

the vinyard

October 2014



Vinland Lutheran Church

"I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish that I may gain Christ and be found in HIM." Philippians 3:8-9a

John Piper writes, *"I define risk very simply as an action that exposes someone to the possibility of injury or loss. If you take a risk, you can lose money, you can lose yourself, you can lose your life. With staggering promises of everlasting joy, Jesus unleashed a movement of radical risk-takers. Christ calls us to risk for the sake of the kingdom. American consumerism says just the opposite; Maximize comfort and security NOW. There is a great biblical legacy of risk-takers such as Esther, Moses, Mary, and Paul who considers all as loss so he may gain Christ."*

Piper makes a compelling argument for fearlessly and generously serving Jesus. Since salvation is a done deal, you have eternal life, therefore, we are set free to take risks for the kingdom. That is the baptismal message of grace. Over the next six weeks, we will be wrestling with what it means to be a faithful risk-taker. The temptation is to spiritualize this so it all becomes internal and not very concrete. The hope is to make this **RISKKY** series practical as well as prayerful. Some of our people will be sharing on everyday topics and challenging us all to grow in faith. Along the way, you will be personally invited to venture out in new ways for Jesus.

Relationships ❖ Income ❖ Sabbath ❖ Kairos (Time) ❖ Koinonia (Fellowship) ❖ Yielding

9/28 Relationships (Why are Vinland relationships worth the risk?)

EVENT: Church-wide- Rodeo Round-Up and Chili Cook-Off @ 3:30

10/5 Income (Why is it worth risking re\$ources on Vinland?)

EVENTS: Youth Fund-raiser: Krispy Kreme Donuts & Blessing of the Animals – 1PM

10/12 Sabbath (Why do we OWE IT TO GOD to be here?)

EVENT: Youth Fund-raiser: Bake Sale

10/19 Kairos (Time) (How do you "tithe" time to Vinland Church?)

10/26 Koinonia (Fellowship) (What do we have in our "church home"?)

EVENTS: Reformation Sunday and Trunk or Treat @ 3:30 PM

11/2 Yielding (As Saints, what does surrender to God mean?)

EVENT: Congregational Dinner: "All The Saints for the Good Samaritan Fund"

11/5 Youth-led Poulsbo Prayer Tour



Kris Clucas 10/1
Bob Reister 10/3
Spencer Gillespie 10/4
Don Danielson 10/10
Thelma Etchells 10/10
Lisa Journey 10/13
Bev Puhn 10/14
Shawna Williams 10/15
Rob VanVlerah 10/16
Elsie Booth 10/16
Chuck Rabura 10/18
Fiona Gillespie 10/19
Marilee Mills 10/22
John Banzer 10/22

Marcia Halferty 10/23
Nolan Gregg 10/23
Glenn Schechert 10/24
Elizabeth Slocum 10/25
Marissa Wendt 10/25
Matt Clucas 10/27
Linda Carlson 10/28
Don Moriarty 10/28
Aimee Cotey 10/28
Karly Crawford 10/29
Geoff Wendt 10/30

Mike & Angela Desmond 10/7
Vern and Lou Youngs 10/11
Ed & Jan Hakanson 10/12
Ray & Vicki Kobeski 10/19
Greg Warren & Susan Thiel 10/21
Tim & Amy Munns 10/23
Steve & Brandy Weir 10/26
Phil & Julie Swenson 10/30



**PRAYER OF
OUR HEARTS**

**Dearest Lord,
 Let Scripture be our
 standard,
 Love our law,
 Mercy our message,
 Prayer our passion.
 In your beloved name,
 Amen**

contributed by Sharon Schmid

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Pastor	Charles Slocum
Parish Life Associate	Marsha Wright
Youth & Family Minister	Karyn Crawford
Parish Secretary	Megan Adrig
Preschool Director	Janean Moriarty

Financial Update! We have fallen behind in meeting our budget for 2014. As of mid-September, we are about \$13,000 behind where we should be at this time. Staff and stewards have done a remarkable job of keeping expenses down, but we need to be mindful of the budget we voted on in January of 2014. Please prayerfully consider your financial donations in the coming months.



