



THE GOOD NEWS OF GRACE

April 2020

A Newsletter for Members and Friends of
Grace Lutheran Church
1408 Washington Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555
Volume 4 Issue 3

It Takes Muscle to Put on the Brakes

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change...

Be still, and know that I am God.” (from Psalm 46)

Dear friends in Christ,

“You and I have seasons when we need to be “fallow” for a while, resting and receiving as the world continues on. Even the time we spend at rest is holy, filled with the presence and purpose of God.”

Well, that’s a fine “how-do-you-do.” I have never quoted myself. In fact, I would have forgotten my thoughts above, were it not for the fact that when newsletter-time comes around, I pull up last month’s document and “save as...” I nearly deleted that paragraph that speaks about being “fallow” when I realized that COVID-19 has put us squarely in forced “rest” mode. Today, I’m thinking “what the heck, I guess I will pick up where I left off.”

So here we are. Many aspects of our congregational life have come to a screeching halt. Being together in love and friendship in the name of Jesus is a keystone for our church. It’s central to our identity. Now, we can only touch one another by non-physical means. We have needed to be creative. Computers, cell phones, tablets, pens and paper and digital recorders have been dusted off or repurposed. Many of us can click a link and have a Bible study or be part of worship. Some of our members, however, have been cut off. We want you all, if it’s important to you, to be connected. I miss you all!

I’m a minister of Word and Sacrament. The sacramental ministry I’m responsible for can’t happen for the time being. How does this change the nature of my call to you, the people of Grace? Oh, how great it will be to celebrate the meal together in one place!

On the one hand, we’re using our muscles to step on the brakes. It feels as if there is so much that cannot happen in our ministries. The energy we spend to cease certain activity is altogether exhausting. On the other hand, there’s a feeling of invigoration as we try new ideas, shift focus and look for ways to be as present as possible for one another and the congregation. Phone trees have been initiated. I hope you’ve received your call, and we are certainly grateful for those who stepped up to make those calls, as well as those who organized our system!

Continued on next page



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.

It is an open question about how long we will be in this situation. Our patience will be tested, for sure! We will do our best to help you nurture your faith. Please keep an eye on our website for updates. Please be sure you receive our emails. If you're interested in our Facebook page, there's a lot of info there too.

Be healthy, and safe, dear people of Grace!

My days off in April: 6, 13, 20, 27.

Together! Pastor James Aalgaard

P.S. It's possible my sabbatical will need to happen at another time. I don't have a decision about that yet. I guess we need to stay tuned.

10@10 - Help Host!

Have you tuned into Pastor James' new 10@10 livestream check-in on Facebook? Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10 a.m., we want to offer a connection with the community for 10 minutes. But here's a new idea: we want to hear from you! Interested in "hosting" a 10@10? You can read a poem, play a song, start a dance party or simply share some thoughts. Contact Intern Jenna to schedule a time at intern@glcwen.org. (P.S. Former Grace intern, Pastor Bethany Wurtz, has been doing something similar on her personal Facebook page - check it out!)

Council Corner

Thank you for your continued financial support!

1. Approved revised 'Grace Memorial Gardens Columbarium' guidelines.
2. Revising Grace Employee Handbook.
3. Invested \$1M in 'Mission Investment Fund'.

Have you considered giving your offerings electronically? [Here's a link](#) to our secure provider, Vanco.

If you prefer to donate via check, please mail checks to:
Grace Lutheran Church
1408 Washington Street
Wenatchee WA 98801

If you are dropping a check off in person, please put it in our mailbox by opening the door on the front of the mailbox and dropping it through the slot. (the shelf is for outgoing mail.)
Thank you!

2020 TEAM & COMMITTEE LEADERS

Arts:	Phil Gregg
Building & Grounds:	Open
Endowment:	Karen Zanol
Faith Enrichment:	Jody Marquardt
Fellowship:	Shirley Leslie
Intern:	Trish Simmons
	Andy Sheets
Pastoral Support:	Micah Florea
Staff Support:	Ernie Bentsen
Social Concerns:	Kay Fisher
Worship:	Denise Miller
Youth:	Open

2020 CHURCH COUNCIL

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



Don't worry! We are planning creative ways to worship together for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter. Watch for more information, coming soon (and see some "teasers" below).

Palm Sunday Sunday, April 5

Make your own paper palms at home to wave (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NAkDsxSTA0g>)



[Tutorial - simple paper leaf.](#)

Tutorial - how to make a simple paper leaf using a pair of tweezers. Website: <http://katecrafts.org> Video by: KateCrafts www.youtube.com

Maundy Thursday Thursday, April 9

Bake your own communion bread and share a meal with others (from home)

Good Friday Friday, April 10

Read the passion story

Easter Vigil Saturday, April 11

Experience theatrical stories from the vigil

Easter Sunday Sunday April 12

Reveal the _____ word!

From the desk of Intern Jenna

COVID-19 Across the Pacific

I'm going to be honest with you; in the midst of all this chaos and uncertainty, a thought has crossed my mind more than once: I wonder if I would be better off in Hong Kong, right now. The world is looking to Hong Kong (among other Asian cities) as a model of hope for containing this deadly virus. They adopted stringent measures very early on in the spread of the virus from neighboring Mainland China and - most critically - the *entire* community responded and acted, together. It is truly amazing that a city of 7.2 million people has a mere 518 confirmed cases and 4 deaths from COVID-19 (according to coronavirus.gov.hk on March 27, 2020).

Hong Kong was my home for four years before moving to the Wenatchee Valley. As you can imagine, I've stayed in touch with people there and have been vicariously watching their reality unfold as ours does here in light of the pandemic. The people in Hong Kong have been practicing isolation/social-distancing since around the time of Chinese New Year, or early February; so, they have settled into new "rhythms" at least one month longer than us, at this point. And I can tell you: overall, they're doing just fine.

I have a friend who is also a Luther Seminary student and actually doing her pastoral internship in Hong Kong, right now. It's been insightful and hopeful hearing about the ministry she continues to live into with her congregation (and her family). They have vibrant community life, meaningful worship and a different understanding of sabbath in the new ways they "do church" together - while apart.

I share this with you, people of Grace, as a message of hope for our own future ministry together. Right now, we are working hard to reimagine how we "do church." I have been touched by the efforts people have made to intentionally connect with others, offer support to those who need help with deliveries and the simple act of "showing up" for livestream worship on Sunday. You are incredible and we can do this, together (we *are* doing this together!).

In a recent post on social media, my friend shared a picture from their high-rise apartment in Hong Kong of a sign that simply reads, "We Can Do Hard Things"; a humble reminder that, even in the face of adversity, God walks with us and gives us the strength to overcome.

Loving God, we thank you for dying on the cross so that we too may overcome death. Be with each of us where we are today in body, mind and spirit. May this time in history bring the world closer together and remind us how much we need You and each other. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Holden Village News...

Dear Friends,

It is with heavy hearts that we must cancel May Youth Weekends at Holden Village for this year. Due to concerns and uncertainty around COVID-19, we feel that it is the responsible thing to do for all involved.

This is an event that we all look forward to all year, so this is heartbreaking. We know many students are devastated at the loss of this experience and so many others. But, as many congregations have been saying, we must make the compassionate decision in the interest of health and safety of our community.

Even if the ban on gatherings is lifted by April 24 and schools are back in session, it is likely many of our students won't be able to miss any more days of school, which they would need to do for both weekends. And the bigger concern, of course, would be bringing the virus to the village or otherwise spreading it through our large gathering.

If you have registered and paid and it has been processed, you will receive a refund check from our Region One Financial Services office by mail. Look for that to arrive after April 10.

Our hope is to offer our planned theme "Transformation" along with our speaker Megan Rohrer and musician Andy Potsko to you at Holden Village in May of 2021.

O God, Give us faith to STAY HOME with good courage.

Nicole & Allison
Co-Coordinators

30 Hour Famine News...

The 30 Hour Famine is canceled for our group participation. If you would like to participate in the Famine in the safety of your own home, I would be more than happy to send you resources. It could be a family Famine. Please let me know if this is something you are interested in. youthandfamily@glcwen.org

Easter Egg Hunt is Happening!

Okay, so maybe not the way we thought it would be; but, it will happen. The 3rd -5th grade youth have been collecting goodies and even made beautiful signs (which, unfortunately were never seen by anyone but the staff). I want to make sure the hunt goes on! I will be putting together an at-home Egg Hunt kit that I will mail to families who would like one. I will be wearing gloves as I stuff goodies in the eggs and then I will put them in baggies before mailing. All of this is an effort to keep things "somewhat normal" in this crazy time... enjoy the hunt!

Please contact Beth at youthandfamily@glcwen.org if you would like an at-home egg hunt!

I would love to see pictures! Blessings to you all. Be safe.



Music Resources during COVID-19 Closure:

Musical Offerings During Closure:

We invite you to record and send a video of yourself and/or your household singing or playing a musical offering to Jameson (music@glcwen.org). We plan to use as many of these videos as possible where they are appropriate in connecting the congregation, spreading hope and joy, and continuing to share our gifts with our community.

Please consider participating in the life of the community in this way. This effort is meant to connect, to celebrate, and to deepen relationships with God and one another. This is not about quality or performance, but rather this is about finding ways to be together and to celebrate the creative gifts that God has instilled in us. If you have any questions or are seeking resources, please contact Jameson.

Community VIdeo hymnal (on Facebook):

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CommunityVideoHymnal/>

This is a public Facebook group created by Paul Damico-Carper, a church musician who lives in Minnesota and started his music ministry at Holden Village. Paul shares a daily hymn livestream at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time and encourages others to sing along, contribute their own videos, or participate by simply listening.

Compline at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral:

<https://saintmarks.org/worship/compline/>

St. Mark's holds Compline every Sunday evening at 9:30 p.m. The service is also broadcast on KING FM.

Compline at Grace:

<https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranWenatchee/>

On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, we hold Compline at Grace at 9:00 p.m. While our Compline Choir cannot gather at this time, we are livestreaming **every Sunday at 9:00 p.m.** to hold space together and breathe deeply.

Be Creative and Be Musical:

One of our local music teachers sent her students home with the following advice when schools closed: Have music in three ways every day - listen to music, move to music, and create or participate in making music. I encourage you to do the same. Being a part of something larger than ourselves, something creative, something active, reminds us of our connectedness and our belonging to those around us.



Make music and be well,

Jameson Varpness, Director of Music Ministries

SOCIAL CONCERNS TEAM

Members in Need Fund:

With current events regarding COVID-19, we acknowledge that some of our members will experience financial difficulties. There is a confidential process for financial help for our members and people who are involved in our faith community. The Members in Need fund can help a household with up to \$300 in a calendar year to help meet expenses. Forms are available [here](#) on our website, under the resources tab. We can also send a form via email, just contact us at office@glcwen.org. Please mail completed forms to the church, attention Members in Need: 1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee ,WA 98801. Applications are reviewed by a small committee consisting of the Pastor, Council President and team leader of the Social Concerns Team. We will try our best to respond in a timely fashion.



Noisy Offering:

Collection of Noisy Offering Boxes has been delayed due to the COVID-19 Virus. We encourage everyone to continue to save your coins.



Food Drive:



Collection of food items for the food drive has been delayed due to the COVID-19 Virus. We encourage everyone to continue saving your food items. Please keep them at home until we have more information.

The Chelan-Douglas CAC Food Bank operations have changed in response to the ongoing crisis. They are now partnering with SERVE Wenatchee and other local agencies to offer a drive-through food bank at Town Toyota Center. People picking up food can stop by the Toyota Town Center on Wednesdays between 9 a.m. and noon, as well as between 4 and 7 p.m.

The Chelan-Douglas Food Bank also started working with the schools in Chelan and Douglas Counties the week of March 23rd as well, in hopes that they will make more direct contact to even more families in need during our semi-lock down.

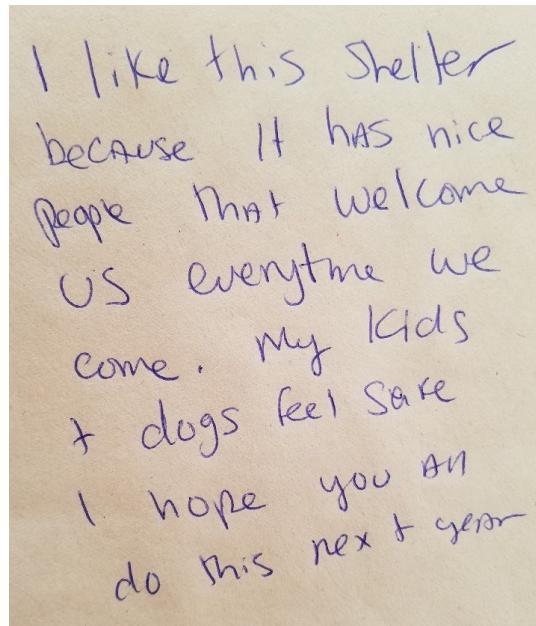
Check Donations can be made out to:
CDCAC with a notation of Food Distribution Center

And send to:
CDCAC
620 Lewis St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801

ANNA AND MIRIAM CIRCLES

Anna Circle will not meet during the month of April, we hope to be able to meet in person in May.

Miriam Circle plans to have a virtual meeting at 7:00 p.m. on April 21. Please contact Melanie McQuaig (melanie@mcqw.com or (509) 665-9000) for more information.



Dear Friends at Grace Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Women's Resource Center Board and Staff and those we are so honored to serve, our most sincere thanks for your support of our Severe Weather Shelter Program 2019-2020. We understand that over a dozen of you volunteered in one capacity or another at the shelter and we are so very grateful.

Based on an average of approximately four guests per night, the shelter was able to provide around 255 bednights over the course of the program. We feel that although we had a short time to pull this initiative together that it was efforts by folks like you that made it a success. We know that the shelter was appreciated by our guests and speaking personally, I know I slept better knowing we were protecting at least some of the most vulnerable from the elements during those cold nights.

It was important to me that we demonstrated to the greater community that homelessness is a community issue and needs a community response and you did it in spades!

Please accept our most sincere thanks!

Warm Regards,

WRC Housing and Supportive Services
Laurel Turner
Executive Director



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

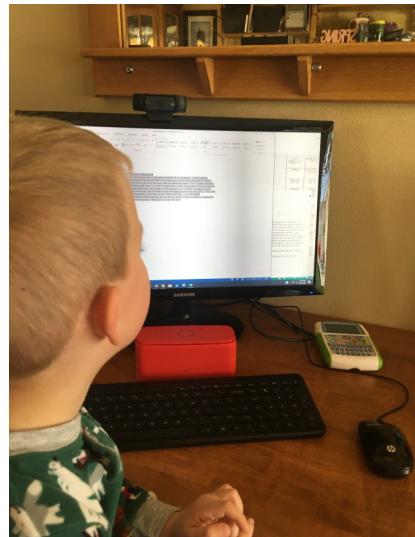
Brooke Palmer	4/1	Emily Boersma	4/11	Alyse Goller	4/21
Michael Buehn	4/3	Dick Smith	4/11	Katie Stefanides	4/23
Melanie McQuaig	4/3	Rhonda Stradling Lara	4/12	Ryan Paiva	4/24
Mary Ann Arndt	4/7	Justin Bliggensstorfer	4/14	Sloan Westerman	4/24
Marcus Foster	4/7	Candy Koch	4/15	Faye DeJong	4/29
Phoebe Nelson	4/7	Gavin Johnson	4/18	Ken Fulkerson	4/29
Shirley Wurl	4/8	April Babcock	4/19	Tracy Gausman	4/29
Don Evenhus	4/9	James Caulkins	4/19	Cheryl Hatch	4/29
Jacquie Jaspers	4/9	Philip Gregg	4/19	Melinda Johnson	4/30
Carolyn Bentsen	4/11				

Social-distancing Selfies!

What are you up to while we are practicing social distancing?
Send your selfies to office@glcwen.org!



Josh Gale enjoying worship in his jammies.



Josh helping mom work on the newsletter.



Dee Ann Gregg has been busy working on face masks.



GLC Staff practicing social distancing before the stay at home order took effect.



Alan and Colleen Smith's granddaughter Riley Rose reading to Willow.



Alan and Colleen Smith's daughter Andrea with her daughters Lily and Charlotte.

PRAYERS OF GRACE

Please contact Colleen Smith with any prayer requests, either by phone at 679-1742 or by email at glcprayerpartners@gmail.com. We welcome all prayer requests.

George Aalgaard (Pastor Aalgaard's father) - comfort and strength through a chronic health issue

Nathan Aalgaard (Pastor Aalgaard's brother) - for peace at the last

Della Brett - overall health

Walter Brooks

Patty Christensen - thanks for healing and prayerful support

Genevieve Crosby - prayers for Genevieve and for her son and grandson

Bob Curtis - continued health support

Vera Curtis - thanks for healing and recovery

Eric DeJong - recovery from cancer

Marv Dunbar

Anne Erdmann

Don Evenhus – continued prayers for health

The family of Joe Fall

Chuck Graves

Anna Guthrie - support while in Indonesia

Shirley Houghland - healing

Bonnie Howeiler - continued adaptation to visual impairment

Gerri Kern - continued health and peace of mind at this time of life

Monte Olson - continued recovery

Stephanie Olson - peace and comfort with the death of her mother and aunt

Carol Sunada

Beatrice Tate - for her daughter

Josh (Wanda & Erling Rivedal's great-nephew)

Rey Vertrees

Joyce Owens - prayers for comfort as she mourns the loss of her father, Warner Owens

Katrina and Daphne - Prayers of thanksgiving for Intern Jenna's friends Katrina and Daphne, who each gave birth to healthy baby girls (Ariella Ruth Rumage born March 20 in Spokane, WA and Lauren Chia born March 25 in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia)

Jeanne and Sarah - Prayers for Mary Henson's mom Jeanne as she undergoes surgery to remove a tumor and for Mary's sister Sarah as she is due to deliver her first baby

LECTIONARY READINGS

April 5 Palm Sunday	April 12 Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day	April 19 Second Sunday of Easter	April 26 Third Sunday of Easter
Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14--27:66	Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31	Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35

April 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All events will be conducted via Facebook and/or Zoom until further notice. Please visit our website www.glcwen.org for more updates.			1 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom)	2 8:00 a.m. First Prayer	3 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	4
5 Palm Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship  6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Zoom Hangout 9:00 p.m. Compline 	6 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	7	8 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom)	9 Maundy Thursday 8:00 a.m. First Prayer 	10 Good Friday 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 	11 Easter Vigil 
12 Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Zoom Hangout 9:00 p.m. Compline 	13 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	14	15 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom) Time TBA Grace Readers (Zoom)	16 8:00 a.m. First Prayer	17 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	18
19 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Zoom Hangout 9:00 p.m. Compline	20 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	21 7:00 p.m. Miriam Circle	22 Newsletter Deadline 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom)	23 8:00 a.m. First Prayer	24 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	25
26 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Zoom Hangout 9:00 p.m. Compline	27 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	28	29 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom)	30 8:00 a.m. First Prayer		

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church In America
1408 Washington Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555
(509) 663-2189

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor James Aalgaard
pastor@glcwen.org

Pastor

Beth Smallbeck Minister of Youth & Family
youthandfamily@glcwen.org

Jameson Varpness Director of Music Ministries
music@glcwen.org

Jenna Bergeson Intern
intern@glcwen.org

Judy Olson Organist
olsonjm@nwi.net

Rich Smallbeck Facilities Maintenance Manager
rsmallbeck63@gmail.com

Jen Gale Office Administrator
office@glcwen.org

Roxanne Reindl Finance Manager
finance@glcwen.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 a.m.

COMPLINE

Sundays at 9:00 p.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

As of the publication date, church offices are closed due to COVID-19. We are working from home and checking voicemail and email messages regularly. Please don't hesitate to contact us.

PHONE: (509) 663-2189

WEBSITE

www.glcwen.org