

# *THE SPIRIT*

## *December 2021*



Advent is a season of waiting, not waiting passively but an active ‘staying awake’ kind of waiting, anticipating Christ’s arrival. But it is also a profound mystery; a time when we wait for something that has already happened and something that has been promised will happen again. We don’t know when. We don’t know why. We don’t know what it means. It is truly a mystery.

Parker Palmer says, “We live in an era of non-stop reminders there is much we can’t control, no matter how hard we try. We live at a time when it often seems clear, in the words of Yeats, that “the centre cannot hold.”

So, I wonder how can we wait faithfully, not succumbing to fear, staying awake to the truth of who God is and how God loves and who God calls us to be in this life?

In the message from the first Sunday of Advent, I mentioned Bernard of Clairvaux, a twelfth-century abbot and theologian. I find Bernard’s writing about there really being “three Advents” helpful. Bernard said the first ‘advent’ was the Incarnation, God being born a baby at Christmas. The last “advent’ is the *Parousia*, the coming of Jesus at the end of the age. The second ‘advent’ is now, where we live in the time between the other two. He says this Advent “is **the everyday arrival of Jesus: the knock at the door, the still small voice, the lonely prisoner, the hungry mother, the weary refugee, the migrant worker, the asylum seeker. In other words, Jesus is coming again and again, like a thousand spring buds on a fig tree long thought dead. So be alert — lamps lit and dressed for action.**” He says, “**Hope is a verb!**”

As we wait, in active anticipation of the embodied love that God promises, we hold together the mysteries of faith: the waiting as we answer the knock at the door, the trusting as we wonder how it can all hold together; the acting in hope with our whole lives.

May the blessings of Advent sustain you as we live this mystery together!  
Pastor Val

Hush!  
Wait  
What’s the rush?  
Why do we try to outguess God?  
[God] will come when he comes  
But nobody knows  
Jesus said:  
I don’t know when.  
Even the angels in heaven don’t know.  
Only God.  
Hush!  
Wait.  
It will be in God’s time, not ours.  
It will be for love

Not human chronologies.  
What’s a millennium?  
A few years off anyhow  
And on a calendar  
Not used by much of the world.  
Hush!  
Wait.  
He will come for love  
Never forget love  
Hush!  
Wait.  
Listen.  
Love.  
*Madeleine L’Engle*



## GOD HAS GIVEN US A MISSION

Remember the Beatles? John, Paul, George, Ringo! I was into it. I had Beatle boots, love beads and granny glasses. My big brother gave me a model of Paul (the cute Beatle) for Christmas one year. It was one of those paint-it-yourself kits. I knew the lyrics to the Beatles' hits better than I knew Martin Luther's Small Catechism. The early hits were pop and upbeat: "I Want to Hold Your Hand," "A Hard Day's Night." Even later "Yellow Submarine" was still whimsical.

But then the Beatles got older, and the world changed. Vietnam, the Kennedy and King assassinations, the urban riots, the 1968 Chicago Democratic convention. Innocence—for those of us who had that luxury—was gone. Skepticism, even cynicism, was the lens through which the world was seen. A lot was broken, including trust in institutions and the church.

In 1971, John Lennon's hit "Imagine" came out. It was evocative and, I'm sure, was meant to point us to the possibility of a better future. I found it disturbing. A world without religion. No heaven. No hell. No countries. No possessions. As if excising these things would cure humanity and the world would be as one.

There was and is enough brokenness in the world to go 'round. But the brokenness is not outside of us—in institutions, politics, religion—it is within us. The only way to construct utopia is to get rid of people. Imagine.

Except God has a different way. It is the way of Je-

sus. It is the way of love. It is the way of life. You see, God so loves the world and all of creation and all of us. God is right down with us in all of our messiness. In Jesus, God has reconciled the world to God's self, redeeming it and us in spite of our rebellion. We can stake our lives on the relentless, faithful, powerful, tender love of God.

