

THE SPIRIT

May 2023

Practicing Resurrection

This Easter season, the 50 days of the Christian liturgical year during which we try to wrap our brains around what God has done in Jesus' life, death and resurrection, we are looking at it all through the lens of "Practicing Resurrection" inspired by Wendell Berry's poem, "Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front" (Read the whole poem here: <https://cals.arizona.edu/~steidl/Liberation.html>)

As members of Christ's body, the church regularly gathered and dispersed, we ask, how do we participate in resurrection ourselves, on a daily basis? How do we, in the face of a culture that is determined that we put on a happy face and join in the distractions of the day: sports, celebrities, entertainment... content with being human consumers rather than human beings; how do we live faithfully the truth that **real** living only comes out of dying? That we **are already** a new creation, born anew through God's love poured out on us and all of creation – somehow - through Jesus' resurrection?

I have no easy answers. I don't believe there are easy answers.

The only answer is to live the truth, practice resurrection, one day at a time, paying attention to who God is, what God has shown us about who God is in Jesus, and walking, day by day **together**, as the body of Christ in this world.

We learn to pay attention to God through prayer that teaches us to listen to God instead of insisting on a one-sided conversation with God. (Centering prayer or Christian meditation are invaluable in teaching us this ancient skill.) We gather together with our siblings who are also trying to figure this out in this world at this particular time in history. We read God's word not looking for ways to reinforce what we already believe but with hearts open and willing to be taught by God's Spirit.

We learn from the faithful of the past, we walk with our faithful siblings today, and we nurture the children so that their faith will sustain them in a future we can only imagine.

And, day by day, we learn to trust the one who knows us and loves us better even than we know ourselves. A voice we can rely on in learning this trust is Julian of Norwich. (Read her fascinating story here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julian_of_Norwich)

There is no better companion on this path of faithfulness than Julian's words,

"And all shall be well. And all shall be well. And all manner of things shall be exceeding well."

May you be sustained this day and all days, knowing that you were made for love, you are held in love and that love will never let you go!

Pastor Val





Southwestern Washington Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

“O GOD, TEAR US, THAT WE MAY LIVE.”

Dear Friends, Here is St. Matthew's account of what happened at the moment that Jesus died on the cross.

“At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many.” (Matthew 27: 51-53)

Matthew describes a crisis moment that undoubtedly was scary to a lot of people. It has the elements of a horror movie. The four-inch-thick curtain in the temple, which separated people from the deepest presence of God, was ripped in two. God could now leap out into the world like a lion set free from a cage. Rocks split open.

Formerly dead people were walking around. None of the predictable and “set” things, like religion, death, and nature, were holding together. All the old structures and old ways were breaking apart.

That's what happens when God acts decisively through Christ to bring new life and new creation.

A prayer spoken by early Christians implored, “O God, tear us, that we may live.” We get wrapped up in curtains of fear and deadly habits. Innocent children and staff are shot down in our nation's schools. Nations attack nations throughout the world.

The planet itself calls out in pain, as tornadoes and earthquakes increase, bringing tragedy to so many. We are trapped in a life-suffocating fabric of our own making.

“O God, tear us, that we may live!” Tear open our eyes, so that we might see your loving presence

around us and in us. Tear open our hearts, so that we might receive and extend your care and compassion. Like a gifted surgeon, cut through our patterns of fear, abuse, and prejudice, so that we become free to live with justice and joy.

Holy Week is a risky journey. We venture into a time and place where everything shatters and changes. Yet, for all of us trapped in the old ways of fear, violence and despair, that is good news.

God bless us in this journey.

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Rick Jaech



WE ARE ENTRUSTED WITH THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

God, Lord of all creation, lover of life and of everything, please help us to love in our very small way what You love infinitely and everywhere. We thank You that we can offer just this one prayer and that will be more than enough, because in reality every thing and every one is connected, and nothing stands alone. To pray for one part is really to pray for the whole, and so we do. Help us each day to stand for love, for healing, for the good, for the diverse unity of the Body of Christ and all creation, because we know this is what You desire: as Jesus prayed, that all may be one. We offer our prayer together with all the holy names of God, we offer our prayer together with Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God's people join in prayer for Dora Bergsma,

Isabella Evanson, Robin and Trae Steinhauer helped decorate the Easter cross and now await Pastor Val's children message.

