

# ***THE SPIRIT***

## ***DECEMBER 2015***

Most years our Advent worship is focused on 4 themes: **HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE**. This year we're switching out peace for **COURAGE**, because, well, because in this world; this **particular** world in which we live **to-day** we need courage. We need courage to hope; courage to joyfully; courage to love. In a time when terrorists wreak havoc in the City of Light; when climate change threatens to displace 150 million people, WE NEED COURAGE to speak of the hope we have in Christ with integrity. As of today 12/2, the 336th day of 2015, there have been 355 mass shootings in the U.S. That's more than one per day. (Mass shootings means 4+ victims including the shooter. Yeah, we have to define mass shootings now. Wouldn't want to claim a mass shooting when it's ONLY 3 people!!!) The world doesn't need platitudes or blind optimism. **The world needs Truth that speaks to the deep pain and longing of our time.** We truly need courage to face the truth and to speak the truth and so we pray the Advent Credo and ask the Holy Spirit to make it so in our lives.



### ***Advent Credo***

It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss—

**This is true: For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life;**

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction—

**This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.**

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever—

**This is true: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, his name shall be called wonderful counselor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.**

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world—

**This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am with you, even until the end of the world.**

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers—

**This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall have dreams.**

It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of human dignity of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history—

**This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.**

**So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope. Let us see visions of love and peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage: Jesus Christ—the life of the world.**

From *Testimony: The Word Made Flesh*, by Daniel Berrigan, S.J.

## ***AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Of Grays Harbor***

### **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

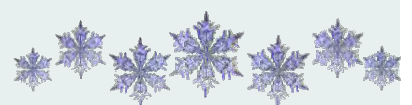
Risk-taking

mission and service

Extravagant Generosity

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## POINSETTA PLANTS

We'll be decorating throughout Advent and would love to add your poinsettia plants to the beauty. If you would like to share a poinsettia, bring it at any time. We'll enjoy them in the sanctuary throughout Advent and Christmas. Since we keep the sanctuary heat low during the week, we'll move them into the Parish Hall after worship. Feel free to take your plant home after Christmas Eve service or whenever you would like.



### HYMNFEST!

**9:45 a.m.**

**December 6**

*Come to sing some of your favorite hymns.*

Kris Burns will provide the music. You can request your favorite hymns .... and we will sing them! The Hymn Fest happens the first Sunday of each month. **"Singing hymns are prayers to God's ear"**



## Ladies - Are You Interested in a Women's Retreat?

There is no Holden Village Women's Retreat this year due to last summer's wildfire issues in the area. Some of us ladies feel we can't wait another year for the next one, so we want to have our own small retreat! We are planning for February 5-7, 2016. The idea is to rent some kind of housing on the Oregon or Washington coast (or in the mountains). We would plan some low-key activities and offer plenty of time for fellowship, R&R or outdoor pursuits. ALL ARE WELCOME!! If interested please email the church office: [amazing111@comcast.net](mailto:amazing111@comcast.net) or talk to Amy Ostwald or Joan Rabung.

## BEL AIRE PROPERTY UPDATE

The Bel Aire property committee has enlisted the services of a realtor to sell the property. Council was given copies of the aerial photo, listing papers, and real estate contract. Watch for more information posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Thanks to the committee for their work stewarding this resource for the congregation. For more information, please contact someone on this committee:

Darrell Lokken, Liz Ellis, Dennis Morrisette, Jim Erickson, Karen Barkstrom and Gene Schermer.



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

## **LETTER FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON**

### **The unsettled season of Advent**

In incarnate Christ, God finds us and  
gives restless hearts rest

By Elizabeth A. Eaton

*O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom  
captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile  
here until the Son of God appear*  
(Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 257).



Advent. We were just here it seems. It's a season of preparation and anticipation. It can become exhausting and relentless. The commercial run-up to Christmas has certainly gotten longer. Sometime right after Labor Day the holiday displays appear in stores, ads pop up on our laptops and hand-held electronic devices, and carols creep into Muzak. And the annual holiday worship war between pastors and people will be waged over whether to sing Christmas carols in church during Advent.

