



# Vashon Presbyterian Church

## News and Concerns

### June 2022

Sermons posted on church website:  
[vashonpreschurch.org](http://vashonpreschurch.org)

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/442169680>

Love One Another

Whoever you are and wherever your life's journey has taken you, you are welcome here. We hope that you will find VPC to be a people of warmth, acceptance, and commitment to the calling of Jesus Christ. We are honored to have you worship with us.



### **MENTAL HEALTH FORUM COMING THIS FALL TO VPC**

Save the date: September 24 (Saturday), 9am-noon. After the long gap since the pandemic, we are planning to resume the Mental Health Forum as part of the work of the Mental Health Advocates at VPC. It will most likely take the format of a keynote speaker and then a choice of workshops.. It is exciting to think of how many people might be able to attend, not only in person but on zoom. More details will be forthcoming. We hope we can count on lots of support for this event from our church family and the community.

## A Message from Pastor Leigh

Dear Ones of VPC,

When is the last time you made a s'more? For me it's been a couple of years. The last time I made one was in the fall of 2019 when we were doing a First Friday Fire Pit. I remember it vividly because it was the November First Friday and we had leftover Reese's Peanut Butter Cups and we used those to make the s'mores. If you have never had one like that, they really ARE that memorable.

Even more important than the epic s'more, what I remember most about that night was talking with folks from our congregation and others who just walked by as we sat around the fire together. There's something sitting around a campfire that makes the conversations just a little easier and a little deeper. As I was working at the Food Bank recently another volunteer and I were talking and she said, "I realize where I've seen you before, I had s'mores in the front yard of your church once, it's so nice how you all do that for the community." That's not the first time someone has said that to me. Others have said, "Oh, the fire pit folks, I really appreciate how you guys show up."

I'm sharing these memories with you not just because I'm excited for this summer and more fire pits but because of how important those kinds of moments are in the life of our community. Creating space for all of God's people to be welcome, to find safe space and to simply be with others is important. One of the ways we are called to share the love of God in this community is to foster moments where others feel that love by feeling accepted and welcome, where they can sit down for a moment, enjoy the warmth of a fire, and know there is always room for one more.

I hope you'll make it a priority to come enjoy some of those moments when we take the church outside, when we welcome others just to be with us and for us to be with them. Whether its around a campfire or welcoming others to come rest during Strawberry Festival or any of the other events that we share in, I hope you'll come. Jesus' ministry was one of paying attention, of being present with others and of accepting them for who they were. And our "front yard ministry" moments are excellent times for us to extend that same love to others.

If you can't remember the last time that you made a s'more, put a First Friday in your calendar and show up. I can promise you the conversation will be worth it.

*Grace and Peace,*

Leigh

## Clerk's Corner

Session held its regular monthly meeting May 9<sup>th</sup> via zoom. Pastor Leigh reported working with Vashon Lutheran Church in their discernment process and providing pastoral care as they seek a new pastor. The Lutherans joined us in worship at VPC Sunday May 29<sup>th</sup>. Leigh has been in communication with other island clergy about formation of an interfaith youth group. Elizabeth Loveness offered to oversee the youth group with help from Leigh and Jacq. Session approved a motion to amend the 2022 budget to include a \$500.00 line item for youth ministry unanimously. Leigh also suggested offering a new members class this summer. Bob Spangler offered to lead.

The treasurer reported donations exceeded budgeted income in April although we are still behind year to date. An unexpected additional \$4480.06 was received from the sale of OMAX stock by the company. Session approved rental of the nursery and East Room 1 day a week for a toddler and parents' instructional group by Cooperative Preschool. VPC will retain usage of the space the rest of the week. Agreement has also been reached with Carpe Diem to renew their lease of classrooms for next year.

Due to lack of applicants, no distribution from the Heindsmann Family scholarship will be awarded in 2022. The scholarship will again be offered in 2023. Session approved holding a parking and chair rental fundraiser during the Strawberry Festival if the parade route passes by the church. The recipient of the proceed will be determined prior to the event. Holding a picnic/worship service with Mary's Place residents at VPC this summer was also approved.

Details of all committee activities are listed in each committee's section of this newsletter. The next regular session meeting will be June 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:30 pm. It will be hybrid, originating the home of Elizabeth Loveness.

