

THE SPIRIT

January 2023



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

GOD IS WITH US

Sometimes the world just seems so solid. Reality is uncompromising and immutable. Literally, what you see is what you get, and our sight, our perception, is limited. So we forge on with all the obligations of daily life—family and work and taxes and deadlines. Our scope of existence becomes closed in, and our world gets smaller. Can this really be all there is?

The Christmas specials have started on TV, the familiar carols and songs are piped into grocery stores and shopping malls, and all kinds of media invoke the magic of Christmas. I don't know about you, but for me the result is not uninterrupted joy but longing and a sense of loss. Look at the war in one part of the world that brings starvation to many, including children who are powerless. The pandemics of COVID-19 and racism and hate speech cause us to be suspicious of each other and turn inward upon ourselves. Peace on earth, goodwill to all cannot withstand the sharp limits of the real world.

Yet every Christmastime we try to create perfection. If we just get it all right—the decorations, the celebrations, the traditions, the family gatherings—we can push past the limits of the solid world. This effort leaves me exhausted and nostalgic. There must have been a better time, a simpler time, a purer time. And even, if by some superhuman effort, we can create the perfect holiday, how does it feel on Dec. 26?

It's a funny thing, nostalgia. The word comes from the Greek *nostos*—return—and *algos*—pain. One scholar defined nostalgia this way: "the suffering evoked by the desire to return to one's place of origin." We have our origin story. It is the account in Genesis of Eden, where humankind lived in harmony with creation, a place of peace and plenty where God and God's creatures walked together. I believe that in some mystical way the memory of our place of origin exists in each of us. When we listen to the prophet Isaiah at Christmas, we are assured that God will restore that place: "The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them" (Isaiah 11:6).

We can't bring this about by ourselves. We can't go back, nor can we will Eden into the present. And yet there are times and places where the space between heaven and earth seems to dissolve. The Celts called these "Thin Places." The distance between heaven and earth collapses. It may only be a moment or feeling, but the sense that we are standing in the presence of the Holy becomes palpable.

During Advent and Christmas, the contrast between what the world is and what it was created to be is stark. We know that something is not right, but we also know that something is right. It's out there somewhere. Nostalgia becomes more acute and so does our desire to bring heaven to earth during this season. This is God's work, not ours.

The Incarnation is God's supreme liminal work. It is *the* Thin Place where heaven and earth touch. It is the tie and place where the suffering caused by our desire to return to our place of origin is ended because God has begun a new story where heaven and earth are joined. "Unexpected and Mysterious" describes this: "In a momentary meeting of eternity and time, Mary learned that she would carry both the mortal and divine" (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, 258).

Our seemingly solid world with its own reality and truth gives way to the blessed inbreaking of heaven with the true reality. Our origin, present and future are one in God, and God is with us when we perceive it and, more importantly, when we do not.

This is the gift of Christmas.

Bishop Eaton



WE ARE ENTRUSTED WITH THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

God, Lord of all creation, lover of life and of everything, please help us to love in our very small way what You love infinitely and everywhere. We thank You that we can offer just this one prayer and that will be more than enough, because in reality everything and every one is connected, and nothing stands alone. To pray for one part is really to pray for the whole, and so we do. Help us each day to stand for love, for healing, for the good, for

the diverse unity of the Body of Christ and all creation, because we know this is what You desire: as Jesus prayed, that all may be one. We offer our prayer together with all the holy names of God, we offer our prayer together with Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God's people join in prayer for Jim Hall, Ronald Edward Shaw, Tim Garney, Michael Silver, Helen Velling, Mike Barkstrom, Don Mackey, Cher, Linda, Leslie Prasch, Tom, Monica Wilson

January BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

Jacob Natwick, January 22

Morgan Erickson, January 25

Steve Swanson, January 26

Cynthia Johnstone, January 29

ANNIVERSARIES:

Chris & Hiedi Seelke, January 1

Suzan & Phil Stegemoeller, January 5

Roger & Carmon Shaw, January 9

Mike & Karen Barkstrom, January 23

BIRTHDAYS:

Aden Kincaid, January 4

Madison Green, January 5

Dennis Morrisette, January 6

Jean Hodge, January 7

Carmon Shaw, January 10

Dani Buckman, January 12

Jim Weiberg, January 13

Marge Kelling, January 17

Maurita White, January 18

Darrell Lokken, January 19

Erik Kupka, January 22



Prayer Chain members who hold our needs, thanks and concerns faithfully before our compassionate God.

