

# Happy Birthday

Tim Munns 7/1  
Samantha Feiring 7/2  
Rick Wright 7/2  
Fred Bates 7/3  
Andy Crawford 7/7  
Dennis Deitch 7/7  
Dylan Moriarty 7/7  
Erik Krema 7/7  
Phil Romero 7/8  
Matthew Nelson 7/10  
Clara Rose 7/12  
Karyn Crawford 7/14  
Erica Bigelow 7/17  
Kari Van Vlerah 7/17  
Bob Stuhlmiller 7/17

Justin Becker 7/20  
Amy Hochhalter 7/21  
Vern Johnson 7/21  
Sherry Gutierrez 7/24  
Morgan Moriarty 7/24  
Sean Carlson 7/28  
Diane LaMagna 7/30



Scott & Bev Puhn 7/9  
Matt & Michelle Holman 7/12  
Bob & Sally Winkel 7/20  
Bob & Elaine Wenzlaff 7/27  
Frank & Sharon Schmid 7/30  
Joe and Karen Beers 7/31



## PRAYER OF OUR HEARTS

**Savior God,**  
THANK YOU for your constant GRACE.  
You require of us our deepest, most honest devotion.  
Help us to surrender daily to your calling until we've surrendered all.

Amen  
*contributed by Sharon Schmid*

**Take some time to read the SOUTHWESTERN WASHINGTON SYNOD Newsletter this month. It is packed with interesting articles! Go to [www.lutheranssw.org/news-publications](http://www.lutheranssw.org/news-publications)**

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)  
Preschool 865-0519

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

## July 2015

### Annual Picnic



### **JULY 26: REALLY FUN PICNIC FOR EVERYONE!**

Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Bring side dishes to share. We'll gather on the picnic side for eating and lounging around 12:30.

*Summer Worship at  
9:30AM every week*



**July 24-30  
Picnic on July 26**

**Join the fun...for a day, a weekend, or all week!!  
We are one of the owning congregations of this camp  
and pay \$17 per year for each member of our  
congregation. We are then able to use the camp for one  
full week and members are entitled to go out and picnic  
and play during the summer months.**

**Suggested donation is what you would spend on meals  
for your family and some extra to cover craft  
and lifeguard expenses.**

**Registration forms are in Grace Hall;  
we need an approximate head count per day to plan  
meals.**

**Final, mandatory camp meeting on  
July 19 after worship.**

**PICNIC**



**SUNDAY, JULY 26  
at around 12:30.**

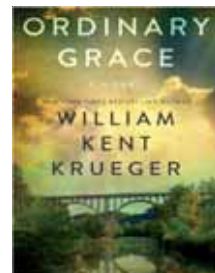
**Hot dogs, burgers and  
lemonade provided.  
Bring a side dish to share.**



**Movies Meet The Bible  
Mon-Thurs. at 9am led by  
Pastor Chuck**



**Nightly campfire with music**



**Book Discussion on  
Tuesday at 1pm.**

# miscellaneous

*Our lives are enriched by those who enter and by those who leave.....*

## **A Note From Lucille Smith....**

*We lost our husband and father, Jack, on June 18th. Pastor Chuck gave the sermond and Arnold Hammond sang for us at a graveside service. We thank them both for the outstanding portrayal of Jack's life. We thank you all for the prayers and the outpouring of cards, love, and flowers. Jack and I felt that Vinland was our home the first time we came there and now I feel that Jack is finally home again. I hope to come visit and worship with you all again. I have such pleasant memories of our journey together. My love to you all. Lucille Smith*

*Norma Lien passed away on July 3. Marilyn Maas-Jones was at her side. There will be a memorial service later this summer. Norma was a familiar face both to us at Vinland and in the greater Poulsbo community.*

