



A Blessing for Longing

*Blessed be the longing that brought you here and quickens
your soul with wonder.*

*May you have the courage to listen to the voice of desire
That disturbs you when you have settled for something safe.
May you have the wisdom to enter generously into your own
unease*

To discover the new direction your longing wants you to take.

*May the forms of your belonging--in love, creativity, and
friendship--be equal to the grandeur and the call of your soul.*

May the one you long for long for you.

*May your dreams gradually reveal the destination of your de-
sire.*

*May a secret Providence guide your thought and nurture
your feeling.*

*May your mind inhabit your life with the sureness with which
your body inhabits the world.*

May your heart never be haunted by ghost-structures of old damage.

May you come to accept your longing as divine urgency.

May you know the urgency with which God longs for you.

~John O'Donahue

Now that the baby has been born again, whether we embrace that birth fully or keep the notion at arm's length, we move into the season of Epiphany, the revealing of Jesus as God's own beloved son born not just for a few but for all creation.

Last year at Amazing Grace our celebration of Epiphany included STARWORDS and HOPES. We each received a STARWORD that we were invited to let be our guiding star for the coming year, receiving whatever wisdom/direction/blessing that word might offer. But, we also wrote briefly about our hope for the coming year. Then we sealed that hope into an envelope, put our name on it and turned them in for safekeeping. This year's Epiphany celebration will include receiving a new STARWORD, opening up that envelope of last year's hope and again naming our hope for the coming year.

Our hopes and longings can reveal the urgency with which God longs for us if we can open space in our hearts and time in our days to pay attention to what God is revealing to us in each moment and in each interaction. My prayer is that we can help each other be open to that longing of God this year.

Blessings dear ones!

Pastor Val

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CURRENT NEWS

ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 28TH

immediately after worship. All voting members are encouraged to attend. Amazing Grace is YOU. All voices are needed to discern our future in God's mission to love and save the world!

(Voting members are those who have officially joined the church either through transfer of membership, confirmation or public affirmation AND have received the Lord's Supper at least once in the previous year AND have made a financial contribution of record of at least \$1 in the previous year.) Not everyone wants to join officially, which is fine.

They are associate members with all rights and privileges except for voting.

THE ANNUAL REPORT will be distributed Sunday, Jan. 14th giving everyone 2 weeks to look over reports and the proposed 2018 budget.

All Ministry leaders should have their reports into the office by Monday, 1/8.

amazing111@comcast.net



TALENT/NO TALENT SHOW—SUNDAY, JANUARY 21ST hosted by HANDBELLS & CHOIR

This fun event will raise funds to help defray the rising cost of music and for some bell equipment. Come for some good food, some laughs, and some great talent and not so great talent. Tickets are \$ 10.00 a person; \$15.00 a couple and \$25.00 for the family. Contact Judi Hubbard for tickets.

*You will seek
me and find me
when you seek
me with all
your HEART.*
Jeremiah 29:13



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



Dear Friends in Christ,

Now after the Magi had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. (Matthew 2:13-15)

I am writing this Christmas letter to invite you to join with me in assisting refugees who live in our communities, in particular the **30 DACA students who attend Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma**. St. Matthew's tells us that, soon after his birth, Mary and Joseph took Jesus and fled with him to Egypt in order to save him from a murderous King Herod. Like today's DACA children, Jesus became a child refugee carried by his parents across borders to save his life.

DACA stands for Deferred Action for Child Arrivals. In 2012, a presidential executive order was issued allowing children who were brought to the United States fleeing danger to remain here even though they are without immigration documents. DACA applicants must have arrived in the U.S. before 2007, when they were under the age of 16. They are allowed to live and work legally in the U.S. for renewable two-year periods. From 2012 to 2016, 800,000 children and teenagers signed up for this program. Approximately 30 of them are now students at PLU.