Blessings and Grace,

*Jacq Skeffington, Clerk of Session*



## Worship Committee

**This summer Leigh plans a sermon series on the Ten Commandants and First Peter.** The text study sessions at noon on Tuesdays will allow those interested to explore more deeply the readings for the sermons.

**We also want to have a worship meeting regarding music. I am scheduling the meeting for Tuesday June 7, 7 pm.** We have been fortunate to have musicians, especially soloists, carry the music component in our Zoom services this past year. Many thanks to Chris Coldeen, Jim Huff, Beverly Skeffington, Thomas Abraham, Susan Commeree, Mirabai Reeves, Westin and Garrett Dorr and several others for taking the lead in providing inspiring music well suited to the technical constraints of the Zoom programing. Retaining Marsha Morse has revived beautiful organ accompaniment for our favorite hymns and special music and has been overwhelmingly well received. Our goal would be to build on what we have now. One Sunday Marita Erickson joined with Jim Huff to provide beautiful harmony. Recently Marita and Beverly sang a duet with equal success. This kind of pairing or perhaps a trio with a solid accompaniment makes more sense than trying to make a small choir work. So I call on all those with ideas about the music for our worship service. We'll brainstorm and schedule times to meet with Marsha and see what works. We are also pursuing "outside" musicians to come and play for one Sunday. I'm hoping for small additions or changes for variety because we are truly blessed with our current talent and don't want to lose what has been so welcoming and inspirational for our hybrid services.

*Elizabeth Loveness, Worship Elder*

Pentacost Sunday June 5, 2022



## Faith Formation

Tuesday night Faith Formation is taking a break for the summer. The next meeting will be September 6 and we will be starting Part 2 in *Following the Call*. If anyone who does not have a book would like to join us in the fall, I have an extra book. (Lindsay)

Monday night discussion of *Through the Bible* will continue to meet every other Monday throughout the summer.

*Lindsay Hofman, Faith Formation Elder*



## Outreach

**First Friday** is back on the calendar. We'll start the fire pit at 6:00 PM out on the front lawn and we'll provide the fixings to make S'mores. Stop by the warm fire with your friends as you stroll around town looking at the art - June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Game Night** Friday 7:00-9:00 PM. If you're home Friday night, log onto Zoom and join in the fun and laughter while playing games. We'll test your current events and other trivia. Invite a friend. We'll continue to have games night on Friday evenings except for when Book Club is scheduled.

*Barb Huff, Outreach Elder*

## **Purposeful Service Team**

There were no applicants for the Heindsmann scholarship this spring. The committee recommended, and session agreed, that we not try to award a scholarship this year but do another award in spring 2023. The scholarship restrictions require only that there be three awards within a five year period.

The Vashon Afghan Resettlement Team (VART) is a group of islanders who began working in the fall of 2021 to help Afghan families settling in South King County. The team developed from Church of the Holy Spirit's Outreach committee working with the Diocese of Olympia's Refugee Resettlement Office in Auburn. Islanders (both individuals and faith groups) offer support to help Afghan families settle into their new homes by providing essential kitchen and bathroom items, etc. A member of VART will be presenting information to VPC in June for those interested in joining this effort.

Committee members will be collecting Styrofoam, foam food trays, plastic packing material and plastic bags in the VPC parking lot on Saturday, June 4 from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. We will then take the items to the island-wide event the following day. Please collect these items (sorting plastic bags from foam products) and bring them on Saturday so we can keep these non-degradable items out of our landfill.

With the Strawberry Festival parade returning in July, we are planning to offer chairs and parking for the July 16 parade. Donations will be given to a cause to be selected. We will need volunteers to help set up and take down chairs, and to monitor parking. Please contact Bob Spangler or Barb Huff if you can help.

*Bob Spangler, Purposeful Service Elder*

## Hospitality

Now that the days are long and warm weather is becoming the norm, it's time to take advantage of it through hosting/attending small gatherings at our homes. On **June 4** (which not-so-coincidentally is Myrtle's birthday) Liz Loveness is hosting a Spring Tea at her home.

On **June 23**, Debbie Finch, Barbara Zue, and the Tuckers are holding a progressive dinner. If you are interested in hosting a small gathering, let me know and I'll help you coordinate it.

*Nancy Tucker, Hospitality Elder*



## VPC Book Club

June - We will be having book club at the Ross-Weston home on Friday June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Please come join us. This month we are going to read *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah. The book for July will be *Jesus and the Disinherited* by Howard Thurman. It maybe harder to find so we wanted to give people plenty of time to find a copy. Carol Spangler has a copy we can begin circulating right away. Especially for those people who have already read the June selection.

