

GRACE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

# THE GOOD NEWS OF GRACE

May 2024

A Newsletter for Members and Friends of  
Grace Lutheran Church  
1408 Washington Street  
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555  
**Volume 8 Issue 4**



*Let the rivers clap their hands. (From Psalm 98:8)*

Dear friends in Christ,

Rivers do not have hands.

However, when the psalmists want to write an expression of praise, they often do not concern themselves with such matters. What matters is using the power of nature to speak of a spiritual thing. This image (rivers with hands) is an invitation to expand one's imagination to encompass the deeper reality of the spiritual experience.

I'm writing this in my office with my window open, listening to the traffic on Washington Street. There's a constancy to that sound of wheels on the road. Wheels on a highway are more pronounced, so that the noise makes it difficult to think about anything else (imagine walking alongside Sunset Highway). With a little imagination, the sound of wheels on the road reminds me of distant applause. So, my interpretation of that little verse would go like this: "let the wheels on the road clap their hands."

I've been on backpacking trips (far from any highway) where I swear, I am hearing traffic. I discover after a few bends in the trail that I had been hearing rushing waters – a torrent of a stream that dominates the soundscape. Applause, clearly. Let the rivers clap their hands.

What perspective of faith does it take for one to assume that these constant sounds from nature are sounds of praise? I want that. I thank the psalmists for this example and this encouragement. Tonight is our "Together at Grace" meal. Forks will together be "sounding off" as people enjoy pasta, and one another. Let the forks clap their hands. Visiting and checking in with one another will be an essential part of the meal. Let the voices of the people clap their hands. Let all together, in the end, clap their hands.

God is good.

Pastor James Aalgaard

## Summer Worship Schedule Begins June 2

For the summer months, we will have one Sunday morning worship service at **9:30 a.m.**, beginning **June 2**.



### THE MISSION OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

To proclaim and celebrate the gospel of Jesus Christ through word and sacraments so that a community of believers is created, trained, nurtured, and sent into mission.

# Update from Building Visioning Committee and Congregational Council

The Building Visioning Committee has been working closely with architect, Brad Brisbine of MJ Neal Associates. Mr. Brisbine's deep experience in all the complex nuances of a major build/design/permitting is smoothly moving our process forward (aided by John Martin's earlier work). There are up to 28 pages of detailed architectural drawings ready to share with three contractors in anticipation of obtaining cost estimates/bids. Sub-contractors have been identified through MJ Neal Associates. Permitting and engineering fees have been explored through Pacific Engineering. Monies for this exploratory process were previously approved by the Congregation.

Once building costs and design options are finalized, it's appropriate to hold several informational meetings prior to any decision-making meeting. Ideally those would begin by June, but until all parties have submitted needed paperwork, meeting dates cannot be set. Any extensive building/remodeling project must await further congregational action.

On behalf of the congregation, the Council thanks the Building Visioning Committee for many, many hours of consultation and study. Milt Herman heads this team and invites anyone with individual questions to contact him. Council President Suellen Harris also invites anyone with comments or questions to contact her.

**Building Visioning Team** Milt Herman Leader

Members: Bob Bartlett; Dean O'Daffer; John McQuaig; Cheryl Salter

Advisor: Pastor James Aalgaard

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To the "Grace-Filled" people of Grace Lutheran!

I want to THANK YOU for your graciousness and generosity for your recent honorarium in my name! For the past several years as we've been exploring architectural options for Grace together, first of all I've been honored to be given the opportunity to share my ideas with you, but I have also been amazed at the level of interaction and constructive response I've received from the members of Grace (in particular, Milt Herman, John McQuaig, Pastor James, and of course all the rest of the committee members as well as the congregation itself) who actively participated in all of our discussion and design sessions. It made my job thrilling to have that much participation and honest feedback – that's a primary step to

eventually achieving what you really want!

I'm honored by your faith in my abilities to help you, and even though my portion of the work is done (I've always considered the brainstorming phase to be the most FUN and fulfilling part of any project...), I will continue to pray for your desired outcome, and I will always be available for questions or clarification as well as remaining curious as to your progress. Part of me is in your church now, you know!

Thank you again for your extraordinary gift! It is VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!

I wish you all the very best blessings as you continue your journey in remodeling such an amazing church!

John Martin, architect

# Upcoming Congregational Activities

## Hike and Seek!

The next two dates for light-to-moderate hikes will be **May 4** and **June 1**. These are both Saturdays. They will each be wildflower hikes along local trails. Judy and Monte Olson are helping coordinate the routes. There will be some time set aside for devotion and conversation

**Saturday, May 4:** Meet at Grace at **10:00 a.m.**

**Saturday, June 1:** TBA

Mark your calendars!



April's Hike and Seek group was rewarded with abundant wildflowers!

## 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Lute Loop

Sunday, May 19

3:00 p.m.



Join us as we celebrate the holy breeze by bicycling the Riverfront Loop on Pentecost. On Sunday, May 19, we'll meet at the foot of 5th Street - bikers, joggers, walkers, spectators, and friends are welcome. We'll have cool treats at the finish!

## Game Night

Friday, May 24

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Do you like to play board games, card games, dominoes, etc.? Join us for Game Night on Friday, May 24 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Do you have a favorite game? Bring it! Please bring an appetizer to share; beverages will be provided. **EVERYONE** is invited to an evening of fun and fellowship!

## Craft Night

Friday, May 31

7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

**KNITTING, CROCHETING, SCRAPBOOKING, OH MY!** We are a group of crafters that meet on the last Friday of the month from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. Come focus on those projects you have started, but never have time to work on. Please join us and enjoy some fellowship with your fellow crafters on May 31.



## Save the Date: Congregational Picnic

Billingsley Hydro Park

Sunday, June 30

Following worship - More details to come!





Northwest Intermountain Synod is hosting four Regional Gatherings this coming spring. This will be an opportunity to learn together, to reconnect with friends and build relationships with people from neighboring congregations. Grace Lutheran will be attending the gathering in Ellensburg:

### May 18 - First Lutheran Church - Ellensburg, WA

**9:30 am** Registration

**10:00 am** Gathering

Our presenter is Grace Pomroy who is the Director of the Stewardship Leaders Program at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. She's a lay, millennial stewardship leader, speaker, and financial educator based in Allyn, WA. She is the co-author of the stewardship book, *Embracing Stewardship: How to Put Stewardship at the Heart of Your Congregation's Life*, as well as author of the 2013 ELCA stewardship resource, "Stewards of God's Love." She is currently working on a book about alternative financial models for ministry with Fortress Press, an imprint of 1517 Media. The Gathering will conclude at 4:00 pm.

*Grace Lutheran has registered as a congregation, and we would like you to join us!* If you would like to attend, please sign up in the narthex. Please indicate whether you can drive or if you would like a ride so we can arrange a carpool. There is a \$15 fee per person to cover lunch expenses.

## ANNA & MIRIAM CIRCLES

**Anna Circle** will meet on Tuesday, May 21, at 10:00 a.m. at Grace. If you have questions, feel free to contact [Linda Sinnet](#) or [Faye DeJong](#).

**Miriam Circle** will meet Tuesday, May 21, at 7:00 p.m. at Sue Coe's home.

## Together at Grace Meals

Join us on Wednesdays for "Together at Grace,". The meal is served starting at 5:15 p.m. We are looking for households to sign up for the meal prep and serving. Please note: if you cook for the meal, you will be able to reimburse yourself from the free will donations, if you so choose.

## June/July Newsletter

We will be publishing a June/July issue of the newsletter at the beginning of June. If you have items that you would like included, please e-mail them (as a Word document) to [office@glcwen.org](mailto:office@glcwen.org) by May 22. Any July information that is not available for the newsletter will be shared with the congregation via e-mail, weekly bulletins and the website.

## May Worship Assistants

	Greeters	Ushers	Lector	Altar Guild	Tech	Communion Assistant
5/5			Kate Gregg	JuLee Fiebelkorn		Riva Morgan
5/12			Nancy Gradwohl			
5/19			Dee Ann Gregg		Phil Gregg	
5/26			Karen Zanol			Karen Zanol

## Seeking Worship Helpers

Volunteer helpers make our worship run smoothly. We would love to expand our volunteer pool. [Here is a link to a "google sheet"](#) where you can put your name on an open slot. If you are having a hard time navigating the google sheet, please call (509-663-2189) or email our [church office](#) or [Pastor Aalgaard](#) and we can help.

