

AUGUST 2017

Vashon Presbyterian Church

Vashon Island, Washington 98070



August 2017 Newsletter

VPC Late Summer Event Schedule

August 5th
VPC Yard Sale

August 13th
Mary's Place Worship

August 14th – 18th
Vacation Bible School

August 18th
VPC Book Club



Mary's Place

Once again the ladies from Mary's Place in Seattle will join with island churches in fellowship at the annual **Mary's Place Worship and Picnic at Ober Park August 13th 10 AM**. If you have wondered what Mary's Place is all about, here is their mission statement taken from their website.

Their Mission

Mary's Place (in Seattle) is a leading voice for homeless women, children, and families in emergency situations. We empower women to reclaim their lives by offering community, acceptance, hope and dignity. Our work keeps struggling families together and provides practical tools and resources that help women find housing and employment. We inspire the community to support homeless women and families through advocacy, partnerships, volunteerism, and philanthropy.

Join us in worship and picnic fun on the 13th as we celebrate these very special guests to the island. More in Purposeful Service News P 3.

VPC Annual Yard Sale: More Than a Fundraiser

Each summer we gather up items around our homes and garages and offer them for sale to the community to supplement our general fund. It's become a fun time of fellowship for our members and a time to reach out to the community and visit with our neighbors in town and visitors to the island who pass by. On a summer sunny day we say "hello" and "how are you doing?" to hundreds of islanders as members of our church sharing God's love. The personal connections made this day perhaps far outweigh the financial gain from the sale. So let's get ready for this coming Saturday and put out our "welcome" sign as well as our "for sale" signs. It's going to be a great day.

Thoughts From Leigh...

Years ago, when I first moved to Seattle I saw a tee shirt at Pike Place Market that read, “Seattle Summers—we earn them.” After the winter that just didn’t want to end this past year, summer has been a welcome sight and I’m enjoying my first summer working and being on Vashon. We’ve had a few Meet and Greet dinners, I enjoyed a wonderful night at the Spangler’s for book club. My son, Eric, and I had a fun afternoon at Strawberry Festival and I’ve had a chance to get out and visit with some more of the island social service providers and other pastors. And I am enjoying the sneak peak of the upcoming yard sale since I am in the church office this morning.

Just like in all Western Washington, summer is earned on Vashon as much as anywhere else...earned and enjoyed. It provides for all of us a chance to be outside more, to slow down a bit and to be mindful of this beautiful creation all around us.

I want to encourage you and me both to take the lessons of summer and import them into to all life’s seasons. I pray that we can learn to slow down, to pause in awe of God’s creation, even on those winter days where clouds and drizzle cover much of it. I challenge us to increase our mindfulness and to sit in silence more, to pause and listen to the One who calls us to be still and know that God is God always, on the days that feel sunny to us and those that may have more clouds. Unlike our seasons, God doesn’t change.

Looking forward to more moments with you, hearing your stories, visiting your homes, sipping tea and wine and lemonade on summer afternoons and sharing in all of our seasons together.

Grace and Peace,

Leigh



Mission Resource Team News

Area of Responsibility

Financial stewardship
Building and Grounds

Finance Report ---Our weekly offering this year is may be falling a bit behind the amount predicted for our budget but our expenses are less that expected so that we continue to be financially sound.

Elder Diana Lilje

Buildings and Grounds Don't forget our **Annual Yard Sale** August 5th. Bring in your items for pricing this week. **It would be great if we didn't all wait for Friday to bring things in so the pricing crew can keep up.** The church is open for receiving items 9-1, Tuesday through Friday. **We also need all hands on deck for setup starting at 7:30 AM Saturday morning and again at 3 PM for take down.** Come if you're able. We need your help!



Volunteers Getting Ready for the Yard Sale

I've received a lot of complimentary feedback about the **exterior paint job**. Thank you all for your color selection input. And also **thank you to all who are keeping the flowerbeds and lawn looking so beautiful.**

Blessings,

Jacq Skeffington

Purposeful Service Team News

Area of Responsibility

Scholarship, Mary Magdalene weekend/partnership, IFCH dinners, mission partner relations.

Mary's Place Picnic is Coming!!

Calling all worker bees:

Mary's Place Picnic is August 13th at Ober park from 10-1ish. I hope you will be able to help in one or more of the following ways:

Between now and then:

provide funds for ferry tickets
provide a delicious potluck dish

Saturday, August 12th 10AM

Meet at church to move chairs and stage all kitchen equipment. Please bring any kind of boxes or good carrying vessels.

Sunday, August 13th-9am

move chairs, kitchen equipment, sound system to Ober Park
pick up women from Ferry dock
return women to Ferry dock

I will be talking with you during coffee hour to see where you can plug into this big effort.

Contact the office or Beverly Skeffington if you can help.

Festival Parking and Chairs

Just when we think it can't get any better - this year we sold out of parking spaces 2 days prior to the parade. Every chair we could find in the church was also put to use. We are so ecstatic that we were able to earn \$1800+ for the Vashon Resettlement Committee in their work to establish Syrian families in homes on Vashon this month. Thanks to all those who labored for this very wonderful organization. And thanks to all who cheerfully greeted our many visitors to the church on that festival day. Ambassadors for our beloved Lord!! Well done, good and faithful servants.

