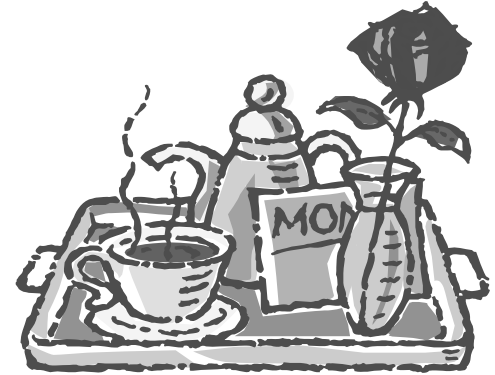


Happy Birthday

<i>Bill Erickson</i>	<i>5/1</i>	<i>Devin Horn</i>	<i>5/14</i>
<i>Hannah Bailey</i>	<i>5/5</i>	<i>Bonnie Debar</i>	<i>5/16</i>
<i>Evelyn Beers</i>	<i>5/8</i>	<i>Michael Warbois</i>	<i>5/16</i>
<i>Doug Barnhart</i>	<i>5/9</i>	<i>Lou Reich</i>	<i>5/17</i>
<i>Jan Janzen</i>	<i>5/10</i>	<i>Frank Schmid</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Dan Carlson</i>	<i>5/10</i>	<i>Kendall Becker</i>	<i>5/21</i>
<i>Mark Slocum</i>	<i>5/10</i>	<i>Helen Jensen</i>	<i>5/23</i>
<i>Ethan Gillespie</i>	<i>5/11</i>	<i>Jim Berentson</i>	<i>5/24</i>
<i>Carlos Gutierrez</i>	<i>5/12</i>	<i>Denise Deitch</i>	<i>5/27</i>
<i>Chuck DeBroeck</i>	<i>5/12</i>	<i>Keary Myers</i>	<i>5/27</i>
<i>Martin Prehm</i>	<i>5/14</i>		



Mother's Day

*Remember your mom
on Mother's Day,
May 13*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO....

Matt & Kris Clucas 5/9
Dave and Tina Bigelow 5/23
Tom & Billie Jo Settle 5/30

**check us out on the web....
www.vinlandlc.org**

Vinland Lutheran Church, est. 1904

PO Box 2134

Poulsbo WA 98370

360-779-3428

E-mail: vinland@vinlandlc.org

Website: vinlandlc.org

vinlandyouth_gotfaith@hotmail.com

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

God's Blessings To:



May 2012

Vinland is ROOTED in Word & Sacrament,
REJOICING in fellowship, and REACHING OUT
to Poulsbo and Beyond!!



The Vinyard

Monthly Newsletter of Vinland Lutheran Church

May 2012

“My Son”, the father said, “you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But, WE HAD TO CELEBRATE AND BE GLAD, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.” LUKE 15:31-32

This famous verse comes from the finale of the Prodigal Son parable. As a father tries his fatherly best to get his grumpy elder son to the ultimate party, he reveals a heavenly imperative, **“WE HAD TO CELEBRATE AND BE GLAD”**. This story is the third of three party parables where the punch line is the same; the divine necessity to have a party that rocks the ages. Finding a lost sheep, lost coin, and a lost son and sinner is the reason to gather friends, family, neighbors, and strangers to kill the fatted calf, put on new clothes, fire up the band, celebrate, and be glad! Like celebrating the Lord’s Supper, this foreshadows the party at the end of time.

Some churches neglect the divine necessity, the supreme invitation to celebrate. I am glad to say that is not our congregation’s issue. As we demonstrated in April so joyfully and pretty much weekly, Vinland knows how to throw, attend, maximize a party. We had a Resurrection party for Jesus on Easter with a nice breakfast. The next week it was our Ground-breaking service for coming new construction with brass, the Bishop, salad buffet, and the Poulsbo press, too. The final week was our mission auction to support our preschool and youth mission featuring auctioneers Kelle Horn and (unforgettable tattooed/gold-suited) Matthew Nelson. We shattered all records by taking in almost \$14,000. Thanks for your joyous, generous giving.