Please note! The google sheet is a single document that can be changed (and added to) by anyone who has the link. You are very welcome to add your name to a slot that's empty, but please do not remove others' names or otherwise change the form.

## LECTIONARY READINGS

### May 5 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5:1-6  
John 15:9-17

### May 12 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26  
Psalm 1  
1 John 5:9-13  
John 17:6-19

### May 19 Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Romans 8:22-27  
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

### May 26 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 6:1-8  
Psalm 29  
Romans 8:12-17  
John 3:1-17



## Flower Chart

Please note that we have a flower chart in the narthex. If you wish to share a flower arrangement for Sunday worship, please sign up. You can specify that the chosen date is a memorial, anniversary, birthday, etc. if you wish. Thank you for participating with your flower offering.



# MAY BIRTHDAYS

Susan Hendrickson	5/1	Jeffrey Redmon	5/10	Noah Heminger	5/23
Kyrie Blue	5/6	Ross Miller	5/11	Caroline Tilger	5/23
Denise Coppock	5/6	Stephanie Johnson	5/13	Megan Hunt	5/25
Jayke Olson	5/6	Julie Banken	5/14	Sherry Krebs	5/26
Bailey Henson	5/7	Dan Luke	5/14	Doug Miller	5/26
Rob Magnussen	5/8	Brion Salter	5/16	Grady Gausman	5/29
JuLee Fiebelkorn	5/9	Hilary Martinez	5/20	Marcia Fall	5/31
Oliver Zanol	5/9	Vickie Cunderla	5/23	Ruth Flanigan	5/31
Andrew Redmon	5/10				

## PRAYERS OF GRACE

- ◆ **Roseann Lundborg** - Prayers for healing and comfort from four fractures in her pelvis. Roseann is the wife of our former pastor, Paul Lundborg.
- ◆ **Bill Sinnett** - Prayers as he as he deals with advancing cancer.
- ◆ **Glenn Liner and Sue Marshall** – Peace amid anxieties related to Glenn’s cancer diagnosis.
- ◆ **Barbara Tilly** - For strength and faith to meet each day as she continues to live with congestive heart failure.
- ◆ **Jane Aalgaard** – wisdom amidst medical decisions related to congestive heart failure.
- ◆ **Family and friends of Janice and Orville Schettler** - Orville died March 31, 2024, and Janice died April 1.
- ◆ **Family and friends of JoAnn Koch** - JoAnn passed away on Monday, April 1.

*To submit a prayer, please call (509-663-2189) or email our [church office](#) or [Pastor Aalgaard](#). Please share with us details that are pertinent to the request. If you are asking us to pray for a person other than yourself, please seek that person’s permission. Prayer requests are published for four weeks. You are welcome to resubmit your request if you would like it to remain on the list longer. Updates are welcome, also. We will do our best to help your request have a balance of privacy protection and sharing information. The ministry staff at Grace reserves the right to edit requests.*

### Morning Prayer

We invite you to Morning Prayer, meeting Thursday mornings at 7:00 am (as an effort to accommodate people’s work schedules). The following is a description of our typical morning prayer routine:

- + a time of reflecting/sharing together about the upcoming scripture for Sunday
- + lighting candles during a time of informal prayers, which can be offered aloud or silently
- + light refreshments and fellowship afterward at approximately 7:40 a.m.

It’s a great way to start the day! Hope to see you there.

# SOCIAL CONCERNS TEAM

## Pantry News: Dipes and Wipes Drive

Thank you to all who so generously donated to the Little Free Pantry during Lent! You made it possible for us to keep the shelves stocked, and we are so grateful for your generosity.



During May, we are having a Dipes and Wipes month in order to stock up on diapers and wipes to help our low-income neighbors with baby expenses. We put about 4 diapers in a bag at a time as they are meant to help out on a short-term basis and fill an emergency need.

Currently, we are especially low on the smaller sizes of diapers. Wipes can be purchased in bulk at Costco or one at a time at the Dollar Store. Together let's get our shelves full of diapers to last through the summer, and thus stretch our budgeted dollars.

## Noisy Offering

A huge thank you for all who participated in the Noisy Offering this year. It was a huge success. We collected \$1,331.64 for World Hunger and a ton of fun making noise in the Sanctuary on Palm Sunday.

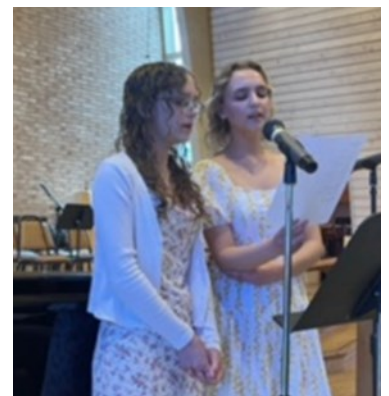
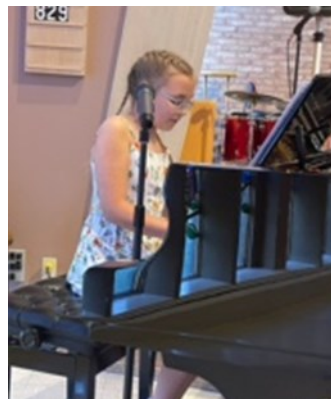
**Packing Friendship** is a weekend backpack program that provides food for students who are at risk of going hungry over the weekends. Currently, Grace Lutheran is supporting 56 students at Washington Elementary, Foothills Middle School, and Pinnacles Prep. We have seven regular volunteers who help purchase, sort, pack, and deliver the food each week. Many people also support us with financial contributions and donations of food. If you would like to donate, you can make checks out to Grace Lutheran noting "GLC Packing Friendship" in the memo line, or see the list of suggested food items below. As always, we are grateful for the support of our congregation!

### Packing Friendship Food Items:

- Canned Pasta (Spaghetti-Os, Ravioli, etc.)
  - Applesauce Cups
  - Granola Bars
- Macaroni and cheese

## Spring Ukraine Refugee Benefit Concert Blesses Many

On April 21, dozens of performers appeared in concert to raise money for Ukraine refugees. Presenters included pianists Judy Olson and Susie Schell Dietsch, the Appleaires, the Apollo Club, the Sage Hills Duo, the Bukovtsova children, the First United Methodist Church Choir, Voices of Grace, Tetiana Stryha, and the Wenatchee Big Band -- all in the space of two well-choreographed hours. Friends of Ukraine Refugees Board members spoke about their important charity, and a woman from Ukraine shared some of her family's personal journey to Washington State. We are grateful to the many volunteers and generous donors who helped raise over \$6,600.00 in donations from the concert. This money will be used to help pay the immigration costs and fees of several dozen refugees from the war in Ukraine who live among us. We give thanks to all who participated and attended.



**Sofiia, Yeva and Solomiia Bukovtsova presented a song in English and Ukrainian.**



## Confirmation Sunday May 19:

Pentecost Sunday is fast approaching! May 19 is a Festival Sunday in which we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and affirmation of baptism for two of our young people. Alora Martinez and Holden Bonwell are preparing for this special day. If you would like to add to their celebration with a card congratulating them, a basket will be available at a display table on that day. We hope that you will help them celebrate their baptismal covenant in Christ.



## Quilt Sunday April 14, 2024



This year, GLC Quilters completed 84 quilts. 78 of those quilts will be shipped to Lutheran World Relief. The remaining quilts stay in our community as gifts for high school seniors and for families in need. Thank you to all who participated in making the quilts, purchasing sheets for backs, setting up and taking down tables and chairs, and just generally encouraging this ministry.

## Music News

Our **Ukelele Group** meets in the Rehearsal Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. No experience necessary -- just bring a uke and let's play!



**Drum Circle** meets this month in the Rehearsal Room on Tuesday, May 21, 5:15-6:00 p.m. All ages and abilities are welcome!





# COUNCIL CORNER

- Sheila Wellman will be returning this season as our Graceful Garden's Garden Manager.
- Pastor will be working to engage congregation members to reinvigorate Grace's Memorial Garden.
- Council is pursuing future adult education opportunities and Lutheran theological history.
- Council is working with Intern Lynnette to support her project around Stewardship.