The volunteers for delivering food to the Food Bank.

Naomi and Carmon for helping Vicky assemble the bulletins

Everyone who contributed fruit cocktail for the Christmas food baskets

Dee, Pastor Val and Rabungs for organizing, getting tickets and for driving the van for the PLU concert on 12/4 and **Dee for providing the van and the Barkstroms** for providing Chili after caroling on 12/11

Everyone who contributed Poinsettias during the

month of December.

All the kids and organizer who participated in the Christmas Program



Loyd Gill turned 101 in December and wishes everyone a Blessed and Happy New Year! Photo taken and submitted by Diane Hanson.

BELL KETTLE RINGER THANK YOUS

These folks from Amazing Grace rang the bell on 12/10/22 and collected \$331.00 in the kettle.

10am Gene Schermer
11am Gene Schermer
12pm Tobi Buckman
1pm John Tieder
2pm Laura Carle
3pm Judi Hubbard
4pm Laura Carle
5pm Roger Shaw



Laura Carle bell ringing.

Photo submitted by Judi Hubbard



THANKS WE'VE RECEIVED

- **Family Promise of Grays Harbor** thanks Amazing Gracing for a donation of \$62.47
- **Habitat for Humanity** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$96.92
- **Union Gospel Mission of Grays Harbor** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$96.92
- **The Salvation Army** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$750

THANK YOU FOR DONATION and COMPANION RELATIONSHIP IN NAMIBIA IN 2022

Advent Greetings, Pastor Val,

I am writing to the congregation of Amazing Grace to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the \$789 given to the companion relationship in Namibia in 2022. The gift will help support church-funded schools, children's hostels and health facilities.

As a longstanding supporter, I also want to invite the leadership and flock of Amazing Grace to consider opportunities coming up. We are in the very early stages of planning a historic gathering of church and lay leaders in Johannesburg in 2025. People from the

ELCA and from southern Africa countries will be going, and a visit to Namibia will be included. There is financial help.

Please take time to consider whether you would like more information, or for me to come out and do an adult-ed on this. I would particularly like a representative (s) from Amazing Grace to be a part of this, because I believe you are part of the future of this longstanding relationship.

Contact me any time. Rachel Pritchett

(206) 498-0920

rachelpritchett@msn.com

ELF THANKS & WRAP-UP!

(Elevate Local Families)

Thanks so much to everyone that participated in some way in ELF — which includes most every person in the congregation! It started with baking, knitting, cookie & jam making — bidding at the pie auction and generously donating. Those funds were turned into gift cards to bless and support local, struggling families in our community.

Due to the incredible generosity of Amazing Grace Lutheran Church we distributed over \$6000 in gift cards (and goody bags) to families in

Grays Harbor. **This includes 66 families, totaling 261 parents and kids.** Gift card amounts were determined by the size of the family. Families could then use the funds as needed for gifts, food, gas, heating bills, etc.

Families were served through:

- Molly Leithold's preschool family connections
- Aberdeen High School (William & Joan Rabung connections)
- Robert Gray Elementary (Carrie Erwin's connections)

- Taholah School (Joni Hildreth's connections)
- Family Promise
- CCAP
- The Youth Center

THANKS everyone!! And special thanks to ELF helpers Joni Hildreth, Joan Rabung, Amy Ostwald

and Molly Leithold for help assembling the gift bags, and ELF Joelle Buckman who stood in line at Safeway on multiple days to purchase all the gift cards!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SPIRITS THAT EXPRESS THE LOVE OF GOD IN OUR COMMUNITY!



