

The Spirit

September 2019

Amazing
Grace
LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF GRAYS HARBOR

As we move into September, I am thankful that in our neck of the woods we still have one more month of summer weather. Sure, some of the hectic regular schedule returns: school and meetings that had taken a summer hiatus. But, the reality at Amazing Grace is that lots of folks want to get out into the beautiful weather before the rain returns. So, we're saving **God's Work Our Hands** and **Sunday School Kick-Off** for Sept. 22nd. We'll join congregations across the country going out into the community witnessing to our neighbors through our actions of love and compassion to God's mission alive and vibrant here among us. We'll serve the people that God has put before us, long-time friends and friends that we just haven't met yet. We'll begin with a short worship service during which we'll **Bless the Backpacks** of our students, teachers and staff (really, we're blessing them!) so that as the school year begins they know they are surrounded by God's love and ours!

Sept. 29th we'll have a Blessing of the Animals. We'll celebrate all animals and God's magnificent creation during worship and then head outside to bless our pets. Please plan to bring your beloved pets for this special time. This is especially meaningful as we have been learning to more deeply understand the complex challenges facing our world through the meetings of the Earthkeeping: Care of Creation group that began meeting in August. The 29th we'll

also begin our long-awaited study of the book, *Central Things*. This is a chance for us to more deeply understand why we do what we do (and do not do) in worship. Please, pick up a copy of the book in the fellowship hall and join us after worship for this study 9/29, 10/6 and 10/13. Our PSALMists studied this book so they will be helping to lead this discussion.

As October rolls around you are invited to commit to studying our Holy Book by participating in a study

called **Manna and Mercy: A brief history of God's unfolding promise to mend the entire universe.** It's a look at Genesis through Revelation by themes in 16 sessions. We'll begin the week of Oct. 13, take 2 weeks off for Christmas and finish up before Lent begins. This is how the author describes the book: "*This is a booklet about God – more specifically the God of the Bible who is present and active in human history and in all creation. May I*

remind you of the audacity of this project? I am convinced that authentic God-talk can take place only in the context of trembling, laughing at oneself, praying for forgiveness, and understanding that words never capture the reality to which they point. I agree with Douglas John Hall who says... 'To speak of the Biblical God – of the God who acts in the life of the world – is always to rush in where angels dare not tread. Only fools will do it without fear and trem-



bling. ’’ **I hope everyone will join in this experience of walking through the Bible story with fear, trembling, laughter, prayer and humility!** Sign ups are in the fellowship hall. I’ll suggest a couple of times to meet during the week but please, suggest other times and days that might work better for you. **If you want to lead or form a group for this study, please let me know so I can provide materials and so that we can do some planning and study together in preparation.**

God’s Spirit is stirring in this place, inviting us ALL to join in the work of reconciliation, healing, and joyful, grateful living. In that spirit I offer this poem by Mary Oliver.

The Sun

Have you ever seen
anything
in your life
more wonderful

than the way the sun,
every evening,
relaxed and easy,
floats toward the horizon

and into the clouds or the hills,
or the rumpled sea,
and is gone--
and how it slides again

out of the blackness,

every morning,
on the other side of the world,
like a red flower

streaming upward on its heavenly oils,
say, on a morning in early summer,
at its perfect imperial distance--
and have you ever felt for anything
such wild love--
do you think there is anywhere, in any language,
a word billowing enough
for the pleasure

that fills you,
as the sun
reaches out,
as it warms you

as you stand there,
empty-handed--
or have you too
turned from this world--

or have
you too
gone crazy
for power,
for things?



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

Our common witness



One of the distinct privileges of this call as presiding bishop is seeing the church at work at home and around the world. The Lutheran movement is alive and well, speaking the gospel in a distinctive voice. Sunday after Sunday the good news is proclaimed in accordance with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. In hundreds of languages and dialects, God’s promise of grace, reconciliation and freedom is received and celebrated in places Martin [Luther](#) never knew existed. We are part of a worldwide family.

