

# ★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY! Happy Anniversary

Nita Johnson 2/2  
 Tom Booth 2/4  
 Susan Thiel 2/6  
 Linnea Barnhart 2/10  
 Jason Becker 2/10  
 Chad Gillespie 2/11  
 Audrey Bates 2/13  
 Aimee Becker 2/16  
 Aaron Schielke 2/16  
 Nancy Ray 2/17  
 Jillian Florent 2/18  
 Muriel Dodge 2/19  
 Martha Rabura 2/19  
 Andy Cotey 2/21  
 Steve Weir 2/24

John and Sirpa Brock 2/2  
 Greg and Susan Gilbert 2/5  
 Rich and Ersle Gregersen 2/6  
 Arnold and Delores Hammond 2/14  
 Ernest and Jan Janzen 2/14  
 Tony and Diane LaMagna 2/18



prayer of our hearts....

SAVIOR GOD,  
 We greet a Bless-ed new year in  
 expectation that,  
 with your help, our  
 Acts of Kindness be as numerous  
 as the Stars  
 Our Understanding be as cleansing  
 as the Rain  
 Our Welcome of others be as  
 warm as the Sun  
 Our Mercy and Compassion be as  
 refreshing as a cool Breeze.  
 AMEN

Sharon Schmid

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Pastor: Chuck Slocum  
 Lay Associate: Marsha Wright  
 Youth: Karyn Crawford  
 Secretary: Megan Adrig

Preschool Director: Janean Moriarty  
 Preschool: 360.865.0510



**Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper Feb. 9 at 6pm**

**Ash Wednesday Service Feb. 10 at 7pm**

**MISSION AUCTION 2016**

**Sunday, Feb. 21, 11 AM.**



## **GAB FROM THE GAVEL** Kelle Horn, council president

Drinks on the rock(s)....

Thank you everyone for attending our Annual Meeting last Sunday. It was productive and (to my surprise) most felt brief as well. Who would have imagined we would be spending the majority of our time discussing beer, wine and the rock in front?

At the meeting it was decided by a 75 to 25 vote to include a provision in our rental agreement to allow beer and wine to be served in Grace Hall. For those of you who could not attend, please know that the Facility Vision Committee has done a great deal of due diligence and research into the requirements that will be included on the rental agreement to protect Vinland Lutheran Church.

The inscription for the large rock in the front parking lot was voted on and by a slim margin, the following was determined to be the winner:

**ALL ARE WELCOME  
VINLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH  
EST. 1904**

As explained at the meeting, the final design on the rock will be decided by the artist and the ability to fit all the words on the rock, if we are not able to have 3 lines of text, we will drop the name of the church as it appears in many other prominent places on the property. Stay tuned for artist's mock up...

Lastly we passed the budget which with a 4.5% increase over 2015 allowed us to give the pastor and staff a deserved raise, increase our budget for our music and continue improving our fellowship and worship life at Vinland.

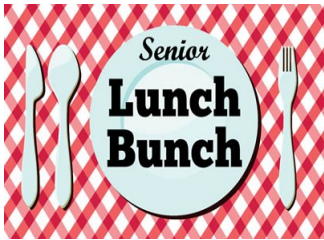
I want to thank everyone for their cheerful giving! We hope to grow the congregation and the rental of Grace Hall to make these modest increases that much easier to absorb.

***Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. 2 Cor 13:11***

## Pastor Chuck: Serving, Studying, Lunching, Deliberating

**WELCOME** to Shauna Becker (Education), Lou Youngs (Secretary), Dan Carlson (Property) and Jen Nelson (Evangelism) as the new members of our church council.

**THANKS** from the Mission Team and Preschool for the many donations we have been receiving for our Feb. 21 auction!



**LUNCH BUNCH @ The Swensons!:** Monday, March 7, 11:30 AM

This month we are gathering at the home of Phil and Julie Swenson next door to the church for a home-cooked meal in some gracious surroundings.

**LECTIONARY LUNCH** will be on break during the Lenten Season  
THE PLAN IS TO RESUME OUR LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY IN APRIL.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Saturday, March 5, 8:00 AM @ Vinland

Our gathering of brothers will include lots of carbs & coffee to enjoy. We will also discuss, debate, & dispute a current event.

