

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

(In Exile in the Parish Hall 11.7 - ?)

**WE ARE AN INCLUSIVE  
AND PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY OF  
FAITH**

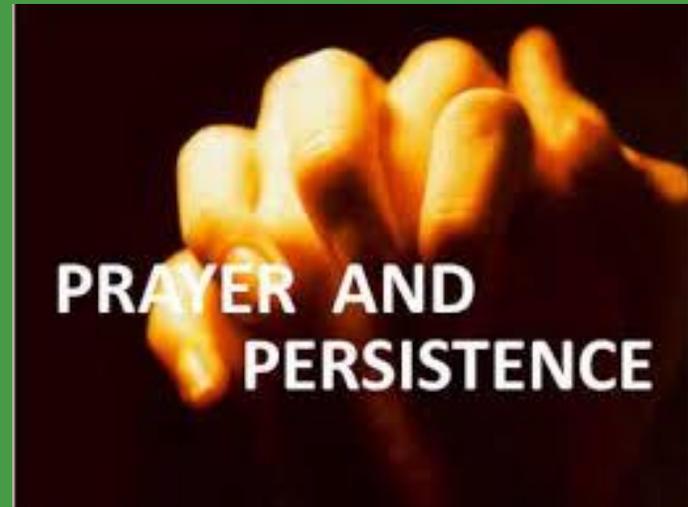
Who, led by the Spirit, are guided to provide a safe  
harbor

for those on their spiritual journey.

And who work to bring God's loving justice into our world in need.

**November 21, 2021**

**Proper 29**



## **This Sunday's Ministry Team:**

*Episcopal Priests: The Rev. Kathleen Kingslight & the Rev. David Dinkins*

*Vergers: The Rev. Declan Jarry III*

*Vestry Greeter: Georgann Falotico*

*Lay Readers: Jackie King, Mackenzie Cahill & Alice Gray*

*Altar Guild: Terri Anderson, Tara Chambless & Mackenzie Cahill*

**FROM THE DESK OF YOUR RECTOR**

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**THE BUILDING UPDATE:** There is **order coming out of the chaos**. If you haven't seen the sanctuary lately, this is how it looked Thursday afternoon. The area of the altar has all been taken out, and the area above the altar and beam to the back has been stripped of the sheet rock where mold was discovered.

You will see a **dumpster** in the parking lot on Sunday, it is the second one there. All the trash from the sanctuary, as well as all the leaking and broken gutters up on high have nearly filled the first dumpster, and this is the second one. So along with all the racket and mess from the tear out, the gutter guys fixed gutters on Friday.

**Almost Free Gutters** has a bit more to do on Monday, but they've done a fantastic job!  
And **Karen Hobson** as our PM (Project manager)

has supervised and answered questions and been the friendly face of the parish for all the workers.

**PLEASE NOTE THIS AS IMPORTANT!!!!** The water damage affected one of the walls of the kitchen area downstairs, so the two back doors to the parish hall are blocked off for this week. **Sunday's entrance to church is at the door by the fig tree.** Park in empty spots nearby, or in the back of the church, and walk to the fig tree area. I hope that this is clearer than mud. We'll find out who has read the Halls and who hasn't on Sunday by the level of confusion.

We've decided to try something different this week **for worship... we'll be sitting around tables** like we do when we have a Seder. Communion will be coming to you, instead of you coming to the altar. The hope is that this will keep us all Covid safer, as well as build community in the midst of all this change.

And speaking of which, **I'm proud of how everyone is doing!** This is a challenge for all of us, and I've been impressed with your flexibility. Thank you! When this is all done we will have a renovated, water free sanctuary, and a newly floored parish hall. Alleluia!

**Keep scrolling ....**

**As usual please make sure that you sign in for contact tracing, wear your masks, and we will continue to be the church... maybe in exile to the basement, but still St. Paul's Episcopal Church by the Salish Sea.**

**SEE YA IN THE PARISH HALL ON SUNDAY!**

Mother Kathleen+

**Keep scrolling ....**

# Every Perfect Gift

## The Gift of Relationship

Jesus stands before Pilate. We know this story. We hear it on Good Friday, we remember it every week in the Nicene Creed. And our ears hear it anew today, on the cusp of Advent, as we are emerging and rebuilding from an unimaginable time of pandemic. Once again, we proclaim Christ the King of all Creation.

As Jesus and Pilate talk, we learn something powerful about who Jesus is and how he serves God and humanity. We are reminded of who he is called to be and what he has come here to do. And it invites us to wonder who we are and who we are called to be, in this moment, in this season of our lives, and in this moment of our Church. What strikes me how Jesus acts in the time of trial. He acts with integrity. He makes a choice to remain wholly who he is, firmly rooted in love of God and clear about the work he has come to do. In that moment Jesus stays true to who he is. His trust in God remains steadfast too.

We're invited to do the same. We know this in a distinct way in stewardship season. Our money is one of the most powerful and honest symbols of what we offer to God and to the church. It is one of the truest ways we can understand what we value and what we believe. Faithful, selfless and generous giving invites into a deeper relationship with God and our money. And it requires us to do the hard, but essential work of looking deep within to discover what we truly value, what we consider most precious. | [tens.org](https://www.tens.org)

*The Rev. Sarah Fisher is rector of St. Catherine's Church in Marietta, Georgia and is a former member of the Board of Directors for TENS.*



### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. As we emerge from the pandemic, many of us are rebuilding—lives, jobs, churches. How in this post-pandemic time do you understand Christ the King? Has your understanding of God's faithfulness shifted or changed?
2. What do you notice in your own life about your relationship to God and your wallet? What story does it tell you?

**OUR MINISTRY TO THE WORLD:** We will continue to offer our services online even after the pandemic recedes. So to do that, and while making the experience seamless, we need to upgrade! We are in conversation with Ellis Pro-Media and will keep all of you in the loop with what's happening. We have been offered a **matching donation of \$5000 to update and equip the church for this our video ministry to the world.**

**Will you help us raise the matching funds to make this a reality?**

Please make donations online or with checks with the notation of "**Our Ministry to the World,**" or with cash in an envelope Sunday morning with the same notation. **We are getting close to our goal!**  
**THANK YOU!!!!**



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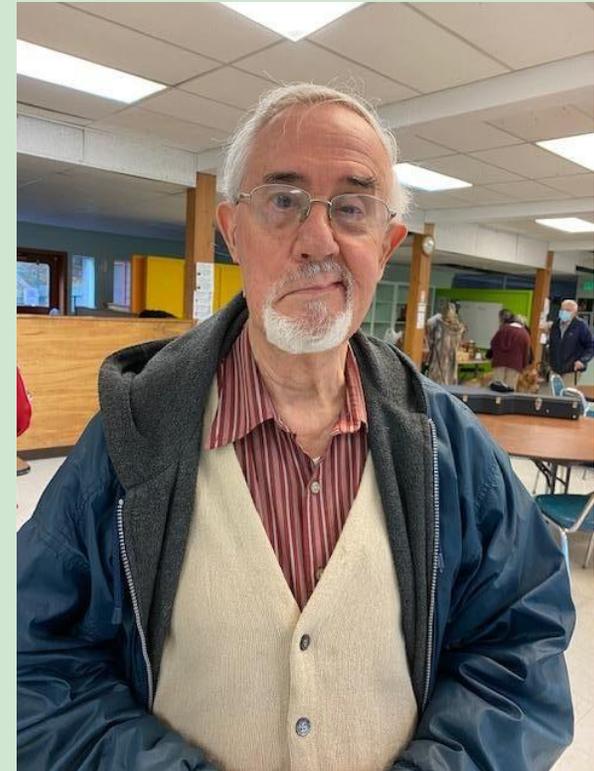
### **A Message from Stanley Hess:**

Dear friends,  
At the request of Mother Kathleen, I shall try to explain a bit of what is happening with me medically.

Some have wondered if I have had a stroke. The answer is no. What I have developed is Bell's Palsy, a condition that causes temporary weakness or paralysis of the muscles in the face. In my case, it causes paralysis on the right side of the face as well as dry eye and dry mouth. As you may have noticed during my reading last Sunday, it does affect my speech. It also affects my eating, primarily the placing of food or drink in my mouth with the partial loss of lip control.

According to the literature, the causes are unknown. In most cases, the weakness is "temporary" but can last for months or even years. The onset of the condition was brought to my attention at a dinner during a visit of my brother David and his wife Evelyn and their son Jeff for David's CKHS Class of 1953 reunion. Jeff asked if I had had a stroke. That shock set the ball rolling to seek medical attention. As some of you know, COVID has greatly impacted medical services on all levels. Scheduling appointments, doctor's vacations, unfamiliar doctors, etc., have impacted the rate of seeking attention and services. Early tests seemed to rule out stroke and confirm Bell's Palsy. Currently, I am receiving physical therapy, first on my neck, and now on my face, trying to stimulate and re-educate the face muscles to function. I ask for your prayers and understanding. I am not patient in wanting to see immediate improvement.

Stanley



**Keep scrolling ....**

<b>Ballot</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

Here's a little pre-Thanksgiving quiz about St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Bremerton:

- Are we going to have a choir, with a music director?
- Are we going to be able to offer a consistent Christian education program?
- What's the status of our rector, Mother Kathleen Kingslight? Is she half-time? Three-quarters time? Can she be full-time?
- What other ministries can we offer to parishioners and the Bremerton community?

These questions and more will be answered in the next couple of week as parishioners turn in their pledges for 2022. Once we have those pledges in hand, the executive team and Vestry can review finances and propose a budget based on what we can afford.

St. Paul's is an independent parish. We get no operational money from the national Church or the Diocese of Olympia. Whatever money we want to spend, we have to raise that money from within the church, and most of that comes from pledges and offerings.

The parishioners and friends of St. Paul's have been extraordinarily generous since the pandemic began in early 2020. Still, the need to close the church, interrupting or even halting all that was going on within its walls, has had a dramatic effect. We've been able to pay our full expenses through the pandemic thanks only to proceeds from a land sale and the federal government's COVID Paycheck Protection Program.

But our expenses are falling steadily because we have less money to draw on. We'd love to reverse that trend, to be able to hire a music director, pay our rector for full-time work, keep up with basic expenses.

Can we? The answer will come soon, from our parishioners.

Thank you so much for your support these past years. Please continue to help as we use our parish and its gifts to fulfill our mission: To worship and serve Christ from a safe harbor for everyone on their spiritual journey.

— Richard Horn, stewardship co-chair

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Please join us for a powerful night:

A virtual viewing of the film **Since I Been Down**, followed by an impacted panel of speakers.

**Since I Been Down** spotlights prisoner Kimonti Carter and follows his efforts, as well as a wide group of prisoners, as they break free from their fate and create a model of education that is transforming their lives, their communities, our prisons, and our own humanity. Kimonti is currently serving a life sentence without the possibility of parole. And yet, he devotes himself every day to educating and expanding the perspectives of his fellow prisoners. Carter is a member of the #BlackPrisonersCaucus and started the prison led education program, T.E.A.C.H.

**Date:** November 30th

The screening will start at **5 pm**, followed by our panel at **6:45 pm**.

Our panel will feature:

- Family Advocate, Ginny Parham
- Formerly Incarcerated Leader, Eugene Youngblood, C.A.R.E. Coordinator (Freedom Project)
- Formerly Incarcerated Leader, Rep. Tarra Simmons, Elected Representative of the 23rd District

**[Click here for more information and registration](#)**

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There have been many of you who have expressed either an interest in working, or those interested in participating in the upcoming **COME AND SEE/ CURSILLO** weekend will be Memorial Day Weekend 2022. So the weekend will be **May 27-29, at Camp Huston**. Both John and I will be working the weekend, and a few others within our community as well. So I hope that you'll reconsider and decide yet again to join us for this weekend where we learn more

about God's love, and what it feels like in the midst of a wonderful community!!!!

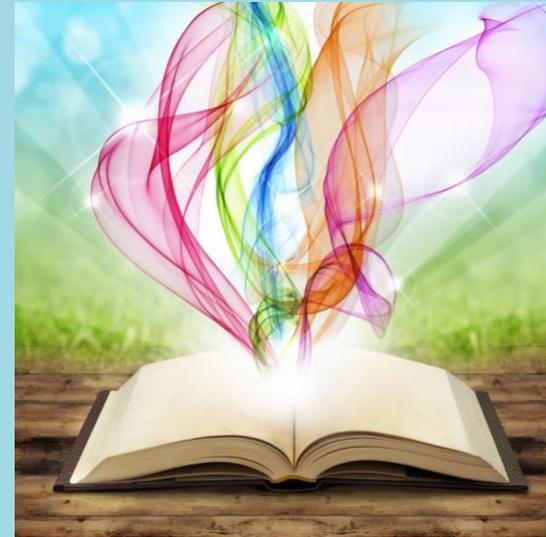
**BIG HUGS TO YOU ALL!!!**  
Mother Kathleen+

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## **The Book Group Of St. Paul's meets every Monday evening at 6:30 pm via Zoom.**

**We are currently reading: *Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road?: Christian Identity in a Multi-Faith World* by Brian D. McLaren**

McLaren uses the metaphor of great religious leaders crossing the road to converse about key matters of faith. Yet he seems to make the strongest case for fostering tolerance of other religions, while implementing Christian doctrine and maintaining Christian identity, through a single personal story. His brother offers to move some furniture into his new apartment and decides to play a practical joke, flooding the bathroom with several hundred balloons. McLaren must enlist the help of a neighbor boy to invite a virtual parade of children into the apartment to carry away the balloons. The resulting friendship between the Christian author and the Muslim boy provides an essential life lesson about loving our neighbors and tolerating their differences. McLaren makes additional valid points about the need to accept others and their various faiths while not compromising on Christian identity, but this particular anecdote leaves by far the most lasting impression. For Christians on the fence about whether to accept others and their faiths, or to insist that only Christianity can adequately serve, this book provides important insights. —Susan DeGrane



### **Come and Join Us!**

**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**

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Our **Family Christmas Project** is an exciting way to tangibly show youth experiencing homeless that they are loved. Youth participating in The Coffee Oasis youth programs fill out gift request forms. Then community partners like you "sponsor" youth so their gifts can be purchased. \$50 will provide Christmas presents for one youth!

**Would you consider partnering with us for this year's Family Christmas Project?**

We will have a digital partner packet available with video, slides, posters, fliers, and bulletin inserts! Enclosed is a link if you would like to receive our monthly pastors' newsletter, [These City Lights](#). We share upcoming events that churches may be interested in, interviews with local pastors, and current prayer requests. If you have prayer warriors in your congregation, we would love to be on their list!



**Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, Nov. 24 at 9:30am in the Oliver Room. We will discuss the readings for the following Sunday. The readings are:**

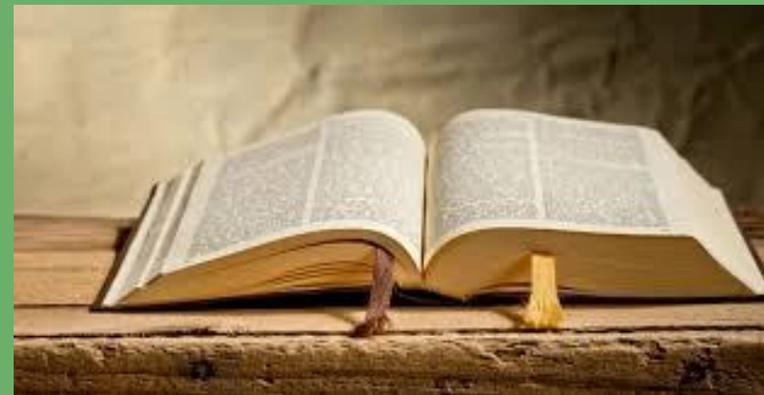
**Jeremiah 33:14-16**

**Psalm 25:1-9**

**1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

**Luke 21:25-36**

**All are welcome! Please contact Sue Ahrens at 360.471.2139 with any questions. See you on Wednesday!**



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## From the Lord's Neighborhood Diner:

We need volunteers!

St. Paul's and the Lord's Neighborhood Diner are supporting the Salvation Army by preparing dinner **on the second Saturday of every month** between 2:30 and 5:30pm. 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 date of:

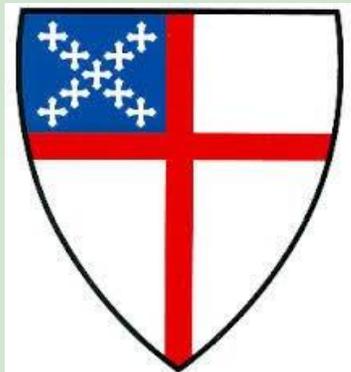
**Saturday, December 11th.**

Thank you to all those who have previously volunteered: Sue Ahrens, Jim Manlove, Tara Chambless, Bonda Lewis, Mary Jo Melia, Jennifer Laris, & Joseph Hayworth.

Blessings,  
Jackie King  
[Jackie\\_king@comcast.net](mailto:Jackie_king@comcast.net)  
(206) 849-2803



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**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](mailto:stpaul700@gmail.com).**

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