I will not weigh in on that epic debate in this column. Instead, I want us to consider the deep and holy longing that is part of this season. It is significant that the words of the prophets and the yearning of Israel in exile are so prominent in the lessons appointed for Advent. The people longed for the Lord to come, to act, to redeem them, to take them home. Their exile in Babylon was no longer harsh. Many had made good lives, raised children and settled in. But it wasn't quite right. They were physically present in Babylon, but their hearts were not there.

I think Advent is that way for us. The earth is God's good creation. We find much joy in this life. As Lutherans we do not withdraw from the world but engage it, believing that it is a gift.

But we also know that it is not quite right. That there is brokenness and pain—the pain we experience, the pain others cause, the pain we cause others. And, because of our brokenness, we turn in on ourselves trying, in futile self-sufficiency, to make ourselves whole. In some ways Advent creates a certain restlessness. It may be one of the few seasons of the year when we become more aware of our

Happy Holidays Celebrations Events



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

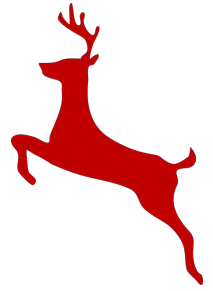
4	Paula Elder
10	Shawn Dickson
	Lloyd Gill
	Jeannette Green
11	Gloria Bilderback
14	James Green
	Ann Hodge
17	Karen Barkstrom
18	Dorothy Stephens
20	Mitzi Ludwig
24	Karen Bilderback
	Hans Stegemoeller
	Jan Van Hoven
27	Stephanie Kaufman
30	Cathy Kallio
	Molly Rabung

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

30	Leif & Lynn Tangvald
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longing for wholeness and more alert to the signs that something is approaching. It's like hearing a sound in the distance that heralds something, but we just can't quite make it out. I believe Advent is a liminal time, a threshold. The Celts called this a "thin place," a place and time where heaven and earth seem to touch. It's just there, just out of sight, just out of reach. And we are filled with a holy longing. Isaiah said it: "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down ..." (Isaiah 64:1).



What is it about us that makes us care, that makes us restless? Isaiah also wrote: "Yet, O Lord, you are our Father, we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand" (Isaiah 64:8). It seems that this Advent longing is an awareness that apart from God we are not whole. In Advent we find ourselves in the unsettled and restless time between the ending of the old year and the beginning of the new, a thin place where we draw near to God realizing, as Augustine wrote, "You have formed us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you" (Confessions).

But we can't get there by ourselves. This is not our work, but God's. Trustful waiting for the Lord is the purpose of Advent: waiting, yearning, expecting, believing. And God is faithful. We hear from the prophet Zephaniah that God promises: "At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you ..." (Zephaniah 3:20).

But the One for whom we wait is not content merely to draw us in, but fulfills this promise by coming to us as Emmanuel, God with us. In the incarnate Christ, God comes to us, finds us and gives our restless hearts rest.

A friend of mine said, "The world is longing for a deeper sense of spiritual connection, but we haven't figured out how to meet the world in that conversation and longing. How can Advent be the start of that new conversation? How different would Advent look if we could start to think of that deep longing as part of our Advent journey?"

Being unsettled in this season might be good for us. God will not disappoint.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel (ELW, 257).*

*A monthly message from the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. This column originally appeared in The Lutheran's December 2015 issue.*





***PRAYING FOR...*** Mitzi Ludwig, Molly Johnson and Rabung Family, Anne Haynes, Jack Bastin, Liz Ellis, Francis Beeman, Bryce Wilson, Dianne Rabung, Jason, Rene, Christopher Hinkle , Lynne Hanson, Beth Botting, Maxine Cogburn, Renee Quinn, Lynn Howerton, Geri Stubb, Jim Coon, Eleanor Knapp, Tim Olden, Ben Offrink , Nicole Claussen, Richard Kraiger, Doug George, Gwen, Don Stubb, Richard, Melvin Thompson, Melissa Smiley, Kenny Broussard, Dana, Gene, Annie Eisele, those experiencing homelessness and those at RiverCity; for long-term caregiver Carol Stubb, for the young people and workers at youth center, and for the families mourning the deaths of BJ Bastin, and Bobbie Shaw. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.



