



The Spirit

APRIL 2014

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church – 111 E. 4th
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We're past the halfway point in the season of Lent this year. Good time for a mid-course assessment of where we've been and how we're doing. As with most things I'm having a mixed experience: **more prayer but less fasting** than I'd hoped. (That only shows my temperament that finds it easier to add to a habit rather than refrain from one.) I'm committed to 'giving away' 40 things, one-a-day, during Lent in an effort to simplify and remind myself that consumption has a cost not only to me but to our overburdened planet. But, at this point, more than 20 days in, I'm **only at about 8 things** stashed in my give away box. I have some catching up to do. I'm reading more scripture as part of my Lenten devotions but **I'm not sure it's touching me as deeply** as less quantity but more focused reading might. I'm finding ways to give more money to those who truly need help but **find myself short of time to give of myself**. As I said, it's a mixed bag.

Maybe you're having a similar experience. Or maybe you find that at this point your good intentions are simply that. Time has slipped away and you've barely given any Lenten habits of the heart a

spring song

the green of Jesus
is breaking the ground
and the sweet
smell of delicious Jesus
is opening the house and
the dance of Jesus music
has hold of the air and
the world is turning
in the body of Jesus and
the future is possible

By Lucille Clifton, from The Collected Poems

second thought. (Raise your hand if you have perfectly accomplished every habit that you thought might open your heart more to God this Lenten season!!! **That's what I thought. I don't see one raised hand.** ☺)

I'm counting on one of my favorite writers on all things spiritual to help us understand our predicament, for good and for bad.

Richard Rohr's Daily Meditation - Interior Poverty

"When you're trapped inside a social system where you constantly have to work for your own superiority and can slip into inferiority in a moment, *[think: downsizing of a job; debilitating illness; unfaithful spouse, or even disappointment in ourselves; it could be anything that reveals our lack of control]* you are inevitably very insecure. You cannot draw your life from your own center or from an outer reliable Source.

As a Christian, I know that my true value is something that God gives me freely. You are inherently, objectively, totally, and forever a daughter or son of God. You cannot gain that or lose that by any achievement or failure

whatsoever. God doesn't participate in the honor/shame system. Christianity's role is always to tell you that you are **objectively** a child of God! **Our primary job is to keep proclaiming the true identity of things, and not to create contests whereby some few can attain their identity—if they are good enough.**

But much of religion has bought right back into the honor/shame system. All we did was change the cultural rules to religious rules. Now there was yet another way to be superior—by being pious, publicly religious, and “moral” about one or two things which are usually not central issues. Yet Jesus' teachings against status-seeking and building up religious reputation tell us again and again, “Don't go there!” (check out Matthew 6:1-21 and Luke 18:9-14.)

Part of an article I quoted in last month's message was this: [Lent is about] **“asking how beauty might occur in the midst of our fragile, decaying lives. It's about creating new songs, stories, images scribbled in dust and ash that reexamine what human beings can be for the life of each other and the life of the planet.”**

Rather than evaluating “how I'm doing” based on how perfectly I've followed my chosen Lenten habits, which only contributes to making faith part of the destructive honor/shame system, it might be more useful to ask if those habits are helping me see beauty in decay? Have they helped me create new songs, stories and images in the ash for the sake of our life together and the life of the planet? Have our habits of the heart helped us to create and imagine together?

My answer **for myself** would have to be mostly no. Beauty and creativity only thrive

in an atmosphere of openness and hope and possibility; the opposite of the discouragement that can set in when our expectations of ourselves are unmet.

With almost 3 weeks left until Easter, I think I'll shift gears and invite you to make a shift as well. I give myself permission to read **only one** passage from the Bible for purely devotional purposes. I give myself permission to give away 40 things but **it may take me an extra month** past Easter to get that done. I give myself permission to try again at fasting, realizing that **any habit that opens my heart to God** is worth beginning any day and every day. I'm going to continue to look for ways to give money to those who need it. But, I'll also limit the number of “extra” commitments I will take on in this time, knowing that the **quality** of time I am able to give to others is dependent upon knowing my limitations.

