

The Spirit - MARCH 2015

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Paul the apostle calls the church the bride of Christ and the body of Christ trying to make it clear that this journey we're on is not some theoretical, clinical, doctrine-based faith. Paul wants us to understand that **this faith is based in relationship; a relationship of deep love and interdependence.** As the church, bound together in our relationship with Christ, we are so much more than a group of individuals; so much more than an institution or a social gathering. Even, in fundamental ways, so much more than a charitable organization. **Everything we are and everything we do as this bride and as this body is centered in our discipleship, our walk with Jesus which is always shaped by the cross. EVERYTHING!**



When our life is not centered in cross-shaped discipleship we get it wrong every time. We inevitably misrepresent Jesus and miss our opportunity to touch our community with Jesus' life saving grace. We recommit to Lent every year as a way to refocus our lives individually and together to that cross-shaped discipleship.

As I write this we're at about the half way point in the season of Lent for another year; a good time to remember what it's all about. We remember that Lent is approximately a tithe of the years time: 40 of 365 days set aside to remember that **we are God-centered people who live "in Christ" not for ourselves but for the sake of the good news of Jesus' life, death and resurrection being known not only among us but made known by those who feel abandoned, lost, hopeless.** We remember that Lent is a time of telling the truth and so we began Ash Wednesday with this prayer, one that we could repeat **every day in every season:**

God of love and hope and life, as Lent begins we come to you.

You know us.

You know what we are like.

You know what is important to us.

You know where we hurt.

We come to you seeking forgiveness.

We come to you seeking strength for our journey.

We come to you seeking love and acceptance.

God of love and hope and life meet us here. In your mercy, do not leave us in our pain and sin. Make us whole in you. Amen.



We remember that the central truth of Lent is that without the cross of Jesus we wander far from Jesus' call to discipleship, we make it about us and our needs and desires. **The cross as our focal symbol this season reminds us that this Jesus truly suffered and truly died for us, for the ways we always get it wrong; for the ways we make it all about us, because God would not let that brokenness, that sin define and limit our relationship with God.** That suffering and death FOR US is not just doctrine and it is not evidence of a violent God. It is truth that there is a disconnect between humanity and God and that the only way that connection could be reestablished was the cross. What that means is the focus of our Thursday study during Lent, *Making Sense of the Cross*.

At this half-way point in Lent you are invited to **recommit to the discipline of Lent because, really, it is the shape of the Christian life, every day in every season.** The invitation to Lent, heard on Ash Wednesday invites us in again.

Invitation to (recommit to) Lent

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to

experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that **contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor**. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

And lastly, these Sundays in Lent we hear the **parables of Jesus calling us to life in God's kingdom here and now, imperfectly among us and perfected ever more as we allow the disciplines to shape us; as the Holy Spirit is allowed to work in our hearts and in our lives; until the day when that perfecting work is done and we're all "shining like the stars" with Jesus.**

Blessing the Dust

All those days
you felt like dust,
like dirt,
as if all you had to do
was turn your face
toward the wind
and be scattered
to the four corners

or swept away
by the smallest breath
as insubstantial—

Did you not know
what the Holy One
can do with dust?

This is the day
we freely say
we are scorched.
This is the hour
we are marked
by what has made it
through the burning.

This is the moment

we ask for the blessing
that lives within
the ancient ashes,
that makes its home
inside the soil of
this sacred earth.

So let us be marked

**not for sorrow.
And let us be marked
not for shame.
Let us be marked
not for false humility
or for thinking
we are less
than we are
but for claiming
what God can do
within the dust,
within the dirt,
within the stuff
of which the world
is made,**

**and the stars that blaze
in our bones,
and the galaxies that
spiral
inside the smudge
we bear.**

Jan Richardson



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 meet weekly on Thursdays for soup, study and Holden Evening Prayer. We meet weekly through March 26th. Soup is at 6, study begins 6:30 and we end with evening prayer at 7:30, finishing by about 7:50. **EVERONE** is encouraged to attend this **Rides are available - sign up for that and please let us know if child care with activities would be appreciated. Books are available for a suggested donation of \$11.00 or may be borrowed for free.**

