
Dungeness Valley Lutheran *Currents*



Church Telephone: 681-0946

Pastor's Notes

The Highest Form of Giving

These last few months, I have had the writings of Rabbi Jonathan Sachs on my mind.

I have thoroughly enjoyed reading "Not in God's Name" with a Wednesday night group here at DVLC. But with a smaller group, I have also been reading another Sachs book: "To Heal a Fractured World: The Ethics of Responsibility." In the latter work, Sachs talks about what it means to be Jewish in faith, and in practice. And among the various aspects of Jewish practice, Sachs talks both about the over-all importance of charity, and its different levels.

Harking back to the sage Maimonides, Sachs talks about eight levels of charity, in descending order of greatness:

"The highest degree [of charity], exceeded by none, is that of one who assists the poor person by providing him with a gift of a loan or by accepting him into a business partnership or by helping him find employment – in a word, by putting him in a situation where he can dispense with other people's aid...

A step below this stands the one who gives alms to the needy in such a way that the giver does not know to whom he gives and the recipient does not know from whom he takes. This exemplifies doing a good deed for its own sake...

One step lower is where the giver knows to whom he gives, but the poor person does not know from whom he receives...

A step lower is the case where the poor person knows from whom he is taking, but the giver does not know to whom he is giving...

Lower than this, is where someone gives the poor person a gift before he asks...

Lower still is one who gives only after the poor person asks...

Lower than this is one who gives less than is fitting, but does so with a friendly countenance...

The lowest level is one who gives ungraciously."

We like to think that we are a generous congregation, and we are. But whatever we do in the name of God, I would argue that there is always room for improvement. With the above list in mind, I invite you to think about your own charitable giving practices as they now stand. Is it possible that you might find ways to "move up the ladder," and encourage others to do likewise?

I will give Sachs the last words:

"What matters is not how much you give, but how you do so. Anonymity in the giving of aid is essential to dignity [i.e. of the recipient]. The poor must not be embarrassed. The rich must

not be allowed to feel superior. We give, not to take pride in our generosity, still less to emphasize the dependency of others, but because we belong to a covenant of human solidarity, and because that is what God wants us to do, honoring the trust through which he has temporarily lent us wealth in the first place.”

Words of wisdom. Words for us all.

To one and all, a blessed beginning to the long season of Pentecost: the season of the Church!

Pastor Jack ☺

Church Council Highlights **Old Business**

- **God’s work. Our hands.**
A day of service, August 20th painting Sequim Food Bank.

New Business:

Audit committee submitted their report.
Discussion of a membership committee.

Pastor’s Report – April 2016

20 – Meetings	2 – Hospital Visits
0 – Funerals	9 – Classes
8 – Home Visits	0 – Weddings
17 – Office Visits	0 – Baptisms
0 – Confirmations	

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE:

Average Sunday Attendance for

April 2016: 111

April 2015: 117

April Financial Results

In April Operating Fund income totaled **\$23,565** which is **\$768 lower than our monthly budget** and **\$426 lower than our actual expenses for the month**. As a result, Operating Fund income for the first four months of 2016 totaled **\$96,930** which is **\$414 lower than our YTD Budget** and **\$1,340 higher than our actual expenses**. The Operating Fund is summarized below.

	Operating Fund	
	March	Year-to-date
Planned Income	\$24,333	\$97,344
Actual Income	23,565	96,930
Actual vs.	(768)	(414)
Planned Income	52	354
Planned Expenses	24,444	97,884
Actual Expenses	23,992	95,591
Actual Income vs.		
Actual Expenses	(426)	1,340

Finance Committee

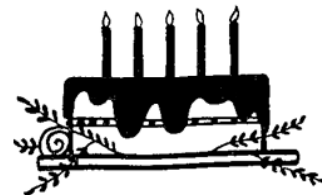
DVLC Birthday Corner

Birthday celebrations for June:

2 - Mary Longstaff
2 - Bryan Bock
3 - Sharon Waters
5 - Betty Zander
8 - Peter Lemley
14 - Gary Lange
16 - Elizabeth Sump
19 - Jack Anderson
24 - Olivia Webb
26 - Jane Olson
30 - Deborah Nelson

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.



