## The Spirit - FEBRUARY 2015

Our life together is high, deep and wide, as one writer describes the life of faith. We join together in worship to be inspired and shaped by God. We join in prayer bringing our needs and the needs of the world before our God who promises to use our prayers to bring hope to the hopeless and healing to the broken (that's the high.) We join in learning and study, knowing that the life of faith is a life-long process (that's the deep.) And we join in fellowship to strengthen and encourage one another. We join in outreach taking God's love to our hurting world in tangible forms: food, clothing, blankets and more. We join in passing on the faith to another generation and supporting families as they nurture the faith of their children (that's the wide.)

Lent is an especially rich time as we deepen our intentional life in all of these areas.

Please look for the worship and study opportunities that are made available for the sake of supporting

Please look for the worship and study opportunities that are made available for the sake of supporting you and all of us as we grow in ever more mature faith. Page 2 of this newsletter and every Sunday bulletin in the coming weeks will have information about our Thursday Lent gatherings: soup suppers, study (video based study of the book, "Making Sense of the Cross"), worship, and opportunities for fun and fellowship together.

Sunday worship during Lent will focus on God's Kingdom (Matthew often calls it the Kingdom of Heaven.) We'll look at some of Jesus' parables to see what Jesus was trying to teach us about what our lives would look like as his disciples as well as what effect our life together should have on the world.

Consider this poem as an invitation to consider God's call on you....



### Called to Say Yes

We are called to say yes.
That the kingdom might break through
To renew and to transform
Our dark and groping world.

We stutter and we stammer To the lone God who calls And pleads a New Jerusalem In the bloodied Sinai Straights.

We are called to say yes
That honeysuckle may twine
And twist its smelling leaves
Over the graves of nuclear arms.

We are called to say yes
That children might play
On the soil of Vietnam where the tanks
Belched blood and death.

We are called to say yes
That black may sing with white
And pledge peace and healing
For the hatred of the past.

We are called to say yes
So that nations might gather
And dance one great movement
For the joy of humankind.

We are called to say yes
So that rich and poor embrace
And become equal in their poverty
Through the silent tears that fall.

We are called to say yes
That the whisper of our God
Might be heard through our sirens
And the screams of our bombs.

We are called to say yes
To a God who still holds fast
To the vision of the Kingdom
For a trembling world of pain.

We are called to say yes
To this God who reaches out
And asks us to share
His crazy dream of love.

From Edwina Gateley, There Was No Path So I Trod One (1996, 2013)



## VALENTINES FOR COLLEGE YOUTH

It's time again to send Valentine packages to our college age youth! Donations of money (mostly to defray postal costs) are appreciated as are donations of items. Appropriate items would be Valentine candies, flat things such a tea bags, soup or hot chocolate, etc. We put the edible things with a Valentine designed by our

youth/children into a large flat envelope to send. We will pack these after church on February 8th. A donation box will be in the Fellowship Hall for your convenience or if you wish, you may leave your donation with Amy Ostwald or Lynette Lile. Thank you for helping us send love to our college age students!



### **FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

Tues. Feb. 17th 5:30 - 7:00 at Amazing Grace Parish Hall Come eat your fill of delicious pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee while supporting our youth attending Servant Trip in San Francisco this August! A free will offering will be collected.

Rides are offered so that EVERY-ONE can attend. Please sign up in the Parish Hall or by calling the office 532-8250.





Wed. Feb. 18th 7 p.m. plan to join disciples of Christ around the world beginning our Lent observance with a service of contemplation, worship, repentance and forgiveness as we commit

ourselves to practices that encourage our growth in faith.

This service is appropriate for all ages.

We want everyone to be able to attend this service of commitment so rides are available by signing up in the Parish Hall or by calling the office at 532-8250.

### **LENT - MAKING SENSE OF THE CROSS**

We join disciples of Christ around the world observing the 40 days of Lent during which we recommit or take on new practices that draw us closer to God so that God can draw close to us (James 4:8) We'll meet weekly on Thursdays for soup, study and Holden Evening

Prayer. We begin Feb. 19th and meet weekly through March 26th. We'll have soup at 6, study begins 6:30 and end with evening prayer at 7:30, ending by about 7:50. **EVERONE** is encouraged to attend this time of setting ourselves apart as a Sabbath to the Lord. **Please sign up** in the Parish Hall or by calling the office at 532-8250. Rides are available - sign up for that and please let us know if child care with activities would be appreciated. Books will be available at the first class for a suggested donation of \$11.00.

### **SOUP SUPPERS FOR LENT**

Dee Ericson is organizing soup/bread makers and a clean up crew for each week: 2/19—3/26.

We're hoping to have 2 crews so that EVERYONE can participate in the study and worship and so that clean up noise doesn't drown out our singing. Sign up in the Parish Hall or call the office: 532-8250!



### Ministry Fair Sunday, March 1st

This is an opportunity to get a sense of the scope of the ministry that the people of Amazing Grace are involved in. You'll see what we're doing and how you can be involved. Please plan to stroll through the displays as you enjoy refreshments that day.



### SNEAK PEAK: ALL-AGE FUN DAY

We're going roller skating (at least some of us are. Some of us will have fun sharing food and conversation

while others skate!) The Hodges have again made it possible for us to have the rink to ourselves for 2 hours on **March 8th, 4:30 - 6:30.** It's crossgenerational fun with our Presbyterian friends next door. Put it on your calendar!

# In Preparation for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

By Bishop Richard E. Jaech

Dear Friends—We in Southwestern Washington Synod now have our own plum tree planted in Wittenberg,



Germany! In the town where Martin Luther worked as seminary professor and world-changing reformer, the Lutheran World Federa-

tion has created a Luther Garden in which they are planting fruit trees in a city park in the shape of Luther's Rose. Each tree is donated by a Lutheran church body, synod, or university from around the world, as well as other Christian groups that give thanks for the Reformation. At the base of each tree is a plaque giving the name of the participating church body or synod. Out of the 500 trees that will eventually be planted in the Luther Garden, our Synod tree was number 204 (plaque shown above). All of this is being done in preparation for the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation in 2017. The Luther Garden echos Luther's famous quote, "Even if I knew the world was going to pieces tomorrow, I would plant a tree today." With my wife, Satya, I was fortunate to be part of an ELCA Bishops' study tour in Germany during the first week of January. Together with our presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and 35 other synod bishops and their spouses, we traveled to the cities in Northeast Germany where Martin Luther was born, baptized, educated and worked. Our excellent guides gave us the historical background of each location and how it affected the birth of the Lutheran Church. Along the way, we also met and talked with the current leaders of the Lutheran and Reformed churches in Germany, as well as seminary professors at the Roman Catholic seminary in Erfurt, where Luther studied. On January 4, when we were in Wittenberg, we had a dedication ceremony for our Southwestern Washington Synod plum tree. The dedication was led by the local representative of the Lutheran World Federation. We, of course, sang A Mighty Fortress is Our God as part of the service! Bishop Martin Wells, of the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod also planted a tree. The Northwest Washington Synod had previously planted a tree in the Luther Garden. A second feature of this Luther Garden project is that everyone who plants a tree in Wittenberg is also asked to plant a tree in their own area. Our local tree will remind us that we are connected to Lutherans all over the world by this international "forest" that we have planted together. Planting is currently underway with Pacific Lutheran University to have the Luther trees of all the Region I synods planted on the PLU campus. This will be our own Luther garden and we will have a public dedication to

highlight our own celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. When the date for our local Luther Garden dedication is finalized, we will certainly let you know. I was delighted to participate in this tree planting and celebrate the unity of our Synod with Lutherans and Christians all over the world. Since I like plums, I was particularly happy that our tree is a plum tree! Every time I eat a fresh plum or some tasty plumcake (Pflaumenkuchen), I will think about our synod tree in Wittenberg. You can read all about the Luther Garden on the LWF Center-Wittenberg website, www.lwbzentrum-wittenberg.de At the top of the page, you can click on "English" to translate the website from German into English. On the left side of the home page, click on the LutherGarten link and it will tell you about the tree garden. Martin Luther helped us to rediscover the mighty river of God's grace that washes over us and through us each moment. May that river carry you with strength and joy as you offer your lives to the glory of God. Blessings to you!