RENEWING OUR CONGREGATION

The church council will be sponsoring a book study to share with the congregation our experience with a book from the "Living Voices" series, entitled "Living Lutheran - Renewing your congregation". The council has found this to be an important book in helping us imagine the future of Amazing Grace. It outlines a process of prayer, bible study and dialogue that lead to the discernment of God's Dream for our congregation. The council is excited to share this with the congregation and we hope to learn together how important our mission and values are for guiding everything we do at Amazing Grace. We will begin the study after Easter and will have several class times at various times, led by council members. We will have more information coming soon and look forward to your participation.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the church council.

Mark Smalley – Council President



ALL-AGE FUN DAY

We're going roller skating (at least some of us are. Some of us will have fun sharing food and games 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 cross-generational fun with our Presbyterian friends next door.



ST PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

The food-fundraising-fellowship-fun committee is kicking off the year with our annual

St Patricks Day dinner with all the trimmings, **Sunday, March 15th at 5:00 pm** in the Parish Hall. As always an alternative will be offered for those that do not care for the traditional! \$20 adult \$5 for children

Watch for more info--invite your friends to enjoy our evening of fun!

In the Desert of the Heart, There Let the Healing Fountain Start

By Bishop Richard E. Jaech

Dear Friends in Christ, "In the desert of the heart, there let the healing fountain start." Beginning in the earliest centuries after Christ, small numbers of Christians adopt-

ed the custom of going out in to the desert to live for prolonged period of time, in order to better follow the Way of Christ. Known as the Desert Fathers and Mothers, these Christians believed that the arid wastelands of the desert helped their faith journey in the following ways:

- 1) The emptiness of the desert forced them to let go of the daily comforts and routines of life that often distracted them from God.
- 2) The dangers of the desert (wild beasts, scorching heat) helped them to turn to God for their entire survival and well-being.
- 3) The clear air of the desert prompted them to look clearly and honestly at their own lives, including their wounds and struggles.
- 4) The sense of God's presence and protection in the desert stirred them to re-commit themselves to faithfully follow the Way of Christ.

The season of Lent offers to us a healing time in the desert. Remembering the Israelites who spent 40 years in the desert wilderness, Lent gives us 40 days in which our own faith and trust in God might be healed and restored. With Jesus and his disciples, we are invited to follow the Desert Way of being purified, examined, healed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit. In the coming 40 days of Lent, I encourage you to let the Spirit ask you these desert questions:

- 1) What old ways, old patterns or old fears have become deadly burdensome to you and need to be left behind?
- 2) What are the struggles and pains in your life that are urging you to turn to God for help and support?
- 3) What in your life do you need to look at clearly and honestly?
- 4) How is the Spirit stirring you to entrust yourself to God and to follow Christ? Lent is the time when God wants to cleanse, heal and change us. By risking everything and going into the desert, God raises us to new life.

"In the desert of the heart, there let the healing fountain start."

In Christ,
Bishop Richard Jaech

MARCH 2015 CALENDAR

- I **SUNDAY 10:00 a.m.. WORSHIP & Sunday Times**
11:00 FELLOWSHIP (MINISTRY FAIR!) and SUNDAY SCHOOL

6:00 Youth Group @ AGLC—Dinner
Served

3 TUESDAY—UNION GOSPEL
MISSION SERVICE TEAM

4 9:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY—QUILTING
& MAINTENANCE CREW

