



ST AIDAN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CAMANO ISLAND, WA

2026 Annual Report  
*for ministry year 2025*

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

**St Aidan's Mission is  
Loving God, Transforming Lives, and Serving Others.**

**Our Vision is a world transformed by  
the reconciling love and peace of Jesus Christ.**

*reaffirmed by the Bishop's Committee Feb. 2023*

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# LEADERSHIP REPORTS

## RECTOR

Submitted by Fr. Drew Foisie

The year 2025 was a tremendous year for St Aidan's Episcopal Church of Camano Island. Together we went deeper with our faith in Christ through rich worship, intentional study, and compassionate and empathetic ministry. A variety of projects around the church campus that began in 2024 were carried forward to completion in 2025. We continued the work of strengthening our relationships in the community with our partners at the Community Resource Center, Stanwood-Camano Area Foundation, and neighboring church congregations and pastors. In addition, we began a formal discernment process to determine whether now was the time to move from "mission" church to "parish" church. I'm happy to say it was a question we answered in the affirmative! The year 2025 was one historic year for St Aidan's.

In February, after new Bishop's Committee members were elected, our new leadership team had a "retreat", an in-service day where they prayerfully considered goals for the upcoming 12 months, as well as the question of becoming a parish. After much thoughtful and sincere discussion the BC came to the conclusion that we should take the next step and have a congregational meeting and a follow-on discernment period to receive questions. A meeting was scheduled for early June and the turnout was very strong. Numerous insightful questions were asked and answered. In the end, the overwhelming sense from the St Aidan's community was to move forward and take the *next* step. A formal letter was written to Bishop Philip N. LaBelle, in accordance with the Constitutions and Canons of the Diocese of Olympia and The Episcopal Church, and permission to form a parish was granted.

Another congregational meeting was scheduled for September 21. The Diocesan Chancellor was on hand to guide us through any technical questions regarding the new Parish Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. Both of these documents were approved without objection and our Bishop's Committee members were voted in as the new Vestry. St Aidan's was formally received into the Diocese of Olympia as a parish at the annual Convention on October 25, and our Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Secretary of the State of Washington shortly thereafter. What a grace-filled process! It was clearly the result of many people — past and present — who, by their faithfulness and stewardship, made this possible. What a blessing.

In 2025 we also began a discernment process to prayerfully consider whether we could, or should, form a One Parish One Prisoner ministry team. Early in the year we welcomed staff from the One Parish One Prisoner organization to St Aidan's to discuss their ministry model and how we could become a participating parish. The response from the people of St Aidan's was strong. It became apparent that we have many in our congregation passionate about social justice and doing work that

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advocates for the dignity of every human being. We had enough attending these early meetings that we thought we might be able to form *two* groups! But we knew one group was probably just right for our stage of development.

By spring time we had gone through the OPOP training and were assigned an incarcerated friend to partner with. We began writing letters right away, meeting monthly, and working through the OPOP learning modules as we went. However, as time progressed it became more and more evident that the person we were assigned to work with would not be receiving a release date at any foreseeable point. Because the OPOP program is based entirely on the idea of a church walking with an ex-prisoner after their release back into society, we felt that we needed to understand whether we were doing the program we signed up for. In the end, the honest but difficult answer was no. We then chose to conclude the partnership we had with OPOP, but leave the door open to future endeavors.

Our 2025 OPOP ministry was successful in ways we couldn't have predicted or imagined. It didn't look like what we initially envisioned, but it revealed how we can navigate through complex and difficult situations with grace. The OPOP organization sent a wrap-up letter outlining a number of areas in which our team helped them learn and grow. They detailed several significant ways they would adjust their program and protocols to help future teams. Some on our OPOP team continue to occasionally write our prisoner, Carrie, to offer support on an individual basis. Our team as a whole has pivoted to focusing on other ministry opportunities, like supporting immigrant families facing the horror of deportation.

In addition to the especially noteworthy things above, St Aidan's continued its faithful work with the Cold Weather Shelter. The CWS team worked to develop a more robust "ground game" where it came to volunteers and recruitment. They reached out to pastors in neighboring churches by hosting two "pastors' luncheons" to discuss the vision and work of the shelter. They also made individual church visits on Sundays to network with others in the wider faith community. Their efforts resulted in a bump in volunteer support and greater awareness spreading throughout Stanwood-Camano. Ironically, the start to the 2025/2026 winter season has been rather warm and mild! But the CWS team's efforts have been on fire. Big thanks to Kusum Batey, Kevin King, Donna Myers, Peter Dunphy, Dawn Muscolo, and everyone who has ever volunteered to help in any way.

Life at St Aidan's was particularly vibrant in 2025, both in outreach and in-reach. Fr Frank Spina returned to lead the Lenten Series on the theme of forgiveness. He took us through five or six key stories in the biblical text with forgiveness at the heart like only Fr Frank can! The Tuesday Book Study group read and discussed *The Prodigal Son* by Henri Nouwen, *How We Learn to Be Brave* by Bp Mariann Budde, *Aidan, Bede, and Cuthbert: Three Inspirational Saints* by David Adam, *Speaking Christian* by Marcus Borg, *The Meaning of Jesus: Two Visions* by NT Wright and Marcus Borg, and *The*

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*Screwtape Letters* by CS Lewis. Rob Gorman, an oblate with the new monastic Community of the Incarnation, started an open-to-all guided meditation session Tuesday mornings at 10:00. And I could go on, but I'm running out of space!

I've heard it said by many that St Aidan's "punches above its weight." And I think that is absolutely true. The people who call St Aidan's home are so faithful and spiritually generous. We saw the Spirit move throughout the community in 2025 in pretty amazing ways. Please take some time to read through this annual report. You'll be glad you did.

Grace and Peace to you.

Yours in Christ,  
Drew+

## SENIOR WARDEN

Submitted by Candi Bialon

The Bishop's Committee officially began our 2025 year at our retreat in February, but by October St Aidan's became a Parish and we became a Vestry! Quite a year indeed!

Fr Drew led our retreat with an exercise for all of us to work individually, then together as a team to drill down and define our core values, or our most deeply held, foundational principals. We agreed upon and used the values of **Spirituality** -- our God- focus; **Community**--our neighbor-focus; **Service**; —our action-focus; and **Hope**—our sustaining-belief focus; in developing our mutual ministry goals for the year 2025.

"Mutual Ministry Goals" are defined as a service or project undertaken for the furtherance of the gospel, and fit within our mission of loving God, transforming lives, and serving others. The goals must be mutually agreed upon by the vestry and the rector, and must be measurable and attainable within the year. The two goals finalized after discussion were 1) to further develop our Incorporation and Inclusion of Newcomers Plan/Ministry to include greeters; and 2) Develop a year-round Benevolence/Stewardship education or culture.

It was important to us that our incorporation and inclusion goal was measurable and attainable, so we developed a flow chart of the "touch points" someone might encounter when visiting St Aidan's for the first time...everything from social media, the website, our roadside sign, parking, directional signs outside, as well as inside, the buildings, ushers, printed information, coffee hour, and beyond. That chart helped us see where we still needed improvements in our entryway and the directional signs

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around our campus. Bishop Phil LaBelle visited us at the beginning of the year and agreed with us that finding his way through Dietel Hall to the Nave was a bit of a challenge! Many of the grounds improvements, including landscaping, the beautiful sign at the Dietel Hall entrance were started or completed last year, so we focused on the areas that still needed improvement... we put NO's and YES's next to each question on the flowchart, with the goal of "Getting to Yes" on everything by the end of the year. Many, *many* thanks for continued help from Peter Dunphy and Greg Myers for all the beautiful signs, and of course to Marilyn Rockwell, our Junior Warden last year, for her participation in all those "Wayfinding" projects.

An additional part of our incorporation and inclusion goal was to develop a greeter ministry. We agreed to rename that a "welcoming" ministry, and while all details were not formalized in 2025, we will continue to develop this program in the way that works best for St Aidan's.

The second mutual ministry goal agreed upon at the retreat was to be around a Stewardship Culture/Education. We were unable to fulfill this goal in the way that we had envisioned.

In addition to developing and implementing our mutual ministry goals for the year, the vestry went to work on fulfilling the requirements to change our canonical status from mission to parish. That work began at the retreat where Fr Drew led us in a discussion about what the differences are between a mission and a parish, and what steps we would need to take over the course of the next several months to complete the process before the Diocesan Convention in October. A BIG thank you to vestry member, Michael Palmer for his work in drawing up our by-laws, as well as our Articles of Incorporation. It was a thrill to be in attendance at the convention with Marilyn Rockwell and Hellen DeMoyse when they voted on and welcomed St Aidan's as a Parish!

It has been an honor and privilege to serve St Aidan's as Senior Warden this past year. I am so grateful to Fr Drew for his guidance and support; to the rest of the vestry, as well as Kathy McNally and Jeff Maxwell, for all their hard work throughout the year; to Lenore Challenger, parish secretary for her help whenever and wherever needed; and to all of my wonderful faith family at St Aidan's! Thank you all!

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## JUNIOR WARDEN

Submitted by Marilyn Rockwell



During the fall of 2024, the Bishop's Committee voted to upgrade major aspects of St Aidan's Church. My article recounts those projects, and the Wayfinding term is useful in navigating through each of them.

"Wayfinding" was a project designed to help newcomers and guests through our St Aidan's campus from the parking lot to our buildings and destinations. Using large rocks and attaching lettering on steel, four new signs were placed along our walkways to aid walkers in finding their way around St Aidan's. My thanks go out to Greg Myers and Peter Dunphy who managed this extraordinarily successful project.

We enter St Aidan's on its parking lot, so I begin there. Parking lot improvements included (1) resurfacing and leveling the Handicapped slots, (2) adding a second visitor slot, and (3) re-striping the entire lot intending to increase the visual safety for all of us. Given the change in our status, we also repainted our **Vicar** designated parking slot to read **Rector**.

