

Edition #30

October 14, 2025

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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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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.



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

Salish Singers:
All Music Service!

It's a celebration! We celebrate our lives by singing. Today we will sing along to a variety of songs led by Wild Rose Chorale, George Stanley and Terri Copeland, Pat Killian, and the Salish Singers.



GAMES & SNACKS WITH FRIENDS



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2 PM

We are meeting on the 4th Sunday of every month for games and snacks with friends!

Join us for fun and laughter hosted by JoEllen and Al Thompson at the Towne Point Clubhouse, located at 2240 Towne Pt Ave, Port Townsend. Bring a snack for sharing, and a beverage and a cup for yourself. Don't forget your winning smile and devil-may-care attitude! Thank you so much to the Thompsons for hosting this enjoyable event. With so much going on all around us, laughter is even more imperative than ever.

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, too!

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. All are welcome!

UU JOKES OF THE WEEK

The children in a UU fellowship school class were drawing pictures. The teacher asked one, "What are you drawing a picture of?"

"I'm drawing a picture of God," was the reply.

"But nobody knows what God looks like," objected the teacher.

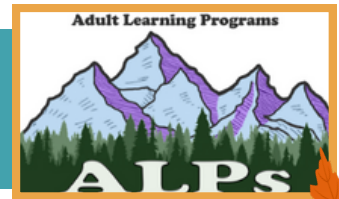
"They will," said the child, "in a minute."



Here's a picture of the original search engine.



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.**

Notice to Members:

The Annual Meeting of the Members of the Salish Sea Fellowship will be held on Sunday, November 9, at the Community United Methodist Church in Port Hadlock.

Check-in for members will start about 3pm, and the meeting will begin at 3:30. Non-members may attend if they wish but may not be recognized during the meeting and are not allowed to vote. Our potluck (open to all) will follow the meeting. Materials for the meeting will be sent to all members no later than October 26th, and will include an agenda, proxy materials and the proposed Annual Budget for 2026. Note that we are considering a vote of the Fellowship on joining the North American Unitarian Association (NAUA, discussed in our Community Updates for some time). Please also note that last year we elected six members to the Board of Directors, each for a two-year term. As such, we have one open slot on the Board this year (our Bylaws allow up to seven board members). Anyone interested in Board service should contact Nils Pedersen at nilsepedersen@gmail.com. Once our budget is set at the meeting and our Board has an opportunity to meet, we will set a target amount for pledges to be raised to keep the Fellowship going through 2026. Please note that we hope to have all pledges returned by the end of the current year. Join us!





LIGHTHOUSE GROUPS

Many of us seek deeper spiritual and personal connection, as well as the opportunity to talk meaningfully and openly about our hopes, fears and beliefs. As such, we hope to start one or more Lighthouse Groups (also previously known as Covenant Groups) to allow our members and friends the opportunity for this deeper connection. Typically, these types of groups meet several times a month, either at a member's home or at the Fellowship, and the meeting involves both personal check-ins and topical discussion. Ten of our Salish Sea members have been part of the same group for years, and it has become a meaningful and important part of their lives. As such, the members of this group hope to start new groups in our Fellowship to allow others this deeper connection, and at least three of our group will help the new group(s) get started. **After the music service on October 19, instead of our usual Q&A session, any of you that are interested in joining should meet in the Music Room at CUMC to talk about how this works, what we get out of it and how to get started.** If you can't make the service on the 19th, there will be opportunities to sign up afterward. Any questions at this point may be sent to Nils at nilsepedersen@gmail.com.

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.



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

SOCK-TOBER MONTH!



Our open-hearted hosts, the Community United Methodist Church, are encouraging folks to donate warm socks, and other cozy clothes, as winter approaches. Let's help keep our friends and neighbors warm this season! Feel free to bring items to donate to our next community event. Email [**cumc.donate@gmail**](mailto:cumc.donate@gmail.com) with any questions.

COMMUNITY OFFERING

Learn more about
Food Bank Growers

[HERE](#)

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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.**

