



## Christ Episcopal Church

1216 Seventh Street  
Anacortes WA 98221  
360-293-5790

office@christchurchanacortes.org  
www.christchurchanacortes.org

### Sunday Service

10:30 am

### Weekday Services

Wednesdays

5:00–5:30 pm  
Evening Prayer

Thursdays

1:00–1:45 pm  
Centering Prayer

All services are currently  
being held via  
Zoom.

[https://zoom.us/  
j/503653606?  
pwd=cTd0akhiZjYvZXRWY  
mlqa2diVHVldz09](https://zoom.us/j/503653606?pwd=cTd0akhiZjYvZXRWYmlqa2diVHVldz09)

# A Joyful Noise

June 2020

'Make a joyful noise  
to the Lord, all the earth.'

## Season's Change

Senior Warden Sylvia Sepulveda

### Mother-Daughter Dance

Spring evaporates  
into June's first warm morning.  
Love me as yourself.



As we enter the halfway mark of the calendar year and gather our spirits to celebrate Pentecost, I thought it would be a good time to note the many successes that Christ Church has managed through the last difficult months, all due to the gifts of those in our small community. These creative and committed individuals have continued their efforts even through the mandate of physical distancing to follow Rev. Canon Alissa Newton's call to, "stay church, stay connected, and to take care of each other." As we know from 1 Corinthians 12:1-7, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

Our church buildings closed mid-March, so our Administrator, Marcy, packed up the desktop computer and new laptop, transferring the office and all its demands to her home. From there she responded with swift aplomb, and at very short notice, to the detailed financial reporting required by the diocese for its PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) application while, simultaneously, re-creating the service bulletin layout in time for Holy Week's daily offerings, e-mailing those bulletins weekly ever since. Having done a bit of cross-training in that administrative role, I can tell you, that's a lot. Of course, there's more, but she publishes this periodical so I'm sure she'd "edit for length" if I continue. We are gifted Marcy's experience, her knowledge of Christ Church's history and culture, but more so by the kind and thoughtful spirit that guides her dedication to our community.

Led by the Bishop's guidelines, which adjust as necessary to meet the Governor's public health policies, our clergy has continued to live out the promise of our Total Common Ministry, adapting on the fly, or megabit, to changing circumstance and safety standards by inspiring, mentoring, or challenging as needed. All have become Zoom experts while also growing the rota of homilists to include Shirley Barrett and John Okerman. Our website, currently being redesigned offline, has been a thoroughly engaging collaboration including diocesan staff, clergy, ministry support →

Senior Warden  
*Continued*

circle members, Christ Church and Red Door leadership, and our paid designer. A new website ministry has seemingly grown from the ether, with much promise and excitement. It has been enlightening to see our clergy model how to keep healthy boundaries by not taking too much work upon themselves, or too much credit, reminding us to respect our own and each other's ministries as gifts of the Spirit and of the assurance that is TCM.

Though Guy Davidson pointed out to me that church attendance plummeted right after I was named Senior Warden (a little COVID humor,) I am thrilled to note that service attendance has actually maintained its average, even improving during Holy Week and continuing to increase for other services, like Godly Play and Centering Prayer. Our monthly income is tracking right along, at 97% to our 2020 budget, while we've reduced our expenses to 71%. We've been able to continue to pay our employees and will be assisted in that by the PPP grant awarded to the diocese, as Lorne will present in greater detail within. Our buildings and grounds have remained safe and beautiful with careful (if distant) oversight by our Sexton, Sol Kohlhaas and his B&G team. The Altar Guild has continued the tradition of keeping our church sweet-scented and stunning by moving the altar scenery to our Memorial Garden from where, after a sit-and-visit you should feel free to take a blossom home.

Our Prayer Shawl group will begin regular Zoom meetings on the first Friday of each month, beginning June 5 at 10:30am. Grace Minton is helping the Hospitality Team adjust to the new demands of our off-property congregation – we will soon all feel the embrace from this work in forms by which I'll allow them to surprise you. Erin Kohlhaas is leading The Red Door strategic planning effort to carefully design the re-opening of the thrift store while assessing the opportunities offered by a commerce-enabled website. And though the celebrations for our 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary have not yet started, we haven't forgotten!

