



March 2018

Dungeness Valley Lutheran
Currents

Church Office: 360-681-0946 Email: dvloffice@gmail.com

From our Interim Pastor....

March holds us in the thrall of Lent. We began on Valentine's Day and we end on April Fools' Day, EASTER SUNDAY, April 1. The holiday of love and the holiday of hilarity bookend the time of introspection and repentance.

We continue our Wednesday Lenten Evening Prayer Services (6:30 p.m.) as follows:

March 7 – Jan Webb will talk about Simon of Cyrene, who helped Jesus carry his cross.

March 14 - I will share “Prayers Around the Cross” with you, a Lenten candlelight service.

March 21 – Ruth Geiger will talk about Peter and Judas and their responses to guilt and sadness.

On Maundy (“Mandatory”) Thursday, **March 29**, we will celebrate Holy Communion and remember Jesus washing his disciples' feet. The job usually left to the youngest and lowest of the servants is taken on by the Savior of the world. At the close of the service, the Altar Guild will help me clear the chancel of all decorations to signify the sadness of Jesus' death.

On Good Friday (**March 30**), we will enter and leave the church in the darkness of grief over Jesus' death.

BUT, wait! Your Easter lilies are already waiting in the wings...waiting for the joy of the morning of resurrection.

Right in the middle of Lent this year, we have St. Patrick's Day. The young Patrick did not want to be sent to Ireland, the home of those who had kidnapped and harmed him earlier in his life. Yet, as a priest, he was bound to obey his orders, so off he went, to bring Christianity to people there who saw in him a love and kindness which mirrored the love of Christ. He found Christ in the mouth of friend and stranger. Here is a prayer attributed to him.

I bind unto myself today
the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three
Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

Text: attr. St. Patrick, 372-466; para. Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895
You'll find the complete text in the hymnals, both green and red.

Thank you, Lord, that you hold our world, our families, our church during its transition, and each of us in your loving hands. Amen.

Pastor Beth

Council minutes available on bulletin board

Ever wonder what your council is doing? Minutes from the most recent Council meeting are posted in the narthex. Take time to read them and stay abreast of happenings at DVLC.

Average Sunday Attendance:

January 2018: 96

January 2017: 91

January 2018 Financial Results

The Operating Fund received \$23,576 in January which is \$129 over Budget but \$1,707 less than our actual expenses. January expenses were \$923 over Budget due primarily to the timing of filling our propane tank. The Operating Fund is summarized below. Finally, the Year-end Financial Summary, which was supposed to be included in last month's newsletter, is included in this newsletter.

	<u>Operating Fund</u>	
	<u>January</u>	<u>2018 YTD</u>
Planned Receipts	\$23,447	\$23,447
Actual Receipts	23,576	23,576
Actual vs. Planned Receipts	129	129
Planned Expenses	24,370	24,370
Actual Expenses	25,283	25,283
Actual Receipts vs. Actual Expenses	(1,707)	(1,707)

YEAR-END FINANCIAL SUMMARY – 2017

	<u>12/31/2017</u>	<u>12/31/2016</u>
Number of Giving Units	103	116
<u>Assets</u>		
<u>Operating Funds</u>		
Available Funds	\$43,738	\$36,193
Prepaid Offerings	<u>14,000</u>	<u>19,000</u>
Total Operating Funds	\$57,738	\$55,193
<u>Reserves</u>		
Opportunity Fund	\$25,649	\$25,649
Cheiko Clift Memorial Fund	10,281	10,281
Major Repair Reserve	14,426	14,426
Pastor's Sabbatical Fund	611	1,369
Mortgage Reserve Fund	<u>5,113</u>	<u>5,113</u>
Total Reserves	\$56,080	\$56,838
Designated Funds_	<u>\$15,817</u>	<u>\$13,534</u>
General Fund Grand Total	\$129,635(1)	\$125,565
Mission Endowment Fund	\$117,105	\$112,134
John Behrens Scholarship Fund	15,587	14,953
Agape Fund	<u>1,992</u>	<u>1,764</u>
Grand Total All Funds	\$264,319	\$254,416
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Mortgage (2011 – 10 years @ 5.375%)	\$109,825	\$152,634
<u>Operations</u>		
Income (excl. reserves drawdown)	\$298,827	\$293,273
Expenses	<u>\$285,846</u>	<u>\$288,065</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$12,981	\$5,208

Insured replacement cost for buildings and content = \$2,437,500 (excludes value of property)

(1) The General Fund includes \$57,442 in our First Federal Money Market and Checking accounts, and \$72,194 is in our ELCA Mission Investment Fund. The Agape Fund is held in a separate account at First Federal, and the Mission Endowment Fund and the John Behrens Scholarship Fund are held in Charles Schwab accounts.

