



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Bremerton, WA

*We seek Christ and celebrate the
mystery of God's love for all.*

*We are progressive Christians in an
open, inclusive, and affirming
community of faith.*

*We provide a safe harbor for everyone
on their spiritual journey.*

*We endeavor to bring God's presence to
a world in need.*

August 30, 2026 The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

This Sunday's Ministry Team:

Preacher & Presider: The Rev. Arienne Davison

Deacon: The Rev. Bill Thaete

Music Director: Colleen Shoemaker

Media Arts: Tara Curran & Terri Anderson

A Message from The Rev. Arienne



Altar Guild: "Bring Wine!"

Our pantry is running low on ruby port. Ruby port is the preferred symbolic offering we use to celebrate the Eucharist at St. Paul's. Rather than budgeting bread and wine as line items, members bring offerings. Karen Hobson faithfully bakes our bread for 10 am services. You can help make our weekly thanksgiving by offering a bottle of port.

- Ruby (red) port preferred. There are other ports that look yellow, and that is less powerful as a symbol.
- Port is a fortified wine. The extra alcohol helps kill germs that may find a place in the shared cup.
- Christian Brothers is usually the cheapest and totally acceptable. If you have a favorite brand to share, feel free!

Pastoral Update from Arienne

Thank you all for your prayers and loving-kindness over the past week. I have been blessed to discover that when I ask for help, part of Christ's Body shows up to ease my burdens. I am exceedingly grateful.

In the after life, there's no more fleshy life. But after someone dies, we have a whole lot of fleshy living to do. Over the past two weeks I have been struck by how much Christians focus on the afterlife when we have no control or even shared awareness of what that's like. Many people have wondered how I am faring so well with such a deep loss. I must confess that I have spent as much or more time imagining their afterdeath as I did imagining their afterlife.

What happens to the spirit and soul of a person is up to God. What happens to the people I love after I die can be shaped by how I live. Because I trust in God made real in history, Jesus Christ, I am focusing almost exclusively on how I live with the people I love who are hurting. And that has made all the difference.

Tiny House Village Update

On August 17, the Bremerton Planning Commission voted 3-1 to recommend that the Sheridan parcel owned by Bremerton Housing Authority not be exempt from

zoning requirements that prohibit pallet shelters (Tiny Homes). The Bremerton City Council will now act on the recommendation. They can either vote for the zoning exemption over the recommendation of the Planning Commission or vote to maintain the status quo, where no pallet shelters could be erected for more than 6 months.

St. Paul's has scheduled two evening community meeting sessions at the church for Tuesday September 8 and September 15. Folks who would like to help host can contact Mother Arienne or check in on Sunday, when we discuss this before and after the 10am service.

St. Paul's Perspective

St. Paul's has been a part of the Sheridan Park neighborhood for more than 60 years. In our time we have seen this neighborhood grow, thrive, and contract. We are excited about the plans to redevelop the neighborhood with higher density close to ground and ferry transit. We also know from the history of Bremerton's boom and bust that there have always been poor and unhoused people in this part of Bremerton. More than 30 years ago, leaders at St. Paul became concerned that seniors were not able to stay in Bremerton as they aged and housing became more expensive. We worked with Episcopal Retirement Communities to sell half of our property. We dug up the dead and moved them so the living could access an affordable apartment living in this neighborhood.

As this neighborhood redevelops, St. Paul's will continue to advocate for all our neighbors, housed and unhoused.

- At St. Paul's, we think in generations, not fiscal years. Our leaders believe the property in this neighborhood is very valuable and will be more so once it is developed. We want to make sure that as fellow Bremerton business and civic leaders realize that value, they do not do so at the expense of the poor who have always been with us. We believe it is poor stewardship of Bremerton's lands to not proactively plan for a place at the table for the poor in our neighborhood.
- At St. Paul's, we acknowledge that people who are unhoused are more likely to be the victims of robbery, sexual assault, and murder than people who live behind a door that locks.
- We acknowledge and respect the dignity of all persons, housed or unhoused, addicted or sober, mentally ill or neurotypical.
- We seek partnership with anyone who wants to serve our neighbors and neighborhood, housed and unhoused - even when we do not agree about particulars.

Resources to Review

2023 Washington Criminal Justice Snapshot: Statistically, crime is down.

R Street's "The Crime and Safety Blindspot: Do homeless populations pose an increased risk to public safety."