I started this reflection with a haiku I wrote for my daughter, Sara. She has in recent years, unfortunately, been buffeted by three deaths of her closest friends' parents. The consequential anxiety she feels around my health and safety has only increased due to the pandemic and its initial US diagnoses so geographically close. I had a similar experience when I was her age and feared likewise for my mother, Maria Elena, who, by the way, just celebrated her eighty-sixth birthday. Grief torched my early life, leaving me feeling singed and scared, so how could I lead her away from the same angst? My own solace has grown in recognizing that God has been here eternally, as many thousands of years' worth of religious scriptures attest; it is my own presence that has always been predictably temporal. Nature shows me the course, cycling from season to season, from mother to daughter. Maria Elena, myself, Sara – we will always be a part of each other's lives, as we will always be part of God's. Though one season ebbs into the next, it is the same creation into which we are born and live and die – present in what came before, what is now, and what is yet to be.

Our church community is growing stronger from our physical distancing, not succumbing to it, by staying mindful and present – continuing to find ways to thrive and grow in God's presence. Despite all expectations to the contrary, it has been a fruitful Spring for Christ Church and, by "staying church, staying connected, and taking care of each other," we continue to gather the gifts of the Spirit. Thanks be to God.

Psalms 104:25-28

Yonder is the sea, great and wide,  
creeping things innumerable are there,  
living things both small and great.  
There go the ships,  
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

These all look to you  
to give them their food in due season;  
when you give to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.



## *Christ Church Clergy*



### *Ministry Support Circle*

The Reverend Diane Ramerman

*Priest*

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ramerfitz@comcast.net

The Reverend Carol Rodin

*Priest*

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Dale Ramerman

*Leadership & Support*

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### *Assistant Priest*

The Reverend Brian Lennstrom

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### *Circle Member Emeritus*

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## Gathered Together in God's Name

The Reverend Diane Ramerman

Another month has passed, and our church buildings remain closed. We are still "keeping a Eucharistic Fast" (to borrow a phrase from Rev. Samuel Tovend at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma). The Eucharist is a communal act, not an individual one, and we are challenged by the pandemic restrictions to find a way to gather bodily, in the flesh so to speak, to join in the Great Thanksgiving over bread and wine.

Your Worship Team and clergy have made the decision to use the Prayer Book service of Morning Prayer for our Sunday worship, rather than a 'virtual Eucharist' in which only clergy and eucharistic minister share the bread and wine. For some, this feels like depravation, and distancing from the Church – we all know the power of the Spirit when we participate actively in the Holy Communion.

Our Bishop suggested in one conversation that we might reflect whether and to what extent our thinking about our buildings, and, yes, even sharing the Eucharist, has slipped into a sort of idolatry – that is, valuing the physical in our religious practices, rather than the spiritual. I wonder.

With some irony, the fifteen sanctuary chairs – which were ordered in early February – are finished and will be delivered in the next two weeks. They will sit idle among the communion of the Saints, awaiting the Spirit of the congregation to commission them into service.

We are challenged in our faith by these times when we cannot gather bodily, and yet there is something beautiful about gathering and praying together via zoom. Our faithfulness to God is not diminished, and our concerns and love of neighbor are the center of our daily activities. As we keep this Eucharistic Fast, we look forward with hope to the time when we may once again worship together in our church building.

Let us thank God whom we worship, for the Church universal, of which our visible buildings are the symbol, and for the presence of God whenever two or three have gathered together in God's name.

Yours, O Lord is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Amen. (adapted, Litany of Thanksgiving for a Church, BCP 578-9)



## Spiritual Book Group

Thursday, June 25, 2:00 pm via Zoom

We will be discussing

*Accept This Gift: Selections from a Course in Miracles*

by Frances Vaughan & Roger Walsh

## ***Senior Warden***

Sylvia Sepulveda  
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## ***Bishop's Committee***

Maegan Barrett  
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## ***Treasurer***

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## ***Sexton***

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## **Church Finances**

Lorne Render, Treasurer

Greetings Friends,

I would like to bring you up to date on the finances of Christ Church during this most difficult time.

Overall, the church is doing well. So many of you have been helpful in not only keeping up with your pledges, but also a number of you have paid forward your pledge or have given in addition to your pledge.

This has allowed us to maintain a steady income.

The Bishop's Committee has made budget decisions to limit expenses except for those that are essential such as power, natural gas, and city services.



The Red Door Thrift Shop, as you know, has been closed since March 13th.

This was done in coordination with the Soroptimist Thrift Shop and the Kiwanis Thrift Shop, and joint conversations continue as to when to open all three shops. There is no income at the Red Door but essential operational expenses are being covered.

A decision was made to continue to pay the salaries for the entire church staff, namely the office administrator, organist, kitchen assistant, two child care assistants, Red Door manager, Red Door assistant manager, and Red Door cashier during the closure. This was a right decision to make as the coronavirus had an unforeseen impact for those working at the church. It needs to be mentioned that Marcy continues to work from home covering all the needs of the church, and Erin, the Red Door manager, continues to plan and oversee the status of the Red Door.

The finances of the church and the Red Door are in such a position that we can continue to pay needed operating costs as well as the payroll for the eight staff. This is a result of carefully managing funds over the years and the ongoing support of the congregation. This monitoring will continue by the Bishop's Committee.

The Diocese of Olympia made an application to the Federal Paychecks Protection Plan (PPP) in support of the missions in the Diocese and some specific Diocesan programs. PPP approved funds for the Diocesan application on May 7, 2020. The program covers payroll and benefits, and specific operational expenses, for 60 days. The process is currently underway whereby we will be reimbursed for payroll and benefits for the next two months. A great help. The Diocese has been very helpful in this entire process and a thank you is extended to the Bishop and the staff of the Diocesan Office. In addition, Christ Church's clergy, senior warden, Bishop's Committee, and the office administrator have worked diligently to monitor our financial health.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Faithfully, Lorne

*Your pledges and offerings may be mailed to Christ Church,  
1216 Seventh Street, Anacortes WA 98221, placed in the  
Parish Hall mailbox slot, or given online using the following link:*  
<https://resources.ecww.org/give-parish/christ-anacortes>

### *Altar Guild Directresses*

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### *Hospitality Committee*

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Sylvia Sepulveda  
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### *Staff*

Marcy Perschbacher  
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Lynne Berg  
*Organist*

John Delourme  
*Hospitality Assistant*

Dania Jaramillo  
Flor Zamorano  
*Childcare Assistants*

### Foundation for Academic Endeavors

## *Virtual Summer Academy*

The Reverend Carol Rodin

For the past four years the FAE Summer Academy has served over 1,000 students on the campus of Skagit Valley College providing students with a fun, enriching summer learning experience. This year, as we prepared for our fifth FAE Summer Academy, the Covid-19 virus interrupted our plans. In response to the closing of our local schools in March of 2020, and with the uncertainty of in person instruction in the coming school year, FAE created a six-week virtual summer academy for students from preschool through 8th grade, the FAE Virtual Summer Academy.

In conversation with parents and our school district partners, we have created a program that begins with teaching parents how to use the online learning platforms their school districts will rely on in the fall. Parents will be trained to use Zoom and Google classroom and receive ongoing personalized technical support, developing skills they will be able to use in the coming school year. In addition parent workshops will be provided to support safe online learning, kindergarten and college readiness with important information on scholarships and financial aid.

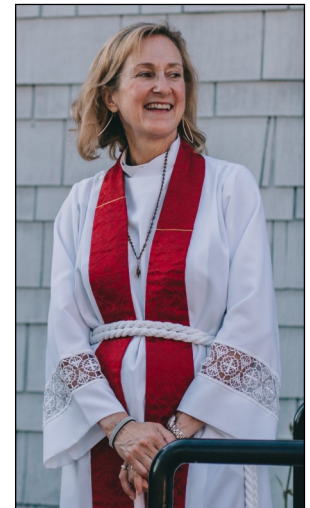
Classroom curriculum will focus on a real world problem students will solve using science, technology, engineering and math. Fun engaging lessons and small groups breakout sessions will build a vibrant online learning community, keeping students active during the summer months.

For example, some elementary classes will study the problem of sending food and medical supplies to a community in Thailand devastated by a flood. Each student will design an air drop package to explore the engineering behind dropping objects from the air.

Students will meet with their class three times a week and spend some time outside of class to create, design and explore their STEM projects. Fun activities that can involve the whole family will be provided. All materials and supplies will be provided and each student will receive four free books to build their home libraries and maintain their literacy skills.

Preschool students and their parents will meet with their teachers and classmates according to a flexible schedule, allowing for a relaxing and fun learning environment. A particular focus will be to build kindergarten readiness skills for preschool students, preparing them for a successful start in school. Students' science projects will explore nature, getting them outside in the beautiful summer months.

Our goal at FAE is to keep students, parents and teachers learning as we transition to living in a new digital world in this time of transition. We can meet the challenges of this time as we explore new ways to learn in community together. FAE is grateful for the ongoing financial and volunteer support of Christ Church.





