

J U N E 2 0 1 9

Vashon Presbyterian Church

Vashon Island, Washington 98070

Listening to God, embracing all, living in joy

June 2019 Newsletter

Summer Events

**Presentation of Heidsmann
Scholarship Winner
6/16**

**Joint Service with VUMC
6/30**

**Seattle Presbytery Meeting
At VPC
7/16**

**Strawberry Festival
Parking Fundraiser
7/20**

**VPC Yard Sale
8/3**

**Mary's Place Picnic
8/11**

**"Summer Suppers"
6/23, 6/30, 7/7, 7/14 (so far)**

Save these Dates!

Summer Suppers Begin in June

A fun way to enjoy the days of summer is to host or attend one of the many summer suppers that VPC is sponsoring. The host decides on the venue, number of guests and date. Then they post the sign-up sheets on the info table in the greeting room. Guests sign up and show up! It's a great way to gather in smaller groups and get to know one another better. Hope to see you at several of these gatherings this summer!

VPC Will Host the Seattle Presbytery in July

On July 16th our church will be hosting the Seattle Presbytery. People will be arriving in the afternoon to explore the island. If it's like last year, we may have as many as 100 guests! There will be a dinner that evening catered by the Presbytery and served by us. Our members are invited to the dinner and the worship service at the first of the meeting.

Together – Step By Step

Years ago we undertook the project of building onto the church. We looked forward. We prayerfully discerned that God was calling us to something more and we needed more space. We launched a bold campaign to build the addition to the building and today it is filled with joyful little people learning and discovering at Carpe Diem, it hosts meals two nights a week for our island folks experiencing food scarcity and countless other groups. Due to a generous gift of OMAX stock we were able to pay off the balance of the mortgage this month. We serve a God who takes death and turns it into new life! What new life the death of our mortgage is inviting? Where is God calling us next? It's an exciting time to be the church in the world today. God is up to something! We celebrate this milestone and honor the One who is at work in our midst!

Dear Ones of VPC,

As I type this, I am still thinking about our worship service on Sunday, June 2nd. It was meaningful to me to celebrate the mortgage burning with you. In preparing for the service, I took time to read through Session minutes from years before, dating back to the early 1900's. I also had the privilege to go through lots of pictures with several of you, hearing stories, remembering moments in your shared history.

It reminded me so much of moving my parents to their new apartment at a retirement community in North Carolina last fall. It seemed like every box and every drawer had pictures from the past, the story of our family, laughing and remembering and trying to figure out just who all was in each picture. That's what families do. They record their story in the pictures and memories they collect together. And you and I are a family too.

This summer, once again, our family is going to participate in summer suppers. It will be a time of taking pictures and sharing old memories while also making new ones. And years from now, others will look through those pictures we take and piece together our story as it becomes part of theirs. I wonder if part of our work together is to think about the story that we want to tell, what story we want to hand down. As we gather around tables together, my prayer is that we will continue to learn about one another, be vulnerable with one another and make space for the greater story that is being written with us as God's own. My prayer is that we dream big, try new things, risk making mistakes and continue to be open to where we are being called in our community.

In this season of Pentecost, I hope we are able to feel the Spirit at work in our story, in our laughter together, in our tears, in our awkward moments as well as our easier ones. I'm looking forward to a summer of family time with you. What I have noticed about you is your ability to welcome others in, myself included, and your gift for setting another place at the table. That is one of the ways in which I see the Spirit at work and I'm grateful.

So, bring on the season of Summer Suppers and let's enjoy some family time.

Grace and Peace,
Leigh



Invitation and Outreach Team News

Area of Responsibility

New Members and Discipleship,
Evangelism and Invitation.

End of School Year Popsicles will be handed out to Carpe Diem and Creative Preschool families next week celebrating the end of another successful school year and our continuing relationship with these important friends and tenants.

Barb Huff, Outreach Elder

Hospitality/Fellowship Team News

Area of Responsibility

Hospitality, Fellowship.



Get Ready for Another
Summer of
Casual Get-Togethers
With Your Church Family
We Have Eager Hosts
Waiting to Make These
Gatherings Special.
Check the Signup Sheets
During Coffee Hour and
Join in on the Fun!

Purposeful Service Team News

Area of Responsibility

Scholarship, Mary's Place Partnership, IFCH
dinners, Mission Partner Relations.

The Heindsmann Scholarship Committee has selected their 2019 recipient. Xavier Ajeto will be introduced to the congregation at the June 16th Sunday service.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUMMER EVENTS

Strawberry Festival - July 20 Festival will be here before you know it. Be sure to reserve a parking space and chairs for parade watching. We always need help setting up and taking down all those chairs. Also need folks to help with parking the cars and selling unreserved chairs.

Mary's Place Picnic - August 11 Worship and potluck lunch will be held at Ober Park. We will need help moving audio equipment, kitchenware, chairs and tables from VPC (and back again!!), drivers to pick up and drop off our Mary's Place guests, clean up, servers. We also need food to be provided for our guests.

Beverly Skeffington will be the point person for these events. Questions ? or you want to sign up - email her at beverlyskeffington@gmail.com.

The VPC Book Club will meet on Friday June 21st at 6:30 at the Ross Weston's. The book is Broken For You by Stephanie Kallos. There will be a potluck supper. See the list of book selections going forward on p 7.

Elder Al Ross-Weston

Mission Resource Team News

Area of Responsibility
Financials, Building and Grounds.

“Burning the Mortgage”

What a wonderful celebration during and after worship Sunday June 2nd as we “burned the mortgage” without injuring anyone or setting off the sprinklers or smoke alarms. Rev Scott Lumsden’s message seemed so appropriate that when God calls, if we answer His call, things may not turn out as we thought they would but His purpose is served. I recall some of those early discussions about needing to build a new addition back in the late 1990’s. The congregation was larger, we had lots of kids running around and attending Sunday school classes and performing pageants. Our kitchen was the present nursery, our Sunday school classes were sharing space with Creative Preschool in the basement for toddlers and the upstairs AA meeting room for older children. When we had congregational dinners or auctions, we sat elbow to elbow in the East Room and if you were late, you’d have to squeeze your way into the room. We needed classrooms, a modern kitchen, a choir rehearsal room, more parking and a fellowship hall large enough to gather comfortably and extend hospitality to our friends and neighbors to join us, were some of the needs I heard expressed in our congregational conversations about our future. We took a risk. We performed due diligence, hired a consultant to do a feasibility study, started a financial campaign, took out a couple of mortgages and built the new addition. The classrooms are full of children all week long. The upper room hosts at least a dozen alcohol and drug related support groups. The social hall is used for community information forums and gatherings, homeless dinners as well as our own celebrations. Our doors are open enabling us to be the people of God extending hospitality in this space and in the community. By the Grace of God and your faithfulness we were able to burn the mortgage today. May this free us to listen to where God is calling us now. Blessings and Grace,
Jacq Skeffington, Mission Resource Edler

Worship Team News

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

Sunday June 9th is Pentecost Sunday



Seattle Presbytery On July 16th our church will be hosting the Seattle Presbytery. People will be arriving in the afternoon. There will be opportunities for exploring the island, a worship service, evening meal and the business meeting at the end of the day. See p 1 for more details.

Brownie Carver, Worship Elder

Faith Exploration Team News

Areas of Responsibility
Bible study, Christian formation (all ages)

Faith Exploration

The Sunday morning adult class will break for the summer and start up again in the fall.

Al Ross Weston, Faith Exploration Elder

Deacon's News

“How can I help?” Such a simple sentence but how often do we say it and mean it? Why are we so reluctant to reach out? We are quick to notice others shortcomings and give advice. Far too often we limit our help to the giving of advice. We offer help that is couched in a form of “I know best, just do it my way”, instead of a sincere and unlimited how can I help in any way that you need. When we offer advice instead of actions or love are we really listening to what God is asking us to do or to the person needing the help? God’s love is limitless and unconditional. If we would share God’s love with and for the world we must offer that caring unconditionally. We must reach out in a nonjudgmental way and simply say, “How can I help”? Have you asked someone today, “How can I help”?

