

St. Anne's Connections

The Newsletter of
St. Anne's Episcopal Church,
Washougal, WA



CONNECT, SERVE & CELEBRATE
in God • in Community • in Nature

<https://www.stanneswa.com/> | office@stanneswa.com
<https://www.facebook.com/StAnnesWashougal>



A Note from Rev. Annie

The holidays are here! In addition to our usual Sunday worship at 10 AM and our Wednesday worship at Noon, we are including some special services and activities. Below is the calendar for St. Anne's up to Epiphany. I hope you can join us!



Advent Begins on Sunday November 30

Advent is a four-week season of remembering and celebrating the arrival of Jesus on Earth. There are four themes of Advent—hope, peace, joy, and love that guide us through a season of meaningful reflection and spiritual preparation. As each week unfolds, these themes encourage us to align our hearts with the message of Christ's birth, deepening our understanding of his presence in our lives

Advent Candle Lighting Sundays in Advent November 30, December 7,14,21

Churches traditionally countdown to Christmas using special candles on an Advent wreath. We begin this on Sunday November 30.

Children's Message Sundays in Advent November 30, December 7,14, 21

On Sundays in Advent the children will stay in the church for a special children's sermon before going to Sunday School.

A Visit from St. Nicholas, Sunday December 7

Children are invited to learn about St. Nicholas and find what he might leave for them.

Greening the Church, Sunday December 14

The beauty of the Christmas season includes using evergreens as we decorate. During the First Century Romans considered evergreens as emblems of peace, joy, and victory. Early Christians placed them in their windows to indicate that Christ had entered the home. Holly, ivy, pine, cedar and fir are evergreens as they never change color and are "ever-alive", even in winter. They symbolize the unchanging nature of our God, reminding us of the everlasting life that is ours through Christ

Jesus. All are invited to help decorate the church for Christmas! Please plan on joining us right after we worship on Sunday

Blue Christmas, Wednesday December 17 at Noon and at 7 PM

A Blue Christmas Service is offered especially for those hurting during the holidays. Some come because they are mourning the death of a loved one and others come for comfort for all the pain in our lives and in the world. We gather for worship and support in the midst of suffering to remember God is good and present. We are not alone, and we have every reason to hold on to hope. Please join us.



Christmas Pageant, Sunday December 21 during our 10 AM service

Children are invited to put on costumes for the Nativity scene as sing songs telling the Christmas story. Adults are included too!



Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday December 24 at 5 PM

Traditional worship with Communion and music.

Christmas Day Service

Thursday December 25 at 10 AM

Traditional worship with Communion and music.

Lessons and Carols

Sunday December 28 at 10 Am

Traditional worship with Communion and music.

Join us as we sing all our favorite Christmas Carols.

Photo courtesy of Unsplash.com

Epiphany, Sunday January 4 at 10am

Traditional worship with Eucharist and music, celebrating the Magi who recognized Jesus as divine. Join us for “Three Kings” cake and chalking the door lintel.

A Celebration of Light

The Vancouver Master Chorale presents two holiday concerts at the First Presbyterian Church, 4300 Main St., Vancouver. December 6th at 7pm and December 7th at 3pm. “From ancient carols to contemporary songs of celebration, this concert will lead our audiences on a mindful, devotional and celebratory journey for the Winter Holidays. We will first feature “Ceremony of Carols” by Benjamin Britten and songs about coming together with family and friends. The second half will be dedicated to discovering our connection to light and how it unifies us and brings us together. It will feature works such as “Lux Aurumque”, “Sure On This Shining Night”, and “this light”. More info available and tickets can be purchased at <https://vancouvermasterchorale.org>.

A Beautiful Year

A Beautiful Year: 52 Meditations on Faith, Wisdom, and Perseverance, by Diana Butler Bass (St. Martin's Essentials, 2025). Hot off the press, this new book by Butler Bass offers weekly meditations for the church year, beginning with Advent. The meditations are short, usually no more than two pages. It is a lovely addition to a spiritual practice.

From the author's website: "Other than its major holidays, many people are not familiar with the rhythms of the church year, an ancient spiritual cycle of time. Yet all religions have such calendars – and they shape our understanding of faith. In the West, we live in tension with the secular calendar (mostly an inheritance from the Roman Empire) and the Christian liturgical calendar, a cycle of sacred stories that compose a larger narrative of love, hospitality, mercy, justice, and gratitude. Bass reclaims and presents fresh perspectives for every biblical text in the church year; from musing on A Wrinkle in Time in Advent, to remembering her father's old-fashioned blue Christmas decorations, and offering a revolutionary reading of the Last Supper."