In many ways, and in the most important ways, we are alike. The cross is our center. Faith, grace and Scripture alone are our guides. A clear understanding of human brokenness and our inability to save ourselves sets us apart from societal and even some theological pressures that would try to draw us away from the source of our life and freedom. A world built on works and individualism promises salvation based on our own effort and denies salvation if we fail. The [Lutheran](#) movement points to another way. This is our common witness.

There are also glorious expressions particular to regions, countries and history: governance; organization; the role of laity, deacons, pastors and bishops; and the age for first communion, to name a few. And that's just the [ELCA](#)! Around the world the expression of Lutheranism takes on many different flavors—literally and figuratively.

In the Northern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa, porridge is a staple at all meals, so they pray, "Give us today our daily porridge." Spiritual healers are an important part of the life and ministry in the Lutheran church in Madagascar. Lutherans in Mexico celebrate the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which falls just a day away from the Swedish celebration of Santa Lucia. Lutherans around the world hold fast to the core and adapt to make the gospel accessible.

Part of Luther's genius was to make Scripture, preaching and worship available in the language of the people. All these variations make the Lutheran movement richer, especially when we share across borders and cultures.

Just two years ago we commemorated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. It was interesting to see the different ways congregations and synods marked the event. Luther roses sprang up everywhere, even on an NCIS episode. There were Luther movies and Luther seminars. Ecumenical worship services were held, notably with Roman Catholics. I think the Small Catechism made the best-seller list. I can almost imagine a Lutheran Y2K-like montage of celebrations as the sun rose on Oct. 31, 2017, across the globe. If Lutherans are allowed to be proud, we were.

Now it's time to move forward. It's good to remember the events of the 16th century, but we shouldn't get stuck there. We need to ask what it means to be Lutheran in the 21st century.

What it means for the [Lutheran World Federation](#)'s 148 member churches, representing over 75.5 million members in 99 countries, that are exploring Lutheran identity. For some member churches with a state church tradition—Sweden, for example—Lutheran identity is a novel concept. The Lutheran church was "The Church," and there was no need to think about identity. Now many churches in Africa and Asia are forging an indigenous expression of what it means to be Lutheran. Yes, they still sing hymns set to German, Swedish and American hymn tunes, but they are also developing music and worship using traditional instruments and styles.

What will our Lutheran identity be in the ELCA? We still treasure our immigrant roots—and we should. But if our ethnic identities become synonymous with Lutheran identity, we are missing the mark. The gospel, and Luther's clear exposition of it, transcends human boundaries. When a single culture's vernacular becomes the established language of the people, we hinder the gospel's free course in the world. We can become an alternative face of Christianity in the culture—one that moves across divisions, is meant for all, and that is a free and liberating gift.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Eaton



A Beautiful day for a Baptism



ELCA 2019 CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY DECISIONS



At the recent Churchwide assembly a couple of significant decisions were made. Here are some explanations of two of them.

From Bishop Jaech:

The Assembly voted to **declare the ELCA to be a “sanctuary denomination”**. This action was part of a larger resolution that reaffirmed the long-standing commitment of the Lutheran Church to welcoming and caring for immigrants and migrants, which we have been doing for 75 years through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service.

The word “sanctuary”, however, is a word that is broadly used in a variety of ways and for that reason I want to give you some basic clarifications about the intent and meaning of this resolution.

In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is **publicly declaring** that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith. The ELCA Churchwide Assembly declared that, when we preach on Sunday that Jesus tells us to welcome and care for everyone around us, then on Monday we will use our hands and voices to make sure it happens.

Right now, our immigration system is broken, chaotic and in need of repair. While we may have many different ideas about how to fix this broken system, we are also called to love our neighbors, particularly those who are most vulnerable to the brokenness of this system, especially families and unaccompanied youth.

The Churchwide Assembly’s declaration that the ELCA is a sanctuary denomination binds only the ELCA Churchwide Organization; it does not bind or obligate congregations, synods, or other organizations to be a sanctuary place.

The Churchwide Assembly did not call for any illegal actions. All actions mentioned by the Churchwide Assembly are legal. If any person or organization chooses to go beyond these actions and engage in civil disobedience (and therefore accept the consequences), that would be their choice. In any case, a congregation or synod that considers becoming a sanctuary organization should first consult with legal counsel.

From the DECLARATION OF THE ELCA TO PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT

On June 27, 2019, the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adopted the following declaration as a statement addressed to people of African descent.

“There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:28).

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) apologizes to people of African descent for its historical complicity in slavery and its enduring legacy of racism in the United States and globally. We lament the white church’s failure to work for the abolition of slavery and the perpetuation of racism in this church. We confess, repent and repudiate the times when this church has been silent in the face of racial injustice.”

Copies of the full statement are in the fellowship hall and the full statement can be found online:
http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Slavery_Apology_Explanation.pdf?_ga=2.197618863.1646657807.1567174651-303647909.1565372039





Pre-worship potluck



Wade in the water, children!



**The body and blood bind us together
into one—the body of Christ.**



WE ARE ENTRUSTED WITH THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER



FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:

Tom Plumlee, Christine Scott, Lana Wilke, Margaret Murray, Ardith Savoy, Jeani Shofner, Ginny Clark, Philip, Matthew Green and family, Betty Schlaht, Maxine Cogburn, David Shaw, Mary Alice Walton, Don Ra-

bung, Whitney Morean, Jean and David Hanson.

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. Stir your people to act and speak for justice and mercy throughout the world.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE MILITARY IN THE PAST AND FOR THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING: especially Caleb

Berken, Steven Kincaid, John Kupka and Crystal Rojas.

FOR MISSIONARIES AROUND THE WORLD: especially Stacie Evensen's Myanmar Mission.

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.

We periodically edit the prayer list. Please contact the office 532-8250 to update prayer requests.

Contact Brenda Grant with prayer requests at:

brenda_k_grant@hotmail.com

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS:

John Stephens, Sept. 3
Juli Kupka, Sept. 5
Michael Erickson, Sept. 7
Annika Natwick, Sept. 7
Kathy Wehage, Sept. 8
Vicki Mitchell, Sept. 12
Mike O'Connor, Sept. 15
Andrea Ostwald, Sept. 16
Martha Beeman, Sept. 18
Coleman Carle, Sept. 19
Louise Paul, Sept. 19
Linda Ebel, Sept. 20

Bret Kaufman, Sept. 21
Hannah Erwin, Sept. 25

ANNIVERSARIES:

John & Chrissie Kincaid, Sept. 9
Michael & Dee Erickson, Sept. 12
Dorothy & John Stephens, Sept. 15
Jane & Craig Teveliet, Sept. 18
Erik & Juli Kupka, Sept. 21



Thank you:

Naomi Kraiger for being greeter extraordinaire at every Wednesday worship and jumping in wherever help is need. And for helping Vicky in the church office in helping assemble bulletins EVERY week and newsletters every month.

Mike Barkstrom for fixing the lock on the door to the church office.

Lynette & Keith Lile & Vicki & Ken Mitchell for volunteering to help out with fellowship on August 25th.

Mike Hubbard for filling in as janitor for Judi while she was gone.

Everyone who gathered for worship on Wednesday evenings this summer. It was especially sweet to gather for this additional time each week.

Carmon Shaw for her love and care as a confirmation mentor especially accompanying the youth on the Confirmation Camp trip to the Islamic Center and Jewish Shabbat service.

Mike Hildreth for his careful, loving stewarding of the new Earthkeeping group and for giving us a way to be better stewards of God's creation.

Special Events team for providing extraordinary hospitality for the Hammer family in their time of grief.

Council for their faith-filled leadership and persistent attention to stewarding our resources: our building, time, talent and money.

Everyone who attended worship and baptism at Lake Quinault. It was spectacular!

THANKS WE'VE RECEIVED FROM OTHERS

- **Pacific Lutheran University** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$128.08
- **Union Gospel Mission of Grays Harbor** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$69.54 + \$42.86
- **Dear Members:**

The Family Promise of Grays Harbor, Inc. would like to thank you for donating. Your donation of \$493 for the Day Center will make a difference in the lives of homeless families in our county.

Phil MacNealy

President, Family Promise of GH

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

SUNDAY. Sept. 22

We'll join ELCA congregations around the country making a difference in our community. We go out one Sunday a year helping our neighbors, preaching the gospel of God's love with our hands and feet. We have two off-site projects and at least one on-site so there is something for everyone of all ages and abilities. Lunch will be provided for all groups. For more details, talk with Joelle Buckman joelle_buckman@email.com or Pastor Val vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu.



KICK OFF 4-F DINNER

GONE HAWAIIAN

The meal will be a Kabob dinner on October 5th with all the fixings. The cost is \$20 per person, \$10 for kids under age 10. Get those flower shirts and dresses ready !!

If anyone would like to make a raffle basket, please contact :
Judi - jhubbard1952@comcast.net or
Kristine - mfinazzo7@comcast.net

2020 CALENDARS

Calendars are coming. As a church fund raiser John Tieder will be offering his 2020 calendar. John is currently collecting photographic images to be included in this year's calendar. The calendar will be available for preview and ordering during our annual pie auction November 24th.

ADDITIONAL QUILTERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

The Amazing Grace Quilters meet regularly twice a month on the first and third Wednesdays from 9:00 to 12:00 pm. We will meet this Wednesday, September 4th, for a fellowship of having fun while making quilts for the less fortunate. We cut fabric, pin tops, tie quilts and stitch the edges plus enjoy each other over coffee and goodies! NO SEWING EXPERIENCE IS NEEDED!

We distribute our quilts to Lutheran World Relief where they may serve as shelter, be used as a room divider or remind someone that they are not forgotten. Locally they go to the Women's Shelter, Salvation Army and Family Promise. Whatever the use, we are confident that our efforts will help meet someone's needs.

We would love to have you join us!!

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!*

OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY IS GETTING CLOSER TO COMPLETION!

You don't have to be a member to be in our directory. Please contact Amy Ostwald at aaostwald@gmail.com, 360-482-2306, or at church on Sundays.



SPECIAL EVENTS TEAM

The Special Events team helps with funeral receptions and other events that come up in the life of the congregation. They are usually called on to provide sandwiches, dessert, veggies etc. There may be other opportunities that we don't even know about yet! If you would like to be a part of this, please let me know. We can figure this out together. (Maybe if we put our heads together we can also think of a better name!) Please contact Judi Hubbard at Jhub-



SERVING AT AMAZING GRACE

UNION GOSPEL MISSION September 3

Jill Waite, Leader Dories Tieder, Suzan Stegemoeller, Dee Erickson, Shawn Dickson, Jeanette Green, Annette Biornstadt
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.

EXPLORATORY INTERNSHIP TEAM

Amazing Grace is an exceptionally nurturing community that could contribute to God's mission in the world by raising up leaders. In addition, the Aberdeen

area is ideal for new leaders learning how to bring God's love to hurting people in tangible ways. For these reasons, and following the stirring of the Spirit, an exploratory team is discerning whether this ministry, hosting a seminary intern for a year at Amazing Grace is where God is leading us. If you are interested in being a part of this discernment process, please let Pastor Val know.

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes August 20, 2019 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: Dee Erickson, Joelle Buckman, Pastor Val, Mark Smalley, Phil Stegemoeller, Mike Barkstrom, Amy Ostwald and Vicky Kolb

Call to Order Mark Smalley 6:15

Prayer and Devotions –

Prayer – opportunity to name a joy/concern on your heart

Holy Currencies, Chapter 12 and 13

-Value. What is value? Value is not how much you contribute but what you are able to contribute with what you have, whether it's money or helping someone out. Value is not always monetary gain. The question we must ask ourselves is why is money more important than anything? Are you putting a value on money or is money putting a value on you?

Establish Quorum

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

-Under Ministry Reports: iv. Ministry Fair was added

Review, correct and final approval of minutes for last meeting, July 16, 2019 **M/S/P**

Financial Reports

a. Treasurer's Report – Theresa Kaufman

-Transactions by Account **M/S/P**

b. Financial Secretary's Report – Phil Stegemoeller

i. New Program for financial secretary-

-Phil hopes to have the new program up and running by the 1st of next year.

ii. Estate Planning-

- John Aakre returned to Amazing Grace on July 28th to talk with people one-on-one about estate planning and it was a good turnout.

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. Annual Meeting Minutes– January 27th - **M/S/P**

b. Directory – Amy

-Council members were able to look at a copy of the church directory. There are still a couple of items missing and she is working at getting those accomplished. Amy asked for any input that council may have. She put out the church directory last Sunday (8/18/19), for members of the congregation to look at to see if contact information was correct. Amy will look into what the price would be and how many copies will be made. Amy will email council members with the information.

c. Office expenses – Pastor's laptop and software for Vicky's computer-

-Pastor Val has a new laptop and the programs she needs have been installed. The office computer has been upgraded from windows 7 to windows 10, and the installation of the programs will be done at a later time.



d. Bel Aire property – Pastor Val

-Pastor Val went through the process to get permission to use the Bel Aire property, but was denied. The property is located in an unimproved access way that is maintained by the neighbors. Mike O'Connor came and talked with council several months ago about the options on dealing with the property. Gene Schermer will reconstitute the committee to work on suggestions to bring to council.

Ministry Reports-psalm

a. Worship – Dee Erickson

i. Altar Guild-working with the LAT to replace the green paraments. The Altar Guild team is looking into lighting the Altar painting.

ii. LAT- Had a good meeting on Friday, August 9th and have a planned schedule all the way through January 19th.

iii. Worship Committee-No Bel-Aire worship due to lack of permit. At the October worship committee meeting they will discuss the Christmas program.

iv. Summer Worship- The attendance for summer worship goes up and down. The Sundaes on Wednesday service for August 21st will be at Amazing Grace.

v. Baptism August 21st

-The baptism for August 21st has been moved to August 28th because of the weather.

b. Outreach – Joelle- met with pastor last week.

i. Family Promise – AGLC's week – will host again in October

ii. Homeless outreach- meeting on 10/6/19

iii. God's Work. Our Hands. September 22nd

- 3 projects were talked about during the council meeting in August. The first one will be at Amazing Grace. The second one is helping out Amy's neighbors. Mike will be going with Amy to identify what needs to be done and what tools will be needed. The third is helping a congregation member clean out their gutters. We'll be using Thrivent t-shirts during the time we do these projects. There will be more information to follow as we get closer to the GWOH day.

c. PSALM report - Joelle & Pastor Val

-The PSALM class is going well and it is a great group. There is a Fall retreat coming up but the Synod has not decided when it will be. One person is interested in joining the PSALM class that will be starting in the Fall.

d. Youth & Family – Amy Ostwald

i. Sunday School- The class will be starting a new book to try out. Amy will talk with teachers about the new plan.

ii. Confirmation- Learning about faith.

-3 days of confirmation class took them to various places. They went into Aberdeen and Hoquiam where they learned the aspects of life. They went to Lacey to listen to an Islamic prayer and learned what it means to be an Islamic person in this day and age. They also visited a synagogue. Jacob and Erin wrote a sermon which they'll present to the congregation. If they don't feel comfortable doing that Pastor Val will present it for them. It was a great learning experience for those that went. Annika and Maddie will be joining the class next Fall.

iii. Youth Group-

-Pastor Val is working with Pastor Doug from the Presbyterian Church about combining the kids of both churches and ideas on how to get more youth involved.

iv. Adult group study- Adults and kids would be studying the same thing at the same time. Having Bible study on Sunday mornings was talked about.

e. Fellowship – Judi

-Guess who's coming to dinner will be a one-time event in the winter. This will be a group of people from the congregation that don't know each other and they will be in charge of planning a meal together.

i. Communion Ministry

ii. Welcome Committee

iii. Special Events Team- Served and help set up for a funeral. The family had a good experience with Amazing Grace.

iv. Ministry Fair

-Each Sunday from October 20 to November 17, a different team (Worship, Outreach, Youth,

& Family, Fellowship, & Property) will set up a booth to provide information about their team. By presenting information in creative ways, they hope to attract people who would be interested in joining the teams. Sign-up for teams is November 24th.

f. Property – Mike Barkstrom-Mike will get a hold of window person with the go ahead to put in the slider windows in the fellowship hall.

- \$15000 anonymous donation to complete projects, any money left over will go to the roof fund

M/S/P

-Slider windows and fencing \$1100 **M/S/P**

Pastor's Report

Task Assignments

- Council will go over chapter 13 in more detail next month.

-Theresa needs to amend page 3 of the Treasurer's report. It should be just Caring Cupboard, 3rd item from top.

-Mark will email Judi about the total count for the rummage sale and he will forward that information to Theresa.

-Phil will email Theresa about the \$297 and where it came from.

-Amy will look into what the price would be and how many copies will be made for the church directory. Amy will email council members with the information.

-Council members need to let Pastor Val know what Sundays they would like to sign up for to talk about their teams during the Ministry Fair.

-Phil will speak with Theresa about the \$50

-Pastor Val will talk with someone at the Presbyterian Church about what they used for the closed off area.

Pastor Val will then relay that information to Mike.

Adjournment and closing prayer 8:31

PASTOR'S REPORT – REGULAR ACTIVITIES – July 2019

WORSHIP/DISCIPLESHIP

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 PSALM – mentor; spiritual direction

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 – None in July

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH: Books: Dear Church: A love letter from a black preacher to the whitest denomination in the U.S. by Lenny Duncan; Reading the Bible with the Damned by Bob Ekblad; The Divine Dance: The Trinity and Your Transformation by Richard Rohr

OTHER ACTIVITIES in July

ADMINISTRATION: Researching new laptop and software options and costs
 Researching internship site possibility

OUTREACH: Facebook presence maintenance; events created

PASTORAL CARE: Visits, calls, texts, messaging as needed

WORSHIP: Work with PSALMist – Mike on his project – developing a Care of Creation presentation
 Mid-week summer worship
 Planning for fall

YOUTH/FAMILY/Education: Confirmation Camp – 3 days of service, observing faith lived in the community, attended Friday prayer at the Islamic Center and Shabbat service at Temple Beth Hatfiloh
 Researched Adult study options
 Planning for guest speakers throughout the year on topics of interest

VACATION: None

UPCOMING: Summer Worship – last 2 Sundaes on Wednesdays 7pm Aug. 21 at Lake Quinault and Aug. 28 in sanctuary.
 Lake Quinault worship w/baptism 8/21
 Vacation: Sept. 7 – 16 including 2 Sundays – Pulpit supply: Pastor Alvina Olstead
 God's Work Our Hands Sunday AND Sunday School Kick-off 9/22

JULY BALANCES OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS

Name	Date	Total
Checking		\$ 28,180.57
-PSALM		\$ (116.00)
-Caring Cupboard		\$ 433.51
-Pastor's Sabbatical Reserve		\$ 2,620.00
-Bells		\$ 547.09
-Friends in Need		\$ 783.31
-Reformation Fund		\$ 1,071.20
-Outreach Funds		\$ 500.00
-Altar Restore		\$ 386.83
-Altar Guild		\$ 70.00
-Noisy Offering		\$ 283.93
-Grace Fund		\$ 380.00
		TOTAL \$ 35,140.44
Fundraising Checking		\$ 215.90
Maintenance Checking		\$ 5,725.79
- Roof sub account of maint		\$ 17,699.39
Youth Checking		\$ 295.75
Memorial Savings		\$ 3,505.93
Mikkel Thompson Savings		\$ 1,906.75



From Rummage sale

Amount updated per cash (Judi H)

Computer replacement in July from



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	Darrell Lokken	(360) 532-1615	delokken@comcast.net
Pastor	Val Metropoulos	(360) 580-8977	vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu
Church Secretary	Vicky Kolb	(360) 532-8250	amazing111@comcast.net

BUILDING REPAIRS/MAINTANCE

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

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

Ministers: The People of Amazing Grace

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

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, Charles Scamman, Greg

Johnstone

Musicians: Kristine Burns, Heidi Seelke



SEPTEMBER 2019 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

September 1

Liturgist: Hank Bilderback; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Sarah Channel; **Communion Assistant:** Arlene Torgerson; **Ushers/Greeters:** Judi Hubbard; **Depositors:** Carmon Shaw & Joe Fernandez; **Fellowship:** Alstrom, Tieder, Schermer, Johnstone; **Altar Guild:** Naomi Kraiger & Cynthia Johnstone

September 8

Liturgist: Greg Johnstone; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Kristine Finazzo; **Communion Assistant:** Molly Leithold & Mark Smalley; **Ushers/Greeters:** Tim & Pam Alstrom; **Depositors:** Joelle Buckman & Maurita White; **Fellowship:** Mitchell, Clark, Kaufman, Biornstad; **Altar Guild:** Laura Carle & Dee Erickson

September 15

Liturgist: Laura Carle; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Vicki Mitchell; **Communion Assistant:** Joan Rabung & Diane Hanson; **Ushers/Greeters:** Weiberg, Jim & Michelle & Family; **Depositors:** Mike Barkstrom & Ray Hodge; **Fellowship:** Ostwald, Rabung, Gundersen; **Altar Guild:** Trish Safstrom, Elizabeth Tilley & Maurita White

September 22

Liturgist: Keith Lile; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Mark Ostwald; **Communion Assistant:** Theresa Kaufman & Joni Hildreth; **Ushers/Greeters:** Joan & William Rabung; **Depositors:** Judi Hubbard & Darrell Lokken; **Fellowship:** Lile, Morrisette, D. Erickson; **Altar Guild:** Kathy Wehage & Diane Hanson (GWOH)

September 29

Liturgist: Hank Bilderback; **Worship Assistant/Reader:** Suzan Stegemoeller; **Communion Assistant:** Darci Jewitt & Elaine Olsen; **Ushers/Greeters:** Eileen & Gene Schermer; **Depositors:** Karen Barkstrom & Carmon Shaw; **Fellowship:** Carle, Torgerson, Smalley/Safstrom, Ellis; **Altar Guild:** Theresa Kaufman & Hiedi Seelke



Jacob rockin' a yarmulke at the Jewish Shabbat service that confirmation members attended.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM FELLOWSHIP	2 4:30-6:30 GIRL SCOUTS LABOR DAY-OFFICE CLOSED	3 6:30-8 FAMILY PROM- ISE BOARD	4 9 AM- QUILTERS 1ST DAY BACK 5:30-6:30 PM AA	5	6 6-10 SCRAPBOOK	7 7-8 PM AA
8 10 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM FELLOWSHIP	9	10	11 5:30-6:30 PM AA	12	13	14 7-8 PM AA
15 10 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM FELLOWSHIP	16 4:30-6:30 GIRL SCOUTS	17 6:15 COUNCIL MEET- ING	18 9 AM- QUILTERS 5:30-6:30 PM AA	19	20 6-10 SCRAPBOOK	21 7-8 PM AA
22 10 AM GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS AND BLESSING STU- DENTS/TEACHERS/ STAFF	23 FALL BEGINS	24	25 5:30-6:30 PM AA	26	27	28 7-8 PM AA
29 10 AM WORSHIP w/ blessing of animals 11:15 AM FELLOWSHIP CENTRAL THINGS STUDY 11:30	30	 <p>UPCOMING EVENTS: 4-F DINNER, HAWAIIAN STYLE, OCTOBER 5TH CENTRAL THINGS—Oct. 8 & 15 after worship MANNA AND MERCY STUDY—begins Week of Oct. 13th—sign up for a day and time that works for you!</p>				



**Please join us for worship
Sundays at 10am w/ fellowship and educational
opportunities afterward.
Fellowship group is 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

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church of
Grays Harbor

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