Deacon Sue Weston

Clerk's Corner

Session held its monthly meeting on May 5, with two elders absent. A decision was made to change the meeting day for session to be the second Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm. Plans were made for the end-of-school celebrations for Carpe Diem and Creative Preschool. Hosts are being recruited for the summer suppers which will be held again this year. Talk continued on the goals for each mission area. The celebration of the end of the mortgage will be held on June 2 with the Co-Executive Presbyter preaching. Members submitted written reports for their teams’ activities.

Diana Lilje, Clerk of Session

Learn about the Realities of Advanced Medical Interventions

On Sunday, June 9, 4:00 – 5:30, Kimberly Benner, a registered nurse with 20 years’ experience will discuss in frank terms, the realities of what advanced medical interventions mean to people and their families in various stages of life. Actual outcomes for patients will be discussed, for both the short and long term. Some equipment used in the ICU will be available for viewing. The presentation supports good decision-making before an accident or serious illness occurs. Advance care planning, advance directives and the importance of palliative care will be discussed. Interactive session includes Q&A. The session will be at the Vashon Land Trust Building.

Kimberly has a varied professional background in oncology and critical and long-term care. She is a Vashon resident and currently works as a hospice nurse in Seattle and on Vashon.

This presentation is free. For further information, email vashonconversation@gmail.com.

Vacation Bible School

**Get Ready for Faith-filled Fun as we explore the Gospel of Luke! (español debajo)
VBS registration begins NOW! Sign up today! For children entering kindergarten to 6th grade,
(5- 11 year olds)**

August 12-16 9:30 am- 1 pm St. John Vianney Church.

\$30/ camper or \$50/ family. Scholarships available upon request.

Registration forms at participating churches. Please bring form and fee to St. John Vianney, Bethel, Presbyterian, or VI Community Church by July 23rd or email to marylawrence.sjv@gmail.com.

Checks to St. John Vianney (memo- VBS)

Presented by the All-island ecumenical VBS team,

Mary Lawrence Kimi Healey Alice Dorr

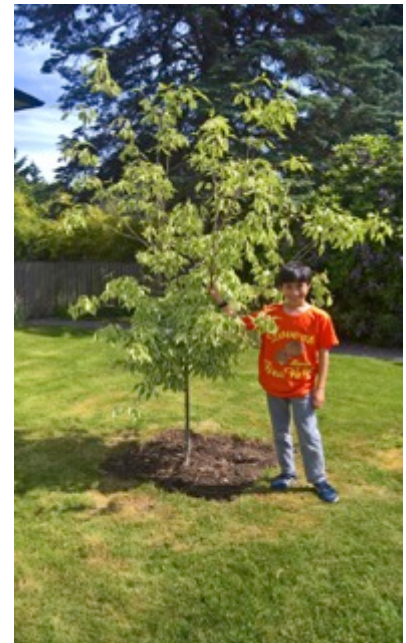
Weston's Annual Tree Growth Report



2017



2018



2019!

Happy Birthday Myrtle!

Well wishers Barbara Zue, Beverly Skeffington and Here Thieme joined 14 others who stopped by Sporty's Tuesday morning to greet Myrtle on her 92nd birthday!



VPC Book Club Selections

June	Broken for You	Stephanie Kallos
July	Ordinary Grace	William Kent Krueger
August	Strangers Drowning	Larissa MacFarquhar
September	Chicago	Brian Doyle
October	In the Heart of the Sea	Nathaniel Philbrick
November	A Gentleman in Moscow	Amor Towles

Calendar for June 2019

(all events at VPC unless otherwise stated)



June

- 2 Morning Prayer Service 8:30 AM
- 2 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM Communion Service
- 2 Food Bank Sunday
- 9 Morning Prayer Service 8:30 AM
- 9 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- 11 Session Meeting 4:30 PM
- 16 Morning Prayer Service 8:30 AM
- 16 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- 16 Presentation of the Heindsmann Scholarship during Worship
- 18 Deacon's Meeting 3 PM
- 21 Book Club 6:30 PM at Ross Weston's
- 23 Morning Prayer Service 8:30 AM
- 23 Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- 30 Morning Prayer Service 8:30 AM
- 30 Joint Service with VUMC at VPC

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Text Study Group Meets at noon on Mondays.

Fellowship Breakfast meets at Sporty's at 9:00 am on Tuesdays.

Tool Belts meet/work Tuesdays 10-noon

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