

November 2024

THE TORCH

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

www.StAidanCamanoIsland.org

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From the Vicar

After doing a google search for images with the key word "Thanksgiving" a flood of colorful results poured in. My computer screen was filled with wall-to-wall thumbnail pictures of golden brown turkeys on perfectly decorated table tops, as well as images of conical shaped wicker baskets overflowing with fruits and nuts and pumpkins of all varieties. The word "cornucopia" was the only word in my mind as my eyes scanned all the beautiful representations of communal nourishment and abundance. And then my thoughts began to meander, pondering the cornucopia symbol itself that is always so prevalent in November, not to mention its year-round places of prominence on state flags and seals. It turns out that it has its genesis in Greco-Roman mythology. A couple stories have to do with one god ripping a horn from the head of another god and that horn then being capable of producing unending nourishment. The latin word "cornucopia" literally means "horn (*cornu*) of plenty (*copia*)."

The horn-shaped basket we know so well happens to work perfectly as an over the shoulder sling for collecting produce at harvest time. Which made me think, what (and who) is filling my "horn of plenty" this year?

One doesn't have to stretch too far to observe all the areas where our lives or world may lack. Perhaps we should all turn off the tv or delete our social media apps to help lessen the messages in that department. Besides, it's a more interesting and exciting exercise to consider all the ways we have been gifted with abundance, grace, goodness, opportunity, and love; particularly after traversing personal deserts and difficult terrain. The obvious things that fill one's horn of plenty are often easy enough to spot: the abundant provision of food that warms the heart and fuels the body; the fine clothing that protects and bedazzles one's physical frame; the shelter that keeps wind and weather at bay and grants us rest at the end of a long day. These are all unmistakable gifts from God. But as I dig deeper into my cornucopia I find an even greater gift that dwarfs them all. I find that what makes the meals at my table good isn't just what's on the plate, and that what makes my house a home isn't just the four walls that keep the rain outside. It's the community of people who sit at my table and fill my life with laughter, the people who allow me to sit at their table and share precious moments, the people who journey with me in friendship through life's ups and downs and are willing to speak uncomfortable truths in love. In short, it's the saints of God (past and present, inside and outside the church) who truly fill my horn of plenty.

All Saints' Day stands as an extraordinary testament to how lives of the saints shape our worlds for the better, drawing us ever deeper into the kingdom of God. They are the towering figures of history, like Francis, Benedict and Augustine that we cherish, and also the quiet unsung aunt or uncle, friend or neighbor who has pointed the way with a wise word and loving heart. All Saints is a day of hope and joy and promise. God shows up again and again and again in God's people to bless them and send them out to be saints for others whose horn of plenty may be running low.

On Sunday, November 3rd, bring a picture of a saint from your life who has blessed you and revealed the grace of God at work. How wonderful it will be to be surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses!

Yours in Christ,
Drew+



Don't forget! Be on Time November 3rd!

The first Sunday in November is the change back to Standard Time

November 2024



From the Senior Warden

Tradition

From the Broadway musical and Oscar-winning film *Fiddler on the Roof*, Tevye, a poor Jewish milkman from the village of Anatevka, is the main follower and advocate for tradition.

The film begins in the early morning, just as the sun is rising over the small Russian village and Tevye is loading his horse drawn wagon with milk to sell. He looks at the camera and asks —

How do we keep our balance?

That I can tell you in one word — Tradition!

Every October, as the geese fly in formation and the sun sets lower in the sky, the Buse families pack up the trucks and trailers and head northeast to the small Eastern Washington town of Tonasket. From there we enter the Colville National Forest and climb to 3,800 feet elevation. The destination is deer camp and that I can tell you in one word — Tradition!

As far back as anyone can remember, deer camp has always been in the same location — just past the second cattle guard, take the road to the right and follow the drive down into the little valley along Peony Creek.

It's a wonderland for the children. No school and no rules! Just run free for a week and get filthy dirty. It depends on the day how many will fall into the creek, so changing out of wet clothes is a regular occurrence. This year, there were eleven children under the age of 13 and 22 adults.



Along Peony Creek, time takes on a different dimension. Years are blending into one another. It's not my son asking me if he can ride his bike down the road, it's my grandson. My great-nephew comes back into camp and tells of the herd he sighted just over the ridge. He's a young man now, hunting with the fathers. No longer a little one left back at camp. Papa passed away a few years ago and now, my brother-in-law the patriarch, sits closer to the fire to warm his aging self.