6:00 p.m. HAND BELLS

7:00 p.m. CHOIR

5 THURSDAY 6:00 p.m. Lent Soup
Supper

6:30 Making Sense of the Cross study

7:30 Holden Evening Prayer

8 SPRING FORWARD!!!

SUNDAY 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

11:00 and SUNDAY SCHOOL

4:30 to 6:30 p.m. ALL AGE SKATE
and GAME PARTY AT HARBORENA

10 Council Meeting 6:15

11 WEDNESDAY 6:00 p.m. Handbells

12 THURSDAY 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper

6:30 Making Sense of the Cross study

7:30 Holden Evening Prayer

15 SUNDAY, 9:00 a.m. Bells @ AGLC
10:00 a.m. WORSHIP

11:00 a.m. FELLOWSHIP; SUNDAY
SCHOOL

5:00 a.m. St. PATRICK'S DINNER

18 WEDNESDAY—Under the Bridge
Sandwiches

9:00 a.m. Quilting

Maintenance crew

6:00 p.m. Hand bells

7:00 p.m. Choir

19 6:00 Lent Soup Supper

6:30 Making Sense of the Cross study

7:30 Holden Evening Prayer

21 TRAMPOLINING—Youth Group in
Federal Way

22 SUNDAY, 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP
(Choir at Saron 9:00 a.m.)

11:00 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL

26 THURS. 6:00 Lent Soup Supper

6:30 Making Sense of the Cross

7:30 Holden Evening Prayer

29 PALM/PASSION SUNDAY 10:00 A.M.
WORSHIP

11:00 FELLOWSHIP
and SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos;

Liturgist: Hank Bilderback;

Worship Assistant/Reader: Lynn

Tangvald; **Communion Assistant/Acolyte:** None
needed—1st Sunday;

Ushers/Greeters: Roger & Carmon Shaw; **Deposi-**

tors: Mark Ostwald and Pete Majar; **Fellowship**

Hosts: Jim & Michelle Weiberg family, Tim & Molly

Leithold, Sarah Teveliet, Phil & Julie Braaten

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Keith Lile;

Worship Assistant/Reader: Hank Bilderback; **Com-**

munion Assistant/Acolyte: Kylie Weiberg;

Ushers: Jim & Michelle Weiberg family; **Depositors:**

Mike & Karen Barkstrom; **Fellowship Hosts:** Diane

Hanson, Kathy Wehage, Ray & Jean Hodge, Chris & Hiedi

Seelke, Liz Ellis

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Hank Bilder-

back; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Arlene Torgerson;

Communion Assistant/Acolyte: Jenifer Kaufman;

Ushers/Greeters: Theresa Kaufman & girls;

Depositors: Ray Hodge & Darrel Lokken

Fellowship Hosts: Pete & Mary Ann Majar, Keith &

Lynette Lile, Dennis & Donna Morrisette

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Laura Carle;

Worship Assistant/Reader: Michelle Weiberg; **Com-**

munion Assistant: Kylie Weiberg; **Ushers/Greeters:**

John & Doris Tieder; **Depositors:** Mark Ostwald & Pete

Majar; **Fellowship Hosts:** Kristine Finazzo, Nicole Ev-

anson, Evelyn Ellingson, Judi Hubbard, Jill Waite

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Hank Bilder-

back; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Amanda Kaufman

Communion Assistant: Jenifer Kaufman; **Ushers/**

Greeters: Mark & Amy Ostwald family; **Depositors:**

Theresa Kaufman & Mike Kupka; **Fellowship Hosts:**

Elaine Lokken, Lynn Tangvald,



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. **(April 5)** "Singing hymns are prayers to God's ear." **PLEASE JOIN US**



MARCH CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

4	Francis Beeman
5	Jim Erickson
6	Lana Lile
7	Tom Dickson
	Hayley Erickson
9	William Rabung
10	Connie Chillman
	Steven Kincaid
11	Scott Laird
15	Laura Carle
20	Mary Ann Majar
22	John Kincaid
	Craig Teveliet
24	Tim Leithold
	Josie Weiberg
26	Moonbeam Kupka
27	Jordan Weiberg

ANNIVERSARIES

11	Dennis & Donna Morrisette
15	Mark Smalley & Trish Safstrom
20	Bob & Mary Ellen Salmon

PRAYING FOR.....*John Eylise Fassino, Shirley Fuller, Lion Craig, Doice Cogburn, Renee Quinn, Susan Davis and everyone still recovering from flooding and landslides, Geri Stubb, Dan Fackrell, Tim Olden, Molly Johnson, Evelyn Ellingsen, Alva Day, Eleanor Knapp, Nicole Claussen, Al Carlberg, BJ Bastin, Richard Kraiger, Doug George, Gwen, Shelbie and Dan Offrink and their daughters, Don Stubb, Aileen Long, Tim Leithold, Ginger Cameron, Richard, Peyton Willis, Melvin Thompson, Melissa Smiley, Gloria Bilderback, Kenny Broussard, Dana, Larry Freeman, Kari Maynard Baretich, Tici, Gene, 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