Photo taken and submitted by Diane Hanson.

Josiah, Monica Wilson, Yvette Koerner, Lorie Elkin, Peggy, Mert Turner, Audra Wieler, Tim Garney, Michael Silver, Helen Velling, Mike Barkstrom, Don Mackey, Cher, Linda, Leslie Prasch, and Tom Plumlee. We pray for family and friends mourning the death of Marilyn. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. We pray for family and friends mourning the death of Ardith Savoy. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.



May BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES



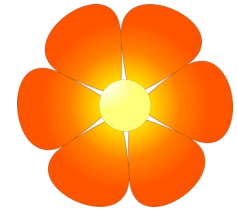
BIRTHDAYS:

Al Kelling, May 1
Molly Gundersen, May 2
Kari Ann Larson, May 2
Michael Mendoza, May 2
Marti Debandt, May 3
Janice, Frafjord, May 6
Hiedi Seelke, May 6
Sophie Kupka, May 8
Hank Bilderback, May 9
Eilidh Channel, May 9
John Pellesier, May 14

Kristine Finazzo, May 17
Mark Smalley, May 20
Tobi Buckman, May 22
Cindy Penttila, May 23
Tessa Buckman, May 24
Joelle Buckman, May 27
Madison Winter, May 28
Joe Fernandez, May 30

ANNIVERSARIES:

Jeff & Stephanie Gundersen, May 26
Al & Marge Kelling, May 27



Sarah Channel for researching and purchasing much needed office furniture and a computer as well as for sharing her technological expertise.

Naomi, Carmon, & Ruth Ann for helping Vicky assemble materials.

Diane Hanson & Judi Hubbard for submitting newsletter photos.

Ostwald's for providing palms for Palm Sunday.

Mark Smalley and Suzan Stegemoeller for being available to help out while Pastor Val was gone.

4/30 Sunday leaders thank you for all your work and as always thank you to those who help out with Sunday services.

Bell players for providing music on Palm Sunday.



Volunteer readers on Palm Sunday.

Everyone who helped out with the Holy Thursday and Good Friday Services.

Everyone who provided Easter Lilies.

Everyone who donated items for the Easter egg hunt.

The men who helped out with Easter Sunday breakfast.

Jacob and Annika Natwick and Madison Winter for playing "Amazing Grace" during Easter Sunday service.

Choir for providing music on Easter Sunday.

THANKS WE'VE RECEIVED

- **PLU** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$48.79
- **Family Promise** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$45.11
- **Union Gospel Mission of Grays Harbor** thanks Amazing Grace for the donations of \$48.79 & \$45.11
- **Habitat for Humanity** thanks Amazing Grace for the donations of \$ 48.79 & \$45.11
- **Lutheran World Relief** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$1,000.00.

Thank you for sharing your love with neighbors devastated by the earthquake in Turkey. Your emergency gift is a godsend to families in desperate need.

Your gift is being put to use immediately to get lifesaving care to families. Because of you, families will get the urgent support they need, like medical care, food, water and other critically needed items. It's because of your compassion and generosity that we are ready to deliver urgent relief aid.

Thank you for extending God's love where it is needed most.

Daniel V. Speckhard.



ST. PATTY DINNER DINING IN AND PICK-UP

Our first in-person 4-F hybrid dinner since pre-covid is "in the books".

We celebrated St. Patty's day a little late, but none the less in style!

Everyone was excited to dine together and enjoy fellowship like the old days.

We served 30 at the table and 26 take out.

Karen and Mike cooked up the delicious corned beef and vegetables. Eileen and Carmon again shared their talents with Irish soda bread. Kristine, Jill and Judi baked up some yummy bread pudding. Mike Hubbard and Naomi were our in-house dishwashers. Dee and Joan had a good time making 2 raffle baskets won by Annelise and Carmon (of course)!! Our youth servers were Madison and her friends Bethie

and Kamakani, they all had a great time "serving adults" and want to come back. Karen Davison and sister Peggy entertained everyone with their music and sing-a-longs. Carrie donated the wine, so all donations were profit!!!! And thank you Hank for our Grace blessing.

We raised \$1777.00!!! Our 10% tithe will be divided between Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster and our local Salvation Army food bank. The remainder will be added to the maintenance fund. There always seems an endless need for Roger and Mike to spend money for church projects.

Thank you Naomi and Kristine for applying for

Thrivent Action cards that covered all expenses.

