

GRACE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE GOOD NEWS OF GRACE

April 2024

A Newsletter for Members and Friends of
Grace Lutheran Church
1408 Washington Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555
Volume 8 Issue 3



We are children of God. That's what we are. (From 1 John 3:1)

Dear friends in Christ,

From the oldest to the youngest, we are children of God. God has a parental connection with us. Although we have human parents, we are born of God. We emphasize this child-parent connection at baptism; for example, when I was baptized Pastor Tolo placed the sign of the cross on my three-week old forehead, saying “James Douglas, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.” I received a new surname: “Child-of-God.” At our Easter Vigil March 30th, our newest member received the same: “Adelaide Soo Jin, Child of God.”

This image is one among many possibilities that describe the nature of this relationship: student/teacher, follower/leader, citizen/ruler, branches/vine, sheep/shepherd. Earlier eras of human history emphasized others that don't work so well for me: slave/master, soldier/king, conquistador/emperor. One startling and beautiful image used long ago is that of moon/sun. This image was so important to some early Christians that they celebrated Easter at the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, seeing the full moon as creation's testimony to the empty tomb.

We are children of God. This is a bold move in the New Testament. Although children have implicit trust in the grown-ups around them, they have much to learn about life. Children often struggle to focus the way we would want. They are curious, however, and tend to not be stymied by silly things like cost. They rely on the strength of others. They often are excited to share. They express emotion easily.

As children of God, how much childlikeness do we show God as well as others?

Pastor James Aalgaard

Welcome Pastoral Intern Lynnette!

This month, our Pastoral intern Lynette Rose will begin her nine-month commitment with us. A resident of Omak, Washington, Lynette has church membership at Lake Chelan Lutheran Church in Chelan. Her first nine months of internship were spent there. Lynette's internship is a special arrangement between our congregation, Lake Chelan Lutheran, and Luther Seminary in St Paul, Minnesota. Lynette has previous work experience in education, working with young children and their families. She also has other previous work and life experience that makes for great dinner or coffee conversation! She continues to work with hospice for several communities in and around Omak, so her work schedule here will be carefully planned. Please take the time to welcome her personally. She is excited to be with us and share in our active life of faith and worship.

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.





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

May 18 - First Lutheran Church - Ellensburg, WA

9:30 am Registration
10:00 am Gathering

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

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

Ezra-Nehemiah Bible Study this Easter Season
Join Bishop Meggan Manlove on Zoom for six sessions of Bible Study
April 9-May 21.

Our theme verses for our three Regional Gatherings are Ezra 3:10-13, but what about the larger context? Join me as we dive into these less familiar, at least to me, books of the bible. The only preparation for each session will be reading scripture itself. We will explore the historical context of the books, their literary form, and what the Lutheran Christian lens brings to the texts. We will read some passages devotionally. 6:30 p.m. Pacific/7:30 p.m. Mountain. Tuesdays, April 9, 16, 30, May 7, 14, and 21.

Fill out this [GOOGLE FORM](#) to sign up. Remember to hit Submit. If you need help signing up, please contact the church office.

Happy Birthday, Jim Caulkins!!



Jim Caulkins is turning 90 and we hope you will help us celebrate! Join us at Grace Lutheran Church in Wenatchee, April 13 from 1 – 3:30. An RSVP would help us with numbers. Click [here](#) to RSVP. Hope to see you there.

Upcoming Congregational Activities



Spring Fling Bunco Party

Friday, April 19

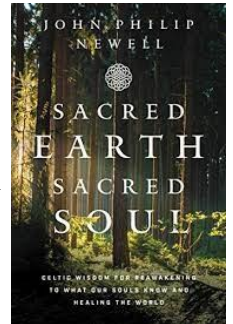
6 - 8:30 p.m.

Join us for our Spring themed Bunco party in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, April 19. Bunco is quick to pick up, so this is a great event for all ages - even if you've never played! Please bring an appetizer to share - beverages will be provided. Come enjoy good food, fun and fellowship!

“Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul”

Book Group Starts April 1

The book discussion group will meet at Grace on April 1 at 6:30 p.m. Our first session will focus on the introduction and a look at the weeks ahead. If you cannot make the first meeting, you are welcome to join us on April 8th. The book, “Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul”, by John Philip Newell, is an engaging read about Celtic Christianity—past and present.



Day Hikes Being Planned

Interested in light-to-moderate hiking with the people of Grace? April 18, we will have a wildflower hike along one of the local trails. Judy and Monte Olson are helping coordinate the route. We call this day-hike ministry “Hike and Seek.” There will be some time set aside for devotion and conversation. Time and location to be determined. Mark your calendars!