IN OUR PRAYERS

ILLNESS/SURGERY RECOVERY MEMBERS

Les and Ruth Skogman; Loren Kreutner; Annette Lindamood; Ginger Little; Tracy Williams; Bob Hardy; Lee Raymond; Mark & Rosemary Freed, Duane Little, Ken Eide, Gary Capouch, Sue Stauffer

Friends or Relatives of DVLC Members

Carl Skogman (Les and Ruth Skogman); **Bernie** (Judy Green); **Anita Little** (Duane and Nancy Little); **Alexis & Ari** (Jolie Will); **Gladys** (Gordon Zander); **Mike Pierce** (Sue Pierce); **Anne** (daughter of Sue Pierce); **Karen and Felix** (Jolie Will); **Christine** (LaNice Korus); **Jan** (Sue Pierce); **Marsha & Lee Richard** (LaNice Korus); **Barbara Wixon** (Jolie Will); **Tami** (LaNice Korus); **Larry** (Bob Green); **Paul McFarland** (Gordon & Betty Zander); **Pat Van Gerpen** (Diane Isaac); **Lester Boyd** (Jeff Boyd); **Amanda Neff** (Kathy Lohrman); **Jennifer Jennings-Shaffer and Ida Fintel** (Brenda Jennings); **Lois and Lorne Kennedy** (Donna McMillen); **Renee** (Gary & Pat Capouch) **Pastor Richard Hermstad** (Jennifer Schroeder); **Kathy Hart** (Sue Pierce) **Sharon and Glenn Jones** (Jim and Sandy Jones); **Rebekah Geiger** (Ruth Geiger); **Hayden "Jade" Webb** (Jan Webb), **Jane** (Jim and Sandy Jones)

OUTREACH PRAYERS

All those serving in the military; Sunshine Ministries in Vietnam; Lutheran Community Services; The Dream Center; The Living Stones Ministry; LWR Water Project; Risen Faith Fellowship; Panama



Blood Drive at DVLC
June 16, 11:30 – 5:30
360-308-7346

DVLC's Annual BBQ – June 4th

***In celebration of DVLC's 25th
Anniversary The Rev. Richard E.
Jaech, Bishop will speak!***

Menu: Brisket, Sausage, Beans, Macaroni Salad, Vegetarian options and Beverages.

Entertainment: Sing-along!
Time: 5:00pm

Tickets available May 8!
\$10.00 each
Kids under 12 years old - \$5

Service Helpers for June

Thank you for your participation in our worship life here at DVLC! Your service is an asset to our members.

8:30 Service -

Lectors:	June 5	Carleen Bensen
	June 12	Christie Foster
	June 19	Judy Lynn
	June 26	Ted Foster

Ushers:	June 5	Dennis Isaac
	June 12	Judy Lynn
	June 19	Ray Dangman
	June 26	Jan Boyungs

Communion Assistants:

June 5	Diane Isaac
	Millie Lyon
June 19	Mary Deckebach
	Betty Zander

10:00 a.m. Service

Lectors:
Greeters:

Ushers: Bud Fullhart and Ted Johnson

Communion Assistants:

June 5: Ruth Geiger, Jim Jones, Donna McMillan, LaNice Korus, Marvin Wendeborn

June 19: Donna McMillan, LaNice Korus, Marvin Wendeborn, Olivia Webb, Louise Lemley

DVLC Scholarships awarded to Emily Webb

Education Committee \$2,000,
John Behren Memorial Scholarship
\$500 Mission Endowment \$1,500!

Part of Emily's application to DVLC was to write a "faith statement" that shares her journey in faith. She would like to share that with you since you have all shared in that faith journey her last 16 years at DVLC.



Emily Webb

Faith Statement

I've always associated the word "faith" with the idea of service. Giving to others without any expectations of reciprocation is what God has called me to do. That is why I strive to serve my church, my school, and my community in order to show God's work through my hands. My confirmation was a time of reflection guided by Pastor Jack and even then I knew I wanted to serve others; in my confirmation faith statement I said I wanted to follow the example set by Mother Teresa. DVLC has always encouraged me to serve and the congregation community is very uplifting. Mary Griffith's Peace Corps involvement has inspired me to volunteer with the organization after I graduate college. I chose Pacific Lutheran University for my post-

secondary education because of its close-knit community's attitude of service, global perspective, and deep Lutheran roots. The impressions of PLU alumni in our congregation have made me excited for the future and the education I will receive.

Unfortunately, it's common for many churches or religious institutions to be oppressing, especially to women. I've never felt this way at DVLC. It has helped throughout my lifetime to foster a fiery spirit of outspokenness and generosity within me. A certain member in particular, Ruth Geiger, is a mentor and role model for me. I've had the opportunity to provide childcare for her granddaughters during church services, and the kindness Ruth shows to her granddaughters is an amazing example of God's unconditional love. The valuable lessons Ruth taught when she was my Sunday school teacher were about acceptance and open-mindedness. She has made such a large impact on my journey of faith throughout the years.

