



The Spirit

May 2015

Highlights:

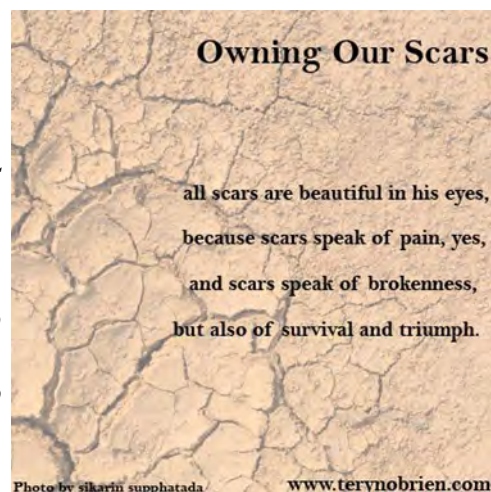
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Healing is owning our scars without being defined by them

The resurrected Jesus still bore the scars of the nails that caused his death. Jesus invited his friends to touch those scars, to see for themselves that he was still Jesus, still the one who loved them; the same in important ways, but, profoundly changed. He carried the scars of the violence that killed him into the new creation that put an end to the power of death.

Whatever pain and brokenness we experience stays with us in this life. It shapes us and recreates us. Our hope is in choosing the shape that

new creation takes. We cannot choose whether we will experience brokenness in our lives. Being alive means we are vulnerable to beauty and to pain. The choice we have is to let the brokenness deform us or to let God's healing power transform it so that it can be integrated into the wholeness of God's new creation.



Continued on next page...

PRAYING FOR...

Jon Metropoulos, Theresa Kaufman, Maizie Jane Jewitt, , Mitzi Ludwig, Harold and Molly Johnson, Mary Anderson, Renee Quinn, Kari Maynard Baretich, Lynn Howerton, Betty Mensinger, Geri Stubb, Evelyn Ellingsen, Jim Coon, Eleanor Knapp, Dan Fackrell, Tim Olden, Shelbie & Ben Offrink and their daughters, Nicole Claussen, Al Carlberg, BJ Bastin, Richard Kraiger, Doug George, Gwen, Don Stubb, Aileen Long, Ginger Cameron, Richard, Peyton Willis, Melvin Thompson, Melissa Smiley, Kenny Broussard, Dana, Larry Freeman, Gene, Annie Eisele, for those who are unhoused, especially Natasha, John, and Donnie; for long-term caregivers Carol Stubb & Jack Bastin, for the young people and workers at the youth center. We give thanks for the life and mourn with the families and friends of Doice Cogburn and Craig Anneberg. May they rest in peace and rise in glory!

Prayers for healing have been a part of the church's ministry since the first century. Healing services of the church connect with this ancient practice, inviting all who sense a need for God's healing to come forward. People may request prayers for themselves or someone else or just ask for prayer with no need specifically named. This healing may involve any aspect of one's life -- physical, emotional, spiritual, financial, employment, one's family, etc.

Healing is grounded in scripture which offers diverse examples. We see that Jesus rejects the idea that sin causes impairment in John 9:3, telling the disciples that a man was born blind through no one's fault but in order to provide an opportunity for revelation. However, in Mark 2 he first forgives and then heals a man who is paralyzed. In Luke 8:48, Jesus tells a woman who has been cured of a long-standing illness merely by touching his garment: "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

What we see in scripture is a multi-faceted witness to the power of healing. Luther offers us some guidance. He didn't see illness as punishment from God for our sins. Repentance won't cure us. He taught that people should seek medical care and care for their health as much as possible. His perspective remains reasonable. **We pray for the healing of the sick, but we also see that those for whom we pray aren't always made well.** The Bible's healing stories don't necessarily

give us clarity. **We still ask, "What can prayer do?" "Should our faith be sufficient to cure our illnesses?" "Why are we suffering to begin with?"**

As Christians in the 21st century living in a scientific age and benefiting greatly from it we see that there is a difference between healing and curing. *Curing* means eliminating sickness and restoring someone to health. Sometimes that happens, and when it does we give God thanks and praise. *Healing* means bringing people to wholeness, providing what they need to live joyfully **even in the midst of sickness and suffering.** More often than not healing is the real power of prayer in the face of sickness. **Many people are cured, but they aren't healed. And many people die from sickness, but they died healed. They are whole.**

Our world and community feel fractured, broken in many ways. Many of us experience this fracture also in our families, in our workplace, in the disconnect we feel from those around us; in the difficulty of finding meaning or even hope in a world that feels so unlike the world of our childhood.