**NEXT CONFIRMATION CLASS:** Saturday, March 5th, 10 AM !

This year we have twelve students (my largest class yet) who are working through Luther's Catechism. This coming class the Swensons are hosting. We will be discussing the sacraments and baptizing some stuff animals.

**MEXICO MISSION** (March 31-April 8, 2016) registration CLOSED

We have 27 students and adults for our house-building trip. VAMANOS!!!

**FINAL MISSION PREPARATION:** Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup> @ 5 PM

This will be our final briefing before we depart for our mission. Our agenda will include finances, packing lists, itineraries, devotions and lotso pizza.



**DIALOGUE ON DRAFT** Monday, February 29th, 5 PM, Campana's  
We are meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> Monday (not the 4<sup>th</sup>) on Leap Year. Join us for the sometimes informative, sometimes provocative, sometimes intimate, and always lively gathering of saints and sinners at Campana's. This month Matt Clucas will be presenting on the legal & parental concerns around social media. So bring your questions for Vinland's resident expert.

## Barb's Backyard by Barbara Erickson



It was an accident, really, that I found both of them, lying there next to each other in the sand. By all reasoning, one of them should have been washed away, carried off by the gulls, or crushed beneath careless feet. I picked them up gently, feeling their coolness against my hands; they were totally clean, polished, surf-washed. In my left hand, the flatter of the two - its smooth inner surface iridescent and glowing. Only slight ripples marred it. Those, and the flat scar where its muscle once had been attached. The outer surface rougher, with concentric growth patterns extending out from one edge, rippled, and matte white. In my right hand, the larger, deeper one - less iridescent, more rippled, its scar larger and slightly discolored. This one grew perfectly, as though meticulously planted, out of a black, triangular, flat rock. Another smaller rock propped it up, so that when set on a flat surface it stood on its own, tipped up and at a slight angle. The outer side of this one was rugged, the ripples of its layers forming rolling wavelike patterns with tinges of lavender and deep purple. Carefully, I turned the flat one over in my left hand and placed it together with the other one. The fit was perfect, as I knew it would be.

For this was its design: where one was larger and deeper, the other was smaller and more shallow. Over time, each had grown to accommodate the other - one curved out where the other curved in - so that the fit between the two was flawless. At one end, as if finely tooled, the hinge, where tough fiber once held the two together.

In many ways, my husband and I are not at all alike. When it comes to making decisions, I tend to think hard, turning things over and over, trying to see all sides. Bill is much more decisive and to the point, seeing the "either - or" quickly. In dealing with others he can be brusque, telling it exactly as he sees it. I treasure tact and gentleness, trying not to offend or hurt feelings. He is organized and neat, putting things away as used, and in their proper places. I'm organized too, but in a different fashion, with various piles and hidden stashes just waiting for further attention. In so many areas, we just operate totally differently.

I have much in common with friends, but there are glaring differences there, also. Sometimes, as we each go about things in our own special way, annoyances crop up. But I have come to see how these differences - whether between friends or spouses - enrich us all. There is a time for quick decision, as well as for thought and scope. A place for "handling with kid gloves" as well as "telling it like it is". Where I am weak, someone else is bound to be strong. It is in fitting our strength into another's weakness, and allowing their strength to fill in our gaps, that we both become more complete. It's not always easy, for sometimes we rub each other the wrong way. But if the tough fiber of love and commitment hold us together, even these irritations can result in a pearl.

I've kept that oyster shell - the two halves make a beautiful whole.

*For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.*

*I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.*

*My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place.*

*When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body.*

*Psalms 139: 13 - 15*



auction!

**Mission Auction 2016!**  
Sun, February 21 at 11am  
*Cookies & Carnitas*  
Lunch and a really fun live and silent auction. Benefits the Mexico mission trip and the preschool.