This center-right think tank dives into the research on homelessness and crime. Drawing heavily on research conducted in Western States, they cite a Seattle study that showed little correlation between homeless encampments and spiking crime rates. Instead, studies suggest the homeless are *more likely to be the victims of interpersonal violence and property crime than housed people.*

What you can do

Write an email

Send an email to city.council@bremertonwa.gov.

1. Draft an email in your own words describing your reasons for supporting or not supporting the Tiny House Village. You can use the "St. Paul's Perspective" bullet points as a starting point.
2. Make sure the subject line identifies the issue you are commenting on: "Sheridan Park Tiny House Zoning Exemption" "Tiny House village zoning" etc.
3. Identify your connection to St. Paul's located in Council District 2, about 2 blocks from the site. The church's Council Person is Denise Frey.
4. If you live in Bremerton, please **identify your district** and mention **your councilperson**. For example, if you used the map and realized you live in district 5; you can use the "your councilperson" link to review the list of councilpeople by district and see their pictures. Whomever your rep is, tag them in your email to let them know you care about this issue and want to be part of serving our neighbors.

Register to Comment in Person or via Zoom

There are two kinds of City Council Meetings: study sessions and regular meetings. In study sessions, Councillors are briefed by staff on matters coming before the Council and share information about ongoing business. In regular meetings, City Councillors receive public comment and vote on matters. Meetings of the Council and Study Sessions alternate each Wednesday at 5:00 PM. The next study session is **Wednesday, September 9 @ 5 PM in the Norm Dicks Building First Floor Meeting Room**. There will be a public hearing at the **Council Meeting the following week, Wednesday, September 16 @ 5 PM in the Norm Dicks Building First Floor Meeting Room**.

If you choose to **attend in person**, you will need to sign in at the beginning of the meeting. Once you've signed up, you can stand in line and speak to the issue. If you choose to **comment remotely**, you will need to register Tuesday at noon prior to the Wednesday meeting **here**. If you speak,

- Take several deep breaths when you are waiting in line to speak.
- Say a prayer that focuses you on doing your part, not fixing the problem or people who are mad.

- Do not respond unkindly to people who are unkind to the homeless, addicted, or mentally ill. Notice how afraid they are and feel compassion. Compassion is not agreement.
- Focus your comments on common goals: housing is a human right, a safe place for everyone to sleep, etc.

-The Rev. Arienne

Welcome, baby Lucy!



Mason and Jazmine's baby is here! Lucille Spencer was born on Friday, August 21. She is happy and healthy, but came 5 weeks early! She is still at St. Michael's but will hopefully get to come home soon.

Keep Scrolling

St. Antony Grief Group

Drop-in Grief Group starting September 1st
will meet monthly on the 1st Tuesday

St. Antony of Egypt
11885 Old Frontier Rd. NW
Silverdale, WA 98383>

No book is needed-- the format will be similar to 12-step groups where individuals drop in to share if they would like and support one another. We'd be glad to see any of your congregants there who could use some extra pastoral care and support!

St. Paul's Building Updates

This brand-new feature in the Halls will include the latest on what's new in and around St. Paul's building.



Notice anything different about the parking lot?
Canterbury's maintenance team gave a fresh coat
of paint to the entire lot and curbs. Thanks,
Canterbury crew!

Keep Scrolling



Marty gave the narthex bulletin boards a fresh update. All the information is now current. Take a look the next time you're here, and feel free to add to it! Thanks, Marty!

Keep Scrolling

For all St. Paul's keyholders

YOU'RE **SEPTEMBER 12, 2026**
9:30 AM - 3:30 PM
OLIVER ROOM

SAFE
CHURCH
TRAINING **INVITED**

Snacks provided!

Please bring your own laptop or tablet.
Devices are available to borrow.

Keep Scrolling

Coffee Hour Treat Volunteers May - August

Sunday	Name	Contact Information
May 3	Susan Porter	
May 10	Karen Hobson	
May 17	Bob Ellis	
May 24	Colleen Shoemaker	
May 31	Fifth Sunday Brunch Outing	
June 7	Jim Manlove	
June 14	Karen Hobson	
June 21	Jackie King	
June 28	Mollyshannon Neel	
July 5	?	
July 12	Karen Hobson	
July 19	Sue Ahrens	
July 26	Colleen Shoemaker	
August 2	Jim Manlove	
August 9	Karen Hobson	
August 16	Georgann Falotico	
August 23	Sue Ahrens	
August 30	Fifth Sunday Brunch Outing	

Thank You, Volunteers

Keep Scrolling

Coffee Hour Volunteers Sept - Dec 2026

Sunday	Name	Contact Information
Sept 6	Colleen Shoemaker	(360) 477-2053
Sept 13	Karen Hobson	
Sept 20	Jackie King	
Sept 27	Jim Manlove	(360) 710-5752
Oct 4	Mollyshannon Neel	(360) 929-1756
Oct 11	Karen Hobson	
Oct 18	Eric Smiley	(206) 310-8237
Oct 25	Jim Manlove	(360) 710-5752
Nov 1	Sue Ahrens	(360) 471-2139
Nov 8	Karen Hobson	
Nov 15	Olivia Holgate	(314) 546-3345
Nov 22	Bob Ellis	
Nov 29	Fifth Sunday Brunch Outing	
Dec 6	Mollyshannon Neel	(360) 929-1756
Dec 13	Karen Hobson	
Dec 20	Colleen Shoemaker	(360) 477-2053
Dec 27	Jim Manlove	(360) 710-5752

Upcoming Events

Sunday

Aug. 30

Holy Eucharist
8 a.m.

**14th Sunday
after Pentecost**

Sunday

Aug. 30

Faith Formation
Series
8:50 to 9:20 a.m.
in Oliver Room



Sunday

Aug. 30

Holy Eucharist
10 a.m.
Followed by
Coffee Hour

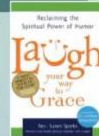
**14th Sunday
after Pentecost**

Every Monday

Book Club of St. Paul's
6:30 p.m., via Zoom

Contact Katherine Adams
(360) 377-9942

'Laugh Your Way
to Grace:
Reclaiming the
Spiritual Power
of Humor.' By the
Rev. Susan
Sparks



Wednesday

Sept. 2

St. Paul's
Bible Study
9:30 a.m.
Oliver Room

Readings
Exodus 12: 1-14
Psalm 149
Romans 13: 8-14
Matthew 18: 15-20

Zoom?
Contact Sue
Ahrens
360-471-2139

Wednesday

Sept. 2

Moved by the Spirit
Liturgical Dance

11:30 a.m.
Via Zoom



Contact Georgann
Yalotico for more
information at
(360) 908-3588 or
georganni@botmail.com.

Sunday

Sept. 6

Holy Eucharist
8 & 10 a.m.

**15th Sunday
after Pentecost**

Saturday

Sept. 12

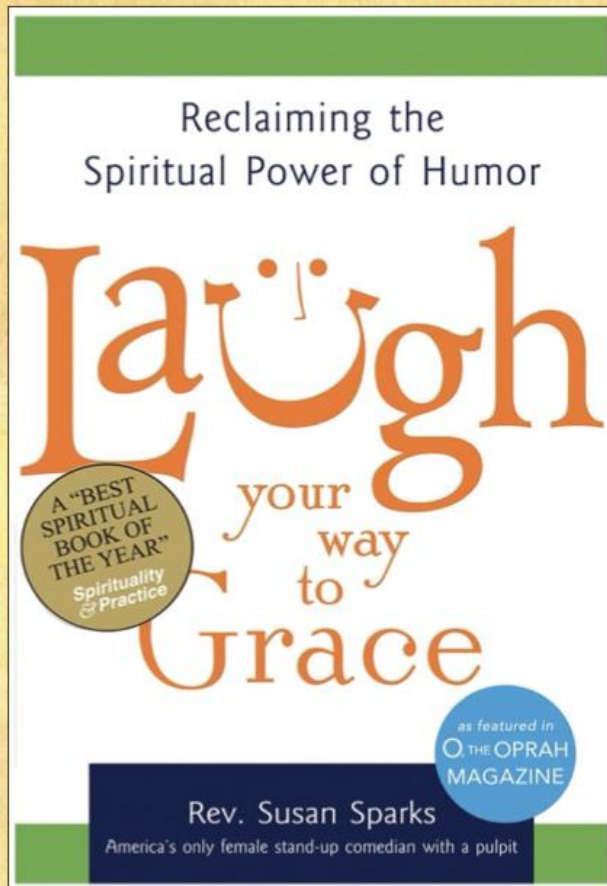
Group Safe Church
Training
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Oliver Room

**For all St. Paul's
keyholders. Bring own
laptop or tablet. Devices
available to borrow.**

Keep Scrolling

St Paul's Book Club

*New Book for Summer!
Starting July 13*



'Laughter was honored by the ancients as a spiritual healing tool and celebrated by the world's great religions. So why aren't we laughing along the spiritual path today? What would happen if we did?

In this personal and funny look at humor as a spiritual practice, Rev. Susan Sparks—an ex-lawyer turned comedian and Baptist minister—presents a convincing case that the power of humor radiates far beyond punch lines.'

6:30 p.m. Mondays on Zoom

Invitation: tinyurl.com/3mn96nwd

Meeting ID: 852 5300 8185 Passcode: journey

Or contact Katherine Adams (360) 377-9942

[Click here to join via Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/3mn96nwd](https://tinyurl.com/3mn96nwd)



[Click here to read the August 27th edition!](#)



Faith Formation
LIFELONG AND ONGOING



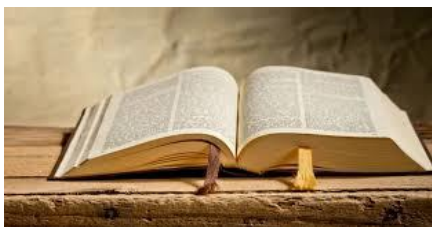
Sundays
8:50 to 9:20 a.m.
Between services.

'Being Episcopalian'

All are welcome!



Keep Scrolling



St. Paul's Bible Study Group

We will next meet on **Wednesday, September 2 at 9:30 am** in the Oliver Room to discuss the following readings:

- Exodus 12:1-14
- Psalm 149
- Romans 13:8-14
- Matthew 18:15-20

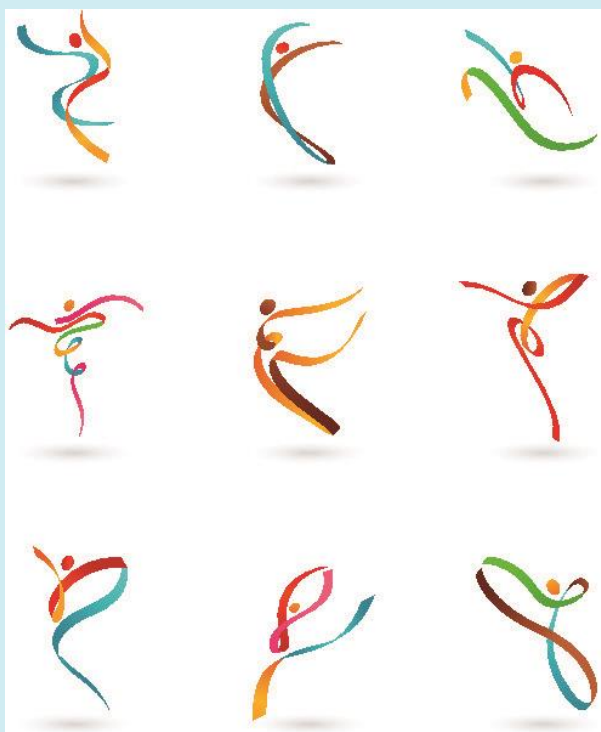
All are welcome! **Contact Sue Ahrens at 360.471.2139** with any questions. See you on Wednesday!

Zoom will not be available this week.



Moved by the Spirit

Love dancing? Join us
at Moved by the Spirit
every Wednesday
morning at 11:30 on
Zoom.



Katherine Adams is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Dance

Time: Jun 10, 2026 11:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Wed, 110 occurrence(s)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZwsdOuorjopH9bzJ8BkMMzfsICYYPsXHGp6/ics?i>

Meeting chat link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/jc/88132001352>

Meeting ID: 881 3200 1352

Passcode: Dance



" The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission not just to be part of but to help create a stronger community. We recognize that every community has unique causes that need support. Thank you for being such an important organization in our community."

Please check to see if your Fred Meyer card is linked to St. Paul's to ensure continued donations.

Thank you!

**During April - June 2026, 27 households participated. Donations were \$58.42!
You're awesome!**

Please submit any changes/updates for the Halls of St. Paul's or Prayer Vine to Jessica Lewis

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at stpaul700@gmail.com. Thanks!

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