



ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH — PRAYER, RESPECT, HOSPITALITY, SERVICE

## BRINGING YOU GOOD NEWS Luke 2:10

OCTOBER 2025

### Reflections with Your Rector

Welcome, Happy Fall! It is such a beautiful time of year, the air crisp and the leaves beginning to turn as the days grow shorter.

During this season, we have a host of activities at St. Luke's. In addition to our book groups, spiritual life groups and midweek prayer services, we have **Women's Spiritual Journaling** (early Wednesday evenings), a "taste of" **training in healthy democracy in action** at a local level (October 4), **Blessing of the Pets** and celebration of **the Feast of St. Francis** (October 5), a **pre-Advent retreat** day (October 11), our annual celebration of **the Feast of St. Luke** (October 12), **family apple-picking** at Church of the Resurrection in Spokane Valley (October 13), the annual **Convention of the Diocese of Spokane** at St. John's Cathedral (October 17-19, with Sunday worship at the Cathedral), our **Oktoberfest** and appreciation dinner for NIC faculty and staff (October 24), and preparations for our celebration of **All Saints and All Souls**. Wow! All high-spirited joy in this festive season of harvest.

**Tell Out, My Soul!** Every October and November, we focus some attention on our stewardship. Our theme this year is "Tell Out, My Soul" — the first words of Mary to Elizabeth in her great Magnificat. Mary was bursting with the news of her pregnancy with Jesus, the very presence of God growing within her. This year's theme for stewardship and giving calls us to allow everything we give — with our voices, our actions, our money, our energy, our hearts and minds — to rise from our overflowing gratitude at God's amazing love. All of the gifts that we have been given are ready to burst forth to serve our neighbors and share our love with a world in need.

We show love by how we give of ourselves. What will we offer from our time, our skills and abilities, and our resources and assets, through the remainder of 2025 and in the coming year of 2026?

You have heard me speak before of tithing. Some of our church members tithe. They give first from their monthly or yearly income to the church and the other organizations they support, as their first important priority and offering a tenth of what God has given them. Tithing is a good and



### COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER'S REVERSE OFFERING WILL GO TO  
ABC FOOD BANK

- October 4—Community Organizing Training, 10 a.m.—1p.m.
- October 7—Women's Guild, 5 p.m.;  
Contemplative Prayer on Zoom, 5:30 p.m.
- October 11—Pre-Advent Retreat, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
- October 12—UTO Fall Ingathering
- October 14—Men's Discussion Group, 6 p.m.
- October 16—Daughters of the King, 11 a.m.;
- October 17-19—Diocesan Convention, St. John's Cathedral, Spokane
- October 21—Contemplative Prayer on Zoom, 5:30 p.m.
- October 23—Vestry meeting, 5:30 p.m.  
[NOTE DATE CHANGE]
- October 24—Oktoberfest, 5:30 p.m.
- October 31-November 2—Youth Retreat
- November 7-8—Diocesan leadership meeting
- November 9—Room4U young adult group begins, 6-7:30 p.m.
- November 14-16—Diocesan lay leadership retreat
- December 6—Snowflake Faire

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holy practice, arising directly from scripture. Heather and I get close to giving 10% of our shared income, with 5% going to St. Luke's and St. John's Cathedral where we serve, and the remaining 4%-5% to other religious and social organizations. Some parts we give through the year, and some at special times of the year. We have arranged for automatic monthly payments from our checking account for some places, to make sure it is the first thing given or paid.

Please consider what is possible to plan to give in 2026, as St. Luke's adjusts to the same results of inflation that have affected everyone. What are the ways that help you put giving into practice and making it a regular part of your life?

**Sharing in giving to the world.** St. Luke's has a long heritage of giving financial support and volunteer time and energy to several organizations around us. I am grateful for our generosity, and hope we continue to grow in making this a core part of our regular annual budget as we build purposeful partnerships in our communities. That said, our international focus in giving has not been one of our strengths at St. Luke's, and I would like us as a congregation to step into this important part of our ministry and mission as a contributor to the work of the Church universal.

We have one place where we steadily give: KIVA loans, a micro-lending organization to support household and village start-up businesses around the world. I encourage you to make a special contribution to this fund.

My sabbatical journey with Heather opened my eyes to significant church and interfaith organizations abroad that are doing incredible things with limited resources in their countries. I am requesting our Vestry to approve contributions to four organizations in three countries, and for St. Luke's to take leadership in encouraging other churches and civic-minded groups to support these organizations. Two of these organizations received support from USAID for decades, and with that source now shut down, we as citizens must step into the gaps left to offer the support we can. Here are the organizations I want us to support.