Historian Heather Cox Richardson has an interview with Butler Bass about this book. It's only about a half-hour long and you can watch it at:

https://www.youtube.com/live/JDysBx_wIHc?si=euwAZnkkqeOLCt_i. ~Janet Fischer

EVENTS & UPDATES

MARK YOUR 2026 CALENDARS!

Our **annual meeting** is scheduled for **Sunday, January 25**, after the worship service.

The year 2026 marks the **75th anniversary** of the founding of our St. Anne's Episcopal Church here in Washougal. We will celebrate our anniversary on the Feast of St. Anne, **Sunday, July 26th, 2026**. More details and ways to help will be announced in the coming months, but mark your calendar for this special day! **AND**, Bishop Phil LaBelle will be joining us that day. He will celebrate and preach at our 10 AM worship! Plan to be here!

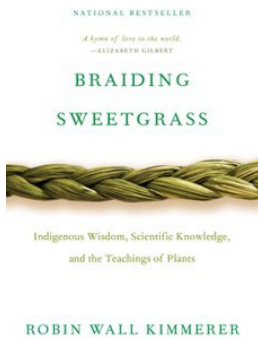
"All Hands and Hearts"

All Hands & Hearts is a global disaster relief nonprofit that partners with communities to deliver immediate response and long-term recovery. Through emergency relief, rebuilding, and getting children back to school,

we help communities recover faster, rebuild stronger, and prepare for the future. David Bollin is travelling again to help, this time to Jamaica for three weeks in December to help with hurricane relief. Please help support David with a donation to All Hands and Hearts at

<https://allhandsandhearts.org/our-work/programs/hurricane-melissa-relief>.





Book Club: Meets Wednesdays at 10:30am. We are discussing *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Available from your preferred bookseller. Everyone is welcome to join us in the downstairs conference room (Hubbard Hall). The discussion runs from November 12 – December 17.

Cursillo and Ultrea News



You are warmly invited to join us the **First Wednesday of each month at 7pm** for a Zoom Ultrea – Be sure to bring your moment closest to Christ. Here is the Zoom Ultrea direct link: <https://tinyurl.com/OregonZoomUltrealink>.

Please join our Facebook

group: <https://facebook.com/groups/94289009763>

Visit our Oregon/SW Washington Cursillo website at <https://www.oregon-cursillo.org/>

Upcoming Cursillo – April 30-May 3, 2026. Contact Rev. Annie or Rev. Sheryl with any questions.

Pledges: We run a tight ship here at St. Anne's and it makes a big difference when we receive your pledges weekly or monthly. Please help the Bishop's Committee and our financial team be good stewards of your pledge and donations by maintaining your financial contributions year-round. Please prayerfully consider sharing a portion of your tax return or any unexpected financial gifts with St. Anne's. Our ability to be a loving and progressive place for worship, community and service depends on your support in volunteer time, sharing skills and your commitment to contributing money to cover our costs. Thank you so much!



Altar Flowers: A lovely way to honor someone is to donate altar flowers in their name. Please use the "Altar Flowers Sign Up" poster in the parish hall. A \$50 donation would be greatly appreciated! Please indicate on the check or pledge envelope "flowers." Flowers may be donated for any reason - in memory, for a birthday, or just because. Thank you!





Coffee Hours at St. Anne's: Be sure to come downstairs after church for our coffee hours! Thank you to everyone who contributed goodies for our November Coffee Hours and to the good souls who helped with kitchen duties over the month. And what a wonderful feast you all provided for our Thanksgiving potluck! Please continue to sign up for this month too. ~Maryanne Lovell

Serving Our Neighbors

- ❖ **Streetlight Outreach** is a new outreach program in the Washougal area. They operate Thursday through Monday from 5pm to 11pm by ministering to the unhoused living out in the cold. They provide transportation to shelters, detox facilities, and the hospital. They also distribute kits to the unhoused and could use the following supplies:

tents, tarps, blankets, sleeping bags, lots of bottled water, reusable bags or backpacks, thermal socks, gloves, beanies, emergency blankets, hand warmers, ponchos, Cup(s) of Soup, protein items (tuna pouches, jerky, spam singles, etc.), peanut butter crackers, packs of peanut butter, travel hygiene items (wipes, sanitizer, toothbrushes and paste, lip balm, tissues, etc.), small first-aid items (Band-Aids, alcohol wipes, Neosporin packets, etc.)

Please drop off your donations in the box labeled "Streetlight Outreach" in the back of the church.