And I think these words will be my guide in the coming weeks: **“You are precious in my eyes, you are honored, and I love you.** (Isaiah 43:4). I need to hear that again and again to remember **that I already have everything I need in Christ; that I am “objectively a child of God.”** I encourage you to live this last half of Lent practicing habits of the heart that shape you in this truth:

**YOU ARE A CHILD OF GOD, PRECIOUS IN
GOD'S EYES,
HONORED AND LOVED!**



APRIL 2014 CALENDAR

- 1 Tuesday 5:30 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer
6:15 p.m. Soup Supper & Cross+Gen Activity
7:00 p.m. UG MISSION(Salmon/hostess)
7:00 p.m. Church Council
- 2 Wednesday 9:00 a.m. QUILTING & MAINT.
6:00 p.m. HANDBELLS
7:00 p.m. CHOIR
- 4 Friday OFFICE CLOSED
Community Lenten service at 1ST Methodist in Hoquiam 11:30 Lunch / Noon Worship

6 Sunday FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

8:45 a.m. Central Things book study
9:45 a.m. HYMN FEST
10:00 a.m. Worship with choir offering and Communion visitation blessing
11:00 a.m. FELLOWSHIP
11:15 faith+life youth group
12:00 p.m. CONFIRMATION

- 8 Tuesday 5:30 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer
6:15 p.m. Soup Supper & Cross+Gen Activity
- 9 Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Quilting & Maintenance
- 11 Friday Office Closed
Community Lenten service at 1st Methodist, Aberdeen 11:30 Lunch / Noon Worship

13 PALM SUNDAY

8:45 a.m. Central Things book study
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Fellowship
12:00 Confirmation
5:00 p.m. Anniversary Party for Ray & Jean

- 16 Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
QUILTING/MAINTENANCE
6:00 p.m. HANDBELLS
7:00 p.m. CHOIR

17 MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE: 7:00 p.m.
@ AGLC

18 GOOD FRIDAY

Noon - Community Lenten service at St. Andrew's - Lunch to follow
7:00 p.m. GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE @ AGLC



20 RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt for children
10:00 a.m. Easter Worship W/Bells

- 23 Wednesday NO MUSIC REHEARSAL
25 Friday Office Closed

27 Sunday SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:45 a.m. Central Things book study
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. FELLOWSHIP
11:15 a.m. faith+life (youth group)
12:00 Confirmation

- 30 Wednesday
9:00 a.m. QUILTING/MAINTENANCE
6:00 p.m. Handbells
7:00 p.m. Choir
MAY 2 FRIDAY Office Closed



Don't Forget our HYMN FESTS

Come to church around 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, April 6 to sing some of your favorite hymns. Kris Burns will provide the music. This will be a time when you can request your favorite hymns And we will sing them! The Hymn Fest will happen on the first Sunday of each month. "Singing hymns are prayers to God's ear" PLEASE JOIN US!

*Father,
May our souls be branded by your cross.
May the memory of your sacrifice ignite us.
May the song of our hearts and the expression
of our lives be, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!"
Amen*



Please join us for Lent worship on Tuesdays at 5:30. Holden Evening Prayer, Soup Supper and Cross+Gen activities happen April 1st and 8th. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us as we experience the presence of God together in word, song and meal.



COMMUNITY
Lenten Services

“TESTING JESUS? TRUSTING JESUS!”

Fridays in Lent

11:30 a.m. LUNCH Noon WORSHIP

April 4 “In the Heaven” 1st Methodist,
Hoquiam

April 11 “In the Garden” 1st Methodist,
Aberdeen

April 18 GOOD FRIDAY “On the Cross” St.
Andrew Episcopal, Aberdeen**

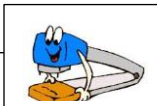
Good Friday will include a Procession of the Cross from Hoquiam to St. Andrew’s. A lunch will be served **after the Noon worship.

Nicole Claussen, Pam Thorson, Julie, Al Carlberg, Cherie Vroman, BJ Bastin, Richard Kraiger, Doug George, Barb Williams, Harold Johnson, Parker Ebel, Betty Mitchell, Gwen, Karuna Johnson, Shelbie Offrink, Don Stubb, Kay, Nicole, Aileen Long, Ginger Cameron, Peyton Willis, for the young people and workers at the youth center; for those who are homeless, especially Dylan, and for long-term caregivers especially Jack Bastin, Rich Vroman & Carol Stubb. We also pray for our newly baptized sister in Christ, Catherine Madison Donohue and her family and sponsors and for Hiedi Seelke who will be baptized on Easter.

YOUTH CENTER NEEDS

The Youth Center has asked for our help with a few things they need for their outreach to young people living on the street: **bread (preferably wheat), jam/jelly, peanut butter, oatmeal packets and soup packets like Lipton Cup of Soup.** If you can help, please bring these items to the office or the box in the parish hall.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP IN THE OFFICE?
Susan needs help stapling the bulletins together on Thursday afternoon. If this is something you would like to do, please contact Susan.





APRIL CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Maxine Cogburn
- 2 Nancy Miller
- 3 Bob Salmon
- 6 Mary Ellen Salmon
- 13 Ginny Clark
- 16 Walter Ebel
- 17 Chris Seelke
- 19 Mike Hubbard, Anneliese Kraiger
- 20 Pam Alstrom, Sarah (Teveliet) Channel
- 22 Luke Ostwald, Mark Ostwald
- 29 Kristine Burns, Stephen Natwick
- 30 Pam Thorson

ANNIVERSARIES

- 20 Ray & Jean Hodge

APRIL SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of April 6: Ezekiel 24:12-18, Psalm 130,
Romans 8:6-11,, John 11:1-45

HOLY WEEK

April 13 PALM SUNDAY

Matthew 21:1-11, Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14—27:66 or

Monday, April 14

Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 36:5-11, Hebrews 9:11-15,
John 12:1-11

Tuesday, April 15

Isaiah 49:1-7, Psalm 71:1-14,
1 Corinthians 1:18-31, John 12:1-11

Wednesday, April 16

Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 70, Hebrews 12:1-3,
John 14:21-32

Maundy Thursday, April 17

Exodus 12:1-4; 11-14, Psalm 116:1,2, 12-19,
1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday, April 18

Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Psalm 22, Hebrews 10:16-25,
John 18:1-19:42

Resurrection of Our Lord, April 20

Acts 10:34-43, Jeremiah 31:1-6, Psalm 118:1-2. 14-24,
Colossians 3:1-4, Acts 10:34-43, Matthew 28:1-10,
John 20:1-18

APRIL WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 6 – FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos **Liturgist:** Hank Bilderback **Worship Assistant:** Mark Smalley; **Ushers / Greeters:** Brady & James Green **Reader:** Dee Erickson; **Depositors:** Mike & Judi Hubbard; **Sunday School Teacher:** Hiedi Seelke **Fellowship Hosts:** Leif & Lynn Tangvald, Mitzi Ludwig, Dee Erickson

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 – PALM SUNDAY

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos **Liturgist:** Hank Bilderback **Worship Assistant/Acolyte:** Kristine Finazzo **Ushers / Greeters:** Gene & Eileen Schermer; **Reader:** Choir **Depositors:** Donna Spere & Bob Salmon **Sunday School Teacher:** Laura Carle **Fellowship Hosts:** Ken & Louise Paul, Thelma Walczyk, Maurita White, Dorothy Stephens & Paula Elder

APRIL 20 – RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos **Liturgist:** Hank Bilderback **Worship Assistant:** Richard Kraiger ; **Communion Assistant/Acolyte:** Naomi Kraiger ; **Ushers / Greeters:** Theresa Kaufman & Stephani Kaufman ; **Reader:** Geri Stubb; **Depositors:** Eileen & Gene Schermer; **Fellowship: EASTER BREAKFAST / 8:30 a.m.;** **SS Teachers: No Sunday School (Easter Egg Hunt (9:00 a.m.))**

APRIL 27 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Keith Lile ; **Worship Assistant:** Steve Swanson; **Communion Assistant:** Laura Carle ; **Ushers / Greeters:** Elaine & Darrell Lokken; **Reader:** Vicki Mitchell; **Depositors:** Mark Ostwald & Pete Majar; **Sunday School Teacher:** Amy Ostwald ; **Fellowship Hosts:** Jim & Michelle Weiberg



AT AMAZING GRACE?

