



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 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Homecoming

September 20, 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



Pallet Shelter update: Rezone measure defeated

Many months ago, I learned that our neighborhood may be the site of some sort of emergency and transitional housing. I was very excited, but a little cautious. What seemed like comparable plans were shot down by neighbors every time a site was identified to potential neighbors.

While opponents of a rezoning effort were frustrated at being characterized as “NIMBY’s” [Not-In-My-Back-Yard], **Bremerton has a history of this. We famously rejected a site for a Methadone clinic in Charleston in the 2010s.**

Visible drug use in my neighborhood continued to rise until better treatment options became available and COVID era public health emergency support turned the tide. While folks may not begin from a place of “I want to exclude people from my neighborhood,” the actions we take to protect our culture and property end up having the effect of preventing meaningful help for poor and sick people in our back yards.

On Tuesday, we had the second of two community meetings. At the first, we talked about the comprehensive plan for homelessness and the Harrison Heights subarea (development plan). While these state and regional plans were in effect beginning in 2025, our congregation’s leaders weren’t a part of the planning effort due to our clergy transition and our organizational recovery from COVID. The meeting gave folks a chance to share not only concerns about the shelter and planned development but our hopes for a humane community that includes people of all socio-economic conditions.

At the second meeting, we reviewed what we had learned about the project and plans. We also talked about the importance of treating public speech and activism as a spiritual practice. We practiced breathing techniques and learned about meditations and prayers. These gifts of our spiritual tradition help people focus on their personal and bodily integrity when engaging in civil discourse and conflict. Then, we remembered together that St. Paul’s was going to be a neighbor to everyone in the Council Meeting Room for a very long time. Rather

than focus only on what our members might say to persuade people, we also talked about what kind of care and service we wanted to show all our neighbors at the City Council meeting.

On Wednesday, several members of St. Paul's were present when the City Council heard testimony, then voted to NOT rezone 1321 Sheridan to allow rigid temporary structures for up to 3 years. This means it's unlikely that there will be new *emergency or transitional* housing in our neighborhood for a while. It's also likely that when the economy is more favorable to private real estate development, we will see a much denser and gentrifying neighborhood emerge around us.

As St. Paul's leaders prepare to discern a call that would make the Priest in Charge a Rector, we are looking ahead to what generational gift we have to offer Harrison Heights. Two generations ago, we worked with Episcopal Retirement Communities to secure affordable independent living for seniors in this neighborhood. A generation ago, we hosted the Lord's Diner that supported volunteers from around Bremerton in feeding our hungry neighbors.

[Today](#), our neighborhood needs emergency housing for the most vulnerable people and a place where neighbors can learn to trust and value each other.

-The Rev. Arianne

In Memoriam: The Rev. Jennifer Julian Pratt

The Rev. Jennifer Julian Pratt was a member of St. Paul's years ago. Some of you may remember her. We received the following email about her death from the Rt. Rev. Phil LaBelle:

"I have recently learned of the death of The Rev. Jennifer Julian Pratt. I encourage you to both pray for the repose of her soul, and that you continue reading to learn more about her life and ministry.

Jennifer Julian Pratt was born in San Francisco on October 11, 1948. Her parents were Phillips & Frances Pratt. Her parents were not religious, though Jennifer was drawn to the church as a child. Jennifer talked her parents into giving her a Bible for her twelfth birthday, and she began reading it, starting with Genesis. At one point, she began attending the local Methodist Church on her own and later joined the youth group. By young adulthood, she became skeptical of religion. Jennifer graduated from the University of California in 1966 with a Bachelor of Arts.

The birth of her first child at twenty-four changed her thinking because she felt profoundly beloved and gifted; that was the beginning of her personal relationship with God. This led her to attend St. Paul's Church in Bremerton in 1976. She developed a keen gift of listening during her time as a parish secretary at St. Paul's.

Jennifer continued to explore her faith with encouragement from Rev. Norm Johns and later Rev. Joe Mikel. She started taking courses at the Diocesan School of Theology, now called the Iona School. She also belonged to a club that helped people practice public speaking. Jennifer became a Lay Reader and Lay Eucharistic Minister at St. Paul's. As Jennifer was preparing to graduate in June 1990, her husband of seven years divorced her. Jennifer wanted to continue her personal growth, so she started at Seattle University's School of Theology in 1991. On June 13, 1992, she married William Smith.

Jennifer was deeply involved with both St. Paul's and St. Hugh of Lincoln, serving on the Vestry, as treasurer, prayer minister, and choir member, and helping with various church fundraisers and community projects.

Around the time Jennifer started seminary, she and William felt they needed a change and started attending St. Hugh of Lincoln in Allyn. She graduated with her MDiv in 1996 and was ordained to the Diaconate by Bishop Vincent Waydell Warner on November 5, 1997, and to the priesthood by Assistant Bishop Sanford Zangwill Kaye Hampton on June 20, 1998, at St. Hugh of Lincoln. After ordination, she served as director of Christian Education at St. John's Church in Gig Harbor.

At St. Hugh of Lincoln, Jennifer was part of the Total Common Ministry. On Sundays when she did not serve at St. Hugh, she filled in at St. John's in Gig Harbor as needed. She sometimes served with Father Doug and delivered sermons. In addition, Jennifer led monthly services at the Women's Correctional Facility in Purdy and received thanks from Governor Christine Gregoire. She also served as a facilitator in the Diocese's Total Ministry development program. She also wrote a description of Total Common Ministry that was circulated throughout the Diocese.

Jennifer enjoyed gardening, reading, movies, hiking, and camping. She died on September 6, 2026.

Please join me in prayer for Jennifer and all those who loved and cared for her. May she rest in peace and rise in glory."

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!



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>

Keep Scrolling



Photo by Kremlin photographer during the 1988 Reagan-Gorbachev summit.



Carol J. Williams

Carol J. Williams:
'Dispatches From Moscow – Spies and Lies'

Carol J. Williams is a retired foreign correspondent who covered the historic upheaval that ended the Cold War in an award-winning 35-year career with Associated Press and Los Angeles Times. She lived through the USSR's brief era of hope for reform and the tragic consequences of its failure.

She followed Eastern Europe's euphoric rebellions that toppled Communist tyrants from Berlin to Bucharest. In Yugoslavia, she documented the rise of ethnic and religious nationalism fanned by corrupt leaders who pushed their peoples into devastating wars. Her dispatches from Afghanistan, Iraq, and Ukraine traced those conflicts to unresolved ideological disputes from their days of imperial oppression.

Williams is a graduate of the University of Washington and holds a journalist law certificate from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles. She lives with her husband Ken Olsen, a retired editor, in Silverdale.

In-Person Only program: Friday, September 18, 2026

Time: 6 to 8:30 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 700 Callahan Drive, Bremerton

FREE; donations welcome at the door.

Register and learn more at EnlightenKitsap.org.

Enlighten Kitsap Community Forum is a licensed nonprofit corporation (not a 501c3) with no affiliation to any religious organization or political party.

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

Friday

Sept. 18

Enlghten Kitsap
6:30 p.m.

Church Sanctuary

Carol J. Williams,
"Dispatches
from Moscow:
Spies and
Lies."



All welcome

enlightenkitsap.org

Sunday

Sept. 20

Holy Eucharist
8 a.m.

**17th Sunday
after Pentecost**

Sunday

Sept. 20

Faith Formation
Series

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



Being
Episcopalian

Sunday

Sept. 20

Holy Eucharist
10 a.m.

Followed by
Coffee Hour

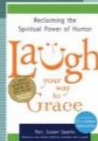
**17th Sunday
after Pentecost**

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. 23

St. Paul's
Bible Study

9:30 a.m.
Oliver Room

Readings

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78: 1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Zoom?
Contact Sue
Ahrens
360-471-2139

Wednesday

Sept. 23

Moved by the Spirit
Liturgical Dance

11:30 a.m.
Via Zoom



Contact Georgann
Falotico for more
information at
(360) 908-3388 or
georganns@hotmail.com.

Sunday

Sept. 27

Holy Eucharist
8 & 10 a.m.

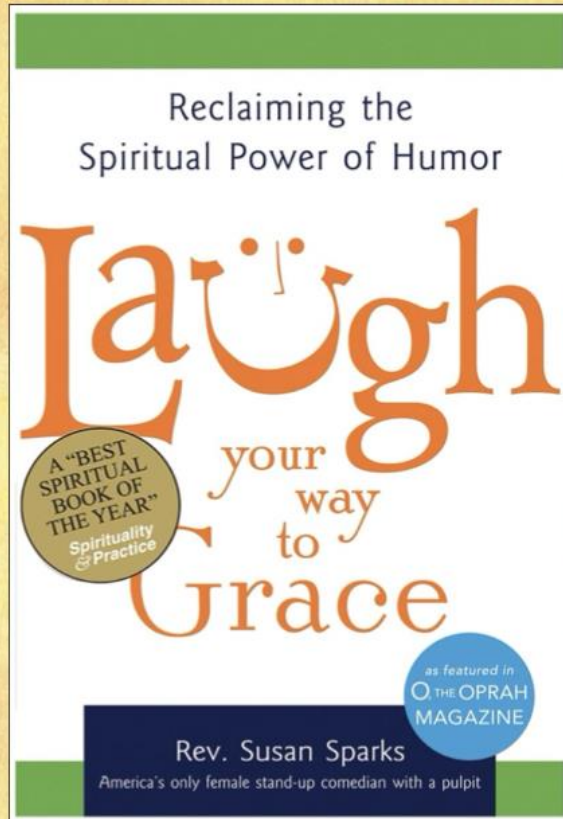
Followed by
Coffee Hour

**18th Sunday
after Pentecost**

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 September 17th edition!](#)



Faith Formation
LIFELONG AND ONGOING



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

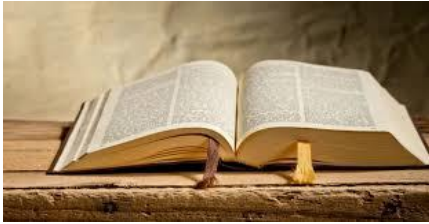
**Sundays
8:50 to 9:20 a.m.
Between services.**

'Being Episcopalian'

All are welcome!



Keep Scrolling



St. Paul's Bible Study Group

We will next meet on **Wednesday,
September 23 at 9:30 am** in the
Oliver Room to discuss the following
readings:

- Exodus 17:1-7
- Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
- Philippians 2:1-13
- Matthew 21:23-32

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)

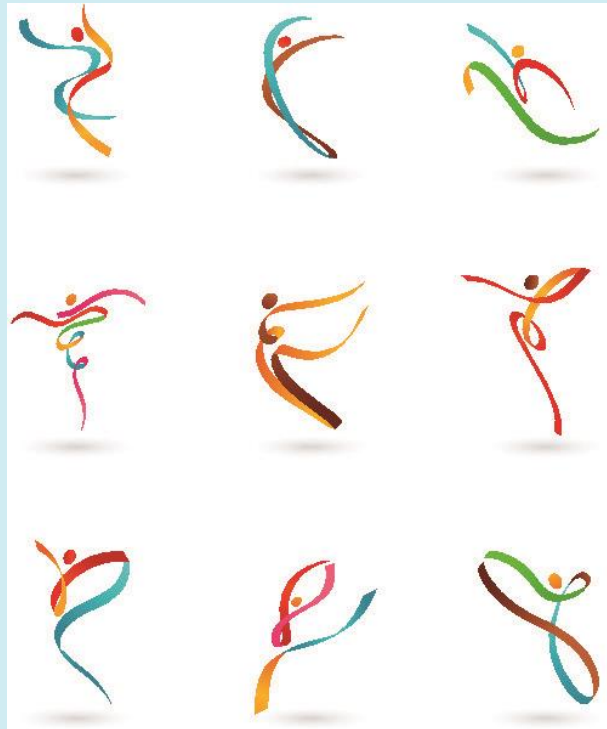
Join Zoom Meeting

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83754444747?pwd=xfmYe5xgMLZZkB6Px7
QHLVKZ8ihttG.1](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!**

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