We even experience that fracture in relationships within the congregation as expectations are unmet or disagreements cause confusion or hurt feelings. Differences of opinion cause divisions that feel too wide to overcome and changes take place that cause us to feel disconnected from our cherished ideas of church.

Healing prayer addresses all aspects of brokenness.

May 17th we will offer a service of healing at our regular Sunday morning worship at Amazing Grace. Pastor Richard Kraiger will preach from his experience of healing and Pastor Val will preside. You are invited to join in this time of healing bringing your whole self: your joy and pain, your places of health and those parts of yourself that feel broken. Whether you are struggling with depression, addiction, anxiety or you've received a frightening diagnosis, healing is possible. Whether you're wrestling with chronic pain or you're brokenhearted over an unreconciled relationship, whatever your need bring it to the prayer of healing.

Prayer changes things. Healing is possible.

The healing ministry of the church is meant to be a complement to the work of doctors, nurses, and hospitals. We cannot promise a cure for those for whom we pray. Rather, we offer these gifts: God's presence in time of suffering, God's promise of peace, and **God's love embodied in the community of the faithful.** Please join your community of faith in experiencing and sharing this gift of healing..

Pastor Val

*When we know the pain of abandonment, loss,
or rejection, there is hope for us as well . . .
We need patience and a deep respect for the time it
takes to grieve our real losses and to own them as
our own. We need lots of time and support to give
up our expectation that someone can erase or
change what actually happened that wounded us.
We need to share and ask for support in our
network of friends, of family, church, or
community where people will not be scandalized
when they hear that our once cherished
relationships are complicated, difficult, less than
perfect, or gone altogether. And gradually, when
the time is right, we need encouragement
to step through and beyond our grief into new
and renewed relationships of trust, where we
once again recover our ability to care for others
and our sense of humor.*

Sue Mosteller, CSI

River Campers

As most of you know the City of Aberdeen has been trying to evict homeless campers from private property along the Chehalis River. Pastor Val and Rev. Sarah Monroe have been involved with this group of homeless people, going to meetings with the city and various agencies.

Pastor Val has done an excellent job of keeping the council informed about this situation. As council president, I thought it was very important to get the congregation up to speed, so they could prayerfully participate in the discernment process, asking what God is calling us to do and how it fits with our stated mission.



On Sunday, April 26, I asked Pastor to speak to the congregation during fellowship and to share with the congregation some of the same information that she had previously shared with council, outlining the meetings she has gone to in the last year and half on this subject, and her relationships with some of the people on the river. She spoke about the Washington law that allows churches to host tent camps for up to 90 days. There is one other church in South Aberdeen that is also considering providing space for them, but their location may not be as convenient to services.

It was a good sharing session, a chance to listen and to be heard, with good questions about how we would do this safely, concerns about drug abuse and safety for children at the preschool and in the youth center. Pastor pointed out that some of the youth, who have been at the youth center are also camping by the river. Pastor said that most of the campers who have drug problems have been through treatment, but are still using drugs, and that others are suffering from mental illness or PTSD. Others shared that they feel we are called to do this, at least one of whom had previous experience at her former church. Some just asked clarifying questions. Some people questioned whether this would just be enabling the campers to continue a lifestyle with drugs and dependency.