We appreciate your continued support of our dinners. It was great to hear all the chatter and laughing going on.

Stay tuned for further gatherings!!!

Your 4-F team

Mike & Karen

Kristine

Jill

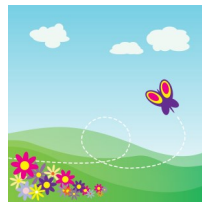
Judi



St. Patty dinner helpers: Madison and Bethie Photo submitted by Judi Hubbard

SERVING AT AMAZING GRACE CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council has elected Lynette Lile to serve on Church Council as the chair of the Fellowship Ministry. Lynette fills the position vacated by Carrie Erwin who stepped down earlier this year. We all appreciate Carrie's dedication to Amazing Grace's vision of being "A welcoming place where grace happens", thank you for all of your work and time on Council. Welcome Lynette, we are all looking forward to working with you.



CITY OF ABERDEEN

The City of Aberdeen has the following last date set aside to have conversations about homelessness.

You are encouraged to attend the meeting that best represents the Ward where you live. Unsure

what Ward you live in? Find a map here: [Aberdeen-Ward-Map-PDF \(aberdeenwa.gov\)](http://aberdeenwa.gov)

Wards 3 & 4, Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Rotary Log Pavilion
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Mike Hubbard and Naomi Kraiger hard at work for St. Patty's dinner. Photo submitted by Judi Hubbard



ASSISTING MINISTERS

Our PSALM people have been serving as Assisting Ministers for a few months, but you do NOT have to be a PSALM trained person to serve in this way. If you would like more information about this or would like to volunteer to serve in this way,

please contact Pastor Val or Vicky in the office. Training will be provided for anyone who wants to learn more.

FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

There is currently one guest family staying in our program and we have an opening for one family. Please contact Cinderella at (360)986-3948 or fscfamilypromisegh@gmail.com for more information.

Setting up for St. Patty's dinner.

Photo submitted by Judi Hubbard

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY!!

Chaplains on the Harbor continues to collect cold weather supplies for those experiencing homelessness.

*Sleeping bags

*Fleece blankets

*Clothing including socks, coats, sweat pants, and jeans

Donations can be brought to church and left in the fellowship hall.

The Ad-Hoc Committee on Homelessness is open to ideas and suggestions as to how AGL can support and empower this population. Committee members are Liz Ellis, Curtis Steinhauer, Debbie Colangelo, Darci Jewett and Suzan Stegemoeller.

mation.

FPGH's "There's No Place Like Home" Dinner and Auction benefit on April 15 was a success! Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered their time and talent, and donated to the event. We couldn't have done it without you!!!



Thank you so much for continuing to support this vulnerable group of people.



EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY: YOUR LOVE IS NEEDED

The needs of our neighbors in Turkey are growing every hour. Lutheran World Relief is already working with their trusted local partners to reach children, women and men in desperate need.

Your gift to Lutheran World Relief's emergency response fund will deliver urgently needed support and care, like:

- Food, water and other critically needed items
- Temporary shelter
- Medicine and supplies for clinics

At this time, financial gifts are the number one need to assist our neighbors who are injured, hungry and displaced from multiple earthquakes.

HOW TO GIVE

You can give directly through Lutheran World Relief at lwr.org/quake or by mailing to Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061. Please write "QUAKE" in the memo line. Gifts can also be made through our congregation. Write "QUAKE" in the memo line and we will rush a check from the church to Lutheran World Relief.

GROWING AT AMAZING GRACE

SUNDAY SCHOOL

K-6th grade youth and family members will meet in the fireside room following worship on Sunday, May 7th. Learn about the "Faith 5", make a craft together with your child, and enjoy fellowship together with other families. Be thinking of a creative name for

our group ... "Grace Lightning", "The PAC" (Parents and Children), or other ideas ?? Bring your name suggestions and prepare to have fun together! Questions – contact Michelle Weiberg at (360) 532-6512

Getting ready to eat at the St. Patty's dinner.

Photo submitted by Judi Hubbard



SEEKING GOD'S SHALOM

Please plan on being a part of the video Bible study led by Bishop Jaech after worship next Sunday, May 14th. The video was the orientation for Synod Assembly May 6th with that theme.

