



Christ Episcopal Church

1216 Seventh Street
Anacortes WA 98221
360-293-5790
christepiscopal@frontier.com
www.christchurchanacortes.org

Sunday Services

8:00 AM

2nd Sunday: Eucharist Rite I
Other Sundays: Morning Prayer

10:30 AM

Eucharist Rite II

Cluster Staff

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The Reverend Terry Kylo
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The Reverend Armand Larive
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The Rt. Rev. Sanford Hampton
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A Joyful Noise

September 2010

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

Discerning a Call

Pastor Terry Kylo

At root, Christians believe that we live in a universe of meaning. The universe is not just a very large bunch of random bits floating around. Our experiences are not just a series of events that happen to us. Rather, God created and continues to create a universe of meaning and invites us to participate in that meaning.

Christians acknowledge that it takes many years, in fact a whole lifetime, to appreciate the meaning of life. We also know, most often through hard experience, that we will spend our whole life trying to understand how we might participate in the meaningful life to which we are called.

There are no shortage of voices that tell us what we can do with our time, what we can spend our money on, and what is meaningful. Parents, friends, our church, advertisements, the media in general, and political leaders all seek to shape our sense of what would be meaningful for us to do and to be. Many of these voices have good things to say, and are worthy options for us. But the question that this cacophony of voices begs is this: To what specifically am I called?

The great thing is we do not have to ask this question alone. We need the assistance of others, not to tell us what to do, but to help us listen to ourselves. This is the process of discernment in the church. Helping one another hear God's call to a life of meaning as we continue our life-long exploration of the meaning of our life.

I realize that this might sound rather esoteric. But really it is not. As we listen to ourselves and one another, a key question is "For what experience today are you most grateful?"

As we spend the next month considering the specific roles the Ministry Support Circle is called to, we will listen to them, consider the ways that they have enriched our lives and the life of our congregation. We will listen to what gives them joy and what in them has brought joy to our congregation.

But while we will focus some attention on them this month, the question really is about all of us, and each of us. As we help them to discern God's specific call for their ministry as a part of the Circle, we will be practicing the deep listening skills that will help us listen to one another. After all, Total Common Ministry is not about the Circle only: it is about each person and our community as a whole participating in the meaningful universe that God has lovingly and playfully created us for.

Terry



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Komo Kulshan Cluster 2010 Women's Retreat

A Rule of Life: Living Our Priorities

October 1-3

Camp Lutherwood, Bellingham

All women of the Cluster are invited to spend the weekend at Camp Lutherwood's peaceful setting on Lake Samish in Bellingham. It's an opportunity to relax, make and renew friendships, and refresh before the start of the busy autumn season.

Back by popular demand, the Reverend Rilla Barrett will be our presenter and facilitator again for this year's retreat. She will help us understand more about what a rule of life is, how they are used and will guide us in writing our own to help clarify and live out our own personal priorities in this busy world.

Also back by popular demand, we will once again experience a special program of Art and Meditation from our Cluster's own resident artist Margaret Carpenter Arnett. Reconnect with your creative, playful side while enjoying the natural beauty around you. Take this opportunity to remember who you are, what you like to do, how you feel, and what it's like to just be yourself.

In addition, Jennifer Gronholt of Christ Church will lead us in a program of guided meditation and yoga.

This promises to be the most fun and fulfilling retreat yet!

Registration:

Registration forms are available online or at any Cluster church. Space at the retreat is limited, so please register as soon as possible.

The cost of the retreat is \$70.00.

Please make your check payable to Komo Kulshan Cluster and note on the memo line that it is for the 2010 Women's Retreat.

Mail check & registration form to:

Komo Kulshan Cluster
415 S. 18th Street
Mt. Vernon, WA 98274



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 3
Christ Church Lawn

All are welcome.



Who We Are

June Cook

I started writing this column to help us get to know each other better. After talking with Sally last week, it turns out long-time church members probably know her quite well.

Eighty years ago Sally was born here at the old hospital, the site of the new library. Her parents, Barbara and Jim Amerman, had spent their honeymoon in town at the old hotel at 8th and J. Anacortes appealed to the newlyweds, and they settled into their home on 9th Street. Sally still lives there, dividing her time between here and the home she shared with Jim and their children in Renton.