**MEXICO** MISSION TRIP



The auction committee is working hard to orchestrate a fun event that is filled with good times, great food and wonderful auction items. Some of the things you will be able to bid on include:

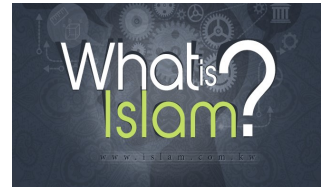
- Salmon and Steak dinner with the Slocum's and the Deitch's
- Beachie's homemade pies!
- Gift certificates to local businesses including; Red Robin, Toys Etc., Boehm's Chocolates, See Films and Savage Plants
- Dinner Experiences with the Kings, Glenn and Beachie, and the Swensons and Schmids and the Rabura's.
- A week's stay at the Rabura's Mt. Rainier cabin
- Waterfront - 3rd of July Firework party for eight
- Starbuck's gift basket
- Bird feeding supplies
- One of a kind art from our preschoolers and members too!
- And much more. Your unique donation will help add to the fun. Please consider donating an item, a service or an experience today!

All attendees are asked to preregister for the Auction - Feb 21st at 11am. The Amy's (Munns and Hochlater) will be taking registrations between services on all the Sundays prior to the event. Or you can email [amy@amymunns.com](mailto:amy@amymunns.com) to let her know you are attending. We need an accurate count to ensure we have enough of our yummy (and free) dinner.

# news for and about women

## Women of Vinland

*All Women of the Church, don't miss this!* Special program at the Women of Vinland meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 17. Pastor Chuck will be facilitating a discussion about Islam following the viewing of an excellent video. Hostesses are Beachie Settle and Catrina Stroud, and Catrina will also share a devotion. This is a great time to come and check us out! Meet in Haugen Hall at 10am. All are welcome!



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** is Friday, March 4 at 2pm at Vinland. The Women of Vinland and the Women of Summit Avenue Presbyterian Church in Bremerton are co-sponsoring this year's event. World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. Please join us for an inspirational and informative service followed by a social hour with refreshments. This year's theme is "Receive Children, Receive Me" and focuses on Cuba's rich history and cultural diversity. Invite friends!

*Check out all the improvements to the Haugen Hall kitchen AND the new tables. Thanks to all who contributed money, time and talent to this project that was instigated by the Women of Vinland.*



**Love is in the air and** in the Valentine treats that the Women of Vinland will be selling on Sunday, Feb. 14 between services. Buy some sweets for your family and friends, dessert for your Valentine dinner, or just indulge yourself. Proceeds will go to support our various projects for the church and the community. Pies, cookies, candy, caramel corn, jams...we'll have it



## Women of Grace

**First & Third Mondays of each month at 6:30pm**

This is a mixed-age group of interesting, fun-loving women who gather on the first and third Mondays for tea and cookies, prayer and discussion.

We will meet on Feb. 1 and 22. This is a change. We will NOT MEET ON FEB. 15, due to the holiday.

## Quilters meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 9am

A committed group gathers at church to put together quilts for Lutheran World Relief. No experience necessary, and...there is never-ending coffee and lunch!



**Women's Breakfast** is now being held on the **FIRST SATURDAY** of each month at 8:30 at Envy.

# kids and LOFT news

## FEBRUARY in the LOFT

**WEDNESDAYS** FEB 10 Meet at 6pm and then we'll attend the Ash Wed. Service at 7pm  
FEB 17 Meet at 6pm and we'll worship at 7pm  
FEB 24 Meet at 6pm and we'll worship at 7pm  
**SUNDAYS** Sunday School every Sunday except Fe. 21.

**HIGH SCHOOL LEAP DAY SKI RETREAT Feb. 26-28. RSVP Karyn ASAP**

**SYNOD YOUTH GATHERING MARCH 4-6 at Camp Berachah in Auburn.** Registration forms are in the LOFT and are due Feb. 21. \$65 per person if you have participated in fundraising, \$130 if you haven't.

**ON-GOING SERVICE PROJECT** is helping Susan Gilbert make waterproof sleep mats for homeless teens. Bring in grocery-type plastic bags. We can never have



**FEB. PARENT'S NIGHT OUT SAT, FEB. 20, 5-9pm**

Plan an evening out! Bring your kids to church for dinner and lots of play-time. Cost is \$10 per child. Kids **MUST** be potty-trained. There is a sign-up sheet in Grace Hall.

**FAMILY CAMP 2016 We will discover "More Than Gold" at our Olympic Games in Rio! Mark you Calendar now! July 22-28.**

**LOVE LIFE  
LIVE  LENT  
TRANSFORM YOUR WORLD**

*EACH FAMILY* received a small booklet during Advent. It had great suggestions for daily and weekly ways to celebrate Advent in the home.

I have a booklet from the same authors for Lent. Each family will receive one. They are not dated, so can be used year after year. Take the time to look it over and use some or all of the activities at home.

Bring the whole family to Wednesday soup suppers and stay for worship



*Through their weekly Sunday School offerings, Advent banks, and the sale of car stickers, the kids gathered \$190 to purchase animals through SERV. They decided to buy 2 goats, 1 hive of bees and 7 chicks.*



**JUNE 27-30**

**PRE-K THROUGH  
HIGH SCHOOL**

**Our second year of  
high energy fun for**

**kids! Looking for volunteers to make this  
an incredible week.**

# preschool news



*God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.  
1 John 4:16*

Vinland Lutheran Preschool is abounding in love! We use this season of love to emphasize the love God has for each little one of us and our responsibility to share His love with each other. Our preschoolers are generous with their love, hugs, affection and helpfulness. They shine bright with God's love.

Thank you for your support with our annual Sack Lunch Fundraiser. We hope you enjoyed your lunches before the Annual Meeting this year. The preschool families and board donated all of the food and prepared the lunches lovingly for you. We were able to sell 86 lunches and bring in \$734 to support our preschool ministry. THANK YOU!

At the end of January, we had a very snugly Pajama Day to wind up our camping week. During January we explored Snowmen, Clothing, and completed a Claire Freedman author study. The children enjoy chances to experience the new information through dramatic play, art and sensory exploration; making it part of their own experience. Every day we incorporate math, science, pre-writing and pre-reading through extra-fun, engaging activities.

Registration for the 2016-17 school year is open for current families and congregation members. We will open to the public at our Open House on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12pm. We will continue to offer 3 classes, taught by Lori Van Vlerah and Lynn Florent.

Contact: Janean Moriarty at [preschool@vinlandlc.org](mailto:preschool@vinlandlc.org) or (360)865-0510.

CLASSES	DAYS	TIMES	AGE BY 8/31/16	REGIS. FEE	TUITION
Dragonflies	Tues,Wed,Th	9:15-12:00	3-5 years	\$75	\$2150/yr
Honeybees	Tues,Wed,Th	12:45-3:30	3-5 years	\$75	\$2150/yr
Grasshoppers	Fridays	9:30-11:30	2-3 years	\$75	\$750/yr



# and the envelope please....

## KRISTINE CLUCAS PREDICTS....

I love movies (arthouse films, blockbusters, documentaries, etc. – basically everything but horror), so I always look forward to the Oscars. I have never felt that the Oscars necessarily award the best films of the year (after all, *Shakespeare in Love* won Best Picture over *Saving Private Ryan* in 1998), but for the past several years, I have made it a goal to see all of the nominees for Best Picture, as well as the films with acting nominations (Best Actor/Actress, Best Supporting Actor/Actress), because it encourages me to see films that I might not typically see or find at the local theater in Poulsbo. I am typically successful in seeing all of the Best Picture nominees, but only one year have I been able to see all of the acting nominations as well (for example, I don't think *45 Years*, which has a Best Actress acting nomination, ever came to Kitsap County in 2015).

There are 8 films nominated for Best Picture of 2015. I still have one film left to see, and I will admit I have been dragging my feet to see *Mad Max: Fury Road*, although several friends have said they really enjoyed it. (I will get around to seeing it before the Oscars.)

Out of the other 8 Best Picture nominees, the ones I enjoyed the most were *Brooklyn* (a simple, beautiful story of love and discovering where your real home is), and *The Big Short* (it was hilarious and depressing at the same time – aside from the R-rated language, it would be a great film to show in Economics classes to help explain the housing market implosion of 2008). My runners-up are *Spotlight* and *The Martian*. All of the Best Picture nominees had merit, but I can't say I enjoyed all of them (*The Revenant* was visually stunning, had great acting and was well made, but I couldn't wait until it was over).

Out of the non-Best Picture nominated films released in 2015, I enjoyed many. The ones I loved enough to see more than once were *Inside Out* (nominated for Best Animated Feature, which I am sure it will win; how is it that Pixar knows how to create animated films that make me cry?) and *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*. (I am stating for the record that I am a huge fan of the original *Star Wars* films (i.e. Episodes IV-VI), and NOT a fan of the prequels (Episodes I-III)). It's been a great year at the movies – I laughed, I cried, I got angry, I learned a lot, and I was transported. I am looking forward to seeing what great movies arrive in 2016!

## MEGAN ADRIG PREDICTS....



I have always said that if I could earn a living watching movies, I would be a rich woman. Alas, no one is knocking down my door with such an opportunity, so my love of movies remains a hobby. I will watch almost anything. It is a rare movie I am unwilling to see (though *Mad Max: Fury Road*, nominated for Best Picture this year, comes close). Unlike my fellow movie connoisseur, Kristine, I will absolutely see horror movies – the scarier and gorier, the better!

Bring it on!

That being said, I will spare you my horror movie recommendations (though feel free to inquire!). Instead, here are two of my top movie picks from the past year. *Brooklyn*, nominated for Best Picture this year, is the story of an Irish immigrant, Eilis, who lands in 1950's Brooklyn, looking for a better life in the land of opportunity. It is your quintessential love story – one full of joy and laughter, heartache and tears. Torn between her loyalty to her family and country and her newfound life and love in America, Eilis must choose where she belongs. It's a beautiful, heart-swelling kind of movie. Can't get much better than that!

My other pick for 2015 is not nominated for anything at the Oscars this year, but I mention it here because it has left a lasting impression with me. *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl* is the quirky story (my favorite kind!) of awkward teenagers who come together in a life and death situation. Greg spends his high school career avoiding social cliques and conflict alongside his "co-worker" Earl, who helps him film brilliant parodies of classic movies. When Greg's offbeat parents force him to befriend Rachel, a former childhood friend who's recently been diagnosed with Leukemia, he finds himself becoming attached to and caring for another person, something he's managed to avoid thus far. It's a smart, clever film that reminds us of the importance of and gift in our meaningful connections with others.

As for my prediction for which movie will win Best Picture this year, I believe it will go to *The Revenant*. Grueling to film (by most accounts) and hard to watch at times, it is truly an impressive piece of filmmaking. And if Leonardo DiCaprio doesn't win his first Oscar for his role in this film, he should just give up now. It won't get any better than this for him.

While we all wait with baited breath for the next *Star Wars* installment in 2017, here's hoping we have plenty of good movies to entertain us until then.

## the season of lent



### Fat TUESDAY Pancake Dinner

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 6 PM**

The Mighty Men's Breakfast cooks will be providing lots of pancakes and fixings. Come and join us for lots of carbs and plenty of syrup. This is always a joyful and down-home at Vinland for families and seniors alike!

### *Ash Wednesday Worship, February 10 at 7 PM*

Please gather with us to begin the Season of Lent. This is a solemn service filled with meanings and symbols. We are marked by the sign of the cross in ash to remember our mortality. We confess our sins and share the Lord's Supper to ready ourselves for the journey through Lent and Holy Week.



***Lenten Wednesdays:  
Soup Supper at 6 PM  
& Compline at 7 PM***

***"The Power of Jesus'  
Words"***

Please reserve your Wednesdays to join us for the Season of Lent. After delicious soup and animated conversation in Grace Hall, we will move to the sanctuary for a contemplative service with dramatic monologues. Our theme this Lent is the "Power of Jesus' Words" based on the last seven words of Christ from the cross. The services will lead us to Holy Week.

## SUNDAYS AT TWO CONCERT ON FEBRUARY 28



Come, Relax and enjoy an afternoon of music! Invite friends. There will be a reception following.



**MISSION AUCTION DONATION FORM**  
**Use one form for each item**

**We are seeking goods and services to be auctioned off in support of Vinland's Preschool Ministry and the Youth/Adult House-Building mission to Mexico in the spring.**

**Use your imagination and donate!**

**DONOR INFORMATION:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address, City, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATION INFORMATION:**

**Please describe in detail the item you are planning to donate:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate any restrictions, blackout dates, and expiration date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fair Market Value of Item \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate how you would like to deliver your donation**

\_\_\_\_\_ **I will bring my item to the church**

\_\_\_\_\_ **I need my item picked up**

**Signature of Donor:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_