- [\*\*The Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church\*\*](#). This scrappy church was born in the late 1800s — they built and consecrated their cathedral in 1892, the same year St. Luke's was built! They have small churches across Spain, about the size of our congregations in the Diocese of Spokane. Like us, across Spain they are "the little church that could," contributing significantly to care of people in poverty, teaching English and job skills, and providing a gracious and loving form of Christian faith.
- [\*\*The High Atlas Foundation\*\*](#). This organization has grown over 30 years from the efforts of Yossef Ben-Meir, a Jewish American Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco who fell in love with that country and boldly approached the young new king with his idea for restoring and using neglected holy sites of Jewish, Christian and interfaith pilgrimage to create practical learning centers for environmentally sound agriculture, economic development of villages, and empowerment of women in a spirit that honors the Abrahamic faiths together. They grow and distribute fruit- and nut-bearing trees to plant in villages, train women and men in ecological and agricultural care, and help people develop cooperative businesses. They also train volunteers (especially college students) from around the world.
- [\*\*The Memories for the Future Foundation\*\*](#). This small and growing organization, under Lamia Radi's direction, has since 2008 focused its efforts on bringing young people together to learn and honor their shared and diverse heritage as Moroccans by participating in the renewal of important historical sites where different groups of people shared life together in harmony and mutual respect. They are renewing sites like the Catholic Monastery of Toumililine, where monks offered deeply respectful care and support for their Muslim neighbors and also launched incredibly far-reaching interfaith gatherings of religious leaders from around the world. Working and learning together on these projects help young people — especially young men — broaden their minds and open their

*See Rector, continued on page 15*

## Diocesan Prayer for 2025

Creator of all, you speak life into being and call us into holy community. Open our ears to listen, enliven our curiosity to learn, and hasten our courage to respond. Teach us how to listen and love as you do, joining with all of creation as we proclaim and embody your Good News in all that we undertake. May the Spirit's breath empower us to live these words we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# Prayer & Worship

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Mary Ayers	14 Jo Keller
6 Bill Caisley	17 Laurie Cook
6 Robbyn Thomas	19 Lily Mihara
7 Tim Hunt	24 Stella Hartzell
7 Catherine McLandress	28 Wanda Quinn
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 and Strength:** John McTear, Milli Larsen, Peggy Lembeck, William Dane, Sean Whelan, Julian Wheeler, Andre Smith, Bob Gustafson, Marcia Siring, Janet Crane, Don Werst, Ramon Byrd, Barbara Webb, Martha Vilandr , Carl Vanslyke, Ron Linderman, Scott Campbell, Robin Reyes, Henry Lane, Anne Salisbury, Mary McComb, Shawn Manuola, Martha & Bob West, Summer Taylor, Barbara Lee, Jane Gortner, Kelly Campbell, Sergio Alvia, Barbara Campbell, Kirsten Pomerantz, Dennis Travis, Ginger & Ken Wright, Dan Ayers, April Miller, Cary Miller, Janet Anderson, Peggy O'Neal, Donna Kalberg, Phyllis Albee, Mary Ayers, John Empsall, Mason Knapp, Carol Owren, David Brooks, Dave Ziegler, Ted Jordan, Jill Kalberg, Jamie Ziegler, Kay Lockhart, Christopher Wigley

**Memorial Service:** John Albee

**Repose of the Soul:** Jane Jackson

## DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

### October 5: **Bishops of the Episcopal Church**

We give thanks for our Bishop Gretchen Rehberg and her ministry, and for the ministry of all Bishops of the Episcopal Church. We also give thanks for the worldwide ministry of the Third Order, Society of St. Francis, and especially for those sisters and brothers present in the Diocese of Spokane at West Central Abbey, and pray for their continuing service in decolonization efforts, economic and environmental justice, and locally for the food forest at the Abbey. 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), and Linda Young (10/5).



### October 12: **St. Luke's**, Coeur d'Alene & 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 birthdays of The Revs. Robin Biffle (10/14) and Margaret Fisher (10/18).

### October 19: **Diocesan Convention**

We pray for the work of our Diocesan Convention, for all involved, and for the mission of our diocese.

### October 26: **All Saints'**, Richland

We pray for the mission and ministry of All Saints', Richland. We also give thanks for the birthdays of The Revs. Gaye Lagana (10/28), 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/497162/acp\\_from-aba-to-divine-hope-via-zululand-2023-to-2026\\_webpdf.pdf](https://www.anglicancommunion.org/media/497162/acp_from-aba-to-divine-hope-via-zululand-2023-to-2026_webpdf.pdf)

# Prayer & Worship

## Weekday Worship Opportunities

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

### Wednesdays

- **Noonday Intercessory Prayer** — The service, found on page 103 of the Book of Common Prayer, is offered weekly in the nave and on Zoom. A brown bag lunch and open conversation follows.
- **Praise with Movement** — Offered weekly at 2 p.m. Direct questions to Lyndi Phifer at [lyndiphifer@icloud.com](mailto:lyndiphifer@icloud.com). All ages welcome.



## Contribute to the St. Luke's Spiritual Journal!



As suggested by Rev. Mary, there is now a little brown book where individuals can journal about encountering God. Record your thoughts and experiences at the Sunday coffee hours; check with the office on other days.

# Adult Christian Formation

## New Learning and Growth Ideas?

We've had several good years of rich learning, study, and spiritual growth at St. Luke's. How would we like to continue growing and learning? Do you have ideas or longings for topics to explore and learn, scriptures to study, ways to grow in our relationships with God? Please share your ideas with Fr. David ([priest@stlukesca.org](mailto:priest@stlukesca.org))! Watch the Friday Memo email for details and updates about formation offerings.



## Sources for Spiritual Growth and Reflection

We continue our offerings of websites and apps you can visit to give you a space where most days you can experience time with God. We invite you to explore these options and see if one of these might be just what you need to help you grow your relationship with God. These offerings are divided into sections for Daily Office/Devotions, Scripture Reading, Prayer and Meditation, Spiritual Formation, and Spiritual Practices/Disciplines. You can also find information on the ones we have already offered on our website at <https://www.stlukesca.org/life-together/education-spiritual-formation/sources-for-spiritual-growth-and-reflection/>.

Also, please share what you may be using. Send Kristin Keyes ([kkeyes@gmail.com](mailto:kkeyes@gmail.com)) a note with to tools you use, and we'll add to our growing list.

- Ignatian Spirituality — <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/> — This site has multiple ways of praying and ways of reflecting on decisions
- Ron Rolheiser, OMI — Ronald Rolheiser is a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He writes a bi-weekly column offering a brief meditation on various religious topics. Sign up for emails here: <https://ronrolheiser.com/>
- Forward Day by Day — Forward Day by Day app — <https://prayer.forwardmovement.org/about/app> -- for daily prayer (morning, noon, evening, compline), with scripture readings for each day.
- Venite app — <https://venite.app/> — like the Forward Day by Day app, but with more choices.

*Your Building Bridges: Healing Divides Team*

# Adult Christian Formation

## Women's Spiritual Journaling Group Continues through October 29

Recently during a Sunday service, The Rev. Mary Ayers said to us, "Where have you encountered God this summer? Let's start a church-wide spiritual journey journal! Leave an entry in the brown journal book and share how you are journeying and finding God right here."



Concurrently, personal journaling can be undeniably uplifting, especially together as a group. We will be starting a women's spiritual journaling group with the focus on journaling as a spiritual practice, along with reading and discussion of sacred texts, wisdom literature, and a wee bit of evocative poetry. Meet in the Alison Library on Wednesdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. through October 29.

For details contact Kim Morgan at [kimberlyemorgan@gmail.com](mailto:kimberlyemorgan@gmail.com).

## Recommended Readings for the Whole Congregation

Fr. David is asking us to read together these books over the course of this program year, as we continue to build our strengths and habits for courageous and caring conversations as followers of Jesus.

***I Never Thought of it That Way*** by Monica Guzman – "Learn how to bring curiosity and courage to even the most difficult conversations across America's polarized political divide with these actionable tools for navigating challenging disagreements." We will join NIC in their community-wide reading of this book.

***How We Learn to Be Brave*** by Bp. Mariann Budde – "Bishop Budde explores the full range of decisive moments, from the most visible and dramatic (the decision to go), to the internal and personal (the decision to stay), to brave choices made with an eye toward the future (the decision to start), those born of suffering (the decision to accept that which we did not choose), and those that come unexpectedly (the decision to step up to the plate)."

***Transforming Evangelism*** by Fr. David – Episcopalians' hands-off approach has led to a crisis of evangelism across our culture and with our own children. "How can Episcopalians reclaim evangelism primarily as an enriching spiritual practice?" How shall we practice evangelism in today's multicultural but fractured society? Fr. David provides spiritual and conversational practices that set healthy habits for respectful evangelism.

***We the Fallen People*** by Robert Tracy McKenzie – "The success and survival of American democracy have never been guaranteed. What we must do, argues the author, is take an unflinching look at the very nature of democracy — its strengths and weaknesses, what it can promise, and where it overreaches. And this means we must take an unflinching look at ourselves. McKenzie, following C. S. Lewis, claims there are only two reasons to believe in majority rule: because we have confidence in human nature — or because we don't. The Founders subscribed to [biblical and philosophical ideas] that humans are fallen and their virtue is always doubtful, and they wrote the U.S. Constitution to frame a republic intended to handle our weaknesses."

***The Bible*** – Fr. David recommends reading these books of the Bible this year

- ♦ The Acts of the Apostles— the great adventure of the birth and growth of the Church
- ♦ The Book of Proverbs— a collection of wisdom and guidance, good for our times
- ♦ The Gospels of Luke and Matthew— we are finishing Luke and beginning Matthew.
- ♦ The Book of Genesis— the starting point of all Abrahamic faiths.

All church groups and households are encouraged to pick a book at a time to read, but to begin if possible with ***I Never Thought of It That Way***.



If you are the last person in the building, ***PLEASE***  
lock doors, turn lights off, set alarm.





# Children's Formation

## Diocesan Fall Youth Retreat, Friday-Sunday, October 31 – November 2 West Central Abbey, Spokane



The Diocesan Fall Youth Retreat will be held on Halloween weekend. There will be an alternate registration option for those youth who already have commitments on October 31.

Registration is open to youth in grades 6-12, with those in grades 10-12 invited to be a part of leadership team for the weekend. Please call or email The Rev. Deacon Elaine Patrick ([ewhitep62@gmail.com](mailto:ewhitep62@gmail.com) or 727-430-9493) or Canon for Camp, Youth & Family Ministry Alex Flannagan ([alexfl@spokanediocese.org](mailto:alexfl@spokanediocese.org) or 425-577-1217) for more information.

### Confirmation Preparation for Kids in Grades 5-9

Parents, if you have kids in 5<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grade, they are old enough to begin the process toward confirmation. Here at St. Luke's, we want all who are confirmed to begin with a good reading knowledge of the Bible, so we begin by walking through the Bible together. The Bible is this amazing, complex collection of books that covers thousands of years of human experience of God. In the Episcopal Church, we rely deeply on the Bible. We learn many of the stories in it, but how many of us have read the Bible and know "the path of God's love all the way from the beginning to the end, from Adam's creation to John's revelation?"