CELEBRATION 2023 COMMITTEE MEETING

Next meeting is May 18 in Fireside room at 7pm. Committee reports and the funds they require will be presented. Interested persons please attend.

The Celebration Committee is seeking the following: 1. ADDRESSES of people you want to receive

an invitation (to Dee Erickson), 2. Written RECOLLECTIONS of Church Memories, typed or by hand, of Trinity, Our Savior's or Amazing Grace, (to Vicki Mitchell) and 3. PHOTOS of church events from the past (to Vicki Mitchell).



ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Committee is accepting request proposals, especially those from our local budget. Remember all requests must pass through the committee for review.

The scholarship requests must be returned by June 1st.

Request forms are available in the church office or from Darrell Lokken at 360.532.0615

SAVE THE DATE: CELEBRATON 2023

Saturday, Sept 23rd-- "Celebration 2023". Celebrate our restored stained glass and our 20th Anniversary as a unified Amazing Grace Lutheran Church.

Celebration Service at 2:00 pm. In the sanctuary and displays, stained glass demonstration, Swedish and Norwegian food, video, etc. from noon until two o'clock, and after service until 4:00 or longer.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY COMING SOON!

Do we have your latest address & contact info? Do we have a recent photo of you? All members and friends are encouraged to be a part of our new

directory. We are getting close to going to print on this. If you have updates please contact: Amy Ostwald at aaostwald@gmail.com or Arlene Torgerson at danishdame@comcast.net. Thanks!

April 18, 2023

Dear Pastors and Congregational Leaders,

Over the past few months, I sent you two letters that talked about ministering to those with mental illness. Related to, but different enough to warrant a separate letter, is the growing challenge of dementia. The CDC describes dementia as follows:

“Dementia is not a specific disease but is rather a general term for the impaired ability to remember, think, or make decisions that interferes with doing everyday activities. Alzheimer’s disease is the most common type of dementia. Though dementia mostly affects older adults, it is not a part of normal aging.”

Our compassion goes out to those who struggle with the burden of dementia and also to those who care for them. Our hope and strength is, of course, always rooted in the constant and complete love of God, who never abandons us and always embraces us. As we consider those who are afflicted with dementia, I am reminded of Romans 8: 38-39. *For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

As you consider how best to minister to those with dementia, I want to share with you some resources that I have found useful.

1.) Lutheran Community Services Northwest (LCSNW), which has offices and programs throughout our Synod, has a number of programs specifically designed to support those with dementia and their caregivers. This includes programs such as:

- Art classes for those with dementia
- Music and Memory gatherings
- Taking Memory Walks
- Establishing Memory Cafes



For more information about what LCSNW is doing, click both of the links below:

<https://lcsnw.org/?s=dementia>

<https://lcsnw.org/program/dementia-services-2/>

2.) An older article (2009) from the ELCA speaks to programs specifically designed to support both those with dementia and their caregivers. Please note that the article references some resources that are no longer available on the web. However, the article itself provides a useful discussion about how to organize programs.

<https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/6550>

3.) Two resources from the Lewis Center for Church Leadership provide specific ideas for doing ministry with persons with dementia. The Lewis Center is a program of the Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC.

Staff leader Jessica L. Anschutz discusses, “As memory fades, ministry grows”

<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/as-memory-fades-ministry-grows-ministry-alongside-persons-with-dementia/>

Guest presenter Kenneth Carter offers concrete advice about “Nurturing a Dementia-Friendly Church.”

<https://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/nurturing-a-dementia-friendly-church/>

4.) Lutheran SeniorLife in Pennsylvania provides tools that may be very helpful for caregivers taking care of those suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia.

<https://www.lutheranseniorlife.org/caring-for-someone-with-alzheimers-or-dementia>

5.) Finally, here is a resource from England, where Pastor Lewis Allen at Hope Church in Huddersfield, shares these ideas he gathered from his parish ministry.

<https://www.9marks.org/article/pastoring-dementia-patients/>

Dementia is a challenge that impacts many of our families and certainly each of our congregations. Not only does the individual suffer from the effects of this affliction, but those who are caregivers, as well as other loved ones and friends who share in the struggle. Our ministries need to address both groups and be based on love and compassion.

I hope you find these resource links helpful as you continue to reach out to members of your church and neighborhood. If you have other resources to add to this list, please let me by emailing me [here](#).

Blessings to you in this Easter season!