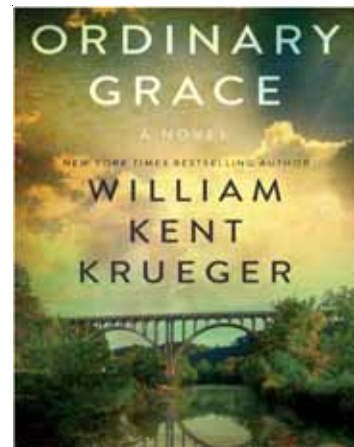
*Our dear friend, Laura Nicodemus, has moved to a new home in Oregon where she will be very close to her daughter Linda. We will miss her bright smile and wish her all the best for the remainder of her life.*

*Rick and Marsha Wright are the happy grandparents of Juniper Rayne. born May 31 to Kylie and Chuck Moore.*

## **July Book Group will meet at Family Camp on Tuesday, July 28 at 1pm**

*Ordinary Grace is a novel of redemptive grace and mercy, as well as unidentified corpses and unexplainable tragedy.*

*Join the discussion lake-side....men and women welcome! Invite a friend to come.*



## **God's work. Our hands.**



Some of the 2014 team

# Lutheran

MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
Day of Service will be Sept. 13, 2015  
Let's have a HUGE turnout.  
Watch for details.

# barb's backyard

-Barbara Erickson



“Regal” was not the way I would have described him that day, mucking about in the mud with the others. Nor did he appear noble or proud as he hopped about with his ungainly gait, vying to grab what he considered his share of the take. Instead, he appeared rather bedraggled, a bit vulnerable and obviously hungry. And, as is so often the case, the others took advantage of this opportunity to constantly natter at and harass him. In fact, they were unceasing and merciless in their belligerence, darting in as they dared to scold and attack.

Undeterred, he stuck to his mission, finally grabbing his prize and silently lifting off to circle higher and higher. Still, he was followed by a streaming menagerie - swooping, lunging, attacking and squawking - that seemed to accompany him until he slowly faded from view. At what point they gave up, if ever, and finally left him to his peace, I did not know. Obviously, there is another side to majesty.

Liberty Bay in Poulsbo is extremely shallow and muddy. When the tide goes out, vast mud flats are revealed - the lower the tide, the more mud. Many underwater sea creatures become stranded at these times, left uncovered and unprotected. Some burrow down into the ooze or squiggle under rocks; others hide beneath damp seaweed. But many are simply marooned, left to the mercy of the sun, wind and ever-present carnivorous birds. Noisy gulls, crows, herons, and eagles swiftly move in to scavenge what they can while they can. And so it was the day I spotted the lone Bald Eagle.

In 1782, the Continental Congress adopted what was called the American Eagle as our national emblem, though not everyone agreed. Benjamin Franklin opposed the choice, as he favored the wild turkey for such an honor. One hundred years later, the ornithologist Arthur Cleveland Bent commented that the Eagle’s carrion-eating habits and attacks on the smaller, weaker osprey “hardly inspire respect and certainly do not exemplify the best in American character.” To add further insult, many felt the large birds were simply “lazy”. True, they often are amazingly sedentary, remaining on the same perch for hours at a time. The reason? Competency and efficiency. Adult eagles are free to sit and conserve energy precisely because they *can* secure food at will - with deadly speed and aim. Skilled hunters, they are able to capture waterfowl in flight and rabbits and mice on the run. But they also eat carrion and are accomplished food thieves, as many an osprey has learned. It’s called survival.

I ponder this majestic bird and see there are two sides to the coin - just as there are to our American values, collective actions, or individual characters. We all have our muddled times in the mud of this world - times when we are less than regal and certainly not proud. And there are the times we spread our wings, sunlight delineating all that’s pure and good and promising in us - and soar.

*For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.*

*Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather. Matthew 24:27 - 28*

*Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;  
but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40: 30 - 31*

# women's groups

## Women of Vinland

Third Wednesday of each month



In place of a July meeting, the women hosted a Patriotic Potluck on the Fourth of July. They also provided a delicious strawberry social for us on June 28. Next meeting will be **August 19 at 10am**. Elsie Booth will lead devotions and Jan Janzen and Estelle Osbourn will bring dessert. Everyone bring a salad to share! All women welcome!