Churches like ours need these feasts to remember that in the midst of daily stresses, weekly grinds, personal setbacks, and lifelong commitments, God gives us ample reason to give thanks, laugh, play for fun, and to celebrate for Jesus’ sake. Every year during Holy Week, we rehearse, relive, & revel in the victory of Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Resurrection reality shapes our present living and future plans. One Saturday in April, I celebrated my 52nd birthday with some burgers, brats, and a few buddies at our home. I decided I am born to BBQ. With my family, friends, perfect weather, and a weekend off, another reminder that God is so good. I don’t know if we can keep up the April pace, but *let’s keep on rejoicing for Jesus’ sake.*



ATTENTION!

Many Thanks to the Festival Singers and guest musicians, under the skilled leadership of Bing Debar, for exceptional music at our Ground Breaking Service. Also, thanks to the Crawfords for setting up, many bringers of salads/ breads, and Marsha Wright who sparked the celebration. What a historic day for our church!

Synod Assembly, May 17-18 in Vancouver, Washington
Your Vinland delegates to this year's Southwestern Washington Synod Assembly are Pastor Chuck, Ed and Jan Hakanson. Governor Christine Gregoire is our key-note speaker (talking faith not politics).

Lunch Bunch @ Hakansons, Monday, May 7, 11:30 AM
Our seniors are invited to the Hakanson home for a black and while themed lunch including a black & white article to discuss. Join us for joyful company and delicious lunch. Sign up in the fellowship hall.

ATTENTION!

Youth!! Mission Trip Sign-up is Complete!! June 22-30
Ten Vinland students (Devin Horn, Kyle Oster, Erland Cain, Amanda Bannon, Madeline & Sam Ward, Emilie McMahon, Sara Bigelow, Madison Gale, Martha Rabura) and three advisors (Tina Bigelow, Alyssa, Pastor Chuck) are going to the LA inner-city through CSM. Thank you for your generous support at the auction!!!

Adult Sunday Forum: "Simply Christian" @ 9:40 – 10:20 AM
We continue an excellent series by easy-to-listen-to, British Scholar N.T. Wright. Videos are 20 minutes followed by our lively discussion. This refresher class is for newcomers and Vinland veterans alike

May 13- Spiritual Meaning May 20- God

ATTENTION!

Lectionary Lunch: Thurs., 11:30-12:45 PM (Resumes 4/12)
Bring a bible, lunch, friend, and theology to our always lively study as we tackle weekly Sunday lessons. We will break for the summer.

May 10- John 15:9-17 May 17- 1 John 5:9-13

Theology on Tap: Hare & Hounds Pub, Mon. May 14, 5 PM
Note this is a special edition (SECOND MONDAY). Our topic this month is "Dark Nights of the Soul" as we dialogue about suffering including a look at Luther and Mother Teresa in their dark nights.

Time Away: May 20-28 (Cont. Ed.) –5/27 Alyssa Bowman preaching
June 22-30 (Mission Trip)

barb's backyard



-Barbara Erickson

The first time I noticed was probably the first year it was done, although I can't be sure about that. We had already walked most of the route when we stopped at a fenced observation point to view a lovely waterfall surging rapidly through a narrow, sheer-walled chasm. We stood there for some time, as we always do, soaking in the breath-taking beauty. Turning to head back up the few rock steps to the trail, something caught my eye. There, at the base of a rocky outcrop at the very back of this narrow viewing spot, were some wilted flowers and several votive candles. These had been placed there recently; we wondered and talked about it briefly on our way back to the car.

On Vancouver Island, British Columbia, this short hike, around the Little Qualicum River and fall is one of our favorites. Because we are there off-season, there are very few others on the trail and we are able to experience the peace and quiet of the place mostly by ourselves. The following year, in that very same spot, we again found a candle and some dead flowers. Again, I wondered about this and thought it must be a small memorial of some sort.

Another year, the memorial had shifted and changed. Instead of candles and flowers in an out-of-the-way place, a lovely pot full of spring flowers had been set on a large, moss-covered rock - just outside the fence - on the very edge of the gorge. This time it could not be missed as the brilliant purple crocus, primrose, hyacinth, and bright yellow daffodils stood out against the dark forest background. The pot sported a bright yellow wrap and with tulip buds not yet open, was bound to last for some time yet. The sight of it touched my heart and caused me, once more, to think of loss and what a deceased person means to those left behind.

