



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 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Homecoming

September 27, 2026

This Sunday's Ministry Team:

Presider & Preacher: 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



Change Happens

"There is a great modern proverb: Shit happens. We take for granted that this is the case, that events are constantly occurring, change is always happening, and sadly, not necessarily for the better. Yet from a scientific perspective, we shouldn't take for granted the fact that anything happens. It all could have been otherwise, but somehow it isn't. Somehow space-time is out there, expanding and particles are all over the place, moving." - Dr. Chanda Prescod-Weinstein, The Edge of Space-Time: Particles, Poetry, and the Cosmic Dream Boogie.

I turned on the heat yesterday. Even though it happens every fall, there's always a moment when I am surprised that I could have been so hot yesterday and feel so cold [today](#). Sometimes change happens without our knowledge or consent.

When I asked 70 people in 2021 what sort of changes had happened in their lives, I heard: Lockdowns, Job changes, Divorce, Death, New children, Move to a new place. While some of those changes were foisted upon respondents, others weren't entirely voluntary. Sometimes we want to keep working but get fired or laid off. Sometimes we want people we love to keep being with us, but they leave or die.

The thing about change is that we can't always choose the changes that impact us. We can always decide how to respond to change.

In Buddhism, this idea is embodied by the Four Noble Truths which include Dukkha and Sumadaya. Dukkha, or the pain of existing as a sensate decaying being, is natural for humans. This pain happens whether we choose it or not. Sumadaya is the suffering we experience when we become attached to both the pain and pleasure of existence. In other words, change happens and suffering happens when we choose attachment to what already is over unfolding reality. Suffering happens when we resist pain instead of finding a way to exist within and alongside it.

As an Episcopalian, I look to the wisdom found in Scripture, our Christian tradition and reason. For me reason includes the whole body of human knowledge as captured by the rigors of the scientific method. When I compare these ways of talking about change, I think about the ultimate truth that Christians call “death” and “resurrection.”

In the past month, I’ve watched a lot of change happen from my perch. Two people who have been alive and known to me my entire life are dead. I started driving carpool every school day for my kid and neighbor. Our community knows that there won’t be a pallet shelter at 1321 Sheridan. D.R. Horton is interested in putting a lot of townhouses in Harrison Heights.

As I encounter these artifacts of change, I choose to commit to what is becoming. That choice is not a lack of love for those who are not here. That choice is not a lack of love for who we were.

I am committed to my kids and my neighbor’s kids learning about the wideness and wonder of the world. I am committed to our leadership at St. Paul’s finding ways to be better neighbors to the unhoused folks who live here now and the neighbors that are moving in. I’m talking about and preparing for change to make the future more wholesome and connected as what was.

(A) Change is gonna come. Choose.

-The Rev. Arianne

A letter from Declan:

For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you visited me.

Matthew 25: 35 – 40.

My dearest Saint Paul’s brothers and sisters in Christ,

The cool weather last night and this morning brought out the beginning of my winter clothes for which you beloved friends provided for me when my home was destroyed. Virtually every piece of clothing I have in my position at this moment is the result of your generosity and your commitment to me as a member of your community. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you for your generous love and your constant comfort.

I pray you, forgive me for taking so long to write this thank you note but to be perfectly honest between caring for Darrell, the destruction of my home, and an impending divorce, I am in one of the deepest valleys of my adult life, emotionally and physically. But in my darkness your light shown like a beacon on a hill always proclaiming God's love and care.

For those who donated clothing, I thank you, every time I wear them I shall think of you and utter a quick prayer for a blessing on whoever you are, all of you. For those of you who were so generous as to offer financial assistance, the basis of my daily wardrobe was purchased with your gifts and so every day I wear a testimony to your love.

I ask your prayers during these days of trouble, for guidance, wisdom, and understanding and dealing with the insurance agents and contractors for our home, the continued good health of my brother Darrell and my own health issues for which I will be undergoing hand surgery on the 8th of October.

My beloved brother and sisters I remind you that it is not on the mountain tops where growth occurs but rather it is in the valleys which are difficult, but real growth can come forth. I guess this is just my time to grow a little bit closer to God and I am so very grateful that I have you to make that journey with me and to give me encouragement.

With praise and adoration for our loving God I remain yours,
Father Declan+
Old Catholic Church



 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



St. Antony Grief Group

Drop-in Grief Group starting September 1st
will meet monthly on the 1st Tuesday
12:00pm

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!