### FEBRUARY 2015 CALENDAR

- I SUNDAY 10:00 A.M.WORSHIP
  & Sunday Times
  II:00 FELLOWSHIP and SUNDAY
  SCHOOL
  - 6:00 Youth Group @ 1st PRESBY.
- 3 TUESDAY—UNION GOSPEL MISSION SERVICE TEAM 3:30 p.m. CONFIRMATION
- 9:00 a.m.WEDNESDAY—QUILTING
  & MENS MAINT.
  6:00 p.m. HAND BELLS
  7:00 p.m. CHOIR
- 6-9 HOLDEN VILLAGE RETREAT
- 8 SUNDAY 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP
  11:00 FELLOWSHIP HOSTED BY
  AGLC QUILTERS and SUNDAY
  SCHOOL
  6:00 Youth Group @ 1st PRESB. w/
  dinner
- 10 TUESDAY 3:30 p.m. Confirmation
- II WEDNESDAY 6:00 p.m. Handbells 7:00 p.m. CHOIR
- 15 SUNDAY, 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP
  11:00 a.m. FELLOWSHIP; SUNDAY
  SCHOOL
  6:00 Youth Group @ 1st PRESBY.

17 PANCAKE SUPPER

18 **ASH WEDNESDAY.** 

> Noon Community service at **Hoquiam Methodist Church Under the Bridge Sandwiches**

9:00 a.m. Quilting

Men's maintenance group

6:00 p.m. Hand bells

6:15 p.m. Choir

7:00 ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

19 6:00 Lent Soup Supper 6:30 Making Sense of the Cross study begins 7:30 Holden Evening Prayer

- SUNDAY, 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP 22 11:00 a.m. Bel Aire Property conversation/SUNDAY SCHOOL
- TUESDAY, 3:30 p.m. CONFIRM. 24
- **THURS. 6:00 Lent Soup Supper** 26 6:30 Making Sense of the Cross - study 7:30 Holden Evening Prayer
- 28 **SATURDAY Council Retreat 9:45 - 3** March I MINISTRY FAIR after worship

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY I**

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; Liturgist: Laura Carle: Worship Assistant/Reader: Judi Hubbard; Communion Assistant/Acolyte:

None needed:

Ushers/Greeters: Paula Elder &

Dorothy Stephens; **Depositors:** Carmon Shaw & helper; Fellowship Hosts: Tim & Pam Alstrom, John & Doris Tieder, Bob and Mary Ellen Salmon and Gene & Eileen Schermer

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; Liturgist: Hank Bilderback; Worship Assistant/Reader: Steve Swanson; Communion Assistant/Acolyte: Keith Lile; **Ushers:** Mark Smalley & Trish Safstrom; **Depositors:** Donna Spere & Bob Salmon; Fellowship Hosts: Quilter's Soup Luncheon

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; Liturgist: Laura Carle; 26 Worship Assistant/Reader: Joan Rabung;

TUESDAY, 5:30-7 p.m. FAT TUESDAY Communion Assistant/Acolyte: Sarah Channel; **Ushers/Greeters:** Jim & Michelle Weiberg family; **Depositors:** Maurita White & Theresa Kaufman Fellowship Hosts: Al & Marge Kelling, Roger and Carmon Shaw and Jim & Jeannette Green/Brady and Madi

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; Liturgist: Hank Bilderback; Worship Assistant/Reader: Darci Jewett; Communion Assistant: Diane Hanson; Ushers/ Greeters: Bob & Mary Ellen Salmon; Depositors: Mike & Karen Barkstrom; Fellowship Hosts: Susan Bylund, Hank and Gloria Bilderback, Cathy Kallio and Stella Southern

### **HYMN FESTS**

The first Sunday of each month, we gather at 9:45 to sing some of your favorite hymns. Kris Burns provides the music. You can request your favorite hymns .... and we will sing them! The Hymn Fest happens the first Sunday of each month. (March I) "Singing hymns are prayers to God's ear." PLEASE JOIN US



## **FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS**

### **BIRTHDAYS**

- Linda Nou 1
- 5 Maizie Jane Jewitt
- 6 Mark Barkstrom Jane Teveliet
  - Kylie Weiberg
- Joyce Smith 11 **Doris Tieder**
- 17 Darci Jewitt
  - Amy Ostwald
- Elaine Lokken 18
- 20 Donna Spere
- Brady Green 22
- Phil Pentilla 23
- Molly Leithold 25
- Charlotte Kupka Mari Rabung

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

- James & Jeannette Green 11
- 13 William & Joan Rabung
- 14 Phil & Cindy Pentilla Jan & Doris Van Hoven
- 23 Jim & Michelle Weiberg



