



St. Paul's by the Salish Sea Episcopal Church

An Inclusive and Progressive
Community of Faith

Who, led by the Spirit, are guided to provide a safe harbor
for those on their spiritual journey.
And who work to bring God's loving justice into our world in need.

August 8, 2021
Proper 14

News for our Community

Good Afternoon Friends!

Oh, it's SOOOOO good to be home! While we were away on vacation, **there was a smash and grab that happened in the church parking lot.** It happened in a place where we have no camera's. I've spoken to Canterbury about that and it will be brought to their board. But just as a reminder, when you come to church, please make sure to lock the doors of your car, put any enticing stuff out of sight (or bring it into church). We just want you and your property safe when you are here.

For the most part I've been out of the loop on the news. Though as we were traveling through the Southwest, the news about the **mass graves being found at the "Indian Schools" that were run by the churches of both the US and Canada broke.** Here is the Pastoral Letter that was put out by our Presiding Bishop:

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Statement on Indigenous Boarding Schools by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and President of the House of Deputies Gay Clark Jennings

In Genesis, God conferred dignity on all people by creating them in God’s own image—a belief that is shared by all Abrahamic faiths. We are grieved by recent discoveries of mass graves of Indigenous children on the grounds of former boarding schools, where Indigenous children experienced forced removal from their homes, assimilation and abuse. These acts of cultural genocide sought to erase these children’s identities as God’s beloved children.

We condemn these practices and we mourn the intergenerational trauma that cascades from them. We have heard with sorrow stories of how this history has harmed the families of many Indigenous Episcopalians.

While complete records are unavailable, we know that The Episcopal Church was associated with Indigenous schools during the 19th and 20th centuries. We must come to a full understanding of the legacies of these schools.

As chair and vice-chair of Executive Council, and in consultation with our church’s Indigenous leaders, we pledge to make right relationships with our Indigenous siblings an important focus of the work of Executive Council and the 80th General Convention.

To that end, we commit to the work of truth and reconciliation with Indigenous communities in our church. We pledge to spend time with our Indigenous siblings, listening to their stories and history, and seeking their wisdom about how we can together come to terms with this part of our history. We call upon Executive Council to deliver a comprehensive proposal for addressing the legacy of Indigenous schools at the 80th [General Convention](#), including earmarking resources for independent research in the archives of The Episcopal Church, options for developing culturally appropriate liturgical materials and plans for educating Episcopalians across the church about this history, among other initiatives.

We also commend Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland on her [establishment](#) of the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative and the effort to “shed light on the traumas of the past.” The Episcopal Church is also working to support legislation that will establish a truth and healing commission on Indian boarding school policy, which would complement the Department of the Interior’s [new initiative](#).

As followers of Jesus, we must pursue truth and reconciliation in every corner of our lives, embracing God’s call to recognition of wrongdoing, genuine lamentation, authentic apology, true repentance, amendment of life and the nurture of right relationships. This is the Gospel path to becoming beloved community.

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In our travels, we were surprised at the varying levels of vaccination rates in each state: Eastern OR very poor, as was all of Idaho. Northern New Mexico was pretty good, but with lower rates among the Pueblo people and Hispanics. We tried to stay safe in our travels, wouldn't it be nice if we could SEE this virus. Yet even as careful as we were, I was sick once we got home. Both of us were tested and were negative, but it's for this reason that we are back to masking on Sunday mornings.

All the ceiling leak problems in the sanctuary have been fixed and repainted. And with a NEW ROOF, we should have NO MORE leaks for at least 50 years! I think that I told you that we were looking into getting ceiling fans for the sanctuary, and we've been pricing this out. **BUT what we seem to be finding, is that AC would actually cost about the same amount.** So stay tuned to what your Vestry decides on this issue. If the heat we've been experiencing on Sunday mornings, is the new normal, we need to consider best how to a community in these temperature. Maybe we could personal fans to everyone in the church to blow up their skirts, like Marty did that one Sunday.

And finally, a BIG thanks to the Vestry members who are working on doing an inventory of everything that we have in this building. It was something I started doing in 2011 after arriving here, on a video camera that is now out of date. It's something that we've talked about doing for YEARS! And finally, it's actually getting done. It's like a scavenger hunt in many ways, locating, for example church flags.... we found two more in a closet. So let me ask you? Do you know what a "sedilla" is, and does our church have one?

BIG HUGS TO YOU ALL!!!

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS

I just added new paper, cleared out the broken crayons, and put in new things to keep our little ones busy on Sunday morning. These bags are located just inside the door of the church, and are set up for our youngest kiddos.

This ministry could really use some new eyes on it. My kids are way past this age, and I think a parent or a grandparent would have a better idea of what would be something the kids would like in their activity bags. Might that person be YOU!!!

We are looking for outgrown books, imaginative QUIET toys, and anything else that you think our kids would enjoy. Though not everyone is back to attending right now, they will be in the future. Thanks for your help!!!



We are considering starting up a **Pastoral Care** team this fall. This team would receive training here in the church, and would be prepared to do home visits, i.e. taking communion to our homebound folks. They would also have the option of being part of a **Healing/Prayer Team** that would be available to pray with those seeking extra prayer after receiving communion on Sunday mornings. If this sounds interesting to you, please let Mother Kathleen know.