**OCTOBER 26: TRUNK O' TREAT AND
CHILI DOG DINNER**

fall happenings

OCTOBER 5 at 1pm - *Blessing of the Animals*



Bring your cat, dog, rabbit, horse bird, hamster, snake...whatever! If you call it your faithful friend, bring it to be blessed. Please make sure that your pet is leashed or caged - no matter how docile, every animal can be unpredictable on unfamiliar turf! We do this every year in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi, a friend to all creatures and to honor our faithful companions.

Parent's Night Out, Sat. Oct. 11th: 5-9:30

The youth, under the capable guidance of Karyn Crawford, were the kid-watchers on September 20, and it was AWESOME! It went so well that they will keep this up on a monthly basis. Suggested donation is \$10 per child with a maximum of \$20/family. Kids will get dinner and lots of attention from the teens. Teens will learn about babysitting and make some money for their activities!

Watch for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Grace Hall or e-mail or call the office. Kids must be potty trained.



Trunk or Treat! Sun, Oct. 26 at 3:30pm

Dinner at around 5pm

Chili Dogs and Pumpkin Pie!

Decorated Trunks!

Hayrides! Treats! Costumes!

Sign up if you want to decorate your trunk...your truck bed... van....scooter....

Bring some candy to pass out to all who come in costumes!



pastor chuck believes, banter & blogs



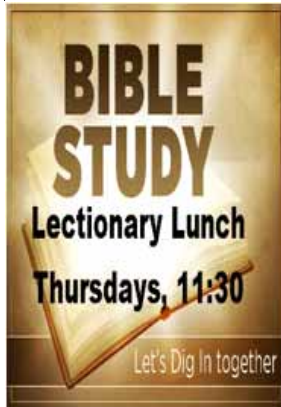
Congregational Dinner, Sunday, November 2nd @ 5:00 PM

When? Come celebrate All Saints' Sunday with the saints of Vinland!

What? You are invited to Grace Hall for a delicious Oktoberfest Feast. (Food is being provided & Judy Wales and team are cooking.)

Why? We gather as a church to celebrate all the saints of God. Along with the tasty brats, there will be fun, fellowship & a short program.

Cost? The dinner is free. There will be an opportunity to donate for those who would like to financially support Vinland's Good Samaritan Fund.



Blogging: [Pastor Chuck's Takeaway on the web.](http://pastorchuckstakeaway.wordpress.com/) Here is the address. Check it out! <http://pastorchuckstakeaway.wordpress.com/>

Lectionary Lunch is Back: Thursdays, 11:30 AM

Join us in Grace Hall as we prepare for Sunday's message with a preview of stewardship topics & give the preacher your pitchback.

Oct. 9- Sabbath Oct. 16 – Time Oct. 23 – Fellowship Oct. 30- Saints

Men's Breakfast gathers Saturday, Oct. 4th at 8:00 AM

Calling all the brethren who like breakfast with brothers in Christ. After a BIG breakfast we exchange thoughts, wisdom(?), & expertise around a current event in the headlines. Always good fellowship!

Lunch Bunch meets Monday, October 6, 11:30 AM

This month we travel to Port Orchard for a familiar and favorite destination, McCormick Woods Club House. Save the date!! Join us!

Dialogue on Draft meets Monday, Oct. 27, 5:00 – 6:30 PM

Come on down to the Hare & Hound for some energetic discussion/debate. This month we tackle "Militarizing the Police?" among Christian comrades. The atmosphere is casual, the conversation is lively, and you are invited..



Sermons on Line: Look for the latest of Pastor Chuck's sermons on the website.

barb's backyard

-Barbara Erickson



Odd Man Out noun: *a person who differs from the other members of a group.*

I only noticed it recently, looking out our second-floor bedroom window as I do first thing every morning. I enjoy looking out, checking on the current weather, the temperature, the subtle change of seasons reflected in the surrounding vegetation. That morning, well beyond what we consider summer, it stood out like a bright pink sore thumb. A lone kousa dogwood bloom, at the tiptop of a delicate branch, blooming away like it was the most natural thing in the world - never mind that it was surrounded by leaves gradually turning color and bright red fruits poking straight up as they do. What!?