PRAYING FOR.....Doice Cogburn, Molly Liethold and her family, mourning the death of Molly's mother, Kathy Scott, family and friends mourning the death of John Njoku, Renee Quinn, Susan Davis and everyone suffering due to flooding and landslides, Geri Stubb, Dan Fackrell, Tim Olden, Molly Johnson, Evelyn Ellingsen, Alva Day, Eleanor Кпарр, Nicole Claussen, Al Carlberg, BJ Bastin, Richard Kraiger, Doug George, Gwen, Shelbie and Dan Offrink and their daughters, Don Stubb, Nicole, Aileen Long, Tim Leithold, Ginger Cameron, Richard, Peyton Willis, Melvin Thompson, Melissa Smiley, Gloria Bilderback, Kenny Broussard, Dana, Larry Freeman, Kari Maynard Baretich, Tici, Paul Franco, Gene, Jim Napier, Annie Eisle, Lynn Howerton and for those who are unhoused, and for long-term caregivers Carol Stubb & Jack Bastin; for the young people and workers at the youth center.

## THANKS WE HAVE RECEIVED

"Dear Pastor Val Metropoulos, I am the Principal of the GRAVITY Reengagement program where Vicki Mitchell works. She has told me several times how her church has continually been helpful in providing things for our students. These students are in most all cases very discouraged learners and sometimes it is very simple things that keep them coming back to work with us. While to you it may seem like the tyes of things your assistance provides are simple and ordinary they are the very things that can keep them coming back and learning. I just wanted to let you know that we greatly appreciate your support. Gerry Grubbs, GRAVITY Principal

the ELCA for our tithe of \$202.30 to Lutheran Disaster Response and also \$202.30 to Ebola Outbreak Response. These tithes were from the proceeds of our 2014 annual pie auction.

Lutheran World Relief for our gift of \$600.00 to help provide clean water to people in the Philippines and also for help with drought relief in Nigeria.

Pacific Lutheran University acknowledging our gift of \$39.95 for the PLU Scholarship Fund.



### UNDER THE BRIDGE

Please bring bread, lunchmeat, makings for sandwiches, to the church by February 15th. We will be preparing sandwiches for the Under the Bridge ministry. We will be serving sandwiches on Wednesday,

**FEBRUARY 18TH.** 

### **CARING CUPBOARD** Helping Grays Harbor's at-risk Youth



The 1st Sunday of each month has been designated as our day to highlight the needs of the at-risk youth in our community. Our "Caring Cupboard" is a one-stop shopping site for the Gravity Center, Youth Center and other entities that serve Grays Harbor Youth.

This is your opportunity for one stop donations for needy youth:

gloves, ponchos, socks and ear muffs disposable razors, deodorant and feminine pads/supplies pop top food items and canned food non perishable food

cup-a-noodles

packaged cheese or peanut butter and crackers individual apple sauce cups, apples and oranges fruit and granola type bars peanut butter and jelly and bread cookies or candy bottled water flavorings and coffee

toothbrushes and toothpaste, combs, and hair brushes,

mini-Kleenex packs, hand cleaner, soap and lotion umbrellas and stocking hats

We received letter's of thanks from:

Clean out your drawers from small lotion, shampoo, conditioner that you picked up as you traveled on vacations, add a few items to your cart as you shop for your own needs and help the needy youth of Grays Harbor! Thank you for your help!



## (OUR JANUARY THANK YOU PAGE WAS INADVERTENTLY OMMITTED)

### **JANUARY THANKS:**

Thank you does not seem sufficient for all that you ALL do to carry out ministry here at Amazing Grace; ALL you do to share the love of God everywhere in your daily lives and THEN YOU SHOW UP IN EMERGENCIES TOO!!!

How do you thank people for showing up to do the dirty work of swamping out flooded basements (not one, but two!)? Some of these people have been showing up for years and even decades. Some are new and just showed because they were asked. One even spent her birthday helping (Madi Green;)). Others wanted to help but were busy swamping out their own basements. You are all so very much appreciated! I fear some people's names will be inadvertently omitted so please know that you are ALL so very much appreciated! The Green family: Jeannette, Brady, Madi, Gene and Eileen Schermer, Jesuit Volunteers: Taylor, Julia and Ciara; Coleman Carle, Steve Swanson, Bob Salmon, Ray Hodge, Mari Rabung, Mike Kukpka. Thank You all! This was a rough day and it will be a challenging few weeks and months ahead for the Harbor but we'll pull through because of people like these.

