

June 2026

THE TORCH

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

www.StAidanCamanoIsland.org

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From the Rector

June is one of those months that occupies a liminal space on the calendar. It's in between things. It's transitional. When it comes it's not exactly spring anymore, but it's not really summer either. The weather is not especially cold and it certainly can't be classified as hot (or even warm). Memorial Day weekend, from a cultural perspective, always seems to say "hooray!" summer is here. But we all know summer doesn't actually arrive until July 5th. Our experience of June in this way is, perhaps, a strange quirk of the Pacific Northwest. In the rest of our country June can be down right summery and hot. And by that I mean above eighty!

This grand month, however, is not to be taken lightly or without appreciation. Transitions are wonderful things. This month millions of graduates will launch into the world full of hope and possibility. They will start their "journey of a thousand miles" with a single step toward the podium to receive their diploma. They will clutch it with hands full of victory and trepidation for what it means. And they will need our prayers. We know how exciting and scary and glorious it is to start out on a new adventure uncertain of what will come, but hopeful for all that can be.

This beautiful month is also the month when many recognize those who exist outside what is typical and normative in society. It can take a tremendous amount of courage to come out as gay or different in some way. That's a tough transition, but a liberating one. At its best, the Pride movement reminds us that every human being is deserving of dignity and respect. Our faith teaches us, unequivocally, that Christ died for all of us. The whole world and everyone in it. This month can help us remember that everyone means everyone.

This amazing month is also when daylight hours peak and we're bathed in maximal light. For those who consider themselves "solar powered" this is an amazing time of year. The summer solstice represents not only an astronomical transition into summer, but the gift of vibrancy and life. Many ancient civilizations tracked the solstice and used it to plan harvesting and planting schedules. Today we have other tools, but the agricultural theme fits well with the church season of Ordinary Time, which is marked by the color green, representing new life and growth.

This superb month also brings recognition of our dads and fathers to the fore. In this area I don't think being a "father" in the church counts! This is a good thing, because dads raising children day-in-and-day-out deserve our special thanks. With boys falling more and more behind in high school and college degree attainment, and occupational skills, fathers are more important than ever. Rarely do boys transition into healthy men without the help of healthy male figures in their lives. And studies have shown that fathers with a strong religious faith tend to pass that faith on to their children. Dads are amazing!

This terrific month is also when Juneteenth is celebrated and observed in honor and recognition of when the last slaves were freed after the Civil War. What a monumental transition that was!

There is much to love about June. With every transition that life brings there can be found hope, possibility, and grace. God is with us at each step along our journey, at each bend in the path. As you make your way through this month may you be reminded that the God of love is with you all the way.

Yours in Christ,
Drew+



From the Senior Warden

On April 30, 2016 The Vestry met for its annual retreat. The location for the meeting was at a new meeting center named Circlewood which is located on the west side of Camano Island. Circlewood offers a quiet rural setting with modern meeting facilities which were perfect for reflection prayer and conversation.

The purpose of this retreat is reviewing our Parish Core Values from 2025 and to restate them for 2026. The Core Values remain much the same as previous years stated as follows:

SPIRITUALITY = We are committed to Scripture, Worship, Discipleship, Ethical Praxis

COMMUNITY = We value Relationships, Family, Inclusivity, Collaboration, Accountability

SERVICE = We value showing up for others with Compassion, Selflessness, Fairness, Dedication, Responsibility, Hospitality

LOVE = We are committed to the Fruits of the Spirit—joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control—all grounded in and united by love.

With these values at the center, we have begun our strategic planning process which will include developing Mutual Ministry goals and the action steps necessary to achieve these goals. We plan to have our strategic plan in place by July 1st.

Recently we used our new capital improvement process to approve a new project to refurbish some of the building stairways and porches. This new gave us clear understanding of the financial, priority and timelines of this project.

Michael Palmer

St Aidan's Dinner Groups

There will be an End of the Year Happy Hour for the dinner group attendees on June 19th at 5pm to 7pm. Please bring snacks and drinks to share. We will gather in Dietel Hall to share our friendship and ideas for the future.

If you haven't been involved before and would like to join in or are just curious about how dinner groups work, please feel free to come to this end of season celebration. Let Brad Whitaker and/or Julie Vaux know before the end of August if you would like to participate when the season starts up again in September.

Hope to see you Friday June 19th!

Blood Drives and Shredding Event Update

This note from the Community Engagement Liaison will be a comparatively brief one. The blood drives continue to be a huge success and Bloodworks Northwest (BWNW) continues to be most appreciative. Sadly, in my conversations with the staff at BWNW, I heard we are no longer the only site with home baked goodies! But, how inspiring to find out they have heard of St. Aidan's and they are following our example! Great job everyone and a special thank you to those making the cookies!!!

The shredding event, last May 2nd, was a wonderful blessing to us! We helped over 65 donors to purge their homes of excess, sensitive documents and they made wonderful donations to help defray the cost of the truck. This event was SO successful that I am scheduling another shredding event in **LATE AUGUST!** We will be asking for a donation of at least \$10.00 per banker box to help defray the cost of the truck. Based on the response at the last event you can bring almost any number of **Papers, Shipping Labels or Photos.**

Thank you, and may God Bless you and yours,

C. Marshall Eberhart
Vestry Liaison for Community Engagement

From the Junior Warden



Summer is fast approaching, WHERE does the time go?? We get more hours in the day to enjoy this paradise we call home. I think only fireflies in the grass at night could improve it, but that is just me reminiscing about long ago summers.



reminders ...

1. If you have the occasion to move any chairs in the sanctuary, please remember to leave enough space on the outside of the rows (window walls) to accommodate wheelchairs and walkers. There are a couple of rows on the left side that have quite a bit of space at the end of the rows for just this purpose.
2. Please do not block the access to fire extinguishers.
3. Please do not turn off the air filter in Dietel Hall

We are moving forward with the porch rebuilds to the rear of Dietel Hall, and the sanctuary. Our contractor will commence work midsummer, I will be providing updates.

Hellen DeMoise

Important Events at St Aidan's in June

June 7	Feed My Sheep Sunday Newcomers' Class, 4pm
June 8	Bloodworks NW, 10am to 4pm
June 10	Women of St Aidan's, 11am
June 19	Dinner Group's end of year Happy Hour

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

Notes and Reflections from Our Community

PEACE CRANES

Chuck and I had the humbling honor to attend a beautiful and very moving service at Christ Episcopal Church Tacoma last month. We joined church members and members of the Asian/Pacific Islanders/Native Hawaiian Episcopal Group on their annual retreat, in Seattle this year. Episcopal churches all over the world had been asked earlier to send in prayerfully folded Origami Peace Cranes to be blessed at this special Vigil. They received (and strung!) over 5,000 paper cranes that were presented and blessed at the altar during the service, a glorious yet sobering sight. Many came from Alaska and some as far away as France! I was not alone in feeling tears drip from my eyes as they were placed on the altar. The chains of cranes were to be taken the next day to the NW ICE Processing Center. Thank you to those in our congregation who brought in cranes or at least attempted to make one. I believe each attempt was a powerful prayer of love and justice.

During the candlelight service we also were invited to place our own candle on the altar, sing especially beautiful music, and pray the Lord's Prayer in whatever language we chose. It touched me deeply to hear the powerful sound that made me think of that first Pentecost. The Bishop of the Philippines was there, and our own Bishop Phil of the Diocese of Olympia gave a moving message. The periods of silence were powerful.

We all know these are very difficult times. Many of us say repeatedly: "But what can I do?...what can I do?" I have a few thoughts. First of all, pray without ceasing. Write a letter to the Governor, your Congress people, to someone you've been estranged from. Stay informed but limit watching/reading the news. If



you're driving south, drive to the Detention Center. Stop for a while and try to take in the reality of it all. Invite someone from church or a neighbor for lunch. Write a thank you letter you've been meaning to for a long time. Attempt to fold a paper crane, No — FOLD a paper crane, prayerfully and with love. Give it away or keep it as a reminder to pray for the best outcome for all involved in any way in the business of detention and deportation. Pray some more. Count your blessings. Amen.

Judy Mieger





Déjà vu all over again. As I reviewed last year's Torch, it resonates again this year.