Several more years passed and we either did not take that hike, or I forgot to look, and the memory of that spot faded. This year, with the death of my sister still fresh on my mind, I did look. At first I saw no sign, but then, on the same moss-covered rock where the pot had been were some carnation stems with blooms long dead and faded. More lay strewn on the ground below. I have no idea what the story behind this particular yearly ritual is, but it is obvious that someone was much cared for, is still missed and remembered.

Memorial days, when the graves of heroes were decorated with flowers and garlands, are ancient customs originating in Greece 2,500 years ago. During our Civil War, both the United States and the Confederate States of America had Memorial days. By the late 1800s, many communities celebrated this day and, after World War I, observances began to honor those who had died in all of America's wars. Originally known as Decoration Day, it became an official federal holiday in 1971 and now falls on the last Monday of May. Officially, this day honors men and women who died while serving in the American military. Many Americans still observe the day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings, and participating in parades.

Many of us have lost dear friends and/or family members this year. Death, as we know, is a part of living. That knowledge, and the ache inside, does not make it any easier for those of us left behind. But we also know that life **does** go on; hope springs eternal. REMEMBER - for it is cleansing and healing to do so.

...took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

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

women's groups



The Women of Vinland are hosting the residents of Martha and Mary for a spring luncheon on May 16. If anyone is interested in bringing food or hosting a table, please talk to Beth Olsen. It is a "Western" theme this year!

It is always a pleasant afternoon and the residents really enjoy the "change-of-pace lunch" and visiting.



Women of Grace May 7 and 21

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.

May 7 we will discuss the verse (and it's implications)... "I came that you may have life, and have it ABUNDANTLY."

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.

Last Friday Craft Nite

On the last Friday of each month come to church around 6 to work on those unfinished projects.

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 Poulsbo, (on the waterfront) at 8:30am



Last Tuesday Women's Book Discussion Group Discussion will be on Tuesday, May 29 at 7pm. Books are in the social hall. "A Gentleman From Finland"



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.

miscellaneous

Out Back in the Garden

*The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and **take care of it.** Genesis 1:15*

There is much activity in the Discovery Garden this time of year. For the first time ever, the annual egg hunt was held back there for the children on Easter Sunday. Different areas were sectioned off for the various age groups and a great time was had by all! After the fun, the area was left neat and clean, so the kids are learning to be good earth stewards.

Most of the seedling shrubs and trees that we planted two years ago have survived. The Shore Pines seem to have done the best so far, but the Cedars, Vine Maples, and Tall Oregon Grape look good also. The deer that wander through have taken a liking to the tender new leaves of the Red Osier Dogwoods, so we will be installing temporary mesh fencing around each of those until they are bigger.

It's exciting to see the first bright pink blooms on some of the Red Flowering Currents we planted! These drought tolerant native shrubs provide early spring nectar for hummingbirds and butterflies, forage for the larvae of more than two dozen species of moths and butterflies, and nesting sites or cover for songbirds and small mammals. Any berries that might be produced are persistent and do not ripen all at once. Although edible, they are extremely tart and provide a longer-term food source for numerous birds, including quail, robins, finches, towhees, and woodpeckers, and small mammals and deer.



As the weather moderates, the Preschool children have been enjoying more time outside. They have picked the first crop of rhubarb to take home and have planted potatoes in the raised beds. They will be planting more vegetables there before the school year ends, and are looking into composting.

Come see what's new "OUT BACK"!

PINOCHLE!!

The last evening of Pinochle of the regular season will be **FRIDAY MAY 25**. We begin with a potluck at 5:30 PM and play cards at 6 PM.

Please sign up on the bulletin board or contact Sharon Schmid 779-2944 or fschmid@ieee.org.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT!!

FRIDAY, May 11 - 5-9pm
The Slocums have agreed to watch your kids for the evening!

Please sign up and remember to bring \$2 per child for dinner.

Plan a lively evening "on the town" or just a quiet evening at home.



making space for God's grace



BUILDING COMMITTEE NEWS FLASH!!

After the excitement of the ground breaking for the new building many of you are asking when the real digging will begin. The answer is: we really don't know for sure. All of the documents needed for a building permit have been submitted to the county and we are now waiting for their approval. They have told us that for the permit to be approved the old well that has not been in use for years must be properly abandoned or at least a contract issued to a licensed well driller for the work. Don Cole is working on this and should have it resolved shortly. Our best estimate is that we should have the approved permit by June 1 and the contractor will then begin the real digging.

As many of you will remember at the annual meeting, there are several parts of the project that were taken out of the contract to save money. These items will be up to us, the congregation, to complete. They are: ***landscaping, kitchen finishing, and final cleanup***. There are other areas of the construction that are currently in the contractor's bid that hold the potential for significant savings if we are willing and able to undertake them. They are: ***daily job site cleanup, painting, (both interior & exterior), tiling in the bath rooms***. These are the areas we can think of and there may be others that present themselves as the construction progresses. To be prepared to tackle these projects we need to know who is willing and able and when they would be available.

To assist us in preparing this list of volunteers, John Ross is preparing an individual sign up form that will soon be posted in the fellowship hall. If you have questions, ask John.

Now is the time for each of us to jump in and offer our gifts of time and skill in getting the new building built.

To start the ball rolling, there are six subcommittees with openings:

1. **Landscape** – develop design, determine plants needed, and research getting county grants (Doug Barnhart, building committee liaison).
2. **Paint Colors** – work with the architect to select paint colors (LaVonne Berentson, building committee liaison).
3. **Kitchen** – develop the kitchen layout (Sherry Gutierrez, building committee liaison).
4. **Floor Coverings** – select appropriate floor coverings (Rich Gregerson, building committee liaison).
5. **Work Groups** – set up work groups for performing selected labor on the building (John Ross, building committee liaison).

Prayerfully consider and then contact the appropriate person (or church office) letting us know the ways you will help. We are all in this together!

CAMPAIGN DOLLAR UPDATE!! -Jean Danielson

As of April 15th, **\$485,167** has been contributed to "More Space for God's Grace." Karen Ejde's estate gift was \$139,609 of the total, but even deducting that, \$345,558 has been given by congregation members. This giving occurred in just 16 months out of a 36 month campaign.

As one of the capital campaign bean-counters, I'll have to admit that early on, I was skeptical about Vinland's ability to meet our goal. Now I am in awe of the congregation's response. Thank you, Vinlanders, for your generous and faithful giving.



youth and family

OUR CONFIRMANDS

On Sunday, May 6, eight young people affirmed their baptismal covenant by making public proclamation of their faith. Over the last two years, these young people have studied and wrestled with scripture and theology, cementing both their relationships with one another and with their loving God.

It is our joy to celebrate with them and welcome them as voting members of the church.



*Sara Lindsey Bigelow
Erland Langmaid Cain
Anderson Wayne Crawford
Devin James Oblinger Horn
Kyle Wayne Oster
Martha Ann Rabura
Samuel Gottfried Ward
Cody Benjamin Warren*



THANK YOU TEACHERS

THANK YOU to our absolutely amazing teaching team for faith trek this year. We are so incredibly blessed to have had you teach and lead our kids. It's been a fantastic year, our kids had a blast...and it sure seems like they learned a lot too!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CANCELLED FOR 2012

FOR SAFETY REASONS, we have decided to NOT have VBS this year. There will be construction equipment and workers on site and we don't want to risk the safety of the kids.



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Family Camp & Church Picnic July 27 - August 2

“Lutherans of the Caribbean”

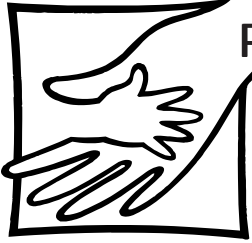
“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

This is a perfect, low-cost, high-fun vacation. You can come just during the days or spend the night. **Your choice! It's all good!** Suggested donation is what you would spend on meals for your family and some extra to cover craft and lifeguard expenses.

OLD-FASHIONED CHURCH PICNIC ON SUN, JULY 29.

BOOK FOR DISCUSSION IS: “A Million Miles in a Thousand Years” by Donald Miller. Copies are available for purchase for \$7.

preschool and camp



PRESCHOOL NEWS... *-Sherry Gutierrez, director*

Our Vision

“Honoring God by Nurturing Children’s Relationships”

The BIG auction is now over. THANK YOU to everyone who attended and donated generously in support of the preschool and the youth mission trip. Spring has arrived and we are nearing the end of another year of preschool. I was looking at pictures of children from previous preschool years—they look so young compared to what they look like now. They were so cute. The preschoolers from our first year are now in fifth and sixth grade. Wow! We, at the preschool, continue to lay a small part of the foundation of each child’s enjoyment of learning. Preschoolers are fun and challenging. Thanks be to God!