Keep Scrolling



2026 Women of Achievement

Friday, October 9, 2026 • 5:30pm

Kitsap Conference Center

100 Washington Ave, Bremerton, WA 98337

More than an awards celebration, **Women of Achievement** is an inspiring evening that brings together community leaders, business professionals, philanthropists, and changemakers who share a commitment to building a safer, stronger, and more equitable Kitsap County. Through powerful stories, meaningful recognition, and collective generosity, we celebrate those who are making a lasting difference while raising critical support for survivors of domestic violence and their families.

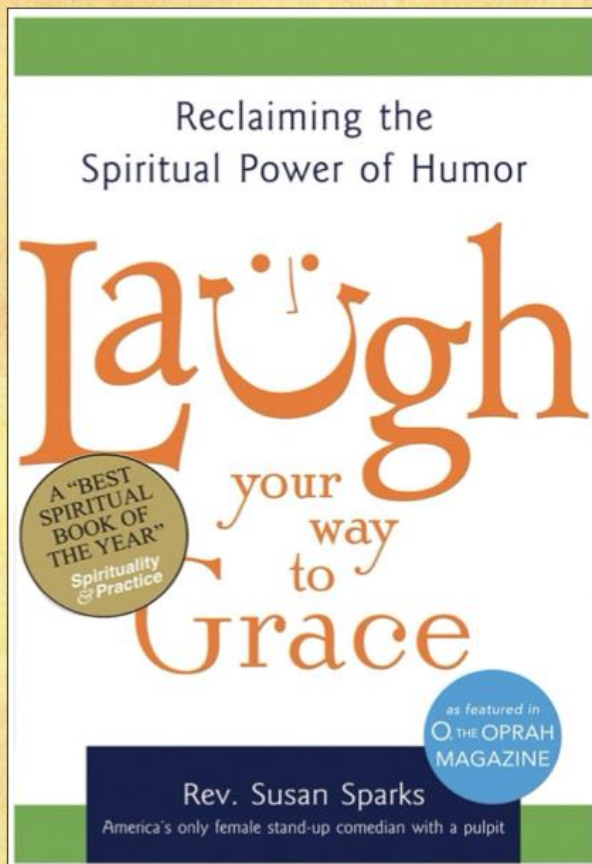
To learn more, click here: <https://ywcakitsap.org/events>

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

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 September 24th edition!](#)



Faith Formation
LIFELONG AND ONGOING



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

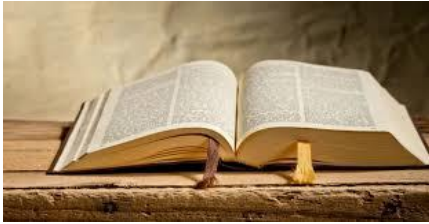
Sundays
8:50 to 9:20 a.m.
Between services.

'Being Episcopalian'

All are welcome!



Keep Scrolling



St. Paul's Bible Study Group

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

- **Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20**
 - **Psalm 19**
- **Philippians 3:4b-14**
- **Matthew 21:33-46**

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:

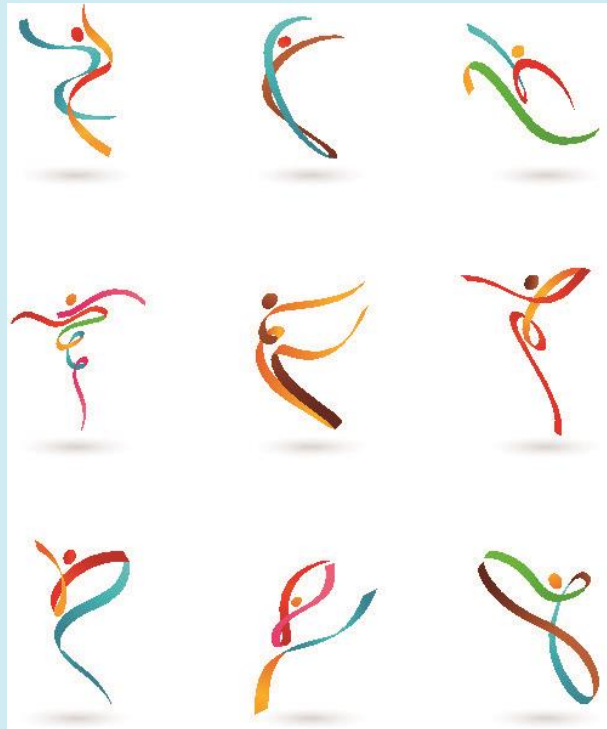
Topic: Bible Study Zoom Meeting
Time: Sep 2, 2026 09:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

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>

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!**

Keep Scrolling

Please submit any changes/updates for the
Halls of St. Paul's or Prayer Vine to Jessica Lewis
at stpaul700@gmail.com. Thanks!

Keep Scrolling