

St. Anne's Connections

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



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

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

FALL STEWARDSHIP & FINANCIAL UPDATE EDITION

Great News for St. Anne's!

(Repeating what was sent out via email.) We have some wonderful news to share! First, due to YOUR faithfulness in increasing your pledged amounts and to the generosity of three families who have committed an additional \$70,000 per year to St. Anne's for five years, we are able to retain Rev. Annie as our Vicar! You will see numbers and actual dollar amounts from the Stewardship Committee, but know that we remain a church with a full-time Vicar!

The second piece of news is regarding the property next door. That property was purchased by the church in 1999, and it seemed a good idea at the time. Rigorous examination of our financial records shows that the property has never been profitable and indeed has only been a drain on our finances, as we have had to pay all costs for taxes, repairs, and upkeep. Even several different management companies have not been able to make it work as a profitable rental property. We do not have the expertise, time, or money to do anything else with the property. The Diocese has given us permission to sell it and to retain all proceeds from the sale! We are in the process of doing so, and we are able to keep the park in the back of the property as our own! Half of the income will be set aside for buildings and grounds maintenance, and the other half will be put into an endowment fund for St. Anne's from which we can pull a portion of the interest income for our general fund.



As you can see, much has been happening and your Bishop's Committee and Stewardship Committee have worked hard to make these things a reality. And all of you have remained faithful to the work and mission of this church! If you have any questions or comments, please contact Senior Warden, Paul Anderson, at srwarden@stanneswa.com. Thank you.

Bridging the Gap in 2026 - A Stewardship Update

A couple of weeks ago, our Senior Warden, Paul, shared some great news, writing:

"Due to YOUR faithfulness in increasing your pledged amounts and to the generosity of three families who have committed an additional \$70,000 per year to St. Anne's for five years, we are able to retain Rev. Annie as our

Vicar! You will see numbers and actual dollar amounts from the Stewardship Committee, but know that we remain a church with a full-time Vicar!"

So here, without further ado, are the numbers, dollar amounts, and the rest of the story.

The story starts back in January, when we gathered for the Annual Meeting and we saw an annual budget with a LARGE deficit: more than seventy THOUSAND dollars. Our Senior Warden said "something has to change!" After the meeting, a few people came to him, each saying, "I can increase my pledge." And they did. Hearing this, another person thought, "they're increasing their pledges, maybe I can do that too." And they did.

In March, another member came to Reverend Annie, and said, "I can give an additional fifteen thousand dollars this year. I want it to be anonymous, but maybe others seeing this gift will be inspired to give more, too." In April, the Bishop's Committee and Reverend Annie sent a letter, reminding us of the deficit, telling us about the anonymous gift, and asking each of us to consider whether we could increase our pledge, or make a contribution to help "bridge the gap." And we did. In April and May, some folks wrote checks to "bridge the gap;" some said, "yes, I can increase my pledge; some said, "I can't increase my pledge right now, but I can remain faithful in giving regularly what I have already pledged to give;" and others just increased their giving, without filing any paperwork to "officially" increase their pledge.

The update in June was a good news/bad news story. The good news was that pledging and giving had increased substantially, the bad news was that it was not enough to cover all our expenses if we continued to have a full-time priest. After hearing what everyone else had done to bridge the gap, someone said, "I, too, can make an anonymous donation, enough to fully close the gap for the rest of the year." And not only that, "Even after the gap is closed in 2026, I know there will still be questions about whether St Anne's can afford a full-time priest in 2027 and beyond. I can also make a pledge now for the next several years, if that would help." And the person on the finance team thought, "maybe we can do that too. And we can talk with another couple who might be interested..." And they did, and they were, and as a result, Paul was able to tell us all about three families who have committed an additional \$70,000 per year to St. Anne's for five years.

So where are we now? "Pledge & Plate" is Episcopal Church jargon for "pledge income, loose plate offerings, and general gifts not designated for a specific purpose." It is the combined gifts from our 29 households that pledge, other individuals and families that give regularly, and gifts from newcomers and other visitors. In the first half of 2026 (that is, January to June) St. Anne's "Pledge & Plate" averaged \$18,345 per month – ***more than 50 percent above our 2025 average*** of \$12,055 per month. With the gifts we've already received in July and August, and our congregation's continued faithfulness in pledging, fulfilling our pledges and giving, we have every reason to believe that we will sustain this higher level for the rest of 2026 and into 2027 and beyond.