- P** is for **Play** Preschoolers learn the most when playing.
- R** is for **Ready** Preschoolers are ready and live in the moment.
- E** is for **Emotions** Preschoolers show all of them with sincerity and truth.
- S** is for **Sleep** Preschoolers need plenty of sleep even when they don’t think so.
- C** is for **Curiosity** Preschoolers shine when they make discoveries.
- H** is for **Healthy** Preschoolers grow and think best when eating healthy foods on a regular schedule.
- O** is for **Observant** preschoolers observe everything and everyone and then they imitate.
- O** is for **Open** preschoolers are open; we need to handle them with care.
- L** is for **Love** preschoolers are receptors and givers of love.
Share lots with them today!



Preschool 2012/2013

We have 17 children registered for next year; the morning class is full. There is still space for 3-5 year old children in the afternoon on Tue/Wed/Thur and in the 2-3 year old class on Friday mornings. Please let your friends and family members know. They can check out our website (www.vinlandlc.org link to preschool) and come for a tour. Registration forms are available online and on the ledge in the fellowship hall.

miscellaneous



We begin the “green season” with the great celebration of the day of Pentecost on May 27.

It has been nicknamed “the long green” or “ordinary times.” We will stay in this season until the start of Advent in November. It is the season of seedtime, growth and harvest...in the church, in the land, and in our lives. It is a time of refreshment and renewal...a time to soak up the word of God, strengthen our relationships to creation and one another and broaden our horizons.

Beginning that Sunday, we will switch to ONE SERVICE for the summer months. Be here at 9:30 each Sunday to rejoice!

Annual Memorial Day Silent Honors Ceremony



**MEMORIAL
+DAY+**

Sunday, May 27

All Active Duty or Veterans, ROTC, JROTC, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts are invited to form a circle around the flag pole at 1030 following our 0930 church services.

Scouts are asked to wear their uniforms.

The bugler will play “Tattoo”, calling all veterans to the flag. The Dept of Defense has authorized any veteran to wear their service ribbons/medals at services and at ceremonies honoring our nation’s fallen.

Consider bringing flowers to decorate veteran’s graves with a flower of honor following the playing of “Taps” which signals the ceremony ending.

This is especially meaningful way to remind children of the sacrifices made on their behalf.



PRAYER OF OUR HEARTS

Sweet Jesus,

*I wake each morning
celebrating the beauty of
the earth, created by
a loving God.*

*With the reminder of my
redemption fresh on Easter,
I pray daily to commit my
spirit to the Risen Christ.*

In your dear name, Amen

contributed by Sharon Schmid



FLASH MOB FOR FISHLINE!!

JESUS SAID: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."
Matt 25:35-36

Many families in our community struggle to put food on the table. God's generous people worshipping in North Kitsap churches can help. Joining together, WE CAN MAKE A BIGGER IMPACT!!

Bring food to church on **WEDNESDAY, MAY 16** from 5-7pm. (You can also bring food anytime before then). We'll weigh it and transport it to Fishline that night. Area churches have been invited to participate.



SUMMER IS COMING! BASEBALL SEASON IS COMING! FUN IS COMING YOUR WAY!

The Preschool has secured 150 tickets in section 319 for the Mariners vs the Oakland A's on Wednesday, June 27th at 12:40 pm. The tickets will be sold at a special rate of \$20 each. During the game they will "Welcome Vinland Lutheran Preschool" on their electronic board in center field. This is a great way to kick off the summer with your family and friends and save some money on Mariners tickets and raise money for our preschool. A win/win for families and the preschool.

Any one interested in purchasing tickets now to reserve their spot, please make your check out to "Vinland Lutheran Preschool." Invite friends, neighbors, family etc. The more tickets we can sell early the better, because it would allow us to reserve more tickets in our section if need be.

Keep an eye on the bulletin boards for flyers and more information. It was LOTS of fun last year! Sun not guaranteed, but FUN surely is!