

May 2024

THE TORCH

ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, CAMANO ISLAND, WA

www.StAidanCamanoIsland.org

www.Facebook.com/StAidanCamanoIsland

Office@StAidansci.org 360-629-3969



From the Vicar

They say “April showers bring May flowers,” but the rhododendrons are already in full bloom on Camano Island! Nonetheless, May is still very much a transitional month. Many graduates will walk across the stage to receive their diplomas this month and embark on new chapters in their lives. Mothers will be honored for the gracious gifts and contributions they make to our families and communities, and this will point to the day in June when we will do the same for fathers. In addition, the summer festival kick-off dinner will happen May 21st and thus begin the journey to one of our most celebrated and cherished events of the year. And, of course, one would be remiss not to mention that Pentecost comes May 19th. On this feast the Church will have its “birthday” once more, recalling the day the Holy Spirit descended upon and empowered the disciples and apostles to move beyond those locked doors and into the world proclaiming the Good News of God’s love in Christ Jesus. May is kind of a big month!

After all of that, Trinity Sunday will arrive May 26th and shift us from the season of Easter into a period we call “Ordinary Time,” which is anything but ordinary. This is perhaps the greatest and most underrated change occurring in this beautiful month we call May. Simply put, ordinary is extraordinary. (It sounds a bit like an oxymoron, but it’s closer to a paradox.) Let me explain. In a time when everything is growing bigger, moving faster, and is more dynamic than ever the unadorned, simple, and ordinary things of life are where true joys are more likely to be found. There is something essential to leaning into the reality that life’s most precious and holy moments don’t usually happen online with a keyboard but on the front porch with a friend. The moments of holiness that truly propel us forward often look more like gratefulness washing over us as the breath-taking beauty of a flower in full bloom is really seen, and less like a YouTube video, rock concert, or an overbooked calendar. When we are tuned to hear and see the small blessings all around us we are primed to see the big ones too. The fact that the Church’s longest “season” of the year is “Ordinary Time” is either a happy accident or a stroke of deep wisdom.

As we move closer to Ordinary Time, Memorial Day weekend, and the long stretches of daylight that bless our days we might remember that the “ordinary” some folks experience is not so wonderful. A life in the throes of poverty is certainly simple, but hardly feels like blessing. A time of loss, grief and depression often reduce life down to simple day-by-day living, but such simplicity doesn’t always translate to hope. The season of “Ordinary Time”, however, can help us remember that it’s not typically big flashy overtures or one’s ability to fix things that matter. It’s the usually the most ordinary things that make the difference. Being present without words for those in pain is powerful medicine. A smile can shoot across the room like an arrow dipped in love and change a person’s whole day. It’s precisely in the ordinary that healing, wholeness and life happen.

As you move through the month of May, may you find joy as God leads you into new and ordinary and wonderful things.

Yours in Christ,
Drew+



From the Senior Warden

Pulling Together

This past winter, the film adaptation of Daniel James Brown's novel, "Boys in the Boat", was released to an admiring public — especially here in the Pacific Northwest. The "Boys in the Boat" were nine young sophomores, rowing for the University of Washington, who, against all odds, take on their upperclassmen, the wealthy fraternity kids of the East Coast and eventually, the Nazis in the 1936 Olympics.

For those of you who have not yet read the book or seen the movie, don't worry, I won't mention the ending, only to say that it was inspirational and brought to life what can be accomplished when people, young and old, are all ***pulling together*** for a common good.

Here at St Aidan's, we have not been challenged to physically row in an eight-oared shell or face the rigors of Olympic competition, however, we do face the challenges of sharing God's love through the efforts of our mutual ministries, such as, caring for and working to beautify our church facility and grounds and planning and preparing for the weekly liturgical services.

I marvel at what is regularly accomplished here at St. Aidan's and appreciate the efforts it takes to fulfill our mission goals. There are members faithfully working and ***pulling together*** accomplishing the small and large tasks, meeting the needs of our church and civic community and, all the while sharing the love of Christ. It sometimes feels like an Olympic event and we're rowing for gold — especially last month during Holy Week!

For the first time, seeing what it takes to plan and prepare for the blessed celebration of a risen Christ, through the eyes of a senior warden, I want to thank all of you who had any part in the efforts. A special thanks to our vicar, Father Drew! We all appreciate your leadership, vision and enthusiastic approach to liturgical worship. You're like the stroke oar of the Washington crew — thoughtfully setting the balance, pace and rhythm for St. Aidan's and its "crew" members. Thank you!

