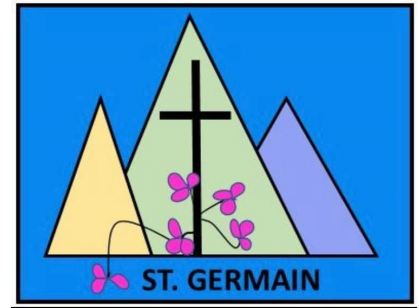


The MESSENGER

November 2023

OUR 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



THE VICAR'S BRAIN - REV. BILL FULTON



When my mom and dad married shortly after WWII, my mom found out that my dad was extremely frugal. The first time they went shopping, she selected a can of beans, but he put it back and chose the can that was a penny cheaper. But when she served those beans the next day, he pushed the bowl back. "What's wrong with these beans?" he asked. "They taste terrible." "That's because you chose the cheapest beans on the shelf," my mother said. "All right," he said. "Next time we buy the expensive brand."

As they say, "You get what you pay for." Or, to put it another way, "We pay for what we value." I believe that people are happy to pay for the things that are important to them. Some of the best money I ever spent was to buy things for our sons when they were little. We didn't have a lot of money then, and we had to be very disciplined with our budget. But when we had a little extra, it was a joy to splurge on them. We were glad to spend that money.

I feel the same way about our pledge to St. Germain's. It makes me feel good to write the check each month and put it in the collection plate because I believe in what we're doing at St. Germain's. I know that it's money well spent. During 2023 Katy and I have been giving \$550 a month for our pledge, a major part of our tithe to God. Because the cost of everything has gone up, our pledge will go up, too. For 2024, we'll increase our pledge to \$580 a month, about 5% more.

We believe it's money well spent. For this, we get the knowledge that our little church is serving God and making an impact on our community. For this, we get the satisfaction of participating in something valuable: a community of love and support. As we approach our fall pledge campaign, I hope you'll consider how important St. Germain's is to you, and think about how you might support our church, whether it be time, talent, or treasure. I can assure you, it's time and money well spent.

Come share Thanksgiving Dinner!

Bill and Katy are hosting a potluck Thanksgiving at St. Germain's, Thursday, November 23rd. Dinner starts at 2 p.m. Early arrivals are welcome, maybe to play some games or spend time talking. Hosts provide the turkey, and a sign up sheet for other dishes will be available in the church gathering room in the weeks before.

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The Rev. Bill Fulton, Vicar

Bishop's Committee

Donna O'Leary Senior Warden

Kathryn Jasper, Junior Warden

Jerry Jasper, Treasurer

Joanne Hash

Patricia Lakeman

Carrie Sharp

Volunteer Leaders

Peggy Pennington, Events

Amy Leonard, Newsletter

Alec Pennington, Facilities

Altar Guild Volunteers

Joanne Hash, Director

Peggy Pennington

Katy Fulton

**We are an inclusive, welcoming
community of faith and**

**EVERYONE IS
WELCOME HERE!**

**Join us for Sunday morning
service at 10:30 am**

Please visit our Facebook page

St Germain Episcopal Church

Sunday Service livestream



BISHOP'S COMMITTEE



The Bishop's Committee meets monthly for the purpose of conducting church business. Our members are caring folks who are willing to share their own faith, perspective and experience to engage with other members to collaboratively manage the affairs of the church with a view toward a faith-filled, sustainable future. **Everyone** is invited to join us for our monthly meeting and learn about current events, stay abreast of church ministries, finances, status updates, proposals, and more. The last meeting focused on the upcoming stewardship campaign. This month's meeting is **Tuesday, November 21st at 10 AM.**

WOMEN ON A MISSION

The **Women's Group** meets every **Wednesday** in the parish hall from **11 am - 1 pm** for spiritual growth and event planning. We spend the first hour checking in and sharing a reading and reflection. The second hour of our meeting is usually devoted to event planning and administering our outreach ministries. The last Wednesday of the month we chair the Evangelism and Hospitality Committee at noon and everyone is invited to attend.

The last major event of the year is the Christmas Bazaar on November 4th (see page 3 for details). We have had a



prosperous year with nearly \$10,000 in our account, we can do a lot of good for our community moving forward. Thank you to all who support our work, our partners, friends and family who help us bring our vision to life.

Member Birthdays in November

Amy Leonard, 12th

Jerry Jasper, 23rd

Marie Therese Frye, 24th

**(Birthday List is BACK!!
If you are missed, please
make sure that Donna or
Amy gets your info.)**



Check your shopping list and come to the
Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 4th
10 AM to 4 PM

St. Germain Community Room

Local vendors with handmade crafts, decorations, stocking stuffers and more.

Fresh baked cookies, and other refreshments, too.

Santa Paws will be available for pet photos
(to benefit the Friends of Foothills Dog Park).