Pastor used the opportunity to reinforce her sermon on how the earlier church did discernment with prayer, spiritual practices, and knowing that God goes before us and prepares the way. **We asked and continue ask people to pray about what to do next and asked them to share their concerns/ideas with members of the council.**

Mark Smalley



Holy Conversations

By Bishop Richard E. Jaech

Dear Friends,

Conversations is the name of an Alban Institute publication by Gil Rendle and Alice Mann, in which they present a congregation's strategic planning process as an intentional Spiritual practice. Of all the helpful insights and practical steps presented in that book, it is the name, *Holy Conversations*, that has stuck with me the most. **It moves me to know that the Spirit of God is constantly among us and within us throughout all of our conversations, particularly when we are trying to discern where God is leading us.** Like Moses standing before the burning bush, we discover that we are standing on holy ground when God calls us to a new path.

At our Synod Assembly just a few weeks from now, we will explore how to engage more fully in the holy conversations that will guide and strengthen our congregations and Synod. Since a good conversation requires listening as well as speaking, we will examine and practice the Three Great Listeners, an approach described by Stephen Bouman in his book, *The Mission Table*. These Three Great Listeners are: listening to God, listening to each other in our congregation, and listening to our neighbors in the community around us.

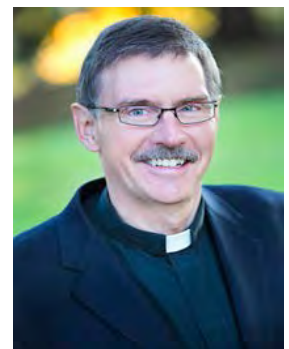
Through this listening, and the holy conversations that follow, we discover:

- Where is God calling us?
- What gifts and passions for ministry has God given to us?
- What are the needs and hopes of our neighbors and how can we minister to them?
- What are the gifts of our neighbors and how can they join with us in ministry?

Pastor Bouman, who is the national director of the ELCA's Office of Congregational and Synodical Mission will himself speak at the Assembly. We will also have good conversations around each table about our own congregations and neighborhoods.

Along with having these holy conversations at the Synod Assembly, we will also enjoy good worship, fun fellowship, tasty meals and a few important business items. I look forward to being with all of you - pastors, AIM's and lay voting members – at the Assembly. May God bless you in everything that you do!

Bishop Rick Jaech



Quilter's News

The quilter's just sent their second shipment of the year to the Lutheran World Relief. In this shipment we included 152 Health Kits and 132 Quilts. We are especially thankful to the men's group who prepared the Easter Breakfast. As a Thrivent Action Team they raised \$347.00, which will be used to help with the shipping fees from Seattle to Baltimore and then around the world wherever they are needed. We continue to be thankful for the generosity of Peninsula Truck Lines, who do not charge for taking

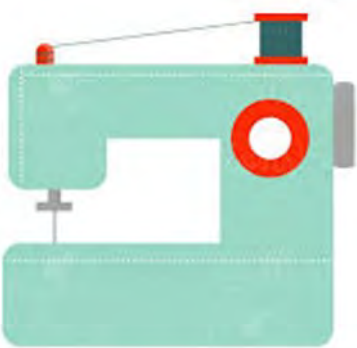
our quilts and kits to Seattle. As we look ahead to summer, we will be sewing school bags.



We hope you will help us fill them with school supplies again this year. They will be available by the middle of July along with a list of supplies for each bag. Watch for the school supply sales beginning in early July in our local store advertisements.

We could also use clean flat sheets for the backs of our quilts. King size is ideal. Thank you for your continued support of this worthwhile ministry.

Eileen Schermer



Looking for a sewing machine? We have two used sewing machines that the quilters can no longer use.

If interested, please see one of the quilters. The machines may be picked up by May 15th.

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS:

Al Kelling, May 1

Kari Ann Pentilla, May 2

Hiedi Seelke, May 6

Sophie Kupka, May 8

Hank Bilderback, May 9

Eilidh Channel, May 10

Ray Oliver Berkey, May 13

John Pellessier, May 14

Kristine Finazzo, May 17

Mark Safstrom-Smalley, May 20

Cindy Pentilla, May 23

ANNIVERSARIES:

Suzy and Scott Laird, May 10

Marge and Al Kelling,

May 27



Thank you to:

The Unity in Christ Youth Group and Ray and Jean Hodge for hosting the Yummy Chicken Dinner on April 24.