Our welcoming bell, rung just before both Sunday services, was installed into a new stone bell tower placed just below the landing to the Choir Room. Bell ringers can safely stand on the stair landing to ring this bell.

Walking around our grounds, you will notice additions within the garden spaces. Sunshine Landscaping installed landscaping and irrigation upgrades of our entire campus. The watering system now covers 95% of the newly planted plants and trees. The remaining 5% are new trees planted along route 532 and against the eastern



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property line, which were watered separately using gator bags which have since been removed. Going forward, our fall, winter and spring rains should be sufficient to sustain these trees during our dry summer months. Sunshine Landscaping continues to maintain the lawns and plantings for St Aidan's, as well as our irrigation system. They are doing a magnificent job.

The landscaping design was developed by Landford Landscape Design, pro bono, focusing on minimal maintenance plants that should thrive in our Camano Island environment and not grow bigger than we can care for.

Our rose garden has new plants but remains in the same location. Thankfully, Gayle Thomas still lovingly maintains our roses.

Our old chain link garbage storage area was replaced by a sturdy and larger cement block structure featuring a locked gate.

Turning with the belltower on your right, you view St Aidan's new wider handicapped ramp and its two-tier railings allowing safer access to Dietel Hall. Walking through our new red double doors, you will see changes inside too. The first is that the doors can be opened wide enough to allow wheelchairs easy access.

The Dietel Hall building saw upgrades of its restrooms (plumbing fixtures, lighting, paint and flooring) and its central hallway that were completed early this year; the old carpeting was replaced by vinyl plank flooring matching flooring that had been installed in the kitchen during late 2024. This flooring requires less maintenance, and its lighter color makes Dietel much brighter. Wood molding replaced the older mismatches and matches the entrance hall moldings.

An identical flooring upgrade occurred in both the Children's Room and Choir Room. The Choir Room also lost its old accordion room divider, and furniture moved, using a new floor plan. The room now seems larger, brighter and allows a better flow of movement.

Another significant upgrade was necessary to the breezeway roofing between the Nave and Dietel Hall. The original membrane designed to keep rain off the wooden support structure failed and required replacement; new roof framing and shingles were installed. At the Dietel Hall end, the metal flashing failed at the firewall, rainwater soaked through and it needed total replacement. Allen Roofing donated new gutters and down spouts. Rain had also soaked down into the wall- bordering the exterior portion of the hallway into the office. Matching paint was applied to all exterior siding and interior walls.

Early in the year Sylvia Stephens, our long-standing cleaning staff, retired and St Aidan's hired Joyce Cleaning to care for the interior cleaning of the major buildings. With only minor hitches the changeover went well, but there were continuing

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requests to have cleaner bathrooms. The 2026 budget includes money for cleaning restrooms twice a week.

In conjunction with the festival, particularly its new circulating bus, five trees with overhanging branches along the route were trimmed and extra lawn mowing was done to allow safer traffic flow.

Two stone pieces in the rear end of our campus were reframed and cemented into the ground. The Millstone and Guidepost are firmly planted and greet those driving into our campus from Ell Road. Thanks to Rich Witek for building the frames, Bob Perry for assisting with logistics, Peter Dunphy for overseeing, and Sunshine for lifting and securing the stones within the new frames.

One of the Vestry's two 2025 Guiding Mutual Ministry Goals is to make St Aidan's Buildings and Grounds more welcoming to our newcomers and guests. Each of these upgrades/changes was made with that thought in mind and I hope evident to all who entered our campus.

I want to extend my thanks to warm thanks to our Parish in working toward meeting that Mutual Ministry Goal. Our ex-officio Jr Wardens Peter and Patty Dunphy, Kevin King, Greg Myers, and Rob Gorman were there always to share knowledge and experience and offer solutions. Hellen DeMoyse was a great support and provided extra energy and motivation, when mine was flagging. Thank you all for your assistance.



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## **RETIRED CLERGY IN COMMUNITY WITH ST AIDAN'S**

Submitted by The Rev. Elaine Breckenridge

St Aidan's continues to be a welcoming place of worship, community and service for local retired clergy. I (Mother Elaine) am honored to join with the Rev. Dr. Frank Spina and the Rev. Jo Beecher who also are retired priests living in the Camano Stanwood area and attending St Aidan's as our home church. We are available to serve liturgically and in other ways in the life of this congregation. We also serve in other ministries in this diocese, and in the broader community. For example, I served St. David's in Friday harbor for five weeks in the spring.

For me it has been a privilege to serve as a priest at St Aidan's this past year. A special highlight was serving for the evening Eucharist prior to Thanksgiving Day. The choir certainly got into the spirit of gratitude! I also presided and preached on the following Sunday which was First Sunday of Advent. Additionally, I substituted for Fr Drew on several other occasions. I preached one Sunday for him so that he could remain focused on the business of Diocesan Convention. I assisted on Easter Sunday.

I continue to be amazed by all the ministries at St Aidan's. There are often long lines at the microphone on Sunday mornings with announcements being made about outreach ministries to the local community. The new addition of a Contemplative Prayer Group meeting on Tuesdays at ten a.m. and led by Rob Gorman is a blessing to many. You continue to grow in number which was surely evident on Christmas Eve. There were several families present which was exciting to see. The energy that younger people brought to the service was uplifting. And the choir's performance was excellent.

We are of course blessed in many ways by the contributions of the other two retired priests. It should be duly noted that both The Rev Dr. Frank Spina and the Rev. Jo Beecher presided for me on two Sundays when I was ill. Here are their reports.

The Rev. Dr. Frank Anthony Spina:

This past year I celebrated and preached twice for both services. During Lent, I presented for five successive Wednesday evenings on the biblical topic of forgiveness. We treated biblical material accenting Esau's gracious greeting of Jacob after having received such shabby treatment from his younger brother. We studied Joseph's ultimate forgiveness of the brothers who sold him into slavery. Taking a slightly different tack, we reflected on David's adultery and murder, for which he was forgiven even though the consequences of those egregious acts were not removed.

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Then, we dealt with two New Testament texts. One featured Jesus' parable about a man who was forgiven an enormous debt but refused to forgive himself a modest debt. Finally, we worked with the letter of Philemon, in which the Apostle Paul attempts to get a master and a slave to regard each other as brothers in the faith.

The Rev. Jo Beecher:

In the Diocese of Olympia, I am involved with assuring funding for ethnic congregations, including our vibrant Sudanese congregations, and I am canonically resident as a priest in the Anglican Episcopal Church of El Salvador. With my wife Mary, we have recently moved into our still-being-renovated home here in Utsalady and are happy to be closer to St Aidan's. We are loving being part of the monthly dinner groups: good food and good fellowship!

I was not able to be as active at St Aidan's this year, mostly because of health limitations but also because I was called on to do supply work at Resurrección in Mt. Vernon as they transition after the previous priest retired. I am grateful to Fr Drew for opportunities to serve with him at the altar on special occasions and I continue to hold St Aidan's in my daily prayers.

All three of us are grateful to serve this congregation and to be enjoying fellowship and friendship with you. May God continue to bless us all.

“May God kindle in our hearts, the flame of love that never ceases, that it may burn in us, giving light to others. May we shine forever in your temple, set on fire with your eternal light, even your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.”

- *St. Columba*

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## TREASURER

Submitted by Jeff Maxwell

It is my great pleasure to share the financial results of our year together at St Aidan's. We projected a significant deficit for 2025. Not only did we avoid that deficit, but we ended the year with a comfortable surplus after two years of rather alarming deficits.

I often get thanked for what I do with regards to St. Aidan's financial health – as if I have anything to do with it! I do nothing!! I'm just the messenger! It's all of you – your generosity and commitment – that make the difference. Those of you who pledged for 2025 gave more ..... And “plate” donations, giving that we don't know is coming via pledges, continues to greatly exceed what we've budgeted for. Your faithfulness and support for St Aidan's continues to shine. It's all the more encouraging that 2025's operating surplus wasn't just the result of careful stewarding of expenses (although that was certainly a contributing factor!). This was a case of the extraordinary generosity of a growing faith community. Thanks be to God!

This is not to say that 2025 wasn't without its financial challenges. We faced substantial unexpected costs this year, ranging from improved access ramps to new signage, the remodel of Dietel Hall and substantial landscaping improvements, among others. But because we are blessed with a significant endowment that covers such unanticipated costs, we were able to fund those needs without adversely impacting our operating budget.

The coming year looks promising as well. Although 2026's Vestry-approved budget plans for a modest deficit, this merely authorizes spending at the indicated levels. As our community continues to grow and thrive, I am cautiously optimistic that 2026's projected deficit may turn out not to be realized, but may again turn into a surplus.

To close on a cautious note, we cannot allow ourselves to become complacent. As we grow, our costs will inevitably rise. The past several years have seen increases, particularly in the areas of facilities and personnel, that continue to outpace the rate of increase in our giving. I urge each of us to remain diligent and faithful in our support of this church that we love. That said, thank you for allowing me, in this year's report, to share this good news and avoid having to be the financial curmudgeon that you may have experienced the past few years. I welcome this opportunity to serve as your Treasurer. I continue to thank the One who gives so much to us for His encouragement of all of you to so generously support St Aidan's.

ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2025 RESULTS AND 2026 BUDGET				
	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	Variance	2026 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>				
<b>UNRESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS</b>				
Pledge Contributions	210,000	224,647	(14,647)	240,000
Plate Contributions	45,000	78,511	(33,511)	55,000
Investment Income	56,000	64,304	(8,304)	65,000
Special Events & Fundraisers	11,200	22,633	(11,433)	26,500
Other Unrestricted Income	1,200	1,525	(325)	1,200
<b>TOTAL UNRESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>323,400</b>	<b>391,620</b>	<b>68,220</b>	<b>387,700</b>
<b>RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>2,427</b>	<b>1,927</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>TRANSFER FROM ENDOWMENT</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>192,000</b>	<b>192,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>323,900</b>	<b>586,047</b>	<b>262,147</b>	<b>388,700</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>PROGRAM &amp; MINISTRY</b>				
Education	2,250	2,474	(224)	2,300
Worship	500	385	115	500
Music	500	1,079	(579)	1,200
Altar Guild	2,630	2,612	18	3,125
Hospitality	950	1,140	(190)	1,100
Outreach	3,050	12,898	(9,848)	17,050
Other Program Expenses	1,050	952	98	1,450
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM &amp; MINISTRY</b>	<b>10,930</b>	<b>21,540</b>	<b>(10,610)</b>	<b>26,725</b>
<b>OFFICE &amp; ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>32,800</b>	<b>26,437</b>	<b>6,363</b>	<b>28,800</b>
<b>PAYROLL &amp; RELATED EXPENSES</b>				
Employee Salaries	173,500	171,578	1,922	177,801
Employment Taxes	9,401	8,479	922	10,582
Vicar's Retirement & Health Insurance	43,980	42,516	1,464	46,096
Other Employee Expenses	7,520	3,050	4,470	4,650
<b>TOTAL PAYROLL &amp; RELATED EXPENSES</b>	<b>234,401</b>	<b>225,623</b>	<b>8,778</b>	<b>239,129</b>
<b>FACILITIES</b>	<b>36,750</b>	<b>42,437</b>	<b>(5,687)</b>	<b>51,160</b>
<b>DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>44,919</b>	<b>54,168</b>	<b>(9,249)</b>	<b>53,889</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>359,800</b>	<b>370,205</b>	<b>(10,405)</b>	<b>399,703</b>
<b>INCOME (DEFICIT) FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>(35,900)</b>	<b>23,842</b>	<b>(59,742)</b>	<b>(11,003)</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>183,380</b>	<b>(183,380)</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>359,800</b>	<b>553,585</b>	<b>(10,405)</b>	
<b>NET INCOME (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(35,900)</b>	<b>32,462</b>	<b>68,362</b>	

## PLEDGE RECORDER

Submitted by JoAnn Moffett

What a generous community we have – a community of people who give freely of their time, talent and treasure. Without those generous gifts, this special community would not be possible. I am grateful to be part of it.

The Pledge Recorder's tasks are part of a process designed to make sure your contributions are handled properly. That process includes the Ushers and Altar Guild, the Counters, the Pledge Recorder, the Parish Secretary, and the Treasurer.

The Ushers and Altar Guild gather and ensure the safe handling of donations made during worship services until it can be counted. Two Counters check each other as they count and categorize the weekly cash and checks and then prepare a report for

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the money received that week. The Pledge Recorder verifies the accuracy of the report, does data input for the system that tracks pledges and contributions, deposits the money, and produces biannual donation statements. The Parish Secretary checks the Pledge Recorder's work then enters the data into our accounting software, and the Treasurer provides general oversight and guidance.

My thanks to everyone involved. First, to all of you for your financial contributions; thank you for your treasure. Second, to the Counters (Patty Dunphy, Jackie Humes-Fear, Kathy Hosley, Kathy McNally, Sue Perry, Marilyn Rockwell, Pam Sontheimer, Julie Vaux and Ethel Maxwell ) for a job well done; thank you for your time and talent. Last, but certainly not least, a special thanks to Lenore, our Parish Secretary, who is our premier source of help and information and someone who is a blessing to us all.

If you have any questions about your pledge, your donations or the statements you receive twice a year, please feel free to call me at 360-387-4080, email me at [joannmoffett@msn.com](mailto:joannmoffett@msn.com), or leave a message with the office.

## DIOCESAN ANNUAL CONVENTION

Submitted by Dave Wood

Our Convention was semi virtual (5 locations across the state and online): *October 25* | *Regional sites: St. Paul's, Bellingham; St. Thomas, Medina; St. Mary's, Lakewood; St. Stephen's, Longvieu; St. Antony's of Egypt, Silverdale.* The whole St Aidan's team (Fr Drew, Dave and John Mathis sat together at St Paul's Bellingham). Things went pretty smoothly, but there were several technical issues and delays with zoom and voting.

Watch the Bishop's address here: <https://ecww.org/bishop-labelles-convention-address/>. You can read all the documents here: <https://ecww.org/convention-2025-nominations-resolutions/>.

Eucharist Worship was first, as with all conventions, then came reports and budget approvals with very little dissent. Many people were thanked and recognized for convention duties and Bishops Cross awards. Passions soared towards the end of the meeting during discussions and voting on the resolutions:

- **Resolution 1:** Fiscal Year Assessment Rate to be set at 14.5% of parish/mission Net Disposable Income (i.e., income after outreach and capital expenditures) — Passed

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- **Resolution 2:** Cost of Living Adjustment for 2026 Salary Scale: 3.8% — Passed
  - **Resolution 3:** Humanitarian Aid to Gaza/Palestinian crisis. No agreement reached. Postponed indefinitely.
  - **Resolution 4:** Putting Previous Resolutions into Action
  - **Resolution 5:** “Decolonizing” the current Diocesan logo which features 1500’s style sailing ship (reminding some people of manifest destiny, the belief the God gave Europeans divine authority to take lands from Native People in the New World). The current logo was not removed. Resolution was tabled and given to Diocesan Council for further discussion.
  - **Last Hour Resolution:** The Use of Large Language Models (i.e, Artificial Intelligence or AI) to create sermons and other ministry-related teaching content. Resolution was critiqued for not considering all potential legitimate uses of AI by clergy for biblical research. There were people for using AI and against using AI in sermon creation. No new rule was adopted or implemented.

## **FESTIVAL**

Submitted by Kevin King

With several new members to St Aidan’s this year, I am going answer the question “What is Festival”? Festival is a July event that happens across the building, grounds and parking lot of St Aidan’s. It is a garage/yard sale on steroids! Items accumulate through the winter/spring until our Festival shed is full. Festival Week starts the Sunday prior with setting up of all our display tables and clearing out the Festival sheds. Throughout the week, donations pour in from the community and many St Aidan’s parishioners and volunteers distribute and organize those donations. On Festival Saturday an army of green shirted St Aidan’s volunteers, work as cashiers, parking crews, loading crews, coffee/donut hosts, hot dog/hamburger cooks, furniture taggers and fine goods sales people. Prices are set by the customer, so everyone walks away with a good deal! On Sunday, the “Free Sign” goes up and almost all the rest of the “treasure” magically disappears. Proceeds support St Aidan’s operating fund and local charities.

In 2025, the St Aidan’s Festival raised:

- \$25,300 Gross
- \$21,250 Net
- \$11,000 distributed to local charities:



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Brigid Collins Family Support Center  
Camano Center  
Community Resource Center  
Safe Harbor Free Clinic  
Stanwood Food Bank

We had a few changes to Festival in 2025 that worked out fairly well and we will be repeating in 2026.

- Arranged for Snow Goose bus service to provide transportation from the Latter Day Saints (LDS) parking lot through the St Aidan's grounds (some still chose to walk)
- Closed off all St Aidan's parking to allow for more display space for our donated items and safer conditions for our volunteers and guests
- Had several directional signs built to funnel visitors to the LDS parking lot
- Hired additional youth help for sorting, unloading and loading

Fortunately, some of the best things about Festival continued. Jim Colby, Joanne Safranek, Larry Durham and Margot Durham once again provided Festival help and homemade onion rings in exchange for some RV space. Evening social hour during Festival week continued to be a hit. Plenty of St Aidan's volunteers were onsite throughout the week. We also had the generous support of the brothers and sisters from our neighboring Latter Day Saints Church.

Keep your calendars open. Festival Kickoff meeting in May, Festival set-up the week of July 12<sup>th</sup> and Festival on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

# WORSHIP REPORTS

## WORSHIP

Submitted by Robert Perry

As we look back on the past year, I am filled with gratitude for how God has worked among us and through our congregation. It is a privilege to serve as your Vestry liaison for Worship.

This past year, we successfully transitioned from Mission status, to a Parish, bringing new energy to our communal worship.

Our Altar Guild updated altar and sacristy articles for each season to represent a more visual appearance.

Our choir re-vested every member of our choir and purchased new music for each service.

We celebrated the baptism of many new members, of all ages, and joyfully welcomed new families into our St Aidan's family.

I wish to thank St Aidan's church and Fr Drew for the opportunity to serve the church. Many thanks to the Vestry and its help with transitioning to Parish status. And to our Junior and Senior Wardens, many thanks for all their help and support.

## WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Submitted by Donna Conner

Wednesday worship at St Aidan's offers a quiet and welcoming pause in the middle of the week—a time to gather, pray, and be renewed together in God's presence. Meeting at 10 a.m., this service offers a gentle invitation to gather midweek for the Holy Eucharist, Rite I, and to share in prayer, reflection, and fellowship. It is especially meaningful for those who may not always be able to attend on Sundays.

At the heart of Wednesday worship is conversation and connection. Rather than a formal sermon, the gathering centers on reflection on the life of a saint whose feast day falls near the service. As we explore their faith, struggles, and faithfulness, we consider how their lives speak to our own—how holiness is lived out in everyday moments. These reflections naturally lead to thoughtful discussion, where listening to one another deepens understanding and strengthens faith.

Community is central to this gathering. In a smaller, more intimate setting, relationships are nurtured through shared prayer, conversation, and presence.

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Wednesday worship reminds us that Christian faith is not meant to be lived in isolation, but in community. As Jesus promises, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them” (Matthew 18:20). In this sacred time, Christ meets us not only in Word and Sacrament, but in one another.

