

# fall outreach ministry

## Good Samaritan Holiday Help

Vinland's "Good Samaritan Fund" or "Good Sam" was begun many years ago to help folks within the church who needed a little extra help. All funds came from members of the congregation - and still do. We have expanded in recent years to aid folks beyond the walls of our church. All is kept confidential. The current members of the Good Sam Committee are Judy Wales, Diane LaMagna, Glenn Schechert, John and Glenyce Ross, Alyssa Bowman, Ersle Gregersen and Jill Krema.

If you ever want to make a donation to this fund, just earmark your check or cash to "Good Samaritan Fund." It will be put to good use.

This year we will be helping eight families in the community during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Food Banks are seeing great need this year, so what we do is important.

There is a board with food tags attached in the (entry) narthex. You are invited to take one or more tags and return the items NO LATER THAN NOV. 18. For The "angel tree" will be put up sometime after Thanksgiving with tags for gifts for the children of those families. There is a huge need so any help will be greatly appreciated.

## Children of the Nations "Smile Packs"

### Fall Outreach Project - Bring to church by Nov. 10

*We have the opportunity to gather articles for "Smile Packs" that will be distributed by Children of the Nations. There are three packs to choose from. Great to put together as individuals, group of friends, family or church small group.*

#### "Bible Smile Pack"

1 Bible in English or Spanish  
1 highlighter pen  
1 bookmark  
1 regular pen  
1 small journal

#### "Hygiene Smile Pack"

1 Toothbrush (packed)  
1 Toothpaste  
1 Bottle of Shampoo  
(12oz in separate ziplock bag)  
1 Comb/Brush  
1 Washcloth  
1 Handtowel  
3 Bars of soap  
1 small (15-20) pack of adhesive bandages

#### "School Smile Pack"

5 Composition books  
1 Math Kit (ruler, protractor, compass)  
Pencil Box filled with:  
5 blue or black pens  
1 pencil sharpener  
3 glue sticks  
5 no. 2 pencils  
1 pink eraser  
1 pair safety scissors

**Please include \$5.00 per "Smile Pack" to cover shipping and program costs.  
Enclose all NEW items in a 2-gallon ziplock bag.**

## *Out Back in the Garden*

*by Barb Erickson*

*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*

After a nearly unprecedented 8 weeks without a drop of rain, the weather has finally turned sodden again in our corner of the world. Well into October, while trying to finish up gardening chores at home, I found the ground in most areas dry as far down as I dug. It was the same back in the Discovery Garden.

Many garden plants and vegetables, such as those in the flower beds and raised beds, suffered during this drought and needed to be watered. The native species, however, have done just fine. They have, after all, lived here for eons and are well-adapted to the soggy winters/summer droughts of the Pacific Northwest. This is exactly why they are so highly recommended for our personal, as well as the church's, landscaping. In fact, native species are **required** landscaping for our planned new building. This is a good thing, as the majority of the native seedling trees and shrubs that we planted out back a couple of years ago seem to be thriving!

Some of the deciduous trees that were bone dry have given up early, simply dropping their leaves without a lasting show of autumn color. The huge conifers are drooping and many of the cedars are "flagging" prolifically. It is perfectly normal for them to do this on occasion, but these stately giants of the tree world require rich, damp soil to thrive and hot, dry weather may stress them enough that some of their needles turn a rich orangish-brown and drop. I'm sure they are now heaving a collective sigh of relief - the return of the rain will undoubtedly perk them all up again.