Thank you, handbell choir, for making Christmas Eve service extra special with beautiful music!

Photo taken by and submitted by Diane Hanson

SERVING AT AMAZING GRACE

MINISTRY REPORTS FOR ANNUAL REPORT

All reports need to be into the office by **January 8th** so that the office can compile them into the booklet for distribution to the congregation on **January 15th**



GIFT POLICY

The gift policy was the result of the long work of a representative committee of the congregation. Your questions and suggestions are welcome, as always, as we work together to fulfill Amazing Grace's mission in this place. Please direct questions and suggestions to a member of the committee as soon as possible so that adaptation to the policy can be made

far in advance of the annual meeting (1/29/23) where it will be voted upon. The committee members are: Gene Schermer, Arlene Torgerson, Phil Stegemoeller, Jim Weiberg, Gary Biornstad, Mark Smalley, Pastor Val.

FAMILY PROMISE PROGRAM UPDATE

We currently have 2 Guest families and a total of 7 people in our shelter program, a mom and her 2-year-old son and a family of five, mom, dad, and three daughters 10, 12, and 16 years. All of the adults are employed and our youngest guest enjoyed his first month attending childcare.

Family Promise of Grays Harbor's modified approach to meals on a trial basis has been successful thus far. Our Guest families have put a lot of effort into creating food budgets and enjoy planning and preparing their meals.

Our Guests asked me to thank AGLC and The ELF team for your support in helping their Christmas to be extra merry! Darci Jewitt 360-986-3944

COLD WEATHER SHELTER

We're collecting items to help at the Cold Weather Shelter this year. They need: gloves and hygiene

supplies like toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, wet wipes, combs, etc. **Most needed right now are Large and X-Large sweat pants or pajama bottoms in neutral colors, beanies and socks.**



Naomi Kraiger, Diane Hanson, and Kathy Wehage attend PLU Christmas Concert. A wonderful way to start the Christmas season.

Submitted by Diane Hanson.

GROWING AT AMAZING GRACE

AGL REBOOT 2023

Church Council and Mutual Ministry Team are aware of and have been discussing issues and concerns within our congregation that are causing tension, dissatisfaction and frustration.

We have contacted the SW Synod Office of **Consultation to Clergy (CTC)**. CTC is a church-wide program offered to pastors and congregations struggling with communication, trust of leadership, goal setting and other issues impairing the health and vitality of a congregation.

Laurin Vance, Executive Director of CTC, as well as a retired Lutheran pastor has met with us, identified areas of concern and suggested options for us to move forward together as a family in Christ.

We have chosen a three-step process.

1. Congregation interviews.
2. Congregation-wide discerning assembly.
3. Implementing changes

The congregation interviews will be meetings with Laurin, either 1 on 1 or small groups of 2 to 4. They will be 45-minute sessions during which participants will be given the chance to discuss their perceived issues and concerns within the congregation. All interviews will be confidential. Laurin will take notes and write a report after each interview. No names

will be mentioned in his notes and reports. He will then write a summary of all the interviews and give it to the Council President who will work with Council and Mutual Ministry to formulate a priority list of concerns.

The congregation-wide discerning assembly will be scheduled to take place several weeks after the interviews have been completed. This will be a time for all to speak and hear a variety of points of view on selected issues and concerns. Priorities will be set and solutions will be recommended to appropriate governing bodies.

Laurin will moderate this assembly.

Implementing changes will occur as we move forward using the information gained in the first two steps.

There will be time for prayer and meditation throughout this process.

The congregation interviews will be conducted here at church by Laurin on January 19, 20 and 21. Tara Main will be posting a sign-up schedule for people to reserve time slots.

Please prayerfully consider participation in this opportunity. The more involvement we have by congregants the stronger our outcomes will be.

