



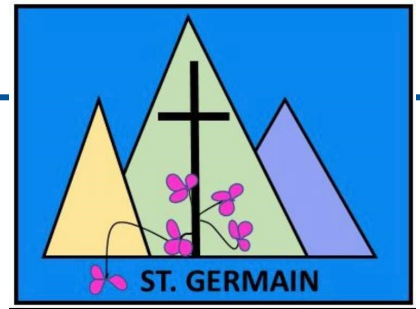
St. Germain's Episcopal Church
600 Lake Cushman Rd. (Hwy 119)
P.O. Box 222, Hoodspport, WA 98548

The MESSENGER

January 2024

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson



THE VICAR'S BRAIN - REV. BILL FULTON



The beginning of a new year always sparks thoughts of self improvement: How can I become a better person in the coming year?

At the same time, the coming of a new year brings thoughts of dread: another year older, more fatigued, more creaky, nearer the end of life.

I believe that what we focus on is what we become. So why not focus on the positives in our lives? There's much to be said about getting older. As we age, we become wiser, more tolerant, and better balanced. We learn to ease our way through negative experiences and emotions without getting overwhelmed by them. We learn that this, too, shall pass.

We get better at ignoring what is negative. We're more likely to draw on our treasure of positive memories that can bring us balance.

We find pleasure in simpler things. As we age, we find that we don't need a ski boat, a fast car, and a big recreational vehicle all at the same time. A quiet afternoon with a good book is enough for one day.

We learn that we're not in charge of the world anymore. Another generation has put their shoulder to the wheel and they're likely to do as good a job as our generation, and maybe better. Let them carry the weight.

We become less envious and less jealous. We become more comfortable in our own skin, more secure in our identity. We don't have to continually prove ourselves to the world anymore.

True, there are drawbacks to aging. Every day we experience them. But if we focus on the positives and make a conscious effort to improve our state of mind and our outlook on the world, we'll find that life is better for us and for those we come into contact with.

As Jesus said, "Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?"

May the coming year find us at home in our bodies and at peace in our hearts.

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.

Support your newsletter— Would you like to share some thoughts as a guest columnist? Perhaps you'd like to share art, poetry, or a favorite quotation. Thanks for helping make our newsletter informative and uplifting. Submissions due by the last day of month (earlier is better) and subject to editorial space and whims at argyle2061@gmail.com.

St. Germain Episcopal Church

600 Lake Cushman Rd.

P.O. Box 222

Hoodsport, WA 98548

360-877-9879

saintgermainhoodsport@gmail.com

stgermainhoodsport.org

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. There is a standing meeting on the third **Tuesday** of each month 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; all women are welcome to bring something to share. 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.

Please check out page 4 to see some of the effects from our outreach and donations.

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, Mike, Wanda, Madeleine, and Therese**. May they receive abundant health and healing, through Jesus with whom all things are possible.

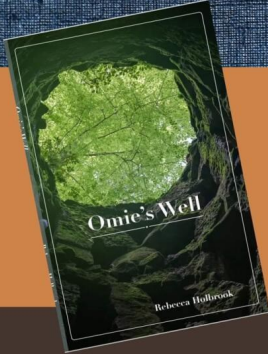


HOOD CANAL FOOD BANK

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.

AN INVITATION


PLEASE COME & JOIN US FOR MY NEW
**BOOK
RELEASE**
St. Germain Church



**SATURDAY,
January 6th**
1pm-4pm
600 N Lake Cushman Rd

Contact
dancingheronpub@gmail.com

**MAIN EVENT:
BOOK
SIGNING &
READING**
With Author
Rebecca Holbrook
rebeccaholbrookbooksandmusic.com



God loves everyone.
No exceptions.

The Episcopal Church welcomes you.



St. Germain needs you!

We are a small church, and we all contribute in many ways. Everything you do makes a difference, and St. Germain's is forever grateful for each and every one of you for your vision, dedication, time, energies and talent. A sign-up sheet is in the parish hall for volunteers to be Sunday greeters/ushers, and readers, and coffee hosts. Also, please consider signing up for weekly custodial which includes basic housekeeping such as vacuuming, dusting, cleaning the bathrooms and emptying the trash. Thank you all.

Longevity Class: Improve health

Through the wet winter days, we still need to keep moving and Coach Andrea is here to help. She offers her services on a donation basis: pay what you can. Andrea has been in the health and fitness industry for over 32 years; come join her for some strength training, balance and cardio. **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).

*"We gratefully acknowledge
the Skokomish Indian Tribe
and all Indigenous Peoples.*

*This building and facilities
stand on the traditional land
of the people, whose ances-*

*tors have resided here since time immemorial.
We honor and thank them for their culture, resili-*
ence, and indigenous identity."



Sharing God's Love



We were blessed to receive a warm gift from one of our Market on the Hill vendors and summer resident, Sandy Morelan. The text of her note reads as follows:

“I know this quilt is bright and colorful, but when I saw the fabric, it reminded me of St. Germain’s Church and its different faiths and diversity. Each color of the crosses stands for the medley of people in the congregation. “

—Sandy Morelan, Rag Quilts by Sandy

Happy Birthday Donna!

On Christmas day our senior warden and office administrator celebrated a milestone birthday. This California girl, and Maui mama got a proper beachy cake made by Carrie’s daughter

[insert name]. In Germany, a child born on December 25th is known as a “Christkind,” and Donna is the embodiment of the spirit of Christmas. Happy 70th and many more!



Happy Birthday

If your day is missed, please make sure that Donna or Amy gets birthday date information.

February 1 Kit Brooks

February 6 Frank Lakeman

February 9 Katy Fulton

St. Germain Women on a Mission Making an Impact

What are those women up to? We meet once a week, do lots of fundraising through the year, build community with our Market and Music on the Hill, but how does all of this fulfill a mission of spreading the light of Christ? When we put our funds to work by supporting various non-profit groups, we are letting the world know that their needs are seen and we are here to help. This year the residents of Maui had devastating wildfires. Women on a Mission sent a donation to the Maui Humane Society to help them make sure the animals on the island were cared for. This is in addition to our ongoing support of the Mason County Human Society.

Also, we were able to support the Quixote Communities, housing for unhoused veterans and others, who have three communities in the greater Olympia area, including one in Shelton. Residents are given stable housing and supports to be able to rejoin society in ways that help us all. The costs to provide stable housing are lower than the costs of having unhoused people in our communities! We are embodying the greatest commandment to love one another.