

THE SPIRIT — JANUARY 2019

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church of Grays Harbor



It's the ninth day of Christmas as I write and think and plan for the 2 months of the Epiphany season that we are blessed with this year. I'm finding it difficult to let go of the gift of Christmas this year: the mystery and wonder of God born as one of us and all that that incarnation means for us still. The Christmas miracle, grounded in flesh and blood, and birth that foreshadows death, set in the gritty scene of simple rural life: animals gathered around their food trough alongside the exhausted mother and worried father is not our daily life, but one we can imagine easily. It's familiar. It's even homey. And even though it's the mystery that holds me in this season, it's the familiarity that makes it hard to move on to Epiphany. Even the word, Epiphany has a sense of pushing me out of my cozy home. It's a word that provokes images of big and important events and ideas in contrast with Christmas's comfort and warmth, family and homey feeling.

That is the beauty of the liturgical year. When we long to hibernate, turn inward and nest in our own comfort, we are pushed to remember and reconnect with the wider world. This whole, big, beautiful mess of life and faith is not about us alone. Jesus was born for us but also for every person, every creature even in the unheard of niches of this world.

The predominant symbol of Epiphany is light but it is not the light of the campfire creating a circle of warmth as we huddle together with our own. Epiphany light is the light of a star that shows the way out into the world where there are others: people, creatures and creation we have never imagined that God loves as much as God loves us! It's the light so distant we can barely imagine its origin and so close that it illuminates the way to a baby, unimaginably to be found in a feeding trough. It's the light that reveals not what we already know as a nightlight guides our sleepy steps in the night. It's the light that invites us into life abundant and far more, pregnant with possibility for those willing to risk discomfort, danger and the unknown.

Christmas comforts. Epiphany unsettles. We long to stay in the comfort but true life is in Epiphany, in the gift of encountering the other, the unknown, the beloved by God. Thanks be to God for this gift and for the gift of pilgrims on the journey so we go not alone, but always in community, encouraging and holding one another. When I am clinging to Christmas I count on you to take my hand and walk with me into Epiphany light. I'll do the same for you.



From cradle to grave

Christmas comes at a descending time. The old year is coming to an end, the new year is not yet here. It is too late to accomplish goals set on the previous New Year's Day, and just enough time to realize that whatever shape or state you are in will be the shape or state in which you end the year. There is a hefty dose of "what might have been."

In the Northern Hemisphere the trees are bare, fields are barren, birds have migrated, animals are hibernating, the days are short and the nights are long. The earth's colors are muted, and when there is snow the world becomes silent. Sometimes during these short days and long nights I find myself thinking about the brevity of life. This conflicts with my tendency to believe that the possibility of self-improvement and renewal is limitless: there is always another day, more time, another chance.

I remember watching our first child as she slept in her cradle, thinking about the future before her and, at the same time, the reality that there would be an end. The Ash Wednesday declaration, "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return," became more pointed and more poignant. The cradle-to-grave progression is our path; the inevitable and inexorable decline of our strength.

As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more (Psalm 103:15-16).

Maybe this is why the Christmas season can be so fraught. Of course, there is anticipation and celebration, but there is also pressure and stress. Perhaps we are trying to greet the Lord's birth with our best efforts (when I was a girl, Christmas preparations were not complete until the silver was polished, and that job fell to me), but desperation can creep into the urgency to get Christmas right, to hold back the night. "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight" (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, 279). **This is freight that Christmas can't carry when Christmas depends on us.**

Christmas comes at an opportune time. God did not come to us that first Christmas when we were at the top of our game or when the world was perfect. Even the circumstances of Jesus' birth were a sharp reminder that all was not well—forced migration to Bethlehem, no room for the young family, born in a stall. Emmanuel—God with us—came to us and comes to us precisely at the time when our need is greatest.

Our attempts to bring about perfection actually get in the way of receiving the gift. When we try to fit into an unrealistic ideal of who we ought to be instead of welcoming God into our real self, no matter how messy, what then is left on the 13th day of Christmas? Fatigue, certainly, but also the dull acceptance that life moves from cradle to grave.