Four generations have made the pilgrimage — Tradition.

I've read that tradition shapes the individual and it also provides a sense of connection to the past. It builds up families and communities by creating shared experiences, reinforces values and fosters a sense of belonging across generations. Tradition acts like a bridge between the past and present while creating lasting memories.

Tradition surrounds us. We share these experiences and memories with family, friends, community and our places of worship. Tradition brings us together.

Here at St. Aidan's we share a liturgical form of worship that embodies a tradition of seasons, remembrances, offerings and rituals. For us, the repetition connects us to the past. We are building upon the faith of generations before who passed down a form of worship that reinforces our commitments and beliefs.

During the months of November and December, our congregation will join together in celebrating and honoring the traditions of our faith. Liturgical colors will change and the familiar scriptural readings for the season will remind us of our shared history and faithful journey in Christ.

May God continue to bless our traditions. We may not remember when the tradition began or who was responsible. It doesn't matter — it's tradition!

I think again about Tevye as he shares his heart and continues his story...

Because of our traditions, we've kept our balance for many, many years. We have traditions for everything. How to sleep. How to work. How to wear clothes. For instance, we always keep our head covered and wear a little prayer shawl. This shows our constant devotion to God. You may ask, how did this tradition get started? I'll tell you...I don't know. But, it's a tradition! And because of our traditions, everyone of us knows who he is and what God expects him to do.

Vonda Buse — vonda.buse@gmail.com

From the Junior Warden

Junior Warden activities this past month were centered around getting the buildings and grounds ready for winter. Irrigation system shut off and blown out, Columbarium Pond emptied and cleaned (Thanks Greg Meyer). New furnace filters installed. It is also that time of year where the Bishop's Committee (BC) creates the budget for next year. The new front door and the new ramp were a result of community member suggestions. If you have an improvement or repair request let me know. Update on other major projects are as follows:



“Campus Wayfinding” – This is part of the BC Mutual Ministry Goal (MMG) of “making St. Aidan more welcoming.” Greg Meyers and I presented to a new directional sign that would be placed in the garden bed containing the Trinity Carin. The telephone pole would be removed and the Lodge Pine tree would be replanted.

Dietel Hall Entry & Bathrooms – The BC approved the plans to remodel Dietel Hall. The plan includes removing and replacing bathroom doors, sink, vanity, mirror, light, fan, toilet, wall paneling and floor, update lighting in entry way, fix the ceiling and repaint. Estimated cost is \$50K and floor. Replace entry and kitchen floor to match bathroom. Remove and replace molding around doors.

Landscape – Lankford Landscape Design (Scott Lankford) is developing a landscape plan for the front and back areas (ProBono). This also includes the PUD certificates for 10 trees.

Peter Dunphy



CAMP HUSTON JANUARY WOMEN'S GETAWAY 2025

To all women of St. Aidan's – remember when we used to go to retreats at Shaw Island? What wonderful times and comradery we had connecting with each other! We DO have another option for a retreat – it is at Camp Huston and I go each and every year.

Camp Huston is our Diocesan Episcopal Church Camp located in Gold Bar. Each January they hold a “Women's Getaway” for 3-4 days. This is a wonderful opportunity to retreat, relax and enjoy the things you love to do – read, hike, knit by the fireplace, quilt, scrapbook, work puzzles or just enjoy the company of others from throughout the Diocese. A priest is usually available, and a service is held in the lodge Sunday morning.

Lodging is available with or without a roommate (so grab a friend and share the cost!). Wonderful meals and snacks provided in the cost, so no worries about cooking!

This year, January 2025, the Women's Getaway will be held from Friday January 17 – Monday January 20. You may find info by going to huston.org/hustonevents/ or calling them at (360) 793-0441. Feel free to contact me as well. Hope to see you there!

Jerri Feris
(360) 435-3144

St Aidan's Ministry Fair—October 22nd



There are many ways to serve and minister at St Aidan's.

A Few Thoughts on Stewardship – The Treasurer’s Perspective

I'm sure you've noticed the "Stewardship Moments" that have been coming to your email the past few weeks. I have found them to be inspirational and sincere, and hope that you have as well.

However, although these short statements eloquently address many of the theological reasons for giving, none of them speak to the messy details of why St. Aidan's really needs more than just your time and talent – we need your treasure as well. That dirty job falls to me as Treasurer. Maybe that's why they pay me the big bucks....