During the pandemic we dreamed great things and imagined an ELCA that could envision a world experiencing the difference God's grace and love in Christ makes for all people and creation. We prayed and still pray that the Spirit will activate each of us so that more people know the way of Jesus and discover community, justice and love. And we set a goal—engage a million new, young and diverse people by the end of this decade. Why? Because the world deserves to hear the gospel. The world needs to look beyond itself. There is a heaven.

Clearly this is not the work of the churchwide organization alone, nor of any one congregation. It is a mission for all of us. There are so many people who do not know that they need to know Jesus. There are so many people who think that God's grace is too good to be true. There are so many people searching for meaning. All are beloved by God. God longs to draw all people to Godself, to clean us up and wash our faces so that God's image shines clearly from all of us, so that we can see God's image shining from each other.

New, young and diverse? What about those of us who are already here, have always been here, who have been doing the work and paying the bills? We

are the 99 sheep that didn't go astray. We are the older brother who stayed home and worked hard. Of course we are!

We have lived in the love of Jesus and walked in Jesus' way. *We* know the freedom of the Christian. We don't live in an unforgiving world, but in a redeemed world with a future. Why wouldn't we want to share that with as many people as we can?

Even a million new, young and diverse people—why stop there? The flock was not whole until the one lost was found. The older brother did not realize that all his father had was already his as a gift. This is true for us. God has given this mission to invite more people into the way of Jesus. Imagine.

Bishop Eaton



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

## WE ARE ENTRUSTED WITH THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

### God's people join in prayer for:

Joe Meisinger, Kate Ancich, Loyd Gill, Joyce Smith, Brenda Mitby, Jon Metropoulos, Trace Erwin and all students, teachers and children going through a difficult time and dealing with the pandemic, Paula Shimek, Paul Hanson and family, Jennifer, Kim, Vicki Mitchell, Leslie Prasch, Barb Stensgard, Jordan, Betty Mitchell, Tom, Cheron and Tanner Stanley, Tanya Anderson-Bowers, Monica Wilson, Tiffany Powell, Joseph,

Ray & Jean Hodge, Courtney, Adrienne, Carl and June Bender, Ginny Clark, Philip, Matthew Green and his family and we pray for the family and friends mourning the death of Don Rabung. May he rest in peace and rise in glory and we pray for family and friends mourning the death of Joe Weiberg. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.



### BIRTHDAYS:

Paula Elder, December 4  
Loyd Gill, December 10  
Jeannette Green, December 10  
Gloria Bilderback, December 11  
James Green, December 14  
Karen Barkstrom, December 17  
Dorothy Stephens, December 18

## December BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

Karen Anderson, December 24  
Hans Stegemoeller, December 24  
Stephanie Kaufman, December 27  
Molly Rabung, December 30

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Brenda Grant & Liz Ellis, December 1



**Everyone** who contributes to the Food Bank.

**Everyone** who continues to serve at Sunday worship.

**Task Force** for keeping everyone up-to-date on Covid condition concerning Sunday worship or any other safety rules that may come up.

**Diane Hanson** for providing pictures and other photos for the newsletters.

**Kristine and Judi** for continuing to deliver newsletters every month.

**Joelle, Amy, Joni** for delivering food to the Food Bank.

**Everyone** who contributed for the Thanksgiving Baskets.

**Everyone** who contributed and helped out with the Pie Auction.

**Everyone** who contributed donations to the Feed the Hungry Christmas program for St. Mary's

**Hank Bilderback** for providing special music for Sunday service.

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## THANKS WE'VE RECEIVED

- **Dear Val & Amazing Grace,**

Thank you for the opportunity to come share with you about Myanmar. I was blessed to fellowship with others that have a heart for those in need. Thank you for your prayers and support in fulfilling the calling that God has given me! On another note it was so fun to see friends I remember from my childhood.

Many blessings to you all! Stacie

- **Union Gospel Mission** thanks all churches who have come back bringing meals and/ or the Union Gospel Message.