To everyone who supported the Youth Group by attending the Yummy diner and buying shares in our trip.

To Mike and Karen Barkstrom for offering to cook and plan, shop and prepare for the dinner.

To Jeannette Green for organizing the Youth.

To all who lent a hand to our Easter Celebration:, especially The Men's Group for our nourishing breakfast..

To Mark Smalley, and Diane Hanson for leading us in "Renewing our Congregation" on April 24. and to Trish Safstrom, Mark, and Diane for cooking breakfast .

To Kris Burns, Sarah Channel, Pastor Val, Mark Smalley & Trish Safstrom for attending the Healthy Congregations Workshop May 1 & 2.

Ministry Opportunities—Something for Everyone!

We are reviewing our worship assistant lists (communion, ushers/greeters, readers, etc.) and want





Raise your hand and pitch in!

to provide everyone an opportunity to participate and to change your area of service if you'd like

to do so. Please let the church office know of any changes you'd like made regarding any of these ministry opportunities.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship 11:10 Sunday School	11	12 6:15 p.m. Church Council Meeting	13 Pastor Val Off 6:30 p.m. Bells and Choir	14	15 Synod Assembly	16 Synod Assembly
17 10 am Worship Service of Healing Choir & Bells @ AGLC 11 am Fellowship 11:10 Sunday School	18 Pastor Val Out of the Office— Intensive Work Days—à	19 Pastor Val OOTO	20 Pastor Val OOTO 9 am Quilting & Men's Group	21 Pastor Val OOTO	22 9am Confirmation Road Trip Office Hours: 1:30—6:30 pm	23
24 10 am Worship PENTECOST- Bells @ AGLC 11 am Fellowship 11:10 Sunday School; Sunday Times 6 pm Youth Group	25 <i>Memorial Day</i> 	26 3:30—5 pm Confirmation	27 6 pm Choir Party @ Ebel's	28	29	30
31 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship 11:10 Sunday School	June 1	2 Union Gospel Ministry	3	4	5	6
7 9:45 Hymn Fest 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship 11:10 Sunday School Caring Cupboard	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship 11:10 Sunday School Caring Cupboard	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship Graduate Recognition 11:10 Sunday School Father's Day	22 5 	23 5:15 – 7:15 pm Vacation Bible School	24 5:15 – 7:15 pm Vacation Bible School	25 5:15 – 7:15 pm Vacation Bible School	26	27
28 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship 11:10 Sunday School	29	30				

May & June Worship Assistants

Sunday, May 17—Service of Healing

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Message:** Rev. Richard Kraiger **Liturgist:** Keith Lile; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Vicki Mitchell; **Communion Assistant:** Laura Carle; **Ushers:** Dennis & Donna Morrisette; **Depositors:** Mike Barkstrom & Darrell Lokken; **Fellowship Hosts:** Mitchell, Clark, Kaufmann

Sunday, May 24—Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Hank Bilderback; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Carmon Shaw; **Communion Assistant:** Madi Green **Ushers/Greeters:** Roger Shaw, Jeannette & Madi Green; **Depositors:** Karen Barkstrom & Bob Salmon; **Fellowship Hosts:** Ostwald, Rabung, Kincaid

Sunday, May 31

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Laura Carle; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Sarah Channel; **Communion Assistant:** Jenifer Kaufman; **Ushers/Greeters:** Dee & Morgan Erickson; **Depositors:** Mike Kupka & Mike Hubbard **Fellowship Hosts:** Alstrom, Tieder, Salmon, Schermer

Sunday, June 7

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Hank Bilderback; **Worship Assistant/reader:** Susan Bylund **Communion Assistant:** None, Communion at the rail. **Ushers / Greeters:** Darrell & Elaine Lokken; **Depositors:** Judi Hubbard & Jean Hodge; **Fellowship Hosts:** Kelling, Shaw, Green

