

Birthdays & Anniversaries

<i>Tim Munns</i>	<i>7/1</i>	<i>Erica Bigelow</i>	<i>7/17</i>	<i>David & Shelly Bratlien</i>	<i>7/5</i>
<i>Samantha Feiring</i>	<i>7/2</i>	<i>Kari VanVlerah</i>	<i>7/17</i>	<i>Bob & Sally Winkel</i>	<i>7/20</i>
<i>Rick Wright</i>	<i>7/2</i>	<i>Bob Stuhlmiller</i>	<i>7/17</i>	<i>Bob & Elaine Wenzlaff</i>	<i>7/27</i>
<i>Fred Bates</i>	<i>7/3</i>	<i>Amy Hochhalter</i>	<i>7/21</i>	<i>Frank & Sharon Schmid</i>	<i>7/30</i>
<i>Andy Crawford</i>	<i>7/7</i>	<i>Vern Johnson</i>	<i>7/21</i>	<i>Joe and Karen Beers</i>	<i>7/31</i>
<i>Dennis Deitch</i>	<i>7/7</i>	<i>Sherry Gutierrez</i>	<i>7/24</i>		
<i>Dylan Moriarty</i>	<i>7/7</i>	<i>Morgan Moriarty</i>	<i>7/24</i>		
<i>Erik Crema</i>	<i>7/7</i>	<i>Sean Carlson</i>	<i>7/28</i>		
<i>Phil Romero</i>	<i>7/8</i>	<i>Pam Asan</i>	<i>7/29</i>		
<i>Matthew Nelson</i>	<i>7/10</i>	<i>Diane LaMagna</i>	<i>7/30</i>		
<i>John Mikkelborg</i>	<i>7/11</i>				
<i>Kathy Brueggemann</i>	<i>7/12</i>				
<i>Clara Rose</i>	<i>7/12</i>				
<i>Karyn Crawford</i>	<i>7/14</i>				

**check us out on the web....
www.vinlandlc.org**

Vinland Lutheran Church, est. 1904

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Pastor	Charles Slocum
Lay Associate	Marsha Wright
Youth & Family Minister	Alyssa Bowman
Parish Secretary	Donna Beck
Preschool Director	Sherry Gutierrez

July 2013



The Vinyard

Monthly Newsletter of Vinland Lutheran Church

July 2013

“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion.” – Philippians 1:3-6

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for the opportunity to serve alongside you in this amazing community. Eight years ago I came to this special place and immediately felt at home. Eight years later I look back on my time at Vinland and can't help but to smile. A professor once told me that the typical length of time a youth worker stays in a single church is 18 months and that the typical career life of a youth worker is 5 years. Church, we outlasted those numbers long, long ago. I've never worked in a church with so much congregational support of kids and youth (and youth ministers!) This says something profound about you and about what an amazing place this is. These truly have been fabulous years together.

There are so many things I will miss about this place. I will miss worship with you, family camp and VBS, faith trek, kids church youth group, our crazy fun fellowship events (Rodeo anyone? J), and very cute preschoolers running around the building during the week. I will miss a congregation who knows how to make anyone feel welcome within the first 60 seconds of entering the doors and who goes out of their way to serve our community and congregation. I will miss the absolutely wonderful staff that works so hard to make this church run every single day. Finally, I will miss Pastor Chuck and his friendship, mentorship, and leadership in my life. My dear church family, thank you for your wisdom, for your thoughts, for your ideas, for your prayers and for your love of this place. Thank you for sharing your hearts, souls, and lives with me.

Thank you for your financial, prayerful and encouraging support when I decided to go to seminary, and your awesome celebration when I graduated. Thank you for your absolutely phenomenal compassion when life was really really hard and for sharing in joy with me when life was really really good. I'm quite certain that God placed each of you in my life at exactly the right moment and I'm so thankful for your presence in it.

It's hard to believe this chapter of life with you has come to a close. I'm heading to Colorado in a few weeks to start a second masters degree, this time in marriage and family therapy/child play therapy. Eventually I hope to combine my seminary studies with a counseling license and open a pastoral counseling practice. I am excited to hear how God will continue to work through you all to impact all those you encounter. It has been such a blessing and an honor to be a Vinlander and to work and worship amongst you!

*With abundant love!
Alyssa*

pastor chuck's backpage

ATTENTION!

