



Please hold in prayer...

Those mostly homebound...

Dorothy Holm, Al Grondahl,
Les Oen, Florence Paulson

Those in need of healing and comfort...

Ingerid Parrish, Lou Puzon,

Glenn Settle, Laurie Slocum, Sally Winkel.

Laurie Schechert, and the families of Jerry

Widrin and Mabel Raab

Happy Anniversary to...

Rich & Ersle Gregersen 2/6

Arnold & Delores Hammond 2/14

Ivan & Donna Beck 2/14

Ernest & Jan Janzen 2/14

Tony & Diane LaMagna 2/28

<i>Nita Johnson</i>	<i>2/2</i>	<i>Aaron Schielke</i>	<i>2/16</i>
<i>Tom Booth</i>	<i>2/4</i>	<i>Aimee Becker</i>	<i>2/16</i>
<i>Susan Thiel</i>	<i>2/6</i>	<i>Nancy Ray</i>	<i>2/17</i>
<i>Linnea Barnhart</i>	<i>2/10</i>	<i>Jillian Florent</i>	<i>2/18</i>
<i>Alexandra Schuldt</i>	<i>2/10</i>	<i>Muriel Dodge</i>	<i>2/19</i>
<i>Chad Gillespie</i>	<i>2/11</i>	<i>Martha Rabura</i>	<i>2/19</i>
<i>Audrey Bates</i>	<i>2/13</i>	<i>Andy Cotey</i>	<i>2/21</i>
<i>Erland Cain</i>	<i>2/14</i>	<i>Ross Burk</i>	<i>2/25</i>
<i>Jeremy Schuldt</i>	<i>2/14</i>	<i>David Bratlien</i>	<i>2/27</i>

*If your name does not appear, please let
someone in the office know.*

www.vinlandlc.org

Vinland Lutheran Church, est. 1904

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Pastor	Charles Slocum
Parish Life	Marsha Wright
Youth & Family Minister	Alyssa Bowman
Parish Secretary	Donna Beck
Preschool Director	Sherry Gutierrez

God's Blessings To:



*Fat Tuesday Pancake
Supper Feb. 21
Ash Wednesday Service
Feb. 22 at 7pm*



The Vinyard

Monthly Newsletter of Vinland Lutheran Church

February 2012

“Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant _____ . Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her/him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of saints in light. Amen. (Commendation from the Burial of the Dead Service)

Death is hard. We never know how losing someone we love is going to impact us. This past week we had two deaths in our congregation. One was the great, old saint Mabel Raab, 99, who had been active and generous at Vinland for many decades. The other was a new friend of the church, Jerry Widrin. Sadly, Jerry was only 51 when he died of pancreatic cancer. Vinland hosted a fine funeral for Mabel with a nice lunch. There was laughter, tears, memories, food, friends, and thanksgiving. At the graveside it started to snow. In our cemetery, resurrection was in the air.

Having visited Mabel for the past ten years and having presided at Jerry’s July 2011 wedding, I know I will miss them both. Looking out on the Vinland cemetery, snow is covering all the graves of the saints. Winter is here big-time. Scripture compares death to sleep. At the resurrection of the dead, the promise is that all those who have fallen asleep in Christ will be awakened. All the Lord’s sheep and sinners will at last be received into the arms of God’s mercy. We live between our mortality and redemption. We make it from here to eternity by grace.

The gateway to the Season of Lent is Ash Wednesday. At this somber and earthy service, we put ashes on our forehead in the sign of the cross. We recall that we are dust and to dust we shall return. We spend time in confession and are absolved in Jesus’ name. We receive the Lord’s Supper and are sent out to begin this 40 day-journey with a stark reminder of our core identity as Christ’s. The Apostle Paul puts it this way, “If we live, we live to the Lord. If we die, we die to the Lord, so then whether we live or whether we die we are the Lord’s.” We need to hear this often. We need to receive the sign of the cross in ashes. It all points us back to our baptismal identity.

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, Feb. 21, 6:00 PM
The Season of Lent begins Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22, 7:00 PM
Wednesdays in Lent: Soup at 6 PM and Vespers at 7 PM

pastor chuck @ FAITHBOOK

PastorChuck's TwitterFeed: What's new in the Leap Year!?

ATTENTION!

Mighty Thanks- Kelle Horn (Vice-President) and Aaron Schielke (Treasurer) who have served faithfully on our council for six years!!

Thanks Building Committee- to all these smart, dedicated people led by Chairman Hayes Journey for all the meetings, hours, work, and leadership they have put forth as we prepare for the future.

