

# St. Germain Hoodsport

NEWSLETTER
October 2025

## www.saintgermainhoodsport.org

# HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL

#### THE VICAR'S BRAIN - Rev. Bill Fulton



Last night I attended the celebration of new ministry for my colleague James Wyatt, who is beginning his ministry as vicar of Faith Episcopal Church in Poulsbo. Our bishop, Phil, was there, as well as thirteen clergy from the diocese. It was a splendid occasion.

After the service, I chatted with my clergy friends and caught up on the goings-on in the Episcopal Church. I was especially impressed by the vitality and energy of the Episcopal

churches in our area.

I've often read about the decline of the church. Membership and attendance have been on a downhill trend in mainline churches for decades. But that doesn't seem to be reflected in what I'm hearing from my colleagues.

Maybe it's because national trends seem to be turning around, and all over the country, church attendance has been rising. Perhaps we've bottomed out and people now see the value in church membership. I hope so.

One of my colleagues told me about an innovative contemplative service on Sunday evenings that has 20 to 30 people in attendance. Not the same people who attend on Sunday morning, but a different set.

Another friend, who is retired and supplies on Sunday mornings at many Episcopal churches in our area, said that he meets engaged and committed parishioners who are excited about their ministries. Other clergy said similar things.

I firmly believe in the power of the church to uplift, strengthen, and bind together all people who are called by Christ. I'm certain that God is working in the Episcopal Church to bring people to faith, enrich their lives, and create communities of care and belonging.

And that's exactly what we're doing at St. Germain's. As the prayer on p. 528 of the Prayer Book says, "Things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new."

# **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



# CHRISTMAS BAZAAR SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> 10 am to 4 pm

**Support local!** Experience the magic of the season as you browse through unique handmade crafts, Fudge, Jewelry, Stained Glass, Authors, Herbals, Fabric Creations, Quilling Art, Artisan Soaps, Handmade Cards, Artesnial Preserves, and Pickles. Get a Massage. Enjoy hot cider, coffee & hot chocolate with our famous bake sale treats, and much more!





# SANTA PAWS RETURNS!

Bring your camera or cell phone and take a photo of your pet, your littles, or yourself with Santa!

Donations will go to the Foothills Dog Park

St. Germain Church (the church on the hill) 600 LAKE CUSHMAN RD. HOODSPORT

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# Join us Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for Holy Communion Potluck on the last Sunday of the month after the service

Many of us grew up Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Episcopalian and other faiths.

You will find yourself very familiar with our liturgy and our celebration of Holy Communion. Our doors are open to ALL and we believe that a community of diversity and acceptance starts in a safe and inclusive place of worship.

You are welcome to join us in our faith journey toward greater love, understanding and mutual respect. No matter your identity or orientation, you are always welcome here!



#### 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 VISION

Be the inclusive people of God



"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."

# **October Birthdays**

Happy Birthday!

Please remember to pick up your copy of <u>Forward Day by</u>

<u>Day in the parish hall.</u>

- 7 Jann Goodpaster
- 21 Marleigh Gaines-Royter

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen them who trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

If your name does not appear in our birthday list please let Amy or Donna know so that we can add you and celebrate your special day.

Forward Day by Day is a booklet of daily inspirational meditations reflecting on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary or the Daily Office from the Episcopal Church's Book of Common Prayer. The meditations are rich in substance and offer a wide range of witness and experiences. Each month's meditation is written by a different author.

The most secure way to make your regular donations to St. Germain's is by setting up automatic payments on your bank's website. By adding St. Germain's as a "Payee" and using your bank's automatic bill pay process, we receive a monthly check and you don't have to worry about forgetting your pledge.

Our address and bill pay info is as follows: St. Germain Episcopal Church PO Box 222

Hoodsport, WA 98548

Otherwise, you can write a check and put it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Pledge envelopes are available in the parish hall. Also, cash can be placed in an envelope and placed in the offering bowl.

Matthew 6:21 says,
"For where your treasure is, there will also
be your heart."

### Feeding our neighbors

The Hood Canal Food Bank is a non-profit organization that provides nutritious food with dignity to our neighbors in need in Hoodsport and the Lower Hood Canal area, through donations and the work of dedicated volunteers. Their mission is to feed the less fortunate in our area of Mason County. The food bank is a fully 100% volunteer-based organization. Please put your non-perishable donations in the barrell in the parish hall for volunteers to take to the food bank.

(Matthew 25:35-40)

## **BISHOP'S COMMITTEE**



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 on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. to learn about current events, stay abreast of church ministries, finances, status updates, proposals, and more.

# Cathedral by Amy Leonard

The glass is not stained or leaded,
Yet it refracts glorious patterns and colors
Across the pews of pots lined up
Waiting
For the communion
Of heat and light and holy water.

The service begins with footsteps on gravel.

Saint peat of the decaying wood smells sweeter than incense,
And a chorus of bells

Breathe in unison.

Waiting for the annunciation, each plant is touched by the hand of God.

## **WOMEN'S GROUP**



We meet the second and fourth Monday's from 9 AM to 11 AM. This is early for many of us, so wear

your comfy clothes, and bring your coffee. We spend the first hour checking in, and sharing spiritual readings. The second hour of our meeting is devoted to event planning and administering our outreach ministries. Bring a snack and if you have a craft to do while we meet (knitting, drawing, etc.) feel free to bring it. Please join us. <u>All women from the community are welcome to attend!</u>

# Women's Mini-Retreat at Sacred Waters October 20-21

The Women on a Mission group will meet on the afternoon of Monday October 20th through Tueseday mid-day. We will use this time for spiritual growth, sharing, and reflection. If you haven't RSVP'd yet and would like to join us, please speak with Amy or Rose.

**THANK YOU!** Everything you do at St. Germain's makes a difference. We are 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, readers, and coffee hosts. We also need help with weekly custodial duties and you may sign up for that as well. Please let Kit Brooks know how you would like to volunteer. We appreciate YOU!

#### **CONNECTIONS**

Visit our website at
stgermainhoodsport.org

Sermons are posted on our
YouTube channel at
Saint Germain Church677

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, and Kit Brooks

Head Usher - Skip Hash

Music Director - Carrie Sharp

Newsletter - Amy Leonard, Donna O'Leary

Altar Guild

**Director** - Joanne Hash **Members**- Peggy Pennington, Katy Fulton, Veronica Harlan

Treasurer - Jann Goodpaster
Bell Ringer - John Drumm
Church Groundskeeper - Carrie Sharp
Facilities - Alec Pennington
Memorial Garden Sexton - Skip Hash



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The Rev. Bill Fulton, Vicar, billfulton2001@yahoo.com
Church Office stgermainoffice600@gmail.com

#### The Bishop's Committee

Senior Warden - Carrie Sharp Junior Warden - Peggy Pennington People's Warden/ Clerk - Amy Leonard Treasurer - Jann Goodpaster

Joanne Hash - Kit Brooks - John Drumm