



*Living & Sharing the Love of Christ*

## ST. GERMAIN HOODSPORT

[www.saintgermainhoodsport.org](http://www.saintgermainhoodsport.org)

October 2024

### ABOUT US

Some would label us a small rural church, when in actuality, we are the largest sacramental, liturgical church in the area. The religious backgrounds and histories of our parishioners is as diverse as the places that surround our homes. We grew up Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Episcopalian and other faiths. For most of our members, St. Germain was the first time inside an Episcopal Church. Our responses to our parish survey resulted in the usage of such words as diverse, eclectic, and ecumenical to describe us. We endeavor to make everyone who comes to St. Germain feel comfortable and welcome in that diversity.

We are always striving to be more accessible to the Hoodsport community at large. Truly ecumenical. With age comes wisdom, and a stubborn need for independence. St. Germain is blessed to have a lot of independent wisdom. However, we are still young at heart. We are always open to new ideas and anxious to try things in a different way. We are eager to grow in our spiritual walk and dwell deeper into the heart of God.

### OUR VICAR



Before accepting the call as our Vicar, The Rev. Bill Fulton retired as the Vicar of St. Antony's Silverdale, where he served for 13 years. Prior to that, he served concurrently for nine years as the Vicar of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Florence, Oregon, and the Executive Director of Florence Habitat for Humanity. He began ordained ministry serving two small churches in Kansas after graduating from The School of Theology at the University of the South in 1995. Bill is married to Katy, a professor of anthropology at South Puget Sound Community College. They met and were married in Petersburg, Alaska, where Katy was a journalist and Bill was a Forest Service worker and a shipwright before going to seminary. They have two adult sons, a daughter-in-law, and a grand-dog. Bill enjoys watercolor painting, backpacking and bicycling.



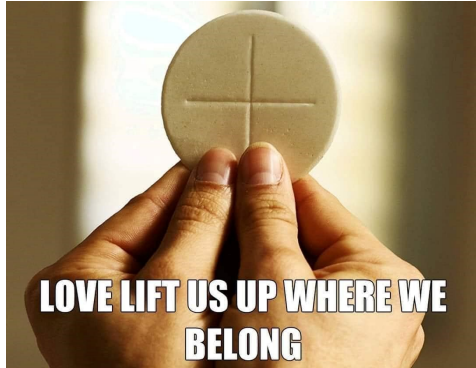
**Bill's sermons are posted each week on our YouTube Channel**

[www.youtube.com/@saintgermainchurch677](http://www.youtube.com/@saintgermainchurch677)

# GATHER WITH US

Join us Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m.

**Potluck on the last Sunday of the month after the service!**

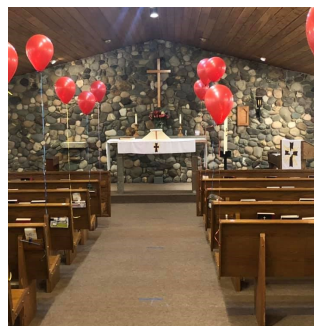


The whole service is printed in a bulletin that a greeter will give you when you arrive, and then there are plenty of back pews in which to remain anonymous if you like. Or someone can sit with you to explain the service, it's up to you. At most, someone will shake your hand and welcome you at the peace. Beyond that, you can participate as much or as little as you are comfortable! We hope you will be warmly welcomed and experience a meaningful worship.

We are a liturgical church. Typical practices of a liturgical church include vested clergy, the recitation of prayers and congregational responses, the observance of a yearly liturgical calendar, and the administration of sacraments.

**The church is the place where the people gather** for public worship, prayer, singing, and celebration of sacraments (certain rites and symbols indicating God's gracious presence among us) together. **The church is also the people themselves**, participating in worship, praying, singing, and celebrating.

