

O C T O B E R 2 0 1 6

# Vashon Presbyterian Church

Vashon Island, Washington 98070

Listening to God, embracing all, living in joy

## October 2016 Newsletter

### Pastor Nominating Committee Elected

Our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has been elected and is ready to begin meeting in order to select a candidate for the called pastor position here at VCC. They are eager to discern God's leading and hope to present the congregation with their nomination as soon as the Spirit allows. Members of the PNC are: Jordon Browning, Brownie Carver, Larry Commeree, Diana Lilje, Elizabeth Loveness, Bob Spangler, and Claudia Ross –Weston.

Though these people will be doing the heavy lifting of finding a spirit led match between our church's values and mission and a potential pastor's values, giftedness and mission experience, we are all called to participate in the process through encouragement of the PNC and through diligent and faithful prayer. Please,

Pray for patience and a heart of discernment for all members of the PNC as they commit to waiting for God's direction and timing.

Pray that they will seek the will of God and the common good rather than bring their own agendas to this work, pursuing the mind of Christ above all else.

Pray for wisdom, inspiration, and energy – all of which come from disciplined time spent in God's Word and in prayer. "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you might know the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2)

Pray for growth, joy and love to be experienced in the midst of the search process. Many people report that being a member of a PNC has been one of the most rewarding experiences of their lives as members get to know each other, the church, it's mission, and even potential pastors on a deep spiritual level.

Pray for patience for YOURSELVES. The search process can go on longer than expected. It is hard for people doing the work. It is also difficult for those who must wait without knowing exactly what is going on. Pray that everyone would trust the leadership as the process takes place.

### October Dates!

**Adult Education Class**  
**"Christianity and Islam"**  
Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

**Tailgate Coffee Hour**  
October 9

**"Discovery Dialogue"**  
**Group Discussion**  
October 16

**VPC Book Club**  
Oct 21

**Halloween Hospitality**  
**Event**  
October 31



## Presbyterian Disaster Assistance helps rebuild homes in Kamiah, Idaho.

I joined a team from Olympia Presbytery recently for a week of helping to restore homes devastated by the summer of 2015 wildfires. I learned a lot about mudding and sanding drywall, a skill requiring a high level of comfort with making a mess.

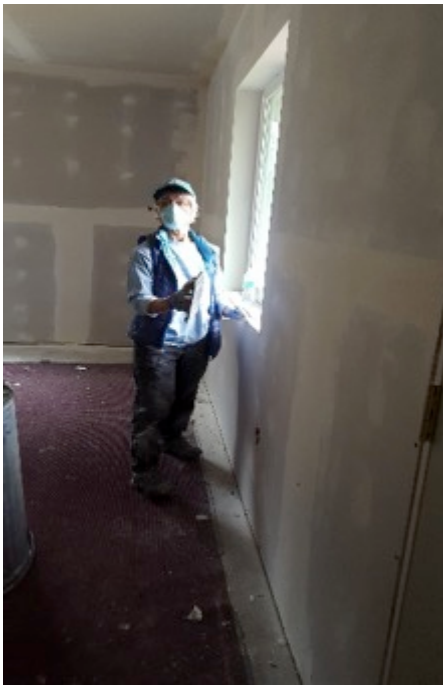
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Youth with a Mission, and the Mennonites have been especially active in restoring homes and rebuilding lives of the people living on the outskirts of Kamiah. God's Spirit has been weaving together the energies of both community folks and volunteers to show forth the love and compassion of Christ.

Please pray for Kamiah and all communities where disaster has disrupted and challenged lives. All things can work together for good when WE work together.

Contributions to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance can be made through our national Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) website at [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org).

Blessings,  
Pastor Lynn

Playing with mud can be fun!



**Purposeful Service  
Team News**

**Area of Responsibility**

Scholarship, Mary Magdalene weekend, IFCH dinners, mission partner relations

**IFCH** VPC will be responsible for the meal 10/27. There is a sign up sheet in the east room. This is a great way to reach out to Islanders in need. Join with friends and plan a harvest time activity together feeding those in hunger.

**Motorcycle Sunday** VPC was out in its most hospitable force on Sunday Sept 10<sup>th</sup> to greet Vashon's motorcycle enthusiast guests from off island. We served home baked goodies and coffee to many and shared conversation and hospitality.

**Purposeful Service Meeting** Purposeful Service Team will meet Thursday October 6 at 7 PM. Join us. We'd like new members and fresh ideas!

*Elder Al Ross Weston*

**Worship  
Team News**

**Area of Responsibility**

Sacraments celebration, music program, readers, bulletin, ecumenical worship, church décor.

**Worship Helpers** If you are interested in reading for the worship service or if you have a favorite hymn to recommend, contact Brownie at 795-6488

*Elder Brownie Carver*

**Clerk's Corner – October**

There was no session meeting in September so there will be no Clerk's Report this issue.

*Bob Spangler, Clerk of Session*

**Journey/Invitation  
Team News**

**Area of Responsibility**

Bible study, Christian formation (all ages), new members and discipleship, evangelism and invitation.

**Adult Education** The fall Adult Education class began in September. We are reading a book titled Christianity and Islam by Ronn Kerr. The course is for those who have little knowledge of Islam other than what has been reported in the news and aims at providing a general understanding of the difference and similarities between these two great religions.

*Elder Diana Lilje*

**Hospitality/Fellowship  
Team News**

**Area of Responsibility**

Hospitality, Fellowship

**VPC Book Club** Book Club meets October 21<sup>st</sup> at the home of Elizabeth Loveness. Meet at 6:30 PM for a potluck and hot cider!. The book selection this month is Mary Coin by Marisa Silver.