Fr. David will offer afternoon meeting times with young people ready to read and learn the Bible together. Please contact him directly ([priest@stlukescd.org](mailto:priest@stlukescd.org)) or sign up at church! We will determine a good meeting time together.

## Learning Opportunities

### Two Diocesan Classes Continue on Thursdays on Zoom

This fall the Diocese is offering two 6-part classes on Zoom that will take place on alternating Thursday evenings.

#### Belief and Other Problems – A Deep Dive on the Nicene Creed

**Remaining Sessions on October 2, October 23, November 6 & November 20, 7-8:30 p.m. on Zoom**

In honor of the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed, this class offers a rich opportunity to explore one of Christianity's most enduring statements of faith. Belief and Other Problems will delve into the creed's historical origins, theological context, and the ways it continues to shape Christian belief today. Register at <https://theepiscopaldioceseofspokane.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3071190>.

#### Jesus's Bible – A Survey of the Old Testament

**Remaining Sessions on October 9, October 30, November 13 & December 4, 7-8:30 p.m. on Zoom**

Join us for an engaging exploration of the Hebrew Scriptures in Jesus's Bible: A Survey of the Old Testament. Building on the foundation of our New Testament class last spring, this course will guide students through the diverse genres of the Old Testament, introduce key insights from contemporary biblical scholarship, and invite thoughtful reflection on how Christians engage with these ancient texts. Register at <https://theepiscopaldioceseofspokane.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3071130>.

# Learning Opportunities

## Diocesan All Leadership Meeting

**Friday-Saturday, November 7-8, at Immaculate Heart Retreat Center in Spokane**

This gathering is a time for all persons in leadership positions throughout the Diocese to connect, collaborate and align as they continue to lead with purpose and vision. The meeting will take place November 7-8 at the Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd. in Spokane.



Register at <https://theepiscopaldioceseofspokane.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3123418>. You may be prompted to create a new account for this and future diocesan event registrations.

## Diocesan Lay Leadership Retreat

**Friday-Sunday, November 14-16, at Immaculate Heart Retreat Center in Spokane**



Lay leaders from throughout the Diocese are invited to pause, breathe and reconnect at the Lay Leadership Retreat, happening November 14–16 at Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd. in Spokane. This is an opportunity to step away from the busy-ness of life and ministry, and enter a space of rest, reflection and renewal. The cost to attend is \$150.

Register at <https://theepiscopaldioceseofspokane.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3123641>. You may be prompted to create a new account for this and future diocesan event registrations.

# Belonging Without Othering

*Explore a paradigm of belonging that heals divisions and opens our world to a shared future*

Engage this foundational material on the following Mondays at either

- 4:00-5:15pm in person (808 East Sprague) and simultaneously via zoom
- OR 6:30-7:45pm via zoom

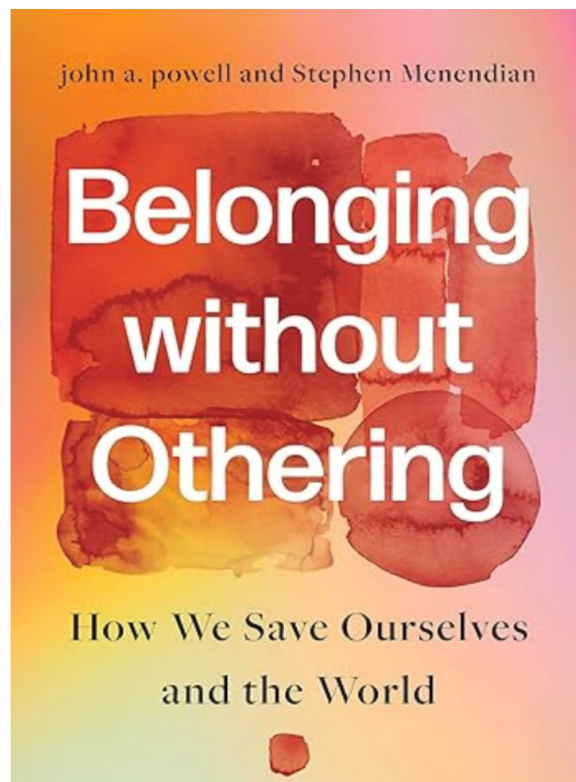
October 6—Chapter 4 (Chapter 1 optional)

October 13—Chapter 5 (Chapter 2 optional)

October 20—Chapter 6 (Chapter 3 optional)

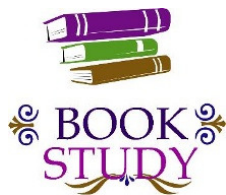
October 27—Brainstorm Applications

Register/Questions at [rickmatters@gmail.com](mailto:rickmatters@gmail.com)



# Learning Opportunities

## Book Studies at St. Luke's



**Wednesday afternoons at 1 p.m.:** The group will finish *The Tears of Things, Prophetic Wisdom for an Age of Outrage* by Richard Rohr, then will begin reading *Creation Spirituality* by Matthew Fox on October 15. "Creation Spirituality is the idea that divinity permeates all things, and all things have the imprint of divinity, yet the sum of all things does not fully encompass the mystery of the divine. Renegade priest and environmental activist Matthew Fox writes, 'If all of Creation had been whispering the story of its own Spirituality for 13.5 billion years ... we would call that story Creation Spirituality.'" All are welcome to join. Contact Lyndi Phifer

([lyndiphiifer@icloud.com](mailto:lyndiphiifer@icloud.com)) or Ern Warner ([ern.m.warner@gmail.com](mailto:ern.m.warner@gmail.com)) for more information.

