

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.

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026

<u>This Sunday's Ministry Team:</u>
Preacher & Presider: The Rev. Arienne Davison
Deacon: The Rev. Bill Thaete
Music Director: Colleen Shoemaker
Media Arts: Tara Curran & Terri Anderson

Keep Scrolling

A Message from The Rev. Arienne



On Tuesday, one political party made generational gains in federal, state and local elections. American elections are contests meant to promote competition both between people and ideas. As someone who has followed electoral politics closely from a young age, I have seen many politicians cast their work as their own win or loss. The reality of every election is that the public wins and loses. In a democratic republic, it's the people who face the consequences of their votes.

In the church, we have faced a similar challenge from the beginning. In Corinth, St. Paul is scandalized by followers of Jesus declaring loyalty to pastors - even when Paul is the pastor they like the best he seems repulsed by the thought he would be the center of attention. St. Paul was always pointing towards Jesus and the path he blazed to salvation.

Even more than that, St. Paul's New Testament writings suggest he knew well the difference between winning converts and pastoring a community of disagreeable human beings. The beginning of a pilgrim's progress is setting out on a journey.

An election isn't the end of a campaign, it's the beginning of new teams forming to address problems that voters named as an electorate. And for followers of Jesus, entry into Christian community isn't the end of our journey. Just like a voter votes for candidates then watches to make sure the winning politician keeps their promises, followers of Jesus hold one another to account for our presence in relationships, at work, and in civic life. And one key way we do that is sharing in the work of stewarding the gifts of our lives, families, and communities.

In this season of Thanksgiving, it's a good time to plan for the work ahead. What riches do you have to contribute to the new thing God is doing? Where do you see God present in our neighborhood? As St. Paul's develops its ministry for 2027, we know that we have important work to do in Bremerton to restore dignity and model reconciling love to our neighbors.

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This is the season when we decide together what to prioritize with our precious time, treasure and love. Part of this work involves members letting us know how they will help with pledges of money or time. We are also looking for leaders on the Vestry and in specific ministries who feel called to work in community to create more whole and connected spaces for human flourishing.

The ballots and pledge cards are the beginning of our work to realize the Reign of God in our time and place. These signs are the beginning of our promise to do our part for God and our neighbor. And we have every blessed assurance that we will be strengthened and renewed every step of our journey by the Body of Christ.

Please return pledge cards by November 11, if possible. This gives our leadership time to make a good estimate of what resources are available for our 2027 Budget. The Vestry will review an initial *Draft Budget* at our November 18 meeting. The Budget will be ratified at our December 16 meeting.

If you have any questions about serving on Vestry, as Convention Delegate, 125th Anniversary Celebration activities, or Community Relationship Liaisons, please reach out to Mother Arienne for more information. Candidates will be nominated from the floor for Vestry and Convention Delegate positions.

The Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Bremerton will take place January 31, 2027.

-The Rev. Arienne Davison

Episcopal Bishops' Response to Washington Initiative 638

https://ecww.org/initiative638/

On Tuesday, Washington voters chose to approve Initiative 638, the Sex Verification Requirements for Female School Sports Initiative. As the Episcopal Bishops in the state of Washington, we lament the passing of this initiative and its impact on our transgender and non-binary siblings, in addition to its impact on all female student athletes.

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Throughout the recent mid-term campaign, much anger, suspicion, and fear-mongering has been directed toward the trans community. These children of God have been dehumanized. A lot of misinformation has been offered about the trans community. The result of this ballot initiative calls for the verification of all female student athletes' biological sex including a potentially invasive physical check of their reproductive anatomy by a health care professional for those who cannot afford less intrusive testing.

We once again commit to the vows expressed in our baptismal covenant that we respect the dignity of every human being as we strive for justice and peace among all people, and we encourage all Episcopalians to join us. We invite all Episcopalians and others in our communities to commit to learning from our trans siblings, and to listen in order to understand. We invite you to look at **transepiscopal.org** as a beginning resource for this listening and learning.

Finally, we offer our prayers, support, and love to all trans and non-binary persons, who will be impacted by this initiative. We know that regardless of your age or involvement in athletics, this initiative seeks to belittle and shame your existence. We simply express the deep care that is to be found in the person of Jesus Christ who came to bring fullness of life to all people. May you experience Christ's healing peace in these days.