Certainly this bloom was terribly confused...

We planted this tree some years ago after seeking one that would provide blooms, fall color, something to attract birds, and not grow too tall. It has met all of our expectations and more, especially the bright pink blooms that begin appearing in late spring/early summer and last a good month or more. But this is the first time it has ever had a bloom in the fall, at least that we have ever noticed.

Weather-wise, it has been an unusual year many places so that might account for this anomaly somewhat. There was one other similar incident this year when our magnolia bloomed a second time in late summer. I don't know for sure, but I assumed the blooming was in response to a rather severe pruning I had given it. But now with this single dogwood bloom, I have to wonder. As we all know, there are always exceptions to any rule, and nature is full of anomalies. Indeed, there are times we each can feel like the odd man out. From the time we are small, most of us are told that we don't need to always follow the crowd; that we should think for ourselves and become our own person is often drilled into our heads. We all learn, however, that going against the flow can be a difficult and challenging route. Young children want to be liked and accepted; going against the majority can result in uncomfortable comments and behaviors towards those who are different. Many just find it easier to give in and go along. For teens, it's all about fitting in and finding out who they are. A mean-spirited dig or being shunned can feel like the ultimate rejection. Young adults are still trying to find their niche and the work of finding their adult role in life can seem overwhelming at times. Often, the last thing they want is to stick out as being very different - even the "different" ones hang out together. This insecurity with not falling in line is not something we necessarily out-grow as adults, either. Politicians and businesses pander to the masses for a very good reason - more often than not, it works.

As I consider this lone dogwood bloom, still blushing rosily against the backdrop of dark trees, I see what an extraordinary statement it makes. It attracts my attention **because** it is different, standing alone when the others have all gone. It boldly takes a stand against the season and serves a purpose of providing food for the late-season insects. Are there risks for this late-bloomer that stands alone? Yes, I suppose there are, but in the greater scheme of things I believe it is well worth it - for each of us.

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. - Romans 12:2

women's groups

Women of the ELCA Women of Vinland

All women are invited to the monthly gathering, which includes Bible Study, lunch, singing and a meeting. Hostess for the Oct. 15 meeting is Jan Hakanson. Beachie Wishart will lead devotions. Women will be attending the Regional Gathering on Oct. 11 at Peace Lutheran Conference Center in Tacoma.

Women of Grace 1st and 3rd Mondays, 7pm



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. We meet on the first and third Mondays at 7pm in Grace Hall.

In October we are beginning a six-week study of the Dan Erlander book, **Manna and Mercy**. There are copies available in the kiosk in Grace Hall. \$8.25 per copy.

Quilters 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 9am

Fun-loving group meets to put together quilts for Lutheran World Relief and have coffee and lunch! Newcomers welcome! They currently need FLAT COLORED OR PRINT SHEETS.



Women's Breakfast

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



Last Tuesday

Women's Book Group

We meet on the last Tuesday of each month to discuss a book from the local library collection.

Come at 7pm on Sept. 30 to discuss "Prayers For Sale" by Sandra Dalles.

Busy Moms x Two

Looking for a fun group? Have kids school-age or younger? Then meet up with THE BUSY MOMS!

They are currently meeting at TWO times - different time and different focus. For those of you home on Mondays from 10-noon, join other moms to visit and watch the little kids play.

For those of you who work outside the home, come to Grace Hall on the first and third Tuesdays at 7pm.

kids and youth

Living Our Faith Together on Sundays:

Sunday School at 9:40am and Senior High Bible Study at 6:30pm



L.O.F.T. Wednesdays in October

October 1 - Potluck!! Bring your favorite food to share.

October 8 - Regular meeting

October 15 - Corn Maze at Minder Farms. Bring \$6 and a flashlight.

We will carpool from the church at 6:30.

October 22-23 - Lock-In! 8pm Wednesday to 8am Thursday

October 29 - Holy Halloween Party - wear a costume!

Seattle QuakeZone Retreat! We are holding two fundraisers to raise \$750 to pay half of the cost for 9 kids to go to this awesome retreat in Everett.



Krispy Kreme Donuts will be delivered October 5th!

Pre-order a dozen for \$10 and have them waiting for you at church on Oct. 5. You can also buy a box or a single donut that day.

Bake Sale on October 12. Buy a treat from some great kids.



SUNDAY SCHOOL is Open - Everyone Welcome!!!

Thank You to our wonderful teachers!!

Janean Moriarty is opening each Sunday with lively songs, updates and prayer. We take an offering each week. We believe it is good to instill in children the discipline of sharing their resources for God's work. Talk about this at home; the kids enjoy being the "offering collector."

The curriculum we are using has a "Through the Bible" focus so ask your kids what they have been discussing in class.

MONTHLY FOCUS... Once a month we are joining with the L.O.F.T. teens in a combined "Sunday School." October 5 we will be making dog treats in honor of St. Francis. November 5 we will be learning about the many saints of Vinland, with a graveyard tour (weather permitting).

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM!?!? Yes, we are already thinking about the Christmas Program to be held after worship on Dec. 14. **PLEASE come to the first gathering on October 19 at noon.** We'll take measurements and let you know about the program for this year!

fall preschool happenings



Preschool Vision

“Honoring God by Nurturing Children’s Relationships”

“Many things can wait. Children cannot....Their name is today.”

—Gabriela Mistral—

Every day is today at Vinland Lutheran Preschool. Our 19 little ones keep us in the now, where we see, hear, taste, smell, touch and especially feel God in each moment. Lori VanVlerah begins her 8th year as our head teacher with Kathy Goetz and Lynn Florent continuing as assistant teachers. I, Janean Moriarty, joined the staff in August. We are abundantly grateful for the amazing support of the congregation getting ready for class this year. Preschool Angels have cleaned and repaired our space, added doors to the preschool classroom, painted and furnished Pastor Chuck’s old office, filled the sandbox, cleaned the playground, stocked up on supplies, and hosted a successful fundraiser. We are so blessed!

A big preschool hug to all who made The Bite of Vinland a success, raising \$989 for our preschool!

Coming in October, we will be seeking “Prayer Buddies” for each child in preschool. As a “buddy,” we ask that you pray for the child and his/her family during the school year, then, attend a spring luncheon with the preschool families where you present a special book to the child. We request a \$10-30 donation to offset costs for the luncheon. Please consider connecting with a little one through this ministry.

We continue enrollment at the preschool, with openings in all of our classes. (T/W/Th a.m. & p.m. for 3-5 year olds, F a.m. for 2-3s) Please let your friends, neighbors and coworkers know about us! We welcome families to come tour our program. Contact preschool@vinlandLC.org or (360)865-0510.



Landscaping Plan Proposal

Landscape designer, Lisa Gregg, has drawn up a wonderful design for the “pathway” that borders the downstairs Sunday School and Preschool Gathering Rooms. It would also visually enhance the cemetery plots that it borders. It would encompass a gravel pathway, a small concrete patio and plantings.

This project would be another way to make Vinland more inviting to our preschool families and much more user-friendly for our Sunday School classes and those desiring access to the cemetery.

The final cost would run around \$1,000 (without labor costs). There will be a jar in Grace Hall for donations. We will also post a copy of the plan when it has final approval.

Gods work. Our hands.

Tanzania update from Jen and Sarah Nelson

Thank you so much for the prayers, support, donations, and concern for our trip to Tanzania! We had an amazing time and were so thankful for the opportunity to be there. We spent the first two weeks at Ngateu Secondary School working with kids and doing some projects like painting and sidewalk-making. Then we got to go on a safari! It was all so fabulous and special.

I wanted you all to know what amazing things your donations did for kids at this school. While we were there we learned that there were 20 kids that are really struggling. They are living on their own or with other students in hostels and although their school fees are paid through Safi School Project, they do not have any extra money for food. They were hungry. We realized that the only meal they were getting was the lunch (usually one bowl of rice and beans) at school. So we used the money donated from Vinland to set up a fund for these kids. We bought a few school supplies, a mattress, and some mosquito nets while there. The rest of the money is being used to get these kids food. One of the wonderful teachers at Ngateu, Baraka Mosha, has taken this project on. He has set up a voucher system at some of the local stores for the kids to use so they can get the food they want and need. He is checking on them and making sure they are okay. I was SO GRATEFUL to have this money available to give in this way. It was an answer to prayer and a blessing. Thank you so much Vinland!

The socks that people donated were also a big hit! The kids loved getting some fun, colorful new socks. It was a delight to see their smiles!

If you would like to learn more about what my parents' foundation is doing in Tanzania or help support a student at Ngateu, please let me know or check out their website at safischoolproject.org.

ASANTE SANA! (Thank you very much!)

Jen and Sarah Nelson

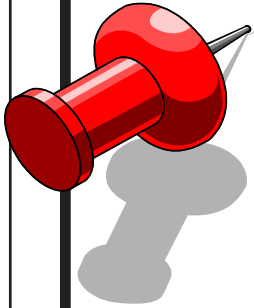


We participated in **GOD'S WORK.OUR HANDS.** on Sept. 7



We picked up garbage on the stretch of road between the church and Rhododendron Road and pulled invasive weeds in a park in Kingston. It was hot and sweaty work, but a good way to spend a few hours for the community.

on the bulletin boards



It's HERE!

The new Bulletin Board/ White Board is here (thanks to your generosity!). Please place your announcements & sign-ups for church/preschool

events on the bulletin board for all to see during coffee hour in Grace Hall. Only current events should be on the board.

If you miss the previous Sunday, the board will be in the Grace Hall foyer weekdays. If you use the white (magnetic) board please clean it off afterward with cleaning supplies provided, information may also be placed on the board with magnets, do not use scotch tape.



PINOCHLE!

Gather with friends for a potluck and a friendly game of cards. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

We would love to have you play, but need to have a head-count before the game!

Friday, October 16

Potluck at 5:30

Cards dealt at 6:00

Please call

**Jan Hakanson at 598-4882
or Julie Swenson at 779-6545
if you plan to play.**

What is the Good Samaritan Fund?

This fund is often just called "Good Sam." It was established many years ago to help members of the Vinland congregation who were in need of some monetary assistance. Everyone falls upon hard times at some point and this was a compassionate way to ease the burden. It was, and still is, completely confidential.

As time went on, the fund has become more of a community outreach. There is a yearly \$250 maximum for members and \$100 for those in the community.

The Good Sam Committee puts together Thanksgiving and Christmas "baskets" and also distributes the gifts from the Angel Tree.

Most of the monies are remitted to Puget Sound Energy and as coupons for food.

The Men's Breakfast donates every month and many Vinland people give monetary donations throughout the year. If you care to donate, just mark your check for "Good Sam" or put money in a marked envelope. It is put to good use.

Current Good Sam Committee Members are:

***Glenn Schechert, Diane LaMagna, Ersle Gregersen, Tina Bigelow,
John and Glenyce Ross and Judy Wales.***



using your gifts

Kitsap/Olympic Annual Fundraising Brunch for Lutheran Community Services NW

“The Power of Partnership”

Sunday, November 9

Kitsap Conference Center in Bremerton

Social Hour at 12:30pm.

Buffet and Program at 1:30pm

Although there is no ticket or upfront cost to attend this event, there will be an opportunity to make a gift or pledge to support neighbors through the services of LCSNW.

Our program includes:

- Introduction of LCSNW President & CEO **David Duea**
- Opening remarks and invocation by **Bishop Richard Jaech**, Southwestern Washington Synod, ELCA
- **A compelling client testimony**
- Presentation of the **Helen Norris Award** to an individual or organization for outstanding community service.

Proceeds raised at the event go directly to help people in your area:

- Home Care
- Senior Companion
- Navy Respite
- Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)
- Support U



N O R T H W E S T

Health • Justice • Hope