



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

MARCH 2021

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

600 Lake Cushman Rd.
P.O. Box 222
Hoodsport, WA 98548
360-877-9879

saintgermainhoodsport@gmail.com
stgermainhoodsport.org

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

Joanne Hash, Senior Warden
Veronica Harlan, Junior Warden
Skip Hash
Joe Castonguay
Anne Craff
Kim Elderkin
Donna Lu O'Leary

Donna Wessel, Treasurer

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



Dear Friends:

Lent is here, and as you are aware Lent is a time for "spring training." Just as the Seattle Mariners go into spring training so that they can play better, we too go into "spring training" so that we can be better Christians. What are you doing this Lent to deepen your faith? What spiritual and physical discipline are you working on this year? I'll be talking about this Sunday, but Lent is more than giving up chocolate. Twice a week I'm going to skip lunch and I'm going to look at less TV and read more. We have an excellent library at church and I urge you to check out a book.

Lent is an excellent time to rededicate ourselves to being part of St. Germain's worshipping community. Many of us have been isolated from our family, friends, and parish members and it has taken a toll on our lives to a more or less degree. So let's reconnect. Every Sunday is a banquet of the Lord as we experience the life giving power of our Risen Lord. The time is fast approaching when we can once again share the peace and resume our coffee hours and potlucks. In the meantime let us come together to share in the Bread of Life and be a community of faith together. During Lent I will bring communion to anyone who for health reasons or work schedules cannot be with us on Sundays. Just call me. 360-701-2464. I am available for pastoral visitations any time too.

Fr. Pete

OUR COMMUNITY GARDENS



CERTIFIED WILDLIFE HABITAT

Wildlife habitat gardens are a haven for local birds, butterflies, and other wildlife. Creating a wildlife habitat garden to attract birds, butterflies, and other neighborhood wildlife is fun, rewarding, and makes a big difference. Since 1973, hundreds of congregations of all denominations have certified their grounds as a Certified Wildlife Habitat®.

Wildlife and environmental stewardship are often the motivating factors for creating garden habitats, such as rain gardens, and butterfly gardens, etc. that provide food, water, cover, and places to raise young. In addition, a new program enhances the basic Certified Wildlife Habitat® status and supports these faith communities to go a step further to create a Sacred Grounds™ program, which requires additional elements to engage congregational members to increase their stewardship for wildlife and the environment. These elements include:

Connecting environmental stewardship to

faith through service, teaching, or prayer

Educating and Inspiring the Congregation to get involved within the community

Reaching beyond the congregation to encourage communal environmental stewardship regardless of faith.

“We believe that we are called to follow Jesus Christ and his way of love, growing in faith and action, in order that we can bear witness to his way of love in and for the world. We believe that one place we can bear witness to this love is through our relationship with the land. We believe that when we commit to planting more (be it beehives or herb gardens,) praying more (with our words and our deeds) and proclaiming more (through our stories and our bounty) in order to share the loving, liberating, and life-giving Good News of God’s love with all people, we will find ourselves, our church, and our world transformed”.

Episcopal Church Creation Care and Evangelism

Thank you to Donna, Andy and Anne for funding the wonderful transformation of our gardens. Our church home will reflect the beauty of the community and will welcome all who wish to enjoy it. If you feel you would like to contribute to this endeavor, feel free to put your check in the offertory plate and mark the memo line “Building Fund” or put cash in an offertory envelope and mark the outside “Building Fund”. These donations will go strictly to maintaining the yard and memorial garden.



Monarch Butterfly on Showy Milkweed (*Asclepias Speciosa*)

The Monarch Butterfly may be one of the most recognizable butterflies around. Since the 1990’s the Monarch has seen a decline in its population by upwards of 90%. Threatened by habitat loss, increased use of pesticides and climate change impacts. For monarchs, the decline is inextricably linked to a decline in the milkweed plant, the only plant that the monarch uses for breeding.

In our effort to conserve this beautiful butterfly and bring it back to St. Germain’s garden we will be looking for and planting - Showy Milkweed (*Asclepias Speciosa*) the native milkweed for Washington State.

In Spring of 2022 everyone in Hoodspport will be able to declare, “Yes, I’ve seen that butterfly in the gardens of St. Germain.”



ECW - SOULCIETY

Last October we revived the ECW at St. Germain. We meet every Wednesday from 11 -1. It has become a thriving group here at St. Germain. This year will prove to be a very busy year for us women, as we have agreed to administer St. Germain's Outreach Ministry—SOUL PURPOSE.

In the past Soul Purpose has supported the following;

- Hood Canal Food Bank
- Hood Canal School
- Soul Purpose - Children's Closet
- Mason County Humane Society
- Quixote Communities – tiny homes for Veterans in Shelton
- Community Lifeline – Homeless shelter in Shelton
- Soul Purpose – Discretionary Fund
- Episcopal Relief Fund
- Camp Michael – Olympia
- Babies in Need – All Saints in Vancouver Washington
- Chaplains on the Harbor – Grays Harbor County, WA.

We have also agreed to incorporate the Evangelism committee into our group. Plans are being developed to bring activities, events, and special services to our church as we emerge from COVID-19. In April we are planning to offer Bingo as a fun activity for our community! This will be a simple and fun time to just bring folks together and enjoy ourselves for a couple of hours. We plan on doing this on the last Friday of the month from 1-4 pm. More details will follow in a special flyer coming your way soon.

We have much to look forward to as we hopefully move into a new phase soon. Spring is just around the corner, and time for some spring cleaning. Memorial Day Weekend will be our annual rummage sale, and we ask that you gather up all your gently used items to donate to the church. All proceeds will go towards our Soul Purpose outreach ministry. The sale will be held on Saturday, May 29th and we will have much more information for you soon. Plan on bringing all your items to church on Thursday and Friday, May 27-28.

This summer brings our Funfest, and as the months go on there's our annual events like the Blessing of the Animals, Harvest Fest, Bells of Peace, etc. We'll also offer many more activities for the community which we will share with you in coming weeks.

WE ARE WOMEN IN ACTION!

VOLUNTEERS ON THE MOVE

Thanks to our Junior Warden, Veronica Harlan and a team of volunteers, the parish hall and church has received a much needed facelift. Furniture moved and fresh paint has created a warm and welcoming atmosphere for our members and visitors. Thank you to Veronica, Anne, Jerry, Joe, Fr. Pete, Justin and Skip for all your hard work!



March Birthdays

9	CALEB	ROYTER
10	CHRISTIAN	OSTERHOOT



Please visit and like our Facebook page at
St Germain Episcopal Church

Remember to share with your family and friends and invite them to like us as well!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Operating Revenues	\$4,032
Operating Expenses	(4,413)
Congregational Grant	<u>333</u>
Net	(48)

Soul Purpose Outreach

Hood Canal Food Bank	\$50
Community Lifeline	<u>500</u>
Total	\$550

FROM THE OFFICE

WISH LIST

While you are out and about shopping, we do appreciate your donations of:

- Paper Towels & toilet paper
- Hand Sanitizer
- Tissues
- Spray disinfectant and wipes
- Disposable face masks



Armando and his crew did an excellent job in transforming our landscaping. We support our community partners and they are true professionals. Call him for all your landscaping needs including tree trimming, lawn maintenance, decks and fences, rock walls, hauling: bark and gravel, and general clean-up. For free estimates call him at 360-490-7089. He is licensed, bonded and insured. Thank you Armando!