Faithfully,
The Rt. Rev. Gretchen Rehberg, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane
The Rt. Rev. Philip N. LaBelle, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia

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Bremerton Multifaith Thanksgiving

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24 6:30 PM

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - 1015 VENETA AVE

GATHER IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE BREMERTON COMMUNITY

prayers + pie + people + dessert auction

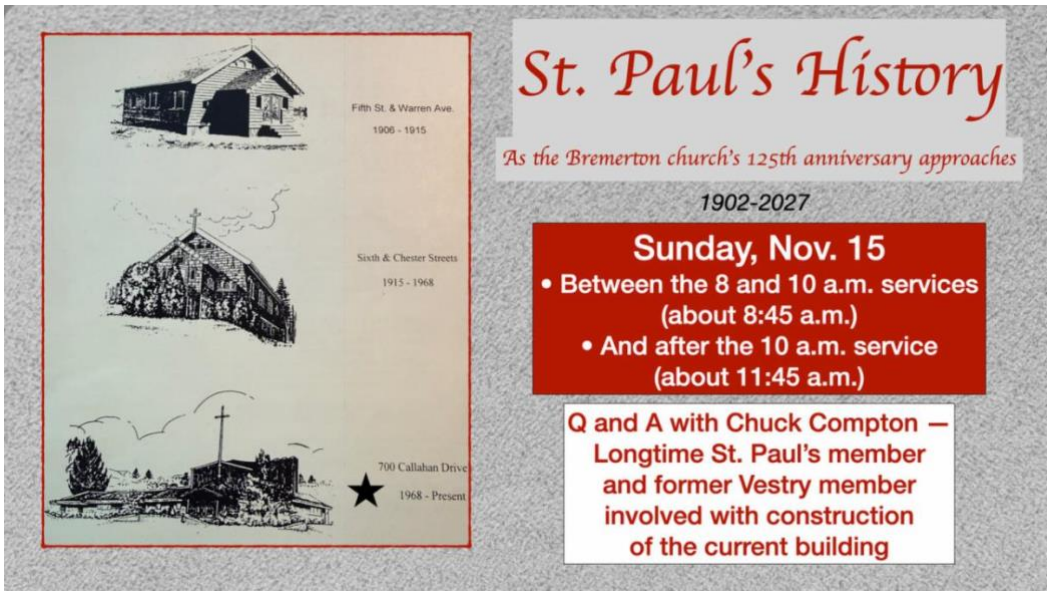
All proceeds go to Bremerton Foodline



SPONSORING FAITH COMMUNITIES

Brownsville United Methodist Church
Bremerton United Methodist Church
Bremerton Friends Worship Group (Quaker)
Kitsap Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Summit Avenue Presbyterian Church
Tracyton United Methodist Church

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St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Bremerton is participating in the

KITSAP COMMUNITY RESOURCES
Creating Hope | Restoring Lives

Turkey Baskets

Baskets include:

- Turkey-Whole, Breast, or loin
- Stuffing Mix
- Turkey Gravy
- Potatoes
- Cranberry Sauce
- Green Beans
- Corn
- Yams/Sweet Potatoes
- Marshmallows
- Cornbread/Dinner Rolls
- Dessert
- Whipped Cream
- Aluminum Roasting Pan
- Card/Note
- Mac and Cheese
- Brown Sugar/Honey
- Boxes/Totes ("Baskets")
- Butter

Milk

Eggs



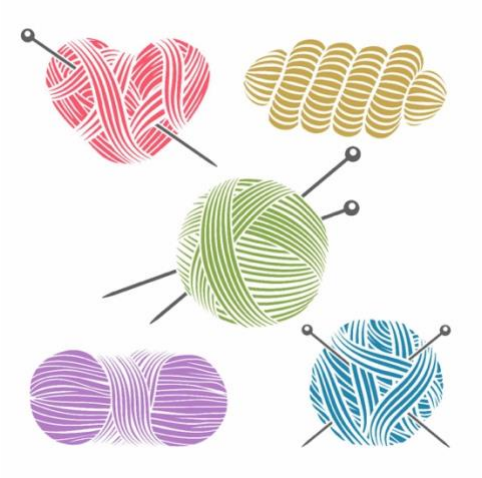
Thanksgiving
Food Drive

Bring what you wish from the list by Sunday, Nov. 22

Office hours Wed. & Fri., 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Have any leftover yarn from a project? We take yarn donations! The yarn is crocheted or knitted into prayer shawls that are available to all. Leave any yarn donations on the pew outside the office. See Margi Hall if you have any questions. Thank you!



