:15pm - Praise Dance @ 4pm - Book Study @ St. 5:30pm - NA group 6:30pm - Choir meeting</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10am - CDA Art Assoc 6:45pm - NA Meeting - 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30pm - SA 12 step 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:45am - St Luke's 9am - SA 12 Step group 9:30pm - Serious about</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8am - HE I @ St Luke's 10am - HEI service @ St 6:30pm - NA - Hope 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:30am - Pr Shawl 10am - Family Promise @ 2pm - Robert Brekke art 4:30pm - FPNl @ Parish 6pm - AA Meeting - 12 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11am - PEO @ Parish Hall 1pm - Book club @ Alison 3:45pm - Girl Scout 2158 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>11</p> <p>11am - Pastoral Care @ 12pm - Noonday 1pm - Book Study @ 2:15pm - Praise Dance @ 4pm - Book Study @ St 5:30pm - Men's Spiritual</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10am - CDA Art Assoc 4pm - CDA Art 5:30pm - Outreach Group 6:45pm - NA Meeting - 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>13</p> <p>3pm - CDA Art Assoc 6:30pm - SA 12 step 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:45am - St Luke's 9am - Men's Group Italian 9am - SA 12 Step group 9:30pm - Serious about</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8am - HE I @ St Luke's 10am - HEI service @ St 6:30pm - NA - Hope 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30am - Pr Shawl 10am - Family Promise @ 2pm - Robert Brekke art 4:30pm - FPNl @ Parish 5:30pm - FPNl Board 6pm - AA Meeting - 12</p>	<p>17</p> <p>1pm - Book club @ Alison 3:45pm - Girl Scout 2158 5:30pm - Contemplative 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>18</p> <p>12pm - Noonday 1pm - Book Study @ 2:15pm - Praise Dance @ 4pm - Book Study @ St 5:30pm - NA group 6:30pm - Choir meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10am - CDA Art Assoc 11am - DOK meeting @ 5pm - Vestry meeting @ 6pm - CDA Art 6:45pm - NA Meeting - 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30pm - SA 12 step 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:45am - St Luke's 9am - SA 12 Step group 9:30pm - Serious about</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8am - HE I @ St Luke's 10am - HEI service @ St 6:30pm - NA - Hope 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30am - Pr Shawl 10am - Family Promise @ 2pm - Robert Brekke art 4:30pm - FPNl @ Parish 6pm - AA Meeting - 12 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>24</p> <p>11am - PEO @ Parish Hall 1pm - Book club @ Alison 3:45pm - Girl Scout 2158 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12pm - Noonday 1pm - Book Study @ 2:15pm - Praise Dance @ 4pm - Book Study @ St 5:30pm - NA group 6:30pm - Choir meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10am - CDA Art Assoc 6:45pm - NA Meeting - 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:30pm - SA 12 step 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:45am - St Luke's 9am - PFLAG board 9am - SA 12 Step group 9:30pm - Serious about</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8am - HE I @ St Luke's 10am - HEI service @ St 6:30pm - NA - Hope 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:30am - Pr Shawl 10am - Family Promise @ 2pm - Robert Brekke art 4:30pm - FPNl @ Parish 6pm - AA Meeting - 12 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>31</p> <p>1pm - Book club @ Alison 3:45pm - Girl Scout 2158 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>1</p> <p>12pm - Noonday 1pm - Book Study @ 2:15pm - Praise Dance @ 4pm - Book Study @ St 5:30pm - NA group 6:30pm - Choir meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10am - CDA Art Assoc 6:45pm - NA Meeting - 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:30pm - SA 12 step 9:30pm - Serious about</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:45am - St Luke's 9am - SA 12 Step group 9:30pm - Serious about</p>

Life Together

What Is Your Faith Story?

I once heard an interview with a Rabbi who was asked: “If you were at a dinner party and you wanted to strike up a deep, honest conversation with someone you don’t know, what would you say?” The Rabbi responded: “I would lean across the table and ask, ‘What’s your Story?’”

“What’s your story?” It’s such a simple and yet profound question, isn’t it? This is especially true when we consider the stories that surround our journeys of faith.



It’s been my experience that the Christian road is rarely straight and smooth. It is often rocky, confusing, and uncertain. I can’t tell you how many times I’ve heard God call me to embrace something new or challenging in my faith journey, and prayed for God to share everything I can expect on this new leg of the journey—preferably in the form of a full-color PowerPoint presentation with pie charts and presented to me at least two weeks in advance. (Just so you know, God hasn’t yet answered that particular prayer.)

