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Dungeness Valley Lutheran  
**Currents**

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Church Telephone: 681-0946

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## **Pastor's Notes**

### ***A Season for Epiphanies***

August Kekule had a flash of insight. Otherwise known as an epiphany.

A prominent scientist of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Kekule did pioneering research on the structure of organic chemical compounds. After studying the nature of carbon-carbon bonds for many years, Kekule was still stumped by one particular kind of compound. The structure of the building block of all aromatic compounds – benzene – eluded him.

One day, however, while Kekule was day-dreaming, he had an epiphany. In his mind's eye Kekule suddenly saw the image of a snake eating its own tail (an ancient symbol called the ouroboros). Intuitively Kekule knew that he had now had the answer he had been searching for. The structure of benzene was in the form of a ring, just like the snake eating its tail he had seen in his daydream.

But Kekule wasn't the only one to have an epiphany.

As we heard the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent, Joseph, the step-father of Jesus, had one, too. Planning to call off his impending marriage to Mary when it was revealed to him that she was pregnant, Joseph had a dream. In his dream, an angel urged him to go ahead and marry Mary, since the child she would bear was authored by the Holy Spirit. This new understanding of what was happening, this epiphany, prompted Joseph to do what he wouldn't have done otherwise; and in so doing, carry out the will of God.

Now, there are those who say that

epiphanies such as these are far-and-few-between.

But I am not one of them. In fact, I think all of us receive epiphanies of one kind or other. We may not always know where they come from. We may not always know exactly what they mean. But when our conscious mind is persistently engaged with a problem, our subconscious mind is likely to provide an answer.

We can be so enlightened, if we are willing to pay attention. And if we are willing to accept the gift of insight once it is given.

Yes, I'm convinced that epiphanies are happening all the time. And as it happens, we are entering a season in which they will be very useful indeed.

As you know by now, our congregation is about to undergo a change in leadership. In a few months, I'll be gone. Many decisions will have to be made about how to move forward; about what to do and with whom. Some issues will be easily resolved. Others will be tougher nuts to crack.

It is to these more-difficult-to-decide issues that I hope you will devote your dreaming during this upcoming Epiphany season. Be willing to stew over whatever it is. Let it perk. Be patient, and listen for an answer to emerge.

Based on my own experience with such things, I'm absolutely convinced that an answer will eventually come. I believe that God will provide.

And I hope you believe that, too!

Yours for a blessed (and insightful!) beginning to this Season of Epiphany,

**Pastor Jack ☺**

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## **Church Council Highlights**

### **Election of Officers:**

- Marian Needham nominated Bill Herrick for President.  
Pastor Anderson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, approved.
- Marian nominated John Norgord as Vice President.  
Jim moved and Irv 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, approved.
- Louise nominated Marian Needham as Secretary.  
Jim moved and Irv 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, approved.

### **Old Business**

- Jim Fitzpatrick – audit report items are still open. Jim is going to work on it.
- Jim also brought up questions about the average attendance.
- **Motion #3** was moved to hold the council meetings on Tuesdays at 4:15pm.

### **New Business**

- Kim Lateral from the SW WA Synod will be here at the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Pastor Jack will get bids for carpet cleaning in the Narthex and hallway. For the future, Property Committee have the carpets cleaned before Easter every year.
- New Liturgy by Michael Rivers will be rolled out in early spring. There will be a total of 7 pieces. Not funded by the church budget – donations for this special project are appreciated.
- Council Retreat Date: February 11<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

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

17 – Meetings	1 – Hospital Visit
0 – Funerals	11 – Classes
11 – Home Visits	0 – Weddings
11 – Office Visits	0 – Baptisms
0 – Confirmations	

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### **AVERAGE ATTENDANCE:**

Average Sunday Attendance for

**November 2016: 104**

**November 2015: 102**

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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, Henry Fischer

### **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); **Kirk Jennings** (Brenda Jennings); **Vanessa** (Randi Cooper)

### **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

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## **Another Way to Contribute**

Just a reminder that Direct Deposit is available through Vanco. Anyone that is interested please contact me for more information.

Betty Zander, Financial Secretary  
360-683-2529  
Bettyzander0605@gmail.com

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## **The Reflections Group**

The Reflections Group Bible study, led by Pastor Ruth Geiger, will meet on January 11, the second Wednesday of the month at 1pm, not 1:15 pm at the home of one of the group's members. They will be reflecting on Psalm 139. Contact Pastor Ruth for more info [206-349-4082](tel:206-349-4082).

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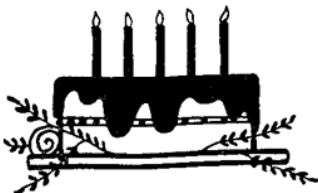
## **DVLC Birthday Corner**

**Birthday celebrations for January:**

3 – Louise Lemley  
4 – Terri Bristow  
7 – Milli Lyon  
8 – Kay Meehan  
13 – Russ Grant  
14 – Ruth Skogman  
16 – Alan Slind  
16 – Summer Grant  
23 – Randi Cooper  
27 – Don Hall  
29 – Sandy Jones  
31 – Ruth Macki

### **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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## **Service Helpers for January**

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

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

Lectors: for January at the 8:30 service except January 1 when the service will be at 10 AM.