Sunday, June 14

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Keith Lile; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Arlene Torgerson; **Communion Assistant:** Liz Ellis; **Ushers / Greeters:** Molly & Tim Leithold; **Depositors:** Bob Salmon & Carmon Shaw; **Fellowship Hosts:** Bylund, Bilderback, Kallio, Southern

Sunday, June 21

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Hank Bilderback; **Worship Assistant/reader:** Dee Erickson **Communion Assistant:** Morgan Erickson; **Ushers / Greeters:** Darrell & Elaine Lokken; **Depositors:** Ray Hodge & Heidi Seelke; **Fellowship Hosts:** Weiberg, Leithold, Channel, Jewitt, Teveliet, Braaten

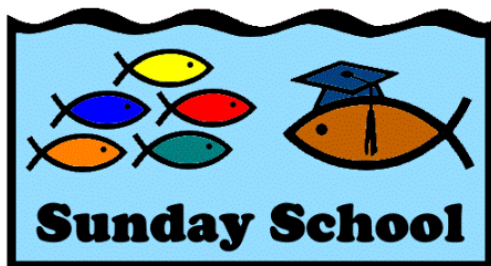
Sunday, June 28

Pastor: Rev. Val Metropoulos; **Liturgist:** Laura Carle; **Worship Assistant/reader:** Jill Waite; **Communion Assistant:** Mike Barkstrom. **Ushers / Greeters:** Lynn & Leif Tangvald; **Depositors:** Pete Major & Karen Barkstrom; **Fellowship Hosts:** Hanson, Wehage, Hodge, Seelke, Ellis





VBS 2015 will be the final week in June (June 22-25). We are hosting this year and will continue and expand on the theme created last year "Solid Rock Summer Camp." This year's focus will be experiencing God – through music, prayer, people, etc. Ages are pre-K thru 6 with Junior and Senior High helpers are welcome! Keep your eye out for further details!



**COME TO HEAR THE STORY OF GOD'S
LOVE, MAKING ALL THINGS NEW.**

**PICK UP A SNACK, AND MEET US IN THE
ROOM ACROSS FROM THE KITCHEN. WE
MEET FOR 40 MINUTES.**

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN IN.!

**OUR YOUNG PEOPLE NEED YOUR WIS-
DOM AND EXPERIENCE!**

**WE NEED TO LEARN FROM THEIR
EXCITEMENT AND FRESH
PERSPECTIVE!**

INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS!

Sunday Times

Sunday Times will meet on
May 24 after Worship!

Unity in Christ Youth Group Shares for Purchase

Purchase a Share and Invest in the Youth Group Mission Trip. The youth group will be selling shares (\$5 a share) for their San Francisco Trip.

Share-holders will receive a prayer list for the trip, up-dates on how things are going while we are in San Fran-cisco, cards with names, faces, and facts of each student and adult leader going on the trip.

The Share-Holders dinner will take place after our trip (in late August) where you will have an opportunity to see and hear some of the initial returns on your investment.



Helping Grays Harbor's at-risk Youth

The 1st Sunday of each month we 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.



G.R.A.V.I.T.Y. Program, one of the recipients of our Caring Cupboard donations has recently experienced a large increase in the number of young parents that are in desperate need of baby care items.

Some ideas: Diapers Size 1 or larger; Baby Wipes, Soaps or lotions, clothes, bottles, children's Tylenol, diaper rash creams, etc...

Any of these items may be left in the basket in the Parish Hall for delivery by Vicki Mitchell.

STREET OUTREACH PROGRAM ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Due to the flood, the Street Outreach Program we support lost all of their supplies.

They would appreciate any assistance in helping replace supplies.

Much needed items include:

- Outdoor gear: gloves, hats (especially knit/stocking hats),
- warm socks, umbrellas, and rain ponchos
- Personal Care: Travel toothbrushes,

travel size lotions, Chapstick, small first aid kits, feminine products, travel size laundry detergents or Pods, combs, and hair brushes, mini-Kleenex packs, hand cleaner, soap and lotion

- Duct tape
- Bottled water, juice pouches/boxes, bottled water flavorings and instant coffee
- Instant oatmeal packets and soup packets,
- Individually wrapped packages of peanut butter or cheese sandwich crackers, apple sauce cups/pouches, apple and orange fruit cups
- Peanut butter and jelly and bread
- Softer granola bars, cookies or candy

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!



Thanks We Have Received



Capital Region
ESD 113

Educational Service District 113
My Partner for Learning Solutions

Dear Amazing Grace Fellowship,

I, Karli Sansom, an Instructional Assistant at the GRAVITY high school, decided to create a support group for the parents in the program. As a former teen parent, I know how difficult life can be without having a support system. Therefore, my passion is to always pass on knowledge, comfort, resources, and a sense of well-being for this population.

To have the donations that the church has been collecting for us is greatly appreciated. It brings a sense of comfort to know that there are people interested in helping support these young parents. To some, the necessities needed for their children can be a huge stress; so having options of donated items to help ease that stress gives them more time to focus on their studies as well.

Every donation counts and helps a family in our community in various ways. Please note that second hand items in decent shape are appreciated as well. Some ideas to help with the collection of donations include:

- Diapers Size 1 or bigger & Wipes
- Soaps or Lotions
- Clothes
- Bottles
- Children's Tylenol, Diaper Rash Cream, etc...

I as well as the teen parent's thank you from our hearts for your donations, support, and prayers from your congregation.

Sincerely,

Karli Sansom

Karli Sansom
Instructional Assistant
(360)209-5434

Cerenity Wellard
Zacharey Beyard
Stephanie Plumb

Kali Edwards
Maria Rivera
Carmen Santos
Kali McAdams
Lorenzo Edwards

Emily Skipper
Tia Weber-Cruz

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
111 E 4th St
Aberdeen, WA 98520

Gift Designation

PLU Annual Fund

Thank you for investment in the students at Pacific Lutheran University!

Spring is upon us and campus is blooming with new beginnings for current students and prospective Lutes. Our seniors are in the final stretch to graduation, where the King of Norway will lend his wisdom as the Commencement speaker. Prospective Lutes are visiting campus, choosing residence halls for next year, and getting acquainted with the students who will be welcoming them in just a few months! These examples only scratch the surface of the many opportunities your gift provides to our students.

Thank you, and happy spring! It's a great day to be a Lute!

House #17 has broken ground
and the Spearman family is
working hard to make their dream
of home ownership a reality.



Thank
You



Your help has made this dream possible
and, for that, we thank you! Habitat
continues to work toward a future where
everyone has a decent place to live.

DEAR AMAZING GRACE,

THANK YOU FOR BLESSING US
WITH YOUR DONATION OF \$38.49.

WE ARE OVER HALF WAY FINISHED
WITH THE HOUSE IN OCEAN SHORES.

YOUR GIFT HELP GET US CLOSE TO
BEING DONE!

BLESSINGS,



Union Gospel Mission *of Grays Harbor*

Reaching Hearts & Changing Lives of People in Need

JUNE SERVANTS

Judi Hubbard, team leader

Mike & Karen Barkstrom

Pastor Val

Trish Saftstrom

Stella Southern

Sarah Channel

Darci Jewitt

June's monthly Union Gospel Mission service is on Tuesday, the 2nd. Please note Judi Hubbard will be out of town, but feel free to contact Darci or Sarah for assistance in her absence.

Thank you all for serving this important ministry!



Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday

8:00 a.m until 12:00 p.m.

**Please note change of office hours
on May 22 to 1:30—6:30 pm. Thanks!**

Darci



Now in Grays Harbor, [Plant-A-Row](#) is an easy way to healthfully address hunger in our community. Launched in 1995, Plant-A-Row is a national program created by the Garden Writers Association that encourages garden communities and individuals to donate fresh vegetables, fruit and herbs to people in need.

WHY DONATE? Did you know that low-income families have the highest rates of obesity/chronic disease and hunger in our community? Produce from your farm or garden helps provide access to fresh, nutritious food. Gardening provides physical activity, stress relief, family bonding, community bonding, learning opportunities, fresh food for healthy eating, time outdoors and FUN! Start your own garden in your backyard or join in with others to participate.

WHAT TO DONATE? While many vegetables and fruits grow well in our maritime climate (greens, grains, beans, berries), some do not (citrus, melons, hot peppers). We love when people challenge themselves in the garden, but we encourage you to plant nutritious vegetables and fruits that grow well in our climate. Sought after vegetables include cabbage, beets, kale, squash, green beans and salad greens. What would you grow for you or your family?

SAFETY GUIDELINES: In order to keep the recipients of your generous donation safe, we cannot accept produce grown with animal manure not composted to USDA Organic Standards or sprayed with pesticides within two weeks of harvest.

GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES:

1. Pick early in the day for best quality.
2. Keep produce out of the heat and in the shade.
3. For delicate produce like tomatoes and berries, avoid deep containers; the weight on top damages produce below.
4. Deliver to local food banks soon after harvest to retain freshness and quality. Make sure to visually inspect produce for bugs and brush away any visible dirt before donating.

Food Bank Locations to bring Fresh Produce

****This list will keep expanding*

Seventh Day Adventist Food Bank, 3101 Cherry St, Hoquiam, WA 98550

Donation Hours: Tuesday or Thursday, 10am-4pm

Hoquiam Food & Clothing Bank, 720 K St, Hoquiam, WA 98550

Donation Hours: Monday or Wednesday, 10am-2pm

Salvation Army, 118 W Wishkah St, Aberdeen, WA 98520

Donation Hours: Tuesday or Thursday, 10-11:45am-1:30-3:45pm

Aberdeen Food Bank, 306 ½ N I St, Aberdeen, WA 98520

Donation Hours: Monday or Wednesday 2-2:30pm

Copalis Community Church Food Bank, 3140 Washington 109, Copalis Beach, WA 98535

Donation Hours: Wednesday 10am-12pm

East County Food Bank, 106 W Main Street, Elma, WA 98541

Donation Hours: Monday 10:30am-4pm

NW Lifecenter Feeding Program, 215 N 3rd Street, Elma, WA

Donation Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-3pm

Visit the Plan-A-Row website at Visit the Plan-A-Row website at <http://www.healthygh.org/plant-a-row> or reach out to Darci for more information.



**Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Agenda
April 14, 2015 6:15 pm**



Meeting Called to Order by President Mark Smalley at 6:20 p.m.

Opening Devotions read by Chrissie Kincaid

Prayer Task Assigned: Thanksgiving/Intercession/Petition/Praise

Assigned Time Keeper and Opinion Collector Tasks

Mark Smalley established Quorum.

Reviewed Agenda for April 2015

Motion to approve minutes of last meeting, held March 10, 2015, seconded, approved with minor corrections.

Financial Reports – see attached

Treasurer's Report – Chrissie Kincaid

Review of Accounts

Bills approved for payment

Bank Account Users and Permissions Reviewed and approved

Insurance Policy Update Review

Church Credit Card Name Change from Susan Bylund to Darci Jewitt: discussed, moved, seconded, and approved.

Financial Secretary's Report – Mike Kupka

March 2015 Record of Giving

2015 Record of Giving with Cumulative Summary

2015 Misc. Contributions Report

All DMS&A

Business

Phone Book advertising – status update by Mark Smalley

Mark has not heard back from Dex.

Confirmed Yellow Book listing under Churches, Lutheran

Need to research whether we are listed in the A section of white pages

Plans for bring "Living Lutheran" to our congregation – Mark Smalley and Dianne Hanson to Facilitate first class on 4/25/15.

Bel Aire Property Committee

Final Report from the committee, listing three options

Ministry Reports

Fellowship – Chris Seelke

Nothing to report; Noted that Easter was successful

Worship – Diane Hanson

Reported that Amazing Grace had a great Easter week and worship services. Children's Easter Egg Hunt was held after Worship and Sunday School; This change of time received overwhelmingly positive response from congregation.

Property – Coleman Carle

Remaining trash in church basement needs to be removed. Pastor agreed to show Coleman where to find.
Rotten Basement Windows in the Sanctuary– Keith Lile already has materials and a plan to repair.
Reviewed and discussed options to prevent future flooding. City of Aberdeen confirmed **east end toilet is connected to city sewer line.**
Data gathering on two proposed options
Capping line and closing bathroom versus installing back flow valve
Plumbing Estimate needed
\$1500 to install sump pump moved, seconded, and approved
Which account is the \$ coming from? Budgeted maintenance. or general?

Outreach – Kristine Finazzo

Ministry Fair

Union Gospel Team saved
New Maintenance Team Members
Considered a Success – good first step.

St Patrick's Day Dinner- funds raised for new tables, other options

Giving Tree Funds – Kristine researched quilt options and purchased from Target

Caring Cupboard now includes Under the Bridge donations – suggested items are socks and knit hats.

Youth & Family – Jeannette Green

Youth Group met last week

Discussed upcoming Yummy Chicken Dinner to raise funds for Servant Trip to San Francisco
Cost is by free will donation
Youth are working on decorations

Planning for Servant Trip-Youth will sell shares to raise funds for and purchasers will receive a card with Youth's photo so they can pray for them. After trip Youth will hold a shareholder meeting to share experiences.

Youth generated ideas to highlight trip to San Francisco at dinner.

Pastor's Report

River Campers – most likely will be evicted. Many have left already
Sarah Monroe's ministry and work-Campers feeling empowered, uniting

Task Assignments

May Devotions – Jeannette Green

Prayer tasks, and closing prayer

Adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darci Jewitt

PASTOR'S REPORT - March 2015

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP	Congregational art project – assembled 5 Sunday worship services - Chose hymns; plan liturgy; prayers; special readings 4 Lent services – midweek – teach, prepare, set up, lead, clean-up Sermons – prayer, study, reading, writing Prayer Bake communion bread Liturgical Arts Team – making weekly changes for Lent worship Plan Holy Week services Plan healing service w/Pastor Kraiger
ADMINISTRATION	Train new office administrator Council meeting monthly – plan and prepare Newsletter – Write content; proof and design Prepare bulletins with secretary for worship 5 Sundays and Holy Week Meet with Ministry Team leaders Meet w/ Youth Center director Coordinating with temporary administrative assistant Mutual Ministry meeting Leadership support – meet w/ ministry leaders to support their growth
PASTORAL CARE/COUNSELING	Homebound and assisted living visits Individual counseling
OUTREACH/VISITATION	Homeless support – meeting with social services groups, city council, homeless group, social service leaders, community leaders Ministry Fair – help plan, set-up Pastor's group – Ecumenical group planning to meet needs of most vulnerable in Grays Harbor 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
BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE	Worked with city to determine where east end toilet drains Set up for Lent mid-week study Coordinate building use with AA Hung communication boards in kitchen
YOUTH AND FAMILY	Lead Youth Group w/ Pastor Doug 2 Sundays; plan weekly meetings and servant trip event and fundraising All age Roller Skating party w/First Presbyterians – Hodge gift Trampolining in Federal Way First (official) communion instruction – plan, prepare, lead Youth faith formation meeting Weekly Young People's message
STEWARDSHIP	Study and integrate into sermons
OFFICIAL ACTS (Baptisms, funerals, weddings)	No official acts in March
VACATION	No vacation time in March; no official continuing education



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**AMAZING GRACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH**



VISION: A welcoming place
where grace happens!

MISSION: To experience and
share God's love through wor-
ship,
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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Liturgists: Hank Bilderback, Keith Lile

Laura Carle, Jeannette Green

Musicians: Kristine Burns, Geri Stubb,

Heidi Seelke



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