We had a Festival Kick-off on May 7th. Hot Dogs were provided by the Church; potluck side dishes were brought by the 30+ attendees. The purpose of this event was 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.

We confirmed/identified Leads for most of the Festival Roles as noted below! For Leads unable to attend the Festival Kick-off, I have assumed continued participation. If that is incorrect, please let me know as soon as possible. If you were not able to attend, there is still plenty of time to find an area to pitch-in. Volunteers should let the Festival Chair know their area of interest. It takes many hands to pull off our Festival.

Festival Role	Responsibility	Lead Contact (s)
Festival Chair / Grounds Setup / Security	Overall leader for Festival. Ensure leads have resources needed. Develop layout for tables and furniture. Ensure that we have onsite security during Festival week. Contact Sheriff's office to make them aware of Festival week. Secure tables with locking ropes.	Kevin King
Publicity / T-shirt Coordinator	Coordinate Crab Cracker and other promotion of the Festival. Cashier day of Festival. Handle T-shirt sales.	Theresa Strain
Field General	Responsible for weekday and Saturday work.	Patty Dunphy
Transportation Coordinator	Coordinate plans, bus stops and signage for Snow Goose Transit and golf carts.	Deannie Dunbar
Parking Coordinator	Rope and mark off drive lanes and parking areas. Contact LDS Church for permission to park on Festival day. Coordinate parking volunteers for traffic control on grounds and at the LDS Church. Coordinate signage for church and Hwy 532.	Greg Myers
Porta-Potty Coordinator	Schedule (2) Porta Potties for Festival day.	Dick Bingay
LDS Lead Contact	Coordinate with our neighboring LDS church for the day of the Festival	Lynn Blair
Music/PA Setup/Pkg Lot Mowing	Coordinate setup of PA system and provide music during Festival.	Steve Jensen
Lead—Food Concessions	Purchase and prepare concession food for sale	Ray Riches
Donut Coordinator	Coordinate with IGA for weekday pick up of by Festival chairman. Coordinate donated donuts for Saturday from IGA.	Kathy Hosley
Hired-Hand Lead/Drone Photos	Coordinate hired help as needed	Peter Dunphy
Lunch Coordinators	Plan, prepare or order lunch for the St Aidan's volunteers – Monday thru Saturday	Carol Swain and Will Swain
"Mr Fixit"	Ensure that gasoline and electric tools/appliances work.	Rick Simmons
Dietel Hall Sales Lead	Coordinate display and pricing of items to be sold in Dietel Hall.	Kusum Batey
Books Lead	Coordinate book collection and sales.	Julie Vaux
Cashier Lead	Setup process for cash and credit sales.	Jeff Maxwell

We are blessed to again have support from Jim, Joanne, Margo and Larry and their RV brigade. They will be onsite all week providing helping hands, sharing their onion rings and providing overnight security.

There is very limited space in the north shed for furniture and large items. We are deferring pickups for the general public until 13 July. For St Aidan's parishioners we are keeping the remaining area open and available for pickups until the shed is full. If you have smaller items to donate, if at all possible, please bring them in boxes/bins that are stackable so we can maximize our space. There is still room on top of our piles of treasure. Please make sure you preserve runways to the garage doors open in each of the shed. We will continue to take on smallish donations on Sundays after church. Drop-off will be available the week prior to Festival or arrange a pickup by contacting the Church Office or entering you information using the web link : **"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 as soon as possible so she can outfit you or order the needed sizes.



Fire-up for the Festival on July 18th. Set-up will occur through the week prior starting after church Sunday, July 13th. Future Communication will be via the Torch, church announcements, emails and the St Aidan's ePistle.

Kevin King, 2026 Festival Chairman
206-867-2744

Food Bank Sunday (June 7th)

"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.



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 (June 7)	A-D
Second Sunday (June 14)	E-L
Third Sunday (June 21)	M-R
Fourth Sunday (June 28)	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.

Women of St Aidan's

The June 10th meeting will be the last before a Summer break. There will be a Salad Potluck so bring a salad to share to celebrate the start of Summer



Celebration of Baptism!

Dean and Donovan were baptized during the Sunday May 24th's celebration of Pentecost.