## TREASURER TALK:

:

## 3/31/24 Results

At the end of first quarter 2024 (January thru March) offerings total \$161,664, over budget by \$49,164. This does include \$18,365 interest income. Expenses are \$133,720, (\$20,867) under budget. Resulting Net Operating Margin \$27,944 compares favorably to projected budget deficit (\$42,087).

1<sup>st</sup> quarter results for 2023 are not included. During this period, Cordell Neher was updating their system and getting corrections completed. It would be my best guess that 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2024 represents a stellar position and exceeds 1<sup>st</sup> quarters over the last 3-5 years.

	Jan-March 2023	Jan-March 2024	2024 Budget	Variance
Total Offerings, Misc	\$	\$161,664	112,500	49,164
Operating Expenses	Q	(133,720)	154,687	20,867
Net Margin (Deficit)	\$	\$27,944	(\$42,087)	\$70,031

Cash on hand \$160,548 includes Treasurer Reserve \$40,000.

	12/31/23	3/31/24
Cash Surplus Position	\$ 80,789	\$150,375
Treasurer Reserve	40,000	40,000
Deficit Reserve	41,500	
Total	\$162,289	\$190,375

[Gwen Sparks.](#)

### 2024 TEAM & COMMITTEE LEADERS

<b>Arts:</b>	Phil Gregg
<b>Building &amp; Grounds:</b>	Dave Coe, Tom Gausman
<b>Endowment:</b>	Karen Zanol
<b>Faith Formation:</b>	<i>Open</i>
<b>Fellowship:</b>	<i>Open</i>
<b>Graceful Garden:</b>	Linda Sinnett
<b>Intern Team:</b>	Mark Woolsey
<b>Pastoral Support:</b>	Julie Banken
<b>Staff Support:</b>	Ernie Bentsen
<b>Social Concerns:</b>	Kay Fisher
<b>Stream Team:</b>	Marlena La Paz
<b>Worship:</b>	Kathy Gavin
<b>Youth &amp; Community:</b>	Sue Coe
<b>Memorial Garden:</b>	<i>Open</i>

### 2024 CHURCH COUNCIL

<b>President:</b>	Suellen Harris
<b>Vice President:</b>	Dave Coe
<b>Treasurer:</b>	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Chad DuLac
<b>Members-at-Large:</b>	Tory Schmidt John McQuaig Paula Salter Tami Woolsey



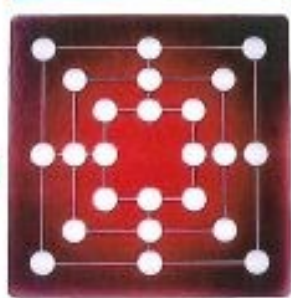
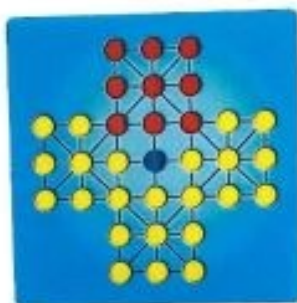
FRIDAY

MAY 24<sup>th</sup>

6:00-8:00 PM

Do you like to play board games, card games, dominoes, etc.? Join us for **Game Night on Friday, May 24, at 6:00-8:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Do you have a favorite game? Bring it. Bring your friends. Please bring an appetizer to share; beverages provided. Young, old, and in between, **EVERYONE** is invited to an evening of

fun and fellowship.





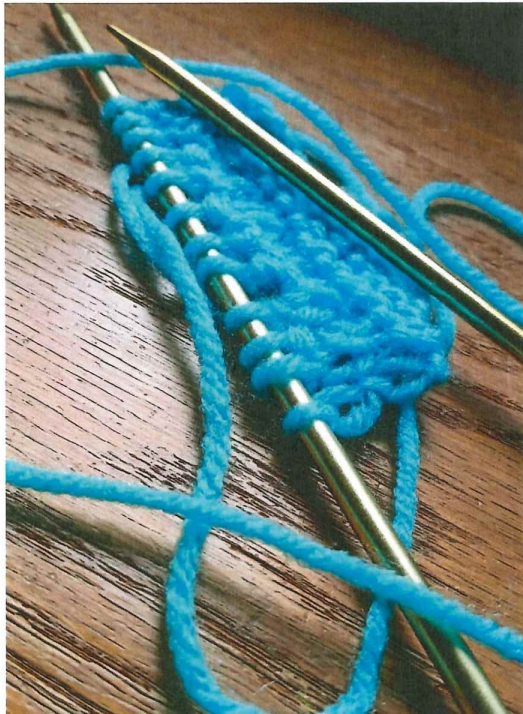
# CRAFT NIGHT

LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

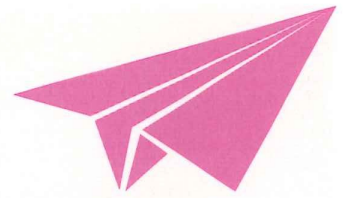
7:00-11:00 P.M.

MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

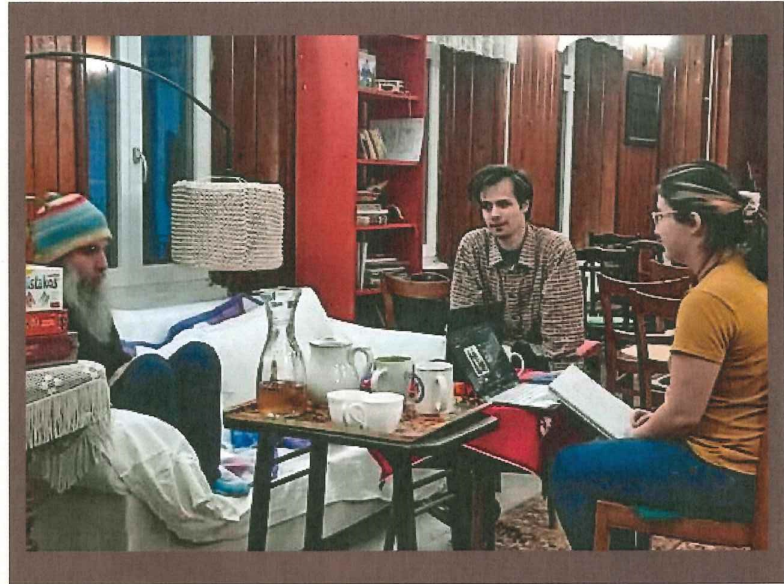
KNITTING, CROCHETING, SCRAPBOOKING, OH MY! We are a group of crafters that meet on the last Friday of the month from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. This is a time set aside just for working on your projects. Please join us and enjoy some fellowship with your fellow crafters on Friday, May 31.



# Magyaroute



Sylvia Hwang, YAGM '23-'24



Initially, back when I had the plan of putting this newsletter out before Easter, I was going to write about something completely different. However, I'm glad I waited, since it's pretty important for me to cover how Easter went. Things have gotten a little more complicated since the beginning of the Easter season, with one reason for this being that I honestly don't enjoy Easter very much. There are a few reasons for this, but one big reason for this is that I'm never sure what to make of Easter and the whole resurrection thing. For me, belief in a god isn't really a thing anymore and it seems to see no reason to reemerge for Easter or for any other day.

Church and Christianity for me has always been less of a spiritual thing and much more of a social thing. I grew up in a Lutheran church with a vibrant youth group and solid friends there during times that I didn't feel like I had a lot of other people by my side. Church always felt more practical to me, in terms of having a community, and less about actually believing in a god. I went to a Catholic university, and while I did enjoy my time there (and thankfully the Jesuits in America were pretty chill in my experience), it did also make me appreciate the time I spent growing up Lutheran and the friends I made through there. I was hopeful that this year would be less about religion and more about actual people and I am happy that for the most part, that's been the case. Most people I talk to are very understanding that I'm not on a mission trip for the sake of converting anyone, but I find the idea in itself kind of funny because there's certainly a lot of people here that know Jesus better than I

do (or believe in him and God more, at least). And even if my faith in a higher power isn't very strong, I've really enjoyed bonding with people over other things, especially at the church that I've been going to. We do have services of course, but it's not limited to that. There's community events, book clubs, bible studies, movie nights, board game nights, and in the past month, a Star Wars-themed Dungeons and Dragons game (more on that later). The point is, I've found a lot of value before in church as less of a religious measure and more of a community opportunity, and I'm happy to see that that transcends borders.