Not quite “Stephen’s Ministers”....but a Loving, Caring Opportunity

Many of you have been “trained” as Stephen’s Ministers and many of you would enjoy the opportunity to visit some of your fellow-members from time to time. We would like to start a kind of care-sharing ministry. Rev. Stan Jacobson has agreed to gather you together and to give his time in a supervisory role for you to “debrief” and discuss your visits in a confidential manner. He is a spiritual director, but not officially “trained” in Stephen’s Ministry, so this will be our DVLC version of caring for the time being.

Please come to an **organizational meeting on Sunday, after worship, March 4**, in the church library across from the office.



The Reflections Group

Ruth Geiger’s Reflections: In March we will meet on Wednesday, March 7 at 1:00pm. We will be discussing Mark 14:17-31. We meet for an hour and include prayer at the beginning and end of each meeting. Please contact Rev. Ruth for location (phone 206-349-4082 or email ruthgeiger@olyphen.com). Enjoy!

OUR PRAYERS - ILLNESS/SURGERY RECOVERY MEMBERS

Ruth Skogman, Loren Kreutner,
Nona Kessler, Ray Dangman, Mary Massey, Bud Fullhart



MARCH

- 3 Karen Fluke
- 4 Gordon Zander
Margaret Crayton
- 6 LaRay Greene
- 7 Mary Griffith
- 9 Phyllis Cowan
- 12 Gail Schwab
- 14 Stan Jacobson
- 27 Paul Lemley
- 30 Marie Johnson

New Name!

The Committee known as the Homeless Shelter Committee has renamed itself as the **“Affordable Housing Committee.”** This name more clearly reflects the group’s current focus: affordable housing for Sequim families.



New Members

Please tell Pastor Beth if you would like to be a new member of DVLC. We will be delighted for you to “join up.” bethorling@aol.com or 609-506-5865

Please welcome these new members of DVLC:

Carie, Alan, and Ann Mace
PO Box 276
Sequim, WA 98382
541-678-8086

Karen and Else Turner
144 San Juan Drive
Sequim, WA 98382

Rev. Stan Jacobson
103 Majesty Way
Port Angeles, WA 98362
206-445-3576
pastorstanretired17@gmail.com

Dottie and Chuck Smallbeck
Watch this space next month.

We will soon be honoring them at a new members' fellowship event. Stay tuned. We are delighted for these additions to our church family.

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We have several parishioners with **serious allergies**. When we wear perfume/cologne or fragrant lotions, we cause them great discomfort. Let's keep our building **FRAGRANCE FREE**. Thank you.

CHOIR

If you have wanted to sing a little more in church and you would like to enjoy the fellowship of like-minded songsters, please consider coming to choir rehearsal (Wednesdays at 4:15 in the choir room opposite the church office). You will be welcomed.

Mutual Ministry Committee

We have established a Mutual Ministry Committee comprised of Bill Herrick, Jim Widsteen, and Betty Zander. This Committee functions according to our Constitution as a safe and confidential place for congregation, pastor and staff to communicate for feedback. You are welcome to bring concerns, thoughts and suggestions regarding pastor and staff to this committee, which will meet in a few weeks.

An anonymous donor gave money toward what we are calling "Pastor's Homeless Fund." We gave a gift card to a single father with two sons who was just getting a one-bedroom apartment. He purchased a futon to sleep on and use as a couch. Here is the thank-you from the school system's representative for our town's homeless students:

"I received a message from the father you provided the Gift Card for. He was so thankful to have a place to sit and rest. His boys helped him set it up. A happy moment indeed. Thank you for all you do!"

Sunday Coffee Hour!

If we enjoy goodies on Sunday morning, here's how help provide them. Sign up on the sheet outside the kitchen door. You may bring your goodies anytime before the office closes at 3:00pm on Thursday (they can be put in the freezer with a note on the counter that goodies are in the freezer). The church is closed on Friday and Saturday. The exercise class is there Friday mornings from 9:30 -10:30 and the church door will be unlocked, so you could bring them during that time.

What to bring:

Homemade or bought cookies, fruit, vegetables, cheese and crackers. If you don't want to bake or buy, Randi Cooper is willing to shop for you, suggested money donation for this is \$10. Thank you!

Scholarship Fund --- our pancake supper raised \$764.47 for the Scholarship Fund! THANKS to all who contributed!!

WARMING CENTER

THANK YOU to the hardy, sleep-deprived folks who cared for our cold neighbors at the Warming Center during "our" week! You are and were much appreciated!

Homeless Connect Project

Our Souper-Bowl of Caring raised \$630 for the Homeless Connect Project. THANK YOU, ALL faithful contributors!!

Luther: The Rock Opera at First Lutheran, Poulsbo, March 11, 4 p.m.

Join the youngun's and me on a road trip to Poulsbo Sunday afternoon to hear the legendary Lutheran singing group "Lost and Found" share the story of Martin Luther and the beginning of the Reformation as we've never experienced it before. The story is told by way of 24 songs and projected images from Rich Melheim's graphic novel, Luther. The program debuted in Wittenberg, Germany, in 2017 and now we are fortunate to be able to see it locally! The program is family-friendly, interactive and casual. You can buy tickets at the door (\$10 each or \$35 for a family) or on the Silverdale Lutheran website. Jan Webb and I are attending and I will have room for two to carpool from the Hood Canal bridge area.

Pastor Beth



Please sign up to donate Easter Lilies.

Call Laura with questions.
425-205-0362



GUIDED MEDITATIVE RETREAT

WHAT IS IT? The Retreat is an opportunity to spend a portion of a day personally listening and praying and asking God speak to you through his Word and through nature. When was the last time, if ever, have you taken six hours and said, "Here I am God, speak for I seek to listen?" You will be guided in spending time alone with God and we will meet together a number of times to reflect upon our experience.

WHERE AND WHEN? APRIL 14th is the day. We will meet at DVLC and leave here at 9 a.m. to go to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Port Angeles. We will return at 3 p.m.

WHO WILL LEAD THE RETREAT? Pastor Stan Jacobson is a new member of DVLC. He is a recently retired ELCA pastor and a spiritual director.

WHAT IS NEEDED AND WHAT IS THE COST? All you need is a notebook or a journal and pen, a Bible and a SACK LUNCH. Lunch will NOT be provided. We will take an offering to defray the cost of using the facility. There is no other cost.

SIGN UP: There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex. You can also talk to Stan and ask any questions that you might have.

COME, ENJOY, BREATH DEEPLY, RECEIVE



SONS OF NORWAY

Scholarship Fundraiser

March 10, 10am – 2pm

Scandia Hall
131 W 5th Street,
Port Angeles, WA 98362

SPRING LUNCHEON AND BAKE SALE!!!! Saturday, MARCH 10. 10 am to 2 pm at our SON Lodge. COME EARLY for waffles and the best selection of baked goods including pies, handcrafted breads, cakes, and delicious cookies. Scandinavian treats always "disappear" quickly so plan to arrive early if you want to take home some lefse. Delicious soups and accompaniments will be available for the luncheon crowd. Join us for some coffee, "treats," and conversation.



Christian Education – join in, learn, and enjoy fellowship!

We continue our **Thursday afternoon Bible Studies** in the church library. Please feel free to drop in any week at 1 p.m. We read and study one of the three lessons to be read in church the following Sunday.

On **Sundays, at 9:45**, we have been enjoying viewing an excellent set of videos on Martin Luther. Everyone learns something new each week under Paul Wessel's thoughtful leadership.

After Easter, beginning April 4, and continuing **Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.**, we will study the book of Genesis, following a book by Karen Armstrong. Paul Wessel will lead this class and we are taking orders for the book. You'll see a sign-up at church or you may call the office to order your copy.