## Building and Grounds

The Second Saturday work party on May 14<sup>th</sup> included another cleanup of the parking lot. We also pressure washed the rest of the sidewalks around the north entrance and the porch access to/from the sanctuary. Additional shrubbery was added to the bed beneath the Good Shepard's window and a volunteer has agreed to a more consistent mowing of the lawn.

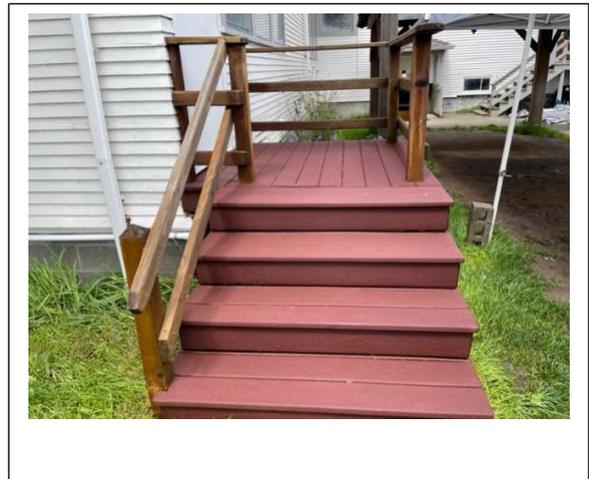
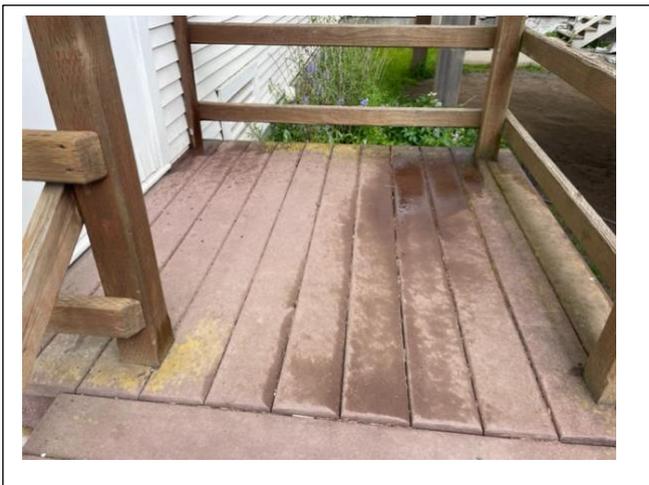
Carpe Diem has renewed their contract for next year and agreed to paint portions of the hallways in the areas they've been renting at the end of June. It would be great to have a combined painting party with the volunteers they plan to gather. Watch the eNews for dates.

Cooperative Preschool has contracted use of our Nursery and East Room for a parent and toddler class once a week. We have cleaned out the Nursery in anticipation and they will repaint and replenish the toys with their equipment. We will retain usage of the space during the rest of the week, including Sundays.

We have also started conversion of the former Chapel into a Youth Room in anticipation of formation of a group. All the old shelves (which were too small to store anything!) have been removed and another painting party is in the works. Many people have complimented the wonderful job done in brightening up the East Room, Narthex and West entrance during our painting spree before Easter. Again, watch the eNews for dates and mark your calendar for the Second Saturday work party. We can really use some help with a string trimmer and hedge clippers.