Recently, Hungary had a holiday known as National day, and I took the opportunity off of work to engage in some people-watching-- a hobby that I haven't had the time to do in several months. It was very quiet and calm and a welcome change from the hectic schedule I'm so used to. I absolutely love my time at all three of my placements, but it can be hard to find time to slow down and just think. It can be about my time here, or my past, or my future, but most of the time it's about the things that I know that I'll miss in three months. The days have been busy, and the weeks have flown by fast. I'm still doing well, but there's a slow-creeping panic that's setting in about leaving. Of course I'm happy to be returning to my family at the end of this YAGM year, but it's not that simple anymore. There's a few things that I'm dreading about the end, actually. One is that I really don't know exactly what I'll be doing upon my return (other than sleeping away the jet lag and cherishing my dogs). I know what I want to do with my life eventually-

one of my end goals is to be some sort of mental health worker- and I do have some ideas for things I could do to get there. But everything feels very intimidating and sudden, and it's hard to think about the future when I'm so busy with the present. The thing that saddens me more, though, is the thought of leaving the people I love here in Hungary. I don't know when I'll get to see them again, and there's a good chance that for some of them, I won't get the chance to cross paths with them in the future.

I thought about all of this long and hard not just on National day but during Holy Week as well. Mandák had a day during Holy Week where it was an hour of silent reflection that I really enjoyed, especially since it took place somewhere I feel safe and happy. I thought about leaving, and staying, and the stories I'm making with people now. Earlier at Mandák I talked with some people about the importance of stories, both in a Bible context and outside of it. And not to bring up D&D again, but one of the most important things that I wanted to do with the campaign that I'm writing is that no matter how crazy the plot gets, I want to make the characters feel real and flawed and beautiful all at once. It's what makes them human, and what makes the story worth paying attention to. That's true in fiction and in real life, and I think the working with people has been my favorite part of all of this. Specifically, there's people at all three of my placements that I've gotten to know quite well ever since we met several months ago. They've made me laugh, made me cry (in a good way), made me think, and will make it very hard for me to leave. You know who you are. :)

# Updates + Guide to Game Night!

A few updates from my end:

- I'll be on a retreat with Kelly and the cohort for a few days in May, so I'll be covering that in the next newsletter.
- My final full day in my community will be on June 29th! I'll see some community members the following day, but then I'm off to regroup with Kelly and the Central Europe cohort to start heading back to the United States. My official flight back is on July 2nd.
- In addition to this newsletter, I'll be putting out two others: one shortly before leaving Hungary and one sometime after my return to the United States. I have some ideas for the next one, so if you're a community member in Hungary, I might be talking to you about that shortly. :)
- Some other things I'll be looking forward to in the coming months include:
  - Graduations! The final days of the school year are upon us and I'm so excited to see my older students get to graduate. I'm so proud of all of my kids.
  - Summer events- in addition to the events at the end of the school year, I'm looking forward to hopefully explore a little more with my last few months, especially with the warmer weather!
  - More surprises- YAGM is very much about being flexible! When new things come up, I'll put them in the newsletter.

Some games I've enjoyed playing with my community!

Cica, Pizza, Taco, Gida, Sajt: This game translates to Kitty, Pizza, Taco, Goat, Cheese. This is personally one of my favorites because it's a fast paced card game and because it transcends the language barrier quite easily. (Also, as of right now, nobody has beaten me at it yet, so that certainly helps.)

Csótány-Poker: Translates to Cockroach Poker, and it's a card game all about bluffing and lies. You have to lie about which cards are in your hand while also figuring out who's lying to you.

Dixit: A game featuring abstract pictures, where you try to describe your card with one word or fool the other players. Since it's only one word, this one isn't too bad with a language barrier.

Kaméleon: This translates to Chameleon, and it's another lying and bluffing game. This one was much harder with the language barrier, but everyone was very kind to me and patient about it.

Uno: Exactly what it sounds like. It turns into betrayal so quickly and I LOVE the chaos even though I'm typically pretty bad at Uno.

I'm not going to lie, a lot of my making of this newsletter has mostly been restraining myself from endlessly talking about the D&D campaign that I've been running, with some of the community members as players. Dungeons and Dragons, or D&D for short, is sort of like a choose your own adventure game, but much more interactive than that. (I know the kids in Stranger Things played it, but I've never watched the show so I'm not sure what to make of it.) It can be anything you want it to be- the only limits are your and your friends' imaginations.

Some of the members of my community are very enthusiastic about Star Wars, both in looking at the franchise as compared to religion as well as enjoying the plot and themes. To help them enjoy the experience, I made an adventure for them that takes place on the planet of Coruscant, many years before the birth of Anakin Skywalker. The players are Jedi padawans, and after a game in the woods gone wrong, one of their masters goes missing. I won't spoil what I want to do with the story, but it explores themes like lying, self-sacrifice, the butterfly effect, and what it means to be alive.

I've also made a page of notes detailing all the sessions so far, for my players as well as for all of you. If you're interested, you can find the link in the email that sends this newsletter. Please feel free to email me back with questions or comments! I know it's niche, but I love talking about the stories that we've made here. <3



# May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1 11:00 a.m.</b> Lectionary Study <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Together @ Grace <b>6:15 p.m.</b> Bells of Grace <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Voices of Grace	<b>2 7:00 a.m.</b> Morning Prayer	<b>3</b>	<b>4 10:00 a.m.</b> Hike & Seek Wildflower Hike
<b>5 9:15 a.m.</b> Growing in Grace <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Worship	<b>6 6:30 p.m.</b> Book Club <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Applesaires	<b>7</b>	<b>8 11:00 a.m.</b> Lectionary Study <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Together @ Grace <b>6:15 p.m.</b> Bells of Grace <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Voices of Grace	<b>9 7:00 a.m.</b> Morning Prayer <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Garden Team	<b>10 10:00 a.m.</b> WVMTA	<b>11 5:00 p.m.</b> Recital
<b>12 9:15 a.m.</b> Growing in Grace <i>(final)</i> <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Worship	<b>13 1:00 p.m.</b> VBS Planning <b>4:30 p.m.</b> Habitat for Humanity <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Book Club <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Applesaires <b>7:30 p.m.</b> WVMTA	<b>14 3:30 p.m.</b> Building & Grounds Team <b>4:00 p.m.</b> Arts Team <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Youth & Community Team <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Ukulele Group	<b>15 11:00 a.m.</b> Lectionary Study <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Together @ Grace <b>6:15 p.m.</b> Bells of Grace <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Voices of Grace <i>(final)</i>	<b>16 7:00 a.m.</b> Morning Prayer <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Applesaires Concert Set-up	<b>17 7:00 p.m.</b> Applesaires Concert	<b>18 9:30 a.m.</b> Regional Gathering in Ellensburg
<b>19 10:30 a.m.</b> Worship  <i>Rite of Confirmation</i>  <b>3:00 p.m.</b> Lute Loop Ride  <b>8:30 p.m.</b> Compline	<b>20 8:30 - 5:00</b> Piano Guild  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Book Club  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Applesaires	<b>21 9:00 - 5:30</b> Piano Guild  <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Anna Circle  <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Drum Circle  <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Church Council  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Miriam Circle	<b>22 Newsletter Deadline</b>  <b>8:30 - 5:00</b> Piano Guild  <b>11:00 a.m.</b> Lectionary Study  <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Together @ Grace	<b>23 7:00 a.m.</b> Morning Prayer  <b>9:00 - 5:30</b> Piano Guild  <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Garden Team  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Recital	<b>24 9:00 - 5:00</b> Piano Guild  <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Game Night	<b>25</b>
<b>26 10:30 a.m.</b> Worship	<b>27</b>	<b>28 6:30 p.m.</b> Ukulele Group	<b>29 11:00 a.m.</b> Lectionary Study  <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Together @ Grace	<b>30</b>	<b>31 7:00 p.m.</b> Craft Night  <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Recital	

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**Return Service Requested**

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

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**Lynnette Rose** Pastoral Intern  
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**Jen Gale** Office Administrator  
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**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**10:30 a.m.**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

**Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Friday: 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.**

**CONTACT**

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**WEBSITE**

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