### ***Thanks we have received...***

- Dear Amazing Grace confirmation class, Thank you so much for the amazing blanket! It will be put to good use during Portland's cold and rainy months. Thanks again and God bless. Love, John E Pellessier
- From the **Union Gospel Mission of Grays Harbor**...Thank you for your August 2015 gift of \$28.91.
- Dear Brothers & Sisters, Thank you so much for your ongoing support AND encouragement! We are working hard to finish our 17th house build and looking forward to starting number 18! We cherish your love, prayers and partnership! Blessings, **Habitat for Humanity**
- *Amazing Grace Lutheran Church—thank you for your October gift of \$25.99 to the Pacific Lutheran University Annual Fund.*





## **GIVING TREE– MANY WAYS TO HELP**

### **HEIFER INTERNATIONAL**

There are many ways you can reach out to those in need during this season of joy and abundance. The Giving Tree in the Parish Hall has ornaments for you to choose from. You can support the children in their Noisy Offering outreach by taking an animal ornament, donating money to purchase animals as needed for sustainable development around the world through Heifer Intl.

### **YOUTH CENTER**

You can also choose to support the young people at the Youth Center. Donations of gift cards are most useful for them since the young people staying at the center change from week to week. Depending on who is staying there at Christmas, the workers can use the gift cards to purchase appropriate gifts. Leftover money on gift cards can supply needs throughout the year. You can take an ornament with a dollar amount and a store name and return that to the basket on the table.

Please return your ornament and donation by December 20th at the latest so that we can get the gifts to the agencies in time for them to distribute them.

## **GIVING ANGELS**

There are times when special needs come to my attention, times when friends would like to be involved in activities of the congregation, but financial constraints prevent it. If you would like to be an “ANGEL” for these needs, please let me know. I’ll compile a list so that when a special need comes along, I can pass it on to the people on the list. It’s a way for everyone to be involved and for those who have monetary abundance to share with those who share the abundance they have in other ways.

Examples are being an “ANGEL” for 4F Dinner meals; PLU Christmas Concert Tickets and maybe helping out with one-time needs in extraordinary circumstances. It’s a way for us to care for each other just as we care for those outside of the congregation who need help occasionally.

### **UNION GOSPEL MISSION**

**Reminder:** Judi Hubbard Team serves **Tuesday, December 1st**

**Judi Hubbard, Leader** Mike & Karen Barkstrom Pastor Val Trish Safstrom Sarah Channel Darcy Jewett The director of UGM says that we can expect to serve about **50 people**. They need to food delivered well before 7 p.m. so that they know what is coming. Thank you!!!



## 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 donation site for the Gravity Center, Youth Center and other entities that serve Grays Harbor Youth.



### **G.R.A.V.I.T.Y. Program**

Typical Gravity Center kids are experiencing poverty and neglect. The kids are always hungry and can always use:

Cup of Noodles, Instant cocoa packets

Bread, peanut butter and jelly

Canned tuna, Cookies and fruit

In addition the teen parents need:

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

These items may be left in the basket in the Parish Hall for pick up and delivery by Vicki Mitchell.

## RIVERCITY

**Currently Rivercity is in need of propane for heaters.** There is a heater for each tent and each canister lasts about 2 hours so they need to be replaced often. If you can help with this you can purchase a gift card for somewhere that sells small propane cannisters or in the memo line of a check write propane Rivercity.

All contributions of prayer, time, money, and effort are greatly appreciated!

**Thanks for partnering with First Baptist in Hoquiam. Rivercity's new host site.**

Tax deductible donations may be made to CCS with Rivercity in the memo line. 100% of money goes directly to needs of Rivercity that will stay with the camp wherever it is located.

Donations can be mailed or dropped off at: 410 N. H St. or P.O. Box 1734 Aberdeen 98520.

Email [BARYH@ccsww.org](mailto:BARYH@ccsww.org) or call (360) 753-3340 x 21.