Please direct any questions you have to Church

Council or Mutual Ministry members;

Phil Stegemoeller, Dee Erickson, Carrie Erwin, Curtis Steinhauer, Joe Fernandez, Suzan Stegemoeller, Tara Main, Diane Hanson, Keith Lile, Mark Smalley

and Michelle Weiberg.

Pastor Val will not be participating in this process during her leave.

Thank you!!!

Christ candle shines above Nativity scene on Christmas Eve.

Photo taken and submitted by Diane Hanson.



REFUGEE RESPONSE

Lutheran Community Services Northwest

Here are some ways you can help Afghan and Ukrainian refugees **right now**.

Financial assistance

- Supports ongoing case management
- Supports rent and food costs while refugees seek employment
- Assists with legal fees on their path to citizenship

In-kind donations

You can find current needs here: copy & paste links into web browser

Tacoma/Seattle

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/YFFYWACFKJHO?ref_=wl_share

Welcome kits

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/18OYIwalmwO4oaDNtz456445kL9qQIRAB/view>

- Beds and mattresses
- Dining room sets
- Gently used couches

Volunteer Support

- Drivers to and from appointments
- English practice partners
- Cultural competency support (i.e. how to navigate a grocery store)
- Highly committed people to interview and prepare for interviews (to gain status of parole)

We are so thankful for your engagement, support, and generosity as we continue to welcome and serve humans seeking safety in our community.

LCS Northwest Advancement Team

FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

20th Anniversary Celebration in early 2023 – A committee is forming to plan this important celebration. It's been 20 years since Our Savior's and Trinity were gathered to become Amazing



Grace! We'd love a wide cross section of people to be involved so that there is something for everyone in this celebration. If you would like to be a part of the planning, please let Carrie Erwin know. You can talk to her at Church, email her at mcerwin@comcast.net, or call her at (360) 500-3767.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY COMING SOON!

We need your participation to put together a new

photo directory for Amazing Grace. We will need a photo and new or updated contact info for you or your family.

Photo:

a) you may submit a hi-res photo (jpg) via email to Amy Ostwald: aaostwald@gmail.com (or send it to the church office). Or you may text the photo to Amy at 360-480-4213. Be sure you are large within the photo — focused on you/your family, not a scene with your incidental inclusion.

b) we will take casual photos after church on some Sunday mornings during the coming weeks.

Contact info:

Send your street address, phone number and email address to Arlene Torgerson at dan-ishdame@comcast.net (or the church office).

Send whatever info you are willing to have in the directory, distributed to members and friends of Amazing Grace. If your info has not changed from the last directory, let us know that as well.

You don't need to be a member to be in the directory.

Thanks from the directory team: Amy Ostwald, Arlene Torgerson and Diane Hanson.



WHAT IS THE GIFT POLICY AND WHY DOES AMAZING GRACE NEED ONE?

Mark Smalley

In June of 2021, the church Council directed Pastor Val to pull together a committee to generate a Gift Policy. Gene Schermer, Arlene Torgerson, Phil Stegemoeller, Jim Weiberg, Pastor Val, and I were on the committee.

Fortunately for us, the Synod already had a Gift Policy template generated by the Synod lawyer. We met with Beth Adams, ELCA regional gift planner, who shared the template with us and walked us through what could be changed and what was legal boilerplate that was required due to IRS rules.

Two of the main purposes of the gift policy are:

- To give guidance to church leadership, so they know how to manage such gifts.
- To joyfully share the policy to encourage future giving, so that the givers can have confidence in how their gift will be managed.

Here are some of the terms in the policy that you may not be familiar with:

- Restricted Gifts – those gifts given for a specific program or purpose
- Unrestricted Gifts – those gifts given without a specification of which program they would benefit.
- First Fruits giving – giving the first part of your harvest to God, because everything we have, was given to us by God. Sometimes we are tempted to give our offering after we have paid all of our bills, but first fruits guides us to give our offering to God first. Our Church Council at Amazing Grace has set the example for us, by following this practice for years. When we do our budget we set a percentage tithe for the year and that money comes out first every month before any bills are paid. Over the years, the council raised the giving % each year, until it reached the Bible based 10%. This tithe is split (as decided by council and approved in the budget) between the SW WA Synod, Union Gospel mission, Namibian Lutheran Church, Friends in Need, PLU, Grays Harbor Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, Living Stones Ministry, and Family promise.

Questions we were asked by congregation members:

- Does this change how our current endowment fund works? No the current endowment fund has its own bylaws.

- What does the Note on Page 3 mean that “Donors may not direct the way a gift is invested or utilized”? This may seem contradictory for a restricted gift, but it relates to IRS rules. For example, you could designate a gift for scholarships, but you cannot designate who gets the scholarships.
- Why is there an option to create a different endowment fund? Our current endowment fund’s giving is very clearly spelled out in its bylaws. If someone wants to have an endowment that is for a different purpose and they are willing to plant it with at least \$25,000, we want a policy to line out how to do that.

An important part of the policy are Exhibit A – the Gift Worksheet, and Exhibit B- the Restriction and Release Form. One issue that all church councils have is turn over and loss of institutional memory. These forms should help solve some of those issues by clearly spelling out what the gift is to be spent on. The release of the restriction is also important to spell out how designated funds are to be released from their designation. If a donor gives us \$30,000 for a specific purpose, but it only costs us \$27,000, the church cannot use the \$3000 for any other purpose without going to the donor to get a release. This form will clean up that process, so everyone will know how it will work.

The committee met with those who had questions after service on November 20th. We will do another session in early January, so we are ready to vote on the Gift Policy at the Annual Meeting.

Guest violinist, Mei Lei Smith (granddaughter of Joyce Smith) blesses us on Christmas eve.

Photo taken and submitted by Diane Hanson



Amazing Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes November 15, 2022

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.

Attendance: In-person: Pastor Val, Suzan Stegemoeller, Phil Stegemoeller, Tara Main. Zoom: Carrie Erwin

I. Review of vision, mission, values and council purpose

II. Call to Order by Acting Pres. Phil S. 6pm

III. Establish Quorum

IV. Review and Approve Agenda M/S/P

-Added under Business Items. G. Windows Sales Tax

V. Approve minutes from meetings: October 25th (II-V: 5 min) M/S/P

VI. Special guests:

1. Liz Ellis – Warming Center
2. Hank Bilderback - piano

VII. Business items (these are generally items that are beyond any one ministry or don’t fit under any ministry, special requests from the community) (30 min)

- A. Mutual Ministry
- B. Gift Policy – Informational meeting after worship
 - It was recommended there be another Q&A, which is scheduled for the first Sunday of January with attachments included.
- C. Endowment Fund
- D. Consultation to Clergy resource – Nov. 18th 5:30
- E. Accounts simplification – Phil
 - Council discussed closing the Youth, Memorial and Mikkil Thompson accounts. And the designation of donations received.
 - Motion for donations to be in one of three accounts: General, Maintenance, or Endowment Fund.
- M/S/P**
- F. Council leaders – 2023
 - Council discussed new candidates, restructuring council and the specific duties of each committee.
- G. Windows Sales Tax -Council was contacted by the accountant from Cathedral Crafts letting council know that the sales tax needs to be paid by the end of the year or they'll stop working on the windows.

