

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

Sirpa Brock 11/1
 Kathryn McCluskey 11/1
 Maren Swanson 11/6
 Christopher Clucas 11/7
 Kyle Cotey 11/7
 Glenn Settle 11/8
 Peter Hansen 11/11
 Jill Krema 11/11
 Jon Nelson 11/12
 Debbie Cotey 11/12
 Matt Holman 11/13
 Melissa Warren 11/13
 Conner Warren 11/15
 Kyle Oster 11/18
 Alexis Duncan 11/19
 Corey Oster 11/22
 Donna Breuer 11/24
 Carol Hein 11/30

Happy Anniversary

Dick & Lonnie Swanson 11/2
 Aaron & Mari Schielke 11/13
 John & Carol Bartlett 11/18
 Michael & Christine Warbois 11/21



With Sympathy

Sad News to Share....

Our dear friend Jackie Day passed away a week ago. She attended Vinland and was a vital part of Women of Grace for several years until leukemia kept her away.

Gary Mueller, husband of Vicki Rova, died suddenly at home. He is the son-in-law of Marian and brother-in-law of John.

Pastor Lori Hoyum of Port Madison on Bainbridge died of cancer Wednesday, Oct. 26.

Ed and Jan Hakanson's great-granddaughter Nessa Marie died of complications of a premature birth.

NOVEMBER 2016

VINLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH est.1904
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Interim Pastors: Sigi Helgesen & Marty Dasler
 Lay Associate: Marsha Wright
 Youth: Karyn Crawford
 Secretary: Megan Adrig

Preschool Director: Janean Moriarty
 Preschool: 360.865.0510
 E-Mail: preschool@vinlandlc.org



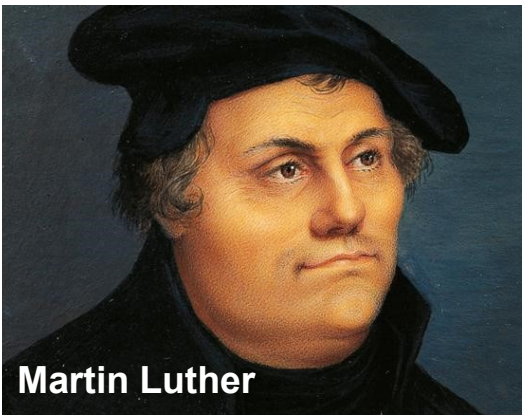
November Worship

9:15 Traditional Style and Sunday School

10:15 Coffee Time

10:15-10:45 Youth Sunday School

10:45 Contemporary Style and Kid's Church



Martin Luther

Getting in Over Our Heads

Pastor Martin Dasler



the VINYARD

Vinland Lutheran Church Nov. 2016



As many of you know I went to Saint George, Utah for the World Senior Games earlier this month. I learned about these game from teachers who taught at Breidablik School with my wife Claire. They were going to Las Vegas for a book club hosted by a former colleague who now lives in Las Vegas. Some planned to stop in St

George and watch or participate in the Games. I told Claire, "If I'm going, I want to participate in something." After looking at the more than 50 events I choose the uphill bicycle race. This ride ascends Snow Creek Canyon and gains 1000 feet in 5 kilometers. I started training on my old REI bike by peddling up the hills of Poulsbo including the hill behind Central Market. I made steady gains, and by late September I thought I was in pretty good shape. When we arrived in St George I took one practice run up the hill. My goal was to finish in under 25 minutes. That first ride was almost 26.

The next morning as I approached the starting line at my appointed time, I noticed all the fancy high tech bikes. Everyone had clip on shoes and most were warming up on stationary bikes. My bike still has old toe baskets. I suddenly had that sinking feeling that I was in over my head. As I approached the start line the announcer said **"And here's someone on a town bike; at least he won't get a backache."** (a comment on my straight handlebars, and carry rack). I made my goal with a time of 23:44 which placed me 9th out of 12 in my division.

These Games had 11,000 participants from 34 different countries. Olympian Debbie Meyer, who won 3 gold medals in the 1968 Olympics, gave an inspiring speech and lit the ceremonial torch. I was inspired watching these athletes so dedicated to their sports. I watched a 94 year woman dive into the pool and swim a length of butterfly as she completed a 100-meter individual medley.

In a few days we celebrate Reformation Day on October 31st. We commemorate the day Martin Luther nailed his 95 statements to the church door in Wittenberg in 1517.

He too had no idea what was in store for him. By his actions he ignited a torch that burned across Germany and Europe. The Statements began with an invitation to participate in an open debate or submit opinions in writing. Luther hoped that this debate would lead to some reforms. I wonder if he ever thought he was in over his head. What he got was excommunication and a church split. The Christian world changed forever after that October day 499 years ago.

As I returned to Poulsbo at the end of October nothing much had changed for me. I'm not getting a new bike and will ride mostly for the enjoyment of the ride. But as I found inspiration in the many participants in St George, so we today find encouragement for our own faith from those theological athletes in 1517.

Coming Soon

prayer TOUR

WED, NOV. 2 6:30PM

We are taking our prayers “on the road” around town and distributing some of our painted Kitsap Rocks. This is a LOFT event that is open to EVERYONE.



DIALOGUE ON DRAFT

Will meet on Nov. 28 at Elmer's in Poulsbo at 5pm.

We will use their back room for our lively discussion. Food and all types of beverages are available!



PINOCHLE November 18. This is a group that meets just to have a great time. If you want to play, please sign up in Grace Hall.

CRIBBAGE players meet on the second Friday of the month at 1pm for a friendly game and a root beer float! Just show up in Haugen Hall!



SENIOR LUNCH BUNCH will meet on Monday, Nov. 7 at 11:30 at Pho in Poulsbo Village next to Harrison's Shoes. Please sign up so we can tell the restaurant how many are coming.

ALL MEN are invited to a great breakfast on Nov. 5 at 8am at church. Hearty Food and Healthy Conversation! Bring a friend along.

What's happening



Preschool Sunday is November 6th during the 10:45 worship service. We have invited our preschoolers and their families to join us for worship and share a song with the congregation. Make sure to introduce yourself and welcome our visitors. After the service, join us for an Open House in the preschool. Come explore our classroom, see our students' work and enjoy a cookie or two.

On Preschool Sunday, you will have the chance to give to the **Nancy Pearson Tuition Assistance Fund for Preschool**. Nancy Pearson loved children and knew how important it is for each child to receive a quality education in a safe, loving environment. Upon her death, her husband Bruce established the Tuition Assistance Fund to provide for families who would otherwise be unable to afford to send their child to preschool. Each year since 2008, families have received assistance. Our goal is to continue to offer assistance when needed. You may also contribute to the Discovery Garden for outdoor upkeep, or the preschool general fund to help with materials, equipment and activities. Thank you in advance for any contribution you may be able to make.

The Preschool Board and Staff thank Carol Hein for the generous memorial donation on behalf of her father, Harold Harley Haaland. We will be adding a freestanding loft to our classroom. This has been on our teachers' wish list for many years. We are very grateful to bring this new interactive space to our students.

Vinland Lutheran Preschool is currently at full enrollment. Thank you for your prayers and ongoing support of this family ministry.

Contact: Janean Moriarty preschool@vinlandlc.org (360)865-0510
Like us on Facebook at Vinland Lutheran Preschool.



Calling all moms and moms-to-be! Are you looking for community? Do you want to meet other moms in a safe and friendly environment? Then come out to a Stroller Strides/Stroller Barre class with FIT4MOM Bainbridge-Poulsbo. **FIT4MOM** is a community and fitness group for moms with children of all ages!

We have classes daily and at **Vinland Lutheran Church on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30-10:30 am**. We also have weekly playgroups! Your first class is FREE! For more information, please check out our website at bainbridge-poulsbo.fit4mom.com or contact Magda at magdapratt@fit4mom.com.



Potato Bar at 6pm Wed, November 23

Bring your favorite potato dish.
Thanksgiving Service at 7pm
Family Friendly Evening!

Advent Begins Sunday, November 27 Advent marks the beginning of the church year.

It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which is the Sunday nearest Nov. 30th, and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent means “coming” and the focus is on the first coming of Jesus Christ as well as anticipation of the return of Christ in his second coming.