The principal weekly worship service at St. Germain's is the Holy [Eucharist](#) (which literally means "thanksgiving"), also known as the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, or Mass. But whatever its formal name, this is the family meal for Christians and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. The most powerful symbol of the inclusive love of God is the table where we receive the bread and wine made holy. At this table, we find the two most important elements in life: belonging and meaning.





## OUR MISSION:

*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 that is grounded  
in God's Word and Sacraments.*

Our solidarity and support not only uphold the Baptismal Covenant, which includes that each one of us promises to “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being,” but also reaffirms the church’s mission to be a place of refuge, love, and justice for all people. By our actions, St. Germain’s has and will stand as a testament to the enduring power of faith to transcend divisions and celebrate God’s love of every person. You are welcome to join us in our faith journey toward greater love, understanding and mutual respect. We strive to be a compassionate and inclusive community of faith.

In a world where the dignity and rights of individuals are threatened, St. Germain’s has a vital role to play. By making clear on our website that we welcome ALL individuals in our church, St. Germain’s affirms its dedication to the Gospel’s inclusive message.

*“So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God.” –  
Ephesians 2:19*

*“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” – John 13:34*

*God is Love! This love revealed by Jesus, described in the Scriptures and proclaimed by the Church, is Good News for all – without exception. That is why we believe that LGBT+ people are a precious part of God’s creation – for each of us is ‘fearfully and wonderfully made’ (Psalm 139:14), and all are equally loved.*



## OUR HISTORY

**2024 marks our 48th year!** On June 20, 1976, fifteen people assembled in the Union City Masonic Temple on the Skokomish Indian reservation to celebrate the first Eucharist in what is now St. Germain's church. The celebrant was the Rev. Donald Maddux of St. David's, Shelton and the preacher was the Ven. Walter McNeil, archdeacon of the diocese. In the first months the congregation was composed mostly of members of the Leister Family, owners of a neighborhood store. Because of a lack of growth and other difficulties, services were discontinued in March, 1978. St. Germain's reopened in September, 1978 in an aging storefront building in downtown Hoodsport. In April 1979, after a winter spent huddling around a wood stove and putting up with noisy upstairs neighbors, the congregation moved to a small rented house.

When the congregation purchased two lots on Lake Cushman Road in 1982 for \$16,000, the surrounding community began to accept the fact that the Episcopal Church was really there to stay. With local residents doing much of the design work and participating in many stages of the construction, a new church building was ready for the Easter Eucharist liturgy in 1984. The building was designed so that the parish hall and church could be united for large services. The chapel portion of the structure was set up to handle about 50 worshippers. With the two rooms combined, about 100 persons were able to be accommodated. The new church building was consecrated by Bishop Robert H. Cochrane on August 1, 1984.

Because of concern for parking and building expansion, an additional lot was purchased in 1985. The tragic death of a young child pointed up the need to complete a burial place for cremated remains. With memorial funds and donated labor from the congregation, the Memorial Garden was completed in time for consecration on St. Germain's Day, July 31, 1987. The Memorial Garden features a natural stone altar which is used for outdoor services. St. Germain's serves a community where no other liturgical church has a congregation. Therefore, services are attended by people of several faiths and their participation is welcomed and cherished.

Throughout the small church building are many interesting features, such as an altar and east wall made with stones gathered by the congregation. Stones from historic buildings are incorporated, as well as those from the church and other local sites. A mortgage burning was held on June 7, 1992. On June 3, 2001, ground was broken for a new parish hall, a much needed expansion. A 2023 grant from the Diocese has given us the opportunity to offer the parish hall as a community room for local residents, with an emphasis on the senior community.



Then



Now



## WOMEN ON A MISSION



The St. Germain's Women's Group meets each Wednesday from 11 am – 1 pm for brown bag lunch, socializing, study, spiritual growth, and activity planning. This is an excellent way to form lasting friendships with the members of the church. Our Women's Group provides support for women in personal, spiritual and life

transition issues, and sponsors educational and cultural programs to enrich women's lives. The mission of this group is for women to get to know each other better, in the spirit of Christ, through friendship, laughter, service and knowledge. Our mission focuses on service, spirituality, and social connection.