Early in 2017, President Trump cancelled this program and asked Congress to decide what to do with the DACA young people. However, Congress so far has done nothing, leaving DACA young people uncertain what will happen when their two-year permit ends in March 2108. They fear they will be deported back to a country of origin that they never really knew and where their lives are still in danger.

The vast majority of these DACA children have now grown up into their late teens and early twenties and are living as responsible, model citizens in the United States. Two weeks ago I met with five of the DACA students at PLU. They are wonderful, honors level students majoring in Psychology, Nursing, Business and Music. They are eager to use their talents and gifts in ways that serve and contribute to our American society. Having been invited by the US government to sign up in the DACA program, they are now completely uncertain about their future since the government has taken back its offer. **Please read "Valise of Hope", on page 10 of this newsletter** in which one of the PLU DACA students describes the experience of being brought to the United States as a child and his commitment to live a meaningful life, on page 10 of newsletter.

I would like to put together a Synod Task Force who will help the PLU DACA students in practical ways. **Would you like to work with me to do that?** The PLU students told me that they would welcome help in a variety of ways, including **legal advice, stress counseling, mentors who work in the careers they are seeking and help with acquiring used text books**. If you would like to volunteer for such a support task force, please email me at jaechre@plu.edu or call me at the Synod office, 253-535-8300.

In this Christmas season, we celebrate Immanuel – God with us - filling every moment of our lives. In Jesus, God comes to bring peace, joy, and healing to each one of us individually and to all of us collectively as God's family around the globe. **I am convinced that Jesus, the child refugee, has a special love for the children today who seek shelter and safety.** In this Christmas season, we also have an opportunity to bring Immanuel's love in tangible ways to the refugees who live among us.

May Christ be born anew in our lives and in our world!

Bishop Rick Jaech



WE ARE ENTRUSTED WITH THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:

Mike Barkstrom, Jim Hall, Nicole Zea, Susie Kellendar, Kathleen Hollingsworth, Matthew Green and his family, Penny Rae Johnson, Danicka, Pastor Jeani Shofner, Jeff Lacey, David Shaw, Mary Ann Majar, Sarah, Jeff Miller and his family, Ray Hodge, Amy, Mary Alice Walton, Loyd Gill, Richard Kraiger, Don & Diane Rabung, Whitney Morean, Kaitlyn Brown, Sherry McAllister, Laura & Jacob, Bob, Jean, and David Hanson and for friends and family mourning the death of Jim Coon. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

GIVING THANKS FOR: successful surgery for Elidh,, Loyd, and Mike; for healing for Ella and Ray.

FOR AMAZING GRACE: that all we do in fellowship and service would be done, humbly following the Holy Spirit's guidance.

FOR THE WORLD:

for those in active military service, especially Steven Kincaid and those who have served in the past. May they know God's security and God's peace. May they be whole in mind, body, and spirit.

for peace and justice for all people: May God's kingdom of justice and peace be reality for all people everywhere. For an end to violence and injustice: in Myanmar, Palestine, Afghanistan, Syria, Pakistan.

for those who hunger: including millions suffering severe hunger in Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan, and Nigeria.

for those facing disasters and recovering from them in: Puerto Rico, Florida, Texas, Montana, India, Bali

We give thanks for signs of hope in our world:

Lord of all hopefulness, as people suffer from natural and human caused disasters and violence we trust that you are working through people in every situation, every day to make this world better. Lord, sustain us in our efforts to be your hands and feet. Teach us humility so that we see each person as your beloved child. Open our hearts and minds, and fill our lives with the fruit of the Holy Spirit: Help us love everyone the way You love us.

God of love, hear our prayer. Amen.

from Worldinprayer.org



The Giving Tree Report:

This year was our first opportunity to participate in the Giving Tree project and we are both overwhelmed (and delighted)with the responses from our faith community.

The Adopt a Family gifts were completely fulfilled....and a few bonuses added.....Sara Channel delivered the items to a family in Hoquiam she reported that they were grateful. I can only add that regardless of how many toys, or clothes or bedsheets I think the idea that when a family is struggling it is the best gift to know there are people in our community who care.