We light four candles on an evergreen Advent wreath. Three candles are blue, which is a symbol of royalty. At Vinland the third candle we light is pink, signifying joy.

On Christmas Eve, four white candles adorn the wreath, as we celebrate Jesus’ coming as the light that no darkness can overcome.

Red and green (secular Christmas colors) are not used as liturgical colors during Advent or Christmas. We generously use fresh greens during advent, and adorn the altar area with white poinsettias for Christmas, since white and gold are liturgical Christmas colors.



Wednesday Soup Suppers and Holden Vespers

Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21. Soup @6pm; Vespers @ 7pm.

Youth will provide the meal on Dec. 7 Sign up and bring some soup or bread for the other two weeks. Clean-up help is always needed. Invite friends and family to come; this is a peaceful mid-week pause in an otherwise busy season. Totally family-friendly!

November 6 is ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, a day in the church year where we remember the saints that have gone before us. We thank God for the gift of knowing them, the legacy they have passed on to us and our church, and the way their lives have been a signpost of God’s grace in the world. On this day, we want to remember specifically those who have died since last All Saints Day as part of our extended Vinland Lutheran Church family:



WOMEN'S

groups

Women ^{of the} **ELCA** 

Vinland Women gather on the third Wednesday of the month for lunch, Bible Study, singing, business and fun! Next meeting is Wednesday, November 16 from 10am-noon. All women are welcome to come and bring a friend. It is ThankOffering Time for the group.



Women of Grace

We meet the first and third Mondays of each month at 6:30pm in Grace Hall. We are a group of mixed-age women who love to laugh, discuss new ideas, share stories and enjoy a cup of tea. We begin with prayer and end with a benediction. Talk to Marsha Wright at 621-6983 or e-mail at randmwright@gmail.com if you have any questions. Friends always welcome!



The Vinland Quilters continue to bring quilts to Seattle twice a year, (school kits and baby care kits in the fall and quilts and baby kits in the spring). We meet every Tuesday 9-12 to reach those who can't make certain Tuesdays. Lu Tingelstad almost single handedly prepares the baby kits, Jan Janzen sews almost all of the school kits, Karen Oster blessed us with some home knitted sweaters and caps and we welcome anyone to join us whenever possible. We appreciate the donations we get from the congregation and thank everyone for their help. We have just received Thrivent money for batting etc. through the help of Jan Janzen.

Women's Breakfast
FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 8:30 at Envy's
at the Poulsbo Junction



what's HAPPENING

L.O.F.T Is the acronym for **Living Our Faith Together**,
our middle/high school youth program.

LOFT WEDNESDAYS for **MIDDLE** and **HIGH SCHOOL**: 6-7:30pm
WED, NOV. 2 Potluck and Prayer Tour

WED, NOV. 9 Food Drive Scavenger Hunt

WED, NOV. 16 Surprise!

WED, NOV. 23 Joining the Potato Bar and Worship Service

WED. NOV. 30 Joining Advent Soup Supper and worship

WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL in the Loft from 10:15—10:45. Join the discussion of the **TOP 30 STORIES OF THE BIBLE!**

HIGH SCHOOL HANGOUT every Sunday evening at 6:30-8 unless otherwise noted. Bring a friend or two.

SUNDAY SCHOOL The curriculum is working very well and is easy to use. We will begin practicing Christmas songs in November and working out the details of the Christmas program. It will be a part of the youth-led worship service on December 11. We'll have a reception following that. We are looking for someone to take the lead on the reception.

During December, we will decide what to use our offering money for. Perhaps to purchase an animal through Lutheran World Services or find an organization that benefits children.



If you would like to teach for a month,
just talk to Marsha Wright. It will make her day!!

There is Kid's Church during the 10:45 service. We will use a portion of the Sunday School curriculum at Kid's Church.



Musical Thoughts

From Lisa Mansfield

In the coming weeks, there will be many times to honor, remember, and celebrate. Melodies and lyrics are very powerful. Thinking them or hearing them instantly brings us back to a time, place or emotion. With music so woven into our lives, it's easy to simply go through the motions and sing the songs without recognizing the significance of the words. I must remember to be thoughtful in my singing and mindful of the texts while belting it out in the car, singing in the pews, or humming in the shower. I encourage you to do the same.

On Veterans' Day, we honor those members of the Armed Forces who have fought for our country. In the words of Katherine Lee Bates, **"Oh, beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life! America! America! May God thy gold refine, 'till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!"** Jesus loved us so much that he gave his life so that we may be saved by grace.

We remember those who have passed away on All Saints' Day. Over thirty years have passed and I still tear up hearing *Thine Is the Glory* and *Earth and All Stars*, two of my father's favorite hymns that were played at his funeral. Even though those songs are hard for me to sing, I love hearing them in church because it's one more way that I remember my dad. What songs are special to you because they remind you of loved ones?

On October 16, the Sunday School Singers led the congregation in singing a new song, *I Wanna Be Like Jesus*. **"Give me a heart that's pure and true. Kind and loving in all I do. Full of mercy for all who come. Running into the Father's arms."** There is strength and power in those children's lyrics, and I feel privileged and thankful to hear and see the kids' musical growth week after week during Sunday School time. The song they are preparing for Sunday, November 20 is called *Gather 'Round*; the lyrics state, **"young folks gather 'round. Old folks gather 'round; gather 'round and join our singing...give thanks and sing."** Sharing music with one another is one way to show our gratitude to God.

Music is a gift that each one of us can give to God, no matter the sound of one's voice. Don't wait for special holidays to celebrate, honor, and remember our loved ones and God's grace.



Poulsbo Community Orchestra Christmas Concert

December 4, 3pm at the NK Auditorium. Mark your calendar!

Family-friendly concert with a sing-a-long. Bruce Mansfield is conducting and Janean Moriarty plays violin.

COMING SOON



Once again, it is time to assemble an Advent Wreath for the sanctuary. Marsha Wright is offering free instruction!! It needs to be in place by Nov. 27.

During the Soup Supper on November 30, we will be making "Advent Logs" to use at home. Make one as a family and place it in a prominent place in your home during the entire season. Volunteers to cut some logs and drill holes are needed

Talk to Marsha Wright if you can help. Pine cones, cedar, pine and sturdy fir (like noble fir) are also needed. Check the bulletin board for more information.



Advent Resources for YOU!

We have ordered Advent Devotional Booklets that can be used for small group study, your personal daily devotions and along with our worship. We also have Advent Calendars for you to use at home. Take time during this often overly-busy season to pause, reflect and pray...to quiet your heart, mind and soul.

Put a little SPICE in your life! Come to the Women's Brunch on Sunday, December fourth after worship.



What's Happening

TRANSITION TEAM APPOINTMENT:

The first step in the process to call a new pastor.

The Church Council has appointed the following members to a Transition Team. They are **Vicki Kobeski, Sean Carlson, Barb Erickson, Don Moriarty, Amy Munns, Terry Beaudoin, Carlos Guterrez and Glenn Schechert.**

This team will gather information to complete the "Ministry Site Profile" which will assist the congregation and the Synod in selecting candidates for our next Pastor.

Through a process of interviews, meetings and research the team will need your assistance in:

1. Reflecting on the past, present and future of VLC
2. Recognizing our strengths, weaknesses and new potential for ministry
3. Developing additional leadership
4. Assisting in a commitment to new pastoral leadership and staffing



As we begin together, **PRAY** for **FAITH** that **GOD** has prepared someone to be the pastor for Vinland Lutheran Church.

Pray for our transition team, interim pastors, staff and council that they will make wise decisions and ask the right questions.

Pray that everyone in the congregation will have open minds and a willingness to contribute to the process.

Cooking With Spirit-Northwest New Small Group Forming

What: Cooking in Christian Fellowship

Why: To gather in fellowship as a small group, to learn and share recipes and serve others.

Where: Starting at Mary King's house.

To determine best location for future meetings and create group covenant.

Starting: Date: November 10, 2016

Time: 7:00pm.

Meeting: 2nd Thursday of each month, at 7:00pm (LST – Lutheran Std Time).



If interested contact...

Mary King @ (703) 919-7809 or mking.chat@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you!

Barb's Backyard by Barbara Erickson



Being an avid outdoors person, and a gardener, I let go of summer reluctantly. Fortunately, it does not end abruptly but gradually fades away as the fall season creeps in to take over. That is good, as living things usually adapt better to gradual changes. Plants and animals don't have the faculties to think about how they feel about these changes or if there is anything they can do about them. They simply adapt – if they cannot, they turn sickly and may die. It is we humans, blessed as we are with our physical abilities and emotions, who are used to thinking we are in control of so much in our lives and therefore don't always take well to change. Especially if there is nothing we can do about it.

In our mild climate September is usually a cooler version of August. We continue with our summer activities as best we can and enjoy the extended season. October sees leaves turning, summer flowers dying off, and seeds forming for the next year. We try to finish up our outdoor tasks and spend more time indoors. By November, with its blustery winds, rain, and shorter days, we

know that fall has definitely arrived. During this long slide into the winter months, I enjoy gleaning the last late fruits of summer. There are the apples, pears, squash, potatoes, onions, and eventually pumpkins and cranberries, but there are also the seeds, branches, and leaves that I enjoy gathering for decorations. To me, the real thing beats the artificial every time.

Along the drainage ditch across the road from us there grows a group of large native cattails. Although they are in the county right of way I have always thought of them as my own – probably because no one else does what I do. When the large, plump flower spikes form, I venture into that ditch to cut them and bring them home, carefully adding them to other things I have gathered and arranged artfully. One spring a large number of fluffy seeds, much like dandelion umbrellas, began to accumulate on our side porch; I thought they might be cottonwood seeds and wondered where trees were, as I'd never seen any in the area. Turns out I'd left a few cattails out there over winter and the seeds were breaking loose to travel on the wind to who knows where. They are **most** prolific!

A number of years ago I planted the seeds of the money or silver dollar plant, which is also known as Honesty or *Lunaria*. A member of the mustard family, this plant is not especially attractive, but does have colorful lavender flowers and the most wonderful, translucent, silver dollar-shaped seed cases. I find it sprouting somewhere in the yard each year, even though I only planted it that once. I always pick the seed stems in the fall.

And then there are the take-over-everywhere *Crocasmias*, with their stems of small, fiery red or orange flowers. As the flowers fail, they are replaced by hard round seed pods. As they mature, the pods turn orange and stand out beautifully among other dried gatherings. They eventually burst open, forming flower-shaped cups full of small, round, orange seeds. No matter how carefully we cut them some seeds escape, only to sprout tiny new plants the following spring.

To truly understand seeds, you must go to the source – the plants that produce them. Find and observe those, carefully and over time, and you will gain a greater understanding of the tremendous power of those small, seemingly insignificant kernels of life.

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith like a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea'; and it would obey you." Luke 17: 5-6

50 DAYS OF FAITH

FOLLOW UP TO OUR SIX-WEEK JOURNEY



*“ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.”
Romans 3:28*

How did it go? During **50 Days of Faith** we had the opportunity to look at what it means to be justified by faith, how do we grow in faith, what does faith have to do with healing/ wellness and how does our faith in God impact everything else we do?

We have been reading through the gospel of Luke this fall and wrestled with some of Jesus most challenging parables, “ The shrewd steward” and “the Rich man and Lazarus”. From the conversation and studying those parables came the “Lazarus” bag project . Many of the small groups, including the women, youth, Sunday school and lectionary lunch made up Lazarus bags with items that one could give to someone who is standing out on a street corner or anyone in need. Some folks have since taken those bags and given them out to people in the community, asking their names and praying for them/ with them.

If you have a story to share about giving out a bag please share! Email to vinland@vinlandlc.org or you can fill out a 50 days of Faith Story card. In addition we are posting stories on the Vinland Facebook page. So please share and like! - Pastor Sigi

Lazarus Bag Story- Pastor Sigi

A young man came by the church office one afternoon a few weeks ago, while Marsha and I were in the office. He wanted to talk with the pastor and so I listened to him as he told me about having come to the area looking for a job but he missed it by a week and had no more gas to get back home. He asked if there were any odd jobs he could do around the church to get gas money. So after pulling some weeds I took him to fill up his gas tank. We had just made up some Lazarus bags and they were in the office, so I asked if he would like a bag before we left to get gas. When he saw the items inside the bag his eyes lit up, and he thanked us profusely. It was a small thing but very much appreciated. It was really great to give him something from this church and we said we would pray for him!