Although I don't remember my baptism, it's enlightening to know that I was reborn as a child of God. I know that even when my beliefs are challenged by circumstances, God will always be with me. At the lowest points in my life, particularly during my junior year, I turned to Him in prayer. I find peace and comfort in this, and am able to pick myself up and continue with His guidance. He forgives me for my mistakes and encourages me to grow and learn – unconditionally. My faith flourishes because of God's love.

**DROP IN,
OPEN HOUSE PARTY
SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 3pm – 7pm
585 CAMERON RD.
(360) 683-7594
*Food & fellowship***

***Are You Ready?
It's Going to Happen!***

No. It's not Armageddon. And it's not "the Big One". It's the Garage Sale and it will happen on Saturday, July 23. We're sure you have been saving up all those good things that you want to get rid of, but if not, now is the time. Things for sale can be brought to the church and put into the large classroom at the end of the hall. Try to hold things until early July, if possible, because storage space is a problem for us. For items that are too hard for you to move, call the church office and we will schedule a pick-up. Please do not send things that are dirty or unusable, or things that are so out of date that no one would want them – like video tape players or TVs without flat screens, or encyclopedias and travel guides – but you get the idea.

Remember the usual schedule: We start set-up on Tuesday, July 19; put sale items out on tables on Wednesday and Thursday; price everything on Friday; and go absolutely crazy on Saturday. Sign-up sheets for helpers will be in the narthex on Sundays from June 26 to July 17. Keep those dates open, we'll need your help. As usual all proceeds from the sale will go charitable causes supported by the congregation. What a bonanza! You benefit by getting rid of things you don't need, the church benefits by engaging and supporting the community, many people benefit by getting usable items at ridiculously low prices, and local folks in need of some help benefit from the charities we support. SO – Get Ready!

Questions? Call Paul Wessel, 457-2859.

Windows by WEBBS

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**SPECIAL CONGREGATION
MEETING JUNE 12!**

A special meeting of the congregation will be held on June 12 at 11:00 AM to vote on proposed revisions to the Bylaws concerning the Mission Endowment Fund.

A letter explaining the changes was sent to members on May 11, 2016. If you have questions after reading the letter and attachments please ask a member of the church council.

Because these are changes to the Bylaws a two thirds (2/3) majority of members present is required for approval. Please attend this important meeting.

**FALL EDUCATION
BEGINS SEPTEMBER 11**

RALLY DAY!

With lunch after 2nd service!

YOUTH AT DVLC

Last fall the Education Committee discontinued the traditional Sunday morning Sunday School in favor of monthly events.

The **High School Group** met monthly to have lunch and do service projects as well as Bible Study, discussion and meditation.

Thanks to the leaders who took this on:

Karin Anderson, Andra Smith,
Karin Lohrman.

CONNECT WITH KIDS

Next fall we will have 4 middle schoolers, 4 high schoolers and 2 elementary kids in our church, as well as a few babies/toddlers.

Pray for more kids! If you would like to connect with them to do an activity or homework or have other ideas, please let Jan Webb know. (Contact the church office)

GSA

Alphabet soup abounds here at our church! GSA stands for **Gay Straight Alliance**. This is a high school club that is open to all those who are **GLBTQ** (Gay, Lesbian, Bi, Trans or Queer) and those who support them. They meet weekly at school and a few years ago we, at DVLC, began hosting them for a safe place to meet outside of school.

These young people typically meet here once a month for a movie night. We usually have between 12 – 14 high school youth! Church members who meet with this group are Jan Webb and/or Bev Horan. If you would like to host a movie time here (usually a Friday from 3:30 – 6:30) please let one of us know. They also like pizza! You can also provide pizza which can cost about \$30.00. There are brochures on a table in the narthex explaining parts of this group. Look for the colorful brochure with a wolf on the front. Our church does well in supporting those who are typically marginalized. Thank you!

SUMMER IS NEAR! HUNGRY KIDS IN SEQUIM ABOUND! ONCE AGAIN, THE USDA, BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB, AND LOCAL CHURCHES ARE HOSTING A SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM FOR KIDS AGES 1 – 18.

