
Dungeness Valley Lutheran *Currents*



Church Telephone: 681-0946

Pastor's Notes

The Importance of Letting Go

I was doing that thing again the other day with the TV remote. The thing that drives Karin crazy.

Channel surfing! And as I quickly flipping back and forth between channels, I happened on a show on A&E I'd never seen before: "Hoarders".

For those of you who've never had the pleasure, "Hoarders" is about people with a problem. For whatever reason, they can't let go. Hoarders get so attached to whatever it is they are hoarding that it creates a personal crisis in their lives. When I tuned in, the episode was about a man who hoarded pets in his house. So many pets, it turned out, that there was hardly any room left for the rest of his family to live.

But the issue that precipitated the crisis was the health and well-being of the man's live-in mother-in-law. This woman was so allergic to the pets in the house that having them around continually sickened her.

Fed up, the man's wife finally confronted him. "Don't you love me?" she asked. "You know I do," he replied. "And my mother: you love her?" she continued. "Yes," he answered back. "You know that having these pets around is killing her, don't you?" the woman persisted. "Yes, I know," the man admitted. "Well then, its the pets, or your family. You decide."

But that was exactly the problem. He couldn't decide. And torn between his love for his family and his love for his pets, this man was miserable.

Of course, hoarding comes in all

shapes and sizes. I was reminded of this when Matt and I recently cleaned out my in-laws' basement. We found all kinds of stuff down there: piles of wood, old car seats, rusted-out crab pots, broken patio furniture, boxes and boxes of miscellaneous odds and ends. You name it, we found it.

Matt and I agreed. Grandpa didn't like to throw much of anything away!

Since then, I personally filled a 30 yd. dumpster with part of that stuff. And I'm working on filling it again. And that's just the basement!

I came away from this experience determined that we should take charge of our own stuff, so that our kids wouldn't have to deal with a similar situation when we are gone.

And I also came away a renewed sense of the power that our stuff can have over us.

Although I doubt Jesus had enough material possessions to ever have had a hoarding problem, he clearly recognized the spiritual dangers associated with hoarding. "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth," he said, "but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

So how about you? Have you taken stock lately? Depressed and overwhelmed by all of your stuff? Maybe its time for that garage sale you've been talking about all summer. Or maybe its time to drop off a few donations at the thrift store. Or maybe, just maybe, its time to make a couple of runs to the dump and just get rid of it.

Those are all ways of letting go. It can be a cathartic experience. Even a spiritual experience. Letting go can be a way for us

to get our focus back; a way for us to get in touch once again with what's really important.

So why not get started? Now, in October, before the fall rains start in.

Let go. Just do it.

You'll be glad you did!

Pastor Jack ;-)

P.S. If you want or need professional help with your garage or estate sale, let me recommend our own Randi Cooper. She was an enormous help to us!

IN OUR PRAYERS

PEACE, WELL-BEING MEMBERS

The Family of Howard Anderson in his passing.

Jerry Nelson at the passing of his wife Meredith.



ILLNESS/SURGERY RECOVERY MEMBERS

Carol Coleman; Margaret Brown; Bob Hardy; Lyn and Steve Lauderdale; Alan Sawyer; Henry Fischer; Myrtle Lemley; Tom Freeman; Bud Clark; Frank Brancato; Nancy Martin; LaRay Greene; Paul Carpenter

Friends or Relatives of DVLC Members

Gale Taylor (LaRay Greene);
Carol Howard (niece of Gordon and Betty Zander); **Rick Hyman** (LaNice Korus);
Marian Johnson (Karin Anderson);
Anne (Sue Pierce);
Darla (Mel & Marie Breitsprecher);
Earl (Mary Longstaff);
Jim (Judy Green's brother-in-law);
Jessie Grinstad; Terry Stratton (Alberta Baker); **Dora Kramer** (Albert Baker);
Susan Mannina (The Wessels); **Margaret** (Bill Herrick's Aunt); **Donna** (Hazel Hansen);
Tom and Christine (and family) (LaNice Korus); **Pat** (Judy Green);

