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Dungeness Valley Lutheran  
**Currents**



December 2016

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Church Telephone: 681-0946

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## **Pastor's Notes**

### **"What Are You Waiting For?"**

"Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious  
kingdom bring."

(*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*,  
vs. 1 ELW #254)

"Love grows in a weary world, when  
hungry hearts find bread, and children's  
dreams are fed.

Love grows in a weary world: the promised  
feast of plenty comes."

(*Light Dawns on a Weary World*, vs. 2  
ELW #737)

Advent. It's a time lost on most non-  
church people. What is it? What does it  
mean? They haven't a clue.

But I sometimes wonder if Advent's  
not lost on a lot of church people, too. Meant  
to be a time of spiritual preparation for the  
coming of Jesus, both in the past and future  
tenses; Advent is the occasion for  
complaints, more often than not, about  
having to wait to sing one's favorite  
Christmas carols until, well, Christmas. In  
fact, it has been observed more than once in  
my hearing that we could do very well  
without Advent altogether. Quit what  
appears to be nothing more than stalling, cut  
to the chase, and get right to the main event,  
Christmas.

The source of the discomfort is in  
part, I suspect, a cultural one. We  
Americans, by and large, are not known for  
our willingness to slow down and wait  
patiently – not for anyone or anything. Yet  
that, I submit, is exactly what Advent is

calling us to do. Slow down, and wait  
patiently.

But what are we waiting for?

The short answer is not what, but for  
whom: Jesus. The scripture lessons for  
Advent focus on the need for our being alert  
and ready for his return. It could happen  
anytime, we are warned; probably when we  
least expect it. Woe to us if we are caught  
napping!

Alright, then. We know who it is we're  
waiting for. The question is, just what should  
we be doing while we wait? Devote  
ourselves primarily to prayer and  
meditation? Or should we take a more  
hands-on role in the world during Advent?

I can't answer that question for you.  
You must decide for yourself which to do  
(doing both is certainly an option!). But I  
believe that Jesus is always coming to me –  
during Advent and in every other time of the  
year– in the guise of the poor and the  
hurting ones of this world. When I help them,  
I help Jesus. Doing what I can to give  
encouragement and assistance to the needy  
is how I choose to welcome him.

Yet that is not to say that time  
devoted in Advent to spiritual introspection  
and reflection is not valuable. It is!

What the two have in common is that  
they actively engage us in the fullness of the  
Christian life. When physical and spiritual  
needs are being addressed and met,  
blessings abound.

Yes, Advent is here. If you've got a  
plan, time to get on with it!

If not, what are you waiting for?

Yours once more for an eventful  
Advent, a Merry Christmas and a Happy  
New Year!

**Pastor Jack ☺**

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## **Annual Meeting December 4**

The Annual Meeting of Dungeness Valley Lutheran Church Congregation will be held on Sunday December 4, 2016 immediately following the 8:30 service (approximately 9:30 am). The business of the meeting will include: approval of the minutes of last year's Annual Meeting, elections, and approval of the budget for next year.

Your attendance at this meeting is extremely important to insure that we have a quorum (15% of voting members).

We hope to see everyone on December 4!

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## **Church Council Highlights for November**

### **Correspondence:**

Orlin read a letter from Pastor Jack, stating he was resigning, Spring 2017.

**Budget: Motion #3** Orlin made a motion to accept the budget. 2<sup>nd</sup> Irv Brock

Action: Motion passed

### **Committee Reports**

**Education:** Youth meeting/lunch in the Parish House Friday, November 18. Our Christmas program, invited everyone to participate. Ordered items for advent.

**Fellowship:** Chili Trivia in January, will start planning in December. Other events planned for 2017, BBQ and the Tailgate. Other fellowship suggestions welcomed.

**Mission Concerns:** funds were distributed, \$6,500.00

**Worship and Music:** Lisa Baker is our new piano player for 8:30am service.

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### ***Pastor's Report – October 2016***

16 – Meetings	3 – Hospital Visits
0 – Funerals	7 – Classes
14 – Home Visits	0 – Weddings
15 – Office Visits	0 – Baptisms
0 – Confirmations	

1 week vacation

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### **AVERAGE ATTENDANCE:**

Average Sunday Attendance for

**October 2016: 88**

**October 2015: 101**

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**Join us for these very special  
services as we  
celebrate the birth  
of Jesus.**



***Christmas Eve  
Service, 7pm***

***Christmas Day,  
one service 10am***

***New Years Day, one service 10am***

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## ***The Reflections Group***

The next meeting of the Reflections Group Bible study, led by Pastor Ruth Geiger, will be on December 14, 1 pm at the home of one of the group's members. This is a new time and the second rather than the third Wednesday. They will be discussing shepherds and angels, Luke 20:1-20. Contact Pastor Ruth at 206-349-4082 for more information.