"To Amazing Grace Lutheran Church—Thank you for your giving so generously to Lutheran Disaster Response. Your support of this ministry helps our church respond to the needs of our neighbors in the long work of recovery. Thank you!"
Janet Esaiberg, Lutheran Disaster Response/ELCA

"A great big thank you goes to Diane Hanson from Hoquiam services for the great donation she has made to the Grays Harbor Crisis Clinic. Diane was able to get a grant through her church, Amazing Grace Lutheran, in Aberdeen, to buy items that our clients may need. Diane and her church have made a very generous donation of new men and women's underwear that our clients always need here at the Crisis Clinic. She also gave us some lice kits that we can keep on hand, but of course always hope we won't need to use. Thank you to Diane and the Amazing Grace congregation, who all do so very much work for the people in the Grays Harbor community. You truly do make our world a better place!" Rita Niles, Crisis Center—Paula Elder and Thrivent are thanked as well for their contribution to making this happen!

We received letter's of thanks from:

Pacific Lutheran University acknowledging our monthly tithe for the PLU Scholarship Fund.

Habitat for Humanity acknowledging our monthly tithe (Spearman home ready to begin construction and house #17 in Ocean Shores.)

Phi Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma thanking Amazing Grace for the use of the fellowship hall for their meeting on February 14th.



UNDER THE BRIDGE

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

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!



THANK YOU:

- To those who attended the Fat Tuesday pancake supper on Tuesday the 17th. and also those who contributed so generously! \$300 was raised in the free will offering for the youth to make a service trip in San Francisco in August! A great big thank you to the cooks (Barkstrom's, Gene Schermer, William Rabung, Steve Swanson, Madi Green, Amaanda Kaufman and Kylie Wyberg !!)
- Gene Schermer for helping keep things safe and in tip top shape! Thank you Gene for safely removing and replacing the broken light bulb outside the church office and for installing the new paper towel dispensers in the parish hall restrooms.

- Maintenance crew for continuing to bring the Youth Center basement up to standards, replacing wall board, clearing drains, clearing out garbage!
- Eileen Hensel for the warm hats she knitted for those who live outside.
- Thanks to Theresa Kaufman for her hard work, dedication and thoughtful care of everyone at Amazing Grace during our transition to a new office administrator. You are very much appreciated. We look forward to seeing where God will call you to use your gifts next!



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 **meets this month, Sunday, March 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.

NEW OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

We are pleased to announce that Darci Jewitt will begin serving as Office Administrator March 16th. Her office hours will be announced once they are established. Please warmly welcome Darci into this new ministry and help her as she learns this complicated role.

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

2/10/15

Present: Pastor Val, Mark, Chrissie, Diane, Mike, Chris, Kristine, Coleman

Absent: Jeannette

I - Called to order 6:20 p.m.

II – Devotions – Living Lutheran (Mike)

III – Prayer tasks – Thanksgiving/Diane – Intercession/Mark – Petition/Kristine – Praise/Chris – Timekeeper/Diane – Opinion Collector/Chrissie

Quorum established

Prayer tasks assigned

*Motion was made and seconded to approve the February agenda and the January minutes. Diane added to agenda (item E in business section) logistics of having hand bells/choir in the back. Chrissie adds status of AED (item F). Kristine adds accessibility of church phone number (item G)

FINANCIAL REPORT

TREASURER – \$75.00 needs to be transferred over to the “memorial fund” account.

Benevolence's are paid one month in arrears; December gift paid in January.

Signature cards need to all be updated for transfers from one fund to the next. All accounts will require two signatures, except the Endowment account that is to be left as-is at this time. One person readies for approval, second person finalizes approval. Changes will be: Memorial (Chrissie, Mark, Diane and Jeannette) which is treated as tithe; currently reviewing use of funds - MSP, (Maintenance ditto – MSP), Mikel Thompson Concert (ditto - MSP) and Youth funds (ditto - MSP). Endowment and General accounts already require two signatures. Council will follow up with the endowment and follow up with Keith to ask them to review signatures.