- Paula Elder for baking Communion bread, heading up the Under the Bridge sandwich making, and for always cheerfully taking on another project serving our neighbors.
- Bob Salmon for building us a spectacular manger making the connection between the newborn Jesus and the Lord who meets us at the Table in bread and

wine.

- The Liturgical Arts Team (Kathy Wehage, Diane Hanson, Amy Ostwald, Hank Bilderback and Lynette Lile) for your creative interpretation of the meaning of Advent and Christmas, helping us to see those stories with new eyes.
- Everyone who made the Children's Christmas
   Program a wonderful success: Parents, children and
   youth of all ages, and leaders: Darci Jewett, Sarah
   Channel, Chrissie Kincaid, Annalese Kraiger, Nichole
   Evanson
- Everyone who participated in Faith 101. Your willingness to think deeply and express your questions honestly is what faith in community looks like.
- Everyone who participated in Salvation Army Kettle Klash. It's great to work together for a good cause.
- Musicians providing special music during Advent and Christmas; Hiedi Seelke, Mei Le Smith and Walt Ebel
- Everyone involved in Caroling and Chili Feed:
   Dee Erickson who arranged the van, the chili makers:
   William Rabung, Mike Hubbard, Ray Hodge, and our carolers.
- Dee Erickson for arranging the trip to PLU for the Christmas concert and for driving. Fun was had by all!
- Amy Ostwald for using her artistic gifts and time for the meaningful artwork that we enjoyed on bulletins, newsletters and in our newspaper ad.

### **FEBRUARY THANKS:**

- Thanks to everyone for the delicious potluck following our Annual Meeting. Thanks to council for cleaning up afterwards!
- Thanks to the Bel Aire Property Committee for your prayerful discernment of options and for listening to well to us as we air our thoughts and concerns.
- Thanks to ministry leaders on council who work diligently every month but especially in efforts to make their work known to the congregation in annual reports.
- Thanks to Dee Erickson for her faithful service on council, transitioning to being a part of the Fellowship Team ministry.
- Thanks to our Liturgical Arts Team for their plans for Lent
- Thanks to everyone who set up, cooked, served and

cleaned up for the funeral in January.

 Thanks to those who hold our congregation and the needs of the world before our gracious God in prayer

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

We know that faith is taught best in the home and that children learn best from parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles. Amazing Grace understands its role as one of supporting families in teaching and living the faith in our whole lives, not just Sunday morning. That means YOU ARE ALL INVITED to stay with your child, learning together. EVERYONE IS INVITED INTO THIS TIME AS WE LEARN TOGETHER, THE YOUNG BRINGING THEIR FRESH VISION AND SENSE OF WONDER; THE MATURE BRINGING THEIR EXPERIENCE AND WISDOM.



## Sunday Times

Sunday Times for Jr and Sr High Youth will meet this month, Sunday, February 1st and again on the 28th. Help yourself to refreshments from coffee hour and join us in the Youth Room downstairs where we will explore how our faith and life are connected.

## Amazing Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes 1/13/15

Present: Pastor Val, Chrissy, Mike, Diane, Dee, Mark, Jeannette, Coleman, Kristine

Absent: Chris

I - Called to order 6:20

II – Devotions – Living Lutheran (Dee)

III – Prayer tasks – Thanksgiving/Diane – Intercession/Dee – Petition/Pastor Val – Praise/Mark – Timekeeper/Jeannette Quorum established and Prayer tasks assigned

\*Motion was made and seconded to approve the January agenda and the December minutes.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

- > TREASURER Income vs. Expenses "lots of stuff" outstanding regarding the pie auction; when those items are reconciled the AED will be purchased and the rest of the money will go towards the maintenance account.
- ≥10% tithe of the memorials to go towards funding the future funerals. This is not on the Income/Expense statement until the start of the new AGLC church year, January 25, after the annual meeting.
- A review of the AP and P & L statement (2013 vs 2014) was also conducted; other than a question of approving an electrical supply bill, no questions were asked nor did further discussion occur.
- ▶ Benevolence 1.090 redirected from Christian Cable Ministries to Oshigamogo High School Scholarship/Namibia.
- FINANCIAL Miscellaneous Detail Check for "Lutheran Disaster Relief" Endowment Fund check was collected here and ran through the passthrough account. Chrissie then issued payment.
- Leaving the "Sunday school" category in the summary report even though there were no gifts given.
- ➤ "Food Bank" column will be removed from the Financial Secretary's report and any cash donations that do happen to be given for the food bank will be listed under the miscellaneous section of the report.
- ≥2014 budgeted income was not only realized but exceeded by about 10%
- \*Motion moved and seconded to approve the financial reports.

#### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

- •Annual meeting 1/25 and report readiness. Most committee members have submitted as of today's date as well as Endowment and Quilters. Mark asked that committee members highlight their reports so that the congregation "soaks in" what happened during the year before proceeding to the potluck. At the meeting, Jeannette will be responsible for handing out material, ballots and sign-in sheets.
- •Election of officers Chris is changing to Fellowship from Youth and Family on a new term. Jeannette is taking Youth and Family. Chrissie and Kristine will commit to new 3-year terms; vacancy left by Jeannette will be filled by new church secretary.
- •Congregation will vote on Bel Aire property will take place in the Spring. Kristine, Rich and Dee most recently met to discuss taxable and historical values. Kristine and team will hold a meeting next week after worship and solicit congregational feedback, concerns and questions. Will search for former meeting minutes regarding the property. 1/25 meeting feedback and comments will be solicited, recorded and responses displayed on a subsequent Sunday.
- •Church administrator position: PO Box will be used for a month, posted to Craigslist and Worksource. Will run for two weeks, start interviewing and plan to have someone in place by February.
- •Dee working on nominations. Steve Swansen will go to Synod Assembly in May. Dee will find someone for PLU Board, a one-day commitment.

### **FELLOWSHIP**

- •Seven women going to Holden.
- •Ready to purchase AED. She has enlisted the help of her niece, a knowledgeable source, for choosing the best one.
- •2015 coffee hour schedule has been created.
- •Expand fellowship/outreach to help those affected by floodwater. Hodge's niece lost everything. What can we do?

### WORSHIP

- •Worship committee meeting on 1/24 at Anne Marie's and LAT team meeting soon.
- Attempting to get new people to attend Transformation Conference that current LAT team participated in.
- •New liturgy, pastor is using "The Jesus Story Book" and the theme is that Jesus whispers through every verse in the Bible. Can be purchased on Amazon for about \$11.00.
- •Addressing bibles for the church.

### PROPERTY REPORTS

- •With the water intrusion January 5<sup>th</sup>, the question has come up whether we should purchase a permanent sump pump.
- •Recent alarm disruption Smith Fire was dispatched to make correction. Contract is with Youth Group/Catholic.
- •Water in ducting and heating equipment blowing cold air. Problem was diagnosed, repaired and direct heat was applied to the furnace to dry it out.
- •Youth Center clothes that are kept on the floor in their basement should be kept up high to avoid damage in the future.
- •Someone should be responsible for checking storm drains when heavy rains occur.
- •John Lupo assures that roof repairs will take place within the next week to 10 days; most recent delays caused by backlog and emergency repairs caused by storm.
- •Sanctuary back door is still an item that will be addressed and repairs will be made.
- •Toilet downstairs still an issue. A plumber will be called and the problem pinpointed; they will also be asked to provide a bid for the sump pump.
- •Pastor Val asked to be brought up to speed on building operations; our tenants should be educated as well.

### **OUTREACH**

- •Giving Tree went well and wish lists requests were satisfied but hoping for earlier start in 2015.
- •How to best determine who is truly needy and not trying to take advantage.
- •All Tree gifts were funded and there is still approximately \$250 left to purchase comforters. Questions about what type of blanket would be most durable and long lasting.
- •Caring Cupboard going well; bulky items will be delivered directly rather than stored here. Reminders in the bulletin the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays for collection on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month.
- •Need to revitalize Union Gospel Mission service list.
- •"Ministry Fair" on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Each committee member will have a table. Also offer AED and fire extinguisher training. Include some type of take-away. Business card size with contact name maybe?

### YOUTH & FAMILY

•Jeannette reports that Youth Group meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup> was a lot of fun. Team building exercise was good preparation talking about the service group. CSM (Christian Service Mission) has 12 cities they focus on. San Francisco/Oakland is city for our

Aberdeen kids. Meet-a-Need projects were on the sample itinerary. Objective is to help the kids be comfortable serving outside of their community and bring it back here to Aberdeen. Trip is 2nd week of August. Cost now down to \$250 per student. Hoping to raise funds for the rest and for more youth/family involvement.

### **PASTORS REPORT**

•Pastor will be gone 25<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>.