**Wednesday afternoons at 4 p.m.:** The new book is *Lasso The Wind: Away to the New West* by Timothy Egan. "They have tried to tame it, shave it, fence it, cut it, dam it, drain it, nuke it, poison it, pave it, and subdivide it," he writes of the West; still, "this region's hold on the American character has never seemed stronger." In this colorful and revealing journey through the eleven states west of the 100<sup>th</sup> meridian, Egan, a third-generation westerner and Spokane native, evokes a lovely and troubled country where land is religion and the holy war between preservers and possessors never ends. Books are available in the Parish Hall. All are welcome! Contact Lisa Nunlist (208-640-9110 or [lisanunlist@gmail.com](mailto:lisanunlist@gmail.com)) for more information.

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.

# Life Together

## Vestry Highlights

### MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

- Discussed the numerous maintenance and facilities projects that are under way or planned, as well as improvements to technology tools used for streaming services.
- Memorial donations received after two recent funerals totaled \$31,000.
- The annual stewardship campaign will begin on October 12.
- Discussed plans for upcoming events to include NIC faculty, staff and students.
- Snowflake Faire has been set for December 6.
- Discussed proposed creation of a young adult outreach group.



**Good Stewards:** Kara Karl for leadership in providing hospitable receptions for two significant funerals.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, **October 23**, at 5:30 p.m. in the Alison Library. PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE. All are welcome to attend.

## Keep Up Your Pledge with a Recurring Gift



Have you ever considered setting up your pledge as a (very convenient) recurring event? You can choose monthly, bi-monthly or weekly payments. Recurring payments can be arranged through your own bank, the donation page on the St. Luke's website (<https://www.stlukesceda.org/bringing-our-gifts/>) or by calling the office. Please prayerfully consider doing this!



# Life Together

## Feast of Saint Francis and Blessing of the Animals, Sunday, October 5, at 10 a.m. at the Home of Debbie & Henry Lane, 5815 Colfax St. in Dalton Gardens

We'll celebrate the Feast of St. Francis and Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 5, 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. **NOTE:** If the weather doesn't cooperate (raining, very wet, or below 55 degrees), we will hold the service in the Parish Hall.

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!



## Building Bridges: Healing Divides Fall/Winter Events Update



BUILDING BRIDGES;  
HEALING DIVIDES

As reported previously, the Building Bridges: Healing Divides initiative for our second year is largely focused on developing a ministry experiment for our congregation to participate in this fall and into next year.

Our ministry experiment is focused on expanding our work with NIC, with the goal of coming alongside to support as we are able. We are planning three events designed to initiate and build relationships to open doors for future support and collaboration.

The first event is a St. Luke's Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 24 — celebrating and appreciating NIC faculty; a party for us, and a chance to show our appreciation to NIC faculty. (See the piece on page 11 of this newsletter and future Friday Memo emails for more details). We hope to communicate to faculty and staff that St. Luke's can provide a safe, relaxing, joyful and supportive space off campus for open conversations, especially around topics now constrained through proposed legislative actions.

The second event would be an expanded Lessons and Carols service with a holiday-inspired reception and goodies to follow, to be offered at Fort Sherman Chapel in December before finals and winter break. We are in conversation with the NIC music department to firm up a date and open channels and opportunities for student leadership in our shared worship experience. Ultimately, we hope that our relationship-building can offer St. Luke's as a space for music appreciation, either through a choral scholarship-type program, and/or making our Sunday services a space for performance practice with student offerings during the offertory and communion.

The third event will be hosting a luncheon for clients of NIC's Center for New Directions (CND) on Saturday, January 24, 2026. CND is designed to assist single parents and displaced homemakers with community resources and exploration of career and educational paths. CND Director Louisa Rogers will be speaking at the Women's Guild meeting on Tuesday, October 7, at 5 p.m. Our goal with the relationship with CND is to enable members of our parish to become a resource for CND clients, offering support and help in times of need. Our hospitality event is a way for members of our congregation to meet CND clients. We will also have a free raffle giving these families (many of whom live at or near poverty levels) opportunities for family bonding experiences, something that they wouldn't normally be able to afford.

We are asking you to join us in all these events as we welcome and celebrate our NIC neighbors. Look for sign-up sheets and more information as dates for each event approach. If you have any questions about our BB: HD initiative, please reach out to any one of us on the team.

*Your Building Bridges: Healing Divides Team*

*Kristin Keyes, Lyndi Phifer, Dave Phifer, The Rev. David Owren, and The Rev. David Gortner*

# Life Together

## Women's Guild Meets Tuesday, October 7

Women's Guild will next meet on Tuesday, October 7, at 5 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

We are looking forward to hearing from Louisa Rogers, the coordinator for the Center for New Directions at North Idaho College. We will also do some very important planning and organizing for Snowflake Faire.

All ladies of St. Luke's are welcome to attend Guild meetings. If you have questions or need a ride, please contact Andrea Partington (208-755-1829).

## Pre-Advent Retreat | Embracing the Four Themes of Advent: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love Saturday, October 11, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (lunch provided)

Our retreat this year helps us prepare, reflect and celebrate the birth of Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior, during the Christmas season. Our objective is to consider, "Where have you encountered God in your spiritual journey?" While we have activities throughout the day, our primary aim is to focus on *Beholding the light that is Christ Jesus, we become the light of the world.*

Activities are meant for you to explore how you are journeying and finding God right here while embracing hope, peace, joy and love. These include:

- Engaging in small group activities along with story sharing.
- Learning *how* to behold Christ's light while becoming the light of the world.
- Spiritual journaling with reflection-into action tasks.
- Walking the labyrinth with Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.
- Making an Advent wreath.

The themes of Advent offer us a period of anticipation leading to spiritual renewal, where believers prepare their hearts for the coming of the Savior, reflect on the profound meaning of His birth, and celebrate the joy and hope it brings! Please sign up either on our website or on the forms on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Please also indicate if you can help out with some of the food for lunch. We are planning soup, salad, rolls, butter and snacks.

## United Thank Offering Fall Ingathering Sunday, October 12

Greetings St. Luke's Family,

I thank you all for the blessings of gifts that you bestow on those in need. Once again, it is the time of year that we recognize UTO and the impact it makes on those who need it most.

Praise God for the blessings we receive. And though we are facing tumultuous times, we hold fast to what we know and believe. Thank you individually for the contribution towards this vital ministry. Please drop your offering into the collection plate or at the office by Sunday, October 12, so that St. Luke's can make its contribution at Convention Weekend.

God's love and peace,

Christopher Neal Wigley, St. Luke's UTO Chair  
[unclefesterinid@gmail.com](mailto:unclefesterinid@gmail.com) or 208-618-9091



# Life Together

## Men's Discussion Group Meets Tuesday, October 14

The next Men's Discussion Group is fast approaching on Tuesday, October 14, at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Our guiding thought is "Be still and know that I am God."

Please join us for a relaxing conversation and enjoy a light supper. Please RSVP to Ian Hicks for catering purposes.

Contact Dave Phiher (425-387-2882 or [n801dp@gmail.com](mailto:n801dp@gmail.com)) or Ian Hicks (714-742-3412 or [ianhicks@icloud.com](mailto:ianhicks@icloud.com)) with any questions.



## 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention

**Friday, October 17, at 2 p.m. to Sunday, October 19, at noon  
at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist**



**CALLED AND  
COMPELLED  
BY LOVE**  
**OCT. 17TH - 19TH**  
ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL  
SPOKANE, WA



The 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention for the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane will take place from Friday, October 17, at 2 p.m. through noon on Sunday, October 19, at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Spokane.

The Convention speaker will be The Rev. Canon Anita Braden, who is currently serving as the Canon to the Ordinary and the Chief of Staff for the Diocese of Arizona. Her key areas of responsibility are the deployment of priests, congregational development, congregational conflict management, Title IV Officer, oversight of mutual ministry reviews, vestry enhancement

workshops, and Chief of Staff. In addition, Canon Braden serves on the General Convention Standing Commission for Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons as the Vice Chair.

For more information about convention, and to register, please visit <https://theepiscopaldioceseofspokane.churchcenter.com/login?return=https://theepiscopaldioceseofspokane.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2980479/reservations/new>

## Oktoberfest

**Friday, October 24, 5:30 - 8 p.m.**

St. Luke's will be celebrating Oktoberfest! We are inviting North Idaho College faculty and staff and offering our deep appreciation for their work.

We will have the incomparable Max Mendez, former Professor of Music at NIC, with us to lead us all in his famous "Beer Choir"! Come for fun food, drinks, and festive community. Be sure to invite your NIC friends! More details to come in the Friday Memo email.



## Coffee Hour Hosts Needed



Sign up sheets for Coffee Hour hosts for October, November and December are on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Please remember: simple is good. It does not need to be an elaborate array of food. Fellowship is the goal! If there is no host for any given Sunday, coffee hour will be just coffee.

If you have any questions, contact Kara Kral (208-421-2830 or [kralkara@hotmail.com](mailto:kralkara@hotmail.com)).

# Life Together

## Room4U Young Adult Group Launching on Sunday, November 9

A new group for young adults called Room4U will be for 18- to 25-year-olds seeking connection, meaningful discussion about the big questions in life, and some light spiritual contemplative activities. It will be a safe group where all are welcome. Room4U will meet on the second and fourth Sunday evenings of each month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Alison Library.

Young people are encouraged to come enjoy a hot beverage, great fellowship and spiritual encouragement. Bring a friend! Contact Rachel Karns ([rachelkarns@gmail.com](mailto:rachelkarns@gmail.com)) for more information.

## Engaging Community

### Reverse Offering

August's reverse offering went to Rathdrum Food Bank. There was a big car load and it more than doubled what was on their shelves, so they were very happy to receive it. They no longer take pet food, so they took it to St. Vincent de Paul, where it is repacked into smaller bags to give to people who are running low at the end of the month. September's large offering went to the St. Vincent De Paul Food Closet. October's offering will go to ABC Food Bank in Athol. What we do is really helping the four smaller food banks that we serve in our community.