Yet when I look back on some of the stories that have shaped my faith journey, I find one truth winding through each experience like a golden thread: No matter how challenging or uncertain the road, God and God’s grace-filled love have always shown up—even (and often especially) at times and in ways I least expect.

This was true when I first became an Episcopalian. I was born and raised in the Roman Catholic church in a devout household. We attended church every Sunday and both my brothers and I had our First Communion, attended Catechism School, and were confirmed in the faith. I was proud to have been one of the first girls allowed to become an acolyte in our Diocese back in 1985 and, as I grew older, I was a lector. I even spent some time on the Parish Council at my local church.

In my late 20’s, my soul began to grow restless. I wondered why women could not be ordained in the church (and was not swayed by the reasons I was given). I thought that laypeople should have much more say in church governance than they did. I began to find myself sitting in church feeling more and more frustrated, and it was hard for me to focus on worship.

One day, my friend from work, Danae, invited me to come to her church. She happened to be an Episcopalian who worshipped at St. Paul’s in Kennewick. I visited one Sunday and the moment we all sang the Doxology as the priest lifted the bread and wine into the air, I realized that I was truly home.

Less than a year later, I was a regularly attending All Saints’ in Richland, had taken their Newcomer’s class, and was ready to be formally received into the Episcopal Church. It should have been a joyous occasion in my family. But my Dad, who had patiently put up with my Protestant-church-going, was especially hurt when he realized my becoming an Episcopalian was not just a fad.

He swore that he would not come to the ceremony. I had left the “true faith” and that was nothing to be proud of. He and my Mom felt as if they had failed in their responsibility to raise me as a Catholic. There didn’t seem to be much that would bridge this particular divide. It hurt to know that my family wouldn’t be at All Saints when I was received into the church, but I knew in my heart where I was called to be. I had to follow God’s call.

I remember so well sitting in the church that morning with my friend Danae, waiting for the service to begin. And then, out of the corner of my eye, I saw a familiar figure walking down the aisle. It was my Dad—closely followed by my Mom. Despite their theological reservations, they showed up.

I remember kneeling before Bishop Waggoner for the laying on of hands. A small crowd of church friends gathered around me as the Bishop began the prayer. As I bowed my head, I felt my Dad’s hand resting on my shoulder. His hand shook, and I knew he was crying. I also knew they were not tears of joy. Yet in that gesture, I felt the grace and love of God flowing through him and into me.

See Rev. Mary (continued on page 13)

Life Together

Vestry Highlights

MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

This year's stewardship campaign's theme will be "Rooted in Abundance." The campaign will kick off in October.

Good Stewards: All those involved in improvements to the parking lot gardens and landscaping; new Parish Hall door installation team; all those who kept Children's Chapel going for the summer.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 19, at 5:30 p.m. in the Alison Library. All are welcome.

Parish Hall Conversations



There's nothing like a good cup of coffee and conversations with people you want to know. This new group, led by Elizabeth Minter and Kim Morgan, is all about sharing encouragement, wisdom and inspiration. Bring your latte or a favorite mug with hot cocoa for an hour of lively talk around art, faith, life adventures, poetry and prose. You'll want to keep a notebook handy!

The first group meeting will be Friday, October 6, at 10 a.m.

To get email reminders, contact Kim Morgan (kimberlyemorqan@gmail.com) or Elizabeth Minter (360-531-0731).

Women's Guild Meets Tuesday, October 3, at 1 p.m.

Women's Guild will meet on Tuesday, October 3, at 1 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please join us.

It is important to know that this meeting time for future meetings will not necessarily be the same. We want future gatherings to be relevant for *ALL* of our current and future members! Bring your ideas, your hopes, and your dreams for a Women's Guild that is *YOUR* guild, not anyone else's!

Questions? Call Marcia Siring at 208-712-3326.

Men's Group Meets on Tuesday, October 3, at 6 p.m. at Elmer's

St. Luke's Men's Group will meet on Tuesday, October 3, at 6 p.m. at Elmer's Restaurant. All are welcome to attend.

The annual favorite St. Lukangelo's Italian Dinner will take place on Saturday, October 14, from 4:30-6 p.m. Please see p. 10 of this newsletter for more details.

John Albee, Co-Chair (208-755-2296)

Paul Vilandr , Co-Chair (208-651-0990)

Sign Up To Be a Coffee Hour Host! "Many Hands Make Light Work"

Please sign up to be coffee hour hosts. Even better if you grab another parishioner to sign up with you and divide the food preparation/purchasing and duties. Food does not have to be anything elaborate. Keep it simple!