- ❖ **Outreach Resource Hour** returns to St. Anne's, first and third Wednesdays of each month. See what is offered at <https://stanneswa.com/outreach/>. Contact. Rev. Sheryl with any questions.
- ❖ **Pill Bottle Collection:** We are collecting your used prescription bottles! This is part of [Matthew 25: Ministries](#) and they send the pill bottles along with shipments of medical supplies to developing countries. They are used to deliver smaller amounts of medications (which are delivered in bulk) to patients. There is a bin for your cleaned pill bottles in the Parish Hall. Chip Lees will handle the mailing of them to Matthew 25: Ministries. If you can contribute to the mailing costs as well, please talk to Chip. Guidelines: Matthew 25: Ministries accepts donations of clean, empty, recapped, label and residue-free plastic pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies. Our pill bottle program fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment.
- ❖ **Recovery Café** Recovery Café of Clark County meets in the St. Anne's Parish Hall every Monday from 9am-1pm. <https://www.recoverycafec.org/>.
- ❖ **Refuel Washougal:** Refuel serves a hot meal to anyone who comes to the Washougal Community Center on Fridays from 4-6pm. Dates for 2026 coming soon. Contact Fran Whitmeyer or Rev. Annie with any questions.



- ❖ **Safe Stay Car Camping Program.** St. Anne's Safe Stay program honors our commitment to serve our community by providing a place for people living in their cars to park at night. Contact Mary Tipton or safestay@stanneswa.com.
- ❖ **The Grethe Barber Prayer Shawl Ministry.** We knit or crochet prayer shawls to give away to those who are grieving, ill, or just need some extra comfort. If you'd like to join us, please email prayershawls@stanneswa.com for additional information.

Ways to Pray and Worship

The Chapel upstairs is open for silent prayer before worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30. Prayer books and Bibles are available for your use.

Prayer Requests and Prayer List

If you would like prayers for yourself or a loved one, please add their name to our prayer list. There are a few ways to do this: prayer cards are in the pews, a request for prayer is available by clicking on "Pray" on our website, or contact Rev. Annie or Rev. Sheryl, in person or by phone call, text, or email. You can also send an email to prayerministry@stanneswa.com. We list people by first names only for privacy.

We give thanks for our mutual interdependence in Christ, and pray for healing of body, mind, and soul:



For Parish members, especially: *Teddy, Ron, Anne, Kim, Don, Amanda, Margaret, Gavin*

For the homebound, especially: *Odell, Edith, Bill, Mary and Quinn*

For our family and friends, especially: *Bruce, Dave, Mica, Tabby, Michelle, Deborah, Kaylee, Laura Chase, the Phillips family.*

For our Safe Stay guests: *Steve, John, Kevin & Gaia, David, Johnse, Jay and Shelly, Danny, Larry.*

For the repose of the soul of *Marlene King-Penny.*

For those who have said no prayers, and for whom no one has prayed.

Our service of **Healing Prayer and Eucharist is Wednesdays at noon.** All are welcome to join us in the Chapel. The breezeway gate by the front door of the church will be open to enter on that level for those who find stairs difficult. A unique service focused on healing for yourself, or to pray for a loved one.



On **Wednesdays at 11:45am** (before the Eucharist service) in the upstairs chapel we offer a **plainsong chant** of the noon service from the St. Helena Breviary (an Episcopal order). It is a lovely, worshipful service that only lasts about 10 minutes. The text and chant are provided by Carol Peterman. Please drop in and give this a try! Don't worry if you think you can't carry a tune; everybody can do this.

Easy Ways to Participate in our Ministries

- ❖ **Sidewalk Pantry** – The need is great. Our sidewalk pantry can always use your donations of food for the needy. As soon as food is added it is gone! Please consider picking up a few extra items at the grocery store and bringing them each Sunday. See this list of most needed items [here](#). Used books also welcome.

- ❖ **Manna Bags** - a Girl Scout in Washougal prepared 300 hygiene kits as a part of her Gold Award. Please take a few from the box downstairs and hand them out to those in need.

- ❖ **Stewardship** - Give back to God from all the gifts God has given us. We invite you to share your gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure with St. Anne's and our local community. Please ask how you can share. *Thank you!*

Donate

TIME - Your gift of time is unique, because you are the only one who can give it.

TALENT - Your gift of talent is a special gift only you can give. In the words of St. Francis of Assisi, "It is in giving that we receive."

TREASURE - Your financial contribution is important for the ministry of St. Anne's. If viewing online, you can click on the Donate button. Online or viewing in print, you can scan our QR code.



- ❖ **Laundry Love** - This program helps people in need wash their clothes. This is an ongoing community-wide program that St. Anne's supports. Bring your quarters, dollars, or checks (made out to Camas Friends Church, note in memo line: Laundry Love) and put in the jar at the back of the church. Friends Church gives cards to those needing to wash their clothes which they redeem for quarters at the laundromat. Friends Church then reimburses the laundromat.

St. Anne's Bishop's Committee

Please check the bulletin board in the Parish Hall for the most recently approved meeting minutes and financial report. Minutes are posted ***after they are approved*** at the next meeting. The next Bishop's Committee meeting is December 7th.

