



<i>David Crawford</i>	<i>3/2</i>	<i>Bob Hibbard</i>	<i>3/5</i>
<i>Hayes Journey</i>	<i>3/2</i>	<i>Race Schultz</i>	<i>3/6</i>
<i>Joe Beers</i>	<i>3/3</i>	<i>Nicholas Kobeski</i>	<i>3/14</i>
<i>Carolyn Mikkelborg</i>	<i>3/3</i>	<i>Lydia Becker</i>	<i>3/15</i>
<i>Elaine Wenzlaff</i>	<i>3/4</i>	<i>Janean Moriarty</i>	<i>3/20</i>
<i>Karen Oster</i>	<i>3/4</i>	<i>Jeanette Kyster</i>	<i>3/26</i>
		<i>Kristen Crawford</i>	<i>3/28</i>
		<i>Ben Kobeski</i>	<i>3/28</i>

Happy Anniversary to...

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



**PRAYER OF
OUR HEARTS**

**Look up! Raise your arms.
Thank the Lord!**

**Breathe, Pray, Love out Loud.
Praise the Lord!**

**Listen, Feel,
Know that God is
with you!
Amen. Amen.**

contributed by Sharon Schmid

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Pastor	Charles Slocum
Parish Life & Children's Ministry	Marsha Wright
Youth Director	Karyn Crawford
Music Ministry	Bing Debar
Parish Secretary	Megan Adrig
Preschool Director	Janean Moriarty



**Set your clocks ahead on March 8!
Daylight Savings Time Begins!**

the vinyard

Vinland Lutheran Church
MARCH 2015

“So the younger son arose and went to his father. But, while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; for he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.”

Luke: 15:20

The Prodigal Son is Jesus’ most admired and most moving of all his parables, because it the story of our family, our faith, and finding our way back to the Father. “Forrest Gump” is a theologically rich story. Jenny is the prodigal daughter who keeps on running from a painful past. Forrest, the simpleton, comes to be the most gracious character, most like the Father. But, my favorite is Lt. Dan, who loses his legs in Viet Nam

and fights with the Almighty. In a raging hurricane, on their shrimping boat, Lt. Dan shakes his fist at God, “You call this a storm. You and I are going to have a showdown.” In the end, each character finds their way home.

This Lent we are meditating on the Prodigal Son. Each week we will hear the story from a different perspective. Our Lenten Wednesdays will begin with award-winning soup and fellowship at 6 PM in Grace Hall followed by the dramas and Compline liturgy. The Prodigal Son is a deeply personal and extremely profound story of broken relationships, sibling rivalries, sinful pride, wasteful living, longing for home, and the unlikely possibility of reconciliation. That is perfect for Lent as we go deeper into our own relationship with Christ Jesus and move to Holy Week.

Wed, Feb. 25	“The Prodigal: Can I Go Home?”	Pastor Chuck Slocum
Wed, March 4	“The Elder: What About Me?”	Jon Nelson
Wed, March 1	“The Mother: Where’s Mom?”	Marilynn Maas-Jones
Wed, March 18	“The Servant: I am a Witness”	Kelle Horn
Wed, March 25	“The Father: Not Your Typical Parent”	Father Tim

Holy Week begins Sunday, March 29 with Palm Sunday!

Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 7 PM

Good Friday, April 3 at 7 PM

Prayer Vigil – after Maundy Thursday service thru the beginning of Good Friday

Easter Sunday

Sunrise 7 AM / New Song 8:30 AM / Traditional 10:30 AM

pastor chuck believes, banter and blogs

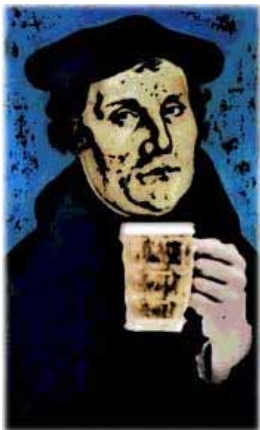
Go blogging with Pastor Chuck at pastorchuckstakeaway.wordpress.com



Lectionary Lunch Thursdays, 11:30 AM, Grace Hall
While Pastor Chuck recovers from surgery, Rev. Jim Berentson is leading the discussion.