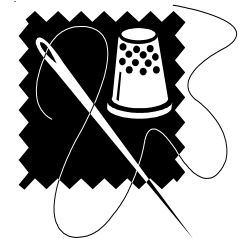


## Women of Grace

We are on "Summer Sabbatical". Plan to join us in September as we discuss current issues, scripture, and books. All women are welcome to join this informal group that meets in the evenings...first and third Mondays at church. Contact Marsha Wright at [randmwright@gmail.com](mailto:randmwright@gmail.com) or 360-621-6983.

## 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.



**Meet**  
for  
**Breakfast**

## 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 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! 6pm-??



Busy Moms  
are at the lake  
for the  
summer!!

*They are meeting out there on beautiful Tuesdays around lunchtime. Bring the kids and a picnic and relax on the picnic side of the camp. Talk to Karyn Crawford.*

# worship matters

## “About The Contemporary Service”

Steve King, New Song Worship Team Leader, Staff Member, VLC

It seems distant to jump from the “Great Commission” to discussions about worship service times, worship in Grace Hall or Contemporary Christian music services. However VLC is wrapping up the survey and important decisions are before the council; **plus** a selection Committee is working to hire a new Director of Music Ministry. So, to make meaningful choices about our mission of reaching out, we should be informed with a broad, even national perspective, in making decisions about our services. Said another way, we don’t know what we don’t know until we know more.

Of course the Great Commission is fundamental to our mission statement, “rooted, rejoicing, and reaching.” No problem, right? After all, in the U.S., 77% [of people] identify as Christian and eighteen percent have no explicit religious identity?<sup>1</sup> We’re generally not doing badly! 77% is a good number (not to leave the 18% behind). But here is some additional information to consider (circa 2007): One out of every three adults (33%) is classified as unchurched - meaning they have not attended a religious service of any type during the past six months. Residents of the West (42%) and Northeast (39%) remain the most church resistant, while those in the South are the least prone to avoid religious services (26%).<sup>2</sup>

So the West is the most church resistant population in the country (that’s here where we live). What does that mean to VLC, that statistically 42% of the stated Christian believers around us are un-churched? If nothing else, that is a huge mission challenge to help bring God’s children home! And a large part of that 42% are the Millennials, Americans ages 18 to 29 who are considerably less religious than older Americans.<sup>3</sup>

The Body of Christ is made up of all parts and all age groups. Like climbing a ladder, each rung is needed. VLC needs all those rungs to keep strong. At VLC nothing is wrong - we’re growing! But we have a sustainability challenge with young adults & families that I’ve heard many people talk about. So we need to take new steps to get additional results - even if it’s uncomfortable.

Psalm 144:9 reads, “*I will sing a new song to you, my God; on the ten-stringed lyre I will make music to you.*” That reference is the origin of the New Song Worship Team’s name. But why do we need this new form of worship?

Contemporary services have radically impacted both church and culture. Churches are adding contemporary services because they meet the needs of young adults & families and many others across the age spectrum. Some of the largest and fastest growing churches in America are contemporary, e.g., Rick Warren’s Saddleback Church. Meanwhile, traditional churches are struggling with declining numbers.<sup>4</sup>

Without changing our Traditional service, our vision for the contemporary service is to expand VLCs’ worship offerings in a new venue that reaches out to people seeking a closer relationship with Christ. I’ve learned our VLC contemporary services began some 10 years ago, long before I joined VLC. The venue is solidly based in the Lutheran liturgical elements of Confession, Absolution, Scripture readings, Sermon, and Holy Communion. In these, the Lord descends to us with His saving grace – Amen! As a Lutheran, these are critically important to my faith life.

What about times for service? We know through many surveys and our own members who travel and attended elsewhere, that churches with contemporary worship typically hold their services as the late service, frequently between 10:30 - 11am. They have time for study between services, and their traditional services are held as the first service.

What about seating? Seating tends to be arranged in a semi-circle around a raised platform and Alter that gives participants a greater feeling of closeness to God – (and Pastor greater proximity to his flock).

*continued on next page...*

# worship matters

## *(cont. “About The Contemporary Service”)*

This is, for a nationally trending number, a more meaningful experience.

But change is tough! Few in the Bible knew more about change than Saul. Just think of his change, from killing Christians to becoming the Apostle Paul - HUGE! Paul’s thoughts about actions to save souls are recorded in 1 Corinthians 9; 19 – 22. In short, “. . . *I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.*”

In this we see Paul’s flexibility, while delivering the unflinching message of Christ’s crucifixion and resurrection. And by looking outward, we see what is working throughout our country with young adults and families – that rung-of-the-ladder we need for sustainability. These things help inform us about the various times, places and manner of worship we offer.

So with God’s Grace we get to decide again, in this time and place, how to best meet the needs of our congregation & community. With His grace first, our prayers, and the strong leadership that our Pastor and Council are providing, I know we’ll see the fruits of Romans 8:28:

*“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”*

Yours in Christ,  
Steve King

### **(Footnotes)**

<sup>1</sup> Gallup Poll Politics, 12/24/12:

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/159548/identify-christian.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> Barna Group, “Unchurched Population Nears 100 Million in the U.S.,”

[https://www.barna.org/barna-update/article/12-faithspirituality/107-unchurched-population-nears-100-million-in-the-us#.UzBiy\\_lVSS](https://www.barna.org/barna-update/article/12-faithspirituality/107-unchurched-population-nears-100-million-in-the-us#.UzBiy_lVSS)

<sup>3</sup> Pew Research Religion & Public Life Project, “Religion Among the Millennials,”

<http://www.pewforum.org/2010/02/17/religion-among-the-millennials/>

<sup>4</sup> The Huffington Post, “The Growing Contemporary Church”

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rick-mcdaniel/the-growing-contemporary-church\\_b\\_1842885.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rick-mcdaniel/the-growing-contemporary-church_b_1842885.html)



**Want to share your voice or instrument with the congregation? We would love to hear you during the summer months or anytime!**

**Talk to Steve King, Pastor Chuck or call or e-mail the church office: 779-3428 or [vinland@vinlandlc.org](mailto:vinland@vinlandlc.org)**

**Praise Band practices on Tuesday evenings around 6:30 in the sanctuary. They would love to have you join in the fun....they always have a great time together.**

**Again, talk to Steve King if you have questions.  
[sking.chat@gmail.com](mailto:sking.chat@gmail.com) or 703-447-2785**

## summer news

**Happy Birthday August!!**



*Vicki Kobeski 8/1*  
*Madeline Ward 8/2*  
*Joey Munns 8/5*  
*Ed Hakanson 8/8*  
*Marsha Wright 8/9*  
*Danielle Branes 8/11*  
*Jaimie Florent 8/11*  
*Grady Becker 8/12*  
*Olivia Desmond 8/13*  
*Glenyce Ross 8/14*  
*Ernest Janzen 8/19*  
*Nick Gilman 8/19*  
*Barb Erickson 8/21*  
*Jan Hakanson 8/22*  
*Rand Hein 8/23*  
*Beachie Settle 8/23*  
*Sara Bigelow 8/24*  
*Kelli Oster 8/25*  
*TJ Munns 8/25*  
*Josh Clucas 8/25*  
*Mari Schielke 8/28*  
*Bobbie Moore 8/31*

*Tom and Elsie Booth 8/4*  
*Fred and Audrey Bates 8/8*  
*Chad and Callie Gillespie 8/11*  
*Jason and Shauna Becker 8/12*  
*Chuck and Elizabeth Slocum 8/14*  
*Bing and Bonnie Debar 8/16*  
*Rich and Sharon Wendt 8/16*  
*Tom and Judy Lucas 8/17*  
*Jerry and Penny Dutton 8/18*  
*Bill and Barb Erickson 8/20*  
*Tom and Keary Myers 8/22*  
*Chuck and Tammie Rabura 8/22*  
*Erik and Jill Krema 8/27*  
*Ken and Nancy Ray 8/27*  
*Andy and Debbie Cotey 8/28*  
*John and Carolyn Mikkellborg 8/29*  
*Bob and Carolyn Hibbard 8/31*