Prepaid Visa will be used for Youth service trip to San Francisco in August.

Recommendation by Darrell Lokken, annual auditor; form an audit committee of 4 to 6 people willing to share the responsibility for the annual financial audit for the church. Adopt as policy?

Endowment committee will need to provide Treasurer copies of the statements if she is not to be a signer and authorized to view the account online.

FINANCIAL

There was a discussion about income and spending for the month.

In the annual report, the question was raised where did the \$100/k difference go? It's in the bank. Decided that we would include checking account balance in the annual report to show where the “extra” went.

Use benevolence as a percentage instead of a dollar amount. It's easier to see. Add a new line item of “estimated benevolence's for the year” based on the budget.

*Motion moved and seconded to approve the bills that were paid in January.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Annual meeting; for next year, show the checking account balance in 2015 annual report. Meeting minutes will be reviewed and approve next council meeting.

Bel Aire property – February 22nd meeting will be another opportunity to gather information. Flip chart notes will be transcribed in a more readable format/list.

Church administrator job – 3 interviews tomorrow 2/11. Three more resumes came today.

Council retreat – Saturday 2/28. 9:45 start, wrap up by 3pm. Topics will be Living Lutheran and a plan going forward with the congregation. Afternoon will continue with study on stewardship. Potluck will include main course, salad, snacks, dessert and drinks; signup sheet was passed around.

Addressing logistics of lighting and space for the hand bells and choir.

Status of AED – Kristine will check with Dee.

Church phone number is not in the phone book. Most agree cost isn't justifiable as many people use the web.

FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday the 17th is Fat Tuesday pancake dinner. Free will offering and proceeds will go to Youth service trip. Experienced adult helpers are needed.

Weekly Holden services begin February 19th thru March 26. Begin at 6:00 with soup and a follow with book study “Making Sense of the Cross” finish with song and prayer. Also looking for childcare.

WORSHIP

Diane has a donor to purchase 10 new children bibles.

Bible versions for the pews are being explored and will be reviewed by a small committee of church members. This is in keeping with our value of Intentional Faith Development.

Holden village retreat; picked up wonderful ideas to bring to the LAT.

LAT decided on the cross as our theme for Lent at their recent meeting.

PROPERTY REPORTS

Breezeway roof project – went a little over budget, but Lupo will bill as proposed. Paint will be complete when rains subside. Money will come from maintenance fund.

Sanctuary back door – will purchase a door blank and install, either men's maintenance or Coleman. Done next month.

Plumber will be making a recommendation for preventing future flooding in both basements.

Disposal of remaining “flood” trash has not taken place.

In next couple of weeks Coleman will see about replacing bulbs to LED lighting in the back of the sanctuary. MSP to approve minor lighting retrofit up to \$300.

OUTREACH

St/ Pat's dinner March 15. Pastor Val proposes using some of the money for new (lighter) rectangular tables for quilters and if there is enough money, also round tables for that will be conducive to fellowship. Will still pull out our 10% for tithe. Will also promote faith development. Purpose this dinner to raise money for funding. We want to make it possible to empower the quilters to get what they want and it will also benefit congregation if round tables are purchased.

Ministry Fair 3/1– One day might not be enough. Everyone will have an opportunity to really look at how these ministries work. How can people get involved? Ministries will group together as reasonable and each station will be manned and prepared to answer questions, provide handouts. Ministry fair ties into our mission.

YOUTH & FAMILY

Four youth from our congregation committed to service trip. 3 people from the Presbyterians.

Ray has donated again a day rental at the skating rink on March 8th.

March 14 the youth are going to Federal Way to a “trampoline city” for a day. 10 people for two hours.

Bishop convocation and prayer treat was wonderful. Speaker was Julie Diamond talking about power and appropriate use of power in churches. Pastor found it very useful. Dealing with conflict and recognizing when conflict can be diffused.

Next Council retreat – February 28th 9:45 to 3:00. Consider what council wants this to look like, pray about it.

TASK ASSIGNMENT

Mark will talk to Keith Lile about signers for the endowment committee accounts.

Changes due to audit committee (Darrel and Gene) that Chris and Mike will implement.

Coleman, LED light bulbs and obtain estimate from plumber.

Devotions – Diane next month

Meeting closed in Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 8:33.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Kaufman

PASTOR'S REPORT - January 2015

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP 4 Sunday worship services - Chose hymns and liturgy for 4 Sundays

1 Funeral

Sermons – prayer, study, reading, writing

Prepare liturgy weekly to make Narrative Lectionary connections

Prayer

Bake communion bread

Liturgical Arts Team – preparing and meeting to plan Lent worship

Worship team meeting

Research Lent worship and study possibilities

ADMINISTRATION Coordinated flood response of local people via phone and email

Coordinated housing and help from Methodist Disaster Response
 Council meeting monthly – plan and prepare
 Newsletter – Write content; proof and design
 Prepare bulletins with secretary for worship 4 Sundays and funeral
 Meet with Ministry Team leaders as needed
 Meet w/ Youth Center director to assess flood damage & coordinate clean up
 Hiring office administrator: Met w/ Work Source; wrote advertisement; set-up P.O. box;
 executive committee coordination; print resumes;
 Annual Meeting: Wrote reports; did statistical report; helped w/set up and printing
 Coordinating with temporary administrative assistant
 Mutual Ministry – research and order books

PASTORAL CARE/COUNSELING Homebound and assisted living visits

Individual counseling

Pastoral care and funeral planning w/Njuko family

OUTREACH/VISITATION

Jesuit Volunteer support

Pastor's group – Ecumenical group throughout area met to assess needs
 and areas where ministry could be coordinated.

Coffee Ministry – meet to chat about life/faith as often as possible

Facebook page – outreach through social media.

Quilters – monthly or twice monthly

Under the Bridge – 1 Wednesdays

Sunday Meal/Bible Study @ St. Andrews – 2 Sundays

Plan Lent ecumenical services w/ pastors

Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration – coordinate and present

Coordinated Namibia speaker for fellowship time

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Microphone – hand-held troubleshooting issues

Files in Youth Center Basement – sort and discard flood damaged files

Church basement – discarding and moving things damaged in flood

Coordinate garbage removal after flood for both basements w/Property
 comm. Chair; pick up voucher for dump

YOUTH AND FAMILY

Lead Youth Group w/ Pastor Doug 2 Sundays; plan weekly meetings and
 servant trip event

Confirmation – plan, prepare, pray, teach

Youth faith formation meeting

Weekly Young People message

STEWARDSHIP

Research resources

OFFICIAL ACTS (Baptisms, funerals, weddings) John Njoku funeral

VACATION No vacation time in January

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Prayer Retreat 2 days; Bishop's Convo 2 days

UPCOMING: Lent services Thursdays 6 soup supper; 6:30 study; 7:30 Holden Evening Prayer

Dee Erickson – coordinating soup suppers

Chris Seelke – coordinating rides through 5 Star Vans

Ecumenical services - Ash Wednesday at Hoquiam United Methodist Church; service at 12, soup
 after; Rev. Gordon Schnee preaching (Hoquiam Presbyterian providing help as needed)

Good Friday at First Presbyterian in Aberdeen; service at 12, soup after;

Rev. Jeff Johnson preaching (Amazing Grace providing help as needed)

Bishop convocation and prayer treat was wonderful. Speaker was Julie Diamond talking about power and appropriate
 use of power in churches. Pastor found it very useful. Dealing with conflict and recognizing when conflict can be diffused.
 Next Council retreat – February 28th 9:45 to 3:00. Consider what council wants this to look like, pray about it.



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amazinggraceaberndeen.org

"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

Ministers: The People of Amazing Grace

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vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu

Liturgists: Hank Bilderback, Keith Lile &

Laura Carle, Jeannette Green

Musicians: Kristine Burns, Geri Stubb,

Hiedi Seelke,