

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY! Happy Anniversary

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Sirpa Brock | 11/1 |
| Kathryn McCluskey | 11/1 |
| Maren Swanson | 11/6 |
| Christopher Clucas | 11/7 |
| Kyle Cotey | 11/7 |
| Glenn Settle | 11/8 |
| Les Oen | 11/8 |
| Peter Hansen | 11/11 |
| Jill Krema | 11/11 |
| Jon Nelson | 11/12 |
| Matt Holman | 11/13 |
| Melissa Warren | 11/13 |
| Conner Warren | 11/15 |
| Kyle Oster | 11/18 |
| Alexis Duncan | 11/19 |
| Caroline Slocum | 11/20 |
| Corey Oster | 11/22 |
| Donna Breuer | 11/24 |
| Carol Hein | 11/30 |

Les Oen will be 94! He is at Harrison, but will be returning to Montclair soon.

Dick & Lonnie Swanson 11/2
 Aaron & Mari Schielke 11/13
 John & Carol Bartlett 11/18
 Michael & Christine Warbois 11/21

Arlene Swift's uncle, **Ed Swalling**, passed away Oct. 17. He was in his nineties, lived in Auburn, and his death was not unexpected.

Ed was one of the founders of Lutherhaven, in addition to his membership of many years here at Vinland.

His funeral was Oct. 22nd. Blessed be his memory here at Vinland.



prayer of our hearts....

Precious Savior, help us to be instruments, working together to grow your church on earth; may it be so in our Praying, Caring and Doing.
 Amen

Sharon Schmid

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 Lay Associate: Marsha Wright
 Youth: Karyn Crawford
 Secretary: Megan Adrig

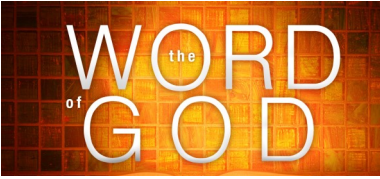
Preschool Director: Janean Moriarty
 Preschool: 360.865.0510
 E-Mail: preschool@vinlandlc.org



Nov. 8 at 2pm—Veteran's Day Concert

Nov. 15 at noon—Women's Cozy Fall Lunch

Nov. 25—Thanksgiving Eve Potato Bar(6pm) and Worship Service(7pm)



“As the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth, and making it bud and flourish. So that is my Word that goes out from my mouth; It will NOT return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”
ISAIAH 55:11-12



the VINYARD

Vinland Lutheran Church Nov. 2015

That is an extraordinary promise in the book of Isaiah, especially for preachers who read the sermon notes from their confirmation students. Our confirmation program just started up so I have the first wave of sermon notes. Some notable excerpts so far include, *“A lot of times I really don’t like church. I don’t like worshipping God in a room. I like worshipping outside of church. I only go to church to make God happy,”* *“I’m lucky my parents are not divorced”*, *“I believe this sermon has taught me that family and friends are treasures not little trinkets”*, *“I don’t how this relates to my life but I loved the sermon”*, and *“I may forget God at times, God but will never forget me.”*

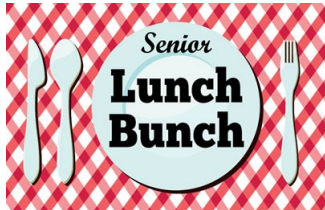
Granted, there are some healthy expressions of faith that they recorded from the Word they heard. Just say the word “sermon” and people get sleepy. This seems a long way from what God declares through the Prophet Isaiah, *“my Word that goes out from my mouth will NOT return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”* That is an

extraordinary promise that sums up the transcendent and steadfast reality of God’s Word. **IT WILL HAVE ITS WAY WITH US AND THE WORLD.** And that is often hard to believe, as you look out at people checking their watches and holding back (or not) a yawn. I write this because we are between Reformation Sunday and All-Saints Day. As Lutheran Christians, we hear the Word Preached, read the Word in Scripture, and receive the Word through the sacraments of Holy Baptism, the Lord’s Supper, and Confession & Absolution. We believe that Christ is the Word of God that comes to us to nurture, encourage, hold us accountable, heal, and direct our paths. The part that is almost impossible to believe is that God ministers through long-winded preachers, old liturgies, New Song lyrics, faltering readers, plain old bread and wine. Maybe that just makes church, faith, grace, and forgiveness all the more radical and unlikely. Since guys like me are the delivery system and people like you are disciples let us pray God is directly involved if **SALVATION** is to come.