# Contemplative Creativity

Sylvia Sepulveda

Contemplative Creativity is a new group prayer practice at Christ Church, a monthly offering (similar in intention to the “spiritual, not religious” book group - open to all faith traditions,) that will start **Thursday, June 11 at 6pm via Zoom** and continue on the second Thursday evening of each month. Our purpose is to provide a beautiful, quiet space for art and companionship – to explore spirituality through mindful creativity, focusing on process or experience as opposed to product or permanence.

The first half-hour or so will be devoted to a brief art lesson followed by twenty minutes of contemplative practice – art-based, unstructured, non-directed response to the current lesson or a previous one or just to life’s events. The second half-hour or so will be offered for fellowship – it’s your house, so enjoy whatever you pour: wine, tea, etc. Once our buildings re-open, we may transfer this group practice to the Parish Hall in whole, or only in part. Zoom has offered a flexibility in regards to time, geography, and ease that may work better for this particular group. Our first lesson (or two) will be on the Mandala (described below,) to be followed by other contemplative work like prayer beads, collage, iconography, and, maybe haiku! Lessons and materials lists will be announced in the weekly e-news and posted on our website at least two weeks prior to each meeting. Attendance is drop-in, no registration required.

If you have any questions, please e-mail me at [srsepulveda@mac.com](mailto:srsepulveda@mac.com) or text/call 949-303-8500.

## Session 1

**Thursday, June 11 at 6pm via Zoom:** Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88136628531?pwd=SEZxR25mQWMxYkJSSTdKcWJDWVZUT09>

Meeting ID: 881 3662 8531

Password: 890019

One tap mobile

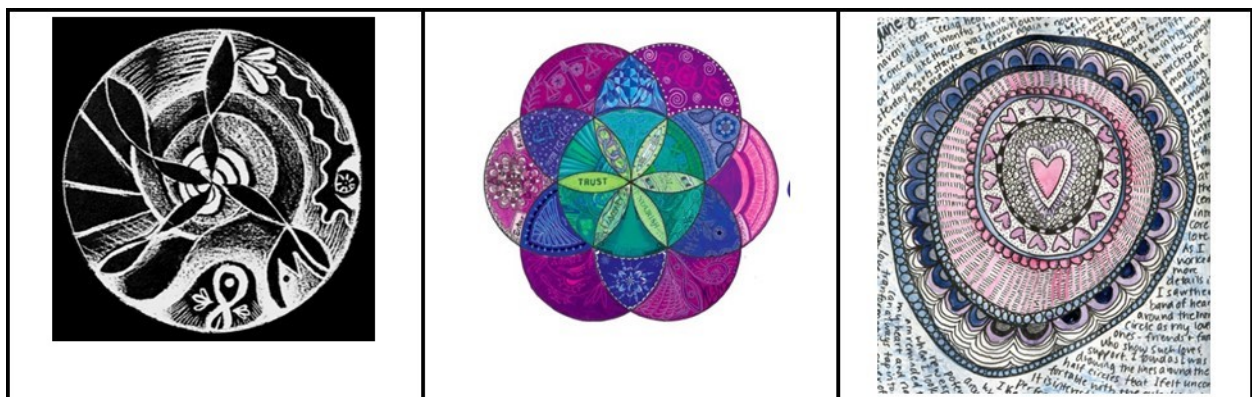
+12532158782,,88136628531#,,1#,890019# US (Tacoma)

+16699006833,,88136628531#,,1#,890019# US (San Jose)

## About Mandalas

**Mandala** is a Sanskrit word for circle; it’s a sacred shape with no beginning or end, symbolizing wholeness and balance. A mandala can be as broad as a visual, outer representation of the universe, or as close as an intimate, internal dialogue addressing one’s own personal spiritual state. Mandalas have been found in ancient petroglyphs, inspire us through the rose windows at Chartres Cathedral, and are as individual and unique as snowflakes.

Creating mandalas can be a meditative and spiritual exercise, encouraging mindfulness and producing peace and a sense of well-being. The only essential materials are paper and pencil, though you may want to gather some of the following: a jar lid or other circle template smaller than four inches in diameter (or a compass,) (water)color pencils, Sharpie fine and ultra-fine-point black markers, black cardstock (smooth texture,) a small set of acrylic brushes, a journal/sketchbook.





*Happy Anniversary  
to  
Bill & Janice  
Walker  
on  
June 14.  
(63 years!!)*



*Happy Graduation to  
Kai Perschbacher*

*Happy Marriage to  
Becky Watson  
& Seth Short,  
who were married  
on May 30  
in Texas.  
Congratulations!*

*Wedding masks by  
Charlene Corbin.*



*Church members arranged a happy send-off for Becky & Seth.*



Please send the month & date of your birthday, baptismal date, anniversary, and/or other special occasion so we can help you celebrate your blessings in the Joyful Noise. Please send to People's Warden Judith Render at [lorneandjudith@hotmail.com](mailto:lorneandjudith@hotmail.com), 360-982-2770.



# Sunday Services

## June 7

### *Trinity Sunday: One Diocese, One Church, One Day to Worship Together*

Holy Eucharist

11:00 am

A message from Bishop Rickel:

We are more than individual churches, we are a diocese – more than 26,000 Christians following the way of Jesus together across Western Washington. On June 7, the Office of the Bishop in the Diocese of Olympia will hold one worship service for our entire diocese. Designed to bring together all Episcopalians in Western Washington to worship as one, connect to each other, and meditate on all the ways we stay connected and stay church, this Sunday will also give our many hardworking clergy, church musicians, and lay volunteers a Sunday of rest in what has been a challenging season. Come worship with us on Sunday, June 7, at 11:00 am via Facebook or YouTube!



Christ Church will join the Diocesan service on Sunday, June 7, 11:00 am.

Please go to <https://ecww.org/about-the-diocese-of-olympia/cathedral/> to join the service.

### Readings

Genesis 1:1–2:4a, Psalm 8 or Canticle 13 or 13, 2 Corinthians 13:11-13, Matthew 28:16-20

## June 14

*The Second Sunday after Pentecost*

*Proper 6*

### Morning Prayer

Presider: Rev. Deacon Eric Johnson

Preacher: Mr. Dale Ramerman

Deacon: Rev. Deacon Eric Johnson

Readers: Erin Kohlhaas, Carleton Manning

### Readings

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

Psalm 116: 1, 10-17

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35–10:8-23

## June 28

*The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Proper 8*

### Morning Prayer

Presider: Mr. Guy Davidson

Preacher: Rev. Diane Ramerman

Deacon: Rev. Deacon Eric Johnson

Readers: Becky Watson, Sandy Mathis

### Readings

Genesis 22:1-14

Psalm 13

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

## June 21

*The Third Sunday after Pentecost*

*Proper 7*

### Morning Prayer

Presider: Rev. Diane Ramerman

Preacher: Rev. Deacon Eric Johnson

Deacon: Rev. Deacon Eric Johnson

Readers: Shirley Barrett, Jerlyn Caba

### Readings

Genesis 21:8-21

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Romans 6:1b–11

Matthew 10:24-39

## July 5

*The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Proper 9*

### Morning Prayer

Presider: Rev. Carol Rodin

Preacher: Rev. Brian Lennstrom

Deacon: Rev. Deacon Eric Johnson

Readers: Becky Lennstrom, Curt Rodin

### Readings

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30



# June 2020

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<hr/> <p><i>All Christ Church services &amp; meetings held via Zoom.</i></p> <hr/>			<u>12:15–2:30 pm</u> EfM  <u>5:00 pm</u> Evening Prayer	<u>1:00–1:45 pm</u> Centering Prayer	<u>8:00 am</u> Men's Group  <u>3:00–5:00 pm</u> Prayer Shawl Ministry	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<u>11:00 am</u> Diocesan Holy Eucharist	<u>6:00 pm</u> Bishop's Committee Meeting		<u>5:00 pm</u> Evening Prayer	<u>9:00–11:00 am</u> Ministry Support Circle  <u>1:00–1:45 pm</u> Centering Prayer	<u>8:00 am</u> Men's Group	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<u>10:30 am</u> Morning Prayer followed by Coffee Hour			<u>5:00 pm</u> Evening Prayer	<u>1:00–1:45 pm</u> Centering Prayer	<u>8:00 am</u> Men's Group  <u>9:30 am</u> Pastoral Care Circle	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<u>10:30 am</u> Morning Prayer followed by Coffee Hour			<u>5:00 pm</u> Evening Prayer	<u>9:00–11:00 am</u> Ministry Support Circle  <u>1:00–1:45 pm</u> Centering Prayer  <u>2:00 pm</u> Spiritual Book Group	<u>8:00 am</u> Men's Group	
28	29	30				
<u>10:30 am</u> Morning Prayer followed by Coffee Hour						