ANNA & MIRIAM CIRCLES

Anna Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 16, at 10:00 a.m. at Grace. If you have questions, feel free to contact [Linda Sinnet](#) or [Faye DeJong](#).

Miriam Circle will be hosted by Hollie Olson. We will meet Tuesday, April 16, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Lukes Episcopal Church.

Together at Grace Meals

Our Wednesday gatherings for meal and fellowship called "Together at Grace" will resume April 3. The meal is served starting at 5:15 p.m. We are looking for households to sign up for the meal prep and serving. Please note: if you cook for the meal, you will be able to reimburse yourself from the free will donations, if you so choose.

Inspiring Words from St. Augustine

As we enter the Easter season and renew our use of “Alleluia” (“Praise the Lord”), words of a St. Augustine sermon still ring true:

Here, ... amidst the dangers and trials we and others must sing Alleluia, “for God is faithful and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength,” as Paul says. So the we must also sing here Alleluia. We are still sinners, but God is faithful. Scripture does not say, “He will not let you be tempted,” but “He will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.” ... How happy will be our shout of Alleluia there, how carefree, how secure from any adversary, where there is no enemy, where no friend perishes. There praise is offered to God, and here, too, but here it is by all who are anxious, there by all who are free from care, here by all who must die, there by all who will live for ever. Here praise is offered in hope, there by all who enjoy the reality, here by all who are pilgrims on the way, there by all who have reached their own country.

So, friends, now let us sing Alleluia, not in the enjoyment of heavenly rest, but to sweeten our toil. Sing as travelers sing along the road: but keep on walking. Solace your toil by singing – do not yield to idleness. Sing but keep on walking. What do I mean by “walking”? I mean, press on from good to better. The apostle says there are some who go from bad to worse. But if you press on, you keep on walking. Go forward then in virtue, in true faith and right conduct. Sing up – and keep on walking.

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo (354-430) was a Doctor of the Church and the most eminent of the Latin church fathers.

Music News



Drum Circle meets this month in the Rehearsal Room on Tuesday, April 30, 5:15-6:00 p.m. All ages and abilities are welcome!



If you ever wanted to learn how to play the ukulele or be part of a group that plays together, here is your opportunity. Join Grace’s new ukulele ensemble! Ukuleles have four strings; they are fun and easy to play. The sound of a ukulele makes one feel joyful and playing with a group in a circle is even better. We meet in the Rehearsal Room on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 6:30-7:30 p.m. No experience necessary -- just bring a uke and let's play!



Eleven people gathered for our first ukulele group meeting on March 12 – including beginners and experienced players. We look forward to having all kinds of fun and sharing God’s gift of music with the Wenatchee community as God leads us.

April Worship Assistants

	Greeters	Ushers	Lector	Altar Guild	Tech	Communion Assistant
4/7			Dee Ann Gregg			
4/17						Colleen Smith
4/21			Gary Otheim			Gary Otheim
4/28			Nancy Gradwohl			

Seeking Worship Helpers

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

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

LECTIONARY READINGS

April 7 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 133
1 John 1:1--2:2
John 20:19-31

April 14 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

April 21 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

April 28 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8



Flower Chart

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



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Brooke Palmer	4/1	Ben Kramer	4/12	Ryan Paiva	4/24
Michael Buehn	4/3	Rhonda Stradling Lara	4/12	Sloan Westerman	4/24
Melanie McQuaig	4/3	Candy Koch	4/15	Judy Pratt	4/27
Adelaide Didesch	4/4	Gavin Johnson	4/18	Faye DeJong	4/29
Mary Ann Arndt	4/7	Jim Caulkins	4/19	Patrick Dymond	4/29
Marcus Foster	4/7	Phil Gregg	4/19	Ken Fulkerson	4/29
Shirley Wurl	4/8	Josie Bruehl	4/20	Tracy Gausman	4/29
Jackie Jaspers	4/9	Alyse Goller	4/21	Cheryl Hatch	4/29
Carolyn Bentsen	4/11	Dennis Burgett	4/23	Cara Henson	4/30
Emily Boersma	4/11	Katie Stefanides	4/23	Melinda Johnson	4/30
Dick Smith	4/11				