Lunch Bunch @ Oak Table, Kingston, Mon., Feb. 6 @ 11:30

This month we travel to Kingston and meet at the Oak Table for a good lunch and great fellowship. Sign up in the fellowship hall.

ATTENTION!

Confirmation: Saturday, February 4, 10 AM – 3 PM

This month we study the life of Christ through the gospels. After the morning class and lunch break (Amanda Cain hosts), we travel out to Lutherhaven (rain or shine) AGAIN to chop and stack firewood.

Youth!! Mission Trip Sign-up in Progress!! June 21-30, 2012

Our mission takes us to Los Angeles for inner-city immersion with CSM. We also go to Huntington Beach and Six Flags!! Deposit \$150!

ATTENTION!

Adult Sunday Forum: "Simply Christian" @ 9:40 – 10:20 AM

We begin an excellent series by easy-to-listen-to, British Scholar N.T. Wright. Videos are 20 minutes followed by our lively discussion.

Feb. 5- Christianity Makes Sense

Feb. 12- Jesus Christ

Feb. 19- Relationships & Beauty

Feb. 26 – No Forum – One Service

Lectionary Lunch is back: Thursdays, 11:30 AM-12:45 PM

Bring a bible, lunch, friend, and theology to our always lively study as we prepare for the coming Sunday's lectionary lessons.

Feb. 2 – Mark 1:29-39

Feb. 16 – Mark 2:1-12

Feb. 9 – No Class (Pastor Chuck Away)

Feb. 23 – Mark :13-22

ATTENTION!

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, February 25, 8:00 AM

This is the place for masculine breakfast, manly fellowship, and macho opinions. You will leave fully inspired and very satisfied.

Theology on Tap: Hare and Hounds Pub, Mon. Feb. 27, 5 PM

This month we tackle "Bad Bible Passages". We will discuss & dispute hotly-debated passages about enemies, homosexuality, and women in their place. We will have these passages in different translations.

barb's backyard

-Barbara Erickson



The squirrels are in trouble at our house, big time - \$2,400 worth! And they have paid a heavy price...

In all honesty, I think we asked for it. Well, some of it at least. We are animal lovers and over the years have enjoyed feeding and observing wild birds. Anyone who does this knows that squirrels come with the bargain, whether desired or not.

They simply show up one day, and, like the birds, pass the word on somehow to their fellow squirrels. There is quibbling, to be sure, but somehow they work it out so that most of them get at least a portion of what they come for. And, as with us human cousins, what they get soon leads to what they want - MORE of everything!

So here we have the wonderful little native Douglas Squirrels or Chickarees. For some time, we've enjoyed their antics and haven't really minded the sunflower seeds they go through, except during those times when they feel compelled to bury them everywhere. We have learned not to leave fabric tablecloths or chair pillows out for long as they tend to become nest lining. Mostly, their damage has been minimal and we've learned to live with it.

A couple of years ago, however, we did observe one squirrel in particular running back & forth between our carport and the woods with a mouthful of what looked like chewed-up yarn. Careful observation and inspection led to the car, but we could not see any obvious damage. That squirrel was run over on the road soon after and we forgot all about it. Then, last summer I noticed a small pile of insulation on the back seat of the car. Still, no sign of damage elsewhere - until the fan began to make strange noises when running. We took the car in and damage was found - extensive damage. The repairman told us that "some rodent" had chewed into the fan box, wiring, and much of the insulation lining the hood. To reach, and replace, all of the damage required taking out the entire dashboard. Parts and labor added up to a tidy sum. And so, war was declared on the dear little creatures. They have been unceremoniously removed, gently and otherwise, until only a few remain. Doubtless, their numbers will again increase in time.

Sadly, we don't even know for **certain** that they caused the damage - mice and rats have been known to do the same thing. We merely deemed them "guilty by association" and declared them guilty. This is something unbelievably easy to do and we all do it from time to time, sometimes with animals, more likely with our fellow humans. It is completely understandable that when we feel wronged or damaged we want to strike back. Sometimes this is justified - more often it is not.

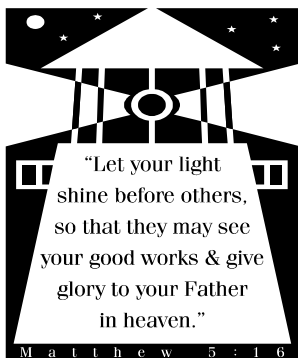
Do not testify against your neighbor without cause, or use your lips to deceive.