**We're all in this life together!**

## UNDER THE BRIDGE MINISTRY

Please bring bread, lunchmeat, and makings for sandwiches, to the church by December 13. They will be served on December 16. Thank you!



Caring for someone with memory loss? Do you need information and support? Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month 1:00-2:30pm First Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen 420 N. Broadway St Aberdeen WA 98520 Contact Group Facilitator: Helen Morning Star 360.533.2277





PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

## A Christmas Invitation

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY THIS SUNDAY, DEC. 6TH

**If you have ordered a ticket and have not received it yet, you can pick it up in the office during regular office hours or pick it up Sunday after worship. Please let us know if you are NOT riding in the van. Tickets are underwritten by the Mikkel Thompson fund. If you are able, you can pay \$15. per ticket and \$5. toward gas, if you ride in the van.**

We'll ring in the season with a Christmas celebration that is sure to warm the heart and lift your holiday spirit! This year's program will feature the world premiere of critically acclaimed composer JAC Redford's "A Christmas Invitation," a three- movement work composed for the Choir of the West, University Chorale and our University Symphony Orchestra. The program will also include traditional Christmas favorites song with festive carols sung by the audience.

### CHRISTMAS CAROLING AND CHILI - DEC. 13th

We celebrate the coming of the Prince of Peace by coming together to bring hope to a weary world. One way we do that is through song. This year, the Presbyterians will join us for fun, food and fellowship bringing the joy of the season to those who are often alone. We meet at church at 4 and leave by 4:15. We'll take the joy of Christmas music to the home bound and care facilities. We'll be back at church for chili by 6:30. Wear your festive Christmas clothing: ugly Christmas sweaters, Santa hats, reindeer antlers, whatever!



### SALVATION ARMY KETTLE KLASH

The annual Salvation Army Kettle Klash will be held at Noon on Thursday, Dec 3rd at the Harbor City Church on the corner of Scammel and Cherry Streets.

This is a fun fund raising event where teams from many groups around Grays Harbor try to get money donated to their kettle. Pastor Val is captain of the Amazing Grace Team and we want as many participants as possible. A delicious lunch as well as entertainment is covered by the \$15.00 ticket. Tickets are available from Eileen Schermer or at the church office.

### December 20th

#### Children's Christmas Program

The holiday season would not be complete without the children's program. Please pass the word so all young people can participate. Practice is the day before 12/19. Let the office know your child is participating and we'll make sure you get all the information.



Children's  
Christmas Program



# Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes  
November 10th, 2015 6:15 pm



Attendance: Mark Smalley, Chrissie Kincaid, Chris Seelke, Diane Hanson, Val Metropoulos, Mike Kupka, Jeannette Green, Kristine Finazzo, Susan Troy

Call to Order

Devotions – Chris S.

Assign Prayer Task

Thanksgiving - Chris  
Intercession - Mark  
Petition - Jeannette/Val  
Praise - Diane

Assign Time Keeper and Opinion Collector Tasks Chrissie/Jeannette

Establish Quorum yes

Review and Approve Agenda - **M/S/P**

Review, correct and approve minutes of last meeting, October 13th, 2015 - **M/S/P**

Financial Reports

Treasurer's Report – Chrissie Kincaid

Chrissie provided financial reports of all transactions

Report of Transactions by Account – **M/S/P**

Other reports were discussed and reviewed. They include-- Income vs Expenses,

Comparison 2015 vs. 2014, Profit & Loss, Budget Analysis

Maintenance and Fundraising Accounts - checking signature cards in process

**M/S/P** – To go to electronic statements rather than paper statements for all accounts.

Financial Secretary's Report – Mike Kupka

Mike provided the report showing all contributions for October and the 2015 Annual Accumulative Report

Business items

Hearing assistance purchase – Kristine

Hearing systems have been received and are in working order. Keith recommends constructing something on the wall to hold the receiver and transmitter. Mark reminded everyone that people who speak at church must use the microphones for the hearing systems to work properly.

Four units are available with headphones. Larger print was recommended for the bulletins to be more legible for those who have difficulty reading smaller print.