Wednesday worship continues to be a place of fellowship, learning, and spiritual nourishment—a gentle, sustaining expression of community life at St Aidan’s. It offers a space to come as we are, walk alongside one another, and be strengthened for the days ahead.

## **SERVICE ASSISTANTS**

Submitted by Kathy Hosley

2025 has been a year of enlightenment and reassurance both personally and in my service assistants ministry that God enables me to do whatever needs to be done.

We currently have 31 individuals serving in various ways. Many are trained on multiple customaries. St Aidan’s has customaries for the Lectors, the Chalice Bearers, the Acolytes, and the Ushers.

Four people share these duties in the 8 am service which means all four serve every week.

In the 10 am service, eight people share the duties of the Lector. Six people share the duties of the Chalice Bearers. Four people share the duties of the Acolyte. And nine people share the duties of being Ushers.

Ten people share the duties of being Counters in the office after the 10 am service.

Ideally, no one would serve more than one time per month. St Aidan’s does not yet have that luxury! Most people serve several times per month in several ways.

In the last year we have experienced a loss of service assistants. We are still looking for people who are being led to serve as service assistants. Please contact Fr Drew, Lenore, or myself if you are looking for more information.

I especially want to thank all of our current service assistants that consistently show up week after week and serve God for His Honor and Glory. St Aidan’s is truly a Spirit filled and blessed place to worship Our Lord. Thank you to Fr Drew and Lenore for always giving me a bit of help when needed.

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## **SERVICE ASSISTANT: WEDNESDAY USHER**

Submitted by Helene Blume

When we meet for worship on Wednesday mornings, we learn about the lives of saints. Some were titans of the faith and some we have never heard of prior to their selection for the day. One thing those saints have in common is that they answered God's call. Many set out on missions that most of us would not have attempted. They appeared to be undaunted by practicalities and stepped out on faith.

We aren't all called to mighty deeds and we may not discern a call so much as see a need. Some might argue that discerning a need is recognizing a call. In my case, I noticed that one of our group was wearing many hats at the Wednesday service and I asked if I could help. As a result, I am the regular Wednesday Usher.

I am much more comfortable sitting through the service in anonymity. Being an active participant in the service, however, has made it more meaningful. It has increased my commitment to God and to St Aidan's. As I wait to take the plate to the altar, I reflect on God's gifts we offer back to Him in thanksgiving.

The training to be an Usher is more on the job training than formal training. I have watched others and asked a lot of questions. Fr Drew's advice to slow down and to think of being an Usher as an act of worship was the best training.

There is a real need for more people to assist at all of the services. I encourage everyone to look around and see what is needed. If you feel moved to become a service assistant in any capacity, please know that your service is a contribution to our collective worship and will be an opportunity for spiritual growth.

## **ALTAR GUILD**

Submitted by Vonda Buse

Serving on St Aidan's Altar Guild offers a unique opportunity to reflect upon the traditions of the Episcopal Church, the Eucharist and the holy vessels that are used each week. In great reverence, altar guild members prepare and set up the Eucharist on the altar and make it ready for Sunday and Wednesday services, memorial services, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and Holy Week services.

Liturgical colors in Episcopal tradition signify our place in the church calendar year and the altar guild members change out the vestments and colors to represent what is current. To assure that procedures are followed according to tradition and the calendar year, an Altar Guild Customary was created as a guide to assist members

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with set up, preparation, cleaning and care of the holy vessels, vestments, candles and linens.

The altar guild ministry is typically served by women who have an interest in the set-up, care and cleaning of Eucharistic vessels and linens, however, men who may have an interest would always be welcome to observe and shadow team members. The historical significance of how and why we prepare as we do is relevant and reflects upon the richness of our liturgy and worship.

St Aidan's has a very dedicated and active altar guild. There are 12 members that make up 4 teams and each team takes on a two-week service schedule. A new member joined our ministry in 2025. Sue Perry has taken the place of Susan Yerkes, who moved to Kansas last year to be closer to family. We are so grateful to have Sue Perry join and contribute to the altar guild ministry. She is doing beautifully and a wonderful addition to our team.

I want to mention that several generous contributions were made in 2025. Contributions were used to purchase new brass torch and altar candle followers. (These are the brass toppers on our altar candles and the torch candles that stand next to the altar.) In addition, four new lavabo towels and four new purificators were gifted to the guild. (These are the linens used during communion.) Also, three Christmas trees were donated for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Generous monetary gifts from our St Aidan's membership are always appreciated and assist with maintaining and beautifying our liturgical services.

## **FLOWER GUILD**

Submitted by JoAnn Moffett

St Aidan's Flower Guild is the team that arranges altar flowers for our services. In 2025 JoAnn Moffett joined the team which now includes six members.: Mary McConnaughey (Coordinator), Marilyn Rockwell, Lucy Armstrong, Gloria Archambault, JoAnn Moffett, Gayle Thomas

We take turns making sure the flowers are ready for Sunday services and as needed for other occasions. Our colors are determined by the Episcopal Church liturgical seasons; here's what you will likely see throughout the year:

- Advent                      Greens only
- Christmas                Traditionally, red poinsettias and white altar flowers  
(donations by those wishing to honor or memorialize someone)

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- Epiphany      White flowers (also used for the Baptism of our Lord)
  - Lent            Dried vegetation representing Jesus' time in the wilderness
  - Palm Sunday   Palms
  - Easter          White flowers and Easter lilies with additional spring blooms  
(again, memorial donations to purchase the lilies)
  - Pentecost      Red flowers
  - Trinity Sunday   White flowers
  - Season after Pentecost    As determined by the person doing flowers that week
  - All Saints Day   White flowers

Those wishing to remember or honor someone by donating Altar flowers may sign up on the list posted on the bulletin board in Dietel Hall. Donations may be submitted to the Church Office in any amount.

If you are interested in this ministry, we will welcome you with as much help as you need. Our costs are reimbursed, so the commitment is for your time.

## **LIVESTREAM**

Submitted by Bill Lee

The year 2025 we livestreamed 52 Sundays, 3 memorials, and 9 days special events including Christmas Eve, Holy Week, congregational meeting, and Ash Wednesday Services. Our regular Sundays averaged 6 live views averaging about 45 minutes of concurrence viewing and averaging about 35 viewings during the week. Our congregational meeting had the largest viewings at 71. Our 3 memorials had an average viewership of 41 viewers. Our Christmas, Ash Wednesday, and Holy Week services averaged 39 views.

We hope to keep providing streaming services in the upcoming year and are honored to allow our church's outside community access to our celebration and information in our church community with the leadership of Jesus Christ.

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## **MUSIC MINISTRY**

Submitted by Steve Jensen

We are here to provide music that supports Fr Drew's direction in his sermons and for the life of this congregation. Our hope is that we can add another dimension of beauty to your journey with our loving God. This year your choir has been taking up new challenges. With consistently larger numbers singing on Sunday, we have been able to present difficult and beautiful music not usually heard from a church choir. With the help of modern technology, our rehearsals together all happen on Sunday, eliminating some travel time and conflicts with our many other activities. We continue singing a variety of music, some beloved standards, some newly published works, some arranged for our choir, and a few gems discovered in our archives. We regularly add varied instrumentation including guitar, viola, clarinet, bass, handbells, flute, banjo, ukelele, bodhran, and conga. We continue to get feedback from designated critics, and would like to hear from all of you about how our music supports your spiritual journey, and what would make it better for you.

To all of you out there who don't presently sing with us, I have this to offer: If you can hear, you can sing. Singing is a learned skill, and we like to further each other in learning and improving our skills. Singing can be good exercise for the body, it can expand your experience of joy and uplift the soul. You don't need to be a good singer to join the choir, merely have a desire for more joy, more life, and more love. Come sing!

## **MUSIC AT ST AIDAN'S**

Submitted by Aaron Dull, Pianist

I have enjoyed playing the piano for the congregation at St Aidan's since 2022. In 2025 I delved another year deeper into the music and liturgy and enjoyed plunking out the notes of great choral works for our intrepid choir. I am grateful for the trust placed in me and for the patience, flexibility and kindness of this congregation and choir.

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## **SELAH AT ST AIDAN'S**

Submitted by Jeff Johnson

It was my privilege to lead several Selah services again at St Aidan's this past year. And while it wasn't technically a Selah Service, we ended with a bang at our Celtic Christmas concert in early December with Eliot Grasso and Brandon Vance! In 2007, I was first invited by Father Bob Dietel to introduce the Selah Service to the St. Aidan's congregation. Since that time, many of you have been stalwart participants and for the past several years, we have had many folks in attendance from outside of our church. Leading Selah at St Aidan's and for other churches and retreat centers over the years has fulfilled a calling that I had twenty-five years ago when a pastor friend and his wife and I were first inspired by the idea. In 2026 I will be taking a break from leading Selah at St Aidan's to concentrate on recording projects and some traveling I've been planning. I certainly am not shutting the door on leading Selah again, but we'll see how the Spirit leads.

## **CONCERTS: ESPRIT JOYEUX**

Submitted by Mandy Whitaker

Esprit Joyeux is a small musical ensemble based on Camano Island featuring Gretchen Pigott, Natalie Hagglund, and Mandy Whitaker. Gretchen and I rehearse regularly and have been blessed to have Natalie join us as accompanist and collaborator to expand our repertoire to include music with piano. We play a variety of music from traditional pieces to newly composed works.

We are grateful that St Aidan's has allowed us to perform in the sanctuary. The acoustics and setting are lovely for these small concerts. We choose to perform free of charge, instead asking for donations to benefit charitable organizations within the community. Our most recent concerts have benefited the Stanwood Camano Area Foundation to support its wide variety of good work in the community.