January 1 (10 AM) Dawn Langjahr  
January 8 Ted Foster  
January 15 Christie Foster  
January 22 Jan Boyungs  
January 29 Ray Dangman

Ushers: for January at the 8:30 service except January 1 when the service will be at 10 AM.

January 1 (10 AM) Chris and Myrna Jurgens  
January 8 Dennis Isaac  
January 15 Carleen Bensen  
January 22 Judy Lynn  
January 29 Marian Needham

Communion Assistants: for January at the 8:30 service except January 1 when the service will be at 10 AM.

January 1 (10 AM) Carleen Bensen  
Betty Zander  
January 15 Diane Isaac  
Gloria Virak  
January 29 Jan Boyungs  
Andra Smith

### **11:00 Service:**

Lector: Russ Grant

Greeters: Lucille Caughron

Ushers: January 1 (10 AM) Chris and Myrna Juergens

January 8 Jim and Sandy Jones  
January 15 Ted Johnson

Communion Assistants:

January 15 Nancy Martin  
January 29 Nancy Martin

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**HOMELESS CONNECT  
AND THE SOUPER-BOWL**



**YES, SOUPER IS SPELLED  
CORRECTLY! OUR YOUTH  
HAVE A SOUP LUNCH TO  
RAISE FUNDS AS THEY JOIN  
THE NATION'S YOUTH IN A  
FUNDRAISER FOR CHARITY.**

**ONCE AGAIN, OUR FUNDS  
WILL GO TO "HOMELESS  
CONNECT," AN EVENT  
THAT BRINGS  
COMMUNITY SERVICES  
TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE  
TO SERVE THE  
HOMELESS.**

**SOUP LUNCH  
FUNDRAISER: AFTER  
CHURCH ONE SUNDAY IN  
JANUARY**

**HOMELESS CONNECT:  
MARCH 3, 2017  
9 AM - 3 PM AT  
VERN BURTON CENTER,  
PA**

Information regarding the Homeless Connect event will be in the narthex along with volunteer forms. There are 20 volunteer possibilities. Many of our members have volunteered in the past!

Information regarding the fundraising event will be in the bulletin and on tables in the narthex.

Making the Super Bowl about more than football! Since the Souper Bowl has been taking place, \$10.4 million has been raised to combat hunger and homelessness in our nation.





## **Chili and Trivia**

**Join us on  
January 27,  
5:30 pm  
for fun,  
fellowship,  
good food, and  
challenging  
questions.**

## **WOW! Working On Wellness Free Community Lecture for January**

The program is *Plant Based Eating: Good For You, Good For The World*, presented by Dr. Kip Tulin, Medical Director for Dungeness Valley Health & Wellness Clinic

**Wednesday, January 11  
2:30 – 3:30 pm  
at Trinity United Methodist Church**

### **Upcoming Programs:**

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

**March 8 - *The "New" Miracle Drug - Exercise For All Ages***

**April 12 - *Better Dental Health For You***

**May 10 - *The Mental Well-being Challenges of Living Longer***

**June 14 - *Fight the Fall - Strategies and Exercise to Improve Balance, Safety and Fitness***

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

## **Epiphany Tea at St. Luke's Episcopal Church**

**Friday, January 6, 1 pm,  
Twelve days after Christmas.**

The theme this year is on the Magi (Wise Men) bringing gifts to The Baby Jesus. St. Luke's congregation is currently involved in a major transition, as their members go through the process to call their new Rector. Therefore, their planning team has put together this celebration to focus on gifts to The Christ Child.

The event will begin at 1 pm with a short worship service in the church, followed by tea and cake in their parish hall. Guests are invited to bring gifts as the Magi did, of baby diapers and/or baby food, which will be blessed and donated to the Sequim Food Bank. Cash or checks are always welcome to help provide for those in need (*please make checks payable to Sequim Food Bank.*)

Everyone is welcome to join the congregation of St. Luke's on the Day of Epiphany.

## **November Financial Results**

In November Operating Fund income was **\$23,238** which is **\$1,095 lower than our monthly budget** and **\$190 less than our actual November expenses**. For the first 11 months Operating Fund income has totaled **\$264,399** which is **\$3,276 lower than our YTD Budget** but **\$1,762 higher than our actual expenses**. The Operating Fund is summarized below.

	<u>Operating Fund</u>	
	<u>November</u>	<u>Year-to-date</u>
Planned Income	\$24,333	\$267,675
Actual Income	23,238	264,399
Actual vs.		
Planned Income	(1,095)	(3,276)
Planned Expenses	24,444	268,992
Actual Expenses	23,428	262,637
Actual Income vs.		
Actual Expenses	(189)	1,762

**Finance Committee**