But on Christmas, **God has reversed the cradle-to-grave progression.** The angel announced to the shepherds: "I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:10-12).

Here is the new reality. Here is the truth. Our lives are not a meaningless trudge from cradle to grave, but a joyful journey—true and lasting joy—from grave to cradle. All our brokenness and death meet life and healing and hope in the child in the manger. His cradle defeats the grave. We are loved. We are alive. Now we are free to greet this holy season.

Merry Christmas, dear church.
Bishop Eaton

WE ARE ENTRUSTED WITH THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER



FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING: Stacie Evensen's Myanmar Mission, Philip, Tammy Mumaw, Johnny Russell, Bob Fenton, Tracy Rigsby, Gloria Bilderback, Jaimie Matisons, Bob Murray, Flora Schroeder, Conchita Murray, Phil Leithner, Tom Plumlee, Vince Huddard, Mary Ann Majar, Sarah Robbins, Nick and Judy Claussen, Penny Holbrook, Sammy, Terry Warwick, Melvin Thompson, Susie Kellendar, Matthew Green and family, Penny Rae Johnson, Betty Schlaht, Maxine Cogburn, Jeff Lacey, David Shaw, Jeff Miller, Amy, Mary Alice Walton, Don Rabung, Whitney Morean, Kaitlyn Brown, Sherry McAllister, Laura & Jacob, Jean and David and we entrust Suzan Stegemoeller's father to God's loving care and pray for peace and comfort for all those who loved him. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

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

FOR THE WORLD: Console us, Redeemer God, when we are dismayed by the news of the world. Headlines of strife fan the flame of fear. News of tragedies triggers grief unresolved, and unbidden. However, those headlines don't tell the whole story; they don't capture the humanity of the people involved, they often don't tell of the countless joys, focusing instead on the multitude of sorrows. Though we may not know their names, though we may never hear their stories, we pray for the billions of people who call this planet their home. We pray that each person will sense your presence, marvel at the world around them, draw close to others who love and care for them. Help me, help us all, to have clean hands and a pure heart; so we might draw closer to you and receive your many blessings. **Amen**

FOR THOSE INACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE AND THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE PAST: especially Caleb Berken and Steven Kincaid

FOR THOSE WHO LIVE ON THE MARGINS IN OUR OWN COMMUNITY: Those who live Outside, in cars, or in unstable housing; those who live with food insecurity; those who are unemployed or under-employed.

FOR THOSE WHO WORK FOR THE CARE OF THE VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY: Organizers of Family Promise, workers at the Salvation Army and Union Gospel Mission and those reorganizing the Aberdeen Food Bank.

God of love, hear our prayer. Amen.

from Worldinprayer.org

We periodically update the prayer list, since we often don't hear about the needs of the people we're praying for. Please contact the office 360-532-8250 to update any prayer requests you may want to have included or deleted. Thank you.

Contact Brenda Grant for any prayer needs at: brenda_k_grant@hotmail.com



Carolers brought songs of God's love to friends and family!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

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



- ♦ Thank you to Joni Hildreth and Annette Biornstad for setting up and decorating the Giving Tree in the fellowship Hall.
- ♦ Thank you Dee and Pastor Val for organizing the PLU concert.
- ♦ Thank you to all who participated in the Caroling and Chili event December 9th, those who brought cookies and to Pastor Val for organizing the caroling sites and to the Barkstroms for making the wonderful chili that was enjoyed by those who came.

thank
you!