Instructions are posted in the kitchen. Any questions please call Marcia Siring (208-712-3326).



Life Together

Thanks for Wearing Your Name Tag

THANKS to everyone for wearing your name tags regularly.

If you have difficulty finding your name tag on a Sunday morning, ask a greeter or usher for assistance. If you need a new name tag, there is a bright pink sign-up sheet on the desk in the reception area.



Men's Study Group, Tuesday, October 10, 6 p.m.



Join us for a light meal and refreshments in the hall at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10, for camaraderie and discussion. This month we will continue highlighting St. Luke's men and how our faith journey impacts us in support of our community, discussing our life journeys and how our faith and integrity has benefitted us and helped us in our community service, and the challenges we've faced.

Please RSVP to Dave Phifer (425-387-2881 or n801dp@gmail.com) or Ian Hicks (714-742-3412 or ianhicks@icloud.com) so we can cater correctly. A \$5-\$10 donation is suggested to support the cost of dinner and refreshments.



ST. LUKANGELO'S RISTORANTE

**OPEN FOR BUSINESS
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14
4:30-6:00 P.M.**

**Menu includes meatball or sausage over linguine with marinara,
garlic toast, salad bar & ice cream.**

Wine will be available for purchase.

Cost: \$10.00 bambini under 12: gratuito (free*)!

*** donations welcomed!**

Life Together

United Thank Offering Fall Ingathering

2023 has seen some major changes for many of us. Reflecting on these changes, what do you give thanks for?

We are now coming up on our parish contribution for the United Thank Offering (UTO). The goal is to have a nice gift from St. Luke's that will be presented at the Diocesan Convention later this month. Make checks payable to St. Luke's with UTO on the memo line. Please put your donation in the offering plate or send it to the parish office by Sunday, October 15.



If you have any questions, please contact me.

Christopher Neal Wigley, St. Luke's UTO Chair
unclefesterinid@gmail.com or 208-618-9091

End-of-Summer Church in the Park Service Was Wet But Wonderful

Despite the chill and damp, a lovely service was held on Sunday, September 3, at the Riverside Harbor neighborhood's gazebo in Post Falls.



Dave and Nan Palmer.



Dave and Lyndi Phifer.

Welcome Back Sunday

St. Luke's Welcoming Committee put on a lovely "Welcome Back Sunday" brunch on September 17 between services. This event gave parishioners a chance to chat with church friends and meet some new ones, and also served as an opportunity to celebrate The Rev. Mary Ayers joining us as Associate Priest for Christian Formation & Discipleship. Welcome, Rev. Mary!



There was a great turnout for the event!



The wonderful Welcoming Committee members.
 L-R: Farley Green, Kara Kral, Lisa Nunlist, Andrea Partington & Brooke Dunton



The Rev. Mary Ayers

Life Together

Become an Acolyte

Adults and children ages six and older are welcome to become acolytes, a very visible and important ministry in our parish. An acolyte is a servant who assists the deacon and priest to help celebrate liturgies. We would especially love to add a few more adults to our roster! Training is provided.

If you or your child would like to become an acolyte, please contact Kate Dolan (kfd819@gmail.com or 208-640-6522).



"Be present to me, Lord Jesus and grant that I may faithfully and loyally serve you in love and that my service as acolyte today may be offered in your name to God's glory. Amen."

Madeline Hennig in Rome for Final Six Months of Young Adult Service Corps Placement

Parishioner Madeline Hennig returned to Rome, Italy in late August to complete the final six months of her two-year placement with the Episcopal Church's Young Adult Service Corps (YASC) at St. Paul's Within the Walls Church and its mission, the Joel Nafuma Refugee Center (JNRC). She has a blog about her YASC service at <https://madelineinrome.wordpress.com/>.

Madeline says, "I love being in Europe and being in Rome and would love to stay. I am open to any opportunity, and I know that God will be with me every step of the way!"

St. Paul's will have a screening of "A Case for Love," which is a movie from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. Madeline will be advertising the event to the general public in Rome, and she is hoping people will be inspired by it who normally may not attend church.



Madeline (top, second from right), seated next to Dr. Rob Radtke, President & CEO of Episcopal Relief & Development.

St. Paul's recently had a visit from Dr. Rob Radtke, the President & CEO of Episcopal Relief & Development. Madeline was invited to join Dr. Radtke and others for a dinner to discuss the important mission of the JNRC. Episcopal Relief & Development has given much support to JNRC programs, so it was great to show Dr. Radtke in person the work that they do.