**Pastor Val gives Advent blessings as Maizie Jane lights the first candle to start this Advent season.**

*Photo submitted by Diane Hanson.*



### JIM ERICKSON MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service for Jim Erickson will be

Tuesday, Dec. 7, at 11pm at the Log Pavilion. The service will be followed by lunch.



### POINSETTIAS

If you'd like to share poinsettias drop them off anytime. If you would like to honor a loved one in this

way, let Vicky know the name that should be printed in the bulletin.

# SERVING AT AMAZING GRACE

## UNION GOSPEL MISSION

December 7

Judi Hubbard, Leader

Mike & Karen Barkstrom, Pastor Val, Trish Safstrom, Sarah Channel, Darci Jewitt.

Sub: Kala Winter

Substitutes: Hiedi Seelke, Carmon Shaw 360-532-2940

**The director of UGM says that we can expect to serve about 35-45 people.**

**They need food delivered before 6pm so that they know what is coming. If the food is cooked, deliver by 6pm. If the food is not cooked, deliver before 3pm.**

**As a reminder, masks are still required**



**while in the building. The only time a mask is not required is while at a table dining or speaking from the pulpit. Other than that, masks are required at all times. The State mandate is not based on whether a person is vaccinated or not, or whether they have already had Covid-masks are required. Glove wearing is also critical while in the kitchen or serving food.**

**If you are serving or delivering, you have to wear a mask and keep 6 feet distance. If you deliver to the back alley, call 360-533-1064 and they will come and pick up the food. Any questions, please contact Doug, our Kitchen Manager, at the same number.**

## FAMILY PROMISE

The annual quilt raffle is under way. Tickets are available at the Day Center for \$2 apiece, Monday–Friday, 10 - 2. Tickets may also be purchased

through Amazing Grace office by calling or emailing. Maizie Jane and Darci Jewitt will be selling tickets after worship. TODAY! The drawing and the last day to purchase tickets is 12/10.



**Gary Morean (auctioneer) and Nicole Evanson (organizer) working the annual pie auction.**  
*Photo submitted by Diane Hanson*

## CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

**Thank you all who contributed to the Thanksgiving Food baskets.**

The Food Bank will be distributing 125 baskets for Christmas to families who are experiencing food insecurity this year. Amazing Grace has been asked



### Want to be an ELF? ELF stands for ELEVATE LOCAL FAMILIES

This Christmas season we plan to again provide Gift Cards to families in need. This way families can have the joy of shopping for their own family. Proceeds from the pie auction in November will be used towards this ministry.

Additional donations are welcome. Please bring gift cards (or a donation) to the church office. We ask that the gift cards be Walmart or Visa gift cards. A \$100 gift card would sponsor an average family. Any

to provide one can of cranberries for each basket. **We need only 41 more cans of cranberries, due at the church by Dec. 14th.** These can be dropped off on Sunday or during business hours the following week: **Tuesday & Thursday 8-2, Wednesday 8-1 & Friday 8-11.** Thank you for your generosity!

amount is appreciated and will be pooled with other donations to reach the desired amount per family. Our teachers and social worker connections help us find families in need.

In addition we'll make a small gift bag with holiday goodies and we'll include gift cards. We will also need donations of small containers of nuts, holiday cookies, candy, etc. for the gift bags. Thanks in advance for your generosity. Bring these donations to the parish hall or church office by **Tuesday December 15.** Amy Ostwald



## KETTLE KLASH

The Salvation Army's annual Kettle Klash is online again this year.

The link takes you directly to my kettle: <https://give-nw.salvationarmy.org/campaign/grays-harbor-virtual-kettles-2021/c365292> Scroll down and you will find the kettles. Read my story and donate if you are able. You can donate

online, or send a check to the office. The Klash will continue until January 1, 2022. Make checks payable to Salvation Army and Vicky will put them in an envelope with my name on it. I will get it to the SA office. Thank you in advance for support. Judi Hubbard Kettle Captain for Amazing Grace



## 4-F CARRY OUT DINNER

Our carry out-drive through pick up dinner will be January 8, 2022.