As our annual pledge drive kicks off, I'd like to offer a few details of our financial situation. St. Aidan's 2024 budget projects nearly \$300,000 in revenue. That amount is projected to come from:

- Pledges 65%
- Plate Offerings 14%
- Investment Income 17%
- Festival and Other 4%

From a budgeting perspective, it's difficult to plan when only 65% of our income is known with relative certainty in advance. While it's true that we can always anticipate some Plate, Investment and Festival income, we never know in advance how it's going to turn out, and income from those sources can vary significantly from the time we make our "guestimate" in November and the actual receipts from those sources in the following year. For whatever it's worth, 2024 appears to be on track to slightly exceed our budgeted amounts for Pledges and to comfortably exceed Plate and Investment Income projections.

That said, as fortunate as we have been in terms of income, our budgeted expenses for 2024 are \$347,000 – a projected deficit of nearly \$50,000. We'll finish better than that, but still with some bright red ink at the end of the year. And it's important to note that none of the budgeted expenses contain any "fat." Most of our costs are virtually fixed – payroll, building and occupancy, and office expenses that can't be cut if we're to maintain our current level of services and ministry. So the simple fact is that our pledge giving – our personal commitments to the ministry of St. Aidan's – is far from adequate to fund the church that we all love.


Some of you might think, "Wait, if we're so short of income, how is it that we were able to build the new entry ramp, replace the front doors, paint the church, and buy new choir robes?" Every one of those items was funded either by restricted gifts (made for a particular purpose) or through a draw-down on our Endowment, which is restricted to items of a capital nature or for long-term maintenance. It's important to note, too, that our Endowment may not be used in any way for routine program and operating costs.

We're just beginning the 2025 budgeting process. We don't yet know exactly what the bottom line is going to look like, but we do know that most costs are going to increase. It's not unrealistic to imagine that our operating costs, exclusive of any major repairs or building improvements, might be as much as \$400,000 next year.

As you pray about your giving to St. Aidan's for the coming year, please consider these facts. If you've been a "Plate" giver, please think about committing to a certain pledged amount. The additional certainty of knowing how much you intend to give is of great help to your Bishop's Committee as they undertake the budgeting process. And regardless of how you give, please consider increasing your commitment to St. Aidan's in the coming year. We have been slowly "eating our seed corn" the past several years. We dare not run out.

Jeff Maxwell, Treasurer

Important Events at St Aidan's in November

November 3	Feed My Sheep Sunday, Stewardship Sunday	
November 9	Songs of Gratitude, Grace & Hope —Cantabile Choir, 3pm	
November 11	Bloodworks NW Blood Drive , Dietel Hall, 10am—4pm	
November 13	Women of St Aidan's , 11am	
November 23	Prayer Shawl Ministry , 10am	
November 28	Thanksgiving Day	

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

November 9th at 3pm



[Concerts/Tickets — Cantabile Chamber Choir](#)

November 11, 10am-4pm

The recent hurricanes resulted in an unusually high demand for blood. Combine this with our commemoration of Veteran's Day, I thought we should alter the schedule for blood drives at St Aidan's.

Thank you to all the blood donors who make time to donate during this time of year. Your generosity makes this season truly one of giving and gratitude. Ready to make a difference? Schedule an [appointment](#) at Bloodworks NW or contact Marshall Eberhart (cmarschalleberhart@msn.com) and give the gift of life.

Photo ID is also required. For safety, we kindly request no visitors under 16 at our donation sites. Eat a hearty meal and drink plenty of fluids prior to donation.



Is Your Photo Missing?

Help us update our directory. If your photo missing from our church directory or needs updating please let Ann Boid (apbrrb041539@gmail.com) know or contact the church office so we can make sure you are included.

You can also request a printed copy of the directory.



Robert & Candace Bialon	21
Colin & Lynn Kyles	28



Brad Whitaker	06	Dale LeMaster	16
Bob Perry	07	Bill Sontheimer	16
Debra Smith	08	Frank Hunt	19
Carol Swain	11	Bill Vermilye	24
Theresa Strain	12	Cheryl Wood	27



Coffee Hour After Sunday 10am Service



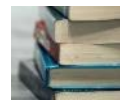
If it is your Sunday consider bringing a light snack—sweet or savory to share during coffee hour.

First Sunday (November 3)	A-D
Second Sunday (November 10)	E-L
Third Sunday (November 17)	M-R
Fourth Sunday (November 24)	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.