EXPANDING

In order for the government to approve a lunch program, the school must have 50% or more of its kids on the free or reduced lunch program. The last few years it has been this way at Helen Haller, with 4 serving sites in the city. This year, unfortunately, Greywolf elementary has joined them in reaching the 50% mark. This means that there will be a lunch site out near the Greywolf campus. Fortunately, more kids will be served.

HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED? The lunches are made by the staff at the Boys and Girls club then transported to a “lunch site” where kids can eat. **Churches provide volunteers to help transport lunches and interact with kids at each site. This may be the only time these kids have positive interaction with an adult.**

You can join us by signing up for a day or week. This involves meeting at the B&G club the first day, possibly transporting food and interacting with kids at the sites. Tuesday through Friday you can usually meet at the site.

**July 5 - 8 is our week
(4 DAYS ONLY)
USUALLY THIS IS A 1 TO 1 ½ HOUR
EVENT EACH DAY.
Lunch served 12pm – 1pm,
arrive 11:30 on the first day,
11:45 other days.**

Jan Webb is in charge of the sign-ups so see the table in the narthex

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Ed. at DVLC has always been well attended with wonderful, informative teachers! We are always looking for topics, workshops, classes to offer and teachers! If you have ideas to share please contact the church office!

Collaboration to care for Homeless in Sequim

The number of homeless men, women and children is growing in the Sequim area. With little work available, extremely limited resources, and very few housing options, the homeless are more visible in Sequim than at any time in the past. The Sequim police encounter hungry homeless folks both day and night. In an effort to care for these folks, the police in the past have done what they could to feed and house them. Frequently the police officers have used their own personal funds to feed the hungry.

Many churches in the area have also noticed an increase in the number of people knocking on their doors asking for help, whether it be for food, bus passes, gas money or housing help. Father Rhodes of St. Luke's Episcopal Church and Police Chief Dickinson of the Sequim Police Department have organized an outreach to Sequim churches and social service agencies to work together to address the homeless issue.

In a recent meeting over 30 representatives of churches, agencies and interested community members attended a meeting to continue planning the outreach which will enable the police department to give vouchers to homeless people to address imminent needs. No cash will be given. Lists of community resources will also be available. Because the police are often the first contact the vouchers will be handled by the police officers on patrol. No local tax or federal money will be used to purchase the vouchers. This activity is

entirely dependent on donations. Following a news article in the Sequim Gazette, an anonymous donor gave \$1,000 as start-up funds.

June 1 will begin a pilot program using the vouchers. The groups involved will assess the success and glitches of the outreach at the meeting in July.

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. The suggested date for the 2016 dedicated day of service is **Sunday, Sept. 11**. Mark your calendars today! If your congregation cannot participate on this date, please consider another day.

This year’s dedicated day of service will also mark the 15-year anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States.

As you continue to share God’s love with your neighbors, whether it is preparing and delivering meals to people and families rendered homeless or cleaning your neighborhood parks, consider thanking and holding in prayer the emergency responders in your area as part of your service.

“The world can be a dangerous place. But there are some who, when disaster strikes, run toward the danger. These are the first responders, firefighters, police and EMTs, who live out their baptismal vocation in service to their communities in times of intense need. They do God’s work with their hands.”

**– ELCA Presiding Bishop
Elizabeth A. Eaton**

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.

You work every day to make your community a better place. Let us continue doing this work together in 2016!

God's work. Our hands.

A DAY OF SERVICE

God's work. Our hands.
has been a motto here at
Dungeness Valley Lutheran
for quite some time!

**Experience a Day of
Service on Saturday,
August 20.**

**(Some events may take place
during the week too.)**

Two years ago we did our first Day of Service and had about 60 people volunteering at 6-8 projects! See if one of the projects suits your gifts. There are a variety that range from physically active to sitting.

Jan Webb is putting this day together and will begin working in earnest after school is out so look for more information by the end of June! In the meantime, check out the possibilities – and let Jennifer in the church office know if you have additional projects to add!

Assemble school kits and/or baby kits to be sent to World Relief.

Habitat For Humanity home building/remodeling. May be in Port Angeles. Provide lunch for habitat crew.

Clean up areas of church that need attention

Work on quilts



Yard or home care for church members. This is one we could use your input as to those who could use some assistance.

This day can include you signing up for one or more projects that suit your gifts and abilities.

Other community service events that we may discover.

Card making for shut-ins and Sherwood Assisted Living residents.

**Paint inside of Food Bank in Sequim.
This will be a
weekday project
when the food bank is
not open.**