Men's Breakfast is at Vinland, Sat., March 7 at 8:00 AM
Come for a BIG BREAKFAST, be engaged by the lively discussion, and be blessed by the brothers in Christ who both cook and converse well.

Lunch Bunch meets Monday, March 2nd, 11:30 AM
Join us at newly opened Buffalo Wild Wings at the Kitsap Mall. Come fellowship with cool Vinland seniors and try the hot wings for lunch.



Dialogue on Draft: Monday, March 30, 5 PM
We have a reserved room at Campana's on Viking Way where we will gather for fiery conversation and first-rate fellowship. This month we meet on the 5th Monday as we tackle a recent, controversial topic about Easter.

Summer Mission
Save the Date! July 6-10 for local and low-co\$t mission to SEATTLE. Youth & adults are invited to join us for an urban adventure/mission across the water. We will be staying at Edmonds Lutheran, working at homeless shelters, worship, study, Mariners game, building community, & nightly swimming. Specifics to follow.



Pastor Chuck Out of Action
Pastor Chuck is having hip replacement surgery—Monday, March 2. Thank you for your support as I will be away from Vinland for four weeks. If recovery goes well, I will be back for Holy Week. Thanks to the guest preachers; Dr. Russ Horn on March 8, Marsha Wright on March 15, & Pastor Marilyn deVeer (retired) on March 22. For pastoral care concerns please call the church office and talk to Marsha for help.

women's groups

Women of the ELCA Women of Vinland

Women of Vinland will meet on Wed., March 18 at 10am. Please join us for Fellowship, a Fabulous Bible Study, Food, and Fun!

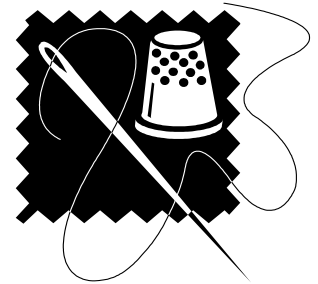


Women of Grace Mondays, Mar. 2 and 16

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, YOU are welcome.

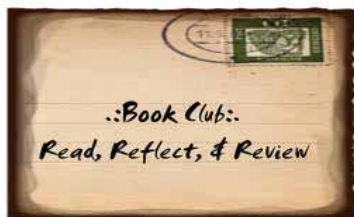
QUILTERS 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 9am

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 Poulsbo Junction at 8:30am.



Last Tuesday Women's Book Group

Check the weekly E-Flash and view for details about the March book and meeting time. February discussion will be Feb. 24.

Busy Moms

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.

children and youth

March Sunday School Schedule - every Sunday at 9:40am!
We are on a journey with Jesus all month.



We need small wrapped candies to fill the plastic eggs for the egg hunt on Easter morning. Bring candy to church.

KIDS ON THE GO!!!! JULY 29-JULY 2!! 9AM-NOON!!

We are in the early planning phase of an incredible VBS Camp. This will be a not-to-be-missed adventure! Watch for more details.

VINLAND LEGO-FAITH!! *We are already using Legos in Kid's Church as part of our faith formation. Kids love legos and they are learning how much God loves them!*

Lego-Bake Sale on March 29. *We are raising funds to purchase legos. We also love donations of Legos. There will be quart-size bags on the bulletin boards if you want to share some legos from home!*

What's Going on in the LOFT?

MARCH RETREAT March 13-15 at Camp Berach

Payment must be made by March 1.



Hosting Soup Supper March 4.

Everyone is invited to bring 40 Coins (any denomination) to donate to the Lutheran World Relief efforts to fight World Hunger.

L.O.F.T kids *will present a skit to the younger Sunday School kids on Feb. 22 and also put together a "Walk Through Lent" event for them on March. 29.*

L.O.F.T Wednesdays *will continue at 6pm through the month of March.*



**Create
in me a
clean heart,
O God,
and put a
new and right
spirit within me.
Psalm 51.10**

this n' that



Lutherhaven Clean-Up Day is Saturday, April 18 9am-1pm

Please join us in cleaning and preparing Lutherhaven for the coming summer months. There are large and small tasks to be done, so people of all ages can participate. You may stay for all or part of the time. We will enjoy a POTLUCK lunch together, so bring something good to eat and share!

Annual Men's Pig-Out March 14, 5pm

All men and boys invited; bring friends.
Bring your favorite dish: elk, bear, shrimp, venison,
fish, chowder, chili, stew.....

Dessert, potatoes and bread are welcome;
green salad and vegetables discouraged.
Paper plates, napkins and Tums provided: knives
and forks available upon request!



Father Tim will bring his black powder guns and hunting knowledge and Scott Puhn will bring his famous elk-hunting bow. Bring your stories to share.

Mark your calendar for Family Camp 2015 July 24-30



A GRAVESIDE SERVICE was held for Doug Barnhart's father on February 22. Peace and good memories to his family and friends.

GLUTEN-FREE wafers are available for communion.
Just tell the pastor or communion assistant.

PETSITTER/HOUSESITTER NEEDED Greg and Susan Gilbert are going on a 12-day cruise in June and they need a person who is reliable and passionate about animals to move into their house during this time. A pampered dog, cat and 2 birds need food and attention. Food in the freezer and cash are the incentives! If you are interested contact Susan at 360-930-8803 or wombat3286@aol.com.

preschool

Preschool Vision

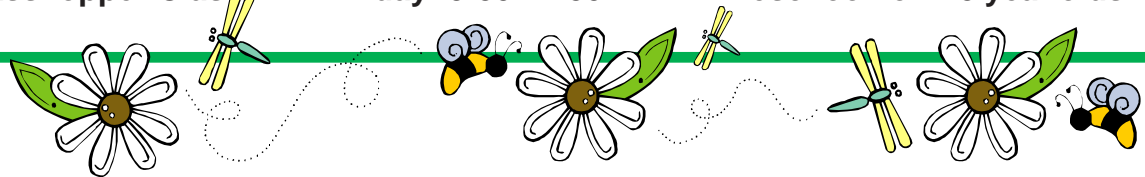
“Honoring God by Nurturing Children’s Relationships”

-Janean Moriarty, Director

Registration for the 2015-16 school year is open.

We are offering three classes:

Dragonfly Class	T-W-Th 9:15-12:00	Preschool for 3-5 year olds
Honeybee Class	T-W-Th 12:30-3:15	Preschool for 3-5 year olds
Grasshopper Class	Friday 9:30-11:30	Preschool for 2-3 year olds



Discovery Garden In Early Spring

On these nice days, grab a cup of coffee and enjoy the Discovery Garden. Call a friend...bring the kids....take a breather during this season of new growth!

“Celebrating Our Littlest Meatballs!”

SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, APRIL 19

FUNdraiser Italian Pasta Dinner

with entertainment and a raffle wonderful baskets full of goodies!
This is the famous dinner prepared by Chef Matt LaMagna and his amazing family!

Tickets will be on sale by mid-March.

This is the major fundraiser for the preschool and will be lots of fun!

barb's backyard



This is a tale of two shamrocks. It began with one (a gift from a friend) which grew to the point where I finally divided it, filling a second pot with the curious little nubs, roots & clover-like leaves of this prolific plant.

The second plant never quite did as well as the first one. I didn't really care because it was excess baggage anyway - vegetative scraps left over from the prized "Number One". That one even had an official name, *John F. Kennedy*, so had a pedigree in a way I thought. I guess that name could also apply to the division, but I didn't think of it in the same way.

Although I tried to care for the two plants equally, by the end of one summer, the second one was scrawny and peaked-looking. Since I considered it second-best anyway, I dumped it out of its pot and threw it on the compost pile in the backyard. It would not be a total waste that way I thought, and would at least be re-cycled into good, rich soil.

The long, rainy fall and winter passed. I don't really remember what the winter was like that year, whether it was mild or cold and snowy. In any case, I'm not sure that it would have mattered. Inside, the prized shamrock went into its normal slump - dropping its leaves and shriveling back for its winter dormancy. I never gave the other one - alone and exposed to the elements - a thought.

Slowly, the days lengthened and moderated. At the slightest hint of spring, I charged outdoors to begin gardening chores. To me there is a sense of freedom and elation in the outdoors after several months of darkness and being cooped up inside. Early spring is an incredible time, with all living things building up to burst forth with new life after months of inactivity. The abandoned shamrock was no exception...

Sometime well into spring clean-up I found it. Hauling a load of winter-dead garden plants back to the compost pile, I caught sight of it just before flinging the debris right on top of it. What a sight! There, among the well-rotted vegetation, a healthy, luxuriant green shamrock flourished. It had survived the winter, pushed new roots deep into the rich, loamy earth, sprouted twice as many leaves as it had before and put forth a number of white trumpet-shaped blooms.

You can bet I dug that plant up again, carefully planting it back into a pot along with its nutrient-rich soil. Next to it, the previously prized plant now looked puny and anemic. I didn't throw the first one out, but planted it purposefully along the house in a garden reserved for shade-loving plants. It continues to survive, though it grows and blooms sporadically. The second plant now has its time of glory in the house. I try to be attentive, water and fertilize it, and each time I look at it I'm reminded of the two shamrocks and their separate lives.

Like people, I think, and you just never know...

But those that were sown upon the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold. Mark 4.20

season of lent

re-thinking



THE 40 DAYS OF LENT

This should be more than a time of fasting. It should also be an intentional season of feasting. Lent is a time to fast from certain things and to feast on other things. It is a season to turn to God. We have printed some informational sheets about ways that we can all **FEAST** and **FAST** during this Lenten Season. They are in both Grace Hall and the Sanctuary.

<i>FAST from judging others;</i>	<i>FEAST on the goodness in them.</i>
<i>FAST from anger;</i>	<i>FEAST on patience.</i>
<i>FAST from pessimism;</i>	<i>FEAST on optimism.</i>
<i>FAST from bitterness;</i>	<i>FEAST on forgiveness.</i>
<i>FAST from discontent and envy;</i>	<i>FEAST on gratitude.</i>
<i>FAST from words that pollute;</i>	<i>FEAST on phrases that uplift.</i>
<i>FAST from overwhelming problems;</i>	<i>FEAST on prayer.</i>

On the “40 Days” theme, we are collecting “40 BAGS for Fishline”. Bring in a bag of either food for the FoodBank or clothes, toys, etc. for the Thrift Shop. You can leave them at church and they will be delivered.



The L.O.F.T. kids are providing the soup supper on March 4.

As a Lenten service project they are asking that everyone bring in “**40 COINS**” (any denomination) that will be contributed to the Lutheran World Relief World Hunger Project.



We will use the Compline Service on Wednesday evenings. It is peaceful and meditative. Members of the congregation will bring us a fresh perspective each week on Jesus’ parable of The Prodigal Son.

Beginning Wednesday, February 25, 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. 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! A Sign-up sheet is posted in Grace Hall.

OUR WORSHIP SPACE DURING LENT

Simplifying and paring down the worship environment is appropriate during Lent. It is often a time to put away the “good china” and use humble materials. You will notice a few changes around the sanctuary as we travel together through Lent. Burlap covers the altar. Twigs and non-blooming branches replace vibrant flowers. The banners are down and will be replaced with natural materials. We are taking a break during Lent in anticipation of the glory of Easter morning.