Beverly Skeffington – Purposeful Service Comm

Faith Exploration Team News

Area of Responsibility

Bible study, Christian Formation (all ages)

New Members Class Bob Spangler and I are working with Leigh on a New Members Class for September. If you are a “friend” of VPC and interested in joining or just interested in the development of the PC(USA) and VPC in particular, please let one of us know. We plan to have classes Sunday mornings before Worship.

Blessings,
Jacq Skeffington

Adult Education We are taking a break for the summer and will resume in the fall. The topic and the date will be announced in September’s newsletter

Vacation Bible School will be August 14 through 18, 9 - 11:30 am, hosted by St. John Vianney Church. Children, age 4-12, are invited to attend. The goal of this weeklong program is to engage kids into the Life of Christ with teachings on the Commandments, the Beatitudes and the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. This sports-themed VBS is packed with songs, games, crafts and interactive lessons that will motivate kids to run the great race of faith.

VPC is providing help with the snacks. If interested contact Alice Dorr at alicedorr@hotmail.com

Bible Study The Bible Study group will not meet in August.

Elder Diana Lilje

Worship Team News

Area of Responsibility

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

Morning Prayer/New Worship Service

Starting Sunday, September 10th, we will be adding an additional service. We will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary and conclude at 8:55 a.m. This will be a quiet time of morning prayer, longer periods of silence, singing and sharing. We will be using the PUSA Book of Common Worship for some of our liturgy as well.

Feel free to stay for Christian Formation at 9:00 a.m. as well as our traditional 10:00 a.m. worship service. Questions? Talk with Pastor Leigh.

“In a world of noise, confusion and conflict it is necessary that there be places of silence, inner discipline and peace. In such places love can blossom.” -Thomas Merton

The Combined Service with the Vashon Methodist congregation was well received. There are plans for more collaborative services/events in the future.



Signup for Sunday Helpers Sunday is a day in which everyone can play a meaningful part in morning worship and fellowship. Ushers, flower providers, and coffee hour hosts put that extra special touch on our time together. The signup sheets are in the reception room.

Elder Brownie Carver

Clerk's Corner

Session met on July 11. Diana Lilje was appointed acting clerk due to my absence. Most team reports were submitted in advance; Deacon Susan Commeree presented an oral report. Session voted to use funds from the yard sale for the general fund, and to open the nursery to the public (with a VPC volunteer present) on Saturday morning of Strawberry Festival. Pastor Leigh stated that she would institute a short service on Sunday mornings from 8:30 to 8:50 starting September 10. Session also reviewed and approved a letter that she will be sending to members and friends who have not been active in the life of VPC, and decided to formulate a policy concerning funerals and memorials. The planned session retreat was rescheduled for October 6. Finally, Pastor Leigh stated that VPC has been approved to host the July 2018 Presbytery meeting, will be working on a Presbytery grant for new mission initiatives, and will hold another joint service with the Vashon Methodist Church on December 31.

Bob Spangler, Clerk of Session

Lupines in Memory of Shirley Blake

Many of us who attended the memorial service for Shirley received lupine seeds from her family along with a loving message written by Shirley. Claudia Ross-Weston has a very thoughtful idea that these lupines should be planted around the new dogwood tree on the church's front lawn. Lupine will grow well there but this is not the season to start the process. So, if you'd like to start your seeds and contribute to the lupine plants around our church (or plant in your own yard), we suggest that you wait until fall. The seeds will also require special preparation in order to germinate. We'll send another message when the time comes to start the process. By next spring and summer we will have such bright and colorful reminders of our beloved friend Shirley. If you have lupine questions, please talk with Claudia Ross-Weston or Nancy van Roessel.

Hospitality/Fellowship Team News

Area of Responsibility

Hospitality, Fellowship

August Book Club The VPC Book Club will meet this month at Kate Smith's on August 18th. There will be a potluck at 6:30 before the discussion of the book Lost in Shangri-La by Mitchell Zuckoff. Everyone is welcome!

Elder Al Ross Weston

Invitation and Outreach Team News

Area of Responsibility

New Members and Discipleship, Evangelism and Invitation.

Look for an update from the Invitation and Outreach Team in the September issue of the VPC Newsletter.

VPC: Helping in the Community

**Mary's Place Worship and Picnic:
"Worship, singing, good food, and soaking up the sun"**



Members of the VPC congregation lead prayer and song for residents of Vashon Community Care Center each week.



VPC raised over \$1,800 with the Strawberry Festival Parking and Chairs to help two Syrian families settle here on the island through the Refugee Resettlement Committee.



Calendar for August 2017

Aug

- 5 VPC Annual Yard Sale 9-3 PM
- 6 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM (Communion)
- 7 Session Meeting 6:30 PM
- 13 Mary's Place Worship/Picnic at Ober Park 10 AM
- 18 VPC Book Club at 6:30 PM at Kate Smith's
- 20 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- 27 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

***Fellowship Breakfast** meets Wednesdays at Sporty's at 8:00 AM*

***Linking Text and Liturgy Group** meets Wednesdays at 10 AM*

***Prayer Group** meets Wednesdays at*

1:00 PM at the Vashon Community Care Center

***Bible Study** meets the 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 10 AM*

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