SALISH SEA FELLOWSHIP

A Religious Community with Open Hearts and Open Minds

COMMUNITY UPDATE



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>>> ABOUT US

The Salish Sea Fellowship is a center for liberal religion providing an independent educational, spiritual and liberal religious community of mutual support that embraces the traditional *seven principles* of Unitarian Universalism. This is our Community Update for our friends and members. If you have anything you would like to tell the community, please let us know at salishseafellowship@gmail.com.

HOW TO FIND US

We meet in-person at the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) in Port Hadlock, 130 Church Lane.

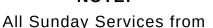
You may also access the Sunday services online. Click <u>HERE</u> for our Zoom link for viewing our services, or go to Zoom and enter Meeting ID: 844 7353 7286, Passcode: 753350.







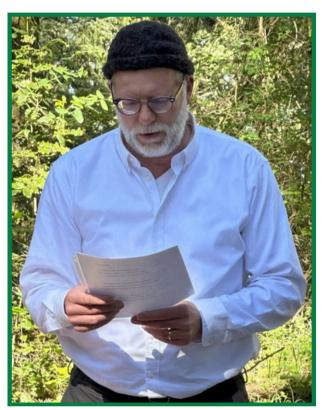




January 5 - March 1

will take place at 2:00





Joseph Bednarik:

Three Treasures for the Modern World? SUNDAY SERVICE, JANUARY 5, 2 PM AT CUMC

In the "Tao Te Ching" Lao Tzu writes of three treasures: compassion, moderation, and humility. In this sermon we will explore whether the treasures of an ancient Chinese sage can—or, more provocatively, should—be treasured in the modern world.

Joseph Bednarik SUNDAY SERVICE, JANUARY 19, 2 PM AT CUMC

Additional information regarding Joseph's Sunday Service on January 19th will be available in the next Salish Sea Fellowship Community Update. Stay tuned, friends!





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Services you missed, are available <u>HERE</u>. Sunday services that are available include the sermon and readings. Also, we now have 18 subscribers to our YouTube channel! You may access our YouTube channel <u>HERE</u>. Finally, you may also click <u>HERE</u> to access our Sunday services live on Zoom.





Doors open at 4:30 to allow for more socializing.

Please RSVP to **salishseafellowship@gmail.com** so we know how many to expect, and as always, bring your own beverages and table settings, as well as a dish to share. (PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TIME OF OUR COMMUNITY POTLUCK IS **NOT** CHANGING!)

ALPs (Adult Learning Programs)



The SSF-ALPs committee is busy preparing our Spring 2025 program of 17 classes, workshops & field trips. The term begins in early January and runs through May.

The list of programs will be included in the order of service (and signup begins) on Sunday, January 5. If you won't be attending that service, the full brochure and a link to SignUpGenius will appear on our website at that time. You may access that page **HERE**.

If you have questions or need assistance, contact Joyce Francis (<u>joyce.francis.pt@gmail.com</u> or 301-512-6815) or any member of the ALPs committee — Gail Sandlin, Martha Moyer, Gary Nelson, or Ken Ing.



3

Breakfast Social:

Please note that Breakfast Club meetings are on hiatus for Christmas and New Year Wednesdays. But, going forward, Sarah and Karen will hang out on Wednesdays (ALL Wednesdays of the month) at 9:30 AM at the Bay View Restaurant. Join us for coffee, tea, breakfast or even pie! You could add ice cream (in the dairy group)!

Community Potluck:

Please join us to chase away the cold and gloom with lots of laughter, chatter, and yummy food! Community fills up our hearts during cold winter months.

Carpooling to Events:

Have you noticed how dark it is lately? It's that time of year; if you are interested in carpooling, please send an email to **salishseafellowship@gmail.com**. Tell us your preferred pickup location and phone number, and we will figure out a plan.

4th Sunday Gathering Ideas:

We are looking to generate ideas of ways for us to gather together in community during the 4th Sunday of the month. All ideas are welcome!

If you have suggestions, please complete a brief Google Form **HERE**.

For specific questions, please reach out to Karen Wamstad at kjmwamstad@gmail.com.

Small Group Offerings

The Salish Sea Fellowship Political Discussion Group began as an ALPs group with a goal of becoming an Interest Group. Currently five members are delving into national and global politics from the viewpoints of history and culture. Some of us are certainly more knowledgeable than others, but all are committed to study and discussion as world events change around us. Are past/current events just one thing after another? Or can we discern trends? This is an ongoing group which meets regularly by Zoom on the first and third Thursdays from 3:30-5:00. Are you interested in joining us at this developmental stage? Please call Martha Moyer at cell 360-460-2528 with questions.





Your new Board of Directors met on December 17, 2024, and elected officers of the Salish Sea Fellowship Board for 2025 as follows:

Nils Pedersen, President, Rob Wamstad, Vice President, Gary Nelson, Secretary, and Judy King, Treasurer.

Brian Rogers and Ron Strange are Members of the Board at Large.

We are pleased to note that we have renewed our rental agreement with the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) for 2025. The general feeling seems to be that this space works well for us, and we are certainly grateful for the gracious hospitality shown by Pastor Scott Rosekrans and the Board of CUMC.

We would like to apologize for the slow pace of the Directory of Members and Friends. We are still trying to get our Power Church program to present it the way it should be, and this has been a frustrating process. Hopefully soon, fingers crossed!

At our Annual Meeting on December 8 the Membership approved our budget (found here on our website) for next year of \$57,475. If you have not already done so, please return your pledge form to help us meet this budget to our Treasurer Judy King at salishseafellowship@gmail.com or by snail mail to Judy King, 260 McMinn Rd., Port Townsend. WA 98368. Thanks so much!

As we have talked about, we are all very pleased about our progress so far as a spiritual community. We have almost 60 members now, with a mailing list almost twice that, and a very reasonable budget! We suspect that 2025 will be a year of maturation for the Fellowship, making sure we have good processes in place, and good speakers and ALP's programs, but above all, making sure that we are listening to our members. Happy New Year everyone!











Want to help our neighbors be warm and fed?

Our hosts, the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) staff a free foodpantry and clothes closet on Saturdays from 10 to 1:00. With winter upon us, donations of individual pull-tab cans of chili, stew, hash and spam are exceptionally helpful, along with packets of hot chocolate, coffee and pasta with sauce. Warm coats, shirts, pants, scarves, gloves and blankets are also needed, but for now no lightweight clothing due to limited storage space. Please give nothing that is not clean, in good condition and something you would wear yourself.



CUMC also runs a weekly soup kitchen, and Salish Sea provides the soup (a gallon of vegie and a gallon with meat) on the third Saturday of the month. We are set through February, but if you would like to join the list of folks who provide soup and/or assist with set-up and clean-up in the future, please contact Kate Madson at kmadson3of9@gmail.com or Kendra Golden at kendrajgolden@gmail.com.



Membership Status:

As you may know, you become a member of the Salish Sea Fellowship by filling out the application form (available <u>HERE</u>), and then being approved by the Board. All membership applications we have received have been approved by the Board. However, we have not had any formal, or even informal, welcome ceremony to the Fellowship. We do think, though, that we should have an open recognition and welcome of our new members, and we will figure out how to put this in place. We value and welcome all our members, and we certainly hope no one has felt neglected.





If you have announcements you'd like to make, suggestions for this Community Update, or anything else on your mind about our community, let us know at SalishSeaFellowship@gmail.com.