Bishop Rick Jaech

Max and Sasha Gieger and Eilidh Channel received instruction and baked Communion bread with Pastor Val, prior to First Communion on Holy Thursday.

Photo taken and submitted by Diane Hanson



Amazing Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes March 21, 2023

Vision: A welcoming place where grace happens.

Mission: To Experience and share God's love through worship, education, and community.

Values: Radical Hospitality; Passionate worship; Intentional faith development; Risk-taking mission and service; Extravagant Generosity.

- I. The March 2023 church council meeting was called to order at 6:15 in the fireside room. In attendance were: Mark Smalley, Tara Main, Mike Barkstrom, Lynette Lile, Diane Hanson, Pastor Val and Pastor Laurin Vance, Sarah Channel and Michelle Weiberg.**
- II. Prayer and Devotions – Diane opened with prayer and devotions based on the Biblical idea of joy focusing on Proverbs 17:22. “A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.” Diane led a discussion on the power of joy and how the joy we bring, affects our experience of worship.**
- III. A quorum was established.**
- IV. Reviewed and approved the agenda.**
- V. Approved minutes Feb. 28th meeting.**
- VI. Business items (30 min)**
 - A. Lynette Lile was voted in to serve as Fellowship leader, serving out Carrie Erwin's term. Thank you Carrie for your service!
 - B. Diane led a discussion of the ground rules council developed at this year's retreat. (See attached.)
 - C. Council discussed the need for a new office computer and approve spending up to \$1000 for one. Sarah will lead the effort to identify the best one for the office needs. **M/S/P**

- D. Pastor Val will host the May council meeting at her house if construction of steps is done.
- E. There was a discussion about how to stagger council member terms so that everyone is not leaving at the same time. We will look into this further for next month's meeting.
- F. Endowment Fund audit was done by John Tieder and Gene Schermer. There was discussion about having an outside audit done when the balance is over \$250,000.
- G. Mike will make a presentation to the congregation in April about Property team's work. It will all so be in the Spirit.
- H. A request from Madison Winter was discussed to host a car wash fund raiser for Aberdeen HS Gender Sexuality Alliance club in our parking lot sometime in April or May. It was discussed and approved in light of our values. M/S/P Mark will contact Madison to let her know that it is approved, that there needs to be an adult sponsor, and she can pick up a facility use form at the church office.

VII. Ministry team reports: (30 min)

- A. Worship – Sarah – Preparations for Holy Week are being made. Hank and Kristine will look at different pianos and report back in April.
- B. Youth & Family – Michelle – Reported on her meeting with families and their desire to have children in worship with more space for them to do activities. Different options for that were discussed and it was requested that Property/Youth & Family/Worship all get together to devise a plan to be presented to Council next month. Michelle also reported on VBS plans with Saron in June, with Sarah C. heading that effort and SS plans being developed to meet the first Sunday of each month. An Easter egg hunt will be held following worship on Easter Sunday and congregation members are volunteering to fill eggs.
- D. Fellowship – Lynette – Pastor Val and Lynette will meet. The Celebration being planned with Vicky Mitchell as lead was discussed with more information available after that group meets.
- E. Property – Mike – report was seen by everyone – Family Promise is working to get the information needed.

Mike will present to the congregation the Property Council Role. What the constitution says, council and his understanding, and what the views of the congregation might be. He can certainly add what they are working on but it is more of an educational piece. This article will be in the Spirit.

VIII. Financial Reports: (30 min)

- A. Treasurer's Report – Tara Main – reports did not get to council ahead of time due to an email problem in the office. Questions were answered. February bills paid were approved. M/S/P
- B. Another person is needed to access the Vanco (online giving) reports so that Phil is not doing it alone. Mark agreed to be that person.
- C. Discussion on the need for training on the budget and how to read the reports. It would be good for the whole congregation to have the opportunity to learn how to read the church budget.

Pastor's Report

CTC update and Listening Session on March 26th – Pastor Laurin described how the session would be run. It was decided that it was not feasible to make it available online. Everyone will be encouraged to attend in person. There will be more sessions in the future as part of this process.

(IX – XI 5 min)

X. Task Assignments

XI. Adjournment and closing prayer -- Council adjourned at 9:15 with prayer offered by Diane.



Sampling the goods.
*Photo submitted by
 Judi Hubbard*

Waiting to eat or relaxing after a hearty meal.

