

July 2025

THE TORCH

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

www.StAidanCamanoIsland.org

[www.Facebook.com/StAidanCamanoIsland](https://www.facebook.com/StAidanCamanoIsland)

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From the Vicar

As July rolls around each year the excitement ratchets up around St Aidan's Episcopal Church. There are volunteer coordination meetings and emails, sign painters slathering back letters and directional arrows on white backgrounds, and many other busy bees prepping the church campus to receive numerous visitors come the third Saturday of the month. The storage shed, now packed to the gills, is evaluated in anticipation of the day when hidden treasures and overlooked gems will be thoughtfully organized on long plastic tables out on the front lawn. How many tantalizing offerings will fill the tables is anyone's guess. We never know until the everything is brought from the dark bowels of the festival shed and into the full light of day. How many people will flood our grounds after our newly restored church bell rings out at 8:00 am on the big day is also anyone's guess.

You never truly know. The anticipation is energizing.

The church has been full of festivals of all kinds for the last two thousand years, and more are added by each successive generation. That's a beautiful thing, because festivals, or "feasts" as the church calls them, have particular purposes and reasons for being. They are both ends and means. They're usually centered on someone or something God had done to bring grace into the world. Therefore they have good reasons for celebration and in the act of being celebrated the very grace that is the grounds for the celebration in the first place gets brought back into the midst of the people once again. Not to get too theological here, but like a sacrament, they "effect what they signify." In celebrating Christmas, for example, we are not only drawn to Mary and the Christ child, but to all mothers and children and are able to see and experience the palpable presence of God in them in ways we couldn't at any other time. In the festal celebration of the incarnation we become attuned to the incarnational presence of God in the world. The festival instantiates what it celebrates. For this theology nerd I think that's pretty cool!

Feast days and festal occasions are more than just special days observed inside the church. Other meaningful and holy "festivals" happen that don't appear on the church's liturgical calendar. They often go overlooked because they can be a bit atypical. But make no mistake, they too have saints at the center of them. They too bring about God's grace. They too are celebrations of what God has done and is doing. And they often come with their own "traditions."

When our gates open and our new bell rings bright and clear to kick off Summer Festival this July we begin a festal tradition many years in the making. It's our best "feast" centered on community, generosity, and grace. As saints in green t-shirts move about the place helping others find parking, load furniture, purchase treasures with less in their pocket than they thought they had, and experience uncommon kindness, God is known and felt. In the midst of the fellowship our team the Holy Spirit can be known and felt. In the sending out of Festival funds to help those in our wider community most in need, God's work is being known and felt. This one beautiful day in July is a festival indeed!

Grace and peace and joy to you this month as you celebrate the warmth of the weather, the 4th of July, and the Summer Festival!

Yours in Christ,
Drew+



From the Senior Warden

Bittersweet

My husband and I moved to Camano Island four years ago from Cloverdale, California, a tiny town in northern Sonoma County. We loved the climate there, the beauty of wine country, and especially our community. We have remained connected to our friends and faith community there, and continue to visit at least once or twice a year. The little church, Good Shepherd

Episcopal, is what brought us all together in the first place, and keeps us connected.

During our most recent visit, we gathered as usual with everyone at the home of a special friend. At one point during the evening we talked about how much we missed those folks who used to be part of our community, but had since moved or passed away. It was a bittersweet moment. So many good memories and feelings, but a bit of sadness that special people weren't in our lives anymore.

Bob and I talked about those feelings on our long drive home. There was a point where we had considered moving back to Cloverdale, but something about this particular visit made us realize it's not our home anymore. As we drove through the town, even by our old house, we didn't feel the same pull as in the past. Our friends there remain special, but God has led us here to new friends and faith family at St. Aidan's... and very soon a new home! ... More bittersweet feelings as we say goodbye to Susan Yerkes, and pray for God to continue to bless her as she begins this new chapter in her life.

Candi Bialon



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 10: St Bede, Confessor, Northumbria



St. Bede was the great scholar saint of the 8th century, recording the history of the Church in Britain, then England. He lived his entire life in the monasteries of Wearmouth and Jarrow in northern England, translating Holy Scripture from Greek to Latin to the vernacular. His Ecclesiastical History of the English People made him the foremost scholar in Europe in his age, along with many other writings on the "natural order."

St. Bede is buried in the "Galilee" of Durham Cathedral, under a stone which reads "Haec sunt in fossa Bedae venerabilis ossa." It is said that the original inscription had a blank spot in the second line that was miraculously filled with "venerabilis" while the workman took a nap. St. Bede came to be known as the "Venerable Bede" within two generations

of his death.

His symbols are a gold pitcher (earthly learning) filled by silver rays (heavenly wisdom and truth, the ultimate source of earthly learning).

Window given in loving memory of Rod Close

From the Junior Warden

As of this afternoon, our new flooring is being installed, and we expect it to be complete by Wednesday June 25. Our thanks go out to the many volunteers who have helped in boxing and moving the contents of each room. We could not have done it without your assistance.



The landscaping project is also now complete.



The only other expected project is some roofing repair work. Thank you for your patience, while getting these changes made to our St. Aidan's campus.

Marilyn Rockwell

One Parish One Prisoner

Dear Friends, the St Aidan's One Parish One Prisoner (OPOP) team has been assembled and we are preparing to go through our first OPOP training, either at the end of June or some time in July. The team is itching to go.

We invited the congregation to an open meeting on June, 8th. A few folks showed up and we described the upcoming process and we talked just a bit, about the incarcerated person we have been assigned.

Sometime at the end of summer going into, autumn we will have some sort of St Aidan in-house ceremony to kick us off for real.

The St Aidan's OPOP team:

Judy Mieger, Chuck Rinehart, Sue Perry, Mark Hinrichs, Deb Hubenthal, Kevin King, Karen O'Leary, Father Drew, Julie Vaux, Rob Gorman.

If you have questions please, talk to any team member.

Peace.

Rob

Important Events at St Aidan's in July

| | |
|------------|--|
| July 6 | Feed My Sheep Sunday |
| July 13-18 | Summer Festival Set-up, starting after Coffee Hour on Sunday and 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday |
| July 19 | Summer Festival , volunteers to show up at 7am, Festival runs 8am to 5pm |
| July 31 | The Gathering Place, 5:00pm |

See calendar on page 6 for more activities and events at St Aidan's. Check weekly ePistle for any adds or updates.



We are less than a month away from Festival and things are chugging along. Porta Potties are on order. A revised Festival Layout / Transportation Plan has been created. Snow Goose will be providing shuttle service between the Latter Day Saints Church (LDS) parking lot and our campus. Signs galore (with balloons) are in work. Jim, Joanne, Margo and Larry will again be bringing their RVs to Camano Island and sharing Festival with us.

A little more on the revised Festival Layout. Changes were made in our Festival Layout with safety, traffic flow, greater presentation space and improved pickups in mind.

Key Items of Note:

- Snow Goose transportation loop from LDS parking lot to Festival without driving on Hwy 532
- Snow Goose bus is wheelchair capable; no need for handicap parking on St Aidan's property
- NO ENTRY at St Aidan's Hwy 532 entrance on 19 July. Three large 4 ft x 8 ft painted signs at entrance.
- A 2nd Furniture Zone on the east edge of the parking lot will be added.
- Furniture and other item pickup at the northwest corner on gravel area and in the core parking lot area
- 14 signs of various sizes to be printed with messages to direct traffic plus helium balloons
- Up to 14 sandwich boards will need to be made (work session) to support signage
- Small maps for roving and seated cashiers to give to anyone who needs to come back for furniture or item pickup
- Crab Cracker and Facebook will be communicating these changes

Here's the high-level schedule for Festival week.

Sunday, 13 July (after 10am service) – “Peel away” the donations from on top of our folding tables and setup the tables in “Festival configuration”. Please come with clothes you don't mind getting a little dirty. Pickup trucks will help us distribute tables quickly.

Monday, 14 July thru Friday 18 July* (9am to 400pm) – Clear out the sheds, organize donations on tables, set-up book shed, setup/organize Dietel Hall, set-up fencing/driving lanes, local pickup for St Aidan's parishioners/friends, and receive donated items from the community. Donuts/water will be provided at no charge. Lunch will be provided each day for a small charge.

* Happy hour each afternoon in the Dietel Hall breezeway. Bring your favorite beverage and snacks to share

Saturday, 19 July

7AM – St Aidan's volunteers arrive. Please park at LDS church. Snow Goose bus available for those who do not wish to walk.

8AM – Festival commences

10AM – Grills fired up

5PM(ish) –Bring out the “Free Sign” to close the Festival and open Happy Hour

Sunday, 20 July (after 10am service) – Start consolidating remaining items and tear down tables and pop-ups.

Monday, 21 July and beyond – Let nature take its course as free items continue move to new homes. Culminated with a dump run, if needed.

There is no space for large items (i.e. furniture) in the sheds. 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 doors. We will continue to take on smallish donations on Sundays after church.

You can also drop-off items the week prior to Festival or arrange a pickup by contacting the Church Office or entering you information using the web link below:

"St Aidan's Festival Donation Pickup Signup":<https://forms.office.com/r/hPCYF7UkPw>.



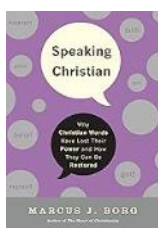
If you have expertise with a particular type of collectable (i.e. Bob Bialon with clocks/watches), please let me know. We have in the past pulled out high-value collectables and sold them separately.

Volunteers!, if you do not currently have a fluorescent green Festival shirt, please contact Theresa Strain (suffolkale@comcast.com) as soon as possible so she can outfit you or order the needed sizes.

Communication will be via the Torch, church announcement, emails and the St Aidan's ePistle through June and July.

Kevin King
Festival Chairman
206 867 2744

Tuesday 10:30 am—Study Group



The group meets in Dietel Hall or the conference room. The group is currently reading and discussing "Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power—and How They Can Be Restored," by Marcus Borg.

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

SELAH in August

The next SELAH service will be Sunday, August 10th at 5:00 pm.



| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Will & Debra Smith | 07 |
| John Mathis & Deannie Dunbar | 24 |
| Greg & Donna Myers | 25 |
| Jo Beecher & Mary McConnaughey | 29 |



| | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----------------------|----|
| Kathy McNally | 01 | Rick Simmons | 22 |
| Jeremy Arnold | 08 | Alicia Lavery-Mullins | 23 |
| Mary Burns | 08 | Bob Stevens | 23 |
| Thomas Whitaker | 11 | Jeff Johnson | 25 |
| Dick Bingay | 13 | Jeff Maxwell | 25 |
| Kara Hunt | 13 | Mark Hinrichs | 26 |
| Candace Bialon | 17 | Ron Graham | 28 |
| John Mathis | 19 | Nancy Larsen | 28 |
| Karole Gorman | 20 | Karen O'Leary | 30 |
| Patrick Buffington | 21 | | |



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 (July 6) | A-D |
| Second Sunday (July 13) | E-L |
| Third Sunday (July 20) | M-R |
| Fourth Sunday (July 27) | S-Z |

A reminder:

If you are hosting please stay after Coffee Hour to help clean up Dietel Hall and the kitchen and make sure all leftover food is taken home and take used tea towels and dishcloths home to launder.

Make sure the front door is locked before leaving. If you do not have a key, no problem just lock the front door from the inside and leave by the double doors that lead to the sanctuary.

Your Help and Thoughtfulness Needed!



Please no food or trash in the recycling bins! The transfer station is picky about this kind of thing.

Food Bank Sunday (July 6th)

"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.

July 2025—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 |
|--|--|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The Third Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 am Morning Prayer 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 | | Independence Day | 7 pm AA |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube) Feed My Sheep | 5:30 pm AA | 10:30 am Study Group | 10:00 am Holy Eucharist I | | | 7 pm AA |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube) Table set up for Festival | Festival Set up All Day 5:30 pm AA | Festival Set up All Day | Festival Set up All Day 10:00 am Holy Eucharist I | Festival Set up All Day | Festival Set up All Day | 8 am to 5 pm Summer Festival 7 pm AA |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| The 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 TORCH DEADLINE | 10:00 am Holy Eucharist I | | | 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 pm AA |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
| The Seventh 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 | 5:00 pm The Gathering Place | | Anniversary of St Aidan's 1st Service held 1959 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 | June 29 | July 6 | July 13 | July 20 | July 27 |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Lector | Ann Morgan | JoAnn Moffett | Kathy Hosley | Ann Morgan | JoAnn Moffett |
| Chalice Bearer | Morning Prayer | Ann Morgan | Ann Morgan | JoAnn Moffett | Ann Morgan |
| Acolyte | Jim Miller | Jim Miller | Jim Miller | Jim Miller | Jim Miller |
| Usher | Kathy Hosley | Kathy Hosley | JoAnn Moffett | Kathy Hosley | Kathy Hosley |
| 10:00 AM | June 29 | July 6 | July 13 | July 20 | July 27 |
| Lector | Dick Philmlee | Rhoda Venditto | Jackie Humes-Fear | Jeff Maxwell | Rob Gorman |
| Chalice Bearer | Jackie Humes-Fear Bob Perry | Freda McKeown Kathy Hosley | Mary McConnaughey Peter Dunphy | Theresa Strain Mary McConnaughey | Freda McKeown Bob Perry |
| Acolyte | Bob Perry | Kathy Hosley | Peter Dunphy | Mary McConnaughey | Bob Perry |
| Usher | Suellen Eberhart Marshall Eberhart | Suellen Eberhart Dick Bingay | Susie Johnson Jeff Johnson | Ethel Maxwell Bill Sontheimer | Suellen Eberhart Marshall Eberhart |
| Counter | Sue Perry Kathy Hosley | Marilyn Rockwell Kathy McNally | Jackie Humes-Fear Julie Vaux | Patty Dunphy Pam Sontheimer | Sue Perry Kathy Hosley |
| Childcare | JoAnn Moffett Sue Perry | JoAnn Moffett Gayle Thomas | Patty Dunphy Kathy Hosley | JoAnn Moffett Julie Vaux | Donna Myers Pam Sontheimer |



Altar Guild Teams for July

July 1-15

Team 3: : Susie White, Micki-Jo Palmer,

July 16-31

Team 4: Jan Donovan, Karole Gorman,
Vonda Buse, Bev Maxwell

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 the church office.

**NEXT
TORCH
DEADLINE**

Tuesday, July 22nd

Email submissions to: mcnallyk@outlook.com

Photos, suggestions and/or comments are greatly appreciated

ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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