Ministry team reports: (30 min)

- A. Worship – Dee Erickson and Pastor Val
 - LAT will decorate for coming season.
 - i. Advent and Christmas
- B. Outreach – Suzan Stegemoeller
 - i. Family Promise – Grants - Curtis
 - ii. Kitchen and Parish Hall guidelines
 - Council discussed the clean-up process for groups using the church building, and about using real candles for services.
 - Guidelines will be on colored paper in the kitchen on the whiteboard.
 - iii. Thanksgiving & Christmas outreach
 - iv. See Suzan's report
- C. Youth & Family – Curtis Steinhauer
 - i. Sunday School-
 - a. Christmas Program – 12/18
 - ii. Adult group study
 - a. Advent Devotional by congregation
 - b. Advent study
 - iii. Confirmation – meeting 11/13, 12/11, & Confirmation camp in Jan. w/ Saron
 - First meeting held, all 3 families attended. Confirmation camp in Jan. on Friday and Saturday 9-2
- D. Fellowship – Carrie Erwin
 - i. 20th Anniversary celebration and dedication of windows
 - ii. Pie Auction – 11/20
 - iii. PLU Concert - 12/4
 - 2 tickets left as of tonight's meeting. 2 Vans are rented.
 - iv. Caroling – 12/11
 - 1 van rented. People are welcome to follow in own vehicles.
- E. Property – Joe Fernandez
 - i. A/V System – training
 - ii. Stained glass windows project update
 - A letter, which Phil will sign, will be sent to the Endowment Fund asking them to pay the sales tax immediately for the stained-glass windows
 - iii. Maintenance meeting 10/30- report
 - iv. Parking lot steps
 - v. People willing to respond to building emergencies
 - vi. Supervision



VIII. Financial Reports: (30 min)

- A. Treasurer's Report –Tara Main

- Tara will reformat Treasurer report for next month's meeting.
 - i. Approve October bills paid **M/S/P**
 - ii. Family Promise finances related to A.G. and Maintenance budget – Tara
Council will speak with Family Promise about getting budget as soon as possible.
 - B. Financial Secretary's Report – Phil Stegemoeller
 - i. a letter for giving will be going out to all members.
 - ii. New Program for treasurer and financial secretary – Tara
-Tara will work with Vicky starting in December to start putting in information
 - iii. Audit of congregation's finances – 2024?
2023 Budget and finances overview – Phil
-Tara and Phil will go over budget
- IX. Pastor's Report** (IX – XI 5 min)

XI. Adjournment and closing prayer 7:58

PASTOR'S REPORT November 2022

OTHER ACTIVITIES in November

OFFICIAL ACTS:	Sharon Taylor funeral (community member)
PASTORAL CARE:	Visits to home bound, dying and grieving Visits, calls, texts, messaging as needed
ADMINISTRATIVE:	Dean's meeting with Bishop Council planning Gift policy Budget
OUTREACH:	Habitat for Humanity house blessing Food Bank board meeting Planning with team leader
WORSHIP:	Reformation and receiving new members Preparing for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany
YOUTH/FAMILY/EDUCATION:	Confirmation meeting Young People's message Sunday School – consult; find curriculum Planning for Confirmation
PROFESSIONAL GROWTH:	Healthy Congregations w/ Council & Mutual Ministry Reading: Learning to Walk in the Dark - Taylor
VACATION:	None
UPCOMING:	Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services 12/24 and 12/25 To be scheduled: 20 th Anniversary celebration – Feb. or March; committee forming Worship in Work Clothes – Spring before Easter

Judi and Madison. Ringing and playing for the Salvation Army.

Photo submitted by Laura Carle





Acting President,	Phil Stegemoeller	(360)580-1577	phil@willisent.com
Treasurer	Tara Main	(360) 580-1577	taramain@comcast.net
Financial Secretary	Phil Stegemoeller	(360) 580-9310	phil@willisent.com
Youth & Family	Curtis Steinhauer	(360) 580-2301	turtis21@gmail.com
Outreach	Suzan Stegemoeller	(360)249-6986	suzansteg@hotmail.com
Worship	Dee Erickson	(360) 533-7948	deekaye1@comcast.net
Fellowship	Carrie Erwin	360-500-3767	mcerwin@comcast.net
Property	Joe Fernandez	(206) 372-7901	Joseph.m.fernandez@gmail.com
Pastor	Val Metropoulos	(360) 580-8977	vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu



BUILDING REPAIRS/MAINTANCE

Please notify Joe Fernandez 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.

Joe Fernandez: Joseph.m.fernandez@gmail.com- (206) 372-7901

Ministers: The People of Amazing Grace

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

amazinggraceaberdeens.org

amazing111@comcast.net

Pastor: Val Metropoulos (360) 580-8977

vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu

Office Administrator: Vicky Kolb

Liturgists: Hank Bilderback,

Keith Lile, Laura Carle,

Curtis Steinhauer, Greg Johnstone

Musicians: Kristine Burns and Hiedi Seelke

OFFICE HOURS

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

Pastor Val will be taking some time to rest. In a pastoral emergency, please contact Phil Stegemoeller.

JANUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

January 1

Liturgist: Laura Carle; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Carmon Shaw; **Communion Assistants:** Greg & Cynthia Johnstone; **Ushers/Greeters:** Phil & Suzan Stegemoeller; **Depositors:** Mark Ostwald & Annelise Kraiger; **Fellowship Hosts:** Schermer, Rabung, Carlson; **Communion setup:** Cynthia Johnstone; **Stream Team:** Curtis

January 8

Presider: Diane; **Preacher:** Hank; **Liturgist:** Hank Bilderback; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Dee Erickson; **Communion Assistants:** Diane Hanson & Mark Smalley; **Ushers/Greeters:** Roger & Carmon Shaw; **Depositors:** Ruth Ann Carlson & Joelle Buckman; **Fellowship Hosts:** Beeman, N. Kraiger/ A. Kraiger, Debandt; **Communion setup:** Laura Carle; **Stream Team:** Joe

January 15

Presider: Diane; **Preacher:** Hank; **Liturgist:** Greg Johnstone; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Theresa Kaufman; **Communion Assistants:** Joelle Buckman; **Ushers/Greeters:** Tim & Pam Alstrom; **Depositors:** Kathy Wehage & Greg Johnstone; **Fellowship Hosts:** Weiberg, Leithold, Channel, Teveliet, Jewitt, Steinhauer; **Communion setup:** Carmon Shaw; **Stream Team:** Keith

January 22

Presider: Joelle; **Preacher:** Joe; **Liturgist:** Curtis Steinhauer; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Diane Hanson; **Communion Assistants:** Dee Erickson & Joe Fernandez; **Ushers/Greeters:** Naomi Kraiger & Arlene Torgerson; **Depositors:** Carmon Shaw & Annelise Kraiger; **Fellowship Hosts:** Barkstrom, Hildreth, Buckman; **Communion setup:** Tara Main; **Stream Team:**

January 29

Presider: Hank; **Preacher:** Joelle; **Liturgist:** Keith Lile; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Joe Fernandez; **Communion Assistants:** Darci Jewitt & Joni Hildreth; **Ushers/Greeters:** Joan & William Rabung; **Depositors:** Mark Ostwald & Joelle Buckman; **Fellowship Hosts:** Alstrom, Tieder, Johnstone (**Annual Meeting Potluck**) **Help with set up/clean up;** **Communion setup:** Joelle Buckman; **Stream Team:** Amy



CHRISTMAS Program: Madison and Jace Winter, Trace and Jared Erwin, and Robin and Trae Steinhauer.

Mary and Joseph played by Robin and Trae Steinhauer— Red and yellow head scarves



Photo taken and submitted by Diane Hanson.

NOVEMBER BALANCES OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS

AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH INCOME STATEMENT MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER 30,2022 General Fund		AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH INCOME STATEMENT MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER 30,2022 Maintenance Fund	
Revenue		Revenue	
General Fund	\$ 39,949.85	Maintenance Fund	\$ 5,000.00
Youth Fund		Dumpster Refund	\$ 283.95
Memorial Fund			
M Thompson Fund	\$ -		
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 39,949.85</u>	Total Revenue	<u>\$ 5,283.95</u>
Expenses		Expenses	
Pastorial	\$ 6,430.42	Visa- Church	\$ 222.16
Payroll	\$ 5,363.56	Visa-Dcon,Step Ladder	\$ 108.88
Payroll Taxes 3rd Qtr.	\$ 6,374.12	Visa- Stair Strips	\$ 202.07
Worship	\$ 173.57	Sales Tax Windows	\$ 13,580.00
Supplies	\$ 353.86		
Utilities	\$ 895.62		
Software	\$ 128.24		
Misc	\$ 89.06		
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 19,808.45</u>	Total Expenses	<u>\$ 14,113.11</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ 20,141.40</u>	Net Income	<u>\$ (8,829.16)</u>
AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH General Church Equity Month Ending November 30, 2022		AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Maintenance Equity Month ending November 30,2022	
Beginning Equity Nov 1,2022	\$ 24,010.73	Beginning Equity Nov 1,2022	\$ 23,114.94
Net Income	\$ 20,141.40	Net Income	\$ (8,829.16)
Less Benevolences	\$ 2,916.70	Less Withdrawals	\$ -
Church Equity 10/31/2022	<u>\$ 41,235.43</u>	Church Equity 10/31/2022	<u>\$ 14,285.78</u>

Income statements continued on next page.




AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH GENERAL BALANCE SHEET NOVEMBER 30,2022			AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MAINTENANCE BALANCE SHEET NOVEMBER 30,2022		
ASSETS			ASSETS		
General Fund	\$	41,286.44	Maintenance Fund	\$	14,285.78
Youth Fund	\$	295.75			
Memorial Fund	\$	3,855.73			
M. Thompson Fund	\$	876.13			
Prepaid Insurance					
Prepaid Website	\$	264.00			
Total Assets		<u>\$ 46,578.05</u>	Total Assets		<u>\$ 14,285.78</u>
LIABILITIES			LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$	1,291.20	Accounts Payable		
Salaries Payable	\$	2,234.79			
Federal Taxes Payable	\$	1,805.48			
WA State Taxes Payable	\$	11.15			
Total Liabilities	\$	5,342.62	Total Liabilities	\$	-
CHURCH EQUITY			CHURCH EQUITY		
Church Equity	\$	41,235.43	Church Equity	\$	14,285.78
Total Liabilities and Equity		<u>\$ 46,578.05</u>	Total Liabilities and Equity		<u>\$ 14,285.78</u>



Roger Shaw bell ringing.

Photo submitted by Laura Carle

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10 WORSHIP 11 FELLOWSHIP	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3	4 QUILTING 9-12 AA 5:30-6:30	5 MASTER QUILTERS 9-3	6	7
8 10 WORSHIP 11 FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL COMMIT- TEE REPORTS DUE	9 OFFICE CLOSED	10 HANDSEWERS 9-3 SENIOR ART GROUP 9-3 F.P.G.H. BOARD MEETING 6:30	11 AA 5:30-6:30 BELLS 6:00	12 MASTER QUILTERS 9-3	13	14
15 10 WORSHIP 11 FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL REPORTS AVAILABLE	16 OFFICE CLOSED MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.	17 SENIOR ART GROUP 9-3	18 QUILTING 9-12 AA 5:30-6:30	19 MASTER QUILTERS 9-3	20	21
Congregation interviews with Laurin Vance						
22 10 WORSHIP 11 FELLOWSHIP	23 OFFICE CLOSED	24 HANDSEWERS 9-3 SENIOR ART GROUP 9-3 COUNCIL MEETING 6:00	25 AA 5:30-6:30 BELLS 6:00	26 MASTER QUILTERS 9-3	27	28
29 10 WORSHIP 11 FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL MEETING	30 OFFICE CLOSED	31 SENIOR ART GROUP 9-3				
UPCOMING EVENTS Ash Wednesday– February 22						

JANUARY



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
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



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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE