

## A Sacred Place

On the National Register of Historic Places, tiny Emmanuel Episcopal Parish sits upon a rocky ledge overlooking Puget Sound on the Pacific Northwest island of Orcas. Winds and weather, massaged by the Japanese current, breathe fresh spirit into her 19th century white clapboard sides. In the lull between tides, sea gulls seek repose high on her peaked roof; their avian hymns of prayer and thanksgiving echo through the center of the quaint town of Eastsound. It is here, atop ancient and sacred Native American soil that parishioners dream of placing a permanent labyrinth. But today, between the notes of a cello, a canvas labyrinth, adorned with spring flowers, is laid out and readied for the first World Labyrinth Day Walk. "The present joins with the ancient and the sacred in a space where there is no time."



Labyrinth Facilitator

Nancy Ayer

Orcas Island, WA

### About the Author:

An island person, Nancy lives on land with strong connections to the ancient. She and her husband divide their time between St. Croix in the US Virgin Islands, where they restored an 18 century sugar plantation. On the property of her second home, located on Orcas Island, WA., a 14,000 year old bison skull and bones were discovered. Sensing a strong message, Nancy often writes about her life in two worlds, both literal and metaphorical. Nancy is presently completing her requirements to be a Veriditas Certified Labyrinth Facilitator. She enjoys teaching labyrinth workshops to all ages. She also speaks on the connection between the soul, ancient mythology and the labyrinth.

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