Welcome Bishop-elect Rick Jaech

At our June Assembly, Sharon Schmid, Bill Brueggemann, and I were your delegates as we elected a new bishop. Rev. Rick Jaech has served Beautiful Savior Lutheran in Vancouver the past twenty-six years and will be installed Sept. 14 in Tacoma. He is approachable, skilled in conflict resolution, and long on organizational skills. As Bishop, he sees the primary challenge for our synod is congregational health. In a difficult time of change and uncertainty, he hopes to gather leaders for honest evaluation + planning. Our future feels fragile, financially stressed so we will need to prayerfully plan and proceed.

ATTENTION!

Lunch Bunch @ Ambrosia, Mon., July 8, 11:30 AM

For a tasty lunch & good company, we meet in EAST BREMERTON for our monthly soiree for Vinland seniors. Sign up in fellowship hall.

"Donuts and Dogma", Sundays @ 8:45-9:15 AM Personal Questions of Faith? (Adult Forum meets Lectionary Lunch)

July 7- Why not go on sinning? July 21-God's slant of Job's pain?

July 14- Who are your protectors? July 28-What are YOU looking for?

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, July 6th, 8:00 AM

Our breakfast and brothers meet for fine Food **and** FELLOWship!

Dialogue on Draft: Hare & Hounds, Monday, July 15, 5 PM

"Worship Wars" Who wins, who loses.who cares? Why is worship so essential to our life as God's people? Pick up the article to find out.

ATTENTION!

Mission Opportunity 2014!

Consider Mexico Mission project for your spring break!

Plans are in motion for plans for a 2014 Tijuana house-building trip.

Youth, parents, and adults are invited for this intergenerational project.

Check out >Amor.org<and talk to Pastor Chuck for info.

***Don't leave WORSHIP out of your
summer plans!***

barb's backyard



-Barbara Erickson

The pictures are haunting, bringing back memories as clear as yesterday. Online, I scan the map of the carnage, reading the names of roads I drove many times and follow the once-familiar route home. Although the satellite map is not crystal clear, I'm sure of the location. The imposed red marker leaves no doubt: **DESTROYED**. Our home is gone.

Of course, it's not ours anymore and the structure we called home probably had been replaced some time ago. It's been forty years since we lived there and things change. But had we stayed, our home there would have been destroyed - burned to the ground. Of course, the house we live in today could likewise be gone tomorrow. It's not a welcome thought...

The recent fires in Black Forest, Colorado have stirred up all sorts of memories of our time spent there so long ago. We'd been married three years when Bill accepted a job in Colorado Springs; we packed our meager belongings and headed south. We could not afford much, but in that respect the house fit the bill: cement slab, log siding, tacked-on kitchen a foot lower than the rest of the house, one gas heater, no clothes dryer nor any room for one. But the setting was spectacular - five acres of Ponderosa pines with a clear view of the Rocky Mountain front and Pike's Peak. We were young, ambitious, and full of enthusiasm.

We set about making this ramshackle cabin into a home and there were a lot of challenges. The well was so shallow that after one load of washing we had to wait for it to recover. Laundry was hung outside in summer, in front of the heater in winter. We replaced a ceiling, only to have the mice store food up there. Prying loose the seats of our built-in eating area, we discovered their droppings were an inch thick inside. We nailed wood paneling over electric outlets by accident and needed to knock a hole in the wall to replace the bath tub because the room was too small to remove it any other way. A hail storm destroyed the roof. With new shutters, window boxes, and fresh paint, the outside looked much better. But, fearing tornados, previous owners had built a concrete shelter in front of the house - not much we could do to improve the looks of that. We spent four years working on that place; looking back, it never really did amount to much but it was ours and we loved it.

Living in the woods of Colorado, we learned to live with inconvenience and make the best of it. We got to know each other: learned to discuss ideas, compromise, reach agreement, and reconcile our differences. Having a great many dreams, but little money, we were challenged to be creative. Sometimes the results were quite nice. Other times, not so much. But it didn't really matter because whatever we achieved, we achieved together. We operated on faith and trust.

We can never go back and the devastation is heart-breaking, but we will forever carry that little house in our hearts. Surely the people we are today were molded in part by our efforts to make a home there.

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

1 Timothy 6: 6-8

women's groups

Women of vinland

Open to ALL women of Vinland. No regular meeting in July. The Fourth of July potluck will replace the July meeting. The women are busy raising money and making plans for the new kitchen in our new building. If you would like to make a specific donation to that endeavor, talk to Jean Danielson.

Women of grace

An evening meeting of women, some of whom work during the day. Lively conversation, good tea, and sharing of life's ups and downs. We are taking a break for the summer. Please read Anne Lamott's book "Help, Thanks, Wow!" We will use it as a base for our discussions in October.

THE BUSY MOMS

A gathering of moms of school-age and younger kids. During the summer months they meet on the PICNIC SIDE of Lutherhaven on Tuesdays - weather permitting! Load up the car with kids and snacks and sunscreen and come to the lake - gather around 11 am. Very informal!

Women's Breakfast

NO Women's Breakfast until September.

QUILTERS

Dedicated group of women meet on the SECOND and FOURTH Tuesdays at 9am to piece quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They also take turns bringing soup, bread and dessert for lunch! No experience necessary. Join in anytime.

last tuesday Book Group

A selected book from the Library Discussion Series is discussed at 7pm on the LAST TUESDAY of the month. Books are available in the Social Hall for check-out. Our next discussion will be on July 23rd at 7 PM - **Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals** by Michael Pollan. Pollan writes about the ecology of the food humans eat and why—what it is, in fact, that we are eating. Discussing industrial farming, organic food, and what it is like to hunt and gather food, this is a surprisingly honest and self-aware account of the evolution of the modern diet.

last friday Craft Night

Bring your unfinished projects to church at around 6pm on the LAST FRIDAY of the month. There is plenty of room to spread out!

discovery garden

Out Back in the Garden

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. Genesis 1:15

With summer truly upon us, the watering needs of the Discovery Garden increase. The Preschool Board members will be taking turns to make sure the area is watered once a week during the dry season. This will be much easier this year with the addition of a new spigot closer to the garden. We are still using the old well for irrigation, so there should be no increase in costs.

Mowing also picks up during the summer months and the Preschool pays for this. We're working on keeping the Scot's Broom and other invasive species at bay with regular mowing, as well as some removal of blooms, whole plants, and very judicious spraying. It is an on-going challenge.

With all of the new pavement and grading in front of the church, this area remains a nice oasis away from the mess and noise of the construction. We know it's a great place for kids, but why not wander out back with them to enjoy some peace and quiet? Grab a cup of coffee on Sunday morning, or your favorite cold drink any time during the week, and spend some quality time there. A little time spent relaxing on a bench, at the picnic table, or wandering the forest trails is time well spent!



PRAYER OF OUR HEARTS

*Father God
We are nurtured by the
lifegiving green/growing/
blossoming season
surrounding us. May we
share from our wellbeing
with those attempting to
prosper without the benefit of
such energy.
Serving You,
Amen
contributed by Sharon Schmid*

CONGRATULATIONS TO....

*Sean and Lindsay Carlson, married on June 15.
Doug and Anju Hein, also married on June 15.*

SAD NEWS...

*We all mourn the passing of Archie Lien, who died
on June 25. Please keep Norma and the family in
prayer.*

NEW CALL...

*Michael DeLashmutt has accepted the position of
Academic Dean and VP for Academic Affairs at
Trinity Lutheran College in Everett! Welcome
back to the Northwest, Michael and Julia!*

this and that



Doesn't the new building look GREAT! Thanks to all who have fulfilled their pledges (and to those who gave above and beyond their original pledge)! **As of June 30th we have received \$729,883!!** Wonderful! The total amount pledged was \$812K; we have until the end of the year to receive the remainder of the pledged amount.

Thanks be to God for his enduring grace and for the sacrificial ways in which Vinlanders continue to support a building that will provide "More Space For God's Grace" in our community.

In September, we will begin discussion of the "next steps" in our building project. We need to address the coming mortgage and how best to "pay that down". We also need to harness the "time and talents and treasures" of members and friends to make the entire two floors of the building fully useable. We have a legacy of commitment and completion to draw upon - let's get going!!!



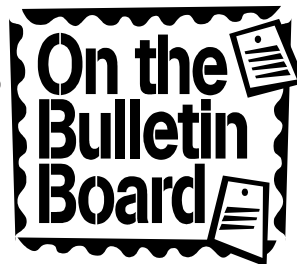
Return to Two
Services
September 15

FALL SCHEDULE....September is on its way!

"For Lutherans, worship is an ever-changing and growing experience. Connected with and central to everything we do, worship unites us in celebration, engages us in thoughtful dialogue and helps us grow in faith. It grounds us in our Christian and Lutheran roots, while demonstrating practical relevance for today's world." (from the ELCA homepage)

On Sunday, June 30th, we as a congregation voted to return to two services beginning September 15. Sunday services will be at 8:30am and 10:30am, with education for all ages at 9:40am.

Tailgate Kickoff! September 8
Food and Fun and
Fall Program Information!



Building Dedication September 29

We will gather for a celebration worship at 9:30 and then process into our new building for a dedication ceremony and LUNCH!! Watch for more details.

youth and family



Vacation Bible School July 8-11, 9-Noon

Alyssa needs many helpers and lots of kids for this great adventure!

Thank You Alyssa

“Some people come into our lives and quietly leave. Others leave footprints on our hearts that remain forever.”

We have been blessed to have 8 years with Alyssa, and we now must say goodbye as she takes another route on her life journey. She has touched so many lives and we are grateful.

Sunday, July 7 will be her last Sunday with us and we will bid her farewell and Godspeed during and after worship.

Wednesdays at Lutherhaven begin July 10th at 6PM on the picnic side. Bring your dinner, swim suits, and a friend. This is open to ALL! There will be a lifeguard.

Lutherhaven Bible Camp Aug. 1-8

Registration forms are on the bulletin board. Karyn Crawford is the camp director, so we know it will be great!!

Kid's Church and Sunday School

A Children's Ministry Parent Group has formed to discuss direction for Kid's Church and Children's Education. Marsha Wright will serve as a transitional director of these two arms of faith formation for children.

Currently, she is meeting with parents, looking at materials and asking for folks to prayerfully consider the important ministry of passing on the faith to our children. Kid's Church will expand to serve kids 4years-5th grade. They will divide into two groups with relationship forming, prayer and Bible reading being key elements of both groups.

Marsha can be reached by phone at 360-621-6983 or randmwright@gmail.com. She would LOVE to hear your ideas and welcome you to the team of teaching OUR children.

synod assembly



The 26th Annual Assembly of the SW Washington Synod of the ELCA was held in Tacoma June 7-8. *Bill Brueggemann, Sharon Schmid, and Pastor Chuck* represented Vinland as voting delegates.

The main business of this meeting was to elect a new Bishop. *Pastor Rob Hofstad*, who has been serving as Bishop for 12 years, had announced his retirement. The Bishop is elected for 6 years.

The process was very spiritual and satisfying, with Bible study and time for private and pastor-led prayer before voting. The first morning, voting members cast ballots for a new Bishop – this process allows for no nominations ahead of time. There were almost 300 voting members and 46 names were put forth. Each nominee has 3 hours to withdraw their name (woe to those nominated, not in attendance, who would not be willing to serve). After lunch we cast our 2nd ballot for a slimmed down list of 14 names.

The 2nd morning we received biographical information on 7 surviving candidates and heard each of them speak to the assembly. We voted the 3rd ballot and eliminated the 4 who got the least votes. The 5th and 6th ballot was preceded by each candidate answering 2 questions. Since no clear majority was proven with these ballots, we had a 7th ballot between the top 2 candidates.

Crucial to our combined ministry is to continuously sink our roots deeper into the presence and love of God through worship, community-building and prayer.

I'm proud to announce our new bishop is ***Pastor Richard Jaech*** from Vancouver, Washington. He stated in his biographical profile:

As bishop, I would guide our congregations and ministries through a process of honest evaluation, planning and mutual support: "Who are we? What are our gifts and passions? What's working and what's not working in our ministry? Who is our neighbor and how will we best serve them?" I would gather congregations in each conference to share their most effective practices and ideas with each other, expand lay ministry, develop innovative use of staff and resources, and form partnerships to support each other's ministry. Crucial to our combined ministry is to continuously sink our roots deeper into the presence and love of God through worship, community-building and prayer.

Throughout the official business of the assembly we saw Macedonia videos submitted by member churches. It was energizing to see what other churches are doing. Worship was beautifully planned and the singing was phenomenal. There was a lovely banquet the first evening to say good-bye and God-speed to Bishop Hofstad. A budget of \$970,000 was passed.

We will look forward to meeting Bishop Jaech on September 29 at our Building Dedication!

Thank you for sending me as your representative,
Sharon Schmid



The ELCA - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - is celebrating 25 years!

“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” - 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

We are a church that is deeply rooted — and always being made new. If anyone is in Christ...

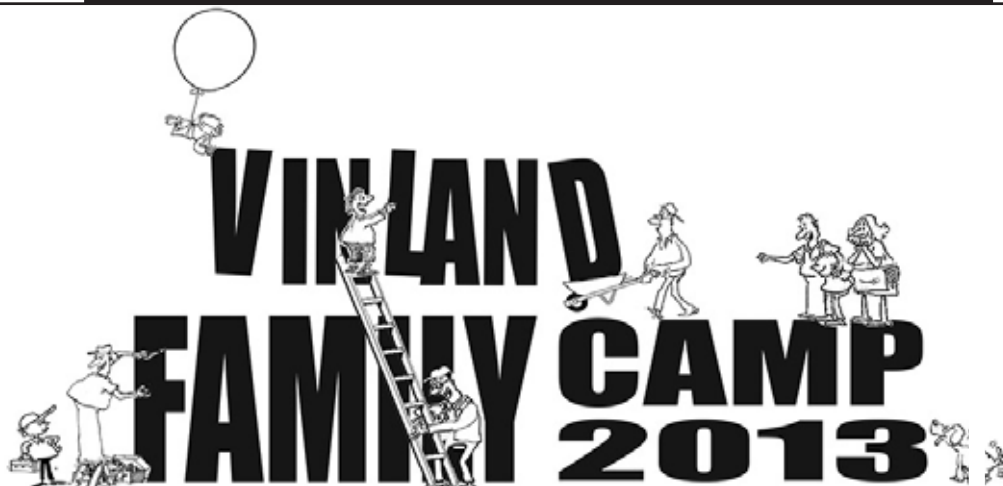
We are deeply rooted. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is still comparatively new as a church body, and yet our roots are much deeper than our 25 years together. The taproot of our life extends through the histories of predecessor churches in the United States, through the formative witness of the 16th century evangelical reformers and their confessional writings, to the Scriptures and the word of Christ. Our life is in Jesus Christ. We are deeply rooted in his word of forgiveness and the promises of God’s steadfast love and mercy. The word of Christ dwells in us richly. God nourishes us as one body in Jesus Christ with companions from around the globe who meet us at Christ’s table of grace.

...there is a new creation.

We are being made new every day. In Jesus Christ we are not unchanged. What God does in Christ is as radical as the death and resurrection of baptism, where new creatures in Christ rise to live “no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.” God is bringing that new creation to life among us in the ministry of reconciliation. In that service we no longer see each other as we did before. We are no longer strangers, competitors or enemies to each other. We are beloved companions in one body, restored to a communion where the rich diversity of our experiences, wisdom and abilities serve the common good in Christ. The new creation in Christ rises to life among us every day.

DOLLARS & CENTS

coming soon!!



**Family Camp & Church Picnic
August 9 - 15**

**On our life journey, we build many things...homes, churches,
relationships, memories, our faith foundation....**

“Build” with us at camp this year!



**Church Picnic on SUNDAY, AUGUST 11. around 12:15
Bring a LARGE dish to share - salad, dessert or side dish.
Hot dogs and hamburgers are provided!!**

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| FRIDAY, 8/9 | CHECK IN AFTER 5PM (No Dinner) |
| SATURDAY | Stepping Stones Project |
| SUNDAY | Worship at camp at 11am
Picnic around 12:15 |
| MONDAY - THURSDAY | Bible Study, Education & Crafts for all ages in the morning
Swimming after lunch (1-4pm) |
| TUESDAY | Book Discussion by the lake (around 1:30); watch for book title. |
| WEDNESDAY | Talent night - please share with us! |
| THURSDAY | Clean up after lunch....swim....head for home with great memories! |

Janean Moriarty has great posters in the Social Hall. There are lots of opportunities to share your love ofsomething! Love to teach kids? Love to lead a craft? Would your family or a group like to cook dinner one night? Love to lead some outdoor games? Love to share your skill with a guitar at campfire? It makes camp even MORE FUN when you are involved!