Two “take a ways”

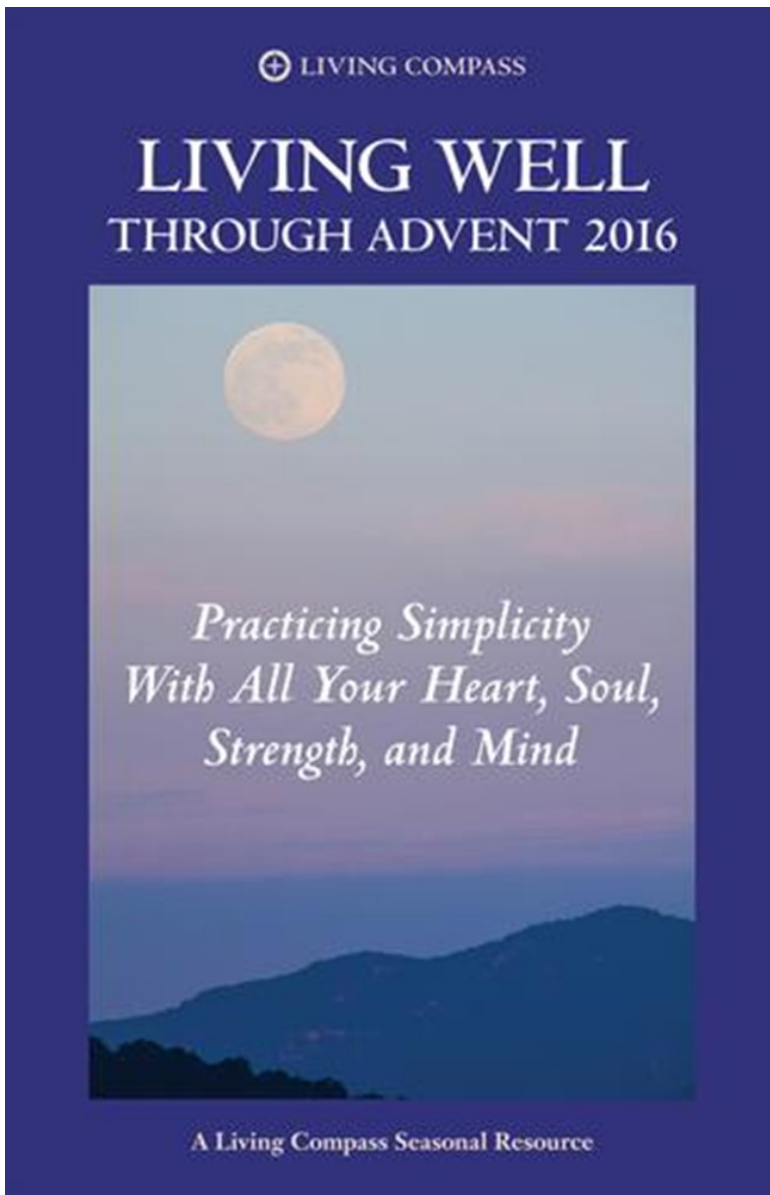
1. Something that may seem so small and seemingly insignificant can be a big deal to someone in need.
2. Don’t be surprised if God gives you an opportunity to share- be prepared with a bag!

There are some already-filled Lazarus Bags in Grace Hall. Feel free to take one. Keep it in your car. You can also add items to the bag, such as McDonalds or other fast-food gift cards. Keep the project going!

ADVENT

DEVOTIONAL BOOKS FOR THE CONGREGATION

Practicing Simplicity With All Your Heart, Soul, Strength and Mind



Practicing simplicity is always challenging, but especially so this time of year. Practicing Simplicity With All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind is a timely resource to help us slow down and simplify the choices we make at a time when the world around us is often doing just the opposite.

Designed for use as an individual reflection or for group study,