Longevity Class: Improve your strength, flexibility and balance

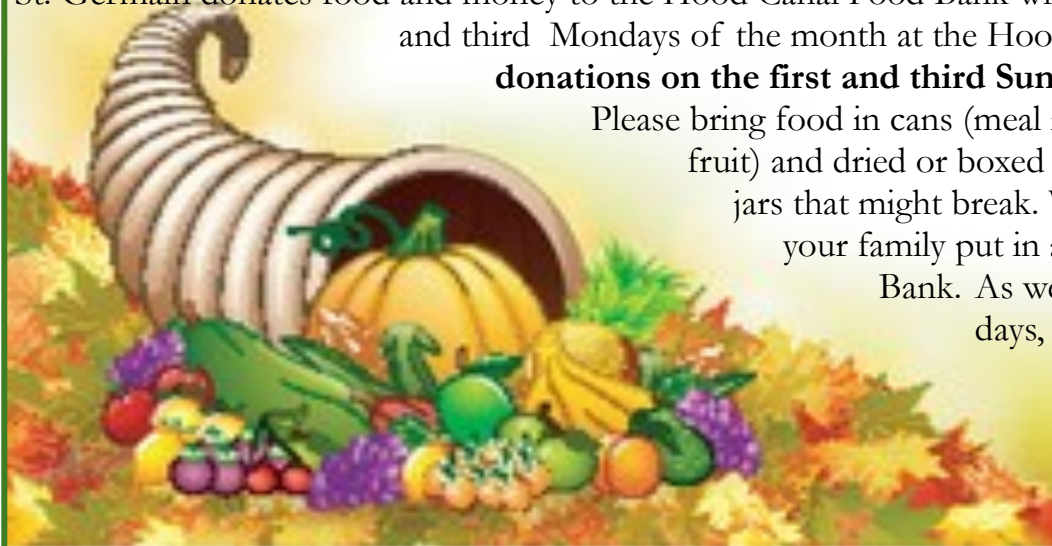


We all know keeping our bodies strong and flexible is key to healthy aging. Services offered on a donation basis: pay what you can, or just come share the experience. Andrea has been in the health and fitness industry for over 32 years; come join her for some strength training, balance, pilates and light cardio with extended warm ups and cool downs. **Meet in the community room on Tuesdays through the winter months at 9 AM.** All ability levels accommodated; please bring a mat, water and small hand weights if you have them (we have a few extras if needed).

HOOD CANAL FOOD BANK

St. Germain donates food and money to the Hood Canal Food Bank which distributes food every first and third Mondays of the month at the Hoodsport Fire Station. **We take donations on the first and third Sundays at our worship service.**

Please bring food in cans (meal in a can like chili or pasta or fruit) and dried or boxed foods. Also please avoid glass jars that might break. When you go shopping for your family put in a couple of items for the Food Bank. As we move into the time of holidays, please consider increasing your donations so that all of our neighbors can share in the blessings of God's bounty.



I endeavor in my musings to examine life, spirit and the human experience. Email me at argyle2061@gmail.com or catch me at coffee hour.



Rochester, Michigan, 1977. I sit in the darkened theater waiting for the movie to begin. Those first orchestral strums of the theme song that would define a generation begin. “A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away,” scrolls across the screen. Thus began my life-long love of all things Star Wars.

Many of us have belonged to fandoms over the years, whether it was a comic book hero, or Jane Austen, most of us have succumbed to some sort of hero or heroine worship.

God has told us to put no other gods before him, and I comply. But there are some heroes who ride alongside and just below him. Obi Wan Kenobi, and the other Jedi who used the force, became a secondary set of characters for me to adore. Jesus definitely supersedes my hero worship of these characters, but I think he would understand how I was drawn to characters who used the “force,” akin to the holy spirit, to help the meek survive the evil created by the dark side.

The themes of Star Wars have definite parallels to what we hear each week in church. It would be blasphemous to suggest a direct correlation, but I feel that I can suggest an archetypal connection that has resonated with a few generations now. Evil vs. good; light vs. dark; the path of protection and hope versus destruction and cynicism. We find these in the Holy Bible and among the stories told by George Lucas, Dave Filoni and others.

We say “Jesus is the way,” and the Mandalorian says “this is the way,” but I think we can all agree that light and love are the way. May the force be with you.

2024 Stewardship Campaign

It’s that time of year again. Consider how to share your gratitude for the church. Financial pledges help in making a budget and keeping the lights on, but consider also how you can share your time, and talent for spreading our faith and building community. There is much to do in our small church where everyone is welcome!

Intercessory Prayer List

Please sign the prayer request list at the church, or email the editor at agyle2061@gmail.com. You may include the need if you choose.



This month we are praying for John, Wanda, Madeleine, Mike and Freddy. May they receive abundant health and healing, through Jesus with whom all things are possible.

Wreath Makers

Women on a Mission gathered to make wreaths that will be for sale, along with lots of hand made items, yummy baked goods and more at our space at the Christmas Bazaar, November 4th from 10 AM to 4 PM.



Teresa, Karen and Rose holding some of the wreaths.