

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**PREPARED FOR**

**THE SEMI-ANNUAL  
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
OF  
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**JANUARY 26, 2020**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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## **Grace Lutheran Semi-Annual Meeting**

January 26, 2020

Fellowship Hall

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

**Members and Guests – Sign In**

**Call to Order** – Chad Dulac

**Establish Quorum** – Chad Dulac

**Opening Prayer**– Pastor James

**Adopt Agenda as Presented** – Chad Dulac

**Approval of 9/29/19 Congregational Meeting Minutes** – Chad Dulac

**Pastor’s Update**– Pastor James

**Update of 2019 Financials**–Gwen Sparks

### **Old Business**

Fox Trust Update- Chad Dulac

Fox Trust Visioning Group- Pastor James

### **New Business**

2020 Special Project Dollars- Gwen Sparks

2020 Budget – Gwen Sparks

Fox Trust tithe/ project proposal- Chad Dulac

Acknowledgement of outgoing leaders- Pastor James

**Good of the Order** – Chad Dulac

**Closing Prayer** – Intern Jenna Bergeson/Pastor James Aalgaard

**Adjournment**

**Grace Lutheran Semi-Annual Meeting  
September 29, 2019  
Fellowship Hall**

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

**Members and guests – Sign In**

**Call to Order** - Chad DuLac  
Russ Speidel - Parliamentarian

**Establish Quorum** – Chad DuLac  
Quorum established

**Opening Prayer** - Pastor James

**Adopt Agenda as Presented** - Chad DuLac  
Alan Smith: motion to accept agenda as presented  
Beth Smallbeck: 2<sup>nd</sup>  
No discussion  
Motion carried

**Approval or 1/27/2019 Congregational Meeting Minutes** – Chad DuLac  
Riva Morgan: motion to accept the prior Congregational Meeting Minutes as presented.  
Phil Gregg: 2<sup>nd</sup>  
No discussion  
Motion carried

**Pastor's Update** - Pastor James

- Continue to have civil conversations and also to build relationships in the community.
- Nurture faith and interconnectedness of the people of the congregation.
- Many areas of focus these past few months including the gift of the Fox Trust, Summer of Service held here at Grace in June, the Church wide assembly, Intern transition in August, changes in Faith Formation and Affirmation of Baptism and Pastor's upcoming sabbatical May 1- July 25.
- Addition of 2 new BeFriends: Gigi Shaw-Machtley and Joanne Dalinkus
- Rufus Woods spear headed "community"
- Phone Call from Fox Trust attorney
- Excitement/concern
  - Honor and respect each other in regards to Fox gift discussions
- Summer of Service-Here at Grace
  - Thomas wrote essay about his experience here. Went to state fair and received a purple and blue ribbon.
- Our chance to provide not only to our community and beyond
- Condemnation of white supremacy
- Sanctuary denomination approved-Lutheran Magazine (review)

## **2019 Financial Update** – Gwen Sparks See report

- Reap-transparency
- Financial advisory group formed
  - Cash reserve 2 month of operating expenses
- 8 month review, not 7 months

## **Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

### **Fox Trust update** – Chad DuLac

October will be an exciting month in careful mindfulness of Fox gift

Earl Tilly brought forward that the Community Foundation of NCW manages over \$60 million. Further discussion ensued regarding how Rick Linder has been paid and that he is on an hourly rate with no % of estate given to him. We understand that we have 2 separate entities, The Fox Trust and Fox Estate. No quick decisions will be made regarding the Fox gift and believe that “this is an instrument of God’s will and the good of GLC.” Michele Sandberg brought up several questions – No appraisal yet? and \$ from condo to purchase other housing for interns?

Annette Mueller asked what are the drawbacks of keeping as part of the trust?

Jody Marquart – Grace is not in real estate management. If sold it would be a wonderful brokerage gift. This will all be in future discussions with the visioning team and congregation. The Constitution also states that real estate requires a decision by voting members of the congregation. A special meeting would need to be called.

**Fox Trust Motion** – Council moves the Congregation recommend to the Fox Trustee to sell the Condominium and property in East Wenatchee, and provide the resultant money as a gift to Grace Lutheran.

Dick Craven – Motion to call the question. Phil Gregg – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Michele Sandberg - motion to table motion

Gloria Foster – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Yays- 33

Nays – 8

### **Elections** – Chad DuLac

All approved on ballot with the exception that Shirley Wurl is on ballot, not Inku Hwang

Phil Gregg – motion to accept by acclamation with stated change on ballot

Lynn Heminger – 2<sup>nd</sup>

No discussion

Motion carried

### **Endowment Team Grant Submission** – Inku Hwang

All requests were granted. Total of \$10,000 given

Dick Craven asked Inku if funding from Social Concerns is excluded from endowment and it is not excluded.

Alan Smith – Motion to accept

Beth Smallbeck – 2<sup>nd</sup>

No discussion

Motion carried

### **Fox Trust Visioning Group** - Pastor

Will post notices in the bulletin

Hope to have group in place by end of 2019

**Team Leader Update** - Monte Olson

Appointments will be made at the January Semi-Annual Meeting

Council is responsible for the appointments-per constitution

List of Teams that currently **do not** have a Team Leader

Stewardship, Arts, Building and Grounds, Evangelism, Personnel, Social Concerns and Youth and Education

**Good of the Order** – Chad DuLac

Council recognized by standing

Jody M – Dorothy Haight passed away. She had retired here and is the mother-in-law of Dr Mike Hibbett. She was a member of the Batterman family.

**Celebrations and Affirmations** – Chad DuLac

Earl Tilly – Mission Ridge received 6 ½” of snow!

Gigi Shaw – big hugs and thank-you to the kitchen crew

Hollie Olson- Thank-you to Chad for his tireless energy and guidance

Thank-you to Alatheia

Milt Herman – Thank-you for Lilac Service of NCW

**Adjournment with Prayer** – Intern Jenna

Congregational Meeting adjourned at 1:43 PM

Respectfully submitted by Colleen S Smith



**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEMBERS, TEAM LEADERS AND COMMITTEES**

**President** – Chad DuLac  
**Vice-President** – Cathy Sweeney  
**Secretary** – Jody Marquardt  
**Treasurer** – Gwen Sparks  
**Members-at-Large:** – Riva Morgan  
Monte Olson  
Ann Bartlett  
Andy Sheets

**2020 Ministry Team Leaders**

**Arts** – Phil Gregg  
**Buildings and Grounds** – open position  
**Evangelism** – open position  
**Faith Enrichment/Stewardship** – Jody Marquardt  
**Fellowship** – Shirley Leslie  
**Intern** – Trish Simmons  
Andy Sheets  
**Personnel - open position**  
**Social Concerns** – Kay Fisher  
**Worship** – Denise Miller  
**Youth and Education** – open position

**2020 Committees**

**Audit** – Linda Sinnett, Mark Boersma, Mike Sweeney  
**Fox Trust Visioning** – Bob Bartlett, John McQuaig, Cheryl Salter, Karen Zanol, Judy Connor, David Bentsen, Milt Herman  
**Memorial Garden** – Diane Senn, Dianne Skagen-Gillin, Jane Dunbar, Jan Romey  
**Mission Endowment** – Shirley Wurl, Karen Zanol, Susan Salley  
**Nominating** – open  
**Offering Counters** – Tracy Gausman  
**Pastoral Support** – Micah Florea, Jim Caulkins, Julie Banken  
**Staff Support** – Ernie Bentsen, Casey Vogt, Jean Speidel

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastor James Aalgaard**  
**Beth Smallbeck**  
**Jameson Varpness** – Director of Music Ministries  
**Jenna Bergeson** - Intern  
**Jen Pearson-Gale** – Office Administrator  
**Roxanne Reindl** – Finance Manager  
**Judy Olson** – Organist/Pianist  
**Rich Smallbeck** – Facilities Maintenance Manager

**PRAYER PARTNERS CONTACT**

Colleen Smith - (679-1742), email: [glcprayerpartners@gmail.com](mailto:glcprayerpartners@gmail.com)

## CONGREGATIONAL PRESIDENT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2019

Hello members of Grace-

It has been an honor and a privilege to share in the growth, development, and spiritually guided changes that have happened at Grace this last year. I had a wondrous time during my second year as President, continuing to learn an immeasurable amount about our Congregation, ministry and Staff.

I want to personally thank everyone at Grace for their selflessness, patience, time and talents when helping me and other leaders on Council. The caring I've seen built from a standpoint of Christ's love has helped us to welcome the Fox Trust with open and imaginative hearts.

It is imperative to also applaud our Pastor, church Staff and intern. As the cornerstones of worship and ministry at Grace they enable us all to have a deeply felt attachment to God and one another by their connection to our youth, music ministries, outreach, community involvement and financial and administrative infrastructure. They truly are the beating heart of Grace and a gift from God.

I want to express my humble gratitude to the many volunteers and families that supported Grace in 2019. Additionally, it is important to reflect upon the time, dedication and heartfelt efforts of our Church Council members, team members and leaders, as well as our varied Committees. I want to lift-up all the long hours, meetings, management and leadership they've volunteered in support of Grace's mission and Core Values: Worship, Community and Service. We have thrived because of all of you!!

This was an unexpected year of generosity for Grace with receipt of the Fox Trust. While there are pitfalls some churches may fall into because of large gifts, Grace has handled this blessing with reflection, planning, insight, prayer and wisdom. We've gathered decades of financial experience via our Financial Advisory Committee and are leaning into this gift with our hearts via a Fox Trust Visioning Committee. I am excited for the great things Grace will be able to do with this gift and am proud of our members for entering a time of reflection to make good decisions and intentionally use what God has given Grace Lutheran Church.

A final thankyou to all our Grace members for standing beside me shoulder to shoulder to serve God, his church and one another. I am delighted to continue doing my best to invest my leadership, time and talents for the people of Grace.

On the following page, Jen Pearson-Gale has meticulously assembled an enormous list of our Church's ministry from 2019, and I humbly ask you to revisit all the accomplishments our church achieved this last year. This is a proud legacy we are leaving behind and a glimpse of the great things we'll continue to do in 2020.

God's blessings upon you all.

Sincerely,

Chad Du Lac, Council President 2019

## 2019 Highlights

During 2019 Grace Lutheran Church:

- Focused on our core values of worship and service.
- Continued the Intern program. Wayne Shipman was our intern for 2018 - 2019. We said good-bye to Wayne and his wife Janet in August and welcomed Intern Jenna Bergeson in September.
- Hosted “Civil Conversations” during Lent. These small group conversations were open to the community and explored issues with a goal of building a more understanding community of diverse people.
- Held midweek worship services and soup suppers during Lent, and midweek services during Advent.
- Learned about the history of our stained-glass windows during the cross-generational faith formation time in the spring. Participants also had the opportunity to make necklaces from pieces of stained glass, which were handed out during worship on Pentecost.
- Hosted the Second Annual Sacred Choral Music Concert featuring choirs from faith communities in the Wenatchee Valley.
- Biked the Riverfront Loop together during our annual Lute Loop Bike Ride on Pentecost.
- Hosted youth and adults from four out-of-state churches for “Walking Together,” our Summer of Service project. The Summer of Service group (which included youth and adults from Grace) worked with agencies throughout our community, reaching out to those who live on the margins.
- Furthered relationships formed during the Summer of Service with local service agencies. Members of Grace continue to work closely with Power House Ministries, Women’s Resource Center, and many more organizations. Work was begun on a church-wide project making sleeping mats out of plastic bags.
- Continued to explore becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation, offering several learning opportunities throughout the year.
- Worshipped “in the round” during the summer months.
- Held a men’s retreat at Tall Timber Ranch and a women’s retreat at Grunewald Guild.
- Continued the Packing Friendship ministry. GLC provided more than 1200 bags of food during the 2018-2019 school year.
- Began a new approach to confirmation, offering a series of Affirmation of Baptism retreats throughout the year.
- Presented quilts to our high school seniors and sent quilts to Lutheran World Relief.



- Continued to provide space for King’s Garden Preschool, a part of Lighthouse ministries.
- Presented the Duke Ellington Sacred Concert featuring the Wenatchee Big Band and the music ministry of Grace Lutheran in recognition of Black History Month.
- Held the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Pastor Ernie Fun Run/Walk benefitting ELCA World Hunger.
- Continued to host 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday bingo for adults with developmental disabilities.
- The kitchen cabinets received a fresh coat of paint and new blinds were installed in the Fellowship Hall.
- Provided space for various outside groups and events, including:
  - Compassionate Friends Support Group
  - Suicide Loss Support Group
  - Alzheimer’s Support Group
  - Appleaires Rehearsals
  - Recitals
  - Piano Adjudications and Piano Guild Auditions
  - Young Musician’s Competition
  - SAIL Instructor Training
  - Columbia Chorale
  - Julian Patrick Vocal Camp
  - Silverdale Lutheran Youth Winter Retreat
  - Assorted groups travelling to Holden Village, especially May Youth Weekends

*Please see the accompanying reports for more examples of the ministries of the congregation.*

## **Pastor's Annual Report** **Grace Lutheran Church Annual Meeting**

**Matthew 4:19-20**

**He said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people."**

**Immediately (Peter and Andrew) left their nets and followed him.**

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Dear People of Grace;

This is a year to focus on our core value of service. I like to add a word, using "sacrificial service" to try to emphasize that when one decides to act for the wellbeing of the other, something must be set aside, whether it's time or other resources. Our own interests take a back seat in service. To serve is to willingly focus on the betterment of the other.

For several weeks, I've been tutoring three people who are learning English. The Literacy Council in Wenatchee accepted me as an ESL tutor. I have greatly enjoyed this challenge. It has been important to me to help these folks get along a little better in our greater community. People who are learning the basics of English have an exhausting task. Together, we share emotions that range from frustration to elation. I've also taken a big step (for me) by volunteering at a local severe weather shelter. Several others from the congregation have done the same, and I think being involved on this level has begun a transformation for our church.

I encourage you to consider what you can do to help better the lives of others around you. At its best, a church is a place where people are affirmed and equipped to be about God's work in the other circles of their lives. As our mission states, through the word of God and our participation in the sacraments, we are part of a community that is created, nurtured, trained and sent.

I'm glad to be part of your ministry, and I'm looking forward to this coming year.

**What follows is some of the work I've been part of at Grace. I encourage you to also read other reports in this packet, and celebrate the good work done by the ministry teams and staff so you can have a fuller idea of what God has been doing.**

- Meeting with colleagues in ministry for support and collaboration.
- Attended the Churchwide Assembly as a voting member from our synod. We made decisions related to the structure of our denomination (for example, deacons will now be considered ordained to word and service ministry), and related to critical issues for our world (for example, we decided to be a sanctuary denomination, making an effort to communicate a more compassionate message to people seeking to be new Americans).
- We added two BeFriends to our team. Those one-on-one visits have continued at Grace, helping build a sense of community and love. BeFriends have begun to also organize around grief ministry, offering care to the bereaved.

- Our faith formation ministry is looking different this year. Our core value of service has influenced our decisions in planning; now, the Social Concerns team has been working alongside the formation leaders to highlight local organizations, so we can learn how to be more active in our community in the name of Christ. Sleeping mats made by our people have begun to make an impact in the homeless community. Also, we have begun a retreat-based process of learning toward affirmation of baptism. We have a group of about 12 people (middle school through adult) who have committed to three retreats this program year.
- Supervision of Intern Jenna Bergeson, and getting ready to interview candidates for next fall.
- We experimented with a different configuration of our sanctuary during the summer months of 2019. Will it become an annual thing?
- I continue to develop plans for my sabbatical leave this year. I begin sabbatical May 1, and I get back to ministry in the congregation July 26. The theme of my sabbatical seems to be “spirituality, art and the self.” I am very appreciative of the ways the congregation has supported me through this time.
- Not least, I have been actively involved in helping our congregation respond well to the news that we are recipients of a large trust fund from the Fox family, including two properties. This large fund has the potential to be a “game changer” in many ways. Let’s all commit to being in prayer and conversation, careful to always be good listeners.

I’m ready for another year of ministry together. We are “caught” or “caught up” in the good news about Christ Jesus. When we turn out our lives to the neighbor near and far, we are inviting others into the same fellowship of joy and belonging.

Together in Christ,

Pastor James Aalgaard

## **Youth and Family Ministries/Youth and Education Team**

### **“Walking Together”**

2019 was a year of walking together. Our focus was on building community within and outside of our walls. This was achieved by our intergenerational faith formation time of creating stained glass necklaces for the congregation. Young and old alike heard the story of how our beautiful windows came into being as they learned the art of working with glass. On Pentecost, members and visitors alike were gifted a piece of Grace and a story to share. Community was also built with local agencies as we geared up for our 2019 summer of service program. Friendships were created with the staff of the Women’s Resource Center, the YWCA, and the Powerhouse. Lasting relationships were made with the families at Bruce Hotel, the guests at the Powerhouse and those who live on the streets of Wenatchee.

We would like to thank our Youth and Education Team members: Mackenzie Brown, Sue Coe, JuLee Fiebelkorn, Della DuLac, Cheryl Salter, Dawn Aalgaard and Kari Godfrey. Dawn and Kari have both stepped down from the team and we added Ann Bartlett last fall. A huge thank you to all! After serving for four years, Jen Gale is stepping down from the team lead position. We thank her for her willingness to serve as our leader.

Our team was active throughout 2019, seeking ways to engage youth and adults alike in the life of our faith community. In February, we hosted the 30 Hour Famine. More than 15 youth and adults fasted for 30 hours and learned about the issue of world hunger. Our team prepared a pasta dinner for the participants to share at the end of their experience. In May, we served coffee and cookies at the Nason Creek Rest Area, raising funds for the Summer of Service and also visiting with travelers from all over the country and world. We supported the Summer of Service project in June, helping to prepare meals, facilitating VBS, and much more. Rally Day in September featured a number of outdoor activities for families to enjoy together – we hope to make this a tradition. We again had a large turnout from the community for our Trunk or Treat in October. Finally, Della DuLac managed our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holiday Vendor and Craft Fair in December. This event opens our doors to the greater Wenatchee community, giving our youth one more way to serve and welcome others.

Youth and education teamed up with the Social Concerns team in the fall of 2019 to create a revised version of Faith Formation. This fall we introduced speakers, once a month, from the different agencies that we worked with throughout the summer. On the off Sundays, youth worked on projects for the agencies. Items were collected, placemats and cards were made, and lessons were learned regarding the plight of homelessness and poverty. Shannon Salter has continued to teach the PreK class with the help of Mackenzie Mueller. The 6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth have been visiting other faith communities once a month and learning of our neighbor’s beliefs and traditions.

Youth groups remain a strong component of the Youth Ministry at Grace Lutheran. Our youth have found a safe community here, and they continue to invite friends to join them. Beginning in the fall of 2019, the middle school and senior high youth groups chose to meet as one group on Sunday nights. The

3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade youth group now meets two times per month, and the youth group now incorporates music thanks to a partnership with the music ministry here at Grace. We'd especially like to thank Andrew Fischer for volunteering to help with the 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade Youth group.

Our summer of service was a community and congregation wide event and we would like to thank everyone for your prayers and support... it takes a village to achieve what we did this past summer. If you are looking for a way to become more involved in the life of Grace Lutheran and our greater community, we would like you to prayerfully consider joining our team. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the library. Not only do we get a lot done, but we have fun as well!

Respectfully submitted

Beth Smallbeck  
Minister of Youth

Jen Gale  
Team leader, Youth and Education

## Music Ministries Report

The music ministry at Grace continues to develop, to connect people in community and service, and to enrich our worship together. In the past year, we have explored new liturgies, new hymns and songs, and performances that stretched our understanding of our community and ourselves.

The music ministry of Grace hosted the Wenatchee Big Band and performed Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert in recognition of Black History Month this past February. This was the beginning what we hope will be a new annual event that continues to celebrate the rich diversity of our music and our communities. We also continue to develop closer relationships with other congregations and their music ministries. In May, we hosted the second annual Sacred Choral Concert, bringing together choirs from the community to share our common work and to make music for and with each other.

As part of this year's Christmas concert, *A Star Shines Hope*, Voices of Grace learned pieces and carols in Spanish, challenging our own comfort with language and recognizing the treasured music of the Latino and Hispanic communities both in the United States and abroad. Bells of Grace has consistently tackled increasingly difficult music, learning new extended techniques and working together to solve both musical and logistical problems. Our youth in Catecheo and Chancel Schola have shared the message of the gospel with compassion, poise, and often in more sung voice parts than a small ensemble of their ages would typically attempt. Compline has created space for a different sort of prayer and contemplation, which has bonded our singers and formed yet another expression of community at Grace.

In reviewing this year, though, I am most proud of the invitational nature that our ensembles have embraced. Our older youth welcome our younger youth in rehearsals and in collaboration. In Bells of Grace, Grace Brass, and Voices of Grace we have welcomed new musicians to our community and have been made more whole by their presence. It is my hope that we persist in exploring and expanding and that we continue to find ourselves made more whole by the presence and contributions of those who we have yet to meet, yet to understand, and yet to welcome.

I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to serve in the midst of this community, to be changed by the people who form it, and to share in the work we do together.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jameson Varpness, Director of Music Ministries

## **Arts Team**

The Arts Team, in collaboration with the Music Ministry Staff, is entrusted with the responsibility to create, organize, and share artist gifts to enhance the worship and other spiritual experiences of Grace Lutheran Church in order to communicate God's message of love to the community.

To that end, the Arts Team was privileged to minister to Grace Lutheran and the larger community in the following ways during the past year.

- Support of regular worship by music ensembles, including instrumental accompaniment
- Duke Ellington "Sacred Concert" concert with Wenatchee Big Band and VOG
- Choral and brass ensembles participated in Festival services
- Sacred Choral Concert at Grace
- OktoberFest
- VOG retreat
- GLC Christmas Concert
- Christmas caroling

We welcome Ruth Flanigan as a new member of the Arts Team.

We are very appreciative of the financial support from the Aasen Fund and the Zacher Fund.

Respectfully Submitted by Phil Gregg

## **Fellowship Team**

It is with honor that I have served the Grace Lutheran congregation as the leader of the Fellowship Team for 2019.

The goal of serving two services has been met with success. Team members who attend the first service support that service – the same applies for the second service. The team got together and decided that the first service team members would set up everything – coffee, food, tables and chairs, etc., and the second service team members would clean up everything. It's been working great, so we will continue for 2020.

The fellowship hall and kitchen continue to be used almost daily by our congregation and others from the community. The team members and I are delighted that all respect the kitchen and hall, helping to keep it clean and tidy.

Many improvements were made in 2019 with more to come in 2020.

Thank you everyone for your continuous support for the Fellowship Team. We will continue to serve you, the congregation of Grace Lutheran Church and our community in the name of God and His son Jesus Christ.

Submitted by Shirley Leslie  
Fellowship Team Leader



## **Grace Memorial Garden**

The Grace Memorial Garden would like to remind the congregation that there are still niches available in our lovely Columbarium. We would like to share some thoughts with you about making this decision. No one really wants to think about designating a spot for their cremains. However, it does take a burden off of family members when such a decision has been made early and everyone is thinking clearly, rather than when emotions are involved, and questions come up about the wishes of the loved one who has passed. It leads to a sense of peace for families if everything been arranged in advance. So please be thinking about whether you or your family would like to be among those whose final resting place is in Grace Lutheran's Memorial Garden. There are information packets available in the copy room. Blessings to you as you consider this important decision! Please visit our sacred garden anytime you wish to remember a loved one of friends interred there, or when you need a peaceful prayer.

## Intern Team

**The Intern Team provides leadership, encouragement, guidance and support so that through reflection, conversation and prayer the intern may become more prepared for ordained ministry.**

Team members during 2019 were Trish Simmons and Andy Sheets Co-Chairs, along with Tory Schmidt, Melanie McQuaig, Suellen Harris, and Joyce Fisher.

Our intern at the start of 2019 was Wayne Shipman. Wayne and Janet Shipman arrived the end of August 2018 and again we received a second career seminarian (and he's not even from Minnesota!). Wayne comes from United Lutheran Seminary in Pennsylvania. He brought with him a background of teaching and preaching in the Lutheran faith and mature insight and experience.

One of our first orders of business was to complete Wayne's mid-year report to United Lutheran Seminary. We split up the report and each member took a section to complete. We finished the report online with a copy to Wayne for his records.

Each intern is required to plan and complete an intern project during their year at Grace. The work done by several interns has been a benefit and blessing to our church. Wayne chose to host a workshop designed to help people speak more effectively and confidently in church. This workshop was held May 11 and was well received by the attendees. In addition to his intern project, several churches in the valley teamed up to hold a series of discussions on civil discourse. Wayne volunteered to host the sessions and he also facilitated one session.

One of the big events in church life 2019 was Summer of Service, hosted and organized by our youth group. In addition to our youth, we had former interns bring their youth groups. Wayne volunteered to help with all the food and cooking for the week-long event.

Wayne and Janet chose a wine tasting for their end-of-year event. It was well-attended and a happy send-off for Wayne and Janet. We then held an all church brunch on Aug. 11, our last Sunday with Wayne and Janet. We then completed Wayne's end of year report for United Seminary.

We also celebrated former Intern Ian McConnell's ordination this year and were pleased to send him a stole from our congregation.

Our work begins anew each year with the arrival of another fresh intern as we greeted Jenna Bergeson. Jenna transitioned from Hong Kong, going home to Des Moines, Iowa enroute to Wenatchee, arriving here Aug. 11 and then spending 2 weeks at Holden Village before her official start at Grace the last week of August.

Jenna has quickly stepped into the role of our intern and into the hearts of our congregation. She is working with Pastor James and the seminary, to fulfill her core requirements. She has used her duplex as a meeting place, hosting committee meetings and in December welcoming the congregation to join her to decorate her tree and exchange cookies-a well attended first time event for Grace. She loves the outdoors and has found her way to joining a running group and ultimate frisbee Wenatchee group.

The intern team meets monthly officially with Jenna and continues to provide sermon feedback, but is asking the congregation to join in helping with sermon response. In Nov. we received the resignation from our team from Suellen and will seek additional member(s) to begin as the 'intern year' begins the end of August.

Preparation for 2020, includes anticipating the impact of Pastor James sabbatical leave. Jenna has expressed confidence in the plan for her responsibilities during his absence and the internship team is ready to continue our support.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy and Trish

## Social Concerns Team

The Social Concerns Team Mission Statement is: *To heed the Gospel's call to love and serve our neighbor through direct action and financial support.*

The Social Concerns Team function is to approach the ministry of social concerns with prayer and discernment, to model Christ's love through our words, actions and daily living, and with the help of God, always be loyal stewards of God's gifts in the work of the team.

Prayerfully we strive to provide opportunities to minister compassion to the local, national and international area of concerns by identifying needs, partnering with organizations and encouraging others to respond with participation.

### **Accomplishments for 2019 include the following:**

- The second Friday of each month the Social Concerns Team hosted a Bingo night for those individuals with special needs.
- Collected coins for the Noisy Offering in March
- Delivered Easter flowers and visited the GLC Shut-ins in April.
- In August we teamed up with the GLC Youth Ministries to continue the summer of service throughout the 2019-2020 school year. We started a Cross Generational Faith Formation project of making sleeping mats out of used grocery bags for the homeless. This project will be ongoing from year to year with hopes of getting several other local churches involved.
- Also, in August, team members responded to the needs of a family that lost their home in the Boodry Street floods. Members from our team took the family around to get signed up for services and help them get established in a new apartment.
- On September 8 - for Gods Work Our Hands/Rally Sunday. – The team worked with the GLC Youth and gathered several items that included pillows, bedding canned food, socks, warm clothing and toiletry items for the YWCA.
- In October for Make a Difference Day we collected 2.5 vans full of items such as sleeping bags, coats, backpacks, food items, toiletries and tents. We also had over forty people from our church and the community participate in making sleeping mats out of used grocery bags.
- In November and December, we collected items for the Women's Resource Center and the Women's Resource Center – Street Ministries.

- In December we delivered poinsettias to GLC Shut-ins, made a Christmas basket for the Boodry Street family, hosted a Christmas Giving Tree for Wenatchee High School Homeless Students and a hosted an ELCA Good Gifts Giving Tree. In addition, we distributed 30 sleeping bags, over 200 pairs of socks, 40 neck warmers, canned food items, toiletries, oranges and Christmas Cookies to the Women's Resource Center and Power House Ministries.
- The team members established a working Agreement with Comfort Inn & Suites where they deliver to us their old bedding and toiletry items for us to distribute to the area agencies we work with.
- During 2019 we contributed \$150.00 monthly to ten different organizations that were in need of financial assistance.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Kay Fisher, 2020 Social Concerns Team Leader

## **Worship Team**

The Worship Team collaborates with the Pastoral Staff to keep the worship space beautiful and in good working order, to enable the congregation to worship in a meaningful way for the Glory of God.

Our new Worship Team meeting time for 2020 is the first Tuesday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. at GLC. Date/time may change due to other events scheduled, so check with the church office or worship team members if you are planning to join us.

At our monthly team meetings, we discuss budget items to purchase, review minutes, plan for upcoming liturgical events, and often have “work party” meetings. We share the duties of cleaning, decorating, repairing, and taking care of items used for worship services. Planning for Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas are our “busy seasons”.

An important part of the Worship Team responsibilities is to schedule/coordinate worship assistants for worship services. We are grateful for all who volunteer at worship services to make things run efficiently. Assisting and participating in worship is an enriching experience and we invite all members, of all ages and abilities, to consider volunteering to serve. We currently have openings for Greeters, Ushers, Acolytes, Lectors, Sound Board Operators, Communion Assistants, and Altar Guild members. Call Denise Miller, team leader, at 509-663-3052, to be added to the schedule.

The Worship Team has a small group who bake communion bread for worship. We could use a few more bakers! Here is a chance to volunteer for worship while baking from home, when it is most convenient for you. Prayerfully consider this service opportunity if you enjoy baking!

Our Team Dream Idea for new Christmas/festival banners is still in the works! Sue Volkmann is lending her artistic talents to these projects, and we look forward to something new and beautiful to grace our sanctuary in 2020!

Anyone interested in joining our team? We would love to welcome a few new members in 2020! Come to a meeting at church and bring your great ideas! We are excited to hear about them!

Submitted by Denise Miller, Worship Team

## Membership Data 2019

### Baptisms (4):

Aubree Hill  
Morgan Kardos  
Luke Westerman  
Greyson Zanol

### Confirmations: (1)

Andrew Fischer

### Deaths (10):

Zelika Edwards  
Marian Huggins  
Hal Lyons  
Lillian Olson  
Delores Richmond  
Alice Schmidtman  
Terry Sorom  
Donald Wallace  
Jane Wallace

### Members Received (17):

Samantha (Carroll) Miller  
Ruth Flanigan  
Jacob and Michelle Didesch  
Paul and Mary Ann Ford  
Tony, Angela, and Raymond Gott  
Michelle Harrison  
Dan and Linda Luke  
Paula Salter  
Mike and Cathy Sweeney  
Rich and Alicia Williams

**2019 Total Confirmed Membership: 397**