Bel Aire Property Committee – Property listing - Mark

Bel Aire property real estate contract, aerial photo and listing papers were shared with the attendees provided by the property committee. (Correction was made to annual taxes typo)

Gene will be asked to make an announcement to the congregation. Susan will include a note in the SPIRIT about the property listing.

Council Structure – Pastor

A ministry flow chart was distributed to all meeting members. Pastor welcomed ideas or suggestions on the arrangement. As the constitution is in the final review stages, the committee will clarify term limits for the officers and council positions.

Nominating Committee – Treasurer position/Property position/Youth and Family/ VP or Worship

Options for recruiting – Mark may add a bulletin announcement

Options for Restructuring Council & VP position

Pastor suggested the council look at the size and structure of council and consider fewer members  
Paid Youth Group Leader – Pastor  
No further along than last meeting. Decision is up to AG if they want to include more in the budget for a part time paid position.  
Budget Planning – November 17th – Mark  
A meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday, November 17 at 6pm meeting to do the budget.  
Contract with Stafford Creek – Mark & Pastor  
**M/S/P** – Amendment was approved to extend the contract with Stafford Creek for five years. If there is a crisis at the prison AGLC will be a meeting place for families of inmates.  
Reformation 500 year Anniversary – 2017 – Pastor  
Pastor encouraged attendees to help develop a list of people that may want to be on this planning committee for next year.

## Ministry Reports

### Fellowship – Chris Seelke

Pie Auction – November 22<sup>nd</sup> Gary Morean will be auctioneer for this event.  
Judi applied for a Thrivent action card and this grant covers the cost for the main dishes to be provided.  
Chris shared news of a potential ‘Hospitality Team’ to welcome visitors of the church. This would be a genuine welcome for potential members and acknowledge their attendance – Possibly a loaf of bread or small token of appreciation with a card. Chris is awaiting responses from potential team members.  
Landscaping is to be handled with sensitivity of donated items  
Preparation has begun for “reformation projects” (altar cleaning, banners, etc....)

### Worship – Diane Hanson

Altar picture will be taken down and cleaned early next year.  
Advent Party on November 15<sup>th</sup> will include making wreaths and ornaments with refreshments served  
Christmas Eve service will be at 6pm  
Kristine suggested having speakers wired into the fellowship hall  
Side entrance area to church has been cleaned and will not be used in the future as a storage area. The following will remain in that area: couch for sitting, choir and hand bell supplies, recycling, high chair, wheelchair, and speakers. A lending library will be incorporated into this area.  
Pastor ordered 4 wreaths for the church from a school fundraiser

### Outreach—Kristine Finazzo

A coffee can has been set out in the fellowship hall for bus pass donations.  
Thrivent policy members can apply for \$250 mini grants. Current examples: needs for youth shelter, gravity program needs, shoes / clothing, women’s shelter/ diapers, fundraising dinners, chili feed, van rental for Christmas caroling  
Adopt-a-family for the holiday will be sought through members of the congregation  
A Giving Tree (animals from the Heifer project) will be set up again this year

### Youth & Family – Jeanette Green

Christmas Caroling & Chili Feed is scheduled for December 13<sup>th</sup> – Judi got the vans reserved from Five Star. Everyone will meet at the church at 4pm. Some may need to drive their own vehicles. Children’s Program will be held on December 20<sup>th</sup>.  
Darci, Sarah, Nicole, Anneliese taking the lead on this program. Pizza will be provided the week before during practice.  
Pastor shared that the Youth Group is going well.

## Pastor's Report

Pastor Val shared that the Pacific Lutheran University Concert is on Dec 6<sup>th</sup>. There are 29 people attending from Amazing Grace Lutheran.

Mark reminded members that Pastor Val is on vacation three days during Thanksgiving week to visit her mother in Montana. (Nov 22-25)

### Task Assignments

December Devotions for December 8<sup>th</sup> was assigned to Jeannette.