Good Gifts from the ELCA drive was another instance of generous hearts. As a community we were heavy on the Goats (total of 10!) and Chicks with a few additional items of a latrine and water filter and bees and meals for refugees. We send a total of -are you ready?- \$ 835.00 to the ELCA with a request that our donors receive tax deduction receipts.

It was a joy to provide an opportunity for our Amazing people to engage in the Christmas spirit through these two giving events.

As a personal side note I'd like to add that I thought working with the Salvation Army to provide Bell Ringers for a day was also a wonderful way for us as a faith community could share some Spirit and support good work in our town. Gene Schermer brought that to us- what a great way to reach out.

I'm sure that the cookie baking and caroling and making the stars to decorate were also meaningful events this year. It's good to know that there is something for everyone in our church to participate.

If you have any questions please call me: joni 408-893-1291

In Peace,

Joni (and my partner in crime.....Annette)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Aden Kincaid
- 5 Madison Green
- 6 Amy Dodd
- 6 Dennis Morrisette
- 7 Jean Hodge
- 10 Carmon Shaw
- 11 Richard Kraiger
- 12 Dani Buckman
- 13 Jim Weiberg
- 17 Marge Kelling
- 18 Maurita White
- 19 Darrell Lokken
- 22 Erik Kupka
- 23 Jacob Natwick
- 25 Morgan Erickson
- 26 Steve Swanson
- 29 Cynthia Johnstone

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Chris & Hiedi Seelke
- 5 Phil & Suzan Stegemoeller
- 9 Roger & Carmon Shaw
- 23 Mike & Karen Barkstrom



Thank You to the maintenance crew who put the Christmas tree up and decorated it.

Thank you to Diane and Kathy for putting up wreaths and decorating the pews .



Thank You to Ivar Matison's Tree Farm for the spectacular Christmas tree. This year as well as last year the tree in our church was donated by Ivar Matison's tree farm. For next Christmas, if you are looking for a nice Nobel Fir call before you go (360) 533-8681. The address is 55 W Wishkah Rd. Directions to get there, go out the Wishkah road to the West Wishkah road. Turn left at the store and the tree farm is a short way on the left.

Thank You to those who contributed flour for Christmas baskets given through the Food Bank. Your efforts joined with those of other churches meant that families had a good meal at Christmas.

Thank You to those who brought food to the Christmas Community Potluck on Christmas Day. We welcomed some people who live outside as well as friends we knew.

Thank You to those who were able to participate in the Adopt-A-Family Giving Tree. Because you took some time there were kids who were able to enjoy Christmas this year. Thanks also for your contributions to the **ELCA Good Gifts** program that provides ways for families to be self-sustaining. **Thanks go to Joni Hildreth and Annette Bjornstad for heading up that project this year!!!**

Thank You to Chrissie Kincaid for coordinating the Christmas program this year and to all the parents, grandparents and helpers who participated and supported the project. You did a great job bringing the GOOD NEWS for us all that day!

Thank You to the youth who took the time to show their appreciation to the police officers and fire fighters by baking and delivering warm,, delicious cookies. A big thank you to Judi Hubbard for organizing this event.

THANKS to the volunteers ringing the bell for the Salvation Army Kettles on Dec. 16 at Safeway. That day they collected over \$400 for the local Salvation Army Social Services. Around 600 people in need receive help from their social services each week. The ringers that day were Mike Hildreth, Jeni Kauffman, Judi Hubbard with Madison, Molly Leithold, Michelle Weiberg, Hank Bilderback and Kristine Finazzo.

Thank You to the Mikkel Thompson Music Fund that helped a group of 34 attend the Christmas concert. AND thanks to Dee Erickson for organizing the whole extravaganza including securing two vans from 5 Star. Thanks to **Mike Erickson and William Rabung** for safely chauffeuring the gang! **Thanks to 5STAR** for making their community van available FOR FREE for this event and caroling and so many others!

Thank You to Mike Hubbard for all your hard work around Amazing Grace: building, cleaning, hanging light bulbs in the kitchen, hallway, in the office and everywhere! Your talents are appreciated!

POINSETTIAS

Than You to everyone who donated poinsettias. They are truly beautiful. Some of the poinsettias were dedicated in memory of loved ones:

Joan Rabung dedicated them in memory of her parents and brother, Harold, Molly and Craig Johnson

Dee Erickson dedicated them in memory of her father, Bob Brunstad and mother-in-law- Joanne Erickson.



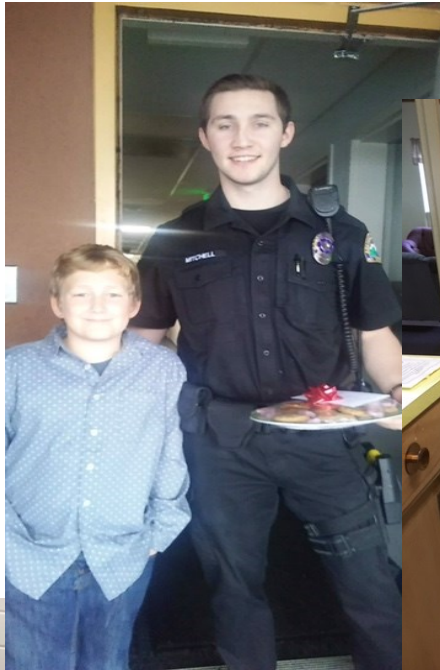
THANKS WE'VE RECEIVED FROM OTHERS

Thank you for your gift of \$39.30. **Pacific Lutheran University**

Please accept this donation (\$100.) as a token of my appreciation for the work Liz, Keith, Scott and all those who helped to work on my house. Once again, Thank you. Chris S. (by Sam Benn Park)

COOKIE GRATITUDE!

These warm and delicious looking cookies were made by the youth of Amazing Grace. Everyone had a great time. They were delivered to the stations of the Police Officers and firefighters of Aberdeen.



Serving at Amazing Grace

HOW IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SERVE?

One way to serve is through **church council**. We meet monthly on the second Tuesday from 6:15—9ish. In addition we have an annual retreat in February. Current positions open are as Fellowship leader or as Outreach leader. Whether you served on the Council long ago or have never served, prayerfully consider whether your gifts could be used in this important ministry. This is a great way to become more involved in Church activities and participate in decisions that guide the Church in participating in God's mission. Please be prayerful about these opportunities. For more information, please speak with anyone on church council. There is a photograph of each ministry leader on the back bulletin board in the fellowship hall.



UNION GOSPEL MISSION

Reminder: Marita White serves Tuesday, January 2nd

Maurita White, Leader

Vicki Mitchell

Virginia Clark

Joyce Smith

Paula Elder

Dorothy Stephens

Pam Alstrom

The director of UGM says that we can expect to serve about 50 people. They need food delivered before 7PM 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.



Youth Center—Needs include: pudding cups, fruit cups, granola bars, snack size bags of chips or pretzels, peanut butter or cheese crackers, individually packed bags of veggies and/or ranch, lunch meat

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.

CHANGE!

Southwestern Washington Women of the ELCA

Spring Retreat 2018

April 20-22 @ Black Diamond Camp, Auburn, WA

We invite you to join in coming together as women from all walks of life to engage in a weekend of discussion, action, and rejuvenation regarding changed for GOOD IN OUR WORLD.

Guest **SPEAKERS** from the SW WA synodical Racial Justice Team as well as Faith Action Network will be helping to create discussion, foster growth, bring awareness, and guidance in moving our actions towards being the change in our communities.

The event will include time for respite, reflection, education, creativity, spirituality, and foremost fellowship amongst a growing community of women in faith.

There are a few things that are new this year that include: Access to walking paths/outdoor hiking, LOTS of room in the meeting room, bathrooms in EVERY ROOM, and a coffee lounge.

