



**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 2, 2026
The Tenth 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



Useful

At the parish where I was baptized as a college student, I can only remember details of two of the sermons I heard. Neither were from the priest who gently walked alongside me encouraging me to explore my vocation to ministry.

The sermon I remember the most was from an older white priest who had served as a missionary in Africa. He regaled us with stories of sipping gin and tonic with his friends on large beautiful properties before the rebels stole the land from them. The regular priest typically preached for thirty minutes. This sermon was about thirty minutes long. A retired bishop in the audience turned off his hearing aid around minute twenty and started letting people sitting nearby know about announcements from the bulletin he thought were more interesting than the speaker. That sermon taught me how Anglicans and Episcopalians passive-aggressively register dissent.

The other sermon I remember genuinely changed my spirituality. This is my best approximation:

*To believe that if you don't do this one thing the world will stop spinning is **idolatry**. You are not the center of the world. Christ is the center. And he can do all the things.*

I heard this message at a formative time. I was exploring different careers and beginning to household as an adult. I frequently felt like I was the lynchpin to managing family legal disputes, workplace disagreements, and occasionally arguments at church. If I didn't show up at work or for volunteering the whole enterprise would implode.

This wasn't true. I have come to believe the opposite.

In the shortest book of the New Testament, our patron St. Paul wrote to a fellow Christian and slave-owner that his runaway slave Onesimus had been "useless", but had become "useful" as a disciple. St. Paul is making a pun since the name "Onesimus" means "useful" in Greek. When he was a slave, he was

useless. As a disciple, he is "useful." While the letter is important in answering questions about Christian ethics and slavery, there is another more fundamental story about humankind and work.

People that are useless try to convince people they are at the center of things. People who have a clear center aren't afraid of losing jobs or acquaintances because they can bring that clear center to a new job or friendship. People who are useless try to convince themselves their job or task makes them useful. But that usefulness is transactional. They are only useful in a material world that will pass away.

The most useful person to Christ is the one who lives a whole and connected life, not the one doing the most labor or accumulating the most power. A person who is whole and connected knows that they can rest and the people they care about can care for themselves. A person who is whole and connected knows that when they rest, the world will change and the people who are awake will orient them to the new things we all learned while they were asleep.

Be useful. But not in the ways of the world. Rest enough. Say no to unreasonable requests or demands. Test your usefulness not by your esteem or wealth but in the relationships you've cultivated and gratitude for being alive.

-The Rev. Arienne



YOUNG ADULT MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING

KEEP/WATCH

Do you want to help build a church community where people support one another's mental health? Have you wondered what to do when a friend or family member is experiencing suicidality? Christ Church Tacoma is hosting a four-week series to reflect on ways our young adult community can normalize mental health conversations while learning tools to prevent suicidality and intervene in active suicidal behavior.

JULY 28TH

AUGUST 4TH

AUGUST 18TH

AUGUST 25TH



TUESDAYS

6-7PM PST

ONLINE

This training is for those 20-40yrs old. RSVP through text or email:
alexlaurenfrench@gmail.com
(253) 453-0074

CHRIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH TACOMA

Meals on Wheels Kitsap has released their monthly Hot and Frozen meal menus, and they're excited to share them with you! These menus help clients plan ahead and stay informed about the nutritious meals available each day. You can view and download the current menus anytime on their website:



<https://www.mealsonwheelskitsap.org/home>

Keep Scrolling



BACK TO SCHOOL SHOE DRIVE

\$75 provides youth experiencing hardship with a **new pair of shoes**

Donate at thecoffeeoasis.com/back-to-school-shoe-drive/



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.

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Kitsap County, WA

Sundays 9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11 @ 2:00 pm



Pendergast Regional Park
1199 Union Ave W.
Bremerton, WA 98312

DIVISION	DISTANCE
Pre-K 2/3yr	50 Yard Dash
Pre-K 4/5yr	75 Yard Dash
Challenger	75 Yard Dash
K & 1st	1/4 Mile
2nd & 3rd	1/2 Mile
4th & 5th	1 Mile
6th, 7th, 8th	1 Mile

*All races will be the same distances each week.

For more information, please contact
 MaryBeth Petrie at 717-343-9075
kitsapcountywa@healthykidsrs.org

HKRS is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit.

SCORING/DETAILS

- Points awarded based on finish
- T-shirts for runners who register for full Series
- Medals for ALL runners on Week 5
- Scan QR code and check race description on website for trophy details.

Scan the code to
Register Today.



EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

\$48.70 FULL SERIES

Or less FIVE WEEK SERIES*

UNTIL THREE WEEKS FROM START DATE

\$54

Or Less

FULL SERIES*

\$16.90

Or less

SINGLE RACE WALK-UP*

ONLY OFFERED DAY-OF

Online registration available only. No cash accepted.

*Includes processing fees. Registration is nonrefundable. Single day registration does NOT include t-shirt.

SPONSORS

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Episcopal News Service



Episcopalians send thousands of origami cranes to Olympia for detained immigrants

During the Asiamerica Ministries' annual retreat in spring 2026, the pilgrims also followed a Stations of the Cross designed by the Rev. Arienne Davison at the Tacoma Chinese Reconciliation Park

Click
slide
for story

Click here to read the article (scroll down): <https://www.stpaulsbremerton.org/bulletins-news#asiamerica>

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ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BREMERTON
700 CALLAHAN DR + WWW.STPAULSBREMERTON.ORG

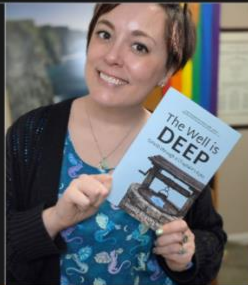
FAITH IN TRYING TIMES: REMORSE, COMPASSION, AND RAGE

A Festival of Books

August 13-15, 2026

THURSDAY, AUG 13
Remorse

An exploration of
the Christian
practice of
Remorse with
author Stephen
Crippen



SATURDAY, AUG 15
Rage Prayers

Get in touch with
righteous anger
with author
Elizabeth Riley.



FRIDAY, AUG 14
The Well is Deep

Hear and reflect
on compassion
with COVID-era
chaplain and
author Hillary
Kimsey



PROGRAM BEGINS AT 5:30 PM AND CONCLUDES AT 8:00 PM

All are welcome at Book Fest August 13-15, 2026 at St. Paul's Bremerton, whether registered or not. Letting us know if you are coming helps us plan for a light meal at the beginning of each program.

- Light meal and gathering 5:30 PM -6:00 PM
- Program 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Click here to register:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfPP080WxO6qpu7HjGNWbrz4JBMlfX8lkkWEUcikRpiMaIJAq/viewform>

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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

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Upcoming Events

Friday

July 17

Enlighten Kitsap
6:30 p.m.

Church Sanctuary

Dr. Jessica
Salvador:
'Building a
Community
Where
Everyone
Can Thrive'



All welcome

enlightenkitsap.org

Saturday

July 18

Kitsap Pride Festival
With Episcopal Church booth

3-8 p.m.
Kitsap Fairgrounds

Gordon Fields, 1400
Fairgrounds Rd, Bremerton



Sunday

July 19

Holy Eucharist
8 a.m.

**8th Sunday
after Pentecost**

Sunday

July 19

Faith Formation
Series

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



*Being
Episcopalian*

Sunday

July 19

Holy Eucharist
10 a.m.

Followed by
Coffee Hour

**8th Sunday
after Pentecost**

Sunday

July 20

Bremerton Planning
Commission

5:30 p.m.
Norm Dicks Building

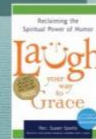
**Please share your support
of the proposed tiny home
village and our unhoused
neighbors**

Every Monday

Book of Common Prayer's

Contact Katherine Adams
(360) 377-9942

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



Wednesday

July 22

St. Paul's
Bible Study

9:30 a.m.
Oliver Room

Readings

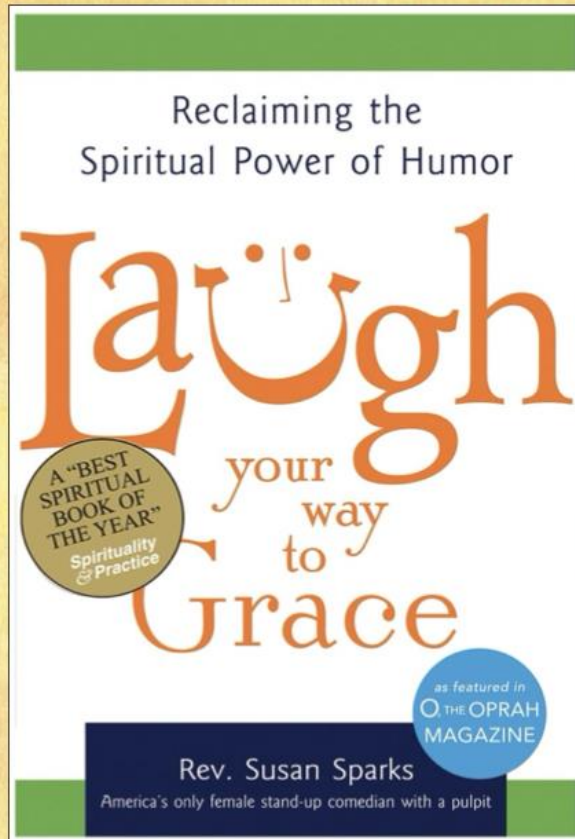
Genesis 29: 15-28
Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b
Romans 8: 26-39
Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

Zoom?
Contact Sue
Ahrens
360-471-2139

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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 July 30th edition!](#)



Faith Formation
LIFELONG AND ONGOING

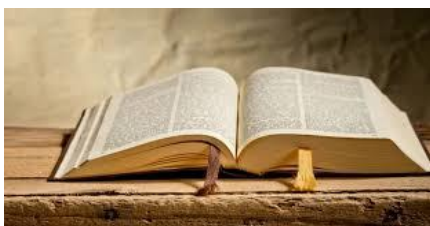


St. Paul's Episcopal Church
In Bremerton, Washington
*"An Inclusive and Progressive
Community of Faith"*

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

'Being Episcopalian'

All are welcome!



St. Paul's Bible Study Group

We will next meet on **Wednesday,**
August 5 at 9:30 am in the

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Oliver Room to discuss the following readings:

- Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
- Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
 - Romans 10:5-15
 - Matthew 14:22-33

All are welcome! **Contact Sue Ahrens at 360.471.2139** with any questions. If you would like to join via Zoom, the link is below. See you on Wednesday!

Here is the Zoom link for Bible Study:

Join Zoom Meeting:

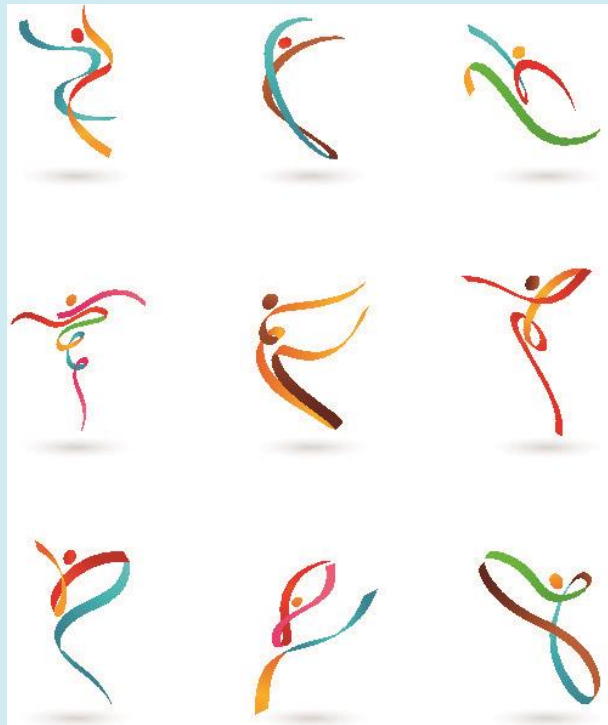
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83754444747?pwd=xfmYe5xgMLZZkB6Px7QHLVKZ8ihttG.1>

Meeting ID: 837 5444 4747

Passcode: 438263

Moved by the Spirit

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



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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



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" 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
at stpaul700@gmail.com. Thanks!