Contacts:

- ✚ **OFFICE** - office@stanneswa.com
- ✚ **Vicar** - The Rev. Annie Calhoun: 949-300-8434 or revannie@stanneswa.com
- ✚ **Deacon** - The Rev. Sheryl Haase: deacon@stanneswa.com
- ✚ **Senior Warden**: Paul Anderson: swarden@stanneswa.com
- ✚ **Pastoral Care & Prayer Ministry** - The Rev. Annie Calhoun and The Rev. Sheryl Haase: prayerministry@stanneswa.com
- ✚ **Altar Guild** - Tusie Hodgin or Kim Noll
- ✚ **Audio/Visual** - Chip Lees
- ✚ **Buildings & Grounds**: buildingsgrounds@stanneswa.com

- ✚ Coffee Hour and food for special events - Roger Rissler and Maryanne Lovell
- ✚ Communications - Janet Fischer, Chip Lees, Rev. Annie @ communications@stanneswa.com
- ✚ Finance Team - treasurer@stanneswa.com
- ✚ Laundry Love - Bonnie Jean Ione
- ✚ Nursery & Sunday School - Meg Sundseth
- ✚ Readers/Lectors - Mary Tipton
- ✚ ReFuel Washougal - Fran Whitmeyer
- ✚ Safe Stay Ministry - Mary Tipton, Chair, or the whole group @ safestay@stanneswa.com
- ✚ Ushers and outdoor set-up - Chip Lees



Image courtesy of StockCake.com

THE WIDER CHURCH



The Episcopal Diocese of Olympia

The Episcopal Church in Western Washington

<https://ecww.org>

You can sign up for diocesan newsletters to be delivered directly to your email. Go to <https://ecww.org/> and scroll to the bottom of the page for the link to newsletters.

Our cathedral, St. Mark's in Seattle, has a quarterly publication: *The Rubric*.

The issues are available online at <https://saintmarks.org/connect/the-rubric/>.

Adult Faith Formation. The Diocese has a new website for adult faith formation offerings and suggestions, including a section on books for book discussion groups! Also included are Bible studies and topical offerings. Check it out: <https://ecww.org/faith-formation/adult/> . Resources for children and youth are here: <https://ecww.org/faith-formation/children/> . Let Rev. Annie know if something piques your interest!

Weekly Online Welcoming & Centering & Prayer – Weekly Online Interspiritual Group Contemplative Practices via Zoom. Welcoming Prayer meets Fridays from 12:00pm to 12:30pm.

Centering Prayer meets Fridays from 12:30pm to approximately 1:00pm. Fee: \$20/month for either or both sessions. Register to receive the Zoom link:

https://www.thesacredwaterscenter.org/service-page/online-centering-welcoming-prayer?referral=service_list_widget.

Compline, Sung by the Compline Choir at St. Mark's Cathedral. Sunday evenings at 9:30pm. Livestream available at

<https://complinechoir.org/livestream/> or <https://saintmarks.org/worship/live-stream/>.

The Wisdom School at St. Mark's Cathedral has released their 2025-2026 offerings. These are available both in person and via Zoom. For details, please visit

<https://saintmarks.org/learn/wisdom-school/>.

Events at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

147 NW 19th Avenue (at NW Everett), Portland, Oregon 97209

Check out the Cathedral's events at:

<https://www.trinity-episcopal.org/spiritual-formation-special-events>

Trinity Cathedral in Portland has launched their **Center for Sacred Learning**, with many offerings this fall. Please check it out at <https://www.trinity-episcopal.org/sacred-learning>. There are opportunities for community prayer, learning about icons, learning about how the Episcopal church is governed, and more.

Contemplative Chanting

Join us every 2nd & 4th Tuesday for sacred chant. We will chant the Psalms (using both the Biblical and the Nan Merrill translations), Taize, Gregorian, contemporary and Songs of the Presence as a way to connect with the Spirit in prayer.

Free to attend, but advance registration is required. Registration is always open; join anytime!

Register in Advance:

<https://onrealm.org/TrinityEpiscopalpdx/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ODdjMzljMzMtMmE5Mi00ZDg5LWFhNDgtYjBlMTAwMDkyMDAy>.

Contemplative Prayer Group ONLINE

Join fellow spiritual seekers every Saturday morning on Zoom for a group contemplative practice – a wonderful way to find support for your own meditation practice. All mindfulness practices & religious traditions are welcome! No experience necessary.

Register at:

<https://onrealm.org/TrinityEpiscopalpdx/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NTZjMzljZWItOTQxOS00N2Q4LWFmM2QtYWVmMDAwYzUzNDM2>. *Questions?* Contact Pat Zimmer, przimmer@comcast.net.