On the menu--pot roast, garlic mashed potatoes, carrots, salad, rolls, and of course dessert!! No alternative main course this time.

Please send in your request to the office or email me at [jhubbard1952@comcast.net](mailto:jhubbard1952@comcast.net). The cost is still \$20.00 We appreciate your payment ahead of time

by sending a check to the office or paying online. If you pay online, please be sure you still get your name to the office or to Judi.

Due to the increased cost of meat, we will need you to request your meals by January 2, 2022 so we can shop on the 4th. We probably won't be able to accommodate late comers as we have in the past. We look forward to cooking for you and seeing you January 8. Your 4-F team

**The pie auction raised well over \$2,000 for families in holiday need! Thank you everyone!**

*Photo submitted by Diane Hanson.*



### **ELCA GOOD GIFTS**

The catalogue has arrived and it brings a sign of HOPE to all of us after this challenging year. Again it calls us to serving and loving our neighbors in Christ's name.

The catalogue is available in the sanctuary with our

tree, online at [ELCA.org/goodgifts](https://elca.org/goodgifts) or by requesting one to your home by calling the office.

Eighty-eight countries are supported by the works of Good Gifts and donations start at \$10 dollars for baby chicks or a fruit tree. These items make wonderful gifts to our friends and family. Joni



### **SOUTHWESTERN WASHINGTON SYNOD**

Dear Staff Members of the Southwester Washington Synod,

I am writing to thank you for your partnership in ministry, your gifts to the Southwestern Washington Synod of money, time and talents, and our willingness to share our faith and resources with others. I know this has been a difficult year, especially as we move forward and there is not one single response to a situation-we are all having to make plans and processes for our churches and our personal lives as we go. We have spoken with many congregational leaders about the new systems they've helped to put in place along with the joy and the exhaustion that accompanied this transition.

While the Synod continues to hold Zoom gatherings with our small groups like our rostered leaders, congregation call committees, synod and church coun-

cils, and church ministries, we are also continuing to meet with our own synod boards and committees such as our Native American Work Team, Synod Hunger Committee, Land Use and Sheltering Work Team, Outreach Board, Rick Work Team, Fiscal Board, and Synod Mission Endowment Fund Board, mostly online too. We continue to move forward to do God's work, but we are also still walking alongside our congregations and rostered leaders to serve them, as well.

We are posting information on season holiday worship resources on our synod website for your use. <https://swwasynod.org/congregational-resources/seasonal-church-resources/> If you haven't looked at our new website [swwasynod.org](https://swwasynod.org), we welcome you to explore and find information that can assist you in your ministry. We believe it is easier to find things with this new website-and much easier on the eyes.

We are excited to plan some new and safe ways for us to learn together this winter and spring. Instead of

our January in-person Bishop's convocation for rostered leaders, we are planning a couple of smaller and online events for this February and March. We still hope to be able to have a safe in-person regional Educational Gatherings in 3 of our synod congregations this Spring-Saturdays April 30th, May 14th, and June 4th. More information will be



### TASK FORCE UPDATE

We welcome everyone to worship. Following the guidance of the state and the CDC, **MASKS ARE REQUIRED** and **FELLOWSHIP** is suspended for

coming out about these as we get closer to the dates. We give thanks for your gifts to the Synod, the ELCA and area ministries.

Wishing God's best for you,  
Allison Ramsey  
Synod Office Manager and Event Coordinator.

**now. The task force will monitor the situation and keep everyone informed as the situation changes.** Please get vaccinated and get your boosters as soon as possible!