In other news, Madeline will be joining the St. Paul's choir! She's starting with a beginner choir, so she won't be singing on Sundays quite yet. Madeline's mom, Melinda Hennig, sang in St. Luke's choir when she was pregnant with Madeline, making Madeline not only a cradle Episcopalian, but also a cradle choir member!

You can donate to St. Paul's at <https://www.stpaulsrome.it/donate/>, or to JNRC at <https://www.jnrc.it/donate/>.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The newsletter contains articles of interest to members and friends of the congregation of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. The Newsletter Editor (alone or in cooperation with the Communications Ministry team) reserves the right to set submission deadlines, edit material for length or grammatical, punctuation or spelling errors, and decline material that is not in keeping with this policy. Every effort will be made to be inclusive. Any member is invited to submit story material directly to the Newsletter Editor at kfd819@gmail.com.

DEADLINES: Newsletter – 10th of each month to Kate Dolan—kfd819@gmail.com; Sunday bulletin & Friday Memo – Tuesdays by noon to parish office—office@stlukesca.org.

Engaging Community

Reverse Offering

Our August contributions went to Rathdrum Food Bank, replenishing their depleted supplies. October offerings will go to Safe Passage.

Questions? Call Jill Kalberg (805-551-4048).



St. Luke's Participates in Housing Resource Fair



Fr. David and a wonderful crew of volunteers attended the second annual Housing Resource Fair at McEuen Park on Saturday, September 23.

St. Luke's joined a host of other local charities and agencies that help those in need in the Coeur d'Alene area with housing and food assistance, mental health and recovery resources, disability advocacy and support, and more.

L-R: Paul Vilandr , Lyndi Phifer, Brent & Jeane Neumark and Fr. David

Community Potluck Supper To Benefit Family Promise of North Idaho Thursday, October 5, 6 p.m. at Q'emiln Park, Post Falls

This free, family-friendly event is truly a celebration for the community, regardless of spiritual background. As is tradition with the Jewish holiday of Sukkot, we will gather with family, friends and neighbors and eat outdoors (under cover in a heated pavilion) with our event hosts, Beth Shalom Messianic Fellowship, and we will give thanks and celebrate.

We ask that you come with an open and curious heart as our hosts give us a chance to learn about Sukkot — the 'Feast of Tabernacles' — and invite us to join together in fellowship. Along the way we will also learn a little bit about God's provision today, through Family Promise, for sojourning families who are without a home. This is sure to be a gathering filled with love, joy and hope. All donations received will benefit Family Promise.

Out of respect for our event hosts, we have been asked to prepare meals that are Kosher (examples: no pork, no shellfish, no back half of cow, as well as no meat and dairy together). You need not worry about ingredients being certified Kosher, and you are welcome to use your regular kitchen and cookware.



Rev. Mary (continued from page 8)

I knew in that moment how strong, deep, and true the love of God is. It is a love that leads us through difficulties and boundaries—a love stronger than denomination or particular beliefs. A love that, when we truly listen and respond to it, gives us the courage we need to continue on our journey of faith, each step of the way. It took a lot of courage for my Dad to stand up with me as I entered this new, exciting, but uncertain leg of my journey as an Episcopalian. Through the strength of God's love, he did. That act of love still sustains me to this day, almost twenty years later.

That's a little bit of my story of faith. What's your story?

You can reach Rev. Mary at associate@stlukesca.org or 509-413-6597.



OCTOBER 2023

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Rector

The Rev. Dr. David Gortner
priest@stlukesca.org

Associate Priest for Christian Formation & Discipleship

The Rev. Mary Ayers
associate@stlukesca.org

Deacon

The Rev. Glenda Empsall
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Parish Administrator

DeDe Pederson
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Organist

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Newsletter Editor

Kate Dolan
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Vestry

Class of 2024

Kristin Keyes
Lisa Nunlist
Terri Radford
Marcia Siring

Class of 2025

Ian Hicks
Michelle Johnson
Annette Knapp

Class of 2026

Jeff Hennig
Andrea Partington
Clark Richman

Dave Phifer	Treasurer
Kristin Keyes	Senior Warden
Ian Hicks	Junior Warden
Farley Green	Clerk

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m.– 1 p.m.

Sunday Service Times—Holy Eucharist

Holy Eucharist Rite I	8 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II & Children's Chapel	10 a.m.

10 a.m. services will also be live-streamed online via the Zoom platform and on Facebook Live.

501 Wallace Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814—208-664-5533—www.stlukesca.org
Email: stlukesca@gmail.com