Please take a slip of paper from the little basket at offering time to see what specific items are most needed for our smaller local food banks. We generally collect non-perishable foods, basic hygiene supplies, laundry detergent, and pet food. Church members deliver the food at the end of the month. If you have questions or would like to help with delivery, contact Barbara Webb (208-651-2405).



*A large carload of donations were delivered to St. Vincent de Paul for the September offering.*

### School Supply Drive a Huge Success!



Our school supply drive this year, which we did in conjunction with the Coeur d'Alene Rotary Club, raised well over \$1,000 in supplies and cash (the latter was used to buy supplies in bulk). Overall, we helped serve 31 children in the Spirit Valley area and nearly 100 in Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls through the ICARE program. Extra supplies were brought to Spirit Lake Elementary which, being in a rural area, does not have big businesses making annual donations.

The food bank put out a sign saying they had free school supplies (their food bank is only open once a week), and the parents got so excited. The children had tremendous fun picking out their backpacks and supplies. One mom of five children was in tears; she had no idea what she was going to do as the average cost of what is requested is about \$80 per child. A set of triplet siblings going into 8<sup>th</sup> grade had a great time picking out what they needed.

Without these supplies, many kids would have had nothing at all. A school employee said that while they get some donations or occasionally get grants for supplies, many children arrive with nothing and teachers end up buying essential supplies with their own money. Many things can be shared like crayons, markers, and scissors, but every child has to have a pencil, folders, composition books, headphones (which can't be shared), and other essentials.

It is difficult to describe how much this school supply drive helped families in need. Thanks so much to for your incredible generosity.

*Barbara Webb*



# Engaging Community

## “Taste of” Broad-Based Community Organizing Training Saturday, October 4, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at St. Luke’s

St. Luke’s is partnering with the Northwest InterMountain Lutheran Synod (ELCA) to host this important “taste of” training to help citizens come together to help spark meaningful local change and development. The skills we will learn and practice connect well with our congregation’s work to learn how to have courageous and caring conversations and to build purposeful partnerships. If you have passion and energy that you are seeking to focus for needs and concerns in our communities, this training is for you! If you know people with passion, energy, and skill who are eager to learn and get involved, please invite them.

### “Taste of” Broad-Based Community Organizing

Join us to learn about the model of broad-based organizing—where ordinary people come together to have a say in the decisions in their community—and win concrete change!

Register at [https://www.spokanealliance.org/foundations\\_of\\_community\\_organizing\\_with\\_20250912](https://www.spokanealliance.org/foundations_of_community_organizing_with_20250912). The cost to attend is \$25, but there is a sliding fee scale to help those who need financial assistance. Lunch will be provided. If you have food allergies, please contact St. Luke’s parishioner Lauren McCroskey ([dixiedingo1@gmail.com](mailto:dixiedingo1@gmail.com)).

## Chorale Coeur d’Alene Presents “Our Legacy of Song” Friday, October 10, at 7 p.m. & Saturday, October 11, at 2 p.m.



Join Chorale Coeur d’Alene for our Fall 2025 concert: OUR LEGACY OF SONG. With this concert the Chorale begins a season of celebration of our 25<sup>th</sup> year bringing quality choral song to our Inland Northwest region. We open our 2025-26 season with the whole of Gabriel Fauré’s Requiem, followed by a collection of sacred and gospel selections performed since our debut in 2001, including works by such composers as Thomas Tallis, William L. Dawson and Elaine Hagenberg.

There will be two performances of this concert on Friday, October 10 at 7 p.m. and on Saturday, October 11 at 2 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 812 N. 5th St. in Coeur d’Alene. Tickets are available now at [www.ChoraleCdA.com](http://www.ChoraleCdA.com). **THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR, SO BE SURE TO ORDER YOURS NOW.** HOPING TO SEE YOU THERE to celebrate 25 years of sacred song.

*Judi Horton & Tom Bacon*

## “Souport” the End of Homelessness Thursday, October 16, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Kootenai County Fairgrounds

The annual Souport event raises critically needed funds to support St. Vincent de Paul’s housing programs. The event will take place on Thursday, October 16, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Kootenai County Fairgrounds. This is a great community event of sampling and judging soups made by local agencies and community members.



Tickets are \$20, and include one token to vote on your favorite soup. Additional tokens are available for \$5 each. Please click this link for tickets & more information: [https://secure.lglforms.com/form\\_engine/s/nhRvNms2weq4Xba\\_Id1U3Q](https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/nhRvNms2weq4Xba_Id1U3Q).

### 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](mailto:kfd819@gmail.com).

**DEADLINES:** Newsletter – 10<sup>th</sup> of each month to Kate Dolan—[kfd819@gmail.com](mailto:kfd819@gmail.com); Sunday bulletin & Friday Memo – Tuesdays by noon to parish office—[office@stlukescd.org](mailto:office@stlukescd.org).