## MILESTONES....

*Congratulations to Lou Reich and Vern Youngs, who officially tied the knot on October 11!*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with Kelle Horn and her family following the death of her brother. A family memorial service was held at Vinland on October 27.*

*Welcome to the world baby girl Fiona Kate Gillespie! Proud parents are Chad and Callie and big brothers are Ethan and Spencer.*



### PRAYER OF OUR HEARTS

*God of Creation,*

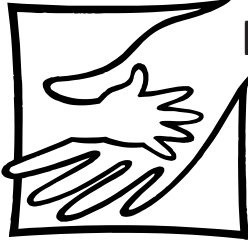
*....Spider webs that  
resemble spun glass ~  
leaves that become  
autumn flowers...*

*Lord, we praise you for the  
natural world, may we  
learn to honor its fragility.*

*Amen*

*contributed by Sharon Schmid*

# preschool ministry



## PRESCHOOL NEWS

-Sherry Gutierrez, director

### “Honoring God by Nurturing Children’s Relationships” -Our Vision

“Our Father in Heaven, reveal who you are.” Matthew 6 (The Message)

**We have an awesome God!** It is amazing how God is revealing who God is, especially through Jesus. Our newest preschool class is full, and we even have a waiting list of one for the 3-5 year old classes. That means that all of our fundraisers this year will be able to go toward the Nancy Pearson Preschool Tuition Assistance Fund and some other improvements. The preschool may be able to increase our current pledge to the capital campaign fund. God is loving and generous.

Together in ministry, the children are experiencing God’s Word in Jesus’ love shared through the teachers, Pastor Chuck, and Ms. Anita. We also want the preschoolers and their families to experience God’s presence in their lives through the prayers you offer for them. Once again we are calling on members of Vinland Lutheran

Church to become a “PRAYER BUDDY” for one of our preschool children. The Prayer Buddy receives a preschool child’s picture along with a snapshot of information; then the Buddy commits to praying for the child and his or her family throughout the school year. In May we have a catered Prayer Buddy Luncheon at the church when you get to meet the child and family personally; you may take an opportunity earlier in the year to meet the child as well.

**WE NEED 33 PRAYER BUDDIES this year! Hooray!!!!** So, if you would like to be one of those buddies, contact Sherry Gutierrez ASAP at 779-3428 or [preschool@vinlandlc.org](mailto:preschool@vinlandlc.org). You never know...our Father in Heaven could reveal Himself to you through this ministry of prayerful connection!

**Pledges to “More Space for God’s Grace” now total \$788K**, so the gap between the \$750K originally pledged and the \$800K needed to proceed with the building is closing. Thanks to members who have increased their original pledges to help close the gap. If you would like to increase your pledge or make one for the first time, please ask for a beige pledge card. **As of 9/30 we have received \$530,118 of the pledged amounts!** The loan and contract documents are being finalized and we are still hopeful of starting construction before the end of the year.



**NOTE: We have BEIGE pledge cards for the Building Fund. We are asking people to fill one with their new pledge or for the INCREASE if they are increasing their pledge. Ask Marsha Wright or Bill Brueggemann for a BEIGE card.**

# rejoicing



## **“Sundays at Two” Concert Series**

**November 18 “Holiday Prelude”**

**Come and spend an hour or so relaxing to music of the seasons -  
Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas**

## **Christmas Cantata**

Practice will soon begin for the “Christmas Cantata” to  
be presented during worship on **December 16.**

Even if you don’t normally sing with either group, you  
are encouraged to sing in the cantata!

A great day to invite friends and family to worship.

## **YOU. ARE. NEEDED...**

...to assist in providing a more meaningful and uplifting New Song worship  
service in one of the following capacities:

- 1) Projection (two or three individuals to run the projector during both services);
- 2) Guitarist, bass guitarist, digital keyboardist, and drummer to play with the  
New Song Singers.

You do not need to commit to every Sunday, just join us when you can. We will  
jam on Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM and occasionally play during the New  
Song Service on Sunday. Contact Bing at [bing@vinlandlc.org](mailto:bing@vinlandlc.org) or 360-779-5497  
to get copies of music.

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***“Welcome Nita Johnson as our Contract Organist. She will be  
sharing her talents with us for the Traditional services. Thank  
you, Nita, for your willingness and desire to play.”***

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## good stuff

# YOUTH GROUP

when: EVERY WEDNESDAY 6-7:30PM

where: At CHURCH

who: ANYONE 6TH GRADE & OLDER

what: FUN OF COURSE!