Adjournment and closing prayer

Respectfully submitted by Susan Troy

## **PASTOR'S REPORT – October 2015**

**WORSHIP/DISCIPLESHP** 4 Sunday worship services - Chose hymns and liturgy

Sermons – prayer, study, reading, writing

Prayer

Bible Study based on upcoming weekly readings weekly

Book study: Making Sense of Scripture 10/7-8 – 11/21-22 twice weekly

Advent planning

Meet with ministry leader as needed

**ADMINISTRATION** Research Church council structure and leadership models

Work with office administrator: bulletins, newsletter, other as needed

Council meeting monthly – plan and prepare; Exec. Comm. Meeting

Newsletter - writing, proofing, editing

Mutual Ministry committee

Meet with treasurer as needed

**FELLOWSHIP/PASTORAL CARE/COUNSELING** PLU Christmas Concert arrangements/tickets

Pastoral care as needed

Individual counseling

Meeting with and support for new Rivercity host site leader

Coordinate with ministry leader as needed

Stephen Ministry workshop & research

Meet with quilters 2 times a month

**OUTREACH/VISITATION** Coordinate with Synod representatives for outreach

Weaving Our Strengths workshop – Networking for outreach

Facebook page – outreach through social media.

Meet with homeless individuals, CCS support staff and pastors to plan

Met with county housing coordinator about 10 year plan

Coordinate with Youth Center supervisor

Homebound & assisted living visits

Local pastors meeting – monthly, hosted at A.G. looking for ways to partner and support ministry

Outreach ministry meeting of all interested

**BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE** Set up for book study, Bible study, special worship projects

**YOUTH AND FAMILY** Message for young people weekly

Peer Ministry Curriculum planning – Youth Group

Planning/leading Youth Group with 1<sup>st</sup> Presb and alone

**STEWARDSHIP** Study and integrate into sermons

**OFFICIAL ACTS** (Baptisms, funerals, weddings) Affirmation of Baptism: Jenifer Kaufman 10/25/15

## **PROFESSIONAL GROWTH**

**Reading:** Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus by Smith & Pattison; Unexpected News: Reading the Bible with Third World Eyes by Brown; The Kings and Their Gods: The Pathology of Power by Berrigan

**Classes:** Drawing as Spiritual Discipline at Priory



# Council's Corner

At the end of this year, the council will have 3 openings; Treasurer, Property, Youth & Family. Amy Ostwald has agreed to serve on the council, starting next year, leading the Youth & Family committee.

We are still looking for a volunteer to lead the Property committee, so please give prayerful consideration to whether this is where God is calling you to serve at AGLC. Council members lead the work of the church according to our mission statement and values, calling on the people of the church to use their gifts for the sake of God's work at AGLC.

At a council retreat, we studied a book that recommended a council have no more than 6 members (not including the pastor), for a church the size of Amazing Grace. We had 9 members at that time, and this year we shrank the council to 8 members.

In trying to recruit people to serve on council for the coming year, I realize there is a limited pool of members of the congregation able to serve. The council needs to continue to change its structure to better match the abilities and time commitments of our congregation. That is why the council is exploring different ways of conducting the business of the church.

This last year, the council started this change process by having the Church Administrative assistant take notes at council. This eliminated the secretary position on council.

Chrissie Kincaid is stepping down from the treasurer position at the end of this year. Chrissie has been a blessing to us with her skills and insight, it is just a lot of work to ask a volunteer to step into. The council will vote at the December Council meeting on replacing the council position with a paid treasurer, who will report to the Financial Secretary on council.

For the Vice President position, Diane has been kind enough to pull double duty, leading the worship committee and being vice president. This has not been fair to Diane and has not allowed her follow her passion on the worship committee. So Diane is stepping down from the Vice President position. For next year, we are considering having the vice president position rotate through the other members of council each month, allowing them to meet as part of the Executive committee.

Obviously all of this is outside our current constitution and bylaws, which will require that they be rewritten and submitted to the congregation for approval.

Please let me or anyone on council know if you have questions about this process.

