

July 2026

THE TORCH

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

www.StAidanCamanoIsland.org

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

Office@StAidansci.org 360-629-3969



From the Rector

The great month of July has wonderful things to offer in terms of celebrations, ministry, worship, and weather. It's the month when summer is in full swing, when barbecues are in full flame, and when yard sales are here, there, and everywhere. Not to mention that with America turning 250 years old this year, there will be an extra layer of excitement attached to Fourth of July celebrations. Not a bad thing, indeed.

It's interesting to note that the Episcopal Church lists Independence Day among the "Other Major Feasts" of the Church. Next to St Mary Magdalene, St Mary the Virgin, St Michael and All Angels and others comes Independence Day. Which may be a little shocking to modern sensibilities. Or even to some sensibilities 250 years ago.

In 1785 the General Convention of the Episcopal Church mandated that a service of recognition be organized to honor July 4th, "and that the said form of prayer be used in this Church on the Fourth of July, for ever." The service was then included in the proposed Prayer Book of 1786, but the presiding officer, William White, was very much against it. He observed that many of the clergy were loyalists and opposed the revolution. The General Convention of 1789 sided with White, and the service was dropped from the new Book of Common Prayer. One hundred and thirty-nine years later, in 1928, they gave July 4th assigned readings (also called "proprs") for those who wanted to observe the day by way of worship. But it still wasn't a "major feast." That changed in the 1970s after the 1960s counterculture movement sparked a renewed zeal for prayer book revision. Perhaps the general unrest and massive changes at the time led to a desire to anchor down something the Church had wanted to do from the very beginning.

God bless William White for recognizing that some things aren't worth it if, how ever good they may seem, they only further divide and distract us from moving forward as one people in Christ. And God bless the 1970s prayer book reformers who understood the same thing in a new way: that the shared core ideals and virtues established at the founding of our nation can draw us back together and assist us in remembering that though we may differ we are first-and-foremost neighbors, countrymen, and siblings under God.

This felt reality of being siblings under God grows stronger as our big event in the middle of July draws closer and closer. As couches and coffee tables, yesteryear's Christmas decorations and doo-dads, and all sundry of delightful treasures are collected and organized for sale, there is a sense of wonder, love, and joy for all who will come to St Aidan's and discover them. There is a sense that God is in the midst of the fun and happy chaos drawing people together to meet and have a moment where the grace of God is moving between them. We all know that this so-called rummage sale is nothing of the sort. It's so much more. Perhaps that's why generations ago they took to calling it "Festival." It is, after all, a celebration. A celebration of our community and the wider Stanwood-Camano community. A reminder that our neighbors are really siblings when seen in the light of God.

As you go through this amazing month of July may you be blessed by the fellowship of friends and neighbors and feel the grace of God drawing us together and making us one.

Yours in Christ,
Drew+



From the Senior Warden

During the month of June, the vestry continued work on the Strategic plan for the coming year. With goals set the previous month, each vestry member submitted their ideas of action steps required to meet them. Several ideas were submitted which will be discussed and narrowed down in the month of July. The completed plan is anticipated by September 1.

July is Festival month and support activities are in full swing. Vestry members recently met with Festival leaders to discuss logistical plans for the event. Based on previous experience and the growing size of the Festival, new procedures for safety and traffic control will be put in place this year.

Vestry members also reviewed the Parish budget through June. Income and expenses are on track for the year, allowing us to continue supporting our ministries and programs while maintaining and improving our buildings and grounds.

Thank you so very much for all you do to support our Parish.

Michael Palmer

St Aidan's Dinner Groups

St Aidan's Dinner Groups finished another year of monthly dinners and conversations shared by members of St Aidan's. Brad Whitaker and Julie Vaux worked hard over the last several years to organize those who had signed up to participate – not an easy task to rotate hosts duties and guest lists. They are ready to pass on this task to someone(s) new for the coming 2026-27 season that will start up again this September. Many thanks to Brad and Julie for the work they have done in organizing the monthly rotations.