Our conversation always came back to the pivotal role the church has played in her life. With a degree in sociology and psychology in hand, she felt the call to be a social worker. The job exposed her to the troubled side of human nature, but her faith and the support of church communities helped her through the tough times. The occasional success made it all worthwhile. "I loved my job," she says, and describes her experience supervising up to 12 employees and four students as very enriching. After working 31 years for Washington State, mostly in King County, she taught graduate-level social work courses and worked on special projects. In 2002 Sally retired.

Faith has sustained Sally through the deaths of several close family members. Her husband was seriously ill on several occasions, and when Jim died seven years ago, her church community stepped in to support her. Barbara, her beloved mother, died in the late '90s after seven years living with Alzheimer's. Sally traveled from Renton to spend weekends with her, and during the last year of her life Barbara lived with her. The deterioration was especially painful for Sally because her mother had been so strong, a vibrant community leader. Two years ago her cherished grandson Skylar died of brain cancer; he was only eleven. I remember his name from the prayer list. Although we never met him, he was truly part of our church family.

Sally has broken both hips. On the second occasion she lay helpless on the floor for 30 hours until her daughter Autumn, concerned that she didn't answer her phone, alerted neighbors. That injury resulted in many serious complications. At one point she almost gave up and asked her son Jim to let her die. He urged her to "just hold on two more days." She did! The Episcopal church at Steamboat Island was especially supportive during her hospitalization in Olympia.

In a life as long as Sally's there are many pivotal moments. We talked about a few; her confirmation at Christ Church was memorable. Confirmed with two other twelve-year-old girls, it was a solemn, formal



Sally Scott

occasion with the bishop officiating. It was a very meaningful, spiritual experience, Sally reflects.

A few years before her confirmation she attended Camp Huston for the first time. By herself, she took several buses to reach Gold Bar where a lady from camp met her. During the week, the girls from across the Diocese were drawn close to each other and to their faith. It was a growth experience that helped shape Sally's spiritual life. She loves Camp Huston because of what it meant in her life and in the lives of her family.

Fr Charles Forbes, who still lives in Mt Vernon, married Sally and Jim here at Christ Church in 1952(?). It was his first or second church, she recalls. Jim was Roman Catholic, but Fr Forbes told Sally it would be acceptable for her to convert to Catholicism. She declined, saying no, she was comfortable with her Episcopal community. Sally and Jim maintained their separate church memberships (he was a strong Catholic), but were open-minded and attended services with each other. That's the stuff strong marriages are made of, I think.

I remember attending their 50th anniversary reception in the parish hall. They were a couple still truly in love. They'd changed outwardly a lot from the photo taken at their wedding – she the lovely, elegant bride, he the handsome groom. But inside, they didn't seem to have changed a bit.

One thing, among many, that impressed me about Sally is her deep admiration for her mother, who was also a social worker. She attributes much of her success, in life and in work, to having a wonderful role model. The Anacortes Museum curated an exhibit a few years ago featuring the most outstanding local people of the last century. Barbara was one of those people, much loved and respected by the community.

Sally Scott...

Sally credits her mother with being one of the driving forces that kept Christ Church going during the lean years of the Depression and WWII. Attendance was way down, and a core of dedicated women organized special fundraisers to keep the doors open. The Women's Guild was more than just a fundraising group, though. It was mutual support of all kinds during hard times.

These days Sally stays busy. She works at the Red Door two days a week, time gladly given as her

mother would have done. She's also slowly renovating the Amerman family home. "One project always leads to another," she sighs. How true! Planning a family trip to Galliano Island in the Gulf Islands of Canada is at the top of her "to do" list right now. I asked her, why Galliano? She replied she'd never been there before, so it would be an adventure. Occasional adventures keep us young, I think. Thank you, Sally, for being a role model for the rest of us.

-June



*Reading the Gospel with New Eyes:
Jesus' Leadership In His First Century Context*

Schedule Fall 2010

Thursday Mornings:

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Christ Episcopal Church
Parish Hall - Downstairs Conference Room

All are welcome!