**SeaHawks Tailgate Coffee Hour** The Sea Hawks Bye week this year is on Sunday October 9. You are invited to wear your College sweatshirt or t-shirt or Pro-team shirt to church. Please bring your favorite tailgate treat for coffee hour. We can tailgate (in the Social Hall) without worrying about getting home to watch the Hawks. See you there!

*Elder Kate Smith*

**Mission Resource**  
**Team News**  
**Area of Responsibility**  
 Financials  
 Building and Grounds

**Building and Grounds**

**Exterior painting of the church** began this week. Thanks to all who helped comment on and choose the color scheme. We hope you find it refreshing and inviting. As the crew started pressure washing and scraping old paint it became painfully obvious that this repair is necessary. Included in the project is replacement of missing and damaged shingles on the belfry. Due to the added income of having Carpe Diem School and Creative Preschool as tenants, and by calling Rev. Lynn Longfield to serve as a half-time Interim pastor, we do not have to have conduct a special purpose fundraising campaign to cover the cost. Please pray that the wonderful weather we're experiencing holds out for a few more weeks. If the weather holds the painting may be finished in three weeks.

Have you noticed the excitement and energy that has returned in the building with the resumption of classes in **Carpe Diem School and Creative Preschool?** Stop by the office during the week and chat with the office volunteer to catch it. Someone is there Monday through Thursday from 10-2. Pastor Lynn is there Wednesdays from 9-3. Please call ahead to visit with Pastor Lynn though, as she may be off visiting VCC or a member in their home.

**The VPC website** [www.vashonpreschurch.org](http://www.vashonpreschurch.org) is changing weekly. Do you like it? Do you have anything to add to it? Please contact me if you have any suggestion for improving it.

**Financials**

We will conduct our Annual Pledge Campaign in November again this year. Pledging helps Session plan programming and activities in the life of the church for next year. Please carefully consider your donations of time and talents for next year. Watch the weekly eNews for ways that you can assist in this Pledge campaign.

*Elder Jacq Skeffington*

**Deacons News**

In recent months, the deacons have increasingly focused on activities that help nurture our connections within the church family. Deacons can lead the efforts but to be most effective we need everyone's participation. Last month we shared our practice of continuing the prayer requests heard during worship throughout the week. We encourage you to be involved with this discipline too by remembering the concerns and needs you hear in worship, and then offering your support for those folks along with prayers for others in our church family.

Deacons would also like to know what practices really nourish your individual spiritual growth. Can you share these ideas with us? We would appreciate learning what experiences are helpful to you. Feel free to send your comments to the church e mail ([vashonpresbyterianchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:vashonpresbyterianchurch@yahoo.com)) and we will pass them along to our various leadership teams for guidance as new activities are developed. Deacons would also be delighted to hear your responses in person - and don't be surprised if perhaps one of us asks you directly to share ideas!

We're entering another era in our life as a congregation. By combining ideas and experiences from more voices, we can grow together in very helpful ways.

*With thanks from your VPC Deacons' Team -  
 Christine Browning, Susan Commeree, Lindsay Hofman, Beverly Skeffington, Sue Weston and Nancy van Roessel*

## What's on your mind?

### Discovering Our Future Together Through Dialogue

After worship, the **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday** of each month, join us for a lively discussion on topics pertinent to VPC's future. Articles on varying topics will be made available to the congregation via the e-news well before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday discussions so that we will have a common starting point for each session. Some intriguing titles include: *Back to the Future; Faith Communities in a Post Institutional Age; God, Meaning and Purpose; 10 Ways to Revive a Dying Church; On Being Spiritual but not Religious; House Churches; 5 Things Church Leaders Must Know; Pastor, Churches and Politics; Not Dead Yet, On Sunday School.*

The first of these discussions will be Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup> after worship. The discussions will be lead by Pastor Lynn and Jacq Skeffington.

## Seen and Heard

One year ago.....

### "VPC Welcomes Interim Pastor"

One year ago.....VPC welcomed Rev. Lynn Longfield of Tacoma to serve as our Interim Pastor. Rev. Longfield led the worship service for the first time October 25<sup>th</sup>. Our thanks and gratitude to Reverend Lynn for her service, inspiration and leadership this past year. It has been a blessing for our church and the whole community!



### Update on the Potters

Carol emailed to say they had settled in the Lacey area. "We are both just real excited with all we've experienced so far. The neighbors are super friendly. We absolutely love the house. Well worth waiting for!" If you would like to contact them, their cell numbers and new address is on file in the office.





## Calendar for October 2016

(all events at VPC unless otherwise stated)

### Oct

- 1 Bible Study 10 AM
- 2 Adult Education Class 9 AM
- 2 Sunday Worship Service at 10 AM (Communion Service)
- 9 Adult Education Class 9 AM
- 9 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- 12 Session Meeting 7 PM
- 15 Bible Study 10 AM
- 16 Adult Education Class 9 AM
- 16 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- 16 Discovery Dialogue after Worship
- 19 Deacon's Meeting 5 PM
- 21 VPC Book Club at Loveness's 6:30 PM
- 23 Adult Education Class 9 AM
- 23 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- 30 Adult Education Class 9 AM
- 30 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- 31 Halloween Hospitality Event

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- Life Changing Prayer group meets at 1:00 pm at the Vashon Community Care Center.*
- Women's informal breakfast meets at Sporty's at 8:00 am on Wednesdays.*
- Bible Study meets at 10 am on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays.*
- Toolbelts work parties 10 am Tuesdays.*

Please note: Dates, times and events may change after publication. Refer to the weekly e-News or Sunday bulletin for confirmation of details.