# Engaging Community

## Suspension of Federal Grant Funding for Episcopal Migration Ministries and Other Refugee Resettlement Organizations



On January 24, the Trump administration suspended federal grant funding for refugee resettlement programs, including Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM). Since 1988, EMM has resettled more than 100,000 individuals to communities across the United States. In addition to its long-standing work in refugee resettlement ministry, EMM is

The Episcopal Church's convening place for collaboration, education and information-sharing on migration. Learn more about EMM at <https://episcopalmigrationministries.org/>.

The following websites provide information about the actions against immigrants and refugees, how to donate to organizations dedicated to refugee resettlement, and where to write your congressional leaders.

Episcopal News Service: <https://episcopalnewsservice.org/2025/01/31/episcopal-migration-ministries-to-end-resettlement-work-lay-off-22-after-trump-halts-refugee-program/>

World Relief — Spokane: <https://worldrelief.org/spokane/>

Thrive International: <https://thriveint.org/>

Church World Service: <https://cwsglobal.org/take-action/action-alerts/>

Idaho Congressional Delegation: <https://legislature.idaho.gov/legislators/congressional-delegation/>

## Making a Difference: Refugee Support from St. Luke's and the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane

St. Luke's and the Diocese of Spokane are helping to support refugees and the agencies that help them find their way here in America. We are helping to fill the gaps left after the recent ending of federal aid.

Our recent donations of about \$350 in household and kitchen supplies went to Thrive International to support refugee households in their ministry. For refugees associated with World Relief, we have supplied over \$350 of donations of toiletries, kitchen wares, bed linens, and hygiene resources, and over \$500 in financial support for housing assistance.

Generous support of \$20,000 from the Diocese of Spokane has begun to fill the \$90,000 gap left from gutted federal funding for Episcopal Migration Ministries (see piece above) that supported work by Thrive International in Spokane. We can help raise the additional funds needed. Please donate directly to Thrive International <https://thriveint.org/> in St. Luke's name, or submit a donation to St. Luke's to make on your behalf.



## Come and see The St. John's Bible at St. John's Cathedral!



As part of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist's 100-year celebration, you can visit the Cathedral to touch and explore a Heritage Edition of the Gospels and Acts, part of the hand-made illuminated English manuscript of the whole Bible commissioned by American Benedictine monks — the first such manuscript commissioned by monks since the invention of the printing press!

The Cathedral, located at 127 E. 12th Ave. in Spokane, welcomes free public viewing of The Saint John's Bible. Exhibition times are Fridays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. You can also view the Saint John's Bible online! Using Turning the Pages, you can explore every volume of the manuscript at the St. John's Bible website: <https://saintjohnsbible.org/turning-the-pages/>.

*Rector (continued from page 2)*

hearts, and develop strong resistance to forces that seek to radicalize young people.

- The [Albanian Orthodox Church](#) and [Interreligious Council](#). Religion has experienced resurrection and reemerged with strength after its attempted destruction and burial by the repressive Communist regime (1946-1991). Albania is noted internationally for its exemplary leadership in positive and productive interfaith relations. The Albanian Orthodox Church stands out as a shining example and central leader in these efforts, even as it deeply affirms the beauty and truth of the Christian faith. Our offering of support helps strengthen ecumenical bonds across Christian denominations and affirms their important work with other Abrahamic faiths.

My hope is that St. Luke's will set aside some funds each year for these organizations, as places where peace-building and mutually strengthening efforts are happening between people of different faiths. I also hope that we can lead some mission-and-pilgrimage trips to work with and learn from these organizations, and that this will deepen our mission and ministry in Christ's name here at home.

**Renewing our worship space.** I am so grateful for the people in our congregation — especially the men — who have given of their time and talents to renew and refresh the chancel and sanctuary of our church. In the coming weeks, you will see that the beautiful wood floor of the chancel has been uncovered, sanded, and freshly stained; the altar has been moved down closer to the people; the choir has been moved up into the apse; and the organ has been moved to the left side, allowing for more room and passage around the altar on both sides. This adjustment brings to reality an idea and plan first discussed by Fr. Pat Bell, and is in keeping with the spirit of liturgical renewal of the past 50 years that has sought in churches around the world to affirm God's presence among us, not far away and remote but near us and approachable. Special thanks to Jeff Knapp, Chris Morgan, David St. Amand, and Ian Hicks for their tremendous work!

**Grow in Christ.** There are great opportunities with our book groups, discussion groups, prayer services, and churchwide book and bible readings to grow in our relationship with God. Last month, I commended to everyone the books and sections of scripture I hope we will read over the course of this next year. This fall, we start with Monica Guzman's *I Never Thought of It That Way: How to Have Fearlessly Curious Conversations in Dangerously Divided Times*. This book dovetails very well with our efforts to grow in our ability to have caring and courageous conversations with people around us — and it is being read this year by the whole NIC college community. And in scripture, I encourage us all to read through the Book of the Acts of the Apostles (right after the Gospel of John in the New Testament).

Let us continue to let the Light of Christ shine through us. Let us continue to be that steady, transforming presence in our communities like yeast that raises the dough. Let us root ourselves deeply with each other in God's presence through praying, reading scripture, and sharing the stories of our lives. And let us continue to move forward with fresh energy and new creativity to share, celebrate, and show the unbounded love of Jesus with the world around us.

*Fr. David*





**OCTOBER 2025**

**ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Vestry**

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Andrea Partington

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Farley Green

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Senior Warden

Junior Wardens

Clerk

**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.**