There is now a positivity and exuberance that St. Germain has not seen in many years. We had faith that our prayers would be answered for our church to grow and succeed in our ministry to the community. Geared towards the demographic of a mostly senior population in Hoodspport, we applied for and received a grant to help us meet their needs and interests. With everyone pitching into volunteer, we've really spruced up the interior and grounds, showing that we love and care for our church home and making it an inviting and welcoming space

Led by our Women on a Mission women's group spearheading community outreach and events, we have become a major presence in our little hamlet of Hoodspport. Our membership has grown too! Folks who have lived here for many years who have driven by are now stopping up to check us out. Now locals and newcomers have come in to meet us, and learn about our ministry here. We have new people in our pews who are extremely active and volunteer weekly. Everyone stays for fellowship after the service enjoying the yummy baked goods and chatting. The atmosphere is positive, friendly and welcoming.

Our women's group also spends the year baking, knitting, crocheting, jewelry making all kinds of gifts for folks to buy at our Annual Christmas Bazaar.



The Cookie Queens  
Peggy Pennington and  
Carrie Sharp



## HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL

We kick off our summer community events with the Annual Memorial Day Weekend Rummage Sale. ALL proceeds go back into the community, with special outreach to the Shelton Veterans Village (Quixote Communities), Hood Canal Food Bank and the Humane Society of Mason County.

June brings on the first of our summer events of Market on the Hill and Music on the Hill featuring local artisans, crafters, music and more! Not only are these a huge draw within the local community but also the hundreds of visitors here during the summer months at Lake Cushman. In addition, we have a weekly sewing club, monthly book clubs, senior fitness classes, and other events including wildlife presentations, Red Cross disaster preparedness, arts and craft workshops, and more. After summer we have the Blessing of the Animals, All Saint's and All Soul's Day, and Trunk or Treat.

Another huge event is our Annual Christmas Bazaar, held each November featuring wonderful creations from our talented community artisans and crafters. This annual event is one of our biggest community events that the community and visitors look forward to every year.

Other upcoming events include Bingo, Valentine's concert and dinner, monthly pancake breakfasts, weekly brown bag lunch and round table discussion group, movie and game days, Spring Funfest, Oldies Party and much more.

***Thank you to the Women's Group for planning and implementing all these community outreach activities, and especially to our Events Committee Chair, Peggy Pennington.***



Fellowship is a very important part of our culture. We are a very active church offering many programs providing ways for you to deepen your relationship with God and become more connected to this vibrant, enthusiastic, growing community of faith!

# MEMORIAL/MEDITATION GARDEN



A quiet place to relax and rejuvenate.  
A place to sit by yourself and pray,  
meditate, or read.



The purpose of the Memorial Garden is to give visible expression to the faith we have in the Communion of Saints and our Faith in the Resurrection of the Dead.

Our Memorial Garden is designed to be a place for quiet reflection, as an outdoor gathering place for coffee hours or other social events, or simply a place to enjoy the beauty of God's creation.

It is a place for celebration, for meditation, and for remembering those connected with the parish as well as others. Experiencing the cycle of the seasons in the Garden, we reflect on the promise of the Resurrection, and we remember that our lives begin and end in God.

The Garden connects us with those whose cremains are interred here, and with those honored by name on memorial pavers and benches. As current caretakers of the Garden, the Memorial Garden Ministry feels connected to these many people. In the pleasure of our shared tasks, whether planting, pruning or weeding, we feel connected to one another, too. Contact Carrie Sharp to volunteer.

*"What a beautiful place you created!! I am sure it will be appreciated and enjoyed by the many!!"*  
Sharie Sund

*"This is beautiful! Congrats to you all! And congrats to the surrounding community that will find this peaceful place."*  
Jan Akin

You are welcome to visit it anytime and enjoy the peaceful wildlife habitat we've created for our Hoodspport community.