Amazing Grace **PRAYER CHAIN** is busy praying for the needs of our community. Please let Susan or Pastor Val know if you would like to join as a pray-er. If you have a prayer request, contact Susan at the office (360.532.8250). After hours, you can contact Susan with emergency prayer requests @ 589-8750.

All requests are confidential. Information is only shared with the prayer chain and we will continue to pray for your need until you tell us to stop. Please let us know how your prayers are answered.



SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
8th & M Street, Hoquiam
Saturday, April 5
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

THE BLACKWOOD LEGACY

"Live" from Nashville

GOSPEL MUSIC

Aberdeen 1st Methodist

100 E. 2nd Street, Aberdeen

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

7:00 p.m.

Free Admission

Love offering will be received.



Come celebrate Ray and Jean Hodge's 62nd wedding anniversary. They are hosting a dinner April 13th at 5pm at Amazing Grace. Chicken, potatoes, salad, and dessert will be provided by the "crew". Donations will be accepted for the building/maintenance fund. We need your reservation by April 4 so the meat can be ordered.

Please respond to Susan at the office

amazing111@comcast.net



OUTREACH MEETING
Sunday, April 27th during
coffee hour.

**Everyone interested in being a part
of Outreach (loving our neighbors)
should come.**

**We will talk about ideas already expressed, new
ideas, what people would like to pursue, what
are their deepest passions and what can our
congregation participate in.**

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Every congregation is responsible for sending two representatives to our Synod Assembly. This is our opportunity to have a voice in the larger church beyond Aberdeen. Many people within the congregation should have this experience. If you have not attended before and are interested in attending this two day event May 16 and 17th in Tacoma, please let Pastor Val know as soon as possible.

**We are studying the book "Central Things:
Worship, Word & Sacrament" on
Sunday morning @ 8:45 a.m.
PLEASE JOIN US!**



Great job everyone !!! Our 2nd annual St Patty dinner was another success. Thanks again to all the kitchen help, folks that stayed to help with clean up AND to our wonderful soda bread bakers Cathy Kallio and Eileen Schermer. I deposited \$1,300 today and our maintenance fund is back in the black---we hope to keep it there with your appetite support!! Thanks again. _____Judi Hubbard

Thank you to everyone who provided soup and bread for the Tuesday Lenten Services: **Marge and Al Kelling, Jill Waite, Cathy Kallio, Susan Bylund, Judi Hubbard, Kristine Finazzo, Sheldie & Shawn Dickson, Geri Stubb, Carmon Shaw.**

Thank you to **Lynnette Lile, Carmon Shaw and Susan Bylund** for providing the soup and bread for the Community Lenten service on Friday, March 28th.

Thank you to **Kristine Finazzo**, chairperson of the Outreach Committee, for offering opportunities to serve.

Thank you to **Paula Elder & Dorothy Stephens** for making and delivering sandwiches to those displaced from Emerson Manor and for the Under the Bridge ministry.

Thank you to everyone who provided bread and lunch meat and other food items for Emerson Manor and Under the Bridge.

Thank you to all the ladies who provided food and served for the funeral of Carey Trader.

Thank you to **Hank Bilderback, Kristine Burns & Pastor Val** for making the Tuesday Lenten Services so meaningful.

Welcome aboard to **Chrissy Kincaid**, who has taken over the Treasurer position and to **Chris Seelke** for accepting the Youth & Family position on the Church Council.

Thank you to **Barbara Williams** who has served as our Treasurer for many years. Barbara was an extremely hard worker and fastidious in her record keeping. Now Barb can enjoy some time for the other things she enjoys in her life.