### FOOD BANK FEEDS HUNGRY FAMILIES!

The Grays Harbor Food Bank continues to feed people in need in our community. Please bring your donations of food to the fellowship hall. They will be delivered to the food bank weekly. The Food bank

always needs **baby wipes, peanut butter, mac & cheese and diapers sizes 4,5, & 6.** If you prefer to help with a financial contribution, it may be sent to: Grays Harbor Food Bank P.O. Box 444 Aberdeen, WA 98520

### THRIVENT MEMBERS

It is time to allocate your choice dollars. Please check your account. Thank you, Judi Hubbard



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### MITCHELL GALLERY/CARDS

The Mitchell's have generously donated the paintings you see in the hallway to the parish hall. If you would like to purchase one of these paintings, proceeds will benefit the stained-glass repair effort. The suggested price is located on the back of each painting. Checks can be made to Amazing Grace with memo "window fund". **New pictures have been put up.**

Ken and Vicki have been sorting through things, and have found cards and matted cards without en-

velopes. (Envelopes are available at Staples). Various cards available from the Mitchell's are:  
12 various flowers  
9 churches and other scenes from Harpers Ferry  
12 sunflower cards  
7 matted flower cards

Contact Vicki, if you are interested in some cards at [kvmseagalley@gmail.com](mailto:kvmseagalley@gmail.com)

## OFFICE HOURS

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

**Pastor Val: I'm mostly working from home to minimize Covid exposure but I'd love to safely get together.** Please call, text, or email so we can set up a time to do that! Pastor Val: 360-580-8977 [vmetropou-los001@luthersem.edu](mailto:vmetropou-los001@luthersem.edu).

## WE NEED HEALTHY COMMUNICATION MORE THAN EVER!!!

Healthy communication is important in the best of times. Throw in a pandemic and political turmoil and things can get messy. In the church we are especially careful to express our love for each other and for all our neighbors by practicing healthy communication skills. Some basics that are helpful in all relationships include the following.

- **Everyone speaks for themselves.** Each of us needs to take responsibility for expressing our own feelings or concerns.
- **When there is a concern, we go directly to the person involved.** Honest, direct, loving communication is the basis of all healthy relationships.
- **If the concern is not resolved after direct communication,** we ask a neutral person to join us in that conversation for the sake of understanding and healing.
- **We avoid triangulation.** Triangulation occurs when one person does not communicate directly with another person, instead using a third person to relay communication to the second. Triangulation distorts relationships and makes clear communication difficult.
- **We pray for each other** trusting that God loves us all and in prayer can heal our hurts and restore relationships.



## Amazing Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes October 23, 2021

**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.

As Church Council, we 1. Ensure that the mission of the church is fulfilled (Love God and Love Neighbor) and 2. Manage the property and finances of the congregation so that purpose #1 can be fulfilled.

President: Joelle Buckman; VP: 1<sup>st</sup> qtr. Amy, 2<sup>nd</sup> qtr. Dee; 3<sup>rd</sup> qtr. Carrie; 4<sup>th</sup> qtr. Phil

Attendance: Joelle Buckman, Mike Barkstrom, Curtis Steinhauer, Pastor Val, Phil Stegemoeller, Carrie Erwin, Theresa Kaufman

**I. Devotions** (15 min)

**II. Call to Order by Pres. Joelle Buckman 6:20**

**III. Establish Quorum**

**IV. Review and Approve Agenda**

-Added under Ministry Reports: F. November and December Council meeting dates

**V. Approve minutes from meetings:** Sept. 28 (II-V: 5 min) **M/S/P**

**VI. Business items** (these are generally items that are beyond any one ministry or don't fit under any ministry, special requests from the community) (20min)

A. Mutual Ministry Update – Joelle

-Continue to meet once a month.

B. Memorial guidelines – gift policy

-A final draft will go out to council members to discuss at next the council meeting.

C. Endowment Fund Committee - No report.

**VIII. Ministry team reports:** (30 min)

A. Worship – Dee Erickson and Pastor Val

i. Task Force report

-The Task Force only meets as needed. At the last meeting, questions from congregation members about Sunday service were discussed and members were contacted about decisions.

ii. Audio/video – update - Pastor Val

-Keith and Joe are still trying to get someone from Olympia to work on the Audio/Video issue. They made a schematic of the sanctuary to provide the company.

