

Salish Sea Fellowship



COMMUNITY UPDATE



WWW.SALISHSEAFELLOWSHIP.ORG

>>> 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.

UPDATE: OUR ZOOM LINK HAS CHANGED AS OF 2/10/25

Click [HERE](#) for our updated Zoom link for viewing our services, or go to Zoom and enter Meeting ID: 909 702 5487, Passcode: 338490.



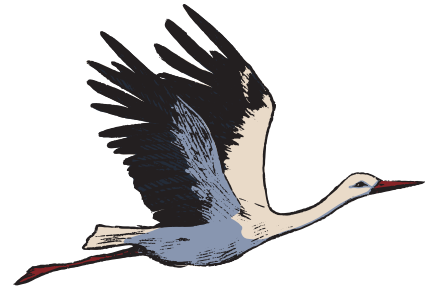
ALL ARE
WELCOME



JOIN US IN
COMMUNITY

UPCOMING EVENTS

2



SUNDAY SERVICE **OCTOBER 5, 4 PM,** **CUMC, 130 CHURCH LANE, PORT HADLOCK** **Joseph Bednarik: Gas Meet Fire!**

In our era of polarized and polarizing politics, public speech has seemingly become more corrosive and dehumanizing, and we're living in an anger-cycle of insult and reaction. This Sunday we envision what civil discourse sounds like, and explore what powers we need to cultivate to keep a lid on the gas can.



COMMUNITY POTLUCK **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 5 PM, CUMC**

Doors open at 4:30 to allow for more socializing.
As always, bring your own beverages and table settings, as well as a dish to share.

UPCOMING EVENTS

3

INAUGURAL HOME FELLOWSHIP FOR NAUA SUMMIT THE HOME OF JOYCE & NILS AT NORTH BEACH

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 4-6 PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 9-11 AM

Responding to a request that we hold services more than twice per month, the Board Retreat attendees determined to experiment with "Home Fellowship," gatherings in our homes to view a Zoom or Recorded service together. The upcoming 2025 NAUA Summit provides us with an opportunity to try this out.

Please consider joining one or both upcoming Home Fellowships at the home of Nils and Joyce in North Beach. To reserve a space and get directions, call Joyce at 301-512-6815 or go to <https://tinyurl.com/SSF-HomeFellowship>. Light refreshments will be available at both events.

Friday, October 3, 4-6 PM – Keynote Address: "Deep & Historic Roots of our Liberal Religion," with Rev. Előd Szabó and Rev. Dr. Todd Eklof, followed by a Q&A.

Rev. Előd Szabó has been Minister of the Unitarian Church in Ürmös, Transylvania (Romania) since 2007, and is also a District Dean of the Hungarian Unitarian Church. Rev. Előd will share some of these insights with us and help us better understand the deep and historic roots of our liberal religion. Rev. Dr. Todd Eklof is president of NAUA and minister of the UU Church of Spokane.

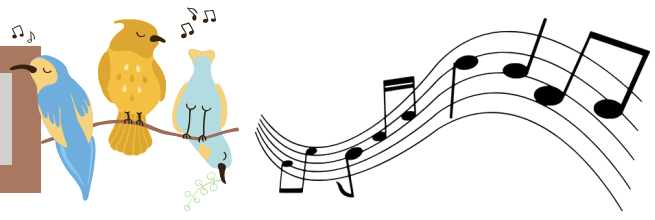
Sunday, October 5, 9-11 AM – Summit Worship Service: "What We Believe. Unitarian Reflections" by the Worship Services Committee, including the Salish Sea Singers, followed by open discussion.

To learn more about the 2025 NAUA Summit, see <https://naunitarians.org/2025-summit/>.

Questions? Contact Joyce at 301-512-6815 or joyce.francis.pt@gmail.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS



4



SUNDAY SERVICE
OCTOBER 19, 4 PM
CUMC, 130 CHURCH LANE
PORT HADLOCK

Salish Singers:
All Music Service!

Join us for a service full of music and joy, highlighting our own Salish Singers!



GAMES & SNACKS WITH FRIENDS

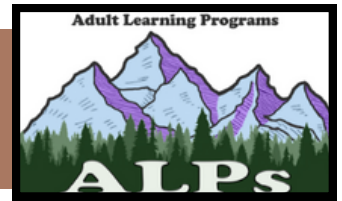
GAMES & SNACKS WITH FRIENDS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2 PM

Come Gather Together with SSF Friends for Food, Fun, & Games!

We are meeting on the 4th Sunday of every month for games and snacks. Join us on 10/26 for fun and laughter! **Location details coming soon.** Bring a snack for sharing and a beverage for you. Don't forget your winning smile and devil-may-care attitude! Please contact Karen Wamstad at (call/text) 650-452-4721 with questions.