## COMING SOON!

Mourning a beloved animal is often as intensely felt as mourning a human. Our pet memorial garden will offer a safe and comforting space for prayer, meditation, remembrance, and celebration of our beloved pets.

All pets, regardless of their person's faith affiliation are welcome to be memorialized in the garden.



## WHO WAS ST. GERMAIN?



Our church was named for St. Germain of Auxerre. Germain (Germanus) lived from about 378 to 448 AD. He was trained as a Roman Advocate and ruled part of Gaul\* before his election as Bishop of Auxerre in 418. On two occasions he visited Britain as a teacher and strong defender of Christian orthodoxy. On the second visit he taught the Christian Britains to defend themselves against the pagan invaders with lighted torches and the battle cry of **“Alleluia!”** in a bloodless victory called the Alleluia Victory. This event is reflected in the design of our stained glass window depicting him, and inspired the design of our original church banner.

St. Germain’s was founded by Fr. Donald Maddux, rector of St. David’s, Shelton, who lived for a short time in Thurlby, Lincolnshire England where Germain once preached. The church in Thurlby is one of 13 named for Germain in England. As far as is known, there is no other Saint Germain’s Episcopal Church in the United States.

The church building was erected in the year of the 1976 American Seabury Bicentennial. These facts are commemorated in stained glass windows in St. Germain’s sanctuary. The patron saints of all Mason County Episcopal Churches, past and present, are also commemorated in the windows.

The Church celebrates the feast day of Saint Germanus of Auxerre on two dates: July 31st to commemorate his death in 448 and October 1st, the day his body was laid to rest in his cathedral in Auxerre in 448.

The Abbey of Saint-Germain d'Auxerre, also known as St. Germain l'Auxerrois, is a former Benedictine monastery in central France founded on the site of an oratory built by Germanus. The abbey houses the Saint-Germain museum, which features the Shroud of St. Germain and other collections.





## PROUDLY SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Proceeds from our events go to support these and other community organizations.

### HOOD CANAL FOOD BANK

**DID YOU KNOW?** Our involvement with the Food Bank began because of our concern for the community. The food was first distributed from our church on the occasion of a strike by the Simpson workers in Shelton in the early 80's. There was a direct need for help for many living in the Hoodsport area. The ministry grew and there was a need for more space. Simpson Timber and Boeing employees contributed funds for the new storage annex next to the fire station on Finch Creek, which was opened in the summer of 1999. Our collection barrel at church is filled each week, and members of our women's group volunteer the first and third Mondays of the month to help distribute food.

### THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF MASON COUNTY

A non-profit organization providing assistance and care to displaced or abused animals including control of pet and feral population. Additionally, the organization is working to provide an animal shelter for unwanted companion animals. We have sponsored MASH Clinics (Mobile Animal Sterilization Hospital), spay and neuter clinics for pets and families in need. These clinics were successful outreach and great community response with so many people through our doors (and a few hundred cats and dogs!)

### VOLUNTEER CHAPLAINS OF MASON COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

Fire Chaplains serve the community by meeting emotional and spiritual needs in times of crisis. They provide comfort, reassurance and guidance to those in Mason County who are displaced by fire or experience an emotionally traumatic incident. To help Volunteer Chaplains of Mason County Fire Chiefs Association, the Women's Group launched a teddy bear drive. First responders, including Mason County fire chaplains, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and police officers appreciate having access to a collection of soft, stuffed bears to offer children experiencing house fires, accidents, deaths, and incidents of domestic violence.



## CONNECTIONS

Visit our website at

**stgermainhoodsport.org**

Sermons are posted on our  
YouTube channel at

## Saint Germain Church677

Our monthly newsletter  
***The Messenger*** is found on the  
website. To receive the newsletter  
email us at

**saintgermainhoodsport@gmail.com**



Watch a live stream of our Sunday service on our Facebook page.

## St. Germain's Church Hoodsport



## Volunteer Leaders

**Events Coordinator - Peggy Pennington**

**Eucharistic Ministers** - Kathryn Jasper,  
Donna O’Leary, Amy Leonard, Teresa  
Schenk-Stephens, Kit Brooks

## Head Usher - Skip Hash

**Music Director - Carrie Sharp**

## Newsletter - Amy Leonard

**Altar Guild Director - Joanne Hash**

(Peggy Pennington, Katy Fulton)

**Church Groundskeeper - Carrie Sharp**

## Facilities - Alec Pennington

## Memorial Garden Sexton - Skip Hash

**St. Germain's Episcopal Church**  
**600 N. Lake Cushman Rd. - P. O. Box 222**  
**Hoodsport, WA 98548**  
**360-877-9879**

## Connect to Staff

The Rev. Bill Fulton, Vicar, [billfulton2001@yahoo.com](mailto:billfulton2001@yahoo.com)  
Donna O'Leary, Church Office Administrator, [stgermainoffice600@gmail.com](mailto:stgermainoffice600@gmail.com)

## The Bishop's Committee

Senior Warden - Carrie Sharp  
Junior Warden - Peggy Pennington  
People's Warden - Amy Leonard  
Joanne Hash - Kathryn Jasper - Kit Brooks



**We gratefully acknowledge the Skokomish Indian Tribe and all Indigenous Peoples. Our building and facilities stand on the traditional land of the people, whose ancestors have resided here since time immemorial. We honor and thank them for their culture, resilience, and indigenous identity.**

What is now known as the Skokomish Tribe actually was primarily composed of Twana Indians, a Salishan people whose aboriginal territory encompassed the Hood Canal drainage basin in western Washington State. The tribe's first recorded direct contact with European culture came in 1792 and resulted in a devastating smallpox epidemic that took the lives of many. There were nine Twana communities, the largest being known as the Skokomish, or "big river people." The Twana subsisted on hunting, fishing and gathering activities, practicing a nomadic life-style during warmer weather and resettling at permanent sites during the winter. Twana descendants live on the Skokomish Reservation, and all have become known as the Skokomish Tribe.

Between 1900 and 1960 the Tribe faced many difficulties. Sometime around 1900, a tycoon from Tacoma acquired the land between the west channel and main channel in the mouth of the Skokomish River. His subsequent diking and ploughing resulted in the loss of various plant species, including the sweetgrass used by the Skokomish for their basketry. At about the same time, the Tribe's shellfish gathering activities were severely restricted due to the State of Washington's claims of jurisdiction over tidelands. Furthermore, the City of Tacoma, between 1926 and 1930, constructed two dams on the North Fork of the Skokomish River, resulting in the destruction of important cultural sites and increased restrictions on the Tribe's saltwater access. Finally, Potlatch State Park was opened in 1960 on a prime piece of shoreline property. All of these actions have been the subject of land claims brought by the Skokomish. An award of about \$374,000 in 1965 was directed toward the purchase of a fish processing plant, as well as toward tribal housing. In 1974 the Tribe was successful in regaining disputed fishing rights through the Boldt Decision.

Today, many tribal members continue to work within the region's fishing and logging industries. In an attempt to diversify its economy, the Tribe has purchased property for economic development and resource enhancement, as well as for housing. The Tribe operates its own businesses including a tribal hatchery and a gas station/convenience store. As for traditional culture, a number of ceremonies that had been dormant for 70 years or more were re-established during the late 1970's and early 1980's. Traditional basketry, carving and dance projects represent other facets of the reemerging interest in traditional arts of the Skokomish Reservation.

Located: Skokomish Tribal Center 80 North Tribal Center Road Skokomish, WA 98584

Meeting Hours: Monday to Friday, 8 am. to 5 pm. Phone: (360) 877-6748 Fax: (360) 877-6749