# FAITH TREK

**FAITH TREK for all ages happens at 9:40 downstairs on all two-service Sundays! Come and see what's happening!**

A HUGE thank you to our faith trek teachers for the last rotation. Judy Herman, Catrina Stroud, Carol Hein, Lori VanVlerah, Sherry Gutierrez, and Lynn Florent did a phenomenal job teaching our kids about baptism!

**Our next rotation** centers on the theme of grace and on the practice of communion. Also, a Huge thank you to Elizabeth Slocum who is teaching our Jr. High/ Sr. High faith trek this year. Psalms and Proverbs and some deep discussion!

O come,  
let us  
adore  
him



**Kids Christmas program** practices have begun...and there is still time for your child to participate. Come to rehearsal on Sundays from 1-2 PM in the sanctuary. Questions? Please talk with either Alyssa or Tammie Rabura. The program will be on December 9 at 11am, following the 9:30 service.

## Fairly-Traded Advent Boutique Dec. 2, 9, 16 in the Social Hall

Try an Alternative Christmas this year and check out our Lutheran World Relief FAIR TRADE FAIR in December. We have chosen an assortment of jewelry, ornaments, household goods, as well as coffee, tea, soups, chocolate and jam from all around the world. Goods are especially chosen to benefit artisans who are overcoming limitations, women at risk, workers who would otherwise labor under exploitative conditions, and to support programs for children orphaned by AIDS. Items are from India, Nepal, Indonesia, Chile, Peru, Kenya, Mali, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Vietnam and West Bank.

Other "Gifts that make a difference" such as \$10 toward 10 chicks to provide eggs for hungry families, \$12 for 6 water jugs to fetch water from community wells or \$10 for 1 fruit tree seedling may be purchased in someone's name.

We're certain you'll find something that will signify more than simply "one more gift."

# MERRY CHRISTMAS



# advent

## The Seasons are Changing....

The crisp days of fall are upon us and with them come the fall holidays...Halloween and Thanksgiving and then Christmas won't be far behind. The church also operates on seasons and the very first season of the church year is Advent.

The word Advent comes from two Latin words, "ad" and "venire", meaning "to come." Advent begins the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. This year Advent begins on November 28. To Christians everywhere, Advent is the season for waiting and watching for Christ. During the dark month of December we think of what Jesus' coming meant to the people who waited for Him to be born and what it means to us today.

Each year an advent wreath is hung in the front of the sanctuary. It is covered with evergreens and adorned with 3 blue candles and 1 pink candle. Each Sunday, we light one additional candle on the Advent wreath, adding more light to our world the closer we come to Christmas Day, the day when Jesus, "the Light of the World," took away darkness and fear forever. The first candle we light is called the candle of Hope. This candle reminds us that God made a promise to His people. He gave them hope by promising to send a Messiah. The second blue candle is the candle of Love. Its glow is meant to warm and fill us with the love of Christ, now and forever. The third candle we light is the pink one, the candle of Joy. Jesus' birth has brought joy to the hearts of millions of people since his birth 2,000 years ago. The last candle is the candle of Peace. Just as the angels who appeared to the shepherds brought them news of peace on earth, so we pull away from the busy pace of the season to focus on the peace Christ brought to the world.



### ***Come, you Thankful People, Come....***

***to the "Chili, Chilly November Supper" and worship service on Thanksgiving Eve, November 21. We are trying something new and asking you to bring a pot of chili that reflects your "roots." i.e. Texas Chili, Minnesota Chili, Norwegian Chili, Montana Chili, New York Chili, etc. etc.!***

***Following supper let's retreat to the sanctuary for a service of Thanksgiving. Invite friends and family. We have a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board.***

***Supper at 6pm...Worship at 7pm***

### ***Advent Soup Supper and Holden Evening Vespers***

***It would not be Advent without our award-winning soup and bread suppers followed by the peaceful Holden Evening Vesper Service.***

***There will be sign-up sheets posted. If you can bring soup, bread or help with clean-up, that would be appreciated. More importantly...we want you to come and bring the whole family!***

***Supper at 6pm...Vespers at 7pm Dec. 5, 12, 19***