The Book Group Of St. Paul's will finish *The Book of Forgiving* by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu this coming Monday. We found the book very helpful with a Fourfold Path for healing and forgiving.

Next we plan to have a one night discussion on Monday, August 16th at 6:30PM to review *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd. This is a great read. It is fiction,

"based in meticulous research and written with a reverential approach to Jesus's life that focuses on his humanity. *The Book of Longings* is an inspiring, unforgettable account of one woman's bold struggle to realize the passion and potential inside her, while living in a time, place, and culture devised to silence her."

Read the book and join us on Zoom. I found the book hard to put down and a great read.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85253008185?pwd=U0dVUjYrTHBtSnFIUIZaa2Z2UURDZz09>

Meeting ID: 852 5300 8185

Passcode: journey



From the Lord's Neighborhood Diner:

We need volunteers!

St. Paul's and the Lord's Neighborhood Diner are now supporting the Salvation Army by preparing dinner ONCE A MONTH ON THE SECOND SATURDAY of every month between 2:30 and 5:30 pm. It is a safe environment, and you can park behind the Salvation Army for free. Temperatures are checked at the door, everyone wears masks, and gloves are provided in the kitchen. We prepare 45-70 dinners and put our delicious cuisine in containers that the Salvation Army staff distribute to the hungry folks. You will only be working in the kitchen and will not have direct contact with the diners.

Please let me know if you are willing to work the upcoming month of:
Saturday, August 14th (We've got July covered!)

Thank you to all those who have previously volunteered: Sue Ahrens, Jim Manlove, Tara Chambless, Bonda Lewis, and Mary Jo Melia.

Blessings,
Jackie King
Jackie_king@comcast.net
(206) 849-2803



Hello my
friends,

It's time for
another
Brigade

Bremerton Backpack Brigade

Serving the first needs of the
child, so that they may learn



newsletter! We're just starting to gear up for the new school year, but there are food drives and backpack collections going on between now and then that you might want to know about ahead of time.

I guess the most important thing to know about this upcoming year is that the kids will be back in school (in-person) and we'll resume packing and delivering on Fridays (or the last day of the school week) like we've done before. The schedule will be included in the September newsletter.

We're excited to see you all this fall, and don't forget: We'd love you to invite friends to come join us when you volunteer!

See ya soon,

Myra

[Click to read the August newsletter](#)

LIVE AUG 14 THREE WHEELS TURNING



Three Wheels Turning is a trio that synthesizes the skills, tunes & hearts of multi-instrumentalist songwriters Micaela Kingslight, Samara Jade and Aimée Ringle. For planning purposes, please RSVP by Aug 4. duanedelessart@gmail.com

de Lessart House
2258 Erlands Pt. Rd. NW

Concert starts at 6:00 p.m.

*(Pending CDC Guidelines
Buffet Dinner at 5:00 p.m.)*

- We are asking only those who are fully vaccinated to attend.
- BYOB
- Duane's Sangrias and Citrus infused water will be available.
- Suggested Tips/Donations \$25
- For planning purposes, please RSVP by Aug 4.
- duanedelessart@gmail.com



Bible Study will be meeting at St. Paul's in the Oliver Room on Wednesday, Aug. 11 at 9:30 AM.

The readings we will be studying are:

Proverbs

9:1-6

Psalm 34:9-14

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58



All are invited to join us!

If you have any questions, call Sue Ahrens at 360.471.2139

**A Holy
Waste of
Time
Weekend
Retreat
for Young
Adults**

Adults in
their 20s &
30s from
around the

Diocese of Olympia are invited to a weekend of fun, friendship, faith, and blessed time-wasting at [St. Andrew's House](#) from August 20-22, 2021.



Feel free to choose your own adventure! Options for time-wasting include: kayaking, paddleboarding, and swimming the beautiful calm waters of the Puget Sound; taking a hike on the forest trails nearby; or simply reading and sunning at the lodge. We'll also offer some optional activities like yoga, music, and art. Each evening we'll close with prayer and song, and on Sunday morning we'll celebrate Eucharist together.

\$110/person includes lodging, delicious locally-sourced meals, and all activities. Scholarships available. More info. and register here:

<https://holy-waste-of-time.eventbrite.com>



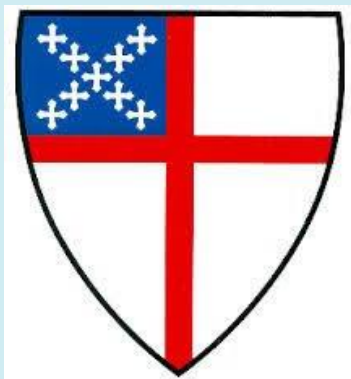
Two weeks before global climate

negotiations, on 17 and 18 October, people of diverse religions will rise to send a message: destroying the planet is against our religions.

Join us for Faiths 4 Climate Justice Kickoff.

Call to learn more about this event!

[Click here for more information on Faiths 4 Climate Justice](#)



Church office hours:

Tuesdays - Thursdays

10:00AM - 2:00PM

**If you require assistance,
please call Philip at 360-377-
0106 or**

email stpaul700@gmail.com.