An excerpt from Daniel Brown's, "Boys in the Boat" ...

Great crews may have men or women of exceptional talent or strength; they may have outstanding coxswains or stroke oars or bowmen; but they have no stars. The team effort — the perfectly synchronized flow of muscle, oars, boat and water; the single, whole, unified, and beautiful symphony that a crew in motion becomes — is all that matters. Not the individual, not the self.

Mr. Brown continues ...

The highly refined coordination and cooperation must be multiplied out across eight individuals of varying statures and physiques to make the most of each individual's strength. Only in this way can the capabilities that come with diversity — lighter, more technical rowers in the bow and stronger, heavier pullers in the middle of the boat, for instance — be turned to advantage rather than disadvantage.

His words are thoughtful and enlightening.

Like a synchronized crew in motion, we, too are a team, made up of different statures, strengths and capabilities. We're working together for a unified purpose and that is to share our faith and reflect back to our community, the light of Christ. We're a team of exceptional talents and interests ***pulling together*** for a single purpose.

If you have been thinking about becoming more involved here at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, there are several ministries to consider. You would be very welcome! There is much to do and our work-outs and hours of training do vary. It's a team effort and we're all ***pulling together***. For sure, you'll have a seat in our boat!

Vonda Buse
vonda.buse@gmail.com

From the Junior Warden

The week of May 13 **G-Construction** will begin the replacement of the ramp, choir steps and entry steps. Trex decking material will be used and wire and white steel post railing system will be installed. Project is scheduled to be complete by Friday, May 17.



The Mutual Ministry Goal - Making The Entry Into Our Building More Welcoming - continues with members of the Women's group researching Dietel Hall door replacement options. A recommendation will be brought to the BC (*Bishop's Committee*) for approval and communicated to the St. Aidan community via the Torch.

Estimates for the Dietel Hall bathroom renovation, approved by the BC in the March meeting are in work. Additionally, the BC has been asked to take a critical look at the carpet in Dietel Hall, the Childrens room and the Choir room to determine if it is time to replace it.

The columbarium was cleaned of the winter debris, a new filter pump was installed and the water feature turned on. Thanks Greg Meyer for your excellent pressure washer skills.



Our landscaper cleaned the prayer path of winter pine needles (see photo) and a fresh layer of gravel will be added soon. I am looking for someone to create markings for the cairns that are placed at every turn of the prayer path.

Our second Thursday of the month work party helped Kevin King with some organization of the nearly full festival sheds. Additional task accomplished was the reconnecting the chairs in the church. Thank you to all that showed up to lend a hand.

Peter Dunphy



Labyrinth on Camano in Time for World Labyrinth Day

There's something new you may be interested in right down the road from the church -- Camano's first LABYRINTH! The grand opening will be on World Labyrinth Day, this year on May 4. It will be available for anyone to walk after that. Perhaps one day we'll have one at St Aidan's as well.

There's an article about it in the Crab Cracker but here's the scoop.

"Walk as One at 1 for Peace on World Labyrinth Day at Freedom Park (Camano Island, WA)

Step into serenity and embark on a transformative journey at Freedom Park, on Camano Island on May 4th at 12:30 pm to celebrate World Labyrinth Day. Join us as we Walk as One at 1 with Sound Bowls to support us during our walk. On this 16th annual World Labyrinth Day (WLD), people worldwide will walk a labyrinth at 1:00 p.m. local time, creating a unified rolling wave of peaceful energy that will pass from one time zone to the next around the globe. We will start at 12:30 with recognition of all the volunteers and org's that made our new labyrinth possible.

Location: Freedom Park Hwy 532 & E. North Camano Dr. Camano Island, WA 98282

Registration is not required.

Saturday, May 4, 12:30-2:00 pm PDT

Hosted by Marla Williams & Freedom Park Association"



Judy Meiger

Festival Update



Well Festival is a month closer and the sheds are filling up fast! With the help of Carol Swain, Jerry Minear and Phil Trautman we were able to make a runway through the south shed by piling donations “higher and deeper”.



There is limited space for large items (i.e. furniture) in the north shed. If you have items to donate, if at all possible, please bring them in boxes/bins that are stackable so we can maximize our space. Please make sure you preserve runways in each of the sheds so that we have access to the book shelves and the garage door. We will continue to take on smallish donations on Sundays after church.

We sold a Lift-Away chair through Facebook Marketplace and have an espresso maker and drill press currently listed for sale in Facebook Marketplace.