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## ***Equal Exchange Coffee is a...***

Lutheran World Relief project, which focuses on women for this holiday season. All of the coffee that we order is organic and fairly traded.

We have one case of Congo Beans. A one pound bag of beans, not ground, is \$8.25. Help yourself and leave a donation in the basket. Congo coffee supports vocational skills training for at least 272 women since the project started.

Proud Mama and Sister's Blend have supported the Uganda stove project! Women farmers are learning to construct simple energy-efficient stoves.

**To learn more:**

**[equalexchange.coops/support-moms](http://equalexchange.coops/support-moms)**

***Rosemary Freed***

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## **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,  
Sue Stauffer, Jack Brown, Henry Fischer,  
Gary and Pat Capouch**

### **Friends or Relatives of DVLC Members**

**Carl Skogman** (Les and Ruth Skogman);  
**Bernie** (Judy Green);  
**Anita Little** (Duane and Nancy Little);  
**Gladys** (Gordon Zander);  
**Mike Pierce** (Sue Pierce); **Anne** (daughter  
of Sue Pierce); **Christine** (LaNice Korus);  
**Jan** (Sue Pierce); **Marsha & Lee Richard**  
(LaNice Korus); **Tami** (LaNice Korus);  
**Larry** (Bob Green); **Pat Van Gerpen** (Diane  
Isaac); **Amanda Neff** (Kathy Lohrman); **Lois  
and Lorne Kennedy** (Donna McMillen);  
**Kathy Hart** (Sue Pierce);  
**Karl** (Jerry Behrens);

**Josh Moan** (Gail Schwab);  
**Debbie Moore** (Ruth Geiger);  
**Caroline & family** (Jan Webb);  
**Candice Olsen** (Kathy Lohrman);  
**Laurie** (Brenda Jennings);  
**Rebekah, Patience, Parker and Joeigh**  
(Ruth Geiger),  
**RaeNell DeJung** (Jennifer Schroeder)

### **OUTREACH PRAYERS**

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

## **WELCA**

Women of the ELCA at DVLC have made a \$150 gift to Katie's (Katherine Luther) Fund and \$100 to ELCA World Hunger. These "thankful" gifts come from the WELCA general fund and not the Christmas Bazaar proceeds. Our gift to Katie's Fund will develop leaders, bridge cultures and nurture faith.

The next WELCA Bible Study will be December 8 at 10:00am in the DVLC library. The study will be devotional around the theme of Advent waiting: what wants to be born in you?

**Rosemary Freed**, Secretary

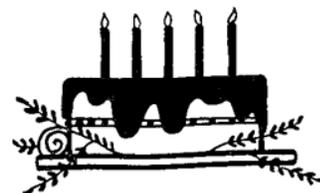
## **DVLC Birthday Corner**

### **Birthday celebrations for December:**

4 – Beth Pallai  
5 – Diana Graham  
8 – Mollie Smith  
9 – Bill Herrick  
13 – Judy Green  
15 – Lee Raymond  
15 – Sue Brock  
15 – Charlie Langjahr  
17 – Liza Koenig  
17 – Judy Lynn  
17 – Bonnie Vorvick  
18 – Mary Deckebach  
20 – Emmalee Pope  
22 – Marsha Omdal  
23 – Lyn Lauderdale  
28 – Jim Fitzpatrick  
29 – Ted Johnson  
29 – Kris Kolner

**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.



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**Advent Devotional Materials**  
**HOPE-FULL LIVING:** 'Daily devotions for living life to the fullest', is our new Advent devotional booklet – written by & for seniors! There are also other devotional booklets available on a table in the narthex, check them out by November 27<sup>th</sup>, the first Sunday in Advent.

*Alternative ways to receive the materials: Many of these booklets are available on Amazon Kindle & Nook, from Creative Communications for the Parish.*

Following is an excerpt from the “welcome” in the Hopeful Living devotion booklet. “Welcome to another ADVENT! It is time once again to prepare our hearts and minds for another Advent season. Advent is a time to advance, to move forward into a new church year. It is time for new **ADVENTures**, for you and for those around you. All of us have been through many **ADVENTures** in our lifetime. At times, it can be tempting to routinely accept them as just another event to endure and get through. However, the following devotions have been written by other older adults who hope and pray that this ADVENT will be a new and exciting **ADVENTure** of a lifetime for you and yours. ...See you at the manger. There’s no need to bring gifts. The Gift is already there!”

**TEENS & YOUNG ADULTS ALSO HAVE A DEVOTIONAL BOOK AND CALENDAR:**  
**Advent See-son**

**OPEN YOUR EYES TO SEE!**

**“Advent is a time to wait and watch eagerly for our Savior to appear! And it is a time to show Christ to others in what we say and do. ...encouraging others to keep an eye out for our returning Lord.”**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS  
ALL AROUND THE WORLD!  
Join the church in celebrating  
our annual Christmas  
program on Sunday,  
December 11 at 9:45am.**

Hear from church members as they tell of personal experiences of Christmas in different countries and many new ones! Experience nativity sets from around the world and share in treats from different countries.

**YOU CAN BRING SOMETHING TO  
SHARE FROM A FAVORITE  
COUNTRY – OR YOUR OWN  
SPECIALTY TREAT!**

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### ***Service Helpers for December***

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

#### **8:30 Service**

Ushers & Greeters:

Dec. 4	Dennis Isaac
Dec. 11	Jan Boyungs
Dec. 18	Ray Dangman
Dec. 25	Chris Juergens
Christmas Service at 10 AM	

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## October Financial Results

In October Operating Fund income was **\$27,700** which is **\$3,367 higher than our monthly budget** but **\$1,049 less than our actual October expenses**. October expenses were higher than normal due to Mission Concerns Committee distributing more than \$6,000 to support charitable organizations after receiving approval from Council to proceed with spending their annual Budget. For the first 10 months Operating Fund income has totaled **\$239,209** which is **\$2,182 lower than our YTD Budget** but **\$1,951 higher than our actual expenses**. The Operating Fund is summarized below.

	<u>Operating Fund</u>	
October	Year-to-date	
Planned Income	\$24,333	\$243,342
Actual Income	27,700	241,160
Actual vs.		
Planned Income	3,367	(2,182)
Planned Expenses	24,444	244,548
Actual Expenses	28,749	239,209
Actual Income vs.		
Actual Expenses	(1,049)	1,951

**Finance Committee**

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## Back-up Financial Secretary

As most of you know, Betty Zander is our new Financial Secretary. She is replacing Dave Olson who is stepping down at the end of the year. Duane Little has been Dave's Back-up Financial Secretary, but he is also stepping down. Therefore, Betty is in need of a Back-up Financial Secretary. Please contact her if you are interested or would like to know more about the position. Betty is also in need of more counters so please contact Betty if you are willing to be a counter. The Finance Committee will be very appreciative if you decide to take on either of these tasks.

**Finance Committee**

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## Holy Trinity once again presents Carols Galore.

This is an evening of bringing the community together to hear and sing the many Christmas carols of our tradition. There will be a bit of learning about the history of various carols. It will be an informal time of informing and singing together, families are welcome! The popular event takes place at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in the Fellowship Hall downstairs on Sunday, December 4th at 6:00 pm. A new twist this year will be the sharing of Stollen, a German fruit bread with an iced topping and cups of hot chocolate.

Donations will be taken at the door.

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## WOW! Working On Wellness Free Community Lecture for December

The program is *When to Call 911 and What to Do*, presented by Captain Derrell Sharp, Clallam Fire District #3

**Wednesday, December 14**

**2:30 – 3:30 pm**

**at Trinity United Methodist Church**

### Upcoming Programs:

**January 11, 2017** - *Plant Based Eating: Good For You, Good For The World*

**February 8, 2017** - *Prevention of Dementia: an Integrative Approach*

*"Working on Wellness" is a program of the Dungeness Valley Health & Wellness Clinic*

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## Christmas Caroling

Dungeness Community Church would like to invite you to join them for Christmas Caroling on Saturday, December 17th, from Noon to 1:30 pm at Centennial Place (NE corner of Sequim Ave & Washington) right in front of Over the Fence. Song sheets will be provided. They look forward to caroling with you and sharing God's love with Sequim.

If you have any questions, please call Anita Kreitle at 681-2692 or email:

[budkre@olypen.com](mailto:budkre@olypen.com)