We've both heard Reverend Annie say with amazement, "Congregations don't just increase pledge and plate by 50 percent in one year. It just doesn't happen." We hope that if you hear her or anyone else say that, you'll join us in saying with a smile, "Maybe other congregations don't do that. But we're not just any congregation, we're St. Anne's. And we do that."

The St. Anne's Stewardship Committee,
Zachary and Carol

Stewardship Campaign



All the believers were of one heart and one soul, and no one said that what he possessed was his own. But to them all things were in common. – Acts 4:32

Now that summer is coming to an end, the Stewardship Committee is hard at work. Our theme this year is “Rooted in Abundance”, which is centered on the idea that God was infinitely abundant in blessing us with everything we experience, and that our lives, our labor and our love for each other reflect that when we give some of our abundance back to God.

This campaign will start on September 20th but you’ll be hearing more from us soon. We are excited to have all of you as a part of this campaign and optimistic we will be successful. One reason for this optimism is simple – a group of people going through a time of crisis quickly clarifies the things they value. And the last six months has helped us understand that we want a full-time vicar here at St. Anne’s – that we value our vicar more than our old way of doing things.

We would like to give you all something to think about. You might notice the use of the word “we” during this campaign. Everyone spends most of their week as “I” – an individual that has their own schedule, responsibilities and thoughts. But Episcopal worship from the Book of Common Prayer isn’t about the “I,” it’s about the “we:” we say things together, like “We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church.” Being present in this space forces us to accept that the part of us that is “I”-centered must give way to the part of us that experiences connection – the “we.”

As most of you know, we can no longer expect financial support from the Diocese to balance our budgets. Everything that we collectively do comes from everything we collectively have. Now the Stewardship Committee isn’t asking you to sell everything you own and donate that to the church. But we are asking you – all the individual “yous” that make up St. Anne’s – to take the next step into the we of the church. You’ve already taken the first one by coming and being with us. We now invite you to take the next one and give of your time, money and talents. Because we are all we have and we must rise together to meet the needs of our church.

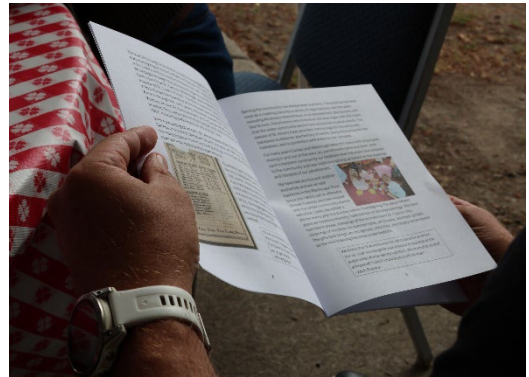
The St. Anne’s Stewardship Committee,
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Peace and Justice Fair, Esther Short Park, Sept. 12, 8am-4pm.

The Episcopal Church in Clark County will have a booth. Please consider signing up to help staff it. The signup is at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044AAEA72DA3FFCF8-65243126-peace>. More info about the fair is at <https://vancouverpeaceandjusticefair.org/>. Please contact Rev. Lynette with any questions.

After our 75th Anniversary celebration, I (Janet Fischer) sent a copy of the booklet to the local museum and received this lovely response:

Greetings Janet,
We received your church booklet of your local history and are so pleased that you sent us this important information. We have a folder in our archival files that will be an addition to our collection. Thank you so much for thinking of us.
Sincerely, Madeline Mesplay, Research Volunteer
Two Rivers Heritage Museum



Regular Events & Updates

Book Club

Book Club meets **Wednesdays at 10:30am** in the downstairs conference room. On Sept. 9th we will finish the book, *Come, Have Breakfast: Meditations on God and the Earth*, by Elizabeth A. Johnson.

Altar Flowers

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



Coffee Hour

Be sure to come downstairs after church for our coffee hour! Thank you to everyone who contributes goodies for our coffee hours and to the good souls who help with kitchen cleanup! Please continue to sign up to bring food and to help clean up. The signup sheet is in the Parish Hall.



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/OregonZoomUltreyalink>. Please join our Facebook group: <https://facebook.com/groups/94289009763>.