B. Outreach – Amy Ostwald

i. Family Promise- No report

ii. Chaplain's dinner-No report

iii. Synod Affordable Housing Initiative – Pastor Val/Curtis

-Pastor Val attended the last meeting and they are moving forward.

C. Youth & Family – Curtis Steinhauer

i. Sunday School

-Sunday school is going well. The families that come for the outdoor event at Sam Benn Park have been having a good time. Zoom participation, while low, is also going well.

ii. Confirmation

-Madison Winter's confirmation is on Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. No families are participating in confirmation this year.

iii. Adult group study- JustFaith Groups

-The new in-person class started in October, led by Hank and Diane. The class will be offered again after the first of the year.

D. Fellowship – Carrie Erwin – Stephen Ministry Training

-Carrie is waiting for information. There are two options available for the Stephen Ministry Training. First option is a 5-week commitment where you attend class through zoom twice a week. Second option is a 10-week, once a week class. This information still needs to be verified and Carrie hopes to have it verified by next month.

- Advent Devotional book

- Everyone is encouraged to chose at least one day.

Property – Mike Barkstrom – Stained glass windows/office bathroom update

E. Property- Mike Barkstrom

-In the last month the office bathroom has been redone: new sink, new towel rack and new paint.

-Family Promise has some leaky faucets that will be replaced.

-Stained Glass Window

-Mike heard from one company and is waiting to hear back from the other. Then he will write a report and suggest recommendations for council.

Mike reminded council that his term is done at the end of the year, but if council committee would like to appoint him as project manager for the stained-glass window project, he is available.

F. November and December Council Meeting dates

-November council meeting is scheduled for the 23<sup>rd</sup> and December council meeting is scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup>.

**VIII. Financial Reports:** (30 min)

A. Treasurer's Report – Theresa Kaufman

-Joelle asked council members to be thinking about the benevolence recipients. If changes are going to be made it needs to be done in January.

1. Approve September Bills Paid M/S/P

B. Financial Secretary's Report – Phil Stegemoeller

-Phil will amend his report, so it's correct for the audit file. Phil will speak to endow-



ment committee about the process of transferring money into church's checking account.

-New Program for financial secretary – Joelle

-Phil and Theresa will be learning the new program, which will be up and running by January 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **IX. Pastor's Report**

(IX – XI 10 min)

## **X. Task Assignments**

- Joelle will send out endowment committee email at the end of council meeting.
- Council leaders are encouraged to choose at least one of the Advent readings.
- Council members need to be praying about a new Property Manager.
- Council members need to submit any changes for benevolences to council or to Joelle.
- Joelle will send out a detailed cost list for new program for financial secretary to council members.
- Phil will speak to Endowment committee about transferring money.

## **XI. Adjournment and closing prayer 7:05**



## **PASTOR'S REPORT October 2021**

### **WORSHIP/DISCIPLESHP**

Sunday worship – Plan and lead  
Plan adult education  
Plan seasonal and special worship services  
Sermons – prayer, study, reading, writing  
Prayer  
Meet with ministry leader as needed  
Liturgical Arts team

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Reports: congregational; synod; ELCA  
Conference Pastors meet with Bishop weekly  
Conference deans – meet bi-annually & as needed  
Recordkeeping: updates to documents; church ledger  
Work with office administrator: bulletins, newsletter, etc.  
Council meeting & Exec. Comm. meeting monthly  
Newsletter - writing, editing  
Meet with treasurer as needed  
Mutual Ministry meeting monthly  
Endowment Committee advisor

### **FELLOWSHIP/PASTORAL CARE/COUNSELING**

PSALM – mentor; spiritual direction

Prayer Chain – coordinate w/ Brenda Grant  
Grace notes weekly or as needed  
Pastoral care as needed

### **OUTREACH**

Visits at homes or parks during good weather  
Coordinate with ministry leader as needed  
Affordable housing Synod meeting  
Facebook page – outreach through social media.  
Coordinate with others to support homeless and marginalized people  
Meet w/ ministry leader as needed

### **BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE**

Meet w/ ministry leader as needed

### **YOUTH AND FAMILY**

Adult study: plan and participate  
Confirmation: plan and lead  
Sunday School: coordinate with ministry leader

### **STEWARDSHIP/EVANGELISM**

Study and integrate into sermons

### **PROFESSIONAL GROWTH:**

Bible Study with Shane Claiborne and Perkins Foundation on Zoom  
PLU Lutheran Studies Conference

Spiritual Direction Supervision Group

**OTHER ACTIVITIES in October**

**OFFICIAL ACTS:**

Confirmed Madison Winter

**ADMINISTRATIVE:**

Gift policy work w/ committee and ELCA advisor

Synod meetings: All pastor's Zoom; Conference Deans Zoom

Task Force for resuming in person worship

**PASTORAL CARE:**

Visits to dying and grieving

Visits, calls, texts, messaging as needed

**WORSHIP:**

Planning for Reformation; Confirmation; Advent

**YOUTH/FAMILY/EDUCATION:** StoryTime in Worship – the story for all ages, targeting children who cannot be vaccinated and so are not in person in worship  
Sunday School in Park – consultant and helper

**OUTREACH:**

God's Work Our Hands

Synod Affordable Housing Initiative meeting

**FELLOWSHIP:**

Advent through Epiphany Devotional planned, produced and written

**VACATION:**

None

**UPCOMING:**

Advent begins Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>

Vacation: 12/21 & 22; 12/27 – 1/2

## DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

### December 5

Liturgist

Keith Lile

Worship Assistant/Reader

Diane Hanson

Communion Assistant

Dee Erickson & Theresa Kaufman

Ushers/Greeters

Mike & Arlene O'Conner

Depositors

Greg Johnstone & Mike Barkstrom

Communion set-up

Cynthia Johnstone

Stream Team

Curtis

### December 12

Liturgist

Curtis Steinhauer

Worship Assistant/Reader

Mark Smalley

Communion Assistant

Joan & William Rabung

Ushers/Greeters

Joelle Buckman & Naomi Kraiger

Depositors

Carmon Shaw & Mark Ostwald

Communion set-up

Laura Carle

Stream Team

Keith

### December 19

Liturgist

Hank Bilderback

Worship Assistant/Reader

Michelle Weiberg

Communion Assistant

Steve Swanson & Arlene Torgerson

Ushers/Greeters

Phil & Suzan Stegemoeller

Depositors

Joelle Buckman & Hiedi Seelke

Communion set-up

Dee Erickson

Stream Team

Amy



## **December 26**

Liturgist

Worship Assistant/Reader

Communion Assistant

Ushers/Greeters

Depositors

Communion set-up

Stream Team

Gene Schermer

Joelle Buckman & Joan Rabung

Michelle & Jim Weiberg

Karen Barkstrom & Mark Ostwald

Tara Main

Joe



**Sarah Channel manages the pie auction  
For facebook bidders!**

*Photo submitted by Diane Hanson*



President	Joelle Buckman	(360) 589-6111	Joelle_buckman@email.com
Treasurer	Theresa Kaufman	(360) 537-1190	Theresamarie4739.3@gmail.com
Financial Secretary	Phil Stegemoeller	(360) 580-9310	phil@willisent.com
Youth & Family	Curtis Steinhauer	(360) 580-2301	turtis21@gmail.com
Outreach	Amy Ostwald	(360)-482-2306	aaostwald@gmail.com
Worship	Dee Erickson	(360) 533-7948	deekaye1@comcast.net
Fellowship	Carrie Erwin	360-500-3767	mcerwin@comcast.net
Property	Mike Barkstrom	(360)532-3319	mkbarks1@gmail.com
Pastor	Val Metropoulos	(360) 580-8977	vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu
Church Secretary	Vicky Kolb	(360) 532-8250	amazing111@comcast.net
Endowment committee:	Darrell Lokken	(360) 532-0615	delokken@comcast.net

## BUILDING REPAIRS/MAINTANCE

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

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

### Ministers: The People of Amazing Grace



111 E. 4th Street, (360) 532-8250

[amazinggraceaberdeen.org](http://amazinggraceaberdeen.org)

[amazing111@comcast.net](mailto:amazing111@comcast.net)

**Pastor:** Val Metropoulos (360) 580-8977

[vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu](mailto:vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu)

**Office Administrator:** Vicky Kolb

**Liturgists:** Hank Bilderback, Keith Lile, Laura Carle,  
Curtis Steinhauer

**Musicians:** Kristine Burns

## SEPTEMBER BALANCES OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS

Checking			\$ 8,675.07
-PSALM			\$ 100.00
-Technology			\$ (64.55)
-Caring Cupboard			\$ 433.51
-Pastor's Sabbatical Reserve			\$ 2,620.00
-Music			\$ (393.54)
-Bells			\$ 965.95
-Friends in Need			\$ 1,977.64
-Reformation Fund			\$ 1,071.20
-Outreach Funds			\$ 500.00
-Altar Restore			\$ 386.83
-Altar Guild			\$ 367.00
-Noisy Offering			\$ -
-Family Promise Maintenance Holding			\$ 2,244.57
-Chaplain's Dinner			\$ 215.54
-Grace Fund			\$ 340.00
		TOTAL	\$ 19,439.22
			\$ -
Maintenance Checking			\$ 13,794.49
-Windows			\$ 22,551.56
Youth Checking			\$ 295.75
Memorial Savings			\$ 13,850.31
Mikkel Thompson Savings			\$ 1,927.53

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 QUILTERS 9AM-12PM JUST FAITH 5:00PM-7:00PM	2	3 SCRAPBOOK 6PM-10PM	4 AA 7PM-8:30PM
5 10 AM WORSHIP	6 OFFICE CLOSED	7	8 JUST FAITH 5:00PM-7:00PM	9	10	11 AA 7PM-8:30PM
12 10 AM WORSHIP 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL—PRACTICE IN SANCTUARY FOR	13 OFFICE CLOSED	14 HANDSEWERS 9AM-3PM	15 JUST FAITH 5:00PM-7:00PM	16	17 SCRAPBOOK 6PM-10PM	18 AA 7PM-8:30PM
19 10 AM WORSHIP CHRISTMAS PROGRAM	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE @ 7PM	25 AA 7PM-8:30PM CHRISTMAS DAY
26 10 AM WORSHIP	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28 HANDSEWERS 9AM-3PM	29	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE	

### UPCOMING EVENTS

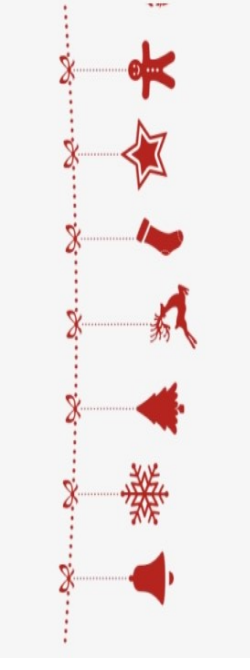
Kettle Klash donations until January 1 2022

4-F Carry-Out Dinner is on January 8, 2022. Meals requested by Jan. 2

Quilters: January 5th and 19th

Annual Meeting: January 30

**DECEMBER**





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

**Or anytime at: [amazinggraceaberdeen.org](http://amazinggraceaberdeen.org)**  
***AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH***  
***of Grays Harbor***



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

**VISION**

A welcoming place where grace happens!

**MISSION**

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

**VALUES**

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



Amazing Grace Lutheran Church of  
Grays Harbor

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE