

ANNUAL REPORT

PREPARED FOR

THE SEMI-ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
OF
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 29, 2023



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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

2023 Church Council

President – open position

Vice-President – Dave Coe

Secretary – Suellen Harris

Treasurer – open position

Members-at-Large: Riva Morgan

John McQuaig

Trina DeCamp

Sara O’Daffer

2023 Ministry Team Leaders

Arts – Phil Gregg

Buildings and Grounds – Dave Coe, Tom Gausman

Evangelism – open position

Faith Enrichment/Stewardship – open position

Fellowship – open position

Intern – N/A

Personnel - open position

Social Concerns– Kay Fisher

Worship – Kathy Gavin

Youth and Education – Sue Coe

2023 Committees

Audit – Linda Sinnett, Mark Boersma, Mike Sweeney

Financial Advisory Group – Gwen Sparks, Mike Sweeney,

Memorial Garden – Jan Romey, Betsy Dudash, Ed Simmons

Mission Endowment – Shirley Wurl, Karen Zanol, Melanie McQuaig

Nominating – Chad DuLac, Dave Coe, Trina DeCamp

Offering Counters – Sue Marshall

Pastoral Support – Julie Banken, Micah Florea, Patton Boyle

Staff Support – Ernie Bentsen, Casey Vogt, Jean Speidel

Other Teams/Groups Not Listed Above

Anna Circle – Faye DeJong, Linda Sinnett

BeFrienders – Joanne Dalinkus, Gigi Shaw, Jan Herman, Wolf Mueller, Colleen Smith, Tom Redman, Sue Garness

Faithful Innovations – Sue Garness, Joyce Owens, Linda Sinnett, Suellen Harris, Patton Boyle, Pastor James Aalgaard

Fox Trust Visioning – Bob Bartlett, John McQuaig, Cheryl Salter, Karen Zanol, Judy Conner, Joanne Dalinkus, Milt Herman, Michele Sandberg

Building Visioning - Milt Herman, Pastor James Aalgaard, Bob Bartlett, John McQuaig, Dean O’Daffer, Cheryl Salter

Miriam Circle – Melanie McQuaig

Prayer Shawl – Ruth Westby, Helen Morton, Kathy Otheim, Joyce Fisher, Jane Dunbar, Jennifer McMahon, Sue Garness, Wanda Rivedal, Tracy Gausman, Eija Boyle, Connie Saracino-Smith, Patty Christiansen, LaVern Amend, Riva Morgan, Nancy Boersma, Stephanie Johnson, Trish Ginty

Reconciling in Christ – Hillary Martinez, Soraya Martinez, Paula Salter, Molly Salter, Nancy Spurgeon, Suellen Harris

Public Health Group –Michele Sandberg, Doug Eisert, Joel Banken, Jody Marquardt, Suellen Harris, Eric Olson

Stream Team – Marlena LaPaz, Phil Gregg, Chad DuLac, JJ Dippel, Dan Luke

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor James Aalgaard

Jen Pearson-Gale – Office Administrator

Roxanne Whitmire – Finance Manager

Judy Olson – Organist/Pianist

CONGREGATIONAL PRESIDENT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022

Good tidings to you people of Grace-

This year was full of great rejoicing as we transitioned from a COVID environment back into worship. Looking back, we recall stages of reintegration that led from opening our doors, to taking off masks to embracing singing and being together again at Grace. While it was a tumultuous trek that had stumbles as we learned to be comfortable again, it is none-the-less heartening to look around and see our members embracing compassion, patience and community heading into 2023.

I'd like to express my enduring gratitude to my fellow Council members, Church Committees and team volunteers who selflessly charged onward to lift up Grace during this uneasy and ever-changing time. We accomplished so much in 2022 including building renovations, ministry reimagining, community projects, TAG meals and several external outreach activities.

I am very grateful that we as a church could enable Pastor James to embark on his sabbatical. Knowing the importance of taking care of our faith leaders, this served him, as well as Grace, in recharging our outlook towards different perspectives. While we are in the midst of Staff turnover, it is important to note this is merely a time of transition and change, not an end of times. Certain aspects of ministry may be different, but in previous letters we've lifted up new and exciting ways that Grace will support Music, Youth and Family as well as our Financing to support those endeavors.

I'd like to also express my unfathomable thanks to the Fox Visioning Committee, Building Visioning Committee, Audit Committee and Faithful Innovations Group. Prayerful guidance married with long range planning, internal and external identification of needs as well as meticulous management of our stewarded gifts helped Grace finish the year with distinction. These volunteers have taken care of our building, reached out into the community to embrace feeding the many and took an honest look at our finances to see where we can improve to keep our church thriving with innovation and renewed strength.

Finally, thank you to all our church members. I am grateful to everyone still present at Grace, either online, in church or at home. We are a family still because of you and we celebrate that with glad hearts.

As my final term of President comes to an end, it has been an honor to serve this community and our God. I know I was led to this role by the Holy Spirit to use my gifts and talents for our church and have nothing but appreciation for other leaders who have come before me and will succeed me. I'll continue to find ways to help Grace, though it may be less 'visible'. To everyone who has given me thanks and celebrated my tenure as President, I'm eternally grateful for your love and support. I've always strived to do the best I could as I'd imagine God would want me to, to do his work.

God's blessings upon you all!

Sincerely,
Chad Du Lac, Council President 2017- Present

Pastor's Report to the Congregation

January 29, 2023

Dear People of Grace;

Please find below a few ministry highlights from 2022, along with a few other thoughts I would like to share.

- We saw Dane Breslin finish internship in July 2022. We saw Anna Ferro finish internship also in July 2022. A HUGE thank you to retired Pastor Keith Garness, the staff of Grace and the congregational leadership for helping their internships end on high notes. I was on sabbatical during several of those final weeks, and so appreciate the support provided for our pastoral students.
 - Early 2022 we learned that Luther Seminary did not have an intern to place with us. Around that same time, we also learned we were losing our intern housing arrangement. Our internship committee was also in a time of transition as most members decided to step down. Our operational ministry income through the offerings of our members and others was also not giving us reason to be confident that we could commit to another intern. All this adds up to the fact that we do not have an intern for 2022/23. At a recent Council workshop, we determined that since we will be focusing on rebuilding our programmatic staff positions, we will not be applying for an intern for the 2023/24 year.
- Our music ministry has been maintained by Judy Olson, our organist. She has been in a position where she needed to step into a much more active leadership role. Examples of this include coordinating brass musicians, selecting choir anthems for Sunday mornings, directing the choir while playing piano, and others. We have reached out to people we think might be interested in directing our choir, but nothing has fit into place yet. For children, there has been one music opportunity recently, which is what I'm calling a "Pop-up Kids Chorus", led by Casey and Jesson Vogt. Thank you to the Vogt family for putting time and energy into helping our young people sing the faith.
- My sabbatical happened this year. I was away for nearly three months, enjoying a time of renewal and learning, along with listening to the stirring of the Spirit.
- Our Youth & Family ministry is currently being led by Paula Salter and Sue Coe. We are grateful for their willingness to step in as we adjust to the absence of Beth Smallbeck.
- We will be saying farewell to Roxanne Reindl, our Finance Manager. She is retiring early this year, and we congratulate her on her marriage on January 14.
- Our Office Manager, Jen Pearson Gale, has been working hard to keep things going in the communications side of the church, and has continued to coordinate the groups that meet at our property.

It is still going to take time for our sense of community and comfort with one another in fellowship to rebuild. This is a pandemic problem, but it is my sense that the pandemic intensified trends that were in the works before 2020. Some people have dropped away from active in-person participation at Grace, although they try to connect online. Some left the congregation. Some started connecting with our church during the pandemic and have really seemed to consider Grace their church home. I think there are some households that are ready to "make it official" and join Grace.

We will want to be cautious that we are not moving into the future with a dreamy picture of the past as our guide. Schedules and commitments for individuals and families are different in today's world and we should not be surprised when people have set other priorities. Our new hires will need to be okay being present out in the community, building a network of relationships and having a true sense of being "sent" into mission on behalf of the congregation. This means we will need to be okay with the idea that we have an impact on the greater community that may not translate into having more people in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Of course, it would be wonderful to see our membership grow, but only as the fruit of other good stuff that's happening because of our efforts. We must love the world around us as Christ does. This translates into being aware of our own anxieties and being willing to take risks that are based in a faithful response to the radical love God has for us in Christ. I urge us all to keep in mind, the Church exists to be a presence of Christ in the world.

There are many questions about how things will look by this time next year. We hope there will be new energy as we consider our needs, our wants, and where God is leading.

Pastor James Aalgaard

Baptisms in 2022

Hailey Melton

Kelsi Davis

Confirmed (Affirmation of Baptism)

Raider Liesch

Cortex Martinez

Cruz Martinez

Members Removed: Death

Dorothy Dennis

Don Evenhus

Joanne Hanson

Sylvia Henry

Shirley Houghland

Peggy Johnson

Pixieanne Kalcic

Ron Koch

Sylvia Lyons

Gary Nelson

Betty Zielke

Members Removed: Transfer or other

April Babcock

Paul & Bette Bayes

Bob & Ann Black

Justin Bliggenstorfer

Marie Coe

Phoebe Nelson

Mel & Marjory Radford

Diane Reed

Roger & Susan Volkmann

Minister of Youth and Family

In my 2006 annual report I wrote, *Grace Lutheran is blessed with an amazing group of young people and I feel blessed to be working with them. I am looking forward to the years ahead and the journeys God leads us on.* We are now on the doorstep of 2023 and I still feel Grace has been blessed with amazing humans, both young and old.

None of the ministry we have done this past year could have happened without the blessing of folks willing to share their time and energy. Sunday Funday kept going throughout the year with the help of Shannon Salter and Anna Ferro. Sunday night youth group was supported by Paula Salter and Sue Coe. The youth team, led by Cheryl Salter, has been supportive and prayerful. Jen Gale has helped and encouraged me when I was at a low point in ministry this past year. Wenatchee Youth Community was formed last year and several of our youth have taken leadership roles, planning, organizing, and hosting monthly events. Those youth are Molly Salter, Soraya Martinez and Courtney Coe. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart!

This summer we were able to travel to Louisiana for our first summer of service in 3 years. We traveled as a family and learned from the youngest voices (Addie and Nolan Bonwell) as well as their Grandma (Marcia Webb). It was also the first time we traveled as an ecumenical group, traveling with members from First United Methodist Church. I hope that relationship continues.

2022 has been a year of regrouping, reaching out to folks we haven't seen in a couple years and offering a safe place to return to. I pray Grace Lutheran will continue to be that "safe place".

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Smallbeck
Minister of Youth and Family

Audit Committee

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2022

Committee Members: Mark Boersma, Mike Sweeney and Linda Sinnett

This is the second year these committee members worked to conclude an internal audit using the Internal Control Questionnaire provided by ELCA as a guideline. Previously the last known audit was completed in January 2010 by an in-house committee. Current members of the committee each chose categories outlined in the Questionnaire to research. Findings were reported at subsequent meetings. A total of three meetings were held in 2022.

Key personnel including the Financial Manager, Treasurer and Pastor were interviewed to discover the design and function of the internal accounting and operating systems. In addition to interviews, observation of processes and random sampling of invoices, checks, bank statements, deposits, income accounting and reports were conducted for accuracy. Appropriate areas of the Constitution and Bylaws were checked for compliance. After review recommendations were formulated by the committee. Many of the recommendations in the 2021 report have been implemented. The following includes those that need follow-up and some new suggestions.

Observation: The original paperwork for investment funds has been kept in a binder on an open shelf in the Financial Manager's office. A fireproof file that has now been installed, in accordance with the recommendation of the Audit Committee in 2021 .

Recommendation: Investment contracts/instruments need to be kept in the fireproof cabinet. Outgoing chair of committees with endowment funds need to inform incoming chairs and the treasurer, of whereabouts of fund paperwork.

Observation: In the By-laws there is reference to Continuing Resolutions for Committees and Ministry Teams. As of the writing of this report, Council has not adopted a complete set of Continuing Resolutions.

Recommendation: Continuing Resolutions need to be written and adopted to establish Ministry Teams and specify responsibilities of all Teams and Committees, including Ad Hoc Committees. The Continuing Resolutions also need to specify that it is mandatory for Teams and Committees, authorized to disburse funds, to provide minutes of all their meetings to the GLC Office Administrator for filing in the permanent record

Observation: The Sunday offering is placed in a safe after Sunday worship to be removed by two members of the Counting Team on Monday. Staff members have a key to the file room where the safe is located.

Recommendation: No staff members should know the combination to the safe since they have access to the locked file room. The Counting Committee Chair should periodically change the safe combination and inform the other counters of the new combination.

Observation: Mike Sweeney and Gwen Sparks, Treasurer, completed an inventory of the physical assets of the church during 2022 and hope to meet with Lori Reed, the agent with Mitchell, Reed & Schmitten Insurance to review this inventory and clarify how items fit into the policy's categories.

Recommendation: Annually, before renewing coverage in May, the insurance policy and the current needs of the church should be reviewed by the Pastor, Financial Manager, Treasurer and Facilities Manager (Or Chair of Building and Grounds Committee) at a meeting called for that purpose.

Observation: A second SSID was set up for guests to access general church information. The current SSID now has limiting access with an allow list, since it contains sensitive material.

Recommendation: The current Network passwords should be changed periodically, by the church office with notification to those on the allow list.

Observation: The last professional audit was completed in January 1995 by Cordell, Neher & Company, PLLC, Certified Public Accountants, twenty-eight years ago. The committee researched the possibility of having a professional audit to support the volunteer Audit committee going forward. The cost estimates for a full audit were \$10,000 to \$25,000.

Recommendation: It would be appropriate to consider having a professional audit at some point in the future, but it appears current financial constraints could not justify the cost. Alternatives may include engaging an individual accountant to assist in the current review procedure along with the committee. An outside, expert perspective would provide a more thorough review and valuable information as to audit procedures.

The Audit Committee would be pleased to discuss any of our findings and/or suggestions with the Pastor, the Financial Advisory Board or the Council, if requested.

DECEMBER 10, 2022

Building Visioning Committee

During mid-summer 2022, council members were identifying a need for a building committee to be responsible for bringing the council information on renovation and remodel of our church building. This new team, approved by the council, was charged with meeting contractors/vendors to garner quotes on needed upgrades identified with in-depth inspection of all facilities and complying with earlier congregational surveys.

Following two inspection reports, meetings were held with painting contractors, concrete contractors, lighting/electrical companies, window replacement vendor, roofing companies, kitchen, and a bathroom remodel company.

Each BVC member met with a mission serving group that uses the building and polled them for their specific wishes for use of space to facilitate the work they do.

Actions completed in 2022:

- Extensive work on exterior to prep for painting, removal of old vinyl siding.
- Color decision following input from local architect/artist. Painting was completed Fall of 2022.
- Quote for concrete work around administration building and East entrance to church.
- Quote on kitchen and bathroom remodeling
- Extensive inspection of buildings by two different architects.
- Quote to replace all failed thermal pane windows.
- Replacement of old light fixtures will qualify us for a \$3,500 PUD rebate.

Respectfully submitted

Building Visioning Committee

Milt Herman, Chair

Pastor James Aalgaard, Bob Bartlett, John McQuaig, Dean O'Daffer, Cheryl Salter

Mission Endowment Committee

The Endowment Committee has had to suspend distributions for 2022 as we did in 2020, since there were not enough earnings in the Endowment Fund as of June 30 to facilitate distributions for the year. The Aasen Fund did make a \$5,000 distribution in 2022 however. As of November 30, the Endowment Fund balance was \$222,260 compared to \$252,670 at 12/31/21. The Aasen Fund balance was \$25,730 as of November 30, compared to \$35,421 on 12/31/21. Both funds are invested in the Endowment Fund of the ELCA. Market values have decreased more than dividend earnings.

We hope to be able to distribute from the Endowment Fund later this year if earnings are at least over \$5,000. May God bless us to be a blessing.

Our team happily welcomes Melanie McQuaig, joining Shirley Wurl & myself.

Karen Zanol, Chair

Fox Trust Visioning Committee

The Fox Trust unrestricted gift came to Grace from a testamentary bequest of the Fox Family. This was totally unexpected and an obvious gift from God. With the gift comes a huge responsibility. The Fox Trust committee was formed in 2020 and consists of volunteer members of the congregation and at least one representative from the council.

In late 2021 we got congregational approval for a cottage project on the church property to provide housing for a church intern and for college students that are housing challenged.

Some members of the congregation were concerned that that decision was made too quickly with insufficient information. They opposed and succeeded in a rescission of the decision at the congregational meeting which was held online in late January.

This put the Fox trust committee back to square one. We had complaints that we should not proceed with any action until the pandemic was over so we could meet in person.

The committee met every other month largely in a holding pattern. We helped monitor the investment fund that was set up for the Fox funds.

We also worked with the building vision team to help establish a plan for moving forward on repairs and potential remodeling of our church facility. In August the committee authorized \$500,000 for repairs and improvements to the church building. These are to include roofing, paint, electrical improvements, etc.

At this point the main repair that has been done is repainting the building. The building vision committee in 2023 is undertaking a plan for a potential remodel of the building. In the work done by John Martin architect it was determined that the building is inefficient and much larger than we need presently for church and mission operations. There is an opportunity to streamline the portion of the building we use and be more efficient in our operations and free up portions of the building for other uses, it will also allow us to decrease our utility costs as we move forward.

In December the committee committed to providing some support to the church budget on a limited basis. The church was in need of support to be able to maintain the programs we have historically provided. The congregation will need to approve the budget at the annual meeting but the commitment from Fox is for \$250,000 total over three years.

We look forward to 2023 and further work toward the objectives mentioned.

We also look forward to being able to address mission needs in our community and the world as we move forward.

The Fox Visioning Committee

Members:

Pastor James Aalgaard, Robert Bartlett, Judy Conner, Joanne Dalinkus, Milt Herman, John McQuaig, Cheryl Salter, Michele Sandberg, Gwen Sparks, Karen Zanol

Intern Team

Prepared by Nancy Boersma

Purpose

The purpose of the Intern Team is to support, guide, provide feedback, listen to and assist with any frustrations or concerns the intern might have.

2022 Summary

This year started at the halfway point of our time with Intern Anna Ferro. Early in the year the team was given the news that we would not be getting an Intern for the 2022-2023 academic year. We also learned the lease on the apartment was ending in August and would not be renewed.

In April, Reverend Aalgaard went on sabbatical for three months. Anna was left in charge under the watchful eye of Keith Garness and the Intern Team. Intern Anna Ferro did a wonderful job. In July the team coordinated a Sip and Glass Fusing event for Anna and the congregation. It was well attended. Reverend Aalgaard returned from his sabbatical and on the last Sunday of July we had a farewell service for Anna.

In August the team hired cleaners to clean out the Intern House. President of the Council Chad Dulac assisted in overseeing volunteers to pack up the contents of the Intern House and the moving company that relocated the contents of the apartment to the Intern's Office at the church. The team not only was finishing up the requirements of our intern year but was also closing out the entire intern program.

Past Interns

This year, our church recognized the ordination and installation of Reverend Bergen Eickhoff with a gift of a liturgical stole and cards from the congregation.

Conclusion

I would like to thank all the members who served so faithfully on this committee. It is our wish that someday we will once again have an intern program at Grace Lutheran Church, Wenatchee.

Faithful Innovations Garden Team

Grace Lutheran's community garden lies dormant beneath a heavy layer of wet, dirty snow under cloudy skies. However, the Garden Team is not hibernating! We are busy talking about our original dreams and plans, what we have accomplished, and what we need to do next.

The idea of a community garden began with the Faithful Innovations Team designing "experiments" (instead of projects) that Grace Lutheran congregation could implement to work with the Holy Spirit in spreading the Gospel in the greater Wenatchee community. Trying to solve the problem of hunger and food insecurity lead them to ask our Wenatchee Valley intern, Dane Breslin, to put together ideas for an organic, sustainable "perennial food forest" with raised garden beds for growing vegetables and flowers to give away through our Little Free Pantry and to offer members and neighbors places to grow their own produce. The north end of Grace's property, once the site of a community garden, became the designated spot.

We put together a proposed budget, received approval from the Church Council to spend up to \$10,000 over the year of 2022 on a monthly stipend for Dane, equipment, supplies and seedlings of native trees, plants and bushes. On Saturday, July 23, a work party was organized to begin the process of layer mulching the soil with cardboard, compost and wood chips to kill the weeds and improve the fertility of the area. Despite the 100 degree heat, about 35 people from the church and community showed up to work, and we all shared root beer floats afterwards. Dane planted the seedlings and bushes we had obtained, and labeled them so the corridor from the alley to our parking lot can be used as an educational garden for our children and youth, and perhaps offered to teachers at Washington Elementary School. Our second work party on Oct. 9th had to be cancelled because the air quality index was dangerously high due to smoke from forest fires. Dane and a few of his friends finished layering the area to the west of the garage. That is as far as we were able to get before fall set in.

Dane has finished his internship, been ordained, and has received a call to Sunnyslope Church, 3330 School Street, Wenatchee, to serve as their full-time pastor. He continues to work as a volunteer in our garden, but the team has been plugging away to find a garden manager to take his place. We have written a job description and are seeking candidates to apply. While we do not yet have a person in place, we do have a lead for a consultant who may help us make connections with people in the area who might be interested.

As of Nov. 29, 2022, the team has spent \$5,442.59 on the garden manager stipend, native plants and bushes, garden tools, compost, mulch, and root beer and ice cream for our work party refreshments. Our next task is to continue networking with people in the community and especially in our congregation for ideas, advice, and willingness to work in the garden. If you have expertise in any part of raised bed gardening, or interest in helping to solve the problems of food scarcity, please contact Sue Garness or Linda Sinnett or Pastor James and let us know!

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Garness, Ph: 605-520-4133; email garnkska@gmail.com

Linda Sinnett, Ph: 509-699-8256; email blsinnett@yahoo.com

Social Concerns Team

Looking back on this past year with regards to the Social Concerns Team one cannot help but think of all the random acts of kindness that were accomplished in hopes we will impact a lifetime of change.

From helping Ukrainian Families start a new life in the Wenatchee Valley, to helping those with food insecurities and homelessness, the Social Concerns Team had an opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives we helped and our own lives at the same time. The year started with four members of the Social Concerns Team helping the Friends of Ukrainian Refugees. We helped write a grant, raise money with a choir concert, and helped the refugees get set up in their new homes.

Besides helping Ukrainian Families relocate here in the Wenatchee Valley we also sorted, tagged, and distributed 1,000 Coats for Kids, delivered gifts to the homebound, gave Christmas gifts to three Ukrainian families, made 45 Christmas gift bags for the homeless high school students, did a school supply drive, supported Packing Friendship, and operated the Little Free Pantry.

Our beneficiaries' monies supported two students' tuition at the Lithuanian Christian College, supported the Tanzania Companion Synod, Women's Resource Center, and Powerhouse Ministries.

"Unexpected kindness is the most powerful, least costly, and most underrated agent of human change." – Bob Kerrey ELCA.

The team would like to say a special thank you to the staff at Grace. Especially Pastor James, Roxanne Reindl, Jen Pearson-Gale, Beth and Rich Smallbeck. Without their assistance some of our giving would not have happened. Below is a list of all the organizations and the amount of giving the Social Concerns Team was able to distribute in 2022. Again, words cannot express enough how much the team appreciates the support of the congregation, council, and staff.

The following spreadsheet does not include any in-kind contributions such as food or clothing drive items or volunteer time.

Social Concerns Team Money Distribution 2022

	Qtrly Benevolences	Mission Ministry	Discretionary Fund/Needs Account	Family in Needs	Food Drive/Congregation	Congregation Donations	Miscellaneous	Total Monies Received
Dec-22								
Women's Resource Center	\$2,100.00							\$1,050.00
Powerhouse Ministries - Closed in August	\$1,050.00							\$2,100.00
Tanzania Companion Synod	\$2,100.00							\$7,475.00
Little Free Pantry - See Pantry Page	\$2,100.00						\$5,375.00	\$8,422.00
GLC Packing Friendship - See Packing Friendship Page	\$2,100.00						\$6,322.00	\$4,000.00
LCC International	\$2,100.00	\$1,900.00						\$500.00
Women's Resource Center - Street Ministries - Sleeping Bags		\$500.00						\$9,275.00
Afghan Refugees				\$2,275.00			\$7,000.00	\$850.00
Homebound		\$500.00	\$350.00					\$1,873.21
ELCA World Hunger						\$1,873.21		\$1,114.92
Members in Need		\$1,114.92						\$2,500.00
WHS Family in Need				\$2,500.00				\$3,700.00
Families in Need (Ukrainian - 3, Latino - 1)				\$3,700.00				\$1,349.95
Ukrainian Families in Need - * Please read the Social Concerns Team Summary							\$395,267.43	\$395,267.43
Quilters						\$1,349.95		\$500.00
1000 Coats 4 Kidz - 17 High School Girls Swimmers assisted			\$500.00					\$200.00
School Supply Drive for Washington & Mission View Elementary			\$200.00					\$1,500.00
45 WHS Unaccomplished Students Christmas Gift Cards			\$3,000.00					\$0.00
								\$0.00
								\$0.00
								\$0.00
								\$0.00
								\$0.00
Leveraged Funds	\$11,550.00	\$4,014.92	\$4,050.00	\$8,475.00	\$0.00	\$4,723.16	\$413,964.43	\$446,777.51
Congregation Donation						\$4,723.16		\$4,723.16
Miscellaneous (Choir Concert/Grants)						\$413,964.43		\$413,964.43
Collected School Supplies for Washington 7 Mission View Elementary								\$0.00
Received 850 donated Coats & approximately 1,500 Hats/gloves								\$418,687.59
Total Leveraged Funds								\$418,687.59
Church Funds								
Dedicated Funds					\$12,489.92			\$12,489.92
Needs Funds - Operational Budget					\$4,050.00			\$4,050.00
Benevolences - Operational Budget					\$11,550.00			\$11,550.00
								\$0.00
Total Church Funds					\$28,089.92			\$28,089.92
Total Funds Distributed 2022					\$446,777.51			\$446,777.51

For further information, please read the Social Concerns Team Summary

GLC Pantry 2022 Report

The pantry relies on 8 regular volunteers to keep it running smoothly, and there are a couple hours a month of staff time when Jen orders groceries to be picked up. There are 6 volunteers who stock the pantry Monday through Friday, and two volunteers who purchase and pick up food and other items and stock the shelves in the storage room on about a weekly basis. All the volunteers help to repackage the food that comes in large quantities such as laundry pods and diapers.

This year we were able to remove some unused items from the storage room that were taking up space. We purchased more shelving to store pantry items as well as school supplies that will be distributed. We regularly obtain supplies from Community Action's Food Bank to supplement our donations and purchases. We have a very generous congregation so we can count on finding food and household items in the blue tub left out for donations. Pantry volunteers greatly appreciate these donations from the congregation and other community members.

Estimated Total Volunteer Hours: 468 hours (Estimated 9 hours volunteer time per week)

GLC Packing Friendship 2022 Report

Packing Friendship is a weekend backpack project that provides food to students who are at risk of hunger over the weekends. These students typically rely on the school breakfast and lunch program during the school week. Packing Friendship helps to fill the gap left on the weekend during the school year.

During 2022 more than 15 Grace Lutheran volunteers provided approximately 400 volunteer hours, primarily during the school year. By the end of 2022 we had delivered more than 1400 bags of food to students. Volunteer duties include shopping for food, maintaining an inventory, organizing the storage area, setting up and packing bags, delivering bags, and volunteer coordination. In addition to running our program at Grace, members of our congregation also help to coordinate and administer the overall Packing Friendship program. This overall program encompasses approximately 20 churches and service organizations which provide food to students at all schools within the Wenatchee and Eastmont School Districts.

We are grateful to our congregation and to the Social Concerns Team for their continued support of this program. This program touches not only the lives of the students who receive the food, but also their families, school staff members, and the volunteers themselves.

Youth and Community

GLC Youth and Community Team mission statement: The mission of the GLC Youth and Community Team is to further the mission of the youth ministry by advocating for the youth of Grace Lutheran and fostering the GLC community.

All of our programs met in person in 2022, finally. Your Youth Team and GLC Youth programming never wavered in our support and education of the youth of Grace.

Following are just some of the things that have taken place during 2022:

- Sent Baptismal anniversary cards to all youth ages 1-18
- Our faith formation program has met in person for our Sunday Fundays
- Vacation Bible School was held at Grace and included youth from First United Methodist Church, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, and New Song Church
- Confirmation retreats led up to the Rite of Confirmation in October
- Christmas parties for 6-9 grade and GLC Alumni took place
- A multi-generational Summer of Service took place in New Orleans
- We held a Trunk or Treat with First United Methodist and St. Luke's Episcopal
- Our Jr/Sr high school youth are involved in a community ecumenical youth group that supports LGBTQ Youth who may not be supported at home or in the community
- Our youth program continues to build relationships not only with youth of Grace, but youth throughout our community and other communities
- Our youth program continued to support kids' interests, whatever they may be: attending sporting events, music recitals, plays, ice shows, etc.

I would personally like to thank the wonderful, caring, and supportive members of the GLC Youth/Education Team: Annie Bartlett, Sue Coe, Della Dulac, JuLee Fiebelkorn, Shannon Salter, Jen Pearson-Gale, and of course, Beth Smallbeck.

If you ever have any questions regarding the Youth Team, please feel free to contact any of our members (you can find contact information in your church directory). We'd be happy to visit with you.

Our hope for 2023 is that a Youth and Family Minister will be called as soon as possible and that the congregation continues to support this invaluable ministry.

Lastly, your Youth Team would like to thank Beth Smallbeck for her 17 years of faithful service to the youth and families of Grace. She has been an incredible gift! She has been a mentor, counselor, friend, and so much more; not only to our youth and families, but to our pastoral interns. It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye and Godspeed to her and her family. We wish them all God's blessings as they start a new chapter in their lives. They will be sorely missed!

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Salter, Chair

Worship Team

Members: Kate Gregg, Phil Gregg, Peggy Swanson, Sonja Westerman, JuLee Fiebelkorn, Denise Miller, Marlena LaPaz, Pastor James Aalgaard, Leader Kathy Gavin.

Mission Statement: It is the mission of the Worship Team to ensure that Worship is presented as a Holy experience and is enhanced by beauty, simplicity, quality, worthiness and appropriateness.

Purpose Statement: The Worship Team, in collaboration with the Pastoral Staff, oversees all worship assistants and is responsible to keep the worship space beautiful and in good order so that the setting enables the congregation to worship in a meaningful way for the Glory to God.

Activities and responsibilities during the year:

1. The changing of the Banners and Paraments as it is appropriate for the Season/Liturgical worship
2. The purchase, display, decorating and maintenance of plants and the Christmas tree for the Chancel for Easter, Pentecost, and Christmas. This years Christmas tree was provided by Phil Gregg. Additional art work, in combination with the advent wreath, this year was provided by Sonny Ramsey. Other holiday flowers and plants were provided by Ruth Westby and Wanda Rivedal, Denise Miller and JuLee Fiebelkorn.
3. A project was finally completed that started actually before Covid, was the new church pew cushions. Most of the leg work for this project was done by Denise Miller, then passed off to Kathy Gavin. Supply chain issues, and scheduling problems turned that into a two year long project, but we couldn't be happier with the end result. A huge thank you to Pastor James and Denise Miller for their collaboration, and Steve Felker the upholsterer for his fine work.
4. As Covid restrictions relaxed and numbers of congregants grew, the need for worship assistants also grew. Pastor James incorporated an answer to the recruitment dilemma. Google sheets became a way for worship assistants to sign themselves up for duties, rather than members of the worship team having to call and ask. We hope more and more helpers will become familiar with this system eliminating the need for calling.
5. The Lenten season wasn't quite the same with out the help of Denise Miller, and her coaching of the striping of the altar and redressing it. Luckily Pastor James, with the help of members of the Worship Team and Congregation made it a much more inclusive experience, involving more of the congregation than ever before.
6. The planning for Advent included an evening of appetizers, wine, Christmas carols, and bible verses. In October, organized by the worship Team and held at the Gavin's, congregants gathered for fellowship and stories of what beloved songs and verses meant to them.

Kathy Gavin Worship Team Lead 2022