Do not say, "I'll do to him as he has done to me;

I'll pay that man back for what he did." Proverbs 24:28-29

For more of Barb's writing, go to: <http://www.flyhometoladybugslair.blogspot.com/>

women's groups



Women of Vinland

THANK YOU! The Women of Vinland made contributions in 2011 that totaled \$4,790. They gave to 5 international organizations, 9 local, 3 related to Women of the ELCA, and to 5 Vinland ministries.

Come to the February 15 meeting.

Devotions, Bible Study, great conversation and lunch.
10am - noon.



Spring Celebration

Sat., March 27 at Elim Lutheran

\$12 includes lunch

Information on bulletin board

Women of Grace

February 6 at 7pm

We will use our January topic posted on the bulletin board.

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...doesn't matter if you are a member of Vinland or any church - you are welcome to come on a Monday evening to discuss a timely topic, laugh, and share each other's lives.

QUILTERS

A committed group gathers on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at church to put together quilts for Lutheran World Relief. No experience necessary...

just come!

Women's Breakfast

On the second Saturday of each month women of all ages meet at Sheilas in downtown Poulso, (on the waterfront) at 8:30am



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 9:30 on THURSDAYS at the church.



Last Tuesday Women's Book Discussion Group

"Snow Flower and the Secret Fan". Copies in the Social Hall

Discussion Feb. 28 @7pm

miscellaneous



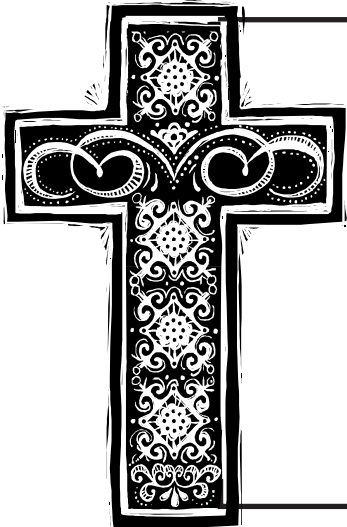
The Season of Lent Begins February 22

**ASH
Wednesday**

“Fat Tuesday” Pancake Supper on Tuesday, Feb 21 at 6pm. Come and eat your fill of pancakes and sausage prepared by the Men’s Breakfast Group! Donations will be taken to defray the cost of the food.

The Season of Lent officially begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22. We will have a service at 7pm. No Soup Supper that night.

Beginning Wednesday, Feb. 29 we will have our popular soup and bread supper at 6pm, followed by a vespers service in the sanctuary at 7pm.



Our dear friend, Mabel Raab, passed away January 9 at the age of 99. She leaves us a rich legacy. We will miss her, just as her large family will also. A service was held at Vinland on January 14.

Sadly, Jerry Widrin died on Jan. 11 of pancreatic cancer. He and Jayne were married last summer by Pastor Chuck. They found the cancer shortly after his marriage, so it has been a difficult journey. Please keep his wife and family in prayer.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Barb and Bill Erickson. Barb’s sister passed away following a brief illness.

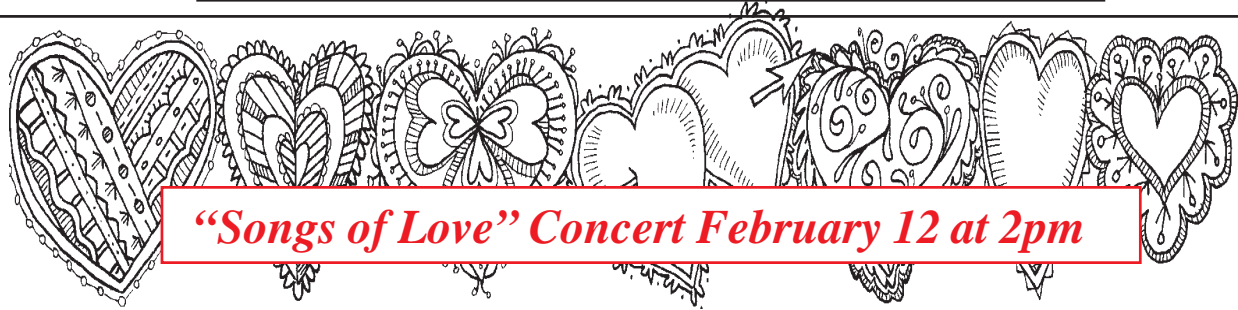
SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!

In ways both large and small, we can share the good news of Jesus’ love and saving grace to those we encounter. Here is one small and simple way...

Remember Your Godchild.

Remember that promise you made years ago? Perhaps you have been a faithful sponsor, a consistent presence in your godchild’s life. But if you haven’t, find out how your godchild is doing. If he or she is active in a faith community, drop a note saying how proud you are, If he/she isn’t, make a phone call and find out what’s happening in his/her life. When you have the opportunity, remind him/her of how much both you and God love him/her. Renew your promise to God to follow up for the rest of his/her life.

miscellaneous



“Songs of Love” Concert February 12 at 2pm

*Join us for the first “Sundays at 2” concert in 2012.
Beautiful “Songs of Love” to warm your heart and soul.
Enjoy coffee and cookies and a chance to visit after the
performance. What a wonderful way to spend an afternoon.
Invite a friend or your sweetheart to join you.*

CHANGE FOR CHANGED LIVES

The Christmas coin drive totaled \$316 dollars for the solar panels at the orphan house in Nyange Villiage, Uganda. This money is being directed through Holy Rosary Church in Seattle to Sister Immaculate Kyampere in Uganda. She is the friend of Zachary and Caitlin who started/built the orphan house.

Blessings and thanks to everyone who contributed!

The Williams Family



PRAYER OF OUR HEARTS

Lord God, Heavenly Father,

Accept our humble thanks for each new day ~ teach us to treasure every day you entrust to us.

Clear our vision, show us the fun and enthusiasm connected with doing Jesus' work.

In the name of the Risen Christ, Amen

contributed by Sharon Schmid

PARENTS' NITE OUT Saturday, February 4 5-9pm

The Adrigs are minding the kids!
Sign up in the fellowship hall.
Kids must be potty trained!

Bring \$2 per child to pay for their dinner.

children & youth



Come join FAITH TREK between worship services. During January we have been busy learning about growing in faith, and about compost, world hunger, and the parable of the sower. A huge thank you to Barb Erickson, Jen Nelson, Janean Moriarty, Elizabeth Slocum, Sherry Gutierrez, and Lori Van Vlerah for teaching our kids!

YOUTH FAITH TREK: This quarter we will be looking at bumpersticker faith! Translating our faith to the world!

YOUTH GROUP IS BACK! NEW TIME, SAME GREAT FUN!

Bring your friends and meet from the end of 2nd service (11:45) until 1 PM downstairs in the youth room. Come join us for activities, and a short glimpse at what God has to say about doing life well.

Spring Retreat for middle and high schoolers March 9-11th at Camp Black Lake in Olympia.

This is a GREAT synod retreat so there will be LOTS of people joining us! Cost is \$150 and includes everything except for your food on the way up to camp. We need at least 6 from Vinland to make this a "go". Please sign up ASAP! Your early sign up helps us to plan well! We will also need a few adult drivers. Please talk to Alyssa if you are willing!

Mission Trip: LA June 22-30th

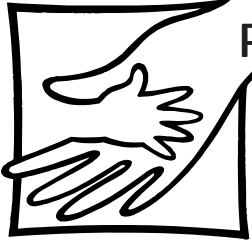
We'll work in the inner city with Center For Student Missions. It should be a GREAT trip!

Deposits are due by Feb 4th.

Pastor Chuck, Tina Bigelow and Alyssa Bowman are your adult leaders. WE can't wait to have you join us!

Please don't hesitate to call either Pastor Chuck or Alyssa with questions.





PRESCHOOL NEWS... -Sherry Gutierrez, director

Our Vision

“Honoring God by Nurturing Children’s Relationships”

“This is the [preschool] the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!” (a slight re-wording of Psalm 118:24)

Thank you to everyone who purchased sack lunches on annual meeting day! Your support is much appreciated! All the food was donated by preschool families and board members, so a portion of the money raised will go into the Nancy Pearson Scholarship Fund and the rest will go toward other needs of the preschool.

Preschool board members have been considering the potential enrollment for the next school year. There is a high possibility that we will need to add another class for 3-5 year olds in the afternoon. Both of our classes are currently at full enrollment and we have a waiting list of two people wanting to enter the 2-3 year old class this year. Registration for next year will begin toward the end of March for currently enrolled students and congregation members; registration will open to the general community in April.

We thank God for God’s provision and presence with us! Hallelujah!



Ahoy Mateys!!

**“Mark your calendar for Family
Camp 2012**

**Lutherans of the Caribbean
will take place**

Fri, July 27-Thurs, Aug. 2

Aargh! Be there or walk the plank!!