**There are still openings in the AFTERNOON T-W-Th class and  
in the FRIDAY 2-3 YEAR OLD CLASS.**

**Please call the church....360-779-3428; the preschool...360-865-0519  
or e-mail [preschool@vinlandlc.org](mailto:preschool@vinlandlc.org) for enrollment information.**



# fun times



## **LYKE (Lutheran Youth of Kitsap Encounters)...Wed. nights at Lutherhaven.**

Enjoy the lake and each other. Always looking for drivers. Meet at Vinland at 5:30 - return to church by 9pm.

Or meet out at Lutherhaven at 6pm.

Churches take turns barbequeing burgers....everyone bring something to share...chips, salad, dessert, fruit, etc.

This is a great opportunity to connect with youth from area Lutheran churches.

## **Youth Bible Camp at Lutherhaven August 8-13**

This camp is open for youth in the community who have completed grades 3-8. The cost is \$160.00 per camper. Registration forms are available in the church office or on the Olympic Lutherhaven website: [olympiclutherhaven.org](http://olympiclutherhaven.org). This year's theme is "Time Travel Adventure."



## **Kids on the Move Day Camp Re-Cap**

Thanks to a village of volunteers, the week was glorious! Kids from Vinland and the community as far as Port Orchard were enveloped in God's love all week. The activity level was as high as the temperature, but laughter, smiles, and lots of singing never stopped. Nick Gilman was the much-appreciated leader of outdoor games. Thanks Nick!!

L.O.F.T. kids, under Karyn Crawford's guidance, did an outstanding job of volunteering in the mornings. We have a remarkable group of youth at Vinland!

This could very well turn into a yearly event for Vinland. We have a wonderful facility and woods and meadows to explore. What a gift to share with the community!

The 5K Run/Walk for Water on Thursday went even better than expected. Kids were proud of their accomplishment and everyone remained safe.

**We will continue to collect money for the ELCA World Hunger Walk for Water Campaign throughout July. There will be a marked container if you wish to donate.**



# summer prayer

buildingfaith

Home Practices  
Our picks for building faithful households

*As you are driving around town or the country this summer, make this practice a habit! Check out the “building faith” website for more ideas.*



## Praying in your Car

*compiled by Charlotte Hand Greeson*

### Why is this faith practice important?

The average American spends 101 minutes a day driving. If you, like I do, live in an urban area, you may find yourself frequently frustrated or impatient while driving. Why not reclaim these hours and use this time to connect with God, your family if they are in the car with you, and your community? **St. Paul wrote, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, givethanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1Thessalonians 5:16-18, NRSV).** I believe the car should be an avenue for such focused intention. Indeed, focusing intention is a critical aspect of prayer.

### What materials are needed for this practice?

A car, and a radio that is turned off.

### How to do it

**Focus your intentions:** Start by taking a few deep breaths. If there are others in the car, encourage them to breathe too. Begin by asking God to help you be a source of Christ’s peace at this time.

**Pray for others:** Focus on other people, praying that:

- They would know God’s presence.
- That any sickness or trouble will be overcome.
- That they will find at least one moment of joy to celebrate today.

**The license plate prayer:** Look at the letters of the license plates on the cars around you. Offer up a prayer for a person that you know whose name begins starts with the letter on the license plate. Or, if you are in an area with cars from different states, pray for someone you know from that state, or for the people of that state as a whole.

**Red light or traffic jam prayer:** Start with the car in front of you; or at an intersection, across from you. Using the petitions above, pray for the occupants of that car. If you have time, pray for the car behind you and/or the cars beside you. Pray specifically that the people in the cars arrive at their destinations safely.