Pastor Chuck: MISSION.BIBLE STUDIES.FELLOWSHIP

THANKS to our church council for working together through long meetings, email votes, and difficult issues to serve God through leadership.

THANKS to Bruce & Lisa Mansfield for stirring up our worship music



LUNCH BUNCH @ McCormick Woods: Monday, Nov. 2, 11:30 AM

Our nomadic collection of seniors are headed south as winter approaches, actually only to Port Orchard. This month we are convening at McCormick Woods for a gathering of friends to share lunch and fellowship together.

LECTIONARY LUNCH

Thursdays, 11:30 AM -12:45 PM Grace Hall

Bring a lunch, a bible, & open mind to prepare for Sunday's sermon.

11/5: Mark 12:38-44 11/12: Mark 13:1-8

11/19: John 18:33-37



SUNDAY ADULT STUDY "SOUL KEEPING", 9:40-10:20 AM

Between services you are invited to explore John Ortberg's superb book. Our focus is to better understand and nurture our inner life of the soul. We will have a video clip followed by coffee and conversation in Haugen Hall.

MEN'S BREAKFAST Saturday, Nov. 7, 8:00 AM

Masculine breakfast, mighty fellowship, plus multiple opinions offered!

NEW CONFIRMATION CLASS has launched for 7th and 8th graders!

We have 12 students that gather for study, service, fellowship, & lunch!

Saturday, Nov. 7, 10 AM – 2:30 PM: Commandments #1-4

Saturday, Dec. 5, 10 AM – 2:30 PM: Commandments #5-10



DIALOGUE ON DRAFT Campana's, Monday, November 23, 5 PM

Join us for lively conversation served with tasty calzones & cold beverages.

MEXICO MISSION (March 31-April 8, 2016) open for registration To sign up for our house-building trip (spring break) to Tijuana there is a \$200 non-refundable/transferrable deposit to register that is due on Dec. 6. Mission Preparation: Sundays, Nov. 1, 5:30 PM & Dec. 6 at 5:00 PM. For those registered for our mission project, your attendance is required.

PASTOR CHUCK will be away Dec. 10-13 for a family wedding.

Barb's Backyard by Barbara Erickson



It was odd that it caught my attention at all, but at the same time how could it not? It was so completely unexpected and foreign to my eyes that, even though it was nestled unobtrusively among the still-green leaves, it literally took my breath away. About five inches long, it hung as a tightly-packed group of dark-colored, woody pods, each one containing a brilliant, shiny red, plump, bean-shaped seed suspended from the pod by a single, white strand. I'm not kidding about the color - identical to the red of M & M's, I'd say! If this plant had produced this dramatic show of fall seeds before, I somehow had missed it.

The plant is a saucer magnolia tree, which we planted back in 1988 as a memorial to my mom whom we lost that year. It is slow-growing - only about eight feet tall after twenty-seven years of growth - but faithfully produces huge pink blooms each spring. Whether it was the unusually warm, dry summer, the tree reached some certain level of maturity, or other unknown factors, it lavishly produced five or six of these hanging seed clumps this year. Maybe I just happened to be working in its part of the yard at the right time. Whatever it was, because I think of it as "Mom's tree", it stirred up all kinds of memories of her.

It is often so easy to take those closest to us for granted. Precisely *because* they are so near and dear to us, they become a part of the fabric of our everyday lives, woven in so tightly and secure that we forget how precious they really are. If we are fortunate, and fully aware, age and experience teaches us that life can change in the blink of an eye and we should NOT take anything for granted - least of all those we treasure. I have been reminded of this time after time, but more so recently...