The name Esprit Joyeux means roughly "spirit of joy" or "breath of joy." We hope that when we perform, we are filled with the Holy Spirit to share our love of music and the joy it brings us with everyone who attends.

Our next concert will be February 22 at 2 pm. We hope to see you there.



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## **CHILD CARE**

Submitted by JoAnn Moffett

St Aidan's preference is to welcome children in the worship service. However, we also want parents and grandparents to have an alternative when attending the worship service is not the best alternative for their children so we have a bright and cheerful childcare room that is staffed by two volunteers every Sunday.

Some parents and/or grandparents do not want their children in church for any portion of worship service; some want their children to be in church for just communion; some want some other combination of church and childcare. We try to be flexible and responsive to whatever the parents/grandparents want.

Each of our volunteers - Vonda Buse, Patty Dunphy, Kathy Hosley, Deb Hubenthal, Ethel Maxwell, Donna Myers, Sue Perry, Marilyn Rockwell, Pam Sontheimer, Gayle Thomas, and Julie Vaux – staff the childcare room once every five to eight weeks. If you want to be added to the roster of volunteers or have any questions about the program, please call me at 360-387-4080, email me at [joannmoffett@msn.com](mailto:joannmoffett@msn.com) or leave a message with the office.

## **EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS**

Submitted by Jackie Humes-Fear

Eucharistic Visitors are a team of folks who have been trained by Fr Drew and taken the required Diocesan training, who are available to take communion to the homebound usually at the request of Fr Drew. This important ministry keeps those no longer able to attend services connected to the family of St Aidan's. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact Fr Drew.

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## **DAILY MEDITATION**

Submitted by Mandy Whitaker

Every Monday through Saturday a Daily Meditation is sent via email and posted on the St Aidan's Facebook and Instagram pages. These brief thoughts are inspired by a verse or two from the day's lectionary readings and include the verses as well as a brief thought about the chosen scripture. Currently 60 people are on the email list and approximately 35% open the email (which is an average open rate for a mailing list). Meditations are written by Fr Drew, Pam Sontheimer, Rev Jim Burns, and Mandy Whitaker. Thank you to these folks for their dedication to this ministry.

We hope these little meditations give people a chance to stop and share a moment with God each day. By posting them online, we share them not only with our St Aidan's family but with the wider community, hopefully giving everyone who reads them a small blessing every day.

## **INCARNATION MEDITATION**

Submitted by Rob Gorman

Dear Friends, we have begun a new ministry at St Aidan's, brought to us by the Center for Spiritual Imagination. The Incarnation Method of Contemplative Prayer was developed by the founders of the Center most of whom are Episcopal priests.

The Center is the Spiritual home of the Community of the Incarnation a new monastic contemplative order based at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City, NY. The cathedral is the home of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island, New York.

The Incarnation method of meditation and contemplation has four key aspects.

1. Centering your Breath, where we bring our attention to our breath.
2. Embracing Compassion, and feeling what is alive within us.
3. Offering Intercessions, bringing to mind, people, or situations that may need Prayer
4. Receptive Silence, being in God's holy presence.

We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10am in the Church. The Meditation is led by Rob Gorman who is a vowed member in the Community of the Incarnation. The Community also offers a weekly meditation on-line Mondays at 3:30pm, visit [spiritualimagination.org](http://spiritualimagination.org)

If you would like more information on the St Aidan's meditation or the Community of the Incarnation please contact Rob.

# COMMUNICATION / ADMINISTRATION

## TECHNOLOGY

Submitted by Allen Feris

All computers in both the main office and Fr Drew's office were replaced with new computers running Windows 11, as newer upgrades to programs the church use made the prior computers obsolete. This follows the replacement of the Church Server last year. In addition, in order to give the TV in the children's room the ability to show Sunday services, a WiFi booster was installed in that room.

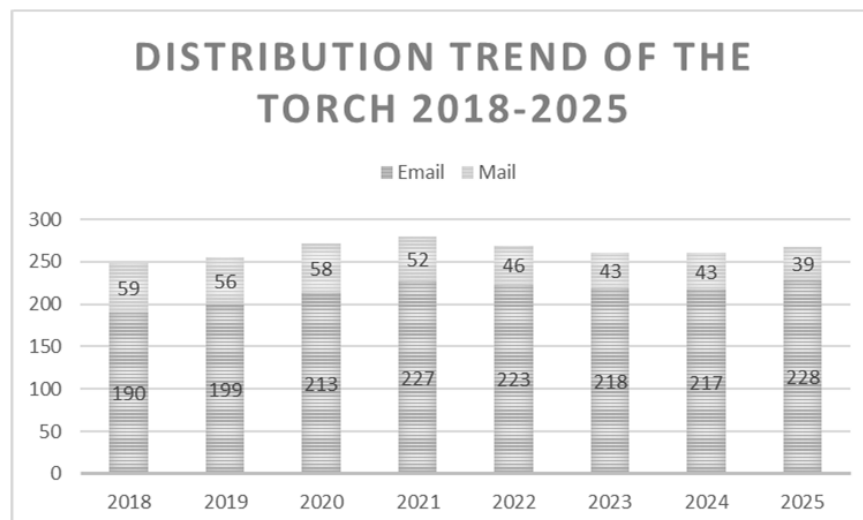
## THE TORCH

Submitted by Kathy McNally, Editor

By the end of 2025 the number of email recipients of the Torch increased to two hundred and twenty-eight and the number of printed copies being mailed each month dropped to thirty-nine. This continues a trend of decreasing hard copies. Two-thirds of the mailed copies stay pretty close to home in the Stanwood/Camano area. Except for a couple of copies sent out-of-state, the remaining one third is mailed to addresses within the near region. Hard copies are also made available in the office and at the entry to Dietel Hall.

This year will see a transition to a new software format as Microsoft drops support for its Publisher software. It remains to be seen if or how it will impact the layout of the Torch.

As always the Torch would not happen without your help. Thank you to all who have sent photos and articles to be included in each Torch. Your help is greatly appreciated in sharing information with members of St Aidan's community.



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## COMMUNICATIONS

Submitted by Allen Feris and Lenore Challenger

Keeping folks informed is important! St Aidan's works at this in a variety of ways:

In person: Sunday announcements (this is probably the most important one!), committee meetings

Emails: the weekly ePistle, the monthly TORCH newsletter, special notices

Print media: The Stanwood Camano News, The Crab Cracker, flyers

Online media: Our website (<https://staidancamanoisland.org>), YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, The Diocesan website (special services such as Christmas season services and Holy Week services) (<http://www.ecww.org>)

St Aidan's is always looking to improve communication. We have, for example, outgrown our existing email service for the ePistle and we started with a different service in 2025.

Thank You cards were sent to those who gave gifts in memorandum to the church throughout the year.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Submitted by Mandy Whitaker

St Aidan's maintains a social media presence via Facebook and Instagram. These two accounts are used to share information about upcoming events hosted by our parish, such as Selah Services, other community concerts, the Christmas bake sale, and the Festival. This is a useful tool to share information with the community and to invite folks to the various events occurring at St Aidan's. The outreach for Festival is very important, especially as we try to get critical information about changes to parking and donation dates and times to the community at large. When the Cold Weather Shelter is open, we are able to post information and link it to other community organization pages to make sure this needed information is available in timely manner. The Daily Meditations are posted on our social media platforms as well. These posts reach not only members of our congregation, but other followers who may not live in the community. Hopefully these posts provide a brief moment for people to gain insight or inspiration amid all the rest of the content.

Currently we have 545 followers on Facebook and 67 on Instagram. In the last thirty days, we've had 636 views on our Instagram posts and 2,175 views on Facebook.

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I try to make sure to post upcoming events and activities in a timely manner to get information out to the community. But, I do sometimes miss events. If you or your group have something planned that would benefit from a post on Facebook and Instagram, please let me know. If you aren't following us, use the links below.

<https://www.facebook.com/staidancamanoisland>

<https://www.instagram.com/staidancamano/>

## **PARISH SECRETARY**

Submitted by Lenore Challenger

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) work well when they are updated with inevitable changes, are reviewed on a regular basis, and are actually read and followed. Since I'm the one who has written most of the office SOP, sometimes I forget that it's important to follow checklists and not rely on my all-too-human faulty memory. In 2025 I fell victim to the erroneous assumption that, having been here for so long, I knew what I was doing. Luckily, here at St Aidan's we have a good system of checks and balances. I'm also very happy to note that we have a wonderful spirit of camaraderie and teamwork.

## **OFFICE ANGELS**

Submitted by Lenore Challenger

Sometimes I need help organizing things. Sometimes I need help photocopying or scanning things. Sometimes I even ask for help.

In addition to photocopying, scanning, and organizing, here are some examples of things that I ask for help with:

- Putting inserts into bulletins
- Folding & stapling the Selah bulletins
- Arts & Crafts (things that require manual dexterity and an eye for design)

If this type of volunteering sounds like something you'd like to do, please stop by the office or send me an email at [office@staidansci.org](mailto:office@staidansci.org) and I will add your name to the Office Angels email list.

# EDUCATION REPORTS

## ADULT EDUCATION

Submitted by Fr. Drew

The highlight of the year was Fr Frank Spina's Lenten Series on the topic of forgiveness. As a retired professor of Old Testament at Seattle Pacific University, Frank is especially skilled and gifted at taking his students through the biblical text and having them experience it afresh, as if for the first time. Over the course of 5 weeks in Lent we studied Esau's embrace of and reconciliation with his brother, Joseph's encounter with and forgiveness of his siblings who sold him into slavery, David's affair with Bathsheba and his forgiveness (and remaining consequences), Jesus' parable of the forgiven but unforgiving servant, and Paul's letter to Philemon. The series was attended about about 30 people each week. Soup suppers were provided by various church ministry teams, such as Altar Guild, Choir, Vestry, etc.