Thank you to **Jill Waite and her team** for supplying the dinner to the Union Gospel Mission last month.



All Holy Week services are appropriate for children since they best learn to appreciate and understand the faith by experiencing worship with the whole faith community.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 10:00 a.m.

PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, the last week of Jesus' life on earth. What began with shouts of joy and honor, soon turns to betrayal and death.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 7:00 p.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

On Maundy Thursday, the church participates in one of the constants of human life: marking significant occasions with a meal. The Bible tells many stories of Jesus eating with people considered inappropriate meal companions. In the last supper before his death Jesus established this simple meal of bread and wine as a permanent sign of the covenant between God and the people. The meal made present Christ's death and resurrection

making the community that shares it into the body of Christ.

On Maundy (from the Latin mandatum meaning command) Thursday we hear the command to love and serve one another. **We will include handwashing as a sign of serving one another.** This is a prayerful act. The one washing hands prays for you while washing your hands.

Maundy Thursday worship is especially appropriate for young people and will include presentation of first Bibles to those in 3rd grade and older who have not received a Bible from the congregation. They will receive their own Bible within the context of the service which is already deeply meaningful to children. Please let Susan or Pastor Val know if your child will be receiving a Bible so that we can order them IN TIME FOR THIS SERVICE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 7:00 p.m.



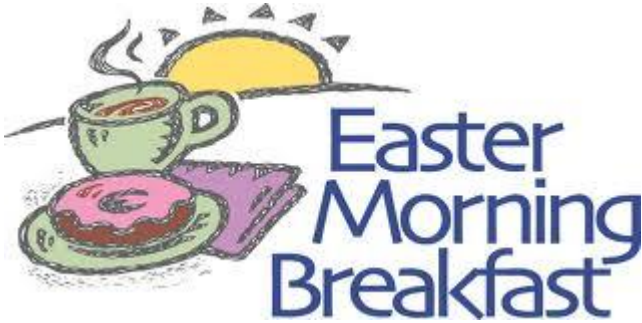
We call a statement a paradox when it appears to be false, but is shown finally to be true. We think that a thing is wrong, but by the end we discover that it is right. An example of paradox is the Christian observance of Good Friday. One would think that the day commemorating the execution of a messiah would be kept in unmitigated mourning. Over the centuries some Christian communities have dedicated this day to dismal rituals of lament. The restored Holy Week rites ask us to keep this good day in a paradoxical way. Our worship is marked not by excessive sorrow, as if we are pretending that Christ is still dead, but rather by solemn devotion. For even on this day we assemble as people of the resurrection. We wait and meditate on the meaning of Christ's cross and we pray.

(Maundy Thursday and Good Friday descriptions are based on The Three-Day Feast by Gail Ramshaw.)

EASTER SUNDAY

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

SUNDAY, APRIL 20



8:30 p.m.

Come and enjoy the Men's cooking to start your Easter Day. We can use as many men as possible to help with this 'traditional' event. Contact Gene Schermer or Jim Weiberg.



Time for the children to find the hidden eggs. If raining, the egg hunt will take place inside. FUN! FUN!



10:00 a.m.

The Easter Celebration is the highpoint of the church year. Though every Sunday is a "little" Easter, this Sunday is when we pull out all the stops and celebrate Jesus' victory over death. Because he lives, we too have life eternal with God. An important emphasis for our Easter Day celebrations is the Christian understanding that God's gifts will come fully only finally at the end of time. Although God's presence is always "now", it is also "not yet." Today is not the final resurrection... Our festivities open toward the future so that we want what God has still to bring to the world... a time when God's will is truly done on earth as it is in heaven. God's kingdom began with the resurrection of Jesus, is lived everyday as God's people live in God's kin-dom way and will be perfected "in the fullness of time."