St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Bremerton

Want to request building space?



Find an application on our Website:
https://tinyurl.com/yy7eybyb

Click here for application!

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Upcoming Events

Sunday
Nov. 8
Holy Eucharist
8 a.m.

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

Sunday
Nov. 8
Holy Eucharist
10 a.m.
Followed by Coffee Hour

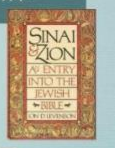
Every Monday
Book Club of St. Paul's
6:30 p.m., via Zoom
Contact Katherine Adams
(360) 377-9942

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Being Episcopalian

24th Sunday after Pentecost

'Sinai and Zion: A Treasury of Religious Thought and Faith in the Symbolic World of the Bible,' by Jon D. Levenson



Wednesday
Nov. 11
St. Paul's Bible Study
9:30 a.m.
Oliver Room

Zoom? Contact Sue Ahrens 360-471-2139

Wednesday
Nov. 11
Moved by the Spirit Liturgical Dance
11:30 a.m.
Via Zoom

Sunday
Nov. 15
History of St. Paul's With Chuck Compton
After 8 a.m.
and after 10 a.m. services

Sunday
Nov. 22
Turkey Basket Food Drive
Bring food items
by 10 a.m. service

Readings
Judges 4: 1-7
Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11
Matthew 25: 14-30



Contact Georgann Falotico for more information at (360) 908-3588 or georgann@hotmail.com.



KITSAP COMMUNITY RESOURCES
Creating Hope | Restoring Lives

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Packed with Pride!



Give her more than something to do.

Give her a place to grow.

Troop 53143 is welcoming 4-12th Graders in Bremerton!
This troop welcomes and celebrates Girl Scouts and families in the LGBTQ+ community.

Register using the QR code or contact us at ERamsey@gsww.org
Reference the troop number in the subject line.

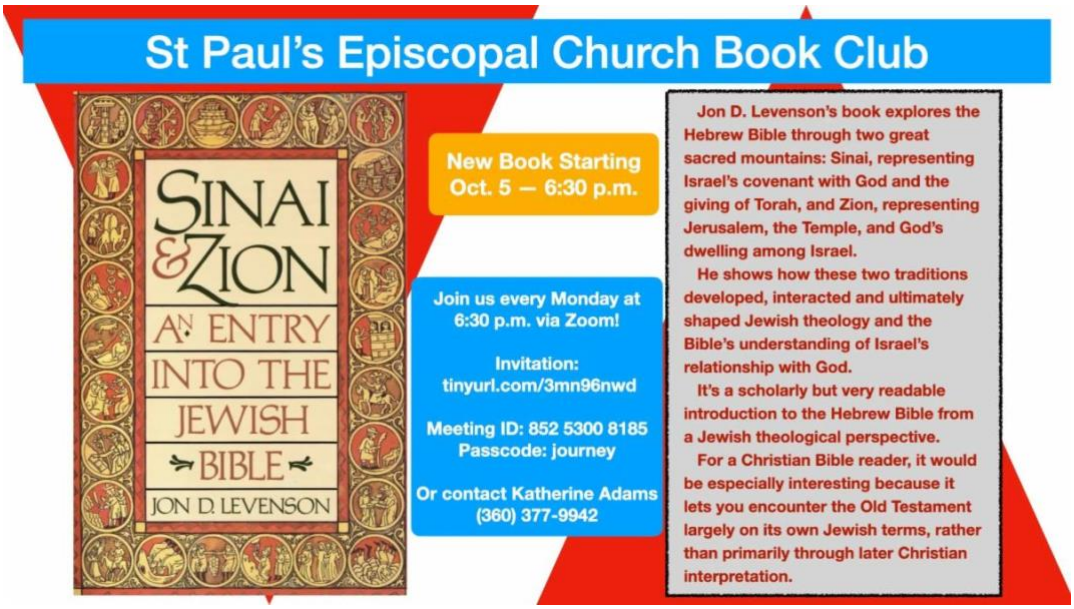
girl scouts
of western washington

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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