- A thank-you note has been drafted and the intent is to address to friends and members. She has asked committee members to review and offer their approval. When final letter is written, each committee member will sign and the letters will be personally addressed and sent.
- Will try sending quarterly giving statements.
- Next Council retreat—February 28th 9:45 to 3:00. Consider what council wants this to look like, pray about it.

### TASK ASSIGNMENTS

- Office will make ballots
- Pastor will get Administrator job out for publication
- Dee will find Synod Assembly attendee
- Jeannette will create sign in sheets for annual meeting
- Pastor will write thank you's for Jesuit volunteers
- Steve Swanson will attend PLU annual meeting, need one more

Meeting closed in Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 8:23.

Respectfully Submitted, Theresa Kaufman

### PASTOR'S REPORT - December 2014

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP** 5 Sunday worship services - Chose hymns and liturgy

Sermons – prayer, study, reading, writing

Prepare liturgy weekly to make Narrative Lectionary connections

Prayer

Monthly meeting with worship leadership - Kris, Hank and Diane

Bake communion bread

Liturgical Arts team meeting for Advent and Christmas

**ADMINISTRATION** Council meeting monthly – plan and prepare

Newsletter - Write content; proof and design

Prepare bulletins with secretary for worship 5 Sundays

Meet with Ministry Team leaders as needed Meet w/ Youth Center director monthly

Coordinate with Kairos speaker; Living Stones pastor

Plan, help lead Council Retreat

Office administration

Budget meeting/Council planning meeting

Working on job description for Administrative Assistant

**PASTORAL CARE/COUNSELING** Homebound and assisted living visits

Hospital visits

Individual counseling

**OUTREACH/VISITATION** Plan w/ Pacific Care for youth outreach

Jesuit Volunteer support

Housing Coalition meeting monthly

Pastor's group – meets monthly to plan and coordinate ministry Coffee Ministry – meet to chat about life/faith as often as possible

Facebook page - outreach through social media.

Quilters – monthly or twice monthly

Outreach group – discernment of outreach possibilities

Provide food and hospitality for Kairos group staying at church

**BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE** Set up mikes/chairs for musicians

Set up; clean-up for adult study 3 times a week

**YOUTH AND FAMILY** Meet with leaders of S.S. and Sunday Times

Teach Faith 101 3 times a week – book study; writing Short/Sweet version

Lead Youth Group w/ Pastor Doug 4 Sundays; plan weekly meetings and mission trip

event

Confirmation – plan, prepare, pray, teach

**STEWARDSHIP** 

OFFICIAL ACTS (Baptisms, funerals, weddings) Affirmation of Baptism - Madi Green

**VACATION** 0 days of vacation in November

**CONTINUING EDUCATION:** Coaching 1st Call Pastors (Renewing Congregations and Stewardship) 4 days

**Upcoming dates:** Dec. 28th Pastor Kastelle presides at Service of Lessons and Carols

Pastor vacation 12/26 – 1/2 including 1 Sunday



President	Mark Smalley	(360) 249-1955	marktrish86@gmail.com
Vice President / Worship	Diane Hanson	(360) 532-2859	djh431@hotmail.com
Secretary	Jeannette Green	(360) 532-2888	green950@q.com
Treasurer	Chrissy Kincaid	(360) 470-1147	ckincaid@paneltechintl.com
Financial Secretary	Mike Kupka	(360) 533-6640	meincmk@comcast.net
Youth & Family	Chris Seelke	(360) 209-9794	shadowalchemist417@hotmail.com
Outreach	Kristine Finazzo	(360) 532-6053	mfinazzo7@comcast.net
Fellowship	Dee Erickson	(360) 533-7948	deekaye I @comcast.net
Property	Coleman Carle	(360) 538-1137	carle@olynet.com
Endowment	Keith Lile	(360) 580-1511	ole.canoe.guy@gmail.com
Pastor	Val Metropoulos	(360) 580-8977	vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu

### **AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

111-1/2 East 4th Street Aberdeen, WA 98520 360-532-8250

amazing I I 1@comcast.net

amazinggraceaberdeen.org

"The Church where Grace Happens!



# AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



<u>VISION</u>: 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** 



Ministers: The People of Amazing Grace

III E. 4th Street

Aberdeen, WA 98520

360.532.8250

> Rev. Val Metropoulos (360) 580-8977

vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu

Liturgists: Hank Bilderback, Keith Lile &

Laura Carle, Jeannette Green

Musicians: Kristine Burns, Geri Stubb,

Hiedi Seelke,