Yours in Christ,

Mark Smalley

marktrish86@gmail.com

249-1955





# **December Worship Assistants**

## **December 6**

Liturgist:	Jeannette Green
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Molly Leithold
Communion Assistant:	None, Communion at the Rail
Ushers/Greeters:	Tim & Pam Alstrom
Depositors:	Gene Schermer & Darrell Lokken
Fellowship:	Barkstrom, Green

## **December 13**

Liturgist:	Laura Carle
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Mark Smalley
Communion Assistant:	Trish Safstrom
Ushers/Greeters:	William & Joan Rabung
Depositors:	Theresa Kaufman & Maurita White
Fellowship:	Alstrom, Tieder, Salmon, Schermer

## **December 20 – Children's Christmas Program**

Liturgist:	Keith Lile
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Elaine Lokken
Communion Assistant:	Sarah Teveliet
Ushers/Greeters:	Dennis & Donna Morrisette
Depositors:	Kristine Finazzo & Paula Elder
Fellowship:	Kraiger & Kupka Families, Annelise Natwick

## **December 24 (Christmas Eve)**

Liturgist:	Hank Bilderback
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Steve Swanson
Communion Assistant:	Theresa Kaufman
Ushers/Greeters:	William & Joan Rabung and Family
Depositors:	Ray Hodge & Judi Hubbard




## **December 27**

Liturgist:	Hank Bilderback
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Vicki Mitchell
Communion Assistant:	Diane Hanson
Ushers/Greeters:	Dee & Morgan Erickson
<sup>13</sup> Depositors:	Mike Hubbard & Mike Kupka
Fellowship:	Bring leftover Christmas cookies!



President	Mark Smalley	(360) 249-1955	marktrish86@gmail.com
Vice President / Worship	Diane Hanson	(360) 532-2859	djh431@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Chrissie Kincaid	(360) 470-1147	ckincaid@paneltechintl.com
Financial Secretary	Mike Kupka	(360) 533-6640	meincmk@comcast.net
Youth & Family	Jeannette Green	(360) 532-2888	green950@q.com
Outreach	Kristine Finazzo	(360) 532-6053	mfinazzo7@comcast.net
Fellowship	Chris Seelke	(360) 593-2875	shadowalchemist417@hotmail.com
Property	Coleman Carle	(360) 538-1137	carle@olynet.com
Endowment	Keith Lile	(360) 580-1511	ole.canoe.guy@gmail.com
Pastor	Val Metropoulos	(360) 580-8977	vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu
Office Administrator	Susan Troy	(360) 532-8250	amazing111@comcast.net



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		Union Gospel Mission meal	9 am Quilting Maintenance Crew 6 pm Handbells 7pm Choir	NOON - Kettle Klash at Harbor City Church		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:45 am Hymn Fest 10 am Worship Caring Cupboard 11 am Fellowship 12:30 PLU Christmas Concert van leaves. NO YOUTH GROUP	Noon—1 Study in Parish Hall	6:15 Council Meeting	10am Maintenance 6 pm Handbells 7pm Choir			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Choir and Bells at AG 10 am Worship and healing prayer 11 am Fellowship 4 Caroling ALL AGES 6:30 Chili	Noon—1 Study in Parish Hall		6 pm Handbells 7pm Choir  We provide sandwiches for Under the Bridge			Feast for All Youth Group Serves Children's Practice and Pizza
20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas	26
10 am Worship <b>Children's Christmas Program</b> 11 am Fellowship YOUTH GROUP SHOPPING FOR YOUTH CENTER	Noon—1 Study in Parish Hall 			6 PM FESTIVAL WORSHIP FOR ALL AGES		
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		
10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship—Bring Christmas cookies to share No Youth Group	No Study this week		6PM Choir / Bells Re- hearsal			15 

# December 2015

AMAZING GRACE  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH OF GRAYS  
HARBOR



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

**Ministers:** The People of Amazing Grace

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Pastor Val Metropoulos

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**Office Administrator:** Susan Troy

**Liturgists:** Hank Bilderback, Keith Lile,

Laura Carle, Jeannette Green, and Charles Scammen

**Musicians:** Kristine Burns, Hiedi Seelke,

Geri Stubb, Jeni Kaufman

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