PRAYERS OF GRACE

- ◆ **Friend of Linda Sinnett** – Prayers that she will be able to donate a kidney to her son, Jake Christiansen.
- ◆ **Glenn Liner and Sue Marshall** – Peace amid anxieties related to Glenn’s cancer diagnosis.
- ◆ **Cathy Eggers, close friend of Milt and Jan Herman**, has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and begins the long road of chemo treatments. Please pray for healing and comfort. Cathy is the mother-in-law of Lindsay Herman Breidenthal.
- ◆ **Gloria Foster** – Prayers for health as she recovers from covid.
- ◆ **Frank LaFayette, Jr. (Joe Trowbridge's cousin)** - Prayers for a successful surgery and recovery.
- ◆ **Joe Trowbridge and family** – Prayers for peace and that they feel God’s presence during stressful times.
- ◆ **Gene Dorschner** – friend of Aalgaard/Ginty families – praying for healing strength as he addresses severe heart illness.
- ◆ **Barbara Tilly** - Wisdom and peace while making difficult decisions related to congestive heart failure.
- ◆ **Jane Aalgaard** – For physical strength, and for treatment of blood pressure concerns.
- ◆ **Mim Schwich (Jody Marquardt’s mother)** – Assurance in the love of God and family as she advances in a skilled nursing facility.

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

SOCIAL CONCERNS TEAM

Volunteers Needed for the Unified Prom

What is a Unified Prom? It is a dance held at WHS designed for students throughout the NCW Educational School District that have a disability. Last year we had thirteen school districts participate. The students get their hair and makeup done by the cosmetology and beauty schools, the Resource officers served lunch, volunteers helped organize the Limo rides, and the Apple Blossom Royalty spends the afternoon dancing and talking with the kids. If you would like to volunteer, please email [Kay Fisher](#). There are openings on April 25th to help setup and decorate starting at @2:00pm and Friday the 26th starting at 10:00am organizing, supervising, and taking down.

Little Free Pantry Food Drive

The food drive for the pantry during Lent went so well. People of Grace have been very generous, and it has helped us stay stocked at a time when we have less money to spend than we had in the past. You have generously provided us with a good supply of diapers. Our current needs are peanut butter, non-refrigerated milk, toilet paper, canned soups and stews, and baby wipes. Any cleaning supplies are very much needed too. Thank you so much for all you have done to keep the pantry thriving!



Packing Friendship

Each week during the school year, we provide food for 55 students at three schools in Wenatchee. We couldn't do it without our volunteers and the support of our congregation - thank you! If you would like to donate food we could especially use macaroni and cheese, canned pasta, tuna, and applesauce cups. You can bring items anytime the church is open. If you would like to know more about this program, please contact [Jen Pearson-Gale](#).

Caring Meals Group is Open for More Participants

Caring Meals is an organized group of Grace members who are willing to occasionally provide a meal for a family, couple or individual in our congregation. Recently, some members have needed help with meals while recovering from surgery, recovering from an accident, having a family member in hospice, or suffering with an illness.

This is how it works: When the need arises all the members of Caring Meals receive an email notifying them of the situation and including a profile for those who will be receiving the meals. The profile gives pertinent information such as who, where, when and special food preferences. Then those who are able to provide and deliver a meal, reply by email what date they will cover.



This is a way to care for one another within our Grace family and is under the umbrella of the Social Concerns Team. If you are interested in helping with this ministry please email [Linda Sinnett](#).

Spring Ukraine Refugee Benefit Concert

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2 PM

**Grace Lutheran Church
1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee**

**This concert is free;
donations will be
gratefully accepted.**

Join us for a heartfelt afternoon of music, interspersed with testimonials and inspirational messages as we raise funds to help local Ukraine refugees in need of support.

PRESENTING MUSICIANS

Judy Olson & Susie Schell-Dietsch (Piano Duets), Sage Hills Trio, Applesaires, Apollo Club, Sofiia, Yeva & Solomiia Bokovtsova (Voice/Piano), First United Methodist Church Choir, Voices of Grace, Tetiana Chugaeva (Pan Flute), and Wenatchee's Big Band

FRIENDS OF UKRAINE REFUGEES

FriendsOfUkraineRefugees.org

March was filled with many projects that helped clean, organize, and beautify our physical space at 1408 Washington Street. We are grateful for the many people who contributed to these work days. Here is but a glimpse of the many energetic people who gave of their time and talent to gets loads of work done.

Thank you, one and all!





MARCH GAME NIGHT AT GRACE



COUNCIL CORNER

- Staff Support Committee will be engaging with Council following Easter to help hire a part-time office support assistant for Jen.
- Council will be prayerfully engaging congregants for new Nominating Committee members.
- Mark Woolsey was appointed as the new Intern Team Leader.

TREASURER TALK:

2/28/24 Results

January and February 2024 offerings total \$96,419, over budget by \$21,419. This does include \$12,500 interest income. Expenses are \$98,301, (\$4,758) under budget. Resulting Net Operating Deficit (\$1,882) compares to projected budget deficit (\$28,059).

	Jan-Feb 2023	Jan-Feb 2024	2024 Budget	Variance
Total Offerings, Misc	\$59,262	\$96,419	\$75,000	\$21,419
Operating Expenses	(59,131)	(98,301)	(103,059)	(4,758)
Net Margin (Deficit)	\$131	(\$1,882)	(\$28,059)	\$26,176

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

	12/31/23	2/28/24
Cash Surplus Position	\$ 80,789	\$120,548
Treasurer Reserve	40,000	40,000
Deficit Reserve	41,500	
Total	\$162,289	\$160,548

[Gwen Sparks](#)

2024 TEAM & COMMITTEE LEADERS

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

2024 CHURCH COUNCIL

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

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Book Club</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Appleaires</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study</p> <p>5:15 p.m. Together @ Grace</p> <p>6:15 p.m. Bells of Grace</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Quilters</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Book Club</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Appleaires</p>	<p>9</p> <p>3:30 p.m. Building & Grounds Team</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Arts Team</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Youth & Community Team</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Social Concerns Team</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Ukulele Group</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study</p> <p>5:15 p.m. Together @ Grace</p> <p>6:15 p.m. Bells of Grace</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Garden Team</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Recital</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Quilters</p> <p>10:00 a.m. WVMTA</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Garden Work Party</p> <p>1:00 -4:00 p.m. Jim Caulkins Birthday Celebration</p>
<p>14</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Wenatchee Youth Community at YWCA</p>	<p>15</p> <p>4:30 p.m. Habitat for Humanity</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Book Club</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Appleaires</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Anna Circle</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Church Council</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Miriam Circle</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study</p> <p>5:15 p.m. Together @ Grace</p> <p>6:15 p.m. Bells of Grace</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer</p> <p>2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Appleaires Scholarship Auditions</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Bunco</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9 a.m. -5 p.m. WVMTA Workshop</p>
<p>21 <i>Quilt Sunday</i></p> <p>9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>2:00 p.m. Concert</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Book Club</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Appleaires</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Ukulele Group</p>	<p>24</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study</p> <p>5:15 p.m. Together @ Grace</p> <p>6:15 p.m. Bells of Grace</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Garden Team</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Craft Night</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Book Club</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Appleaires</p>	<p>30</p> <p>5:15 p.m. Drum Circle</p>				



Holy Communion Workshop

In March, kids and their families participated in a Holy Communion Workshop led by Deacon Ruth, Zoe Jaspers, Jan Herman, Sherry Krebs, Sue Garness and Pastor James.

Morning Prayer

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

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

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

Fox Visioning Committee Update

During the past year, The Fox Visioning Committee has met monthly to discuss building updates/designs/progress and other possible projects for the Fox monies. As building project ideas came together, a robust discussion of an application process (in case there were any leftover funds) was considered at length over several months.

If the congregation prioritizes bathroom and kitchen renovations alongside asbestos removal, the Fox Team suggests an additional building maintenance fund (\$30,000-\$50,000) be established to cover future costs of unexpected repairs, etc. Beyond that fund, any remaining dollars are recommended to be applied for by groups or individuals benefiting with a demonstrated financial need. The Fox Visioning Committee has actively discussed a process by which monies could be applied for and awarded. This could be similar to the Endowment Team's role at Grace Lutheran.

If the congregation wishes to pursue further extensive construction/updates on the building, a capital campaign would be required as remaining Fox funds would not be enough to cover the costs completely.

Thank you to all the current Fox Committee members who have spent many hours in research and discussion. We are hopeful that Grace Lutheran and the community we serve can grow together while utilizing the generous gift from the Fox family. —Michele

Michele Sandberg - Chair, Bob Bartlett - Secretary, Judy Connor, Joanne Dalinkus, Jennifer Gale, Milt Herman, Alora Martinez, John McQuaig, Cheryl Salter, Karen Zanol

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

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Return Service Requested

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor James Aalgaard Pastor
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Deacon Ruth Anderson Director of Music Ministries
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Zoe Jaspers Director of Youth & Family Ministries
youthandfamily@glcwen.org

Jen Gale Office Administrator
office@glcwen.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

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

CONTACT

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WEBSITE

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