My loving husband - best friend ever, stalwart partner, robust worker, now facing physical challenges.

My sister - living close by for the first time since I was two years old, facing failing eyesight, hearing, and the fragility of aging.

Our adult son - struggling with mental illness, substance abuse, and unemployment.

My youngest niece - dealing with health issues, unemployment, her Alzheimer's-affected dad, and a sister with mental illness.

Our dear friend - solid presence and confidante, widower with young-adult children, who recently escaped serious injury from a falling tree.

My "Coffee Klatch" ladies - each facing their own unique challenges with family members, health, disability, and aging.

My community volunteer friends - dealing with family issues of dementia, addiction, failed relationships, worries for grandchildren, spouses, and their own declining abilities.

All of YOU - whom I know, love, appreciate, and consider part of the greater family.

I am not alone in this; I only listed those above as a reminder that all of us carry burdens of concern for those we care for and love. Let us remember to be thankful now for those we hold dear - circumstances can change in an instant and tomorrow may never come.

I view the magnolia's brilliant red seeds and remember my mom's bright red lipstick, geraniums, and apple pie. I'm ever so thankful to have had her in my life...

I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers.. Philemon 1:4

seasonal events



Advent Begins November 29

Advent marks the beginning of the church year. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which is the Sunday nearest Nov. 30th, and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent means "coming" and the focus is on the first coming of Jesus Christ as well as anticipation

of the return of Christ in his second coming.

We light four candles on an evergreen Advent wreath. Three candles are blue, which is a symbol of royalty. At Vinland the third candle we light is pink, signifying joy.

On Christmas Eve, four white candles adorn the wreath, as we celebrate Jesus' coming as the light that no darkness can overcome.

Red and green (secular Christmas colors) are not used as liturgical colors during Advent or Christmas. We generously use fresh greens during advent, and adorn the altar area with white poinsettias for Christmas, since white and gold are liturgical Christmas colors.



Soup Suppers and Wednesday Holden Vespers

Dec. 2, 19, 16. Soup @6pm; Vespers @ 7pm.

Youth will provide the meal on Dec. 2 Sign up and bring some soup or bread for the other two weeks. Clean-up help is always needed. Invite friends and family to come; this is a peaceful mid-week pause in an otherwise busy season. Totally family-friendly!

November 1 is ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, a day in the church year where we remember the saints that have gone before us. We thank God for the gift of knowing them, the legacy they have passed on to us and our church, and the way their lives have been a signpost of God's grace in the world. On this day, we want to remember specifically those who have died since last All Saints Day as part of our extended Vinland Lutheran Church family: Betty Rogstad, Helen Jensen, Bruce Taylor, Jack Smith, Duane Barnhart, Norma Lien, Verne Youngs, and Ed Swalling.

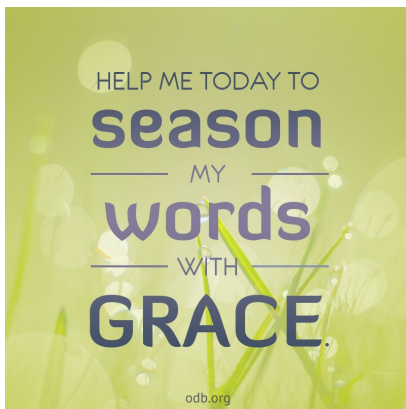


news for and about women

Women of Vinland

Third Wednesday of each month

The Women of Vinland will meet on November 18 from 10am-noon. All women of the church are welcome to come! Bible Study, singing, a little business, lots of laughter and a good lunch are guaranteed. November hostesses are Elsie Booth and Arlene Swift. Nita Johnson will give the devotions and Thank Offerings will be gathered.



Women of Grace

First & Third Mondays of each month at 6:30pm

This is a mixed-age group of interesting, fun-loving women who gather on the first and third Mondays for tea and cookies, prayer and discussion.

We meet at 6:30 in Grace Hall. Contact Marsha Wright at randmwright@gmail.com. Our discussion topics vary, but always generate lots of lively discussion.