Tuesday 10:30 am—Study Group

The Tuesday Study Group will be taking a break until early September.



Brad & Mandy Whitaker	14
Bill & Susie White	22
Erin & Alicia Lavery-Mullins	26
Peter & Marilyn Rockwell	27
Peter & Patty Dunphy	28



Dawn Foisie	05	Micki-Jo Palmer	19
Ann Morgan	07	Wil Swain	19
Otto Leuschel	08	Verlie Vigil	20
Elaine Breckenridge	11	Susie Johnson	23
John Rauch	11	Joey Sontheimer	23
Robin Ringland	13	Arra Morrison	25
Judy Piper	15	Marshall Eberhart	29
Greg Myers	16	Alison Cole	30
Patty Both	18	Allen Feris	30
Donnar Conner	18	Peter Ringland	30

A Message From the Kitchen "Angels"

Please remember to take your dishes after Coffee Hour or other social gatherings. In order to keep the kitchen tidy, after one month left behind dishes will be donated to the Festival.

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.

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 let Ann Boid (apbrb041539@gmail.com) know or contact the church office so we can make sure you

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.

June 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
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
The First Sunday After Pentecost Trinity Sunday 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 9:15 am Adult Form 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	5:30 pm AA		10:00 am Holy Eucharist I			7 pm AA
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
The Second Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube) Food Bank Sunday 4:00 pm Newcomers' Class	10am-4pm Bloodworks NW Blood Drive 5:30 pm AA	 St Columba of Iona (Window #5)	10:00 am Holy Eucharist I 11:00 am Women of St Aidan's			7 pm AA
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
The Third Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	4 pm Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm AA		10:00 am Holy Eucharist I	TORCH DEADLINE	5:00 pm Dinner Group Happy Hour	7 pm AA
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
The Fourth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube) Father's Day	 St Alban (Window #2) 5:30 pm AA		10:00 am Holy Eucharist I			10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 pm AA
28	29	30	1	4	3	4
The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II (also live streamed on YouTube)	5:30 pm AA		10:00 am Holy Eucharist I			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	May 31	June 7	June 14	June 21	June 8
Lector	Ann Morgan	JoAnn Moffett	Kathy Hosley	Ann Morgan	JoAnn Moffett
Chalice Bearers	JoAnn Moffett	Ann Morgan	Ann Morgan	JoAnn Moffett	Ann Morgan
Crucifer/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	May 31	June 7	June 14	June 21	June 28
Lector	Jeff Johnson	Jeff Maxwell	Rob Gorman	Jackie Humes-Fear	Nancy Pates-Riches
Chalice Bearers	Jackie Humes-Fear Mary McConnaughey	Freda McKeown Theresa Strain	Mary McConnaughey Peter Dunphy	Freda McKeown Mary McConnaughey	Jackie Humes-Fear Bob Perry
Crucifer/Acolyte	Mary McConnaughey	Theresa Strain	Peter Dunphy	Mary McConnaughey	Bob Perry
Usher	Ethel Maxwell Susie Johnson	Dick Bingay Joey Sontheimer	Susie Johnson Jeff Johnson	Suellen Eberhart Marshall Eberhart	Bill Sontheimer Bill White
Counter	Marilyn Rockwell Kathy Hosley	Kathy McNally Pam Sontheimer	Patty Dunphy Marilyn Rockwell	Jackie Humes-Fear Julie Vaux	Bev Maxwell Kathy Hosley
Childcare	Julie Vaux Gayle Thomas	Pam Sontheimer Kathy Hosley	Patty Dunphy JoAnn Moffett	Marilyn Rockwell Julie Vaux	JoAnn Moffett Vonda Buse
	May 3	June 7	June 14	June 21	June 28
Altar Flowers	JoAnn Moffett	Mary McConnaughey	Marilyn Rockwell	Lucy Armstrong Gloria Armstrong	JoAnn Moffett



Altar Guild Teams for June

June 1-15

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

June 16-30

Team 1: Patty Vermilye, Freda McKeown,
Donna Myers

Need Help?



If you need help please contact the church office.

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 St Aidan's Office until new Liaison for Technology appointed.

**NEXT TORCH
DEADLINE**

Thursday, June 18th

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

ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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