Chris (Sue Pierce);
Karin (Bob Green's Niece); **Bob Paulson** (Susie Herrick); **Charlie** (Judy Green);
Steve (Judy Green);
Becci Hackbart (Lucille Caughron);
Nancy (LaNice Korus' daughter);
Mitzi (Alberta Baker); **Patrick** (Sue Pierce);
Matt (Sue Pierce); **Robert** (Etna Hardy);
Mary Horne (LaNice Korus);
Bill (Judy Green);
Amy, Tyler & Garrett (Terri Bristow);
Ginger Little (Duane & Nancy Little)

OUTREACH PRAYERS

All those serving in the military; Risen Faith Fellowship; and Sunshine Ministries in Vietnam. Lutheran Community Services; The Dream Center; The Living Stones Ministry

Thank You

Thank you for the cards and prayers both before and after my surgery. They were much appreciated. Bless you all!

LaRay Greene



Come share the joy that comes from reading the Gospel of Mark with sisters in Christ (10:00 a.m. 2nd Thursday every month).

The emphasis for each of the nine monthly sessions is built around the questions that are asked in the text, as well as questions participants bring to the text. The aim of Mark's gospel is to help us "Follow and Serve" Jesus Christ. The theme verse for October is "Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother." Mark 3:35.

The hour long study will be followed by food and fellowship.

Rosemary Freed

Secretary, Women of the ELCA

From the Parish Nurse

A healthy smile is a bonus at any age. Too often older people – especially those who wear dentures – feel they no longer need dental check-ups. If you haven't learned the basics of oral health care, it is not too late to start. And even if you have, it's a good time to review.

An important part of good oral health is knowing how to brush and floss correctly. Thorough brushing each day removes plaque. In addition to brushing, dental floss is necessary to keep the gums healthy. Proper flossing is important because it removes plaque and leftover food that a toothbrush cannot reach. An antibacterial mouth rinse, approved for the control of plaque and swollen gums, may be prescribed by your dentists.

The Health Resource table will have information about tooth decay or cavities; gum or periodontal disease; dry mouth or xerostomia, oral cancer and other oral problems and information about oral health for all age groups.

Stop by and check it out!

Mary Griffith

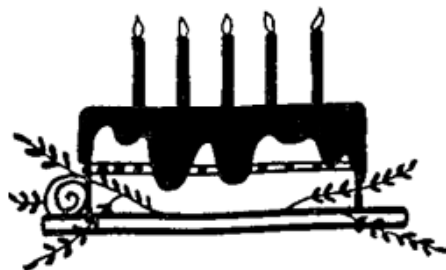
DVLC Birthday Corner **Birthday celebrations for September:**

- 1 – Roger Olsen
- 2 – Elena Carrizosa
- 6 – Mark Freed
- 6 – Dawn Langjahr
- 7 – Pam Hanna
- 9 – Caitlin Knapple
- 14 – Lucille Caughron
- 14 – Gene Zimmerman
- 15 – Janice Crist
- 16 – Matthew Anderson
- 16 – Budd Clark
- 18 – Ruth Storaasli
- 20 – Connie Conway
- 20 – Elaine Nelson
- 21 – Jerry Nelson

- 21 – Debbie Bradbury
- 25 – Eleanor Olin
- 28 – Chris Juergens
- 29 – Freddie Kraus

Happy Birthday to all!

By the way, please let us know if we have reported your birthday incorrectly or omitted it. If we have, we apologize.



FILL IT UP!

What exactly is "IT" you may ask? There are a number of things here at DVLC that involve "filling it up."

First, your calendar: Put "worship and Sunday School" on your calendar – ours is in big, red print each Sunday.

Don't fill up your Saturday nights till late.

FILL THE WELL!

Our new Middle/High School Sunday School project through October. Water is necessary to life and faith, realizing this, the middle school/high school Sunday school group will be filling their "fill the well" jars through Oct. There will be a jar available in the narthex for you to deposit your change.

If you like statistics, water.org has some staggering water statistics. Just one is: 3.575 MILLION people die each year from water related disease. Lutheran World Relief (LWR) has a water related relief program that our youth will be looking into to support, possibly water filters. More info. will be forthcoming on this.



BE FILLED WITH PRAYER

Please pray for our Sunday School and Education programs here at DVLC. Thank God for our healthy kids who are involved in community activities and sports. Saturday mornings you can take in a soccer game at any of the fields in Sequim and during the week the High school has evening games. Check out the school web site for their schedule. Pray for kids in Sequim to be involved in Christian education programs.

FILL YOUR STOMACH FOR EDUCATION!

The education committee has planned a number, 6 at this time, of food related fundraisers for the scholarship fund or for a local charity (Souper Bowl). Here is our list:

January 29, 2012 – souper bowl fundraiser (soup & bread) – local charity



February 21 – Shrove Tues. pancake dinner

March 18 – Baked Potato Bar

April – Egg casseroles

May – Taco Bar



“APPLES, ANTIQUES, AND ELEPHANTS!”

The Fellowship Committee has been busy planning the next congregational get-together! On Saturday, October 8th at 2:00 pm we will gather in the narthex of the church for “Apples, Antiques, and Elephants.”

Do you have an interesting, unusual, or maybe an unknown OLD item you would like to bring to show everyone? Randi Cooper (co-owner of Mousetrap Antiques) will be available to help answer questions regarding your antiques. Bring 1 or 2 items (that you can easily carry) and we will have fun sharing information with each other about our treasures.

No gathering event would be complete without food, and harvest time will be yielding apples! To round out our event, an apple dessert will be served. We will need a few bakers. Each baker will only need to prepare an apple dessert to serve four people, and the committee will provide the ice cream!

And...do you have some fun treasure, a white elephant, you would love to donate? Bring it wrapped to the event. Tickets for \$1.00 each will be available for purchase. A drawing will be held, and if your lucky number is drawn, you will win a NEW (new to you!) treasure. All \$1.00 ticket sales will be donated to the Dungeness Valley Health and Wellness Clinic.

Feel free to come to “Apples, Antiques, and Elephants!” even if you just want to attend and don’t wish to bring anything...just bring **you!** Please sign up in the narthex or call the church office so the committee will know how many to expect for this special event. Fun and food are promised!

CIVIL DISCOURSE:

**How to Talk to Anyone About Anything
Saturday ~ October 15th ~ 9 AM to Noon**

Join us for this Interfaith Forum

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 510 E.
Park Ave, Port Angeles, WA

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: LYNN KESSLER

Retired State Representative and House Majority Whip, Lynn Kessler will be speaking on her "favorite subject" Civil Discourse. In 2010 Lynn received the *Excellence in State Legislative Leadership Award* at the National Conference of State Legislators, for her years of service in Olympia.

WORKSHOPS:

How to listen and talk about tough issues

Participants will practice speaking and listening to each other. The goal is to help restore civil discourse in our daily lives and in the public arena. Mediators from the Peninsula Dispute Resolution Center will lead the workshops.

CONCERNS OF 2012 LEGISLATURE

Rev. Paul Benz, co-chair, and lobbyist for the statewide Faith Action Network, will talk about upcoming issues in the 2012 Washington State Legislative Session.

Suggested donation - \$10

Call 452-2323 for information/reservation

**Presented by the Faith Communities of:
Holy Trinity Lutheran, St. Andrew's
Episcopal, Prince of Peace Lutheran-
Forks, Clallam Bay Presbyterian,
Dungeness Valley Lutheran-Sequim, and
Olympic B'nai Shalom**



Yuletide Bazaar

Start dusting off those favorite recipes to be ready for the Yuletide Bazaar, November 19, you will be getting a call soon. Those who are making items to sell may drop them off at the parish house any Thursday between 9:30 and 2:00. We have had very successful bazaars in the past thanks to your wonderful baking and handiwork and are looking forward to this one being the best one yet. Remember all proceeds go to help local charities.

August Financial Results

During August our Operating Fund had a total income of \$27,971 which exceeded our monthly Budget by \$938 and our actual expenses by \$3,611. After the first eight months of the year our total Operating Fund income was \$213,557 which is \$2,685 below our Budget and \$795 less than our actual expenses. The Operating Fund is summarized below.

Operating Fund

	<u>August</u>	<u>Year-to-date</u>
Planned Income & Expenses	\$27,033	\$216,242
Actual Income	27,971	213,557
Actual vs.		
Planned Income	938	(2,685)
Actual Expenses	24,360	214,352
Actual vs.		
Planned Expenses	(2,673)	(1,890)
Actual Income vs. Actual Expenses	3,611	(795)

Finance Committee