Photo submitted by Judi Hubbard

AGLC COUNCIL RETREAT 2023

Ground Rules for Discussion

Proverbs 29:9. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Respectful listening:

1. Make space for everyone's opinion, (appoint opinion taker?)
2. Practice respectful listening, don't interrupt. (ok to lift hand or inform someone you are not done)
3. Speak for yourself, using "I" statements.
4. Once you have given your opinion, please allow the rest to speak.
5. Be civil, it is okay to agree to disagree
6. Okay to ask for time to process, pray, or think about the subject discussed
7. Assume best intentions
8. Once a decision is made, support the final decision, even if you don't agree
9. Follow through on commitment (if you are unable to get an assigned task done, for whatever reason, please notify council)
10. Healthy communication is asking for what you need.
11. Respect confidentiality
12. Avoid Triangulation in and outside of council
13. No LOUD eye rolling



NOTE: There were other suggestions for healthy communication, however, these would apply more towards how council communicates with church members:

Not accepting "anonymous" information.

"Have you spoken to council/individual about that?"

"What would you like me to do with that information?"

Thank you to Sarah for her first draft she sent out from our council retreat.

I reworked the rules due to numerous redundancies. Often we were saying the same thing in a different way.

We will review at next council meeting.

Thank you to our wonderful new council for this important work! Practicing new communication can also be fun.

Blessings,

Diane Hanson

Vice President Report

PASTOR'S REPORT March 2023

Activities that are part of pastor's work most months.

- WORSHIP/DISCIPLESHP** Sunday worship – Plan and lead
Plan seasonal and special worship services
Sermons – prayer, study, reading, writing
Prayer
Meet with ministry leader as needed
Liturgical Arts team
- ADMINISTRATION** Reports: congregational; synod; ELCA
Conference deans – meet bi-annually & as needed
Recordkeeping: updates to documents; church ledger
Work with office administrator: bulletins, newsletter, etc.
Council meeting & Exec. Comm. meeting monthly
Newsletter - writing, editing
Meet with treasurer as needed
Mutual Ministry meeting monthly
Endowment Committee advisor
- FELLOWSHIP/PASTORAL CARE/COUNSELING** PSALM – mentor; spiritual direction
Prayer Chain – coordinate w/ Brenda Grant
Grace notes weekly or as needed
Pastoral care as needed
Coordinate with ministry leader as needed
- OUTREACH** Facebook page – outreach through social media.
Coordinate with others to support homeless and marginalized people
Meet w/ ministry leader as needed
- BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE** Meet w/ ministry leader as needed
- YOUTH AND FAMILY** Intergenerational events
Adult study: plan and participate
Confirmation: plan and lead
Sunday School: coordinate with ministry leader
Young people's message
- STEWARDSHIP/EVANGELISM** Study and integrate into sermons

OTHER ACTIVITIES in March

Activities specific to this month

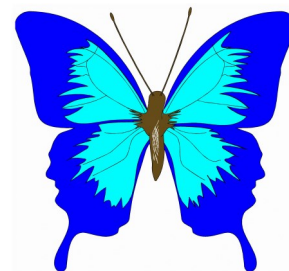
- OFFICIAL ACTS:** None
- PASTORAL CARE:** Visit, calls, texts, messaging as needed
Counseling
- ADMINISTRATIVE:** Work with consultant preparing for Listening Session
President and vice-president
- OUTREACH:** Consulted with team leader
- WORSHIP:** Led Ash Wednesday, Lent and Holy Week services
Preparing worship for Holy Week and Easter season
Coordinate with streamers for video use
Consulted with new team leader
- YOUTH/FAMILY/EDUCATION:** First Communion instruction for 5 children
Consulted with new team leader

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH:

VACATION: None

UPCOMING: Synod Assembly May 6th

I will be on Silent Retreat at St. Andrew's House in Union, WA April 23-28th with no phone contact except for emergencies. 4/30 Hank will preside and Keith Lile will bring the Message.





Pastor Val Praying the Beatitudes with Light on Good Friday.
Photo taken and submitted by Diane Hanson.



