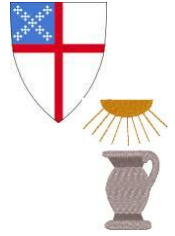




**The Venerable  
Bede**

***St. Bede Episcopal Church***  
*Port Orchard, WA*



***Our Newsletter***

**"The Tidings"**

**MARCH, 2026**

***Special Events***

***Come and worship with us on Sundays at 10am***

*Link for our broadcasting on 'You Tube' is:*

*<https://www.youtube.com/@StBedeChurchPortOrchard>.*

***Lent Soup Luncheon and Program***

***Wednesdays, Feb 25- March 25***

***at 11:30am to 1:30pm***

***Stewardship Committee – Sunday - March 1***

***Bishop's Committee –March 8 – 11:45am***

***Outreach – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday –March 9 - 10am***

***Coffee and Grounds Group***

***2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays – March 12 & 26- 10am***

***Brown bag Lunch- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday***

***- March 17 at 11:30am***

***Family Kitchen – March 23 – 9am-6pm***

## A Letter from Our Interim Priest



Dear Ones,

Being Church in a Liminal Time, this will be the focus of our community Lenten journey and discussions and to help us, we will use the book by the same name authored by Jeffery D Jones and David Fredrickson. As I talked about in my remarks at the Annual Meeting, St. Bede's is and has been in a liminal time in the life of this congregation.

Liminal time refers to the in-between phase of life or experience, where one is no longer in a previous state but has not yet entered a new one. The term originates from the Latin *limen*, meaning "threshold" and is the anthropological concept of liminality. During this period of transition, normal structures, routines, and hierarchies may dissolve, creating a space for reflection, growth, and transformation.

In some ways, I believe all churches are currently in a liminal time as we look at declining numbers who identify as members of any congregation and or ecclesial body. The growing number of SBNR, *Spiritual But Not Religious*, has certainly had an impact on how our traditional churches are viewed and the role we play in our communities.

Our Lenten Soup Lunches will be the new beginning, the restarting the 'transition process' anew. Hopefully we will have some deep and honest conversations about what it means to be a part of the Episcopal Church in Western Washington in 2026. And where is the Holy Spirit leading us, St. Bede Episcopal Church, today. As the authors write: *In the midst of the current struggle, uncertainty, and grief, God is at work doing a new thing, redeeming the old, and leading us to greater faithfulness. God is always about this, and this is always Good News.* Your Bishop's Committee will meet on Saturday with the Rev. Ivar Hillesland, Canon for Congregations and the Venerable David Bishop, Archdeacon and Canon Missioner for Transitions; they will lead the BC retreat, and we will learn more about how we will proceed the coming year.

As we begin this leg of the journey of St Bede's let us never forget those words repeated so often throughout scripture, *Be Not Afraid!*

With blessings and prayers, *craig*

Craig's church email is: [StBedeVicar@gmail.com](mailto:StBedeVicar@gmail.com)

Please do not hesitate to contact me with this email address.



## ST. BEDE FAMILY

### March Birthdays

2 Sandra Rosenquist

6 Nancy Crowe

11 Olivia Hargrave

14 Don Little

19 David Handren 28 Chris Blum

31 Wendy Bathgate



## OUTREACH REPORT

Outreach Meeting on February 10 was opened with prayer by Sarah Yergin. The attendance was great and people were happy to have a wonderful speaker - **Kyle from Coffee Oasis. Kyle is a Youth Pastor and Manager of the center in downtown Port Orchard.** The center provides support for our local teens – about 60-70 come there for guidance, care, support and a lunch on Monday to Friday and a dinner on Friday night. This center also provides clothes and hygiene products for the youth. **St Bede's provides a lunch on the last Friday of the month and there is a strong possibility we can do one more lunch.** We are interested in helping our youth and they do appreciate all the help and we, as a group, enjoy this challenge. Kyle shared a lot of great information.

**At our March Meeting we will be meet with Jacob from St. Vincent's, who will share information to see how we can help them.** Our meetings are full of good information – good company and lasts about 2 hours. **The meeting is open to all, so please join us in March.**

Our monthly donations were:

Coffee Oasis - \$200

Backpack for Kids - \$100

SK Helpline - \$100

Thank you, **Bev Dawson.**



## CAMP HUSTON

# SUMMER CAMP SESSIONS



## Discovery Camp

Discovery Camp is Huston's quintessential program. During the week, campers are split by age into small Discovery Groups led by trained counselors and staff. The groups spend mornings and afternoons together teambuilding and will go on an overnight at an on-site location. Every day also includes Activity Time where campers can choose between archery, swimming, arts and crafts or field games, etc.

Youth entering **grades 3-10**

## Horse Camp

Campers spend each morning with experienced, trained, equestrian staff learning riding techniques and developing horse-handling skills. Campers return to Camp Huston for lunch and spend the afternoon and evening with their Discovery Group.

Youth entering **grades 5-10 (varies)**



## Mini Camp

Mini camp is a four day/three night version of Discovery Camp, and is a great introduction to summer camp! Mini camp is a wonderful opportunity for younger children to experience the magic of summer at Camp Huston.

Youth entering **grades 1-5**

## Counselor Training

Counselor training is an intensive leadership development program. We cover topics such as group facilitation, listening techniques, program creation, conflict resolution, mentoring and feedback communication.

**\*All summer staff members must complete this program**

Participants are invited to work as counselors on the basis of active participation and responsible behavior. Agreements to work a summer camp session will be awarded at the conclusion of counselor training based on performance.



## What Campers Can Expect

Campers spend time in Discovery Groups, which consist of two cabins of similarly-aged campers, their counselors, and a Discovery Group Leader. There will be games, songs, hikes, team-building activities, camp outs, crafts, and a time for reflection at the end of each day. Most campers also participate in challenge course team-building initiatives. Outside of our Discovery Groups, the whole community joins together for meals in Curtis Lodge, a campfire, a variety show, and Celebration at the end of the week. An Episcopal priest joins us every session to provide counsel and participate in program activities and help Discovery Groups plan chapel. We value small group and community experiences so campers are surrounded by supportive friends all week. We hope that you'll make friends, experience nature and have fun!



**Scholarships are available - Contact the Office.**



## FAMILY KITCHEN

On Monday, February 16, St Bede's Family Kitchen crew prepared and served **Turkey Tetrazine, peas and carrots, fresh apple salad and garlic bread.**



**Dessert was strawberry cups with whipped cream and Sarah's peanut butter cookies.**



We fed 27 in person guests and sent out 24 'to go' meals. We got lots of thanks and compliments on our dinner and even some hugs!

Love in Christ, **Fran Valley**

## MONTHLY BROWN BAG LUNCH



The third Tuesday luncheon is held in the Parish Hall. It is open to all.

**It is a good time for conversation and an opportunity to get to know one another a little more. Please bring your own lunch.**

March Luncheon will be on Tuesday, March 17 at 11:30am

**Mary Ann Balyeat**

## OLIVE CREST

Strong Families, Safe Kids

This is an opportunity to support the Olive Crest Project for Foster Children leaving the system and

**beginning an independent life, by bringing a donation of food for an apartment pantry.** For other donations of household goods,

please check with: **Karen Bathgate** – [kbathgate@comcast.net](mailto:kbathgate@comcast.net)

**Karen Bathgate**

## ST BEDE'S LITTLE PANTRY

**Thank You!**

An ongoing **THANK YOU** to all who continue to donate food and products to this very well used and appreciated community outreach. **NO** out of date products or perishables.

It is a Blessing to so many! **Kathleen Ebbert**





## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

The social activities over the last month went well. Pledges and plate offerings have been generous.



I may sound repetitive, but the **Stewardship Committee encourages your continued strong support of the Little Pantry.**

**It is a blessing for the hungry in our community.**



**The Shrove Tuesday (Mardi gras) pancake supper was well attended.** We have removed the fat from the larder in preparation for the fasting season of Lent. Mardi Gras is the final day of Carnival; **it falls on the day before Ash Wednesday -the beginning of Lent.** Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday",

referring to it being the last day of consuming rich, fatty foods, most notably red meat, in preparation for the Christian fasting season of Lent, during which such foods are avoided.

**We have replaced the Lenten soup suppers with Lenten soup luncheons, to be held at 11:30am each Wednesday. Rev. Craig will be the teacher.**



**Our next special feasts begin with Palm Sunday and continue through Holy Week and Easter. There will be an Easter egg hunt for the children.**

**Don Little, Stewardship Chair**

## MEALS FOR MEMBERS!

St. Bede continues with our 'Meals for Members' program. When difficult events happen, we can assist our members with meals to help them get through that bad time. **Linda Varda is 'point person' for this ministry of pastoral care.**

If you would like to provide a meal or two on occasion, please let Linda know. When the need arises, she will gather details (dietary restrictions, allergies, etc.) and then make some phone calls.

**Linda at 360-602-0171 or [lindavarda@hotmail.com](mailto:lindavarda@hotmail.com).**

## MUSIC at ST. BEDE



Some hymns that are new to us may be difficult to sing because they have a high 'D'..

I transpose the song into a lower key, but I would like to commend you all on your vigorous, enthusiastic singing of our favorite hymns. (**I can hear the people up front pretty well!**). **The singers in the back of the church come out loud and clearly recorded on our internet live stream because the microphone is right above them attached to the door frame.** Our choices of diverse music are heard all over the world.



Kathleen, Craig and I carefully go over the words to most hymns we sing to understand if they convey the messages in the liturgy. For instance, **"Christ Upon the Mountain Top' may not be familiar to you, but the words are right from the Gospel for that day, so we sing it as the Gospel hymn.**



Nancy, Mike and I will continue to occasionally introduce some 'service music' that is antiphonal - that is, call and response. This is a traditional way of praying and meditating since the time of Christ; **so, some of our hymns follow Jewish prayer conventions of calling out by the 'cantor' or priest and response by the congregation.**

Come and talk to me about your favorite hymns so we can sing them! Happily your musician, **Mary Ferreira.**

## **NexTrex Recycling Challenge**

**First Lutheran Church is collecting plastic bags and film to get a bench for their garden.**



We at St Bede can help by bringing in plastic bags.

I will provide a contribution box and transfer them

to First Lutheran Church. **What can be recycled:** *Grocery bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, drycleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, plastic shipping envelopes Ziploc & other reclosable food storage bags, cereal bags, case overwrap, slat bags, pallet wrap & stretch film, produce bags.* **Fran Valley**



## FLOWERS AND CANDLE DONATIONS



Thank you to all who sign up to provide flowers and or candles to beautify our St Bede Sanctuary.

If you would like to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or honor a loved one's memory, consider donating Altar flowers or a Sanctuary candle. Suggested donations are \$20 for flowers and \$10 for a candle.

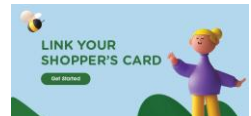
*The forms are at the church entrance or in the Parish Hall. Complete the forms, include your intentions, and make checks payable to St Bede with flower or candle donation in the memo line. Place them on the offertory plate or give them to Kathleen Ebbert.*

Choose your date and sign up on the Flower Chart, on the wall in the Parish Hall. Your donations will be noted in the Sunday bulletin.

**If you have any questions, please contact: Judy Wilkin at [tjslkin@aol.com](mailto:tjslkin@aol.com) OR Karen Bathgate at [kbathgate@comcast.net](mailto:kbathgate@comcast.net)**

## FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Link your rewards card with St Bede Episcopal Church on Fred Meyer Community Rewards. **Every time you shop you help earn a donation.** You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today.



**Our Community Rewards reference is RE 860**



## PARISH NURSES Secrets Women Wish Men Knew



For many women, being understood matters more than being "fixed." Discover what women often hope men recognize about emotional support and connection.

## **A Caring Guy Is a Hot Guy**

What do women want? For those who've ever pondered this question, here are several relationship secrets. They're based on the study of healthy, happy couples and our changing gender roles. Secret No. 1: Women appreciate a guy with a sensitive side, especially when they're upset. Put your arm around them and hand them a tissue. Nurturing is a powerful way to connect.

## **Chivalry Still Has a Place**

When it comes to romance, many women do like men to take a traditional masculine role. This is especially true in the wooing stage of a relationship. They are perfectly capable of pulling out their own chair or opening a door, but if you see them hesitate, they might just be waiting for you to be the gentleman.

## **Dress to Impress**

Styles come and go, but men's attention to their grooming and clothing should be long lasting. It's important to women from the first flirtation through the honeymoon and beyond. You've got to figure out if there's a certain look that she likes.

## **Guy Wears Red, Guy Gets Girl**

OK, this tip doesn't come from women, but from clever testing by psychologists of women's subconscious preferences. One intriguing study found that the color red made men seem more powerful, attractive, and sexually desirable to women. There's a caveat, though. Red doesn't make guys appear nicer or kinder. That part is up to you.

## **Don't Hide Your Flaws**

Nothing captures a woman's heart quite like a good man who wants to be a better man. Women love personal growth; they love a man who is thoughtful and sensitive. They like it when their men recognize a flaw -- a short temper, for example, or a regularly sullen mood after work -- and love it when they make an effort to address it.

## **Don't Try to Fix Their World**

When something's bothering them, they want your ear, not your advice. Men feel the need to fix things because they are solution-oriented. But to a woman, really listening is a wonderful thing that deepens the relationship.

## **Nodding Is Not Enough**

Listening is important, but they also want to know that they are being heard. Nodding along won't cut it. When she pauses, she's giving you a cue to respond in a compassionate, caring way. If they tell you that they are upset because their boss gave them a tough time, they want to hear you say, "I'm sorry that work was such a drag for you today." And remember: Resist the urge to offer solutions.

## **Mirroring Is a Barometer of Love**

Remember the saying "imitation is the highest form of flattery"? A woman often conveys how they feel about you by mirroring your moods and moves. They may order a meal that pairs with yours, wear your favorite color, or smile or cross their arms when you do. Mimicking is their way of putting you at ease and letting you know they are charmed.

## **Your Shirt May Be a Love Magnet**

Does your partner curl up in your sweater or sneak into your work shirt? Some researchers have found that the scent of a man's perspiration has a relaxing effect on women.

## **Say It, Again and Again**

Women like to be told they look nice, and they like a man who notices without being told. When they are wearing a sexy new dress, for example, they'll give you major points for saying how hot they look, especially if you mention the dress before they do. If they are looking particularly attractive, if they have a new haircut, if they are looking more fit -- let them hear about it.

## **Don't Fear the Relationship Talk**

When your woman wants to talk about the relationship, it doesn't mean you did something wrong (well, not necessarily). Many women like to talk about the "state of the union" -- what's going right, what's going wrong, or simply what's going on. This is a good thing. An honest, wide-ranging talk can bring the two of you closer.

## **Look Your Partner in the Eye**

You may feel more comfortable sitting side by side, but many women prefer face time -- and we don't mean the latest mobile video chat technology. Women prefer their men to make eye contact with them as they're talking.

## Don't Miss the Moment

How do you know if they are ready to commit? They'll say so. This is something that women are often quite up front about. But they don't want to have "the talk" too often. If they are ready and they have given you time, the next time the subject comes up, be prepared to step up or step off.

## Romance Is Simple; Keep It Coming

Romance is something they will always want, whether you've been together two months or 20 years. Flowers, an intimate dinner, a few lines of love poetry -- don't worry, they don't have to be your own -- might sound cliché, but most women appreciate such simple romantic gestures and often show their appreciation after the lights go down.

## Ken and Mary Hulet, Parish Nurses



## **TIDINGS**

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**Interim Priest**

**The Rev. Craig Vocelka**

[StBedeVicar@gmail.com](mailto:StBedeVicar@gmail.com)

## **Services:**

*Sunday Holy Eucharist 10am*

*Wednesday Zoom Bible Study 11am.*

*We have resumed broadcasting  
using YouTube streaming.  
A link will be posted on the church  
website page on Sunday mornings.*



St. Bede Episcopal Church  
P.O. Box 845  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

In the love of Jesus Christ, St. Bede joyfully welcomes you,  
and seeks to serve and to nurture spirituality in all.