Visit our Oregon/SW Washington Cursillo website at <https://www.oregon-cursillo.org/> . If you have made your Cursillo in the past and want to update your information, please [download the form here](#) and give it to Rev. Sheryl.

Serving Our Neighbors

We have many opportunities to love our neighbors as ourselves:

Laundry Love: This program helps people in need wash their clothes. 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.

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.

The Grethe Barber Prayer Shawl Ministry: On a break until the fall.

Outreach Resource Hour: at 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.

Recovery Café Recovery Café of Clark County meets in the St. Anne's Parish Hall every Monday from 10am-2pm.

Pill Bottle Collection: We collect your used, washed, and de-labeled prescription bottles. Bin is in the Parish Hall. They are then sent to [Matthew 25: Ministries](#) who sends the pill bottles along with shipments of medical supplies to developing countries. 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.**



Refuel Washougal: WE ARE SEEKING A DEDICATED PERSON TO COORDINATE St. ANNE'S PARTICIPATION IN REFUEL. Please talk to Rev. Annie if you have interest or questions. Our next dates to serve in 2026 are: **September 11, and November 20.**

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.

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.

Streetlight Outreach ministers to the unhoused. They provide transportation to shelters, detox facilities, and the hospital. They also distribute kits to the unhoused and could use the following supplies: (Please drop off your donations in the box labeled "Streetlight Outreach" in the back of the church.)

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

The 2026 Anglican Cycle of Prayer: https://anglicancommunion.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/acp_from-aba-to-divine-hope-via-zululand-2023-to-2026_webpdf.pdf.

Public Witness Weekly Prayers: The Episcopal Church Office of Public Affairs weekly prayers are available in English, French, and Spanish as we seek God's guidance and discern how each of us can respond. Prayers are at: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/public-policy-and-witness-weekly-prayers/>

Giving

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!*

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.

Donate



St. Anne's Bishop's Committee

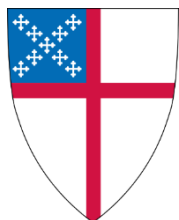
Please check the bulletin board in the Parish Hall for the most recently approved meeting minutes and financial report. Minutes are posted ***after they are approved*** at the next meeting. The next Bishop's Committee meeting is **September 27**.

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
- ❖ Deacon – The Rev. Lynette Poulton: diplomaticdeacon@gmail.com
- ❖ Senior Warden: Paul Anderson: srwarden@stanneswa.com
- ❖ Pastoral Care & Prayer Ministry - The Rev. Annie Calhoun and The Rev. Sheryl Haase: prayerministry@stanneswa.com

THE WIDER CHURCH

Episcopal Tidbits



The Eucharist. The sacrament of Christ's body and blood, and the principal act of Christian worship. The term is from the Greek, "thanksgiving." Jesus instituted the eucharist "on the night when he was betrayed." At the Last Supper he shared the bread and cup of wine at a sacred meal with his disciples. He identified the bread with his body and the wine with his blood of the new covenant. Jesus commanded his disciples to "do this" in remembrance of him. Christ's sacrifice is made present by the eucharist, and in it we are united to his one self-offering (BCP, p. 859). The Last Supper provides the basis for the fourfold eucharistic action of taking, blessing, breaking, and sharing. Christ's body and blood are really present in the sacrament of the eucharist and received by faith. Christ's presence is also known in the gathered eucharistic community. (See: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/eucharist/> .) "Transubstantiation" is the Roman Catholic belief that the bread and wine are turned into the actual body and blood of Christ. "Consubstantiation" is the belief that the body and blood of Christ coexist with the consecrated bread and wine. The elements do not stop being bread and wine. "Memorialism" is associated with Protestant churches and the bread and wine are only symbolic of the body and blood of Christ.

Timeline of the development of the Anglican to Episcopal church:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/organizations-affiliations/history-episcopal-church/timeline-2/>

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/>.

Diocesan Convention: October 23-24, 2026. Encountering Hope, Embodying Love: The 116th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia.

Details at <https://ecww.org/about-the-diocese-of-olympia/diocesan-convention/>.

The Wisdom School at St. Mark's Cathedral has released their schedule for 2026-2027. Please find it at <https://saintmarks.org/wisdom>. Unless marked "in person only," events are available via Zoom. They include: A Spirituality of Suffering and Solidarity, God and the Alcoholic Experience, Talking to God in the Whirlwind, Co-reactors or Co-creators, among others.