President	Mark Smalley	(360) 249-1955	marktrish86@gmail.com
Vice President	Diane Hanson	(360) 581-4806	djh431@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Tara Main	(360) 580-1577	taramain@comcast.net
Youth & Family	Michelle Weiberg	(360) 532-6512	weibergs@comcast.net
Outreach	Suzan Stegemoeller	(360)580-3407	suzansteg@hotmail.com
		LANDLINE:	
		(360) 249-6986	
Worship	Sarah Channel	(360) 888-9538	channel924@gmail.com
Fellowship	Lynette Lile	(360) 589-3117	carcounseling@gmail.com
Property	Mike Barkstrom	(360) 589-1393	mkbarks1@gmail.com
Pastor	Val Metropoulos	(360) 580-8977	vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu

Financial Secretary-This position unfilled. To be managed on a non-council basis and report to President..

OFFICE HOURS

Church office is open: **Tuesday & Thursday 8-2, Wednesday 8-1 & Friday 8-11.** AGLC Office
360.532.8250 amazing111@comcast.net

Pastor Val— Please call, text or email to set up a time to meet. 360.580.8977, vmetropou-
los001@luthersem.edu

MAY WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

May 7

Assisting Minister: Hank Bilderback
Liturgist: Greg Johnstone
Reader: Diane Hanson
Ushers/Greeters: Tim & Pam Alstrom
Depositors: Carmon Shaw & Anneliese Kraiger
Fellowship Hosts: Kaufman, T. Buckman, Colangelo
Communion setup: Cynthia Johnstone
Stream Team: Keith Lile

May 14

Assisting Minister: Diane Hanson
Liturgist: Laura Carle
Reader: Steve Swanson
Communion Assistants: Kristine Finazzo & Mark Smalley
Ushers/Greeters: Arlene Torgerson & Naomi Kraiger
Depositors: Kathy Wehage & Ruth Ann Carlson
Fellowship Hosts: Ostwald, Gundersen, Stegemoeller
Communion setup: Laura Carle
Stream Team: Curtis Steinhauer

May 21

Assisting Minister: Joelle Buckman
Liturgist: Hank Bilderback
Reader: Michelle Weiberg
Communion Assistants: Sarah Channel & Joelle Buckman
Ushers/Greeters: Joan & William Rabung
Depositors: Carmon Shaw & Anneliese Kraiger
Fellowship Hosts: Lile, D. Erickson, Bilderback, Burns
Communion setup: Carmon Shaw
Stream Team: Steve Swanson

May 28

Assisting Minister: Hank Bilderback
Liturgist: Curtis Steinhauer
Reader: Mark Smalley
Communion Assistants: Theresa Kaufman & Dee Erickson
Ushers/Greeters: Roger & Carmon Shaw
Depositors: Greg Johnstone & Joelle Buckman
Fellowship Hosts: Carle, Torgerson, Smalley/Safstrom
Communion setup: Tara Main
Stream Team: Amy Ostwald

Madison Winter, Jacob and Annika Natwick play Amazing Grace for special Easter music.

Photo taken and submitted by Diane Hanson.



MARCH BALANCES OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS

AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH INCOME STATEMENT Month Ending March 31, 2023 General Fund	AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH INCOME STATEMENT Month Ending March 31, 2023 Maintenance Fund
Revenue	Revenue
General Fund \$ 17,517.59 Youth Fund \$ - Memorial Fund \$ - M Thompson Fund <i>PIANO</i> \$ - Total Revenue <u>\$ 17,517.59</u>	Maintenance Fund \$ - \$ - 4F Dinner \$ - Thrivent \$ 333.00 Family Promise Maint Fund \$ 100.00 Total Revenue <u>\$ 433.00</u> Total in FP Maint Fund \$300.00
Expenses	Expenses
Pastorial \$ 9,858.05 Payroll \$ 4,717.21 Payroll Taxes \$ (72.20) Worship \$ 26.50 Supplies \$ 1,237.79 Utilities \$ 2,155.41 Software \$ 430.81 Misc \$ 67.41 Total Expenses <u>\$ 18,420.98</u> Net Income <u>\$ (903.39)</u>	Home Depot \$ 775.58 Total Expenses <u>\$ 775.58</u> Net Income <u>\$ (342.58)</u>
AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH General Church Equity Month Ending March 31, 2023	AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Maintenance Equity Month Ending March 28, 2023
Beginning Equity March 1, 2023 \$ 28,785.32 Net Loss \$ (903.39) Benevolences \$ (2,187.01)	Beginning Equity March 1, 2023 \$ 16,378.30 Net Income \$ (342.58) Less Withdrawals \$ -

Income statements continued on next page.



AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH GENERAL BALANCE SHEET March 31, 2023		AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MAINTENANCE BALANCE SHEET March 31, 2023	
ASSETS		ASSETS	
General Fund	\$ 20,362.13	Maintenance Fund	\$ 16,035.72
Youth Fund	-		
Memorial Fund	3,856.35		
M. Thompson Fund / PIANO	7,720.22		
Prepaid Insurance	-		
Prepaid Website	168.00		
Total Assets	<u>\$ 32,106.70</u>	Total Assets	<u>\$ 16,035.72</u>
LIABILITIES		LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ -	Accounts Payable	
Salaries Payable	\$ 3,678.33		
Federal Taxes Payable	\$ 2,342.08		
WA State Taxes Payable	\$ 391.37		
Total Liabilities	\$ 6,411.78	Total Liabilities	\$ - \$ -
CHURCH EQUITY		CHURCH EQUITY	
Church Equity	\$ 25,694.92	Maintenance Equity	\$ 16,035.72
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u>\$ 32,106.70</u>	Total Liabilities and Equity	<u>\$ 16,035.72</u>

BUILDING REPAIRS/MAINTANCE

Please notify Mike Barkstrom or send a message to the church office if there are any repairs needed at the church. Sometimes members or visitors notice things that need to be fixed that the committee is not aware of. Your input is helpful in these matters.

Mike Barkstrom: mkbarks1@gmail.com- (360) 589-1393

Ministers: The People of
Amazing Grace

Pastor: Val Metropoulos
(360) 580-8977
vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu

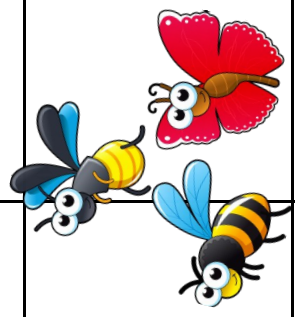
Office Administrator: Vicky Kolb

Church office: 111 E. 4th Street
360) 532-8250
amazing111@comcast.net
amazinggraceaberdeen.org

Pianist: Kristine Burns



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 OFFICE CLOSED	2	3	4	5	6
7 10 WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP 11 SUNAY SCHOOL	8 OFFICE CLOSED PEO MTG 9PM	9 SENIOR ART GROUP 10-2 HANDSEWERS 9-3 FAMILY PROMISE BOARD MTG 6:15-8PM	10 AA 5:30-6:30	11 MASTER QUILTERS 9-3	12	13
14 10 WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP 11	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16 SENIOR ART GROUP 10-2 COUNCIL MEETING @ PR. VAL'S 6	17 QUILTING 9-12 AA POLUCK & MEETING 4-7:30	18 MASTER QUILTERS 9-3 CELEBRATION MTG. 7PM-FIRESIDE ROOM	19	20
21 10 WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP 11	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23 SENIOR ART GROUP 10-2 HANDSEWERS 9-3	24 AA 5:30-6:30	25 MASTER QUILTERS 9-3	26	27
28 PENTECOST 10 WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP 11	29 OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY	30 SENIOR ART GROUP 10-2	31 QUILTING 9-12 AA 5:30-6:30			



MAY

UPCOMING EVENTS
 GSA Carwash— JUNE 3
 VBS-JUNE 18-22 @ Saron
 JUNE/JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: May 26th



Please join us for worship
Sundays at 10am in person or on our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/Amazing-Grace-Lutheran-Church-114570725233786/>

Or anytime at: amazinggraceaberdeen.org
AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
of Grays Harbor



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

VISION

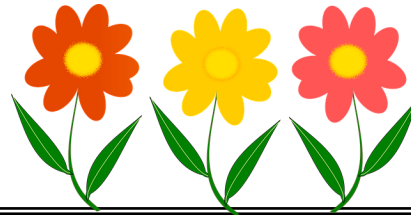
A welcoming place where grace happens!

MISSION

To experience and share God's love through worship,
education and community

VALUES

Radical Hospitality
Passionate worship
Intentional faith development
Risk-taking mission and service
Extravagant generosity



Amazing Grace Lutheran Church of
Grays Harbor

111 E. 4th Street

Aberdeen, WA 98520

360.532.8250

amazing111@comcast.net

www.amazinggraceaberdeen.org



PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE