



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



# Happy Anniversary

## JULY

Tim Munns 7/1  
 Rick Wright 7/2  
 Fred Bates 7/3  
 Andy Crawford 7/7  
 Dennis Deitch 7/7  
 Ryan Duncan 7/7  
 Erik Crema 7/7  
 Dylan Moriarty 7/7  
 Matthew Nelson 7/10  
 Clara Rose 7/12  
 Karyn Crawford 7/14  
 Erica Bigelow 7/17  
 Bob Stuhlmiller 7/17  
 Kari VanVlerah 7/17  
 Amy Hochhalter 7/21  
 Morgan Moriarty 7/24  
 Lori VanVlerah 7/25  
 Savannah Hurda 7/27  
 Sean Carlson 7/28  
 Diane LaMagna 7/30

## AUGUST

Vicki Kobeski 8/1  
 Madeline Ward 8/2  
 Joey Munns 8/5  
 Ed Hakanson 8/8  
 Marsha Wright 8/9  
 Jaimie Florent 8/11  
 Danielle Deitch 8/11  
 Olivia Desmond 8/13  
 Glenyce Ross 8/14  
 Ernest Janzen 8/19  
 Barb Erickson 8/21  
 Jan Hakanson 8/22  
 Beachie Settle 8/23  
 Rand Hein 8/23  
 Sara Bigelow 8/24  
 Josh Clucas 8/25  
 TJ Munns 8/25  
 Kelli Oster 8/25  
 Mari Schielke 8/28  
 Bobbi Moore 8/31

## JULY

Scott & Bev Puhn 7/9  
 Matt & Michelle Holman 7/12  
 Nels & Darice Flesher 7/19  
 Bob & Sally Winkel 7/20  
 Frank & Sharon Schmid 7/30  
 Joe & Karen Beers 7/31

## AUGUST

Tom & Elsie Booth 8/4  
 Fred & Audrey Bates 8/8  
 Mike & Lisa Michael 8/10  
 Chad & Callie Gillespie 8/11  
 Jason & Shauna Becker 8/12  
 Bing & Bonnie Debar 8/16  
 Rich & Sharon Wendt 8/16  
 Bill & Barb Erickson 8/20  
 Chuck & Tammie Rabura 8/22  
 Ken & Nancy Ray 8/27  
 Andy & Debbie Cotey 8/28  
 Bob & Carolyn Hibbard 8/31

# JULY/AUG 2018

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Lectionary Lunch is cancelled for the rest of Summer.  
 Thanks to all who have spent time with Pastor Nels dwelling  
 in the Word -- his faith has been enriched by your company.  
 Let's regroup after Labor Day.

Aloha  
Shalom!



Our Family Camp planners could not have found a better theme for us this year. *Aloha*, as I understand it is a greeting, a farewell, and a state of being all at once.

We have been blessed at Vinland to meet people as yet unknown to us. It's nice for my family and I that we are not the only "new" people here. We are also saying a few farewells this season. We do so in the hope that as soon as we part, a welcome is already being made for those who move away. Some of our changes aren't geographical, but relational. Our roles, our identities within the congregation are always changing, especially this year with retirements, altered career paths, and emerging leaders within our ministry. One person chooses to or needs to be less involved in one way. Another person becomes more involved in another way. A spirit of kind regard for one another and trust in God's continued presence through the changes remain constant. This might not be literal *aloha*, but it seems to fit.

*Shalom* might be another word for it. *Shalom*, like *aloha*, is a word that can be used in greetings and in goodbyes. It also can describe that very active, abiding peace of God. That's the first thing we want a person to hear when we meet, whether as strangers or well-known friends. It's the thing we trust goes with a person when we part. It is the spirit, or the rule, governing our times together.

*Aloha* and *shalom* are good for church in another way. They are, sorry to disappoint many of you, not linear. We don't worship to become better people, but we might be better people because we worship. We don't do good works to make the world a better place. We do good works when we get wrapped up in God's love for this world and that love helps us see the world as a place made fundamentally good already. It is good enough to suffer and to strive for, but our suffering and striving are not what make it good. More locally, we aren't here to make Vinland Lutheran Church the best congregation it can possibly be. Hear it another way: church perfecting is not our business. But this congregation is, without a doubt, one vessel into which God's grace is poured and through which it is poured out for the life of the world. In the living and abiding Word, in Jesus' Sacramental presence, in the tending of sacred relationships between people and all created things, God's *shalom*, God's *aloha*, that peace which passes all understanding, is the rule of the day. It's not the kind of rule that can be enforced. It's the kind that guides us and keeps us because of its truth and its truth for us. In his letter to the church at Ephesus, Paul describes this cosmic rule of God's peace in Jesus Christ through the (imperfect) church *which is Christ's body, the fullness of him who fills all in all*. (Ephesians 1. 23)

May we be so filled. May we be unable to hold that peace within us, but let it overflow in loving deeds.

In Christ,  
Pastor Nels

# THIS AND THAT



## SECOND ANNUAL REFORM RIDE FOR REFUGEES AUGUST 11

**Reform Ride for Refugees** is a bike ride (not a chip timed event) sponsored by Lutheran Community Services Northwest (LCSNW) and five Kitsap county churches united to raise awareness and financial support for refugees. There are three different routes: 10, 30ish, and 50 mile courses to appeal to riders new and experienced. Our rides range from an easy stroll through to our 50 mile ride with over 3,600 feet of elevation gain for a scenic and challenging course meant to showcase the best of Kitsap County!

Our goal is to get 200 riders and raise \$20,000. Church advertising was a top of the list when it comes to registration so it is super important. Tell everyone you know. It is a scenic ride with great people to meet and a wonderful cause to support.

Vinland will again host an "Aid Station", with 3 or 4 volunteers handing out water and snacks and directing folks to bathrooms. Contact Sherry Gutierrez if you would like to help.

For more information go to: <http://lcsnw.org/reform-ride-for-refugees/>



## Living Stones Visit in August

Living Stones is the ELCA prison outreach ministry at the Washington Corrections Center in Shelton. In August we have a unique opportunity for up to ten people to join the Living Stones Prison Congregation's worship on Saturday evening, August 11th.

By joining the men at the prison we give them a sense of the support of the wider church and affirm them as members of the body of Christ. The men of the prison very much appreciate our presence and your participation at worship would truly be gift to them. The experience of worship with the prison's community of faith can also have a profound impact upon those visiting at worship as well. Vinlanders last visited Shelton in 2016 and those involved can remember their experience and attest to its significance.

We arrive at the prison at 5:30 PM for check in. We will then move to the chapel for worship beginning at 6:30 PM and ending at approximately 8:00 PM. Expect to be in our cars and on the way home by 8:30. If we wish we can have a conversation at a local restaurant as a way to either prepare for or debrief the experience.

In order to participate, we will need to provide basic information from each attendee by July 30<sup>th</sup> so that the required background check may be completed: full name, last 4 digits of SSN and birthdate. Please contact Walt Elliott for more information and to sign up. 360 434 0583, [elliottmoore@comcast.net](mailto:elliottmoore@comcast.net)



# Vinlandohana Camp

**FRIDAY** 6:00pm– Check-In

8:00pm– Ice Cream Social

8:30pm– Family Campfire/9:00pm--Teen Campfire

## **SATURDAY - *The Spirit of Aloha***

8:15-8:45am– Breakfast

9:00am– Morning Gathering

9:30am– Family Fun Camp Project

Noon– Lunch

1:00pm-4:30pm– Swimming/Boating

3:00pm– Camp Store

3:30pm– Vinland Triathlon

4:30pm-- Men's Happy Hour

5:00pm--Youth & Adult Ukulele Lesson

6:00pm– Dinner

7:00pm– Camp Clean-Up

7:30pm– Pictionary

8:30pm– Family Campfire/9:00-- Teen Campfire

9:30pm– Outdoor Movie- "Lilo and Stitch"

## **SUNDAY - *The Spirit of Aloha***

8:15-8:45am– Breakfast

10:00am-Ukulele Lessons-Little Kids

11:00am– Worship

12:30pm– Potluck/ BBQ (Picnic Side)

1:00pm-4:30pm– Swimming/Boating

3:30pm– Camp Store

4:30pm-- Men's Happy Hour

5:00pm--Youth & Adult Ukulele Lesson

6:00pm– Dinner

7:00pm– Camp Clean-Up

7:30pm– BINGO and Dessert

8:30pm– Family Campfire/9:00-- Teen Campfire

## **MONDAY - *Peace***

7:30-8:00am--Lakeside Yoga

8:15-8:45am– Breakfast

9:00am– Morning Gathering

9:30am– Adults: Bible Study w/ Pastor Nels, Kids:

Music w/Lisa, Nature Walk w/Barb, LOFT

11:00am– Ukulele Lessons-Little Kids

Noon– Lunch

1:00pm-4:30pm– Swimming/Boating

3:00pm– Camp Store

4:30pm-- Men's Happy Hour

5:00pm--Youth & Adult Ukulele Lesson

6:00pm– Dinner

6:30pm– Camp Clean-Up

7:00pm– TRIVIA NIGHT

8:30pm– Family Campfire/9:00-- Teen Campfire

## **TUESDAY - *Love***

7:30-8:00am- Lakeside Yoga

8:15-8:45am– Breakfast

9:00am– Morning Gathering

9:30am– Adults: Bible Study w/ Pastor Nels, Kids:  
Music w/Lisa, Nature Walk w/Barb, LOFT

11:00am– Ukulele Lessons-Little Kids

Noon– Lunch

1:00pm-4:30pm– Swimming/Boating

1:00pm- Molokai Book Discussion

3:00pm– Camp Store

4:30pm-- Men's Happy Hour

5:00pm--Youth & Adult Ukulele Lesson

6:00pm– Dinner

6:30pm– Camp Clean-Up

7:00pm– DANCE

8:30pm– Family Campfire/9:00-- Teen Campfire

## **WEDNESDAY - *Compassion***

7:30-8:00am--Lakeside Yoga

8:15-8:45am– Breakfast

9:00am– Morning Gathering

9:30am– Adults: Bible Study w/ Pastor Nels, Kids:  
Music w/Lisa, Nature Walk w/Barb, LOFT

11:00am– Ukulele Lessons-Little Kids

Noon– Lunch

1:00pm-4:30pm– Swimming/Boating

3:00pm– Camp Store

4:30pm-- Men's Happy Hour

6:00pm– Dinner

6:30pm– Camp Clean-Up

7:00pm– TALENT SHOW

8:30pm– Family Campfire/9:00-- Teen Campfire

## **THURSDAY - *Harmony***

7:30-8:00am--Lakeside Yoga

8:15-8:45am– Breakfast

9:00am– Morning Gathering

9:30am– Adults: Bible Study w/ Pastor Nels, Kids:  
Music w/Lisa, Nature Walk w/Barb, LOFT

11:00am– Free Time

Noon– Lunch

**CAMP CLEAN UP**

WOMEN'S

groups

Women of the ELCA 

# The Rummage Sale

## THE ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Sat, August 4, 9am-3pm

PLEASE only bring items that are in good condition. We don't want to have to take bags and boxes to the dump!

We're expanding the times to bring things to the basement of Grace Hall.

Please bring your useable, sellable treasures:

Tuesday, July 31 from noon to 7:00

Thursday, August 2 from noon to 7:00

Friday, August 3 10:00 to 7:00



## SUMMER TUESDAYS AT WILDCAT LAKE

Vinland moms & dads and grandparents (with kids in tow) will once again be meeting on the picnic side of the lake at Lutherhaven once school is out. We usually start gathering around noon. Come when you can; leave when you must. It is a great time to visit and for the kids to play and get to know each other. No lifeguard is on duty.



## Women of Grace

We are on summer sabbatical enjoying the beautiful northwest weather and longer and, hopefully, relaxing days. We will begin again on Monday, October 1. We are a mixed-age group of women, mostly empty nesters; some still working; some retired; some with kids still around; some watching grandkids. All women are welcome to join us. Our topics vary; we laugh and pray together and share each other's joys and sorrows.



# *What's Going On?!?* *Council Chatterings July 2018*



**BANG! POW! ZAP!** VLC was taken over by a horde of superheroes during Vacation Bible School last week. Thanks for the heroic effort of all volunteers, and in particular to the dynamic duo of Marsha Wright and Lisa Mansfield who planned and led the superpower parade.

Speaking of Lisa, she and Bruce are homeless now! All their worldly possessions are on the way to Arizona, begging the question of what the Navy knows about the fate of California. But they'll be around for family camp. Each and every one of you - DO personally thank these VLC super heroes for all they've done. DO personally extend your God Speed as they move on to save the day for a new community.

Your church leadership is so dynamic these days, but not in the sense of exhibiting super hero powers. We've been undergoing some changes. The Council has appointed Amy Munns to be the Youth and Family steward, replacing Marci Becker, another VLC super hero who has moved on to defend the good in eastern Washington. Matt Clucas has just resigned as a VLC Lutherhaven representative because he will deliver Truth, Justice, and the American Way as the new Commissioner of the Kitsap Superior Court. The nomination committee has put forth Brandy Weir to replace him. Also, I'm told that the Director of Music search committee will be interviewing the second week in July, so the Council will have to meet electronically even when we're taking the month "off".

We just capped off a very successful storage/archeological project, reported elsewhere in this newsletter. Give tons of appreciation to two supermen, Doug Barnhart and Peter Hansen and the many who helped sort through and dump all the church kryptonite that had accumulated with time.

I finish with some words about the summer service. Being president, I get to hear the Goldilocks and Three Bears story – some say “too much” of this or that; others are in the “too little” group. The ones I don't hear from are the “just right” crowd, of course. We're never going to get it “just right”, and to expect that everyone can have it just the way they like it is not only unreasonable, it misses a much bigger and more important picture - our *raison d' être* – worshipping together as one community in selfless grace. Personally, I am filled with joy and excitement when I see VLC all together in God's house. I hope you are as well, even when “that” music or “that” liturgy is how we are worshipping the Lord at that moment.

God's Peace be With You. John

**COUNCIL RETREAT AUGUST 4 AT THE HOME OF SCOTT AND BEV PUHN**



# Barb's Backyard

by Barbara Erickson

***“I guess we’re lucky it survived.”*** Bill casually mentioned as we surveyed the row of shrubs at the edge of the yard below. Last summer he’d hit the maple with the weed whip, cutting into the bark. “But you didn’t cut it all the way around, did you?” I asked, knowing that would spell certain death for the tree. He said he did. I did not know how that could be, because any tree that has its bark cut all the way around has no way to transfer food down to its roots nor water up to its leaves. Maybe Bill was wrong and really didn’t do the damage he thought he had. I was distracted then by another plant behind the row of shrubs that was growing higher than any of them—one I hadn’t noticed before.

It didn’t look like a young alder or a blackberry cane, both of which ran rampant in the boggy area behind and below the yard. In any case, it would have to wait until I was down there and could take a closer look.

A few days later, while working in the yard, I wandered to that area. To my disappointment, the lovely little Japanese maple that Bill had mentioned only looked alive from a distance. On closer inspection, I could see that it was dead. It had survived the winter; in the spring it put out its first new leaves, which then curled up and died, along with the rest of the tree. It was one of our favorites because the bark was golden yellow and coral, and the leaves changed colors throughout the seasons. We had only had it a few years.

To my complete surprise, the tall plant growing behind the shrubs was one of the pea roses that I had planted the same time as the maple. We had planted a number of those roses as a hedge between our yard and the bog. It was apparent that these had not only survived but thrived much better than we ever expected. They are loaded with lovely pink flowers in the summer, so lend a nice backdrop to the other plants in that area. Seeing those made me feel a bit better about the maple.

As I thought about the burgeoning rose and the withered, dead maple, I was reminded of other recent life events. Mother’s Day this year was bittersweet, as I both lost and gained a relative. Several days before that Sunday, I received word that my youngest grandniece had given birth to her first child—a tiny little girl—who was born a month early but was otherwise healthy. As I enjoyed the many photos of this precious child via the internet, I was also writing short, heartfelt goodbye notes to my oldest niece, who lay in the hospital dying of cancer in a distant city. She was born when I was only nine years old and, although we never lived close, we did usually see each other once a year. In her adult years, we did not see each other much, but did manage to keep in touch. More recently, she communicated more and made a special trip to see us last year after her diagnosis. I think she knew her time was limited.

I am reminded, yet again, that death is a part of this thing we call life. It is not easy, nor pleasant, but it is something that none of us can escape. With death, we inevitably look backward, remembering the person and our connection to them. When new life appears, it reminds us to look forward; we also are a part of the future.

Through it all—the good times and the bad—the true gift is that we are never alone.

*I don’t want to hear any of you bragging about yourself or anyone else. Everything is already yours as a gift—Paul, Apollos, Peter, the world, life, death, the present, the future—all of it is yours, and you are privileged to be in union with Christ, who is in union with God.*

**1 Corinthians 3:21-23 (The Message)**

# UPDATE

## KID-FRIENDLY SUMMER FOOD

Thanks to everyone and our Kids on the Move participants for bringing in kid-friendly food to donate to Fishline. As you shop this summer, look for good buys on peanut butter, cereal, mac and cheese, jars of jam and snack-type food. Fishline is always in need of staples. Watch for the grand opening of the new building!



**Starting July 13** Chef Crabtree from ChocMo's began serving lunch for anyone in need @ Centennial Park (opposite Dr Clinic) on Wednesdays @

## VINLAND TABLECLOTHS!

The round tablecloths are now on a rack in the basement of Grace Hall (right at the bottom of the stairs). If you need them for an event, they are neatly folded and on a large rack. There are instructions on the rack as to how to fold them. We have white, pale green and brown cloths. If you use them in Grace or Haugen Halls, be sure to wash and return them promptly to their new location.



We hate to say goodbye to these good friends who have enriched our lives over the years.

Safe travels and Godspeed to them all until we meet again.

Farewells are always hard; especially for those of us left behind. Justin, Marci, Grady, Lydia and Aimee Becker are settling into their new home in Ellensburg. Luckily, they are only 1.5 hours from the ferry dock, so definitely within visiting range. They will be at Family Camp, so if you are there, be sure to take time to visit.

Matt, Michelle, Violet and Aurelia Holman will also be at Family Camp, but will then move to their home in Guam, where Matt will have shore duty. Yea for family time with his girls!

The Mansfields will drive away from Family Camp in two tightly-loaded cars with Phoenix as their destination. Lisa has a full-time music job at the elementary school that Michael and Laurie will be attending and Bruce will begin grad school. Bruce's parents live in Phoenix and Lisa's live in Albuquerque, so they hope to have more family time in the Southwest.

Anne and Ed Stock will worship with us for the last time on August 12. They have made the decision to live full-time in North Carolina. They have graciously offered to provide after-worship treats for us on that day.



# what's HAPPENING



Honoring God by nurturing chil-

Our Preschool is expanding. They are adding a SECOND 3-day-a-week class to their schedule and all classes are full! Emily Tripp and Callie Gillespie are the two new assistants recently hired. They are excited to be part of the Preschool Team and full of creative energy.

In preparation for the new class, the preschool is using some of the dinner/auction money to purchase some new furniture and "spruce up" the Sunday School rooms with paint and a good cleaning.



## SUMMER WEDNESDAYS AT LUTERHAVEN

Vinland is responsible to lead devotions AND bring food on August 1. These gatherings are a great opportunity for middle and high schoolers to form relationships from kids their age from all area Lutheran churches. We leave Vinland at 5:30 and always are in need of volunteer drivers.



Vinland has not one, BUT TWO, princesses! Kristen Crawford and Alexis Duncan are making the rounds at Poulso and community events as 2018 Viking Fest princesses!

A little "princess" has entered the lives of Peter and Beckie Hanson on July 7. Their first grandchild, Marion Rose Nies was born!

Please send any news to Marsha Wright and we will have a dedicated page in the next newsletter to all the happenings.

# MICROBREWS FOR MARTHA & MARY™



Remember the Microbrews for M&M of 2017?

Local churches and the Board of Martha and Mary are gearing up for this month-long event for October 2018!

We are excited to once again raise funds for Martha and Mary, an organization for which we are partner congregations (not Spirit of Life, they are just in it for the kind support), and to have a fun way to raise those funds while supporting local breweries whose owners are very community minded. Last year, we celebrated Martin Luther and the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. This year we are celebrating Luther's wife Katie. Not only did Katie run a guest house (in the monastery), take care of the farm, tend the cattle, drive the wagon, manage the household finances and support her husband's quest for change...she BREWED BEER! And quite well, as history tells us.

The proceeds from this year's Microbrews for Martha & Mary will go to 'Beyond Bingo....Senior Activities.' As we know, our seniors are at Martha & Mary because they can no longer be home. Therefore, it is part of our job to make them feel 'at home' as much as possible and offer a wide spectrum of things to do, keeping their minds and bodies as active as possible.

Once again this year we will be asking each congregation to sell passports in the months of September and October. The organizing team will drop off passports at each congregation that is willing. Attached to this email you will find the letter that we sent to the breweries as well as the "how it works" page.

There are a couple of good changes this year. The passports will also be available digitally in addition to the print versions. This will allow for much easier tracking of the number of pints sold which helps us to be more accountable to the breweries. The digital option will also eliminate the need for the stamp cards! And at the same time, we will have an up to the minute count of "stamps." Martha and Mary is footing the bill for this web based app for which we are thankful. We will also be able to use it for other events. Also, for those who do not have a smart phone or who do not like using apps, the paper passport is all they need; the breweries will record their purchase with a different part of the app.

Another new addition this year is the sale of pint glasses. There will be event pint glasses at each brewery location with the logo of the brewery and our event logo on it. You will be able to purchase a full set by visiting all the participating breweries.

Watch for a poster and more information.

**Raise a glass to Katie Luther and Martha and Mary!**