

AUGUST 2015

# Vashon Presbyterian Church

Vashon Island, Washington 98070

To Worship God in all we do, centered in Jesus Christ,  
moved by the Holy Spirit

## August 2015 Newsletter

### VPC Summer Event Schedule

August 1<sup>st</sup>  
VPC Yard Sale

August 3<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>  
Preschool Vacation  
Bible School

August 3<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Youth Week

August 16<sup>th</sup>  
Mary's Place Picnic

September 6<sup>th</sup>  
Dinner for the Houstons

### Transition Team Progress Report

The job of the Transition Team is to select a candidate for an interim pastor to present to Session. The team is made up of Kathy Olsen, Larry Commeree, Elizabeth Loveness, Claudia Ross-Weston, Al Ross-Weston, John Potter, and Brownie Carver. Our first task was to create a job and church description, which we sent to Presbytery. Our next job will be to interview candidates. We hope to have an interim in place by October. We ask for your prayers during this process.

### Vacation Bible School Starts Monday!

**Grade School VBS Update** Last minute complications have necessitated that the VBS grade school program (1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades) be canceled. Our apologies go out to all the families affected.

**Preschool aged children will meet at the Presbyterian Church from 9:45-11:45AM.** It is not too late to register. Just come a little early the first day. Invite friends, neighbors, and relatives to this great week getting to know Jesus.

**Vashon Youth Week** – for 6<sup>th</sup> grade through high school - evening meetings will continue. Each evening at 7PM you're invited to meet at the Vashon Island Community Church (on Cemetery Rd). Games & music make a week to remember. Bring a friend!

### Yard Sale - August 1<sup>st</sup>

Quality Items, Fair Prices  
Best Location on the Island – VPC!

## Mission Resource

### Team News

#### Area of Responsibility

Financial stewardship  
Building and Grounds

**Finances** As we go through this time of transition we are requesting that our congregation continue to give faithfully. If you are traveling or away, please try to be consistent in your giving. We are falling behind our monthly budgeted offering. We continue to keep our expenses within budget, but there has been a frequent shortfall in the offering.

The **yard sale** is here! Please come out Saturday Aug 1st and bring your friends! Proceeds from the sale go to supporting the annual expenses of VPC. If you have large items to donate but no transportation, call Jacq Skeffington at 206-354-8917 to arrange pick-up.

*Elder Barb Huff*

**Building and Grounds** Preparations are moving along to relocate Carpe Diem Primary School into our new building. Classroom A has been repainted and set up. Under agreement, VPC used it to store yard sale items and will be able to use it during Vacation Bible School next week. The IFCH has generously offered to have the carpet cleaned in the Social Hall and Great Hall. That will be done Aug 14th, once the yard sale and VBS are completed. The carpet has already been cleaned in the nursery and the "toolbelts" group has converted the closet off the nursery into a useable auxillary office for our records and files. Both spaces are now locked when not in use by our staff.

It's gotten pretty hot for weeding in the afternoon so we've cancelled the Wednesday "Weed and Feed BBQs". A number of members have found it more pleasant to come to the church in the morning or mid day and tend flowers while it's cooler. We can use some more help tending the flowerbeds so if you'd like to "adopt" an area or bed, call Jacq Skeffington at the above number.

*Elder Jacq Skeffington*

### Transition

What does the word transition conjure up in your mind? Does it bring excitement, anticipation or fear to mind? Do you gather a group of friends and talk about it or do you hunker down and rally the wagons in fear as if about to be attacked. Do you listen for the still small voice of the Holy Spirit. Do you pray, asking God to be with you in this time or try to tell Him how you think He should work this out (to your advantage of course).

Life is change. From the moment of conception we undergo changes. We grow, we respond to the changes surrounding us! We move out of the womb and learn to breathe. We learn to plan and think we can control situations and events, and to some extent we can. In fact, I believe we are called to be an integral part of God's creation. The essential element for us "God loving people" is to listen for that voice and respond with it in mind in each and every situation in which we find ourselves.

We at VPC are in transition. PC(USA) is in transition! It's not something that is just starting to happen. Session has been in discernment with the aid of teaching elders from Renewal Ministries Northwest since January of 2014. We have conducted an appreciative enquiry acknowledging that "change is coming" and had a couple of congregational conversations about what God is saying to us at this time and in this place.

Throughout the months of August and most of September we will fill the pulpit with guest speakers. I see this as a time to listen for that still small voice through the words of a number of different individuals. I hope that through the words of these diverse speakers we will be inspired to continue the conversation of where God is calling us to be, in unity with diversity.

I invite you to invite your friends, even your unchurched friends, to come with you and then engage them in a conversation about the experience in a way that does not expect conversion. We are definitely vulnerable during transitions. How we respond in our vulnerable moments demonstrates who we are.

Blessings,  
Jacq Skeffington

## Hospitality/Fellowship

### Team News

#### Area of Responsibility

Hospitality, Fellowship

**"Going Away Dinner"** Hospitality & Fellowship is planning on having a "Going Away Dinner" for Rev Dan Houston & family on September 6, 2015. The festivities will start with appetizers @ 5 pm. Dinner @ 6 pm.

The menu will be:

Main Dish (to be provided)

Side Dish (pot luck)

Salads (pot luck)

Dessert (to be provided)

We need cooks to prepare the main course &/or dessert. If you are interested please contact Kate Smith. If you would like to be involved in the planning of the dinner please contact Kate. Thank you for your help.

**August Book Club** The VPC Book Club will meet this month at the home of Kate Smith on August 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be a potluck at 6:30 before the discussion of the book The Signature of All Things by Elizabeth Gilbert. Everyone welcome!

*Elder Kate Smith*



**See you at the yard sale – Aug 1st**

## Purposeful Service News

### Area of Responsibility

Scholarship, Mary Magdalene weekend/partnership, IFCH dinners, mission partner relations.

**Mary's Place Worship and Picnic** We will worship and have a potluck lunch with the women of Mary's Place, the Vashon Methodist Church and the Vashon Lutheran Church on Sunday, August 16 at Ober Park. Worship will be at 10am followed by fellowship and picnic. We are asking for donations to cover the cost of chicken, space rental at Ober Park and ferry tickets. We are also happy to receive unexpired passenger ferry tickets. We encourage you to bring your lawn chairs so it cuts down on the number of chairs we have to transport.

**Please let us know how you can help:**

1. transport our guests from the north end ferry dock to Ober Park?
  2. move chairs, plates, and other kitchenware earlier on Sunday morning?
  3. use your truck to haul the above to Ober Park?
  4. ride the ferry over to Fauntleroy with Beverly to help the ladies get over here smoothly?
  5. provide food (casserole, salad, side dish, dessert, bread/spread? Chicken will be provided as usual.
- We also need a few key people on the ground at VPC and Ober Park the morning of the event. Please contact Beverly Skeffington 354-8921 or Jacq Skeffington 354-8917 to indicate where you want to be that morning.

**Heidsman Scholarship** The application deadline for the Heidsman Scholarship was extended until July 9th. There were 4 applications submitted and all applicants have been interviewed by the scholarship committee. We plan to award the scholarship in August.

**IFCH meal** VPC will be responsible for the IFCH meal 8/27. There is a sign up sheet in the East Room.

**Strawberry Festival Parking Fundraiser** Mission Partners to share proceeds of the Strawberry Festival Parking and Parade viewing Chair Fundraising are Shelter Nepal and Nana's Place. Through the generosity of donors and your work we were able to raise almost \$2,600.00

## Journey/Invitation

### Team News

#### Area of Responsibility

Bible study, Christian formation (all ages), new members and discipleship, evangelism and invitation.

#### VBS 2015 August 3<sup>rd</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> At VPC

Vacation Bible School will be held each morning for the little ones of the island. **Preschoolers will meet at the Presbyterian Church from 9:45-11:45 am.** Vashon youth and local adults will lead the program. Registration can be done the first morning or at

[www.vacationbibleschool.com/vashonisland](http://www.vacationbibleschool.com/vashonisland). There is a suggested donation of \$15 for one child or \$25 for a family, whichever is less. However, we want no one to miss out on this wonderful experience. Full scholarships are available upon request.

#### **Vashon Island Community Teen Week**

**August 3<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Evenings 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

**Vashon Island Community Church**

August is coming and the week of Monday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> through Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> is what you have been waiting for! Each evening there will be games, live music and fantastic fun for all island young people 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older. It's free! Church affiliation is not required! So bring all your friends and make some great summer memories. Come for just a night or two even if you aren't available for the entire week. Do note the location! The nightly gathering will be at Vashon Island Community Church, 9318 SW Cemetery Road, across from Chautauqua & McMurray Schools. Call VICC (206) 463-3940 or contact Tyler Winters for more details.

*Elder Diana Lilje*

## Worship Team

### News

#### Area of Responsibility

Sacraments celebration, music program, readers, bulletin, ecumenical worship, church décor.

**Communion** for August will be the 9th.

**Guest Ministers:** August 2nd – Rev Arleigh Champ-Gibson, August 9th - Kevin Nollette, August 16th – Church of Mary Magdalene at Ober Park, August 23-TBD, August 30 - David Edscorn, Sound View Camp Director.

*Elder Brownie Carver*

#### **Clerk's Corner**

PC session met on July 13 for the scheduled monthly meeting. Vashon resident Nathan Sackett spoke about the Missional Community program in Tacoma, in which his family participated. Missional Communities are small groups of families geographically close to each other that care for and nurture each other, and seek to make disciples. Session discussed the program. In addition to the regular team reports, Brownie reported on the activity of the Transition Committee preparing for the search for an interim pastor. Session approved, with modification, the team's proposed interim pastor position description and the church description to be made available to applicants. Barb explained the Personnel Committee's concern that the part-time position be structured such that the incumbent does not end up devoting more than the contracted time. Session also called a congregational meeting on July 26 for congregational concurrence in ending the pastoral relationship with Dan. Finally, session approved Leona Moon Coldeen as Safe Conduct policy administrator, agreed that occasional VPC drivers need not submit to background checks, and appointed Brownie as alternate commissioner to the July 21 Seattle Presbytery meeting.

*Bob Spangler*

*Clerk of Session*



## Calendar for August 2015

### Aug

- 1 VPC Yard Sale
- 1 Bible Study 10 AM
- 2 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- 3-7 Preschool VBS 9:45-11:45 AM at VPC
- 3-7 Youth Week 7 PM at VICC
- 9 Sunday Worship Service at 10 AM (Communion Service)
- 9 Deacon's Meeting at noon
- 10 Session Meeting 7:15 PM
- 16 Mary's Place Worship and Picnic at OBER Park 10 AM
- 21 VPC Book Club at Kate Smith's 6:30 PM
- 23 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- 30 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES

*Life Changing Prayer* group meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 10:00 am at VPC, and on the first, third and fifth Wednesdays at 10:00 am at the Vashon Community Care Center.

*Women's informal breakfast* meets at Sporty's at 8:00 am on Wednesdays.

*Bible Study* meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays.

*Choir practices* will resume next fall

*Weed and Feed Barbecues* Wednesday evenings 5:30-7:30

Please note: Dates, times and events may change after publication. Refer to the weekly e-News or Sunday bulletin for confirmation of details.