



Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m.

The MESSENGER

MISSION STATEMENT

So that ALL may know and serve God, our mission is to let the love of Christ shine brightly in our daily lives by being a welcoming, nurturing, and supportive community grounded in God's Word and Sacraments

ADVENT 2020 NEWSLETTER

**St. Germain's
Episcopal Church
"The Church on the Hill"**

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The Rev. Peter Van Zanten, Vicar
Bishop's Committee

Joanne Hash, Senior Warden
Joe Castonguay, Junior Warden
Skip Hash, Stewardship
Cyndy Reynolds, Evangelism
Kim Elderkin & Samuel Peters
Hospitality and Events

Donna Wessel, Treasurer
Lu O'Leary, Office Administrator

**We are an inclusive,
welcoming community of
faith open to everyone**



The word Advent means "coming." It is a time to slow down, be quiet and meditate about the real meaning of Christmas. These four weeks before Christmas are a time to prepare our hearts and our lives as we wait for the coming of Jesus. We focus on the promise that God made to his people and how that promise was fulfilled in Jesus. Advent is also the beginning of the liturgical year. The season begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ends on the day before Christmas. It may be a time for new beginning for us as Christians.

This entire year has been a time of waiting. We've waited during lockdowns and quarantines. We've waited on masks and respirators and toilet paper. We've waited on test results for the coronavirus. We've waited endless weeks and months, not able to visit our loved ones, especially in hospitals and nursing homes, in order to protect them. We've waited to go back to church in the old ways that were familiar and comfortable to us. 2020 has been nothing but a year of waiting. Perhaps we are better equipped now than we ever have been to understand what it means to wait upon the Lord.

Please watch for the special Christmas edition of the newsletter on December 18th.

TREASURER'S REPORT

MONETARY OUTREACH DONATIONS YTD

Hood Canal Food Bank	\$612
Camp Michael	\$250
Chaplains on the Harbor	\$254
Special Outreach/Discretionary	\$385
Episcopal Relief & Development Fund	<u>\$200</u>
<u>Total</u>	\$1,701

The full financial report is available in the parish hall and posted on the bulletin board.

FROM THE OFFICE

Sunday, December 13th STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Just a reminder that the ingathering of 2021 pledge cards will be on Sunday, December 13th at the service. By all means, attend if you can and rejoice with us as we move into 2021. Your offering will keep us on track to finalize the 2021 budget in time for the annual meeting to be held in January.

You should have received your pledge letter and form in the mail, with an envelope to return it if you aren't able to attend. If you did not receive one and would like one mailed to you, please email Lu at the church office stgermainoffice600@gmail.com. Pledge forms are also available in the parish hall.

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

December Birthdays

4	Joanne	26	Nicole
10	Whitney	27	Fr. Pete
25	Lu		

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE

The Bishop's Committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and you are encouraged to do so. Your input is valuable. Please notify Fr. Pete if you have something for the agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 15th.

EVENTS

On Sunday, November 1st we observed All Saints Day and All Souls Day. Veronica set up a beautiful altar and display area for us to honor our loved ones who have passed.



The Bells of Peace program was held on Wednesday, November 11th. After the playing of the National Anthem and a special reading, the church bells were rung. Afterwards, a display loaned by the VFW of war memorabilia was available to view. Many thanks to Cyndy Reynolds and the Evangelism Committee for your work on this annual event.

November 2020

Dear St. Germain Members and Friends,

Generous Creator, who knits us together into one common life: open our eyes and hearts to your gracious hand at work in all of creation, so that, rejoicing in your glory, we may be faithful stewards of your gifts as One Body - A Cloud of Witnesses; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

As we prepare for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas seasons unlike any we've experienced before, it's paramount to remember that God is with us, especially in times like these. He's with us daily as we respond to the changes required during Covid-19. God is with us as we reach out to one another to counter the isolation of social distancing. And, of course, He's with us when we're able to safely gather together in church to offer our thanks and praise.

We're writing to ask for your 2021 financial pledge for St. Germain. If you're already making a pledge, please consider renewing and increasing it, if possible. If you're not currently making a pledge, there's no better time to begin than now. Many people find that beginning a stewardship practice of regular giving deepens their faith and increases their connection to God and the Church. Every dollar pledged directly makes possible the continuing work of our small church, both inside our walls and outside in our local community. Your financial commitment ensures that we can continue to keep our doors open, providing spiritual and material support to each other and to our neighbors in need.

Please join us in making a financial pledge to St. Germain for 2021. St. Germain needs you - perhaps now, more than ever. We need one another to make it through these uncertain times, to do the work Christ calls upon us to do, to be God's hands and feet in the world.

Questions? Please call or email Matt at: 360-250-1630 matthewhornyak@icloud.com

Faithfully,

Skip Hash and Matt Hornyak
Stewardship Co-chairs