Quilters meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 9am

A committed group gathers at church to put together quilts for Lutheran World Relief. No experience necessary...and...there is never-ending coffee and lunch!




Women's Breakfast Second Saturday, 8:30 at Envy Grill.

Last Friday Craft Night

 Every month at around 6pm.

Bring your unfinished projects. There is plenty of room to spread out.

thebusy moms  Moms of school-age and younger kids need time to get together! Watch for details as they re-group!

kids and LOFT news



SATURDAY, NOV. 7 from 5-9pm \$10/child

These events have become not only a great way for parents to have an evening out and know that their kids are well cared for, but an important fundraiser for our youth. The money generated from PNO supplements almost ALL the activities of our youth. It is also a great opportunity for the youth to learn responsibility and child care.

Kids MUST be potty trained. PLEASE sign up and call Karyn Crawford if you need to cancel. Food is purchased and prepared by the number on the sign-up sheet.

Cost of \$10 per child includes dinner.



DEC. PARENT'S DAY OUT SATURDAY, DEC. 12, 2-6pm

An afternoon of fun for kids while their caregivers take a few hours to shop, eat out, see a movie or window shop. Karyn will need adult and teen volunteers to help with this popular event.

“Laud and LOFT” youth will sing at both services on Nov. 8. Practice at 8am in the sanctuary!!



Sunday School and Preschool kids will sing at the Second Service only on Nov. 8. Practice will be at 9:45 in the sanctuary.



Sunday School Kids Christmas Program Sunday, DEC. 13 at 11am (after the 9:30 service)

We have a wonderful nativity program planned. Rehearsals are beginning and songs rehearsed. Thanks to Lisa Mansfield for the great music she is sharing with the kids.



Youth-Led Worship Service on Dec. 13 at 9:30 a.m.

LOFT kids will working hard to prepare a meaningful service.

preschool news



October has been so fun at preschool! The families went on a fun-filled pumpkin patch field trip. Next, we stopped, dropped and rolled like no others during Fire Safety Week! Poulsbo Fire Department engine #71 visited our classes to help us learn about fire safety. We wound up October with nocturnal animals and skeletons. Barb Erickson visited with her skeleton collection to teach us about the animals around us. We look forward to the adventures November will bring.



Preschool Sunday is set for November 8th during the 10:30 worship service. We have invited our preschoolers and their families to join us for worship and share a song with the congregation. After the service, we welcome all to an Open House in the preschool. Come explore our classroom, see our students' work and enjoy a cookie or two.

On Preschool Sunday, you will have the chance to give to the **Nancy Pearson Tuition Assistance Fund for Preschool**. Nancy Pearson loved children and knew how important it is for each child to receive a quality education in a safe, loving environment. Upon her death, her husband Bruce established the Fund to provide for families who would otherwise be unable to afford to send their child to preschool. Each year since 2008, families have received assistance. Our goal is to continue to offer assistance when needed. Thank you in advance for any contribution you may be able to make. Contributions are accepted any time during the year.

A big preschool hug and thank you to Judith McMahon for making a class set of dinosaur puppets and superhero capes for dress up. We appreciate your love for the little children. And more preschool hugs to Kurt Peterson, our building steward, for so happily fixing our broken stuff and dumping our junk. We are truly surrounded with preschool angels who bless us in so many ways!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

8am—2pm in Grace Hall

Setup on Friday from 1-7pm

The Preschool's second annual "Toy Sale" will be held on November 21 in Grace Hall. We would appreciate donations of very gently used or new toys for toddlers through young adults. There is a donation box in Grace Hall.

Come and shop and invite your friends and neighbors!

november events



Veteran's Day Concert Sunday, Nov. 8 at 2pm

Featuring the Navy Band Northwest
Woodwind Quintet.

Reception Following in Grace Hall.

Invite friends and family.



Cozy Autumn Ladies Luncheon

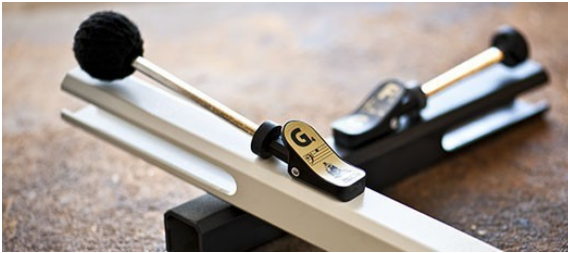
Sunday, Nov. 15,
about noon in Grace Hall
Free Childcare

Let's cozy together for a lovely afternoon of
good friends, good food and
plenty of laughter!

We'll learn a little about the wonderful
Norwegian word "koselig" and how
we can incorporate it into our
fall and winter seasons.

miscellaneous

HAND CHIMES!



They haven't signed with a major recording company yet, but...wait until you hear our hand chime group!! The group will play on Nov, 1, Nov. 22, at the Women's Cozy Fall Luncheon on Nov. 15 and on Christmas Eve.

With only a few practices, they are sounding great. *The best news is that it isn't too late for you to join. It is a lot of fun and a great way to contribute to our worship services.*

THANKS from Poulsbo Community Church



We allowed Poulsbo Community Church to store some articles in our basement for a couple months. They were very grateful, since the items were used to generate funds for their "Operation Christmas Child Shoebox" project. They have since invited us to join them on Nov. 14 at the church for a shoebox packing party. If anyone is interested, you can contact Marcia Mack at the church. It would be fun to work together!

ALTERNATIVE MARKET December 6 and 13th

We will feature 2 organizations this year.



Advent Tree – For ELCA Good Gifts. There will be an assortment of ornaments on a tree representing ELCA Good gifts – a goat, fruit tree, school supplies for example. People purchase the ornaments representing the gifts. Funds go to ELCA World Hunger.

SERRV—a selection of fair traded items for purchase

where the proceeds go to the artisans and their communities.

The Sunday School kids are excited to use their offering money to purchase an animal!

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

| Financial and Attendance Data | JAN-SEPT 2015 | Ahead (Behind) | 10/4 | 10/11 | 10/18 | 10/25 | OCT | Needed per Month |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|------------------|
| General Fund | \$192,177 | (\$10,822) | \$9,621 | \$4,115 | \$3,559 | \$2,091 | 19386.00 | \$22,555 |
| Other Contributions | \$40,158 | | | | | | | |
| Attendance 2015 | 530 | | 155 | 136 | 134 | 126 | 649.00 | |
| Attendance 2014 | 583 | | 152 | 140 | 142 | 133 | 699.00 | |
| Building Fund | Prior Yrs | JAN-SEPT 2015 | 10/4 | 10/11 | 10/18 | 10/25 | OCT | Total |
| Contributions | \$894,746 | \$26,078 | \$1,325 | \$650 | \$800 | \$5,275 | 8050.00 | \$928,874 |

simply grateful



Reflection on Gratitude

by Martin B. Copenhagen

No one is born thankful. Gratitude is something that is learned, and perhaps the best way to learn gratitude is by repeatedly expressing it. It is by offering thanks that we can come to something like thankfulness. When our children were young

we would often prompt them to express gratitude ("Say 'thank you' to the nice gentleman."), not merely to teach them manners, but also so that they might learn gratitude. After all, thankfulness takes practice.

As adults we can easily fall out of the practice of gratitude. So I was intrigued by the book by John Kralik, **365 Thank You's: The Year a Simple Act of Daily Gratitude Changed My Life.** During a dark time in his life, Kralik resolved to write a handwritten thank-you note each day. When he had written to all of his family members, friends and co-workers, he expanded the list. Once he wrote a brief thank-you note to the barista at his local Starbucks. That one almost wasn't read because the young man behind the counter assumed it was a letter of complaint. After all, who would write a thank-you note to someone for making you a cup of coffee each morning?

Over time Kralik found that this practice was changing his life. He started viewing aspects of his life differently, not as occasions for despair or complaints, but as a source of gratitude.

So, thanks to Kralik, this year I am resolving to practice gratitude by writing more thank-you notes.