Blessings and Grace,

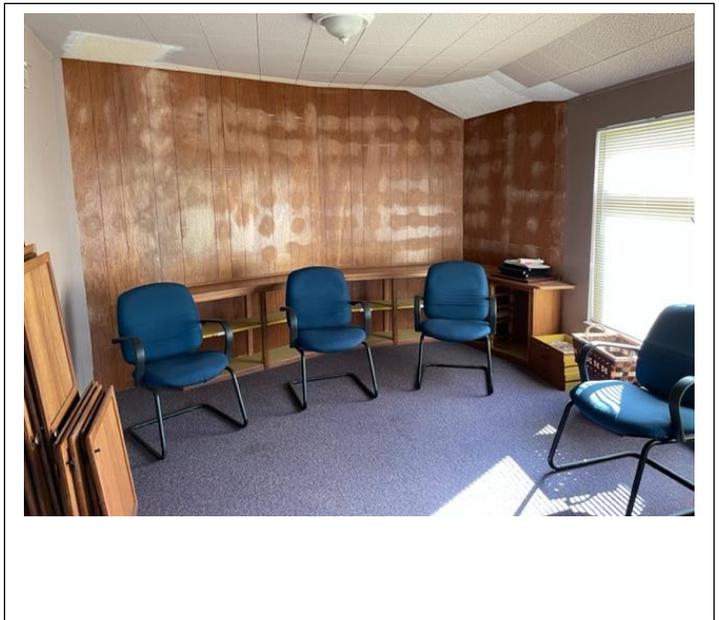
Jacq Skeffington



## VPC Youth

The old chapel/classroom is being prepared for the VPC youth group. Cupboards have been removed and the walls are ready to be painted. Our growing group of 6 young people are planning several outings this summer including some with students from VICC and Bethel Church. We all are enjoying the sound of young voices around the church. A hearty welcome to this enthusiastic group of young people and this latest addition to our fellowship here at VPC.

*Elizabeth Loveness, Youth Elder*



## Deacon's Message

This month I have been thinking often of my mother. On June 1, 2022, she would have been 100. She lived a full 98 years and left us with many little gems throughout our lives. When my sister, brother-in-law, Al and I were moving her out of her apartment she lived in for 26 years, we found this on her bulletin board.

### TERRIFIC RESOLUTIONS

- I will do something every day that makes me laugh out loud.
- I will encourage myself to make mistakes
- I will remind myself that there are no mistakes – only “opportunities for growth.”
- I will make up creative excuses to exercise.
- I will take more risks.
- I will worry about only one thing at a time if I worry at all.
- I will eat right 90% of the time and eat whatever I want 10% of the time.
- I will send out more thank-you cards.
- I will read the comics.
- I will not agree to do things simply because someone asks me to.
- I will invite someone to share a meal with me at least once a month.
- I will take a walk or get some other exercise whenever I feel stressed.
- I will get as much sleep as I need to be happy, healthy and fun to be around.
- I will focus on what went right every day, instead of what went wrong.
- I will spend at least two nights a week without the TV on.
- I will find at least five new, really healthy foods that I actually enjoy and eat them.
- I will ask myself “Will this thing really matter in 100 years?”
- I will walk to more places – like to the store, to a friend's, to the post office.
- I will go outside and play at least twice a week.
- I will be thankful for **everything**.

Taking care of ourselves is just as important as taking care of others. When we find strength for ourselves, we are better support for each other. In the midst of covid, loss, and isolation these resolutions helped guide me and have really made a difference, especially when I think of them as a legacy from our mom. Caring for and loving ourselves as God loves us.

*Deacon Claudia Ross-Weston*

# Calendar

## June 2022

- 3 First Friday S'Mores on VPC lawn 6:00 PM  
Game Night 7:00 PM Zoom
- 4 Styrofoam and More VPC parking lot 10-11:30 AM
- 5 Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM Communion
- 10 Game Night 7:00 PM
- 11 Second Saturday Work Party 10:00 - Noon
- 12 Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM
- 13 Faith Formation 5:00 PM - The One Year Through the Bible Devotional
- 17 Game Night 7:00 PM on Zoom
- 19 Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM
- 23 Theology Pub 5:00 PM
- 24 VPC Book Club 7:00 PM
- 26 Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM
- 27 Faith Formation 5:00 PM - The One Year Through the Bible Devotional

### Ongoing Activities

- Mondays** Sermon After Talk Noon – 1 PM
- Tuesdays** Sporty's In-Person Coffee Hour 9:00 AM  
Text Study Noon
- Wednesdays** Body Prayer 8:00 AM
- First Thursdays** Mental Health Advocates 7:00 PM
- Fridays** Grief Group 11:00 AM (Call Leigh for details)  
Game Night 7:00 PM

**Please Note:**  
Dates, times, and events might change after the time of this publication. Refer to the church bulletin and the weekly E-News for up-to-date information.

### Church Leadership

- Pastor** Leigh Weber
- Clerk of Session** Jacq Skeffington
- Session Members** Lindsay Hofman, Barb Huff, Jim Lilje, Elizabeth Loveness, Bob Spangler, Nancy Tucker
- Deacons** Claudia Ross-Weston (Moderator), Thomas Abraham, Chris Coldeen, Susan Commeree, Nancy Johnson, Sheryl Lehman