23 September
30 September
7 October
14 October
21 October
11 November
18 November
2 December
9 December

We will be continuing our Contextual Study on selected Thursdays this fall. We will use the gospel text for the coming Sunday. You can find these texts and various commentaries at www.textweek.com.

Sunday Afternoons:

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Christ Episcopal Church
Parish Hall - Upstairs Gathering Room

All are Welcome!

19 September
24 October
21 November

We will study two or three of the last month's gospel texts using the Contextual Study process outlined in our web sites. We will also continue to introduce concepts from the social science perspective on the Scriptures and what they add to the conversation of Biblical interpretation.

General Introduction

We quite naturally read the Bible through the assumptions of our own culture. But the Bible was written between 2800 and 1900 years ago, in cultures and historical situations that were vastly different from our own. This leads to interpretations that would be totally beyond the wildest imagination of the original writers of these stories. Understanding the cultural context of these writers can help us more deeply respect the scripture.

All are invited to join us for these ongoing studies to better understand the original contexts of scripture writers.

In both the Lutheran and Episcopal traditions this kind of study has a long history as each one respects the role of scripture, tradition, and reason, as faith seeks understanding.

In the last 20 years, our tools to understand scripture have increased dramatically. Historians, archeologists, anthropologists, and social sciences have helped us glimpse more realistically the social, political, economic, cultural contexts of Jesus' ministry. We use these tools to set aside many of our assumptions about the text we read that week and try to interpret it in light of its own culture.

Reading the Bible this way sometimes confirms much of what we thought, and sometimes it dramatically challenges our understanding. While we will never be able to be certain how readers in the 1st century might have understood a Bible passage, we will seek to understand what interpretations are plausible in light of this exciting research.

-Pastor Terry

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
September 2010			1 RD Staff Meeting 9-10 am, PH RD Linen Group 10-11:30 am, PH	2	3 Men's Group 8:00 am, PH Office Volunteer Group 9-10 am	4
5 Morning Prayer 8:00 am Worship Service 10:30 am	6 *No Yoga Class Choir Practice 5:45 pm, PH	7 Centering Prayer Service 7:30-8:00 pm	8 RD Staff Meeting 9-10 am, PH RD Linen Group 10-11:30 am, PH Evening Prayer 6:00 pm	9	10 Men's Group 8:00 am, PH Office Volunteer Group 9-10 am	11
12 Rite I Eucharist 8:00 am Chandler Square Service 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Congregational Meeting 11:45 am	13 Community of Hope Training 9:00-11:30 am Parish Hall Gentle Yoga Class 3:00-4:00 pm Parish Hall Choir Practice 5:45 pm, PH Bishop's Committee Meeting 7:00 pm	14 Centering Prayer Service 7:30-8:00 pm	15 RD Staff Meeting 9-10 am, PH RD Linen Group 10-11:30 am, PH Taize Service 6:00 pm	16	17 Men's Group 8:00 am, PH Office Volunteer Group 9-10 am	18
19 Morning Prayer 8:00 am Worship Service 10:30 am Youth Day @ Big Lake 2:00-5:00 pm Bible Study 3:00-4:30 pm Parish Hall	20 Gentle Yoga Class 3:00-4:00 pm Parish Hall Choir Practice 5:45 pm, PH	21 Centering Prayer Service 7:30-8:00 pm	22 RD Staff Meeting 9-10 am, PH RD Linen Group 10-11:30 am, PH Evening Prayer 6:00 pm	23 Bible Study 10:30-11:30 am Parish Hall	24 Men's Group 8:00 am, PH Office Volunteer Group 9-10 am EfM 10:00 am-1:00 pm Parish Hall	25
26 Morning Prayer 8:00 am Worship Service 10:30 am	27 Gentle Yoga Class 3:00-4:00 pm Parish Hall Choir Practice 5:45 pm, PH	28 Centering Prayer Service 7:30-8:00 pm	29	30 Bible Study 10:30-11:30 am Parish Hall	Youth Day @ Big Lake Sunday, September 19 2:00-5:00 pm For youth in grades 7-12 Call Pastor Killa for details, 360-770-8061	