If you have expertise with a particular type of collectable (i.e. Bob Bialon with clocks/watches), please let me know. We have in the past pulled out high-value collectables and offered them on eBay or OfferUp.

We have set May 21st for the Festival Kick-off Dinner starting at 6pm. Hot Dogs will be provided. Please bring an appropriate “tail-gate” type side dish. The purpose of this event is to fire-up the congregation, seek volunteers for all the key roles and introduce new folks to what the St Aidan’s Festival is all about. If you can’t make that date, there will be plenty of other opportunities to plug in.

See the June Torch for information on scheduling a pickup during the week prior to the 20 July Festival.

Kevin King
Festival Chairman
206 867 2744

Important Events at St Aidan’s in May

May 3	“Meet and Greet” Bishop Candidates, 7pm, St Paul’s in Bellingham
May 5	Feed My Sheep Sunday
May 8	Women of St Aidan’s, 11am
May 9	Work Crew Day, 10am
May 10, 11, 12	Plant Sale, 10am—4pm Friday and Saturday (remaining plants for sale on Sunday)
May 13	Projected start of work on front entry ramp and stair replacement
May 21	Festival Kick-off Dinner, 6pm
May 30	The Gathering Place, 5pm

See calendar on page 6 for more activities and events at St Aidan’s.



Coffee Hour After Sunday 10am Service



If it is your Sunday consider bringing a light snack—sweet or savory to share during coffee hour.

For April:

First Sunday (May 5)	A-D
Second Sunday (May 12)	E-L
Third Sunday (May 19)	M-R
Fourth Sunday (May 26)	S-Z

If it is your week to host please stay to help clean up after Coffee Hour and take all leftover food home each week.

Thank You!!!

Thanks to the ushers who greet and guide us, the readers who lead us in Scripture and prayers, the acolytes and altar servers who assist Father Drew in serving the Eucharist. Your faithfulness is appreciated.

Anon E. Moss for the people of Saint Aidan's

Tuesday 10:30 am—Study Group

The group meets in Dietel Hall and will begin a new book (yet to be determined) the second week in May.

This is a very informal group, stop by and join in the discussions.



Michael & Micki-Jo Palmer	03
Breck & Elaine Breckenridge	12
Chris & Patty Clark	14
Bill & Patty Vermilye	22
Jack & Judy Trammell	31



Edward Wurtz	02	Will Smith	14
Nic Whitaker	06	Kusum Batey	20
Don Talbot	07	Susie White	20
Don Avallon	11	Julie Vaux	22
Bob Jacobs	11	Jackie Humes-Fear	27
Bill White	11	Carol Avallon	31
Beverly Maxwell	12	Nancy Pates-Riches	31

Current Status of the Diocese of Olympia Bishop Search

The Bishop's Transition Committee has established "Meet and Greet" with the four candidates at the various locations around the Diocese to occur April 29th to May 3rd. If you did not sign up to attend in person you can still watch the livestream or recorded sessions on line ([Bishop Transition – Bishop of Olympia Search \(ecwww.org\)](http://BishopTransition-BishopofOlympiaSearch.ecwww.org))

In preparation for the Electing Convention at St Mark's Cathedral on May 18th, St Aidan's held a Discussion Forum on Sunday, April 21st. There are profiles and video introductions to the four candidates on the Bishop's Transition page of the Diocesan webpage (noted above). Deb Huebenthal and Carol Swain will be voting delegates at the Election Convention representing St Aidan's.

A "straw poll" is planned after the May 3rd "Meet and Greet" to help inform our voting delegates the choices of St Aidan's members. Let Deb and Carol hear your thoughts on the four candidates prior to the voting on May 18th.



May Plant Sale!!!

The sale will be **Friday, May 10th** and **Saturday the 11th** between **10:00 am** and **4:00 pm**. Come to purchase and/or come by and help out. Remaining plants will still be for sale Sunday morning **May 12th**. Payment on Sunday can be dropped in box by front door to Dietel Hall.

All gardening related items are welcome donations, including house plants. Set-up will be on Thursday, the 9th. People can leave donations near the front porch, where the benches used to be.

Thank you!
Gayle

Food Bank Sunday (May 5th)

"Feed My Sheep"

Collections are on the first Sunday of the month. If not attending services you can drop off donations on the porch the first Saturday or Sunday of the month.

Thank you for your donations.



MAY 2024—Activities Calendar*

*Check for status on St. Aidan's website, current ePistle or with organizers of specific groups for updates.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
The Fifth Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	5:30 pm AA	10:30 am Study Group	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I		7-9 pm "Meet and Greet" Bishop Candidates St Paul's, Bellingham	7 pm AA
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
The Sixth Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube) Food Bank Sunday	5:30 pm AA	10:30 am Study Group	10:00 am Morning Prayer 11:00 am Women of St Aidan's	10:00 am Work Crew	10 am—4 pm Plant Sale	10 am—4 pm Plant Sale 7 pm AA
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
The Seventh Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	5:30 pm AA	10:30 am Study Group	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I	TORCH DEADLINE		Election of Bishop 7 pm AA
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
The Day of Pentecost Whitsunday 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	4 pm Bishop's Committee 5:30 pm AA	10:30 am Study Group 6:00 pm Festival Kick-off Dinner	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I			10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 pm AA
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
The First Sunday of Pentecost Trinity Sunday 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	5:30 pm AA	10:30 am Study Group	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I	5pm Gathering Place		7 pm AA



Altar Servers



If you cannot serve on your assigned day please find a substitute and let the office know.

8:00 AM	April 28	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
Lector	Don Talbott	Kathy Hosley	JoAnn Moffett	Kathy Hosley	Ann Morgan
Chalice Bearer	JoAnn Moffett	JoAnn Moffett	Ann Morgan	Ann Morgan	Kathy Hosley
Acolyte	JoAnn Moffett	JoAnn Moffett	Jim Miller	Jim Miller	Jim Miller
Usher	Kathy Hosley	Kathy Hosley	Kathy Hosley	JoAnn Moffett	JoAnn Moffett
10:00 AM	April 28	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
Lector	Jeff Maxwell	Jackie Humes-Fear	Kara Hunt	Nancy Pates-Riches	Jeff Maxwell
Chalice Bearer	Kara Hunt Bob Perry	Mary McConnaughey Bob Perry	Jackie Humes-Fear Bob Perry	Jan Donovan Theresa Strain	Kara Hunt Peter Dunphy
Acolyte	Bob Perry	Bob Perry	Bob Perry	Jan Donovan	Peter Dunphy
Usher	Joey Sontheimer Bill Sontheimer	Joey Sontheimer Dick Bingay	Karole Gorman Rob Gorman	Susie Johnson Jeff Johnson	Ethel Maxwell Dick Philmlee
Counter	Sue Perry Pam Sontheimer	Pam Sontheimer Patty Dunphy	Kathy McNally Sue Perry	Jackie Humes-Fear Julie Vaux	Kathy Hosley Marilyn Rockwell
Childcare	JoAnn Moffett Marilyn Rockwell	JoAnn Moffett Julie Vaux	JoAnn Moffett Gayle Thomas	JoAnn Moffett Ethel Maxwell	JoAnn Moffett Sue Perry



Altar Guild Teams for March

May 1-15

Team 1: Kara Hunt, Freda McKeown,
Patty Vermilye

May 16-31

Team 2: Judy Bingay, Gayle Thomas,
Candi Bialon

St. Aidan's Technology Issues?

If you have an questions or concerns about the operation of St. Aidan's website, Facebook pages, or YouTube please contact Allen Feris.

Feris_allen@msn.com or by phone at 425-870-2622

Need Help?



If you need help please contact
Ray Riches

**NEXT TORCH
DEADLINE**

Thursday, May 16th

Email submissions to: mcnallyk@outlook.com
Photos, suggestions and/or comments are greatly appreciated

Windows of St Aidan's

The 10 windows in the sanctuary tell the story of the spread of the Good news in the British Isles over a period of seven hundred years (63 AD to 735 AD) through the lives of ten saints. Each saint has a window and the sequence is chronological.

A debt of gratitude is owed to these saints for the gifts given through their faith and sacrifices—the gifts of the Good News and a rich Church history and tradition.



Window 2: St Alban, Martyr Verulamium (now St Albans, Hertfordshire) *(His symbol is the martyr's cross and crown)*

St Alban was the first British martyr (Protomartyr Anglorum) During the great imperial persecution of the Emperor Decius, Alban gave sanctuary to a Christian priest who converted and baptized him. When local soldiers came to arrest the priest, Alban exchanged his garment for the priest's robe and was captured in his stead. When he refused to deny his baptism he was put to death.

Window given in memory of Chuck Churchill

ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1318 East SR 532; Camano Island, WA 98282

(P.O. Box 145; Stanwood, WA 98292)