Catherine Madison Donohue

March 30, 2014

Hiedi Louise Seelke

April 20, 2014

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2014

- I. The Amazing Grace Lutheran Church council meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by President Mark Smalley.
- II. Opening devotions were read by Pastor Val, as provided by Jeannette Green who was unfortunately home ill.
- III. Prayer tasks were assigned as follows: Thanksgiving/Dee, Intercession/Mark, Petition/Pastor Val, Praise/Chris.
- IV. Mark noted that a quorum was established for this meeting.
- V. The Agenda was reviewed and m/s/a.
- VI. The minutes from the last meeting, February 4, 2014, were m/s/a. Mark reminded us that we need to "reply all" when Jeannette sends the minutes to us by e-mail.
- VII. Financial Reports:
 - Treasurer's Report – Barb Williams
Barb submitted bills for approval. M/s/a. Barb also submitted a list of items that need to be taken care of. She noted that Chrissie Kincaid and Mike Kupka will be meeting with her on Thursday, March 6th to review the treasurer's job details.
 - Financial Secretary's Report – Mike Kupka.
Mike submitted the February 2014 Income vs. Expenses breakdown. Questions were answered.
- VIII. Business items:
 - A. It was m/s/a to appoint two new council members to fill unexpired terms: Youth & Family/Chris Seelke and Treasurer/Chrissie Kincaid
 - B. Council Retreat plans were discussed. Tentatively this will be held on Saturday, March 29th at the Galilean Retreat Center in Ocean Shores. We will meet at AGLC at 8:30 am to car pool. These plans are pending the availability of a wheelchair lift vehicle for transportation. If we are not able to procure a vehicle, we will hold our Retreat at AGLC, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. A potluck luncheon will be provided by council members (watch your e-mail). The agenda will include the sharing of our faith stories and also council training based on "Blueprint for Change, a manual for the 21st Century Council". Mark will e-mail out the reading assignments.
 - C. Church Mutual – Pastor Val and Coleman Carle talked about the recent report from Church Mutual. The report included:
 1. Sidewalks need to be fixed
 2. Exit signs need to be placed over doors
 3. Need sprinkler system
 4. Need burglar alarm
 5. Need CO2 monitor
 6. Bars on windowsA group will be formed to deal with the Church Mutual issues.
 - D. Priority List - Coleman will obtain information/quotes about the following:
 1. Electrical quotes for the Organ Room
 2. Lighting for the Organ Room
 3. Skywalk leak
 4. Breezeway (by office) leak by the chimney

It was m/s/a to allow the Youth Center to spend up to \$1000 to fix the ceiling in the Youth Center.

- E. Gift Policy – Pastor Val submitted examples of gift policies. She and Mark will work on drafting a Gift Policy.
- F. Electronic Giving –
- G. Policy for Emergency Cold Weather Shelter – Pastor Val submitted an example of an Emergency Shelter policy. Pastor Val and Mark will work on drafting an Emergency Shelter policy. Pastor noted that she will be attending a meeting about emergency preparedness for Churches. Mark asked us to review and send our thought on “Use of Churches as Emergency Shelters”.
- H. Youth Protection Policy – Pastor Val and Chris, along with the rest of the Youth & Family committee will work on a Youth Protection Policy. Pastor noted that background checks are required for all who work with youth. Also we must always have two adults working together with any activity; never one on one.
- I. Policy Manual – A discussion was held concerning the need for an updated policy manual. Mark will ask Gene Schermer if he would be willing to head up this project.

IX. Ministry Reports

A. Property – Coleman Carle

Coleman submitted a written report from the Property Committee outlining the projects for this year, along with future projects. He noted that this property report will be in the next newsletter. Mark asked Coleman to get quotes on the top ten projects in the next two months, and quotes on all projects within the next six months.

B. Fellowship – Dee Erickson

Dee noted that four women were able to attend the February 7-10 Holden Village Women’s Retreat. She reported that several volunteers have signed up to provide soup and bread for the upcoming Thursday evening Lenten Services. Dee reported that a St. Patrick’s Day dinner will be held on Sunday, March 16th. Finally, she noted that a Fellowship Committee is in the works. Four church members have expressed interest in the Committee and she will be talking to several others about specific activities including the possibility of future dinners and the creating of a knitting group.

C. Outreach – Kristine Finazzo

Kristine reported that she will be holding an Outreach Committee meeting after Coffee hour on March 16th where she would like to include everyone who is interested in discussing “local to global” needs.

D. Stewardship – No report.

E. Youth & Family – the Church Council welcomed Chris Seelke as the Youth & Family representative and thanked him for his willingness to serve.

F. Worship – Diane Hanson

Diane noted that the LAT continues to meet around Lent/Easter. The date for the next Worship Committee meeting will be announced. The committee is using the text “Worship in Word & Sacrament”.

X. Pastor’s Report – Pastor Val Metropolis

Pastor submitted a written report (see attached) and also noted that Sarah Monroe will be preaching on March 30th. Pastor also discussed the need for a policy regarding performing same-sex marriages. The Council is encouraged to talk to the congregation and a vote will be taken of the Council in May regarding this topic.

XI. Task Assignments –

- Diane – Devotions for April
- Diane - Will contact Pastor Beth about if a structural analysis was ever done.
- Coleman - Made a commitment to get quotes on all projects on the property committee spreadsheet within the next 6 months and all top priority projects within the next 2 months.
- Mark will get a quote on a structural analysis for the church building.
- Mark will update the Property Project list based on comments received from council.
- Mark will contact members to form a Policy Manual Committee.

- Chrissie will investigate who can do fire extinguisher inspections and replacements
- Chris Seelke and Pastor Val will meet with the Sunday School teachers.
- All Council members are to review the policies and exchange emails before the council meeting for: Gifts and Cold Weather Shelter.

XII. The meeting was adjourned with closing prayer which included the Prayer Tasks assigned at the beginning of the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dee Erickson, Acting

PASTOR'S REPORT - February 2014

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP 4 Sunday worship services
 Chose hymns
 Planned worship for Lent
 Sermon – study, reading, writing; text study meeting
 Prepare bulletins with secretary
 Prepare prayers for worship weekly
 Prayer
 Liturgical Arts Team (worship workshop attendees and me) –
 planning Lent worship together
 Planning Good Friday ecumenical service with Pr. Doug and Pr. David

ADMINISTRATION Staff meeting – weekly
 Council meeting monthly
 Newsletter - help secretary with content and design
 Meet with Ministry Team leaders as needed
 Plan Council Retreat

PASTORAL CARE/COUNSELING Homebound and assisted living visits
 Organize Prayer Chain
 Book Study – Central Things: Worship in Word and Sacrament – plan and lead study

OUTREACH/VISITATION Under the Bridge Ministry with Sarah Monroe, deacon at St. Andrew's Youth Center needs
 Planned and hosted first Pastor's Group meeting for mainline denomination pastors in Greys Harbor County
 Clergy women meeting
 Helped with addressing needs of displaced residents of Emerson Manor along with many other people, agencies and churches
 Coordinated and staffed 2 nights Emergency Shelter for unhoused people when temperatures dropped below 20 degrees
 Coffee Ministry – meet people to chat about life and faith as often as possible
 Facebook page – outreach through social media.

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE Program thermostats in sanctuary and parish hall as needed
 Preparation and clean-up of Parish Hall for Emerg. Shelter nights

YOUTH AND FAMILY

Meet w/ Sarah Tevliet Channel about Youth group – as needed.
 Plan and lead faith + life (youth group) every other Sunday
 Plan and lead Confirmation every other Sunday for 1 1/2 hours
 Research possibilities for Sunday School and cross generational faith development

OFFICIAL ACTS (Baptisms, funerals, weddings) No official acts in February

VACATION 0 days of vacation in February

CONTINUING EDUCATION: Restoring Speech in a Fragmented World – all day workshop in Seattle with Gail Ramshaw at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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"The Church where Grace Happens!"

AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



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

STAFF

Pastor, Val Metropoulos

Susan Bylund, Office Administrator

Kristine Burns, Organist & Handbell
Director

Hank Bilderback, Choir Director

Cathy Kallio, Custodian

**Happy
Easter**

