

# Birthdays & Anniversaries



<i>David Crawford</i>	3/2	<i>Bob Hibbard</i>	3/5
<i>Hayes Journey</i>	3/2	<i>Nicholas Kobeski</i>	3/14
<i>Joe Beers</i>	3/3	<i>Lydia Becker</i>	3/15
<i>Carolyn Mikkelborg</i>	3/3	<i>Janean Moriarty</i>	3/20
<i>Elaine Wenzlaff</i>	3/4	<i>Jeanette Kyster</i>	3/26
<i>Karen Oster</i>	3/4	<i>Kristen Crawford</i>	3/28
		<i>Ben Kobeski</i>	3/28

## PRAYER OF OUR HEARTS

Dearest Lord,  
 Thank you for what you have  
*Planted* within us, that no man  
 may uproot or destroy.  
 Our *Life Prayer* is that your  
 Loving-Goodness will Bloom  
 within us all our our days.

Amen

*contributed by Sharon Schmid*

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...

*Martin & Robyn Prehm* 3/24  
*Hayes and Lisa Journey* 3/25

Vinland Lutheran Church, est. 1904  
 PO Box 2134  
 Poulsbo WA 98370  
 360-779-3428  
 E-mail: [vinland@vinlandlc.org](mailto:vinland@vinlandlc.org)  
 Website: [vinlandlc.org](http://vinlandlc.org)

Pastor	Charles Slocum
Lay Minister	Marsha Wright
& Children's Ministry	
Youth Director	Karyn Crawford
Music Ministry	Bing Debar
Parish Secretary	Megan Adrig
Preschool Director	Sherry Gutierrez



2014!



*Set your clocks ahead on March 9!  
 Daylight Savings Time Begins!*



# the vinyard



Vinland Lutheran Church  
MARCH 2014

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. I am with you always to the close of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20*

## **The Great Commission from our Lord Jesus Christ is pretty point blank.**

Vinland Lutheran has been given the same daunting assignment as the first disciples before Jesus ascends into heaven, “Go and make disciples”. As Jesus commands us to go to school, work, home, and beyond to make disciples, Jesus promises to be with us in Poulsbo just as he was with Peter & company in Jerusalem. We’ve been blessed with a new building to encourage and enhance our evangelism efforts so let’s GO!

For sure, Grace Hall is a mighty asset and will be a hub of our Vinland hospitality. But, for us to reach out faithfully and effectively requires that we rethink some of our basic assumptions about how and why the church. While I was back at Luther Seminary the conference was blandly titled, “Mission and Evangelism”. But, the presenters and especially the workshops were anything but bland. My favorite workshop title was, *“Wishing for Mission not Attrition”*. The workshop that was the most helpful for me was, *“Why Don’t My Children Go to Church? And What Can I do About It?”* Now there is THE question for families and churches today.

The presenter made a compelling case for the new reality is we live in the “age of discretion”. We have so many options and choices that we actually stress out over what to do next. What a change from the “age of obligation” where you had to go to church. However, churches like ours still operate as if worship is an obligation. His claim was the overwhelming reason that our youth have a mostly superficial relationship with the church is that they have NO IDEA why the gospel matters to their parents and grandparents. Makes sense, when you consider how we assume that since Jesus matters to me then it will automatically matter to my children as long as I deliver them for baptism, confirmation, and weekly worship. Not So!

If we are serious about passing on the faith to our children and grandchildren, then it starts with us being vocal about our own faith journey. We can bring our kids to worship, instill values, and say prayers, all good God stuff, but we must be willing to tell our story. This goes for my family, too. Why does it matter that we go to church with other Christians? I returned from Minneapolis, and before Caroline, my daughter and I prayed I took just one minute to say something of my faith and why I follow Jesus. Just a minute, baby step perhaps, but it pushes me to vocalize what I’ve assumed they knew. The Great Commission starts in our own families!

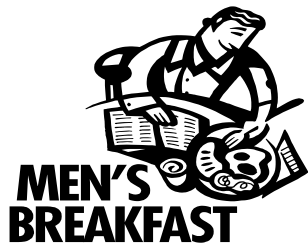
  
Word of  
thanks to:

Thanks to Vinland congregation for your generous and enthusiastic support of our Auction! Good Times!

  
Here's what's  
happening!

**Lectionary Lunch** is on Lenten sabbatical. Back after Easter.

**Lunch Bunch**, Mon., March 3, 11:30 AM @ Elmer's in Poulsbo Taprock has been transformed to Elmer's with breakfast all day and a tasty menu for our senior group. Sign up on the Trusty Bulletin Board in the Social Hall.

  
MEN'S  
BREAKFAST

**Men's Breakfast**, Sat., March 1, 8:00 AM Come early, eat hearty, & get together with brothers in Christ.

**Sunday Adult Forum**, 9:40-10:20 AM (between services)  
We continue the story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, "Agents of Grace." Bring your strong coffee and spiritual curiosity to the sanctuary.

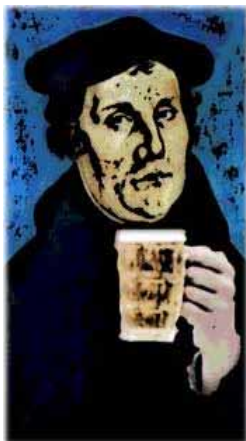
**Confirmation, Retreat (March 7-8) Friday 6pm - Saturday noon.** Beachie Wishart is hosting us for an overnight on the beach!

**Next class:** Saturday, March 22, 10am.

**Dialogue on Draft** Hare & Hounds Pub, Mon. March 24, 5 PM  
Topic to be determined. Article and sign-up in the social hall.

**Mexico Mission 2014** March 27-April 4 Students and Adults: Emilie McMahon, Karyn and Andy Crawford, John Brock, John Rova, Dominic (grandson), Erik (Rova) Morgan, Bobbi Moore, Tammie and Martha Rabura (friends Nina and Annika), Dennis Deitch, Scott Puhn, Glenn Settle, Joel Wright and Pastor Chuck.

**Pastor Chuck away** on the Mexico Mission. March 30 is the Easter Cantata.



# women's groups

## Women of Vinland Third Wednesday of each month

Women of Vinland will meet on Wed. March 19 at 10am. Open to all women and their friends. Come for laughter, lunch, Bible Study and more!



**MARCH 22 SPRING CELEBRATION!** Vinland women are hosting this spring event on March 22! All women are invited to this day full of workshops, worship, speakers, good food and lots of laughter! Child care will be provided. For only \$12, you get a full day of fun, including a light breakfast and lunch. Check out the bright yellow posters around the church.

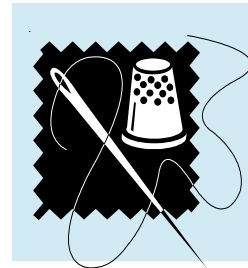


## Women of Grace Mondays, Mar. 3 and 17

This is a lively bunch of women - some still working, some retired, some semi-retired, some just plain tired - who gather to draw upon each other's EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH and HOPE. All women, all ages, whether you attend Vinland or not....

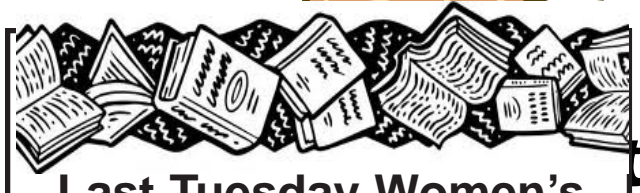
## QUILTERS 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 9am

A committed group gathers on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at church to put together quilts for Lutheran World Relief.



## Women's Breakfast

On the second Saturday of each month women of all ages meet at Envy Grill at the Poulso Junction at 8:30am.



## Last Tuesday Women's Book Group

Next gathering is March 25  
Keep an eye on the bulletin board in the Social Hall for the March book.

## Busy Moms

This is a group of moms who take time out of busy schedules to meet for lively conversation, sharing of day to day life, a good dose of laughter, prayer time and discussion of assorted books and articles.

**BUSY MOMS MEET AT 10:00 on THURSDAYS** at the church.

# children and youth ministry

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

*Save July 7-11 for VBS this year. We have a team looking at curriculums.*

*No matter what is decided...IT WILL BE AWESOME!*

*This is a perfect opportunity to invite friends, family and neighbors to experience Vinland.*

## MARCH SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

*Sunday School every Sunday at 9:40 EXCEPT March 30 at 8:45*

*There will be a "special guest" at the March 16 and 30th opening time.*

*Don't miss out! There will be an emphasis on Lent during the month of March and through Holy Week with special projects.*



## Family Camp

*Mark your calendar for  
July 25-31. Be thinking "Space"...as in  
God's Frontier  
All-Church camp is the week following  
Family Camp. Watch for more information.*

## What's Going on in the LOFT?

### We are ROOTED!

*There is Sunday School for 6th-12th graders at 9:40am and High School Bible Study on Sundays at 6:30pm.*

*There will be NO Sunday School on March 16 when many of the youth will be at the Synod Youth Retreat at Camp Berachah.*

*There will be NO Sunday School or Bible Study on March 30 because of Spring Break.*

### We are REJOICING!

*Youth Group continues in March from 6-7:30pm. Each weekly meeting will culminate with us attending the Lenten Mid-Week service as a group.*

*NO Youth Group over Spring Break, but meet March 26 at Skateland in Bremerton for \$1 skate night. (\$1 admission, \$1 skate rental) 7-9:30pm*

### We are REACHING OUT!

*LOFT celebrated the New Year at a Lock-In the end of January that was hugely attended and enjoyed by all. The next day eight of our High School students - Andy, Cody, Devin, Emilie, Erin, Madison, Martha and Sara used their in-service day off from school to deliver 55 sack lunches and bags of socks/hats/gloves to the homeless in Seattle.*

## *Easter* *Cantata* Rehearsal



There is still time to join in the cantata "The Seven Last Days" to be performed on Sunday, March 30th. This is the story beginning with Palm Sunday and culminating on Good Friday. It is a beautiful work, but simple enough that you can be prepared to sing on the 30th. All voices are welcome.

The Cantata on March 30 will be a lovely gift to the congregation. There will only be one service that day.



### **THANK YOU!**

Thank you to Amy Munns for volunteering to run projection during the New Song service. Please consider helping out by doing that job once a month. Just two more volunteers will relieve Bing from that duty so he can move up and help the New Song Worship Team lead the congregation. If you would like to help out, please talk to Bing following worship or email him at [bing@debar.net](mailto:bing@debar.net).



**"Sundays at Two" March 2**  
We have a full program of vocal and instrumental performances and your presence in the audience will be greatly appreciated. Hope to see you (and a couple friends!) there.

### ***New Song Worship Team***

Consider lending your voice or instrument to the New Song Worship Team.

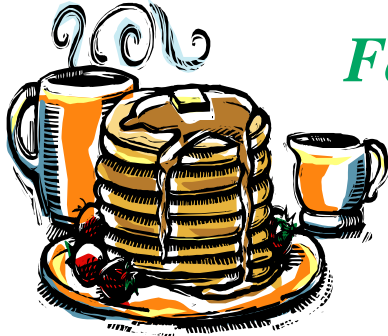
They are a fun-loving group who love to worship God with music.

The Team practices on Saturday mornings at 9am

If you like to play guitar - all abilities welcome - come on Tuesday evenings for a combination practice/jam session.



# changing seasons



SHROVE TUESDAY

## *Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper March 4*

*Come at 6pm and eat your fill of pancakes and sausage. The Men's Breakfast Crew is cooking and some fun entertainment is being planned to round out the evening. Bring some spare change...you may need it! Also, donations will be accepted to defray the cost of the food.*

LENT

*Traditionally, Lent is a time of introspection.* We take a hard, honest look at our sins and failures and come to grips with repentance. It was a time set aside for Christ's followers to show their devotion to God by fasting (*giving something up*) and worshiping more often. Today, Lent is often observed as a time to find ways to strengthen our faith in the risen Christ. We do this by praying, studying God's Word and doing acts of kindness (*doing something more*).

*Ash Wednesday Service will be held on March 5 at 7pm.*

*Beginning Wednesday, March 12 we will have our popular soup and bread suppers at 6pm, followed by worship in the sanctuary at 7pm.*

Consider bringing a large pot of soup or some bread or just helping clean up after the meal. You don't have to be a gourmet cook to bring soup. Throw together a few cans of your favorite varieties and call it good! There will be a posted sign-up sheet for those helping with the meals. *The Youth will provide the soup supper on April 9.*

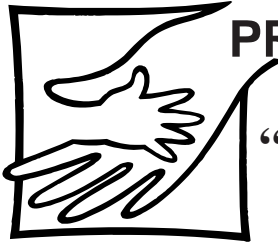
ASH  
WEDNESDAY

*Wednesday night services* during Lent will be the Compline Service we used last year. It is peaceful and meditative. Once again members of the congregation have offered to portray characters pertinent to Jesus' life. These monologues will happen during the service.



*Thirty Easter Lilies* have been ordered to beautify the sanctuary on Easter morning. You may order one or more plants in honor or memory of loved ones. Forms will be available in mid-March. Plants can be taken home following the second service on Easter Sunday, April 20.

# preschool



**PRESCHOOL NEWS...** -Sherry Gutierrez, director

## Our Vision

**“Honoring God by Nurturing Children’s Relationships”**

*“But God’s mercy is great, and he loved us very much.  
He gave us new life in Christ.” (Ephesians 2:4-5)*

**WOW! God loves us!** God’s mercy is great! God gave us new life in Christ! In the preschool, we see evidence of these truths every day. The young lives show us what newness of life means—the wonder of discovery, the fresh messiness of relationship, the pure joy of belly laughs, the depth of being together. God’s mercy in hurt feelings which are soothed; God’s mercy in the taking, the giving, the sharing; God’s mercy in parents helping each other out in times of need; God’s mercy in listening ears and hearts. We are extremely grateful for God’s love, mercy, and new life!

## Preschool Classes For 2014/2015

Preschool registration is open!

Classes will fill on a first come with paid registration/first served basis.

There is a \$55 registration fee for the first child; \$35 for a sibling

Let your friends and family know. For more information: [www.vinlandlc.org/preschool](http://www.vinlandlc.org/preschool) or [preschool@vinlandlc.org](mailto:preschool@vinlandlc.org) or 865-0510

**CLASS ONE** Ages 3-5 years old  
**Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday mornings**  
9:15 a.m. to noon (12-14 spaces)  
Tuition: \$1980/year

**CLASS TWO** Ages 3-5 years old  
**Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday afternoons**  
12:30 – 3:15 p.m. (12 spaces)  
Tuition: \$1980/year

**CLASS THREE** Ages 2-3 years old  
**Friday mornings**  
9:30- 11:30 a.m. (10 spaces)  
Tuition: \$550/year



*As the days warm up, consider taking a friend and a cup of coffee out to the Discovery Garden for a breath of fresh air. Take a walk through the woods and delight in creation!*



# this n' that



## “Stock the Kitchen” Shower

*Saturday, March 1 at 2pm*

*All women welcome to join the fun as we honor Beachie! There is a list of items the kitchen needs, or you can donate money toward the purchase of big-ticket items like a microwave or rolling utility cart.*



## World Day of Prayer

*Friday, March 7 at 1pm*

*Vinland is hosting this event in the sanctuary with a reception following. This year's program was written by the women of Egypt.*



**Sign up**

## Parents' Night Out

*Friday, March 14 from 5-9pm*

*Parents-In-Charge are the Slocums. Please sign up if you plan to bring your kids.*

## Pinochle on Friday, March 21.

*Potluck begins at 5:30; card-playing at 6pm. Please sign up on the Bulletin Board in the Social Hall.*



## Women's Spring Celebration

*March 22 from 9-2*

*All women are invited to this day full of fun, worship, workshops, lunch and great coffee! Please let Jan Hakanson know if you plan to attend. Child care will be provided. You get all of this for only \$12!*

**RUMMAGE**



## Women of Vinland Rummage Sale

*Saturday, April 5*

*Start saving your good old stuff and bring it to church on Friday, April 4. Then return to shop!*

# barb's backyard



-Barbara Erickson

*"I make the most of all that comes and the least of all that goes." ~ Sara Teasdale*

Driving about, during the times when deciduous trees have lost their leaves, I am always attracted to empty birds' nests in trees. I certainly would take notice of - and great interest in - them any time of the year, but they usually are not so easily seen. This is quite intentional on the birds' part, but once they're done with them, what does it matter?

For me, as in many things, it leads to interesting thoughts: Where are those particular birds now? Did they successfully raise their young and how many survived? Will they return to the same nest next spring or built a new one?

Will I notice that they've returned or recognize them and will I even care by then? After my thinking has run its course on the birds, it turns inward. The birds may not wonder at all about me, but just what will I have done in the time they've been away?

It is a thought worth pursuing...

We all suffer some degree of loss in our lifetimes. Relationships change, friends leave, spouses wander, parents and siblings die. The older we get, the more loss we have experienced, and that can become a burdensome thing. For those who believe in some sort of afterlife, there is at least the hint of a promise of reconnection. If the loss was caused by some kind of unresolved differences, there may be a chance of reconciliation - if not in this life, then in the next. If the loss was a person we cared deeply for, perhaps we will be together again someday. No more tears, pain, loneliness, or suffering - all will be well in the hereafter. The trouble is, no one can tell us when that will be and the waiting can be interminable.

While there are a number of different belief systems, those that offer no hereafter surely have ways of dealing with loss, but reuniting after this life would not be one of them. For those who have no belief in an afterlife, what's done is done. In some ways this might seem better, for putting one's life on hold in the hope for a better future "someday" could certainly lead to stagnation and dead ends - no pun intended. A great many poets and others who have ways with words have stated that the past is over and done with and the future is not guaranteed. All we really have is today - here and now. But if we are dealing with loss, how does this help?

I return to my thoughts of the empty birds' nests. To those birds I would say this: *"While you've been away, I have remained the same in some ways and changed in others. I have grown, learned, and reached out beyond myself. I have made mistakes, stumbled, fallen, and picked myself up. I have remembered the past, but not remained mired there. I have anticipated the future and moved forward, knowing I may never reach it. I have endeavored to help others, share what I have, see life through their eyes. I have not wasted my life, but have **lived it** - loved, laughed, sung, danced, and enjoyed those around me. I think of you and remember all that you taught me; my life is richer because you were here."*

If I would say that to birds, how much more could I say to those I've lost? The telling does not need to be in words, only in the living of our lives. Whether you believe we'll meet again or not, imagine it is so. LIVE your life - in honor, or in spite of, those you've lost. For in the end, this is what truly matters.

*Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life?  
You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. James 4:14*