If you did not attend the Happy Hour end of season celebration in June, but are still interested in participating in the upcoming season please send an email to St Aidan's office (office@staidansci.org) by mid-August and the information will be past onto the next scheduler(s).

For those who are not familiar with what is involved when participating in the dinner groups:

- Hosting duties rotate as well as guest lists are remixed each month. (Between September and May you may host two to three times.) The host provides the main course and coordinates with the guests to find a date that works for their assigned group to get together and who will bring an appetizer, salad or a dessert (double check for food allergies).
- When you sign up you indicate how many guests (including yourself) that you can accommodate at your table when assigned the host position. Groups in the past have ranged from 6 to 10. If you are unable to host you can still participate. You may also coordinate with someone else who is able to provide you with a place to serve as host.

This is a great way to get together and get to know fellow members of St Aidan's over good food and conversation. We hope to see you this coming September at one of the dinners.

Important Events at St Aidan's in July

July 5	Feed My Sheep Sunday
July 7	Bloodworks NW, 10am to 4pm
July 12-17	Set-up for Summer Festival, 9am to 4pm daily
July 18	St Aidan's Summer Festival,

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

From the Junior Warden

We are so fortunate to live in this amazing place! Camano is a great place to be on the fourth of July!! (if you love fireworks..) The date is fast approaching, remember that the time to ask your Vet for anti-anxiety medication for your pets is NOW!! Stay safe and have fun!

Festival planning is in full swing, I am sure St Aidan's will be in great shape to host this event thanks to the many hours our volunteers give so willingly.

Rear porches and railings are on schedule to be replaced mid-summer(after festival).

Just a reminder, if you use a hose, please shut it off at the faucet when done. Little leaks become big problems \$\$\$\$.

Hellen DeMoise



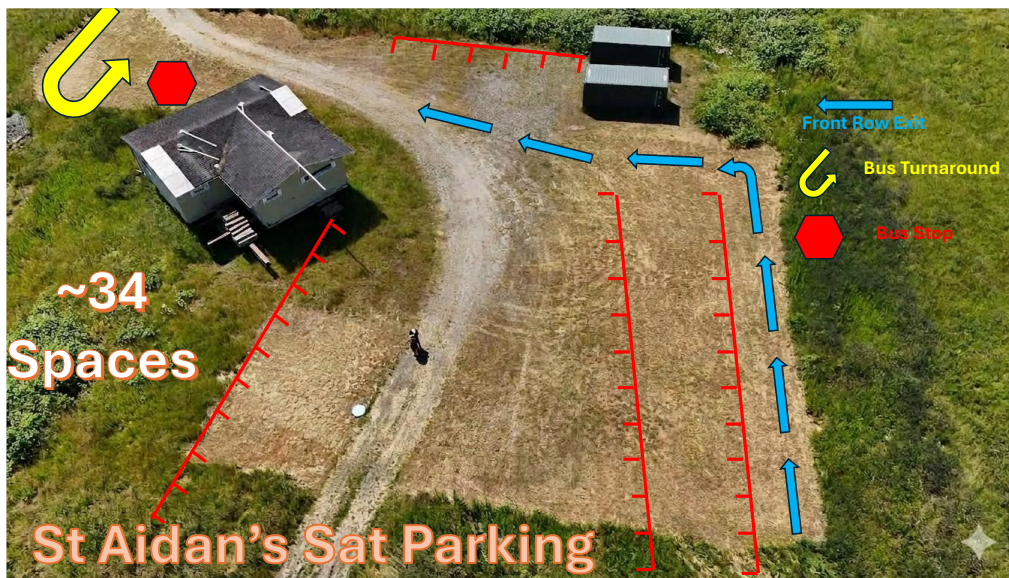
St Aidan's Summer Festival Update

We are several weeks 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. Updates to our signs are in work. Jim, Joanne, Margo and Larry will again be bringing their RVs to Camano Island and sharing Festival with us.

Festival sheds are essentially full. If you have small or light items and can find space on top of the piles, have at it! Otherwise, please wait for Festival week to drop off items. Please leave aisles open to the garage doors.

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.

Some updates for the 2026 Festival are in work to improve access and safety for our visitors. Thanks to Randy Heagle, we are gratefully utilizing his property east of the LDS church for parking St Aidan's volunteers on Saturday. Steve Jensen mowed out the area last week and we feel we can get ~34 cars parked. Transportation will be provided by Snow Goose starting at 6:30am Saturday. This will open up that same number of spots for our Festival visitors at the LDS church.



The layout and transportation paths established for 2025 Festival are mostly the same. We have established a separate pull-off and passing lane for cars/trucks making pickups. This should help improve the campus traffic flow for all. Copies of those plans will be provided via future email distribution and will be on Dietel Hall bulletin boards.

(Cont'd page 4)

We are taking additional measures to address the unsafe parking on Hwy 532. We will be placing NO PARKING ON HWY 532 signboards on both sides of the road. Our Festival sign, Crab Cracker ad and our front sign will all reflect NO PKG SR 532. We will be arming our safety crew with bullhorns to attempt to dissuade people from parking on Hwy 532. For Festival Saturday only, we will also be installing a temporary fence across our entire Hwy 532 entrance to prevent pedestrians from entering. Lastly, we will stencil two more 4ft x 8ft NO ENTRY signs for the Hwy 532 entrance.

We plan to meet with the Island County Sheriff to share our plans and seek any additional support they or the State Highway patrol may be able to provide.

High-level schedule for Festival week

Sunday, 12 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, 13 July thru Friday 17 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 and receive donated items from the community. Donuts/water will be provided at no charge. Lunch will be provided each day at no charge. Happy hour each afternoon in the Dietel Hall breezeway. Bring your favorite beverage and snacks to share

Tuesday, 14 July thru Thursday 16 July (9am to 400pm) We will have several crews making local pickups for St Aidan’s parishioners/friends. To arrange a pickup contact the Church Office or enter your information using the web link below. You will be contacted by the pickup crew to schedule a convenient pickup time.

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

Friday, 17 July (4:00 PM) Install temporary fencing across Hwy 532 entrance. Put up 4ft x 8ft NO ENTRY signs. Make final preparations for the Festival Saturday.

Saturday, 18 July

6:30 to 7:30AM – St Aidan’s volunteers arrive. Please park at new temporary lot east of the LDS parking entrance. Parking personnel will be available to direct you where to park. Snow Goose bus will available for pickups and drop-offs.

8AM – Festival commences

10AM – Grills fired up. Lunch provided at no cost to St Aidan’s volunteers

4PM – Remove temporary fencing and two of the NO ENTRY signs.

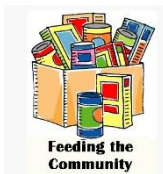
5PM(ish) –Open Happy Hour in the breezeway. Continue with cashiers out front until the crowd diminishes to a trickle.

Sunday, 19 July (after 10am service) – Start consolidating remaining items and tear down tables and pop-ups. Put up the FREE SIGN out front

Monday, 20 July and beyond – Let nature take its course as free items continue to move to new homes. Effort culminated by a dump run.

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



Food Bank Sunday (July 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.

Are You and/or Your Photo Still Missing from the Directory?



Help us keep our directory up-to-date. If you and/or your photo is missing from our church directory or your info needs updating please contact the church office so we can make sure you are included.

Old St Aidan's Directories

Ready for an updated directory? The Parish Office will be happy to make a new one available to you and you can drop off your old one to be shredded. It will provide a secure way to dispose of those old directories.

Torch Format

The Torch formatting is in transition as we experiment with using MS Word to replace MS Publisher as a tool to for putting the Torch together for printing. (MS Publisher will no longer be supported by Microsoft after October this year.)



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



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 5)	A-D
Second Sunday (July 12)	E-L
Third Sunday (July 19)	M-R
Fourth Sunday (July 26)	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. 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.

Please **No Food** (Soiled Paper Plates or Napkins) in the Recycling Bin!

Your help and thoughtfulness are needed! The transfer station is picky about this kind of thing.

Bible Study?

Are you interested in joining with others at St Aidan's for a Bible study? Provide your contact information to the church office so that you can be reached to discuss times during week that may work for you and we will hopefully be able to start a Bible study group soon.



Kathy McNally	01	Patrick Buffington	21
Linda Parker	07	Rick Simmons	22
Jeremy Arnold	08	Alicia Lavery-Mullins	23
Mary Burns	08	Jeff Johnson	25
Thomas Whitaker	11	Jeff Maxwell	25
Dick Bingay	13	Mark Hinrichs	26
Candace Bialon	17	Ron Graham	28
Lynn Blair	18	Nancy Larson	28
John Mathis	19	Karen O'Leary	30
Karole Gorman	20		

July 2026—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 After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	5:30 pm AA		10:00 am Holy Eucharist I			Independence Day 7 pm AA
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube) Food Bank Sunday	5:30 pm AA	10am-4pm Bloodworks NW Blood Drive	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I			11:00 am Robby Both Memorial Service 7 pm AA
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
The Seventh Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 9:15 am Adult Forum 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
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
The Eight Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	5:30 pm AA	TORCH DEADLINE	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I			10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 pm AA
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 9:15 am Adult Forum 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	5:30 pm AA		10:00 am Holy Eucharist I	5:00 pm The 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	June 28	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26
Lector	JoAnn Moffett	Kathy Hosley	JoAnn Moffett	Ann Morgan	JoAnn Moffett
Chalice Bearer	Ann Morgan	Ann Morgan	Ann Morgan	JoAnn Moffett	Ann Morgan
Acolyte	Jim Miller	Jim Miller	Jim Miller	Jim Miller	Jim Miller
Usher	Kathy Hosley	JoAnn Moffett	JoAnn Moffett	Kathy Hosley	Kathy Hosley
10:00 AM	June 28	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26
Lector	Nancy Pates-Riches	Rhoda Venditto	Rob Gorman	Jackie Humes-Fear	Tori Ritchey
Chalice Bearers	Jackie Humes-Fear Bob Perry	Jeff Maxwell Bob Perry	Mary McConnaughey Dean Nelson	Freda McKeown Theresa Strain	Jackie Humes-Fear Peter Dunphy
Crucifer/Acolyte	Bob Perry	Bob Perry	Dean Nelson	Issac Taylor	Peter Dunphy
Ushers	Bill Sontheimer Bill White	Dick Bingay Joey Sontheimer	Susie Johnson Jeff Johnson	Ethel Maxwell Bill White	Suellen Eberhart Marshall Eberhart
Counters	Bev Maxwell Kathy Hosley	Ethel Maxwell Kathy Hosley	Kathy McNally Pam Sontheimer	Jackie Humes-Fear Julie Vaux	Bev Maxwell Patty Dunphy
Childcare	JoAnn Moffett Vonda Buse	Pam Sontheimer JoAnn Moffett	Ethel Maxwell Patty Dunphy	Deb Hubenthal JoAnn Moffett	Gayle Thomas Vonda Buse
	June 28	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26
Altar Flowers	JoAnn Moffett	Gayle Thomas	Mary McConnaughey	Marilyn Rockwell	Lucy Armstrong Gloria Archambault



Altar Guild Teams for June

July 1-15

Team 2: Judy Biingay, Gayle Thomas, Candi Bialon

July 16-31

Team 3: Susie White, Micki-Jo, Sue Perry

Need Help?



If you need help please contact the church office.

St. Aidan's Technology Issues?

If you have any questions or concerns about the operation of St. Aidan's website, Facebook pages, or YouTube please contact Verlie Vigil, Liaison for Technology..

**NEXT TORCH
DEADLINE**

Thursday, July 16th
Email submissions to: mcnallyk@outlook.com
Photos, suggestions and/or comments are greatly appreciated

ST AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1318 SR 532; Camano Island, WA 98282

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