ALPs (Adult Learning Programs)



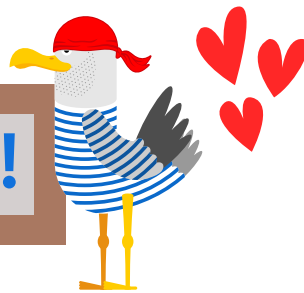
It's that wonderful time of year again, our beloved ALPs program launched its Fall Schedule on September 7! Fall ALPs programming will run from Sept. 19 through the end of the year. A flyer of ALPs offerings, as well as a link to sign up, are available on our Salish Sea Fellowship website [HERE](#).



LET'S TALK ABOUT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Salish Sea Fellowship has contributed nearly \$700 to the Port Hadlock Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) since the first of the year to help support their free food pantry and clothing closet. CUMC also runs a weekly soup kitchen, and Salish Sea volunteers provide soup (a gallon of veggie and a gallon with meat) and assistance on the third Saturday of each month. Additionally, Salish Sea contributors donate to local non-profits through our designated offerings.

Do you feel our fellowship should be involved in our community in any other way? What might that look like? Reach out to Kendra Golden and Kate Madson. Also, thanks so much to Kendra and Kate for their support feeding our community. We belong to each other.

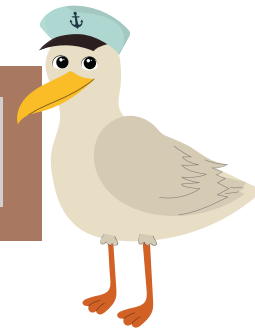


NEW SSF WEBSITE!

We are excited to announce that the Salish Sea Fellowship's new website is now live! Our address ([**salishseafellowship.org**](http://salishseafellowship.org)) is the same, the new platform is just more user-friendly and easier to keep you informed and updated. Our little Fellowship sure is growing up! Please know that the website is a work-in-progress and that Lily is continuing to update it!

SUPPORT REQUEST: We'd like the new website to be full of photos of our members and our community events. **Please send any photos to salishseafellowship@gmail.com.**

FROM YOUR SSF BOARD



What Do You Believe?

We are a community of free faith, each with our own carefully curated ideas and beliefs. On our new website, we include a section entitled **Who Are We**, and under that is tab entitled **Our Religion-What do We Believe?** In addition to a broad statement about our free faith and our Fellowship, we would love to include individual statements of personal belief, ideally a 3 or 4 minute video of you expressing your credo statement, your set of personal beliefs, whether those are Christian, Buddhist, Atheist, Humanist, or defying all labels (like many of us!).

So, if you would be comfortable expressing your personal belief statement to the world to help show who we are, please contact Doug Rodgers, who will coordinate this effort for us. We hope to post five or six videos, and if we get more than that, we can rotate the ones we have up on the web. **Doug can be reached at douglas.rodgers@sbcglobal.net.**



CARING AND CONCERNS TEAM

Breakfast Club: Breakfast Club continues during the fall months! As the seasons change, get together for good friends and lively conversation. Sarah, Karen, and others hang out on Wednesdays at **9:30 AM** at the **Bay View Restaurant**. Join together for coffee, tea, breakfast, or even pie. You could add ice cream (it's in the dairy group)!

Carpooling to Events: If you are interested in carpooling to events, please send an email to salishseafellowship@gmail.com. Tell us your preferred pickup location and phone number, and we will figure out a plan.



MEMBERSHIP



Membership Status: Consider Becoming a Member this Fall!

We are excited to welcome new members to the Salish Sea Fellowship Community this fall! Our community is growing and expanding thanks to our members. We'd love to have you join us!

You too may become a member of the Salish Sea Fellowship by filling out the application form (available [HERE](#)), and then being approved by the Board. All membership applications we have received have been approved by the Board. Join today! All are welcome!

HAHA!

UU JOKES OF THE WEEK



The annual meeting: "Some of us believe that the afterlife is much like an annual meeting of the congregation, but no one is sure if that's good or bad yet. We haven't seen the agenda".

The motel room: In a motel room run by UUs, instead of a Bible in the nightstand, you would find a copy of *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Herding cats: While a joke, it also functions as an allegory for leading UUs. The metaphor of "herding cats" points to the fiercely independent and stubborn nature of Unitarian Universalists, who nonetheless are capable of great cooperation when they choose to come together for a common purpose. See a real video of valiant attempts at cat herding [HERE](#).



Getting to Know the North American Unitarian Association (NAUA)

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To learn more about the NAUA, please visit their website **HERE**.

We've spent the last year building our new fellowship, and we've much to celebrate. The Salish Sea Fellowship has certainly surpassed my expectations, and I am grateful to all who have contributed to that success. Perhaps it is now time for us to engage with the growing number of other "Dissidents/Refugees" in North America and around the world.

In order to begin the discussion of the SSF joining the NAUA, I have created a 15-minute video telling a bit about the NAUA, which I hope will help inform that conversation. Please visit **https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uyJ6oozB7XDgVnqL6F-IJJwT2Q1c2_Hw/view?usp=share_link**

Additionally, it may be helpful for you to view/read two other items:

1. Learn more about NAUA's founder, Rev. Dr. Todd Eklof, and his story of "dis-fellowshipping" by the UUA. Watch his recent sermon recommended by Ron Strange, "Better than This: Are We?" at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hVNr8yM_mnw
2. Review Nils's article for the UUnderworld magazine on the Origin Story of our Fellowship at https://salishseafellowship.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/SSF-Origin-Story_-_Nils-Pedersen.docx.pdf

I encourage you to inform yourself about the NAUA in order to meaningfully engage in the conversations to come, but also to avail yourself of the services NAUA provides us all. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

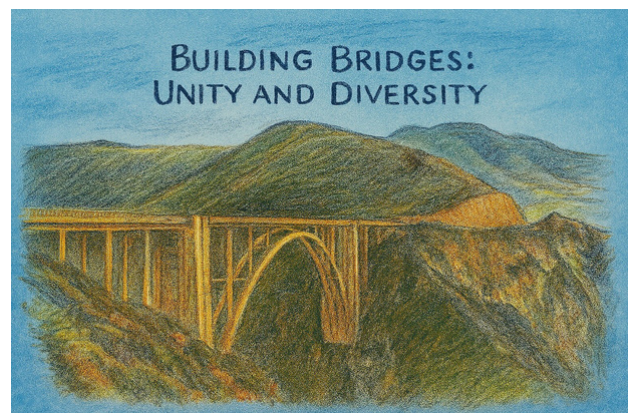
In gratitude,

Joyce Francis

joyce.francis.pt@gmail.com

The 2nd Annual NAUA Summit, September 30-October 3rd, will be entirely virtual this year. The theme is BUILDING BRIDGES: UNITY & DIVERSITY. Last year, six SSFers joined in person in Spokane, and many others joined online.

Please take a look at the programs and consider joining the summit. Enrollment is only \$50, and you can join whatever programs you wish. Note that we'll be voting on NAUA membership at our Annual Meeting in November, so this is another way to learn more about the organization.



Register for the NAUA Summit [HERE](#)!

COMMUNITY OFFERING

Learn more about
Food Bank Growers

[HERE](#)

Our Sunday Service offering is now taken in support of organizations doing important work in our community. If you know of deserving groups doing good work in our community, please send us your suggestions for such organizations by email to salishseafellowship@gmail.com. Please make sure that these groups are local non-profit organizations with 501(c)(3) status. For the offering, if you want to put money in the collection plate for any reason other than the Community Offering being supported on a particular Sunday (e.g. your pledge) you can do so by: 1. writing a check including instructions on where the money should go, or 2. If you want to give cash, placing it in one of the provided envelopes and write your name and instructions on the envelope. This allows us to credit you in our records.

Community Offering for October: Food Bank Growers



The Food Bank Growers network grows, gathers, and gives away nutritionally-dense fruits and vegetables to build healthy, vibrant communities, improve food security, and decrease food waste for our Jefferson County neighbors.

Thank you, Members & Friends! Through your generosity, Salish Sea Fellowship has donated well over \$3,000 to local nonprofits, including: Jefferson County Immigrants Rights Advocates, Jefferson County Food Bank Association, National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI), Chimacum Commons Project, Habitat for Humanity, Dove House, Sunfield Land for Learning, Center Valley Animal Rescue, and Bayside Housing. We are so humbled by the kindness of our community.



ARCHIVE OF SUNDAY SERVICES

If you miss a Sunday Service, don't forget that we have a **Salish Sea Fellowship YouTube Channel** with a full archive of all of our Sunday Services! Access our YouTube Channel [HERE](#), or through our webpage [HERE](#). Enjoy a past service in the comfort of your own home with a warm cup of coffee!



HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS

Our hosts, the Community United Methodist Church (CUMC), staff a free food pantry on Saturdays from 10 to 1:00. Wet and cold weather is coming, and food insecurity is a serious problem for many of our neighbors – some of whom live in their cars or without full kitchens. **Please donate non-perishable food (no out-of-date donations) such as individual pull-tab cans of chili, stew, hash and spam, or packets of hot chocolate, coffee, and pasta with sauce.** You can bring donations on any Sunday and leave them in the church or place them on the desk in the pantry.

The CUMC General Store is currently in need of:

- Protein Drinks & Bars
- Peanut Butter & Jelly & Crackers
- Pull tab cans of Chili, Stew, Span, Chicken, Pork, Vienna Sausages, etc.
- Pasta with sauce (small packages)
- Coffee & Hot Chocolate & Cranberry juice (single packages)
- Toilet Paper (2-ply)
- Fall and winter items will be needed shortly

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. 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.**