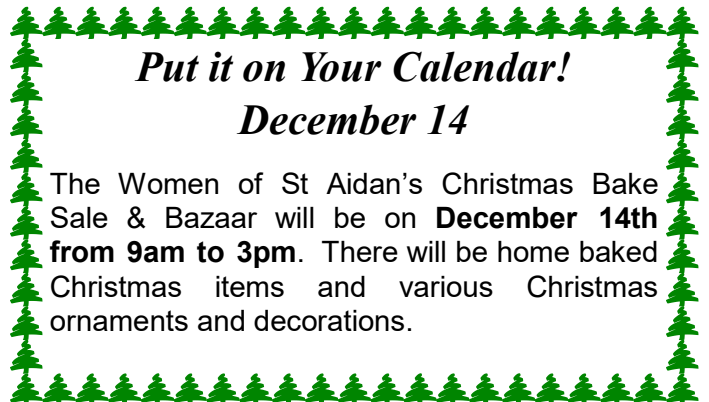
The last to leave? Please check to make sure the front door is locked before leaving.

Dear St Aidan's Family,



I found the words of Matthew 7:7 to be exemplified when I asked for help during the announcements on Sunday. I was overwhelmed with what to do with all of the leftover books from the Festival. "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find." When I went to lock the Festival shed, the books were all gone. Praise God.

With love and thankfulness, Julie Vaux



Put it on Your Calendar! December 14

The Women of St Aidan's Christmas Bake Sale & Bazaar will be on **December 14th from 9am to 3pm**. There will be home baked Christmas items and various Christmas ornaments and decorations.

Tuesday 10:30 am—Study Group

The group meets in Dietel Hall and is reading and discussing *The Holy Spirit and You* by Dennis and Rita Bennett.

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

Food Bank Sunday (November 3rd)

"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.

November 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
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost 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 11 am—4 pm Holiday Craft Workday	Halloween  5:00 pm The Gathering Place		7 pm AA
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
All Saints Sunday Stewardship Sunday 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 Holy Eucharist I			3:00 pm Cantabile Chamber Choir Songs of Gratitude, Grace & Hope 7 pm AA
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	Veteran's Day 10am-4pm Bloodworks Blood Drive 5:30 pm AA	10:30 am Study Group	10:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:00 am Women of St Aidan's	TORCH DEADLINE		7 pm AA
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
The Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost 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	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I			10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
The Last Sunday after Pentecost Christ the King 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	Thanksgiving 		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	October 27	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24 Christ the King
Lector	JoAnn Moffett	Ann Morgan	JoAnn Moffett	Kathy Hosley	Kathy Hosley
Chalice Bearer	Ann Morgan	JoAnn Moffett	Ann Morgan	Ann Morgan	Ann Morgan
Acolyte	Jim Miller	Jim Miller	Jim Miller	Jim Miller	Jim Miller
Usher	Terra Stang-Johnson	Kathy Hosley	Terra Stang-Johnson	JoAnn Moffett	Terra Stang-Johnson
10:00 AM	October 27	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24 Christ the King
Lector	Rob Gorman	Kara Hunt	Candy Trautman	Nancy Pates-Riches	Rhoda Venditto
Chalice Bearer	Peter Dunphy Mary McConnaughey	Jackie Humes-Fear Mary McConnaughey	Jeff Maxwell Bob Perry	Freda McKeown Peter Dunphy	Mary McConnaughey Bob Perry
Acolyte	Peter Dunphy	Mary McConnaughey	Bob Perry	Peter Dunphy	Bob Perry
Usher	Suellen Eberhart Marshall Eberhart	Karole Gorman Rob Gorman	Ethel Maxwell Bill White	Suellen Eberhart Marshall Eberhart	Dick Philmlee Bill White
Counter	Patty Dunphy Kathy McNally	Julie Vaux Jackie Humes-Fear	Marilyn Rockwell Pam Sontheimer	Patty Dunphy Kathy McNally	Sue Perry Kathy Hosley
Childcare	Deb Hubenthal Donna Myers	JoAnn Moffett Pam Sontheimer	JoAnn Moffett Julie Vaux	Vonda Buse Ethel Maxwell	JoAnn Moffett Kathy Hosley



Altar Guild Teams for November

November 1-15

Team 1: Kara Hunt, Freda McKeown,
Patty Vermilye

November 16-30

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, November 14th

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



ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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