Registration– ONLINE or Mail-in

www.eventbrite.com (search event “SW Washington Women of the ELCA spring retreat 2018”

EARLY REGISTRATION BY: JAN 30, 2018

REGULAR REGISTRATION BY: March 30, 2018

Church Office has a copy of the form to register. More information is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions about Registration, Please contact Kathy Ifft at kathyiff@msn.com or 253-307-5761.



NOVEMBER BALANCES OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS

Name		Date	Total
Checking			\$ 39,312.81
-Caring Cupboard			\$ 251.92
-Pastor's Sabbatical Reserve			\$ 2,450.00
-Bells			\$ 354.65
-Friends in Need			\$ 516.00
-Reformation Fund			\$ 2,874.75
-Outreach Funds			\$ 500.00
-Altar Restore			\$ 386.83
-Grace Fund			\$ 220.00
		TOTAL	\$ 46,866.96
Fundraising Checking			\$ 100.00
Maintenance Checking			\$ 2,053.14
-Furnace (sub of Maintenance)			\$ 7,340.51
Youth Checking			\$ 468.47
Memorial Savings			\$ 4,096.91
Mikkel Thompson Savings			\$ 1,276.46

Valise of Hope- The recollections of a PLU DACA student

On July 06, 2006, as a rain storm pelted the window, I saw the bodies of field workers bend into question marks, as they disappeared in the coffee fields. The adobe houses constructed by generations seemed to wash away with the rain—leaving behind the memory of soul-lifting smiles. As we ventured across the red deserts and purple mountains, my mother reminded me that there was an abundance of dreams in my suitcase ingrained with uncertainty.

This uprooting led to a profound eternal mourning for my traditions and my people. For it had been replaced with fear. Like cigarette smoke, the fear gets absorbed in from home, rising from my backpack, woven through the threads of my clothes and the fibers of my upbringing. “Don’t tell anyone,” was a phrase that resonated in my mind, bouncing off the walls of the classrooms and halls. The language barrier isolated me and I felt condemned by a nine-digit number I did not possess.

My parents came home with bone-deep exhaustion from being out in the fields all day. Carrying the full baskets of apples, oranges and grapes was not like the picture on the red raisin boxes I had seen at the markets; not like the woman wearing a fluffy bonnet, holding out the fruit with her smiling, ruby lips, the sun a flat orange orb behind her. A drowning sensation followed me home. I felt like I was being swallowed by blackness in order to produce commodity. I asked myself, “What makes a difference?” It boiled down to this: It was the *thinking*. How we think; how we look at situations, whether or not we see ourselves being successful.

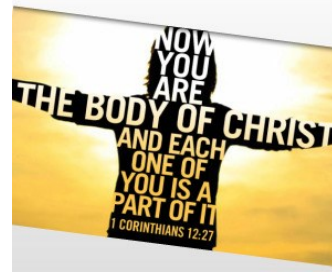
What was stopping me was my own fear. I learned to identify it and rejected it. Hence, I zealously committed myself to learning three languages. Effective communication and education became one of many diverse means of accessing my dreams. Progressing from reading, writing, and speaking my native language (Spanish) at a third grade level to a university level, galvanized a novel perspective: Everything that I do, it’s going to have to be twice as excellent.

Eleven years later I am a college student and still don't have a green card. However, I realize the power of our thoughts—a fractal moment in time. With the support of family, faculty, and friends, I was able to unleash the brain power to gradually transform my situation.

Kids having a great time with a hands on Sunday School lesson about a temple, so the kids made a TEMPLE CAKE.



Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
December 12th, 2017 6:15 pm



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.*

Attendance: Theresa Kaufman, Mike Barkstrom, Chris Seelke, Pastor Val Metropoulos, Phil Stegemoeller, Mark Smalley, Amy Ostwald, Kristine Finazzo and Vicky Kolb

Call to Order: Mark Smalley 6:15

Devotions -Faith Five based on next Sunday's reading – Pastor

Establish Quorum

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

Review, correct and Final approval of minutes for last meeting, November 14th, 2017 **M/S/P**

Financial Reports

Treasurer's Report – Theresa Kaufman

-The pie auction raised over \$4000 which will go toward the maintenance fund. There was discussion about how to ensure donations are credited to the correct funds.

- Bills were approved.

Financial Secretary's Report – Phil Stegemoeller

-Need to be sure that there is enough money for the furnace

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

2018 Budget – Mark, Dee, Phil

-The goal for benevolence is to get it up to 10%. Right now it's at 7% and in 2018 it will be 8%.

- there was a discussion about a line item in the budget for kitchen needs

- Preparing a Narrative Budget in addition to the regular budget was discussed.

- Budget was approved as amended **M/S/P**

Review benevolence recipients

Ways to Support our local homeless

-River city: Is not going to happen for now, not enough churches wanted to participate in it.

-Benevolences were reviewed and discussed. It was decided to keep the ones we had and add Revival to help with homeless in our community. **M/S/P**

Next steps to help the Homeless – Amy

Nominating Committee – Kristine and Chris

-We are being prayerful about positions and talking to people who may be interested.

Annual Meeting Committee Reports – Mark

-Reminder that January 5th is the deadline for committee reports. Examples are in church office

Christmas Day – Pastor Val

-The Community Christmas potluck is from 11-1. 17 people have signed up. Everyone is invited. It is also advertised on facebook.

Council Vice-President – Mark

Jan, Feb, March 2018 -Mike B. will serve

Bel Aire real estate contract was renewed.

Ministry Reports

Fellowship – Chris Seelke

Pie Auction – November 19Th

-The pie auction raised \$4525

PLU Concert- Dec. 3rd

-The PLU concert was well attended, 34 people went. It was a wonderful experience.

Caroling and chili – Dec. 10th

- Christmas Caroling and Chili was also a success, 35 people attended many shut-ins were visited.

Worship – Dee Erickson

Baby Shower for Jesus: Kristine contact Skeeter Moore with foster care in Grays Harbor. The foster program was happy to be the recipient of items.

Outreach – Kristine Finazzo

Family Promise-tie in with reformation

Giving Tree– A family was identified through Hopkins Preschool program for Adopt a family. ELCA Good Gifts will also be available for people to support.

Salvation Army Bell ringers- Amazing Grace will be volunteering at the Safeway Deli door on Saturday December 16th.

Youth & Family – Amy Ostwald

Youth Group - Serving at Presbyterian Church for Feast for All

Christmas Program – Led by Chrissie Kincaid, 12/17. All Ages

Cookies for Helpers (police and fire fighters) spearheaded by Judi H. 12/17 after worship

Property – Mike Barkstrom

-Toilet downstairs- ready to be used.

-Roof: On Parish Hall building been repaired. The roof will need replacing in the near term

-Roof in Sanctuary altar at end of church is leaking. It will cost at least \$3000 plus tax.

--Furnace will cost about \$8600-\$8800

-Move \$1600 from memorial fund to furnace fund to cover the shortfall M/S/P

Upcoming projects are replacing the windows in the youth shelter (getting an estimate), repair roof on sanctuary tower and louvers, secure the downstairs entry way to prevent debris gathering and littering.

Custodian Position- Judi Hubbard began working in December.

Youth Center agreement – question about level of donation.

- Due to reduction in County funding the Youth Center was in danger of having to reduce hours. But, Amerigroup is making a large donation to youth center.

-Show center what they are getting with donations.

-More interaction between church and youth center with help congregation see how that ministry is making a difference..

-Table Mike's assessment of youth center utilities cost until January M/S/P

Reformation Landscape Project

Stewardship – Pastor Val

Pastor's Report - (On next page)

-Pastor Val will be taking vacation the week after Christmas

Task Assignments-

Mark- email Phil ideas about committee report

Mark- confirm percentage in real estate contract

Phil- Fix format on excel spreadsheet

Adjournment and closing prayer

PASTOR'S REPORT – REGULAR ACTIVITIES – November 2017

WORSHIP/DISCIPLESHIP Sunday worship – Plan and lead
Plan and implement themes with Liturgical Arts Team
Plan & participate in adult education
Plan seasonal and special worship services
Sermons – prayer, study, reading, writing
Prayer
Meet with ministry leader as needed

ADMINISTRATION Reports: congregational; synod; ELCA
Coordinate Imagine Process w/ Synod D.E.M.
Conference Pastors meeting monthly
Conference deans – meet bi-annually & as needed
Recordkeeping: updates to documents; church ledger
Work with office administrator: bulletins, newsletter
Council meeting & Exec. Comm. Meeting monthly
Newsletter - writing, editing
Meet with treasurer as needed
Mutual Ministry meeting
Endowment Committee advisor

FELLOWSHIP/PASTORAL CARE/COUNSELING
Prayer Chain - coordination
Healing monthly
Grace notes weekly or as needed
Pastoral care as needed
Coordinate with ministry leader as needed

OUTREACH/VISITATION Food Bank reorganizing meetings
County housing meetings
Monthly Local Pastor's group
Hospital visits; homebound & assisted living visits
Facebook page – outreach through social media.
Coordinate with others to support homeless and fragile people
Coordinate with Youth Center supervisor
Meet w/ ministry leader as needed

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE Meet w/ ministry leader as needed

YOUTH AND FAMILY Youth Group coordinate activities monthly and summer trip
Message for young people weekly
Meet w/ ministry leader as needed

STEWARDSHIP/EVANGELISM Study and integrate into sermons

OFFICIAL ACTS – Reception of 5 new members

VACATION - None

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH: Listening w/the Spirit – class for spiritual direction
Spiritual Direction monthly
Reading: Spiritual direction articles; Saved by Beauty; Feasting on the Word.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

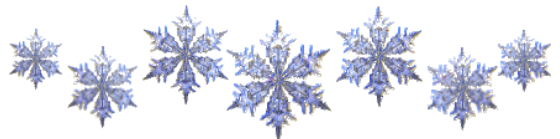
RENEWAL: IMAGINE workshop
Coordinate efforts with Synod D.E.M

WORSHIP: Cross+Gen Worship planning
Planning for Advent and Christmas

ADMINISTRATION: Interviewing for Admin. Assist.
Admin. Assist. Transition - training
Weekly bulletins; monthly newsletter while training new admin. assist.
Prayer and conversation discerning potential council members
Incorporating new members in life of church

FELLOWSHIP Planning for Advent Fun with Dee

OUTREACH Kettle Klash – attend and enjoy; Schermers do all the work



Work with Joni H. to organize Giving Tree and Adopt-A-Family
 Food Bank/Revival/Youth Center donations coordinated
 Food Bank board transition and reorganization

PROPERTY

Set up for Cross-Gen worship

Set up for Worship in Parish Hall when furnace not working

YOUTH AND FAMILY

New Member classes – 2 classes for 5 people

Confirmation class – 3 times during November

Youth Group – second and third Sundays; 1st Presb and St. Andrews continue to express

interest but have not been involved much

UPCOMING:

Christmas Program – Dec. 17th

4th Sunday of Advent – Dec. 24th a.m.

Christmas Eve – Dec. 24th p.m.

Christmas Day – Community Potluck if there is enough interest

New Year's Eve Sunday – Hank B. presides service of Lessons and Carols

Vacation – 12/26-1/1

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President	Mark Smalley	(360) 249-1955	marktrish86@gmail.com
Treasurer	Theresa Kaufman	(360) 537-1190	theresamarie4739.2@gmail.com
Financial Secretary	Phil Stegemoeller	(360) 580-9310	Phil.qlc@comcast.net
Youth & Family	Amy Ostwald	(360) 482-2306	Ostwald@olynet.com
Outreach	Kristine Finazzo	(360) 532-6053	mfinazzo7@comcast.net
Worship	Dee Erickson	(360) 533-7948	deekaye1@comcast.net
Fellowship	Chris Seelke	(360) 593-2875	shadowalchemist417@hotmail.com
Property	Mike Barkstrom	(360) 532-3319	mkbars1@gmail.com
Endowment	Dennis Morrisette	(360) 533-1012	dcmorrisette@msn.com
Pastor	Val Metropoulos	(360) 580-8977	vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu
Office Administrator	Vicky Kolb	(360) 532-8250	amazing111@comcast.net

BUILDING REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE

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

amazinggraceaberdeem.org

amazing111@comcast.net

Pastor Val Metropoulos-(360) 580-8977

vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu

Office Administrator: Vicky Kolb

Liturgists: Hank Bilderback, Keith Lile, Laura Carle, Jeannette Green

JANUARY 2018 Worship Assistants



JANUARY 7

Liturgist:	Keith Lile
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Liz Ellis
Communion Assistant:	Communion at the Rail
Ushers/Greeters:	Donna and Dennis Morrisette
Depositors:	Pete Majar and Mark Ostwald
Fellowship	Hanson, Erwin, Hodge, Seelke, Tilley

JANUARY 14

Liturgist:	Laura Carle
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Vicky Roberts
Communion Assistant:	Diane Hanson and Darci Jewitt
Ushers/Greeters:	Mike and Arlene O'Connor
Depositors:	Eileen Schermer
Fellowship:	FINAZZO, EVANSON, ELLINGSEN, HUBBARD, WAITE, WINTER

JANUARY 21

Liturgist:	Jeannett Green
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Michelle Weiberg
Communion Assistant:	Jill Waite and Arlene Torgerson
Ushers/Greeters:	Tim and Pam Alstrom
Depositors:	Gene Schermer and Hiedi Seelke
Fellowship:	BARKSTROM, HILDRETH, BUCKMAN

JANUARY 28

Liturgist:	Hank Bilderback
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Dee Erickson
Communion Assistant:	Diane Hanson and Joelle Buckman
Ushers/Greeters:	Tim and Molly Leithold
Depositors:	Darrell Lokken and Carmon Shaw
Fellowship:	ANNUAL MEETING/COUNCIL POTLUCK

*For with
God nothing
shall be
impossible.*

-Luke 1:37

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
17	OFFICE CLOSED	MAURITA WHITE'S UNION GOSPEL MISSION TEAM	9AM QUILTING MAINTENANCE 6PM BELLS PRACTICE		SCRAPBOOK GROUP	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9AM CHOIR PRACTICE 9:45 AM HYMN FEST 10 AM WORSHIP/SUNDAY TIMES CARING CUPBOARD 11:15 AM GODLY PLAY/FELLOWSHIP		6:15PM COUNCIL MTG	6PM BELLS PRACTICE AA 5:30-6:30PM			AA 7-8PM
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9AM CHOIR PRACTICE 10 AM WORSHIP FAITH CONNEX WORSHIP 11:15 AM FELLOWSHIP 6PM YOUTH GROUP		6:30PM FAMILY PROMISE	9AM QUILTING MAINTENANCE AA 5:30-6:30PM UNDER THE BRIDGE MINISTRY 6PM BELLS PRACTICE		SCRAPBOOK GROUP	AA 7-8pm
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9AM CHOIR PRACTICE 10AM WORSHIP—HEALING 11:15 AM GODLY PLAY/FELLOWSHIP 6PM YOUTH GROUP HANDBELLS/CHOIR— “TALENT/NO TALENT SHOW”			AA 5:30-6:30 6PM BELLS PRACTICE			AA 7-8PM
28	29	30	31			
10 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM GODLY PLAY ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK			AA 5:30-6:30 PM			





**Please join us for worship
Sundays at 10am with coffee and fellowship
afterward.**

***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
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111 E. 4th Street
Aberdeen, WA 98520

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