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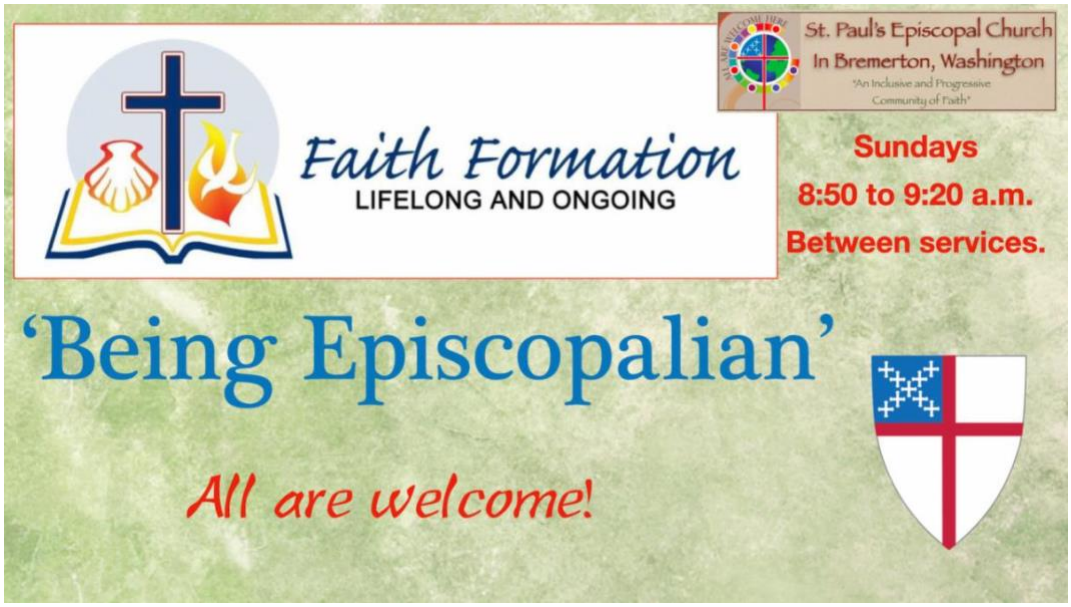


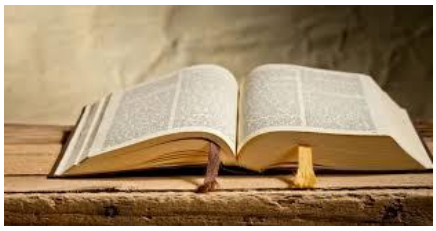
Click here to join via Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/3mn96nwd



Click here to read the November 5th edition!

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St. Paul's Bible Study Group

We will next meet on **Wednesday, November 11 at 9:30 am** in the Oliver Room to discuss the following readings:

- **Judges 4:1-7**
- **Psalm 123**
- **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**
- **Matthew 25:14-30**

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

Topic: Bible Study Zoom Meeting
Time: Sep 2, 2026 09:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

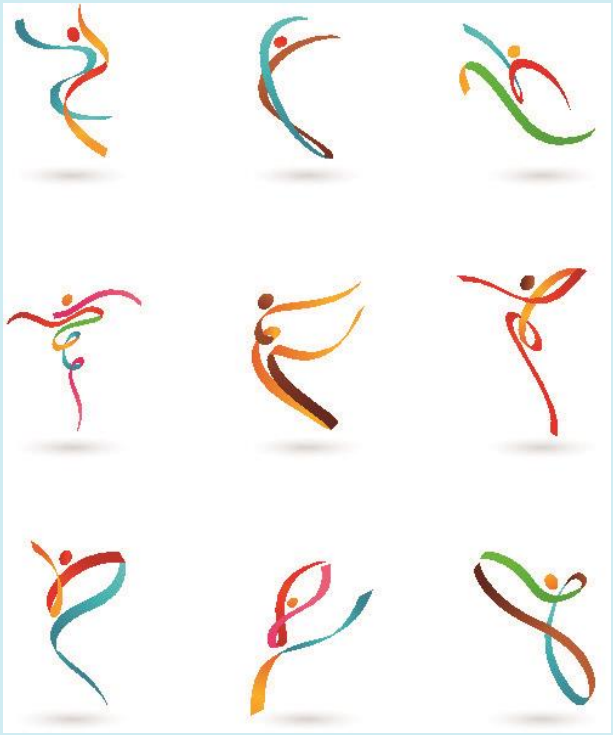
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Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83754444747?pwd=xfmYe5xgMLZZkB6Px7QHLVKZ8ihttG.1

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.



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

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Meeting chat link
https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/jc/88132001352

Meeting ID: 881 3200 1352
Passcode: Dance

FredMeyer community rewards

Where shopping & giving unite



" 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!

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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!

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