- ◆ Thank you to the Rabung family, Dee Erickson, Jill Waite, Pastor Val and Steve, Tim and Pam Alstrom, the Shaw family and Naomi Kraiger and Marti Debandt for providing us with the beautiful poinsettias to enjoy.
- ◆ Thank you to those who participated in Living Stones Prison Ministry on December 8th and to Joe and Carmon who organized it.
- ◆ Thank you to those who donated rolls for the Food Bank Christmas baskets.
- ◆ Thank you to those who donated diapers and other baby items for the Baby Shower for Jesus, the Friendship House and Gravity Center program are always grateful for these items.
- ◆ Thank you Darci Jewitt for heading up the Christmas program this year and to those who helped: Amy Ostwald, Laura Carle who helped with the music, Chrissy Kincaid who helped with the costumes and to the additional parents, grandparents and adults for making this program happen.
- ◆ Thank you Laura Carle for the donation of the coffee pot.
- ◆ Thank you Naomi Kraiger for helping me assemble bulletins for the month of December.
- ◆ Thank you Phil and Judi for looking reviewing the voting membership list.
- ◆ Thank you Amy for sending out Sunday school surveys.
- ◆ Thank you to those who set up the Advent event on November 25th in the fellowship hall.
- ◆ Thank you to Robert Winstead, Timothy Keith, Larry & Bev Weaver, Pastor Val, Nancy Olsen, Dick, Oscar & K Bramstedt, Cher Keller and Denise Hall for putting together and handing out the Food Bank December Baskets.
- ◆ Thank you to the Christmas crew that helped put up and taking down the Christmas tree in the sanctuary.

THANKS WE'VE RECEIVED FROM OTHERS

- ◆ Thank you Amazing Grace Lutheran for allowing me to do my project for the church. Without all your help my Eagle project wouldn't have been the way it is. Thank you for funding the project, that also made my project a lot more easy. I hope you enjoy my project for years to come.

-Trace Erwin

- ◆ **Pacific Lutheran University** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$45.10
- ◆ **Living Stones Prison Congregation** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$45.10



The Christmas program
December 16th was a
beautiful telling of the
message of God's love
shown by Jesus' birth as
told by our young people.

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

We are Updating our Church Directory! We want YOU to be included!

Our church directory was last printed in October 2014. We are overdue for a revised edition! If you are new to our congregation, have changed your address or any contact information, please email or call the church office: amazing111@comcast.net or 360-532-8250 with your contact information. Last time we included name, mailing address, email and telephone number. Photo Options:

- 1) we can re-use your existing photo from the last directory
 - 2) send a jpg to Amy O.: aaostwald@gmail.com — Send a close-up photo of you/family (head & shoulders are preferred - but we can crop if needed).
 - 3) Amy O. can take a snapshot of you at church in the sanctuary or outside (there won't be formal photo sessions)
- As soon as we have all this complete we will get a copy to each of you! Thanks for your participation. Any questions, please contact Amy, Linda or Cynthia.

BOOK GROUP

Please join the Thursday night book group! We are reading *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith* by Kathleen Norris which is available in the fellowship hall. We meet at 7pm in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome whether you've read the book or not!

SERVING AT AMAZING GRACE

UNION GOSPEL MISSION SUBSTITUTES

If you are interested in being available as a substitute on a Union Gospel team first Tuesday of the month, especially for the months of April and October, please contact Vicky at the church office. You may call 360-532-8250 or email at amazing111@comcast.net.

FAMILY PROMISE NEWS

HELP FAMILY PROMISE WHEN YOU SHOP ON AMAZON!

If you shop on Amazon, a half a percent of your purchase can be applied to Family Promise of Grays Harbor. Here's how you do that: Log into your Amazon account. Then type in smile.amazon.com in the top white http address bar. Hit enter and it takes you to the charity page. Where it says select a charity on the right, go to the bottom option of pick "your own" and type in Family Promise of Grays Harbor. Select Search. The next page will appear and you press "select". Then hit "yes" you agree to start your shopping with smile.amazon to get the benefit. You're done....*Start Shopping!*

UNION GOSPEL MISSION January 1

Maurita White, Leader Vicki Mitchell & Virginia Clark, Joyce Smith, Paula Elder, Dorothy Stephens & Pam Alstrom
Substitutes: Hiedi Seelke, Carmon Shaw 360-532-294



The director of UGM says that we can expect to serve about 50 people. They need food delivered before 5PM 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 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.

FLOWERS

A 2019 calendar for flowers for the altar each week will be posted on the skywalk. Please sign up to bring flowers. Commemorate a wedding, celebration, anniversary, remembrance or just because you wish to see flowers on the altar that Sunday.

Please remove the flowers after the service on Sunday. Take the flowers to someone who is ill or a shut-in if you wish. The removal of the flowers will help the custodian. The flowers or greens can be from your garden or plants. Any questions call Maurita White 360-532-2985



The Kincaids – Chrissie, John, Shelby and Aden

Karen Barkstrom and Joan Rabung



NAMIBIA

Advent greetings to all our friends of Namibia,

Here you'll find an update of what we've done in our companion relationship with Namibia this year.

I visited 20 congregations in 2018, with the purpose of spreading the word about our companion relationship, inviting people into the conversation, and raising funds. Many knew of the relationship. For others, it was new. I identified new people who are interested, and raised funds for our partners that will allow us to send these gifts at Christmas:

\$5,000 to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia

\$1,500 to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia

\$500 to Paulinum Seminary

As you can see, congregations responded very strongly when told about the 19 underfunded children's hostels in ELCRN. I believe all of these congregations will repeat their giving in 2019.

In 2019, the Namibia Task Force will turn its attention to an ELCA-wide network gathering in Chicago on March 10 to 12. At that gathering, there will be planning for a trip to Namibia and elsewhere in Southern Africa in 2020. This trip will be part of a historic "consultation" between church leaders here and there.

In my visits to our congregations, I have identified people who are interested in going to Chicago and Africa. If you are interested as well, please let me know. They've asked me to limit the people going

to Chicago to three.

Meanwhile, please consider your own Christmas gift to Namibia. Send your checks to the Southwestern Washington Synod at 420 121st. St. S, Tacoma, WA 98444-5218. Please write your checks out to "Southwestern Washington Synod" and put "Namibia" in the memo line. Your gifts will help the hostels in ELCRN; a hospital, rehab center and school in the north; and a seminary. The Namibia Task Force will hold its next meeting in the synod office after the March gathering in Chicago.



Three of the LAT (Liturgical Arts Team) members stringing stars: Pastor Val, Dee Erickson and Marti Debandt.

Blessings. Pray for Namibia.
Rachel Pritchett, chair
Namibia Task Force
Southwestern Washington Synod

Wish List of the Living Stones Praise Band Musicians

*If you would like to provide the funds to purchase any of these items,
please contact Sandi at LivingStonesAssistant@outlook.com.
Items may be viewed online at musiciansfriend.com.*

Thank you for your support of the gifts of our men!

Quantity	Item	Number	Price
1	Livewire Essential Dual MIDIn Cable 9ft Black	J38981000001001	\$15.99
1	Vic Firth 3-pair American Classic Hickory Drumsticks Nylon 5B	H76494000002006	26.99
1	Vic Firth 3-pair American Classic Hickory Drumsticks Nylon 7A	H76494000002007	29.97
2	Dunlop Nylon Max Grip Guitar Picks 12 Pk 0.60mm	582854000139000	3.89
1	Vic Firth Gen 7 Articulate Timpani Mallets	447622	39.99
2	Tru Universal WR20 (Pair)	J21957	19.99
1	Ernie Ball 2221 Nickel Regular Slinky Electric Guitar Strings	584146	13.99
1	Tama Rhythm Watch RW30	J19669	34.99
1	Promark Hot Rod Sticks	443400	20.99
1	Yamaha FC4A Piano Style Sustain Foot Pedal	J19485	29.95

**Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2018 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: Phil Stegemoeller, Judi Hubbard, Mark Smalley, Joelle Buckman, Pastor Val, Dee Erickson, Amy Ostwald and Vicky

- I. Call to Order Mark Smalley 6:15
- II. Devotions – Stewardship – Holy Currencies – Read Chapters 3 & 4 (ch 3 is long, ch 4 is short) - Mark
 - Currency of relationship-building
- III. Establish Quorum
- IV. Review and Approve Agenda M/S/P
 - Dee will talk about the PLU Christmas concert during her worship report.
- V. Review, correct and final approval of minutes for last meeting, November 20, 2018 M/S/P
- VI. Financial Reports
 - a. Treasurer's Report – read by Mark in Theresa's absence
 - transactions by account M/S/P
 - b. Financial Secretary's Report – Phil Stegemoeller
 - Phil will add the Eklund endowment donation to his report.
 - i. Estate Planning
 - Phil will make an announcement about the estate planning during the Annual meeting in January and he will also set up a meeting with the Synod people.
- 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)
 - a. 2019 Budget – Mark
 - i. Review proposed budget - Mark –
 - Approve 2019 budget **M/S/P**
 - ii. Review needs for narrative budget – Mark
 - Council members need to review for the hours and description for their own ministry and send back to Mark and he will make final adjustments.
 1. Total hours for each ministry
 2. Ministry Description
 - b. Family Promise Update - Mark
 - Charles is the new director of Family Promise and he is very excited about officially starting in January 2019 and there may be a family in there by end of February.
 - c. AGLC becoming a Host Congregation for Family Promise – Mark
 - Recommend to congregation to become a host to Family Promise, with vote at the annual meeting –**M/S/P**
 - d. Annual Meeting – January 27th
 - i. Deadline for reports – to Vicky by January 4th
 - ii. Annual Report to the congregation January 13th
 - e. Voting Membership list review – Judi/Phil
 - Judi and Phil both said the list was good to go as it was.
 - f. Paid Family and Medical Leave program –Theresa/Mark
 - Mark S. will talk in more detail about the paid family and medical leave program with Theresa before the 1st of the year.
 - g. PSALM update – Pastor Val

-Joelle who is one of five people who is taking the PSALM class said that it's going very well and that it's an exciting class and that they will be going on a retreat in March. They are each in charge of doing a project each quarter and writing essays, which go to both Pastor Val and the Synod. They meet with Pastor Val once a month for spiritual direction.

VIII. Ministry Reports

a. Worship – Dee Erickson

-The PLU concert was a great experience for all who went and more people went this year than last year and there were no problems to be had.

-The Living Stones Ministry that was scheduled for December 8th went well and was a moving experience for the six people that went.

i. Altar Guild

-There are things being done that fall under the Altar Guild job description and some new items that have been added, Dee will make corrections Altar Guild form and resend it to Vicky.

b. Outreach – Joelle

i. Updates on Giving Tree, Salvation Army bell ringing, baby shower for Jesus.

-The gifts that were collected under the Giving Tree in the fellowship hall went to the 17 residents at Grays Harbor Health and Rehab for adopt a grandparent, The Kettle Klash luncheon and bell ringing went fine, Joelle is continuing to work on getting the cold weather shelter being set up, Amazing Grace is in charge of providing 100 packages of rolls for the Christmas baskets, Joelle checked in with Feed the Hungry to see if they need help on Christmas Day and they do not, the Gravity program is sending food home with the kids so they can no take a bigger variety of donations with them, Joelle will also follow up with the school at the first of the year if they are still interested in starting up a backpack program and she will also see if there is any interest from the congregation about volunteering to do dinner at St. Andrew's one Sunday evening, once a quarter.

c. Youth & Family – Amy Ostwald

i. Parent Outreach

-Amy sent out Christian Education surveys that went out to the families with kids. Some have been returned, so far.

-An advent event was held on November 25 after church in the back of the Fellowship hall with activities for all ages.

-The Thursday book group continues to meet but will take a break over Christmas break.

-Confirmation is meeting. Pastor Val wrote about their activities in the December newsletter.

ii. Christmas program Dec 16.

-The Christmas program this year was led by Darci Jewitt with help from Laura Carle- music, costumes- Chrissy Kincaid and additional helpers Carmon Shaw and Judi Hubbard.

iii. Cross Gen recap

-There was a meeting with the planners. Will get feedback from the congregation.

h. Fellowship – Judi

i. Report on Caroling and Chili

-Judi announced that 30 people were there for the caroling and chili. During the caroling we went to some of Amazing Grace's member's homes and they were really grateful that we did that. The Barkstrom made great chili.

i. Property – Mike Barkstrom

-Mike has been great at communication between Family Promise and Michael.

i. Review of priorities

IX. Pastor's Report

X. Task Assignments

-Mark will talk with Theresa about which account GWOH project came out of. It should have come out of the memorial fund.

-Mark will make changes to the Narrative Budget and send to Vicky

-Mark S. will talk in more detail about the paid family and medical leave program with Theresa before the

1st of the year.

-Judi will talk to Theresa about 4f dinner.

-Judi will send out email about people volunteering to help put things back after the rugs are dry.

-Dee will talk to Theresa about PLU concert tickets.

-Dee will make corrections Altar Guild form and resend it to Vicky

-Phil will ask Theresa about the donations on the profit and loss report.

-Phil will set up a meeting with the Synod.

XI. Adjournment and closing prayer 8:45

PASTOR'S REPORT – REGULAR ACTIVITIES – November 2018

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

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, etc.
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 – coordinate w/ Brenda Grant
Healing monthly
Grace notes weekly or as needed
Pastoral care as needed
Hospital visits; homebound & assisted living visits
Coordinate with ministry leader as needed

OUTREACH Food Bank reorganizing meetings
Monthly local Pastor's group
Facebook page – outreach through social media.
Coordinate with others to support homeless and fragile people
Meet w/ ministry leader as needed

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE Meet w/ ministry leader as needed

YOUTH AND FAMILY Adult study: plan and participate
Confirmation: plan and lead

Sunday School: coordinate with ministry leader

STEWARDSHIP/EVANGELISM Study and integrate into sermons

OFFICIAL ACTS – Funeral: Charles Coulter

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH: Spiritual Direction program year two; Spiritual Direction monthly; Reading: The Divine Dance.

OTHER ACTIVITIES in November

ADMINISTRATION: Synod conference dean's meeting with bishop

OUTREACH: Jewish group potluck and conversation – support in wake of shooting

Interfaith Vigil for Hope

With ministry leader: planned for Christmas giving

Food Bank work to reorganize and find new site

Food Bank Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets contribution coordinated

Living Stones worship – coordinate and participate

Met w/ possible social media volunteer coordinator

Met w/ Sarah Monroe support for homeless

Kettle Klash

PASTORAL CARE: Charles Coulter's family

Group spiritual direction for PSALM participants; advise and coordinate their process

RENEWAL: IMAGINE team meeting – plan for next steps

WORSHIP: With ministry leader and Hank: Planning for fall; evaluated sabbatical time

Plan funeral - Coulter

Planning special services – Advent; Children' program; Christmas eve and 1st Sun. after Christmas.

YOUTH AND FAMILY: Confirmation class weekly: 3 youth, parents and mentors

VACATION: December 26- January 1

UPCOMING: Pastor Chris Ode preaches 11/25 (new Living Stones pastor)

Advent Event: Sunday, 11/25 after worship

Christmas Eve worship 12/24 7pm

12/30 Lessons and Carols led by Hank

DECEMBER BALANCES OF CHURCH ACCOUNT

Name	Date	Total
Checking		\$ 37,671.75
-PSALM		\$ (500.00)
-Caring Cupboard		\$ 322.38
-Pastor's Sabbatical Reserve		\$ 2,620.00
-Bells		\$ 812.14
-Friends in Need		\$ 497.04
-Reformation Fund		\$ 1,317.77
-Outreach Funds		\$ 500.00
-Altar Restore		\$ 386.83
-Grace Fund		\$ 220.00
	TOTAL	\$ 43,933.10
Fundraising Checking		\$ 215.90
Maintenance Checking		\$ 5,945.47
- Roof sub account of maint.		\$ 2,650.00
Youth Checking		\$ 195.75
Memorial Savings		\$ 3,343.54
Mikkel Thompson Savings		\$ 1,736.28

Balance will adjust in December for purchase of tickets and offset of non-subsidized portion of ticket price.



CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President	Mark Smalley	(360) 249-1955	marktrish86@gmail.com
Treasurer	Theresa Kaufman	(360) 537-1190	theresamarie4739.3@gmail.com
Financial Secretary	Phil Stegemoeller	(360) 580-9310	phil@willisent.com
Youth & Family	Amy Ostwald	(360) 482-2306	Ostwald@olynet.com
Outreach	Joelle Buckman	(360) 589-6111	Joelle_buckman@email.com
Worship	Dee Erickson	(360) 533-7948	deekaye1@comcast.net
Fellowship	Judi Hubbard	(360) 532-8577	jhubbard1952@comcast.net
Property	Mike Barkstrom	(360) 532-3319	mkbarks1@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

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, Jeannette Green

Musicians: Kristine Burns, Heidi Seelke, Jeni Kaufman

JANUARY 2019 Worship Assistants



January 6

Liturgist:	Keith Lile
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Darci Jewitt
Communion Assistant:	Elain Olsen
Ushers/Greeters:	Judi Hubbard & Maurita White
Depositors:	Mike Barkstrom & Ray Hodge
Fellowship:	CARLE, TORGERSON, SMALLEY/SAFSTROM, ELLIS

January 13

Liturgist:	Hank Bilderback
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Carmon Shaw
Communion Assistant:	Joelle Buckman & Steve Swanson
Ushers/Greeters:	Dee Erickson & Naomi Kraiger
Depositors:	Kristine Finazzo & Eileen Schermer
Fellowship:	SHAW, GREEN, O'CONNOR, LOKKEN, FERNANDEZ

January 20


Liturgist:	Laura Carle
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Elaine Lokken
Communion Assistant:	Carrie Erwin & Sarah Channel
Ushers/Greeters:	Tim & Pam Alstrom
Depositors:	Karen Barkstrom & Hiedi Seelke
Fellowship:	HANSON, ERWIN, HODGE, SEELKE

January 27

Liturgist:	Jeannette Green
Worship Assistant/Reader:	Carmon Shaw
Communion Assistant:	Molly Leithold & Arlene Torgerson
Ushers/Greeters:	Karen & Mike Barkstrom
Depositors:	Judi Hubbard & Gene Schermer
Fellowship:	FINAZZO, EVANSON, ELLINGSEN, HUBBARD, WAITE, WINTER

ANNUAL MEETING POTLUCK



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		OFFICE CLOSED- NEW YEARS DAY	9 AM QUILTING 5:30 PM AA	7 PM BOOK GROUP	6 PM SCRAPBOOK ANNUAL REPORTS INTO OFFICE	7 PM AA
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10 AM EPIPHANY WORSHIP 11:15 AM FELLOWSHIP/GODLY PLAY S.S. 1 PM PSALM STUDY GROUP	8:30 AM CARPET CLEANING		5:30 PM AA	7 PM BOOK GROUP		7 PM AA
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9 AM CHOIR 10 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM FELLOWSHIP/GODLY PLAY S.S.		6:15 PM COUNCIL MEETING	9 AM QUILTING 5:30 PM AA 6 PM BELLS	7 PM BOOK GROUP	6 PM SCRAPBOOK	7 PM AA
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9 AM CHOIR 10 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM FELLOWSHIP/GODLY PLAY S.S.	4:30 PM GIRL SCOUTS Martin Luther King Day		5:30 PM AA 6 PM BELLS	7 PM BOOK GROUP		7 PM AA
27	29	28	30	31		
9 AM CHOIR 10 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM FELLOWSHIP/GODLY PLAY S.S. ANNUAL MEETING			9 AM QULTING 5:30 PM AA 6 PM BELLS	7 PM BOOK GROUP		SEASON OF EPIPHANY BEGINS JAN. 6TH

**Please join us for worship
Sundays at 10am and for Fellowship group
Thursdays at 7pm**

***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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