In the fall we spent 8 weeks walking through Richard Rohr's book "Falling Upward". A chapter-by-chapter analysis of Rhor's ideas was carried out in a group setting at the Sunday morning Adult Forum at 9:15. His book gave much food for thought across many domains. But his primary insight that the second half of life calls for a shift in spiritual focus — a letting go and embrace of a broader and wider and more generous view of God — was a welcome one. 8-12 people consistently attended the forum, which is about 10-15% of our average Sunday attendance. Very solid.

An "Episcopal 101" class was offered in the fall of 2025 on Sunday nights. 10-15 people signed up. The class covered Anglican/Episcopal identity, history, tradition, sacramental theology, the Book of Common Prayer, and church polity and organization. The class ran for six weeks.

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## **TUESDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY**

Submitted by Adele Lee and Deb Hubenthal

The Tuesday book club was started around 2019-2020 by Jim and Kathy McNally and Bill and Adele Lee.

We chose “The first 3000 yrs of Christianity” by MacMulloch. We then branched out to reading CS Lewis’ “Mere Christianity” and “The Great Divorce”. As others joined us our book list grew.

I think this last year’s reading included; “Women Who Do” (H. Carey), “The Return of the Prodigal Son” (H.Nouwen), “Nine O’Clock in the Morning” and “The Holy Spirit and You” (Fr D. Bennett), “Speaking Christian” (Borg), “The Meaning of Jesus” (Borg and Wright), “Screw tape Letters” (CS Lewis) and “Voices of Advent” (M Skinner).

Books are suggested by all participating in the meetings. God has blessed us as a group.

A founding member and faithful participant, Jim McNally, has gone to be with the Lord, he is missed. Kathy McNally keeps us on target. She is the steady leader.

We will be starting 2026 with “The Greatest Story Ever Told” (Bear Grylls).

# HOSPITALITY REPORTS

## WOMEN OF ST AIDAN'S

Submitted by Jackie Humes-Fear

The Women of St Aidan's continue to hold their meetings on the second Wednesday of each month following the 10:00 service, with the exception of July, August, and December. All women are welcome to join this ministry.

Key Activities and accomplishments include:

- Provided one of the soup suppers prior to the Lenten study.
- Hosted the Easter Vigil reception and Easter Egg Hunt on Easter.
- Memorial receptions were held for Billie Jensen, Dick Philmlee, Jim McNally and Caitlin Starke
- Night of 100 Pumpkins moved into Dietel Hall this year due to inclement weather. It was a very positive change and had great participation.
- December was the annual Bake Sale and Bazaar.. It was well attended and we sold out of goodies by noon.
- A special donation of \$1000 was made to the Food Bank
- Facilitated four dinners for the Gathering Place (see separate report)

A special shout out to Judy Bingay, Julie Vaux, and JoAnn Moffett who stepped in when I had to take time away.

We end our meetings with a sack lunch, visiting and fellowship.

## SUNDAY COFFEE

Coffee hour is a community effort. Each Sunday after (and/or between) service is a time for our church family to meet and fellowship with one another. Each person is invited to bring a simple dish, snack, or treat to share on the Sundays their "Alphabet Team" comes up (organized by last name).

- 1st Sunday: A-D
- 2nd Sunday: E-L
- 3rd Sunday: M-R
- 4th Sunday: S-Z
- 5th Sunday: All!



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## **DINNER GROUPS**

Submitted by Julie Vaux and Brad Whitaker

2025 was a great year of amazing food and drink, and getting to know each other on a deeper level. We gather 8 times a year and rotate homes. Members have been creative with a lunch instead of dinner or hosting at the church when they can't host in their home. We all take a turn as the year rolls by. If you enjoy visiting, eating, and sharing in God's goodness, please join us.

## **SALMON FEST**

Submitted by Ray Riches

Once again, the year-end Salmon-Fest (grill NOT bake!) was a huge success. Fresh King Salmon sourced from the Lummi Nation headlined a full Smorgasbord of delicious food provided by congregation members. Approximately 80 folks came hungry for good food and great entertainment, departing at the end fully satisfied!

Steve Jensen had a full line-up of local talent including our own St Aidan's Choir, "The Aaron Dull Project" (his father and several musician friends), members of the Threshold Choir, Chaim and Yonah, and several more. The entertainment ranged from poignant to thought-provoking to down-right silliness (that would have been me!) Rob Gorman was the quintessential MC for the evening and when all was said and done, everyone got home before bed-time!

A huge thank you to the choir members and St Aidan's Women who helped with setting up and cleaning up, Phil Trautman and Marshall Eberhart who assisted me at the grill, and Bill Lee who set up the sound system.

Here's looking forward in great anticipation to Salmon-Fest 2026!

# OUTREACH REPORTS

## OUTREACH

Submitted by John Mathis

Following the July 2025 Festival, the Outreach budget provided \$2200 (approved by the Bishop's Committee) to each of the following organizations: Brigid Collins Family Support Center, Camano Center, Community Resource Center, Safe Harbor Free Clinic, and the Stanwood Camano Food Bank.

A member of the 2025 Festival Funds Disbursement Committee delivered a check personally to each organization. Thank you notes from the recipients were shared with the Bishop's Committee and posted on the bulletin board in Dietel Hall for all to see.

During 2025 the Outreach Committee continued to financially support the efforts of the:

- Extreme Cold Weather Shelter (purchased snacks for guests, new signage, and food for a volunteer organizational meeting)
- Gathering Place Fifth Thursday Dinners (purchased groceries for the meals provided during the year)
- Selah Service ministry
- Summer Festival (new signs were designed and purchased)
- One Parish One Prisoner (provided membership training modules and phone calls to help plan and coordinate)

The Outreach Committee plans to sponsor a new training in 2026 called Poverty 101. This educational experience will be provided by the Everett Gospel Mission. They have presented this interactive program to over 3800 people from churches and governmental agencies in our area. As a result of this training, we hope the participants will understand the challenges of long-term poverty and explore their own thinking about poverty and those experiencing poverty.

Thank you for supporting the many important activities of the Outreach Committee in 2025.

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## **FESTIVAL OUTREACH DISTRIBUTION**

Submitted by Patty Dunphy

### Festival Distribution Funds Overview

In 2025, the St Aidan's Festival brought our community together in celebration and generosity, successfully generating \$11,000 for non-profit organizations in the Stanwood-Camano area. These funds were distributed equally among five exemplary organizations dedicated to serving our neighbors and addressing critical needs in the Stanwood-Camano area. Each organization received \$2,200 to support their ongoing work.

### Beneficiary Organizations

- Brigid Collins Family Support Center: Offers vital services to protect children and prevent child abuse and neglect across our region.
- Camano Center: Enriches the lives of seniors and the wider community through diverse programs, resources, and opportunities for social connection.
- Community Resource Center of Stanwood-Camano (CRC): Serves as a central hub for social services, housing assistance, and support programs for families in need.
- Safe Harbor: Offers a safe, confidential environment and essential services for survivors of domestic violence and their children.
- Stanwood-Camano Food Bank: Works tirelessly to combat hunger by providing nutritious food to individuals and families facing food insecurity.

### 2025 Members

Dick Bingay, Karole Gorman, Jackie Humes-Fear, Kusum Batey, Julie Vaux, Peter Dunphy, and Patty Dunphy. Our Bishop Committee Liaison is John Mathis.

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## **PLANT SALE**

Submitted by Gayle Thomas

Our annual plant sale was held May 9th & 10th, the 11th was for parishioners.

Billie Jensen was in hospice, so Steve couldn't make it. He usually provides half or more of the plants. I went to his place and got a load. He has a shelf system in his truck, which allows him to haul a great deal more.

I think we made about \$600 from the first sale. Marilyn Rockwell helped me count the money.

We decided to have a second sale on the 23rd and 24th. Steve still had an abundance of plants and Billie was safe at home in heaven.

It rained steadily for most of the sale. This brought out the truly nutty plant people. They couldn't work in their gardens, so they just came out and bought more plants, lol. Steve helped count the money. There was a donation jar for parishioners the next day and Adele Lee helped count that.

Dawn Muscolo brought the remaining plants with a generous donation.

Our total sales were just over \$1350. Every year proceeds from the plant sale benefit a local organization.

## **EXTREME COLD WEATHER SHELTER**

Submitted by Donna Myers

St Aidan's established a shelter in 2023 for the unhoused and those who need a warm place to sleep on nights when temperatures drop to 32 degrees or lower. No guests came the first two years. The third year (2024) the shelter provided for 11 people and three dogs. The winter of 2024/25 was an extremely cold season, which compelled the shelter to be open for three consecutive weeks. It was challenging as we had only a small group of volunteers to staff the shifts. This experience gave an opportunity for us to shift our strategy and be creative in seeking volunteers beyond St Aidan's. The team hosted a couple of lunches to reach out to local pastors to partner with us. In addition, Kusum Batey and Donna Myers were invited to local churches to speak about the shelter and the need for more volunteers. This outreach resulted in several new volunteers. In the fall, more than 20 people attended a training to prepare them to take on a shift. Also, a new approach to filling the shifts was introduced so that

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people could sign up in advance. The ECWS team feels the presence of God as more and more people continue to reach out to us to support the ministry. The team joined the Stanwood Camano Area Foundation Unhoused Workgroup monthly meetings this year as well to support more community collaboration. Our hope for 2026 is that ECWS becomes a community-driven initiative that is centrally housed in Stanwood with paid staff.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Submitted by Marshall Eberhart

When Fr Drew asked me to become part of the then Bishops committee, and now the Vestry, the following was seen by myself in the Sunday bulletin, *“God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.”* This quote permitted me to accept this position on the Vestry. I guess this proves God really likes huge tasks! Below are my efforts and thoughts from 2025:

The partnership with Bloodworks NorthWest (BWNW) continues to grow and is a wonderful blessing. For the year 2025 BWNW registered 359 donors, collected 277 units of blood and welcomed 15 first time donors to the Bloodworks family. It should be noted that each unit of whole blood can be used to help three patients who are in desperate need of this lifesaving gift. This means our hosted events helped over 800 patients. God bless our donors!! Thank you so very much!

The success of St Aidan's as a host site also permitted us to increase our schedule of donor events from a drive every other month to a drive every month, doubling the potential donors. This increase of donors through Dietal Hall also permitted members of our congregation to talk with the donors about our relationships within the church and outreach to the community. A few of the donors came away impressed and interested in exploring what we do in the name of Christ.

Other efforts were tried, but were not rousing successes. Emergency preparedness seminars and on-line safety talks was placed on a “wait and see” status and may be revisited in the future if there is enough interest. We tried to host a book fair for the children, but the event barely got off the ground. I will need to think some more on the concept. My outreach to the local BSA troops failed horribly with zero response from the Scout Troops to my asks. This is because a partnership had not been established earlier in the year between St Aidan's and the troops in the local area. This relationship would need to be expanded earlier in the year if we are wanting the benefits of that relation. I would suggest this to be done by someone of the congregation more local.

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In 2026 I hope to have:

- Book fairs continue to be an exciting idea but the concept will need to be improved and redefined for a future success.
- I want to explore a relationship with the Camano Chamber of Commerce for any mutual goals in the future.
- I have started to gather information to bring a mobile shredding service to St Aidan's to host a "Shredding Day" in mid-April. This would be for members and local residents to dispose of old documents.

In conclusion, this is what I have been doing this past year. I frequently joke that "I am trying, sometimes I am VERY trying." Thank you for your patience with my humor, struggles and my frequent "asks" for cookies. I console myself with the following quote from "*Those Episkopols*" by Dennis R. Maynard:

"Lord, I know that I'm not all that I ought to be;  
And I know that I am not yet all that I'm gonna be;  
But Lord, I sure thank you I'm not what I used to be."

## **MISSION TO SEAFARERS**

Submitted by Karen O'Leary, Karole Gorman, Rob Gorman

Dear Friends, this report is put together by the three St Aidan's ship visitors, Karole Gorman, Karen O'Leary and Rob Gorman. By the end of 2024 we visited 43 ships. This is a handful more than last year.

November and December have been quiet in the Port of Everett, which has been surprising, up until then we had steady monthly shipping. Not sure what is going on but we will see what 2025 holds for our ministry.

One big change going on is the presence of women seafarers especially aboard the larger steam ship companies' ships. We are seeing many women cadets on board. Up until last year we might see one or two women cadets in a year, change is happening.

When we board a ship we usually go to the crew mess and leave magazines, calendars, Forward Day by Day prayer booklets or the Catholic or Lutheran equivalent. We also leave rosaries if we have them, and we offer SIM cards for phones so the seafarers can contact their families back home.

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We also show up with goodies, donuts, cookies etc, Many times the seafarers just want to hang out and talk. And of course at Christmas and New Year, we deliver Ditty Bags (thank you, St Aidan's).

The majority of ships coming into the Port of Everett have Filipino crews with other nationalities present: Indian, Sri Lankan, Ukrainian, Chinese, Myanmar and a spattering of European nationalities.

On some visits we end up going out and getting goods for the ship especially if the crew is busy or can't get off the ship. Karen on one ship went and picked up a tv for the crew, another we went and picked up some work gear the seafarers needed.

Every visit is different and sometimes we visit the same ship visited months before and the crew usually remembers us. Able Seafarers (AB'S) have nine month contracts so they are gone from their family most of the year, officers' contracts are usually 4-6 months, again gone from their loved ones for extended periods.

If you might be interested in joining our small but mighty ministry please let us know. We can escort visitors on the Port of Everett, otherwise you would need a Transport Workers Identification Card (TWIC).

Blessings to you and yours this New Year.

## **GATHERING PLACE**

Submitted by Jackie Humes-Fear

St Aidan's continues to serve the Gathering Place, which is held on Thursdays at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Stanwood to those needing a hot meal. We provide the dinner whenever there is a 5th Thursday, usually four times a year to approximately 60 people.

A menu is generated; planning starts out with the Women of St Aidan's and volunteers sign up for ingredients. The protein portion of the menu is provided out of the church budget.

Volunteers then come out on the appointed Thursday to help prepare and serve the meal.

Thank you to all who volunteered this past year with food or serving the meals...so much appreciated. If you are interested in this ministry please contact Jackie Humes-Fear.

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## **CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

Submitted by Michael Palmer

Congregational Life is thriving at St Aidan's!

The goal of Congregational Life is to support spiritual life, outreach and social activities, parish members and others in our community. Thank you to the many groups and individuals who help meet this goal.

Our spiritual life is enhanced by prayer groups, lecture series, bible study groups, and many others.

Outreach programs like wellness check-in phone calls, greeting cards, blood drives and assistance resources provide for frequent contact and well-being and support for parishioners and others.

Social events such as Dinner Groups, the Salmon Bake, Lenten Soup Suppers and various seasonal gatherings foster meaningful connections and relationships among parishioners.

It is extremely rewarding to see the level of commitment and participation given to our Congregational Life at St Aidan's.

## **ST AIDAN'S BEDESWOMEN**

Submitted by JoAnn Moffett

The Bedeswomen pray daily for the needs of those who are in distress or "afflicted in mind, body or estate". Our prayer list typically has 50-75 people who need prayers for a variety of reasons – medical conditions, upcoming surgeries, injuries, substance abuse problems, or some other difficult situation. It is our privilege to offer up intercessory prayers for each and every person who requests prayer.

When Louise Close founded this prayer group almost 50 years ago, she based the name on *Bede*, the medieval Anglo-Saxon word for prayer. We keep that name to honor her memory and because it reminds us that we are part of a very long tradition of intercessory prayer.

If you want prayers for yourself, a family member, another church member, or a friend, please call me at 360-387-4080, email me at [joannmoffett@msn.com](mailto:joannmoffett@msn.com), or leave a message with the office.



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## **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

Submitted by Jan Donovan

Our prayer shawl ministry has been a great source of company and blessing for many folks over the years. We have received many cards thanking us for the shawl.

On the fourth Saturday morning of each month, a gathering of women and their knitting needles circles around a table. On the center of the table we spread a small Celtic cloth and light three candles. The ladies listen as one of the members shares a reading of Sunday's Psalm from our bulletin and from Eugene Peterson's "The Message".

This year was a slow year. We made six shawls and gave out four shawls to bring out comfort and warmth to those in need.

Everyone is welcome to the prayer shawl meeting. We would love to share with you.

## **SIGN SISTERS**

Submitted by Freda McKeown

What has four heads and eight hands, and consults, researches, and laughs together to inform, amuse, and inspire the community?

It is, of course, the Sign Sisters. Candi Bialon, Hellen DeMoyse, Freda McKeown, and Mandy Whitaker each take one week a month to change the sign. Earlier members have been Karole Gorman and Candy Trautman.

It's not always easy to come up with something clever or inspiring to post with 14 spaces on four lines but we have become quite adept at adapting.

If you have a quotation or idea please give it to one of us. Our contact information is in the directory. If you are a male interested in joining our ministry, we would gladly change our name to the Sign Siblings!

Our goal is to continue to hear: "St Aidan's? Oh, you're from the church with the sign!"

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## **GREETING CARDS MINISTRY**

Submitted by Sue Perry

Bring a Smile to St Aidan's: Join the Birthday & Anniversary Ministry

Do you love the simple joy of sending a card that makes someone's day? At St Aidan's, we believe every birthday and anniversary is an opportunity to share God's love. There is nothing like receiving a handwritten note to feel seen and celebrated. Our ministry team—Jerri Ferris, Pam Sontheimer, Sue Perry, and our newest member, Mandy Whitaker—works together each month to ensure every member of St Aidan's feels the joy of their special day.

We divide our member lists so the work is light but the impact is heart-filled. If you love picking out the perfect card and sharing a bit of "God's peace," we would love to welcome you!

Interested in joining? Contact Sue Perry: [perrys123@gmail.com](mailto:perrys123@gmail.com) or find us after a service to learn more.

Special thanks to Adele Lee and Jeff & Susie Johnson for their years of dedicated service to this heart-work.

## **SASSY LASSIES**

### **A SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN WHO ARE GRIEVING**

Submitted by Julie Vaux

Our second year as a group of women surviving loss of dearest ones has been so comforting. We gather in Dietel Hall, enjoy a potluck lunch, and then share wherever the Spirit takes us. We have had a guest speaker Linda Covert, a life coach and dear friend of Jackie Humes-Fear. We look forward to her return whenever she is available. We invite any women who need comfort and friendship, after loss, to join us anytime. We don't have a regular meeting day, but it is usually on a Monday.

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## **COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUPS**

Submitted by Lenore Challenger

In Ministry Year 2025 St Aidan's continued to provide space for two weekly AA group meetings. "Turning Point" meets on Mondays at 5:30pm and "It's In the Book" meets on Saturdays at 7pm.

Making space available to these community support groups is a vital part of the ministry of St Aidan's.

## **2025 St Aidan's Annual Meeting for Ministry Year 2024 Approved by BC February 24 2025**

Held in person (with Annual Reports for Ministry Year 2024)

The following is a brief summary of the meeting held in person on February 2, 2025 at 10:15 am. A copy of the written 2025 Annual Report (meeting agenda included, pg. 45) is attached and the presentation file is available digitally upon request to the church office.

Copies of the 2025 Annual Report were distributed through the St Aidan's ePistle sent on January 30, 2025 and at the meeting held on February 2, 2025.

The meeting opened with prayer and a call to order.

Presentation:

- St Aidan's Mission and Vision were reviewed.
- Voting Requirements per the Constitution & Canons of The Episcopal Church were reviewed.
- **Presentation of Bishop's Committee (BC) Candidates & Floor**  
**Nominations:** Hellen DeMoyse, Michael Palmer and John Mathis were presented as candidates for the open seats on the Bishop's Committee. A motion to open for nominations from the floor was made by Fr Drew Foisie and seconded by Rob Gorman. The motion carried. After no additional nominations from the floor Bill White made a motion to close the nominations. The motion was seconded by Rob Gorman. The motion carried.  
A motion was made by Adele Lee that the three nominated candidates be approved. Nancy Pates-Riches seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- **Senior Warden – Thanksgiving & Torch Passing:** Thanks were extended to Vonda Buse for her 2024 service as Senior Warden. It was announced that Candi Bialon will serve as St Aidan's Senior Warden for 2025.  
The members that are leaving the committee (Vonda Buse, Peter Dunphy, Ray Riches, and Dick Philmlee) were thanked for their service. Fr Drew Foisie stated an appointment will be made soon to fill the remaining year of Dick Philmlee's term.  
It was announced that Marilyn Rockwell was elected by the Bishop's Committee to serve as Junior Warden in 2025.

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- **Approve the 2024 Minutes:** A brief discussion was held regarding the minutes from last year's annual meeting. A motion was made by Rob Gorman to approve the minutes for the 2024 Annual Meeting. Mark Hinrichs seconded the motion and the motion carried.
  - **Floor Nominations for Delegates to the Diocesan Convention (Two for 2-year term):** Dave Wood and Dick Philmlee who served as Alternates in 2024 to the Diocesan Convention will be St Aidan's Delegates in 2025. A request was made for nominations for two Alternates for 2025 (who will serve as Delegates in 2026). Rob Gorman nominated John Mathis and Deannie Dunbar. After no further nominations Rob Gorman moved that John and Deannie be approved as the 2025 Alternates and Delegates for 2026. The motion was seconded by Dave Wood and the motion carried.
  - **Commissioning of New Leaders:** The new leaders were recognized and commissioned by Fr Drew Foisie for their service in the coming year.
  - **Resolution regarding check signers for the checking account:** Motion to "Effective immediately, authorized signers on the St Aidan's Episcopal Church checking account #\*\*\*\*\*995 held at Bank of America will be Jeffrey Maxwell (Treasurer), Candi Bialon (Senior Warden), Marilyn Rockwell (Junior Warden), and Lenor Challenger (Church Secretary); and further Vonda Buse and Peter Dunphy shall be removed as a signatory of the same." was made by Jackie Humes-Fear and seconded by Nancy Pates-Riches. The motion carried.
  - **Treasurer's Report & 2025 Budget Presentation:** Jeff Maxwell delivered his remarks (via telephone connection) and highlighted several items from the 2024 Results and 2025 Budget (included in Annual Report, pg 9-10). The deficit for 2024 was not as bad as had been projected. Jeff explained the use of St Aidan's endowment funds (held by the Diocese) to cover the capital expenses for the repairs and updates that have recently occurred and will continue into 2025. Pledge income and interest income has increased although not keeping pace with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Expenses have increased as well. A deficit budget is again projected for 2025, although smaller than in 2024. No questions from the floor.

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- **Vote to Ratify the 2025 Budget:** Motion to ratify the budget for 2025 as presented was made by Jackie Humes-Fear. Adele Lee seconded the motion and it was approved without objections.

Thanks were given to all those who shepherd the church finances – the Treasurer, the Senior and Junior Wardens, BC members, the bookkeepers, the pledge recorders, and the counters.

- **Vicar's Report** (2024 Transitions, Sacramental Data, Notables for Celebration): Father Drew discussed the topics listed on series of slides:
  - o 2024 Transitions
  - o Sacramental Acts and Data
  - o Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)
  - o 2024 Notables (multiple slides of items and images)
  - o Reaching Out, Serving Others
- **Odds & Ends** (Praise reports, Impromptu Recognitions, Announcements):
  - o Bishop's Committee retreat is scheduled for February 17, 2025
  - o St Aidan's will hold the Pancake and Trivia event on Tuesday, March 4, 2025
  - o Ash Wednesday Service: March 5, 2025 at 5:30 pm
  - o Thank you to those who turned in reimbursements within the 60-day timeframe!
  - o Thanksgiving Shout-outs:
    - Mary McConnaughey thanked the Supply Clergy who step in to serve in the absence of Fr Drew
    - Ray Riches made a plea for volunteers to support the operation of the Cold Weather Shelter
    - Phil Trautman thanked Ray Riches for his work on the annual "Salmon Grill," including sourcing the fresh salmon.
    - JoAnn Moffett and Vonda Buse both thanked Fr Drew for his service

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- **Adjournment and Dismissal:** Dave Wood moved that the Annual Meeting be adjourned, it was seconded by Adele Lee and unanimously approved.

Resolution regarding check signers for our checking account:

Be it RESOLVED,

Effective immediately, authorized signers on the St Aidan's Episcopal Church checking account #\*\*\*\*\*995 held at Bank of America will be Jeffrey Maxwell (Treasurer), \_\_\_\_\_ (Senior Warden), \_\_\_\_\_ (Junior Warden), and Lenore Challenger (Parish Secretary); and further Candi Bialon and Marilyn Rockwell shall be removed as signatories of the same.

# VESTRY CANDIDATES

## KUSUM BATEY

Originally from Shimla, India, I moved to Snohomish County in 2000 and to Camano Island in June 2023. I grew up in Nigeria, Egypt, Syria, and then back to Egypt a second time! As a Marine Corps wife, I lived in Japan and several states within the United States. I am a proud mum of two adult daughters. As a global citizen, at one time I spoke ten languages. I am passionate about creating community wherever I go.

With a strong background in social services and having worked in the field for over 20 years, my career focused on serving women who have been impacted by domestic violence, mental illness, homelessness, addiction, prostitution and human trafficking.

Thank you for this opportunity. I look forward to learning, stretching and growing. My prayer is to be a faithful servant and to bring honor and glory to God.



## MARK HINRICHS

My wife and I joined St Aidan's in 2021 when we moved to Camano. We were drawn to Saint Aidan's openness, caring, and sense of community.

Prior to moving to Camano, we lived in the Minneapolis area. During that time we raised our daughters and I worked as an engineer at the local power company. After our children moved out of the house and I retired, we decided living in Washington was the best next step for us.

We are active members of the parish and I have been involved with the Cold Weather Shelter, OPOP, and FAE during my time here. I believe I can bring my (charitably characterized) "quirky engineer" view to issues that face St Aidan's.





## VERLIE VIGIL

My name is Verlie Vigil but please feel free to call me Vee. I grew up on military bases in Europe and around America. There is some college in my background and numerous odd jobs including eight years spent in the live California music scene. At 25 I enlisted in the United States Air Force and gained incomparable experience from assignments in the aid of diplomacy and community relations in and outside of the U.S. using the border-free language of music. During my tenure in the AF, I became a parent and undertook certainly the most difficult and essential work of my life. The same service orientation that is vital for military life is beautifully evident at St Aidan's Episcopal Church. The familiar call to serve not only the congregation and the newly created parish itself, but also the surrounding communities is the soul and lifeblood of every member and I am grateful to be considered for a role in St Aidan's Spiritual family.



# LEADERSHIP COMMISSIONING LITURGY

*The newly elected and appointed leaders gather at the front of the altar.*

*Celebrant:* On behalf of the congregation of St Aidan's, I present:

\_\_\_\_\_ for Senior Warden

\_\_\_\_\_ for Junior Warden

Newly Elected Vestry Members: Kusum Batey, Mark Hinrichs, and Verlie Vigil

John Mathis and Deannie Dunbar as Delegates to Convention

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as Alternate Delegates to Convention

*Celebrant:* Have these leaders been elected by the congregation or appointed by the Bishop's Committee and Vicar in accordance with the canons of the Episcopal Church?

People: **They have.**

*Celebrant:* *(to the new leaders)* Do you commit yourselves to carry out the responsibilities of the office to which you have been appointed?

Leaders: **I do.**

*Celebrant:* Do you reaffirm your commitment to follow Christ and to serve this congregation in his name?

Leaders: **I do.**

*Celebrant:* *(to the congregation)* Will you do all in your power to support these leaders with your prayers, your honest yet gracious communication with them, and your willingness to help them carry out Christ's ministry in this church?

People: **We will.**

*Celebrant:* In the name of this congregation I commission you for this work, and pledge to you our prayers, encouragement, and support. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen you, that in this, and in all things, you may do God's will in the service of the kingdom of Christ. **Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*(in unison)*

Almighty God, look with favor upon these persons who have now reaffirmed their commitment to follow Christ and to serve in his name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world, and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

- Opening Prayer & Call to Order
- Approve the 2025 minutes
- Review of St Aidan's Mission and Vision
- Voting Requirements per Constitutions & Canons of The Episcopal Church
- Presentation of Vestry Candidates & Floor Nominations
- Vote to elect 3 Vestry Candidates
- Floor Nominations for Delegates to Diocesan Convention (Two for 2 year term)
- Junior Warden and Senior Warden - Thanksgiving & Torch Passing
- Commissioning of New Leaders
- Resolution regarding check signers for checking account
- Treasurer's Report & 2026 Budget Presentation
- Vote to Ratify the 2026 Budget
- Rector's Report (2025 Transitions, Sacramental Data, Notables for Celebration)
- Odds & Ends (Praise Reports, Impromptu Recognitions, Announcements)
- Adjournment and Dismissal

# NOTES

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