

GRACE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE GOOD NEWS OF GRACE

February 2024

A Newsletter for Members and Friends of
Grace Lutheran Church
1408 Washington Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555
Volume 8 Issue 1



*To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing. (Isaiah 40:25-26)*

Dear friends in Christ,

We have a God who is great in strength, mighty in power. One surprising way this is displayed, is to say that God is great at keeping inventory. The above passage likely refers to the stars in the night sky (calling them all by name), but it is very appropriate to think about the whole human family along with all of creation when we hear these sweet words: “not one is missing.”

Israeli captives in Gaza – not one is missing. Palestinian young people who join the violent, extremist Hamas – not one is missing. Houseless high school students going from one friend’s couch to another, barely able to hold attention at school – not one is missing. Many others who have landed in desperate situations, - not one is missing.

You also are not missing. In the heart of God, you are not missing. Where your body, mind and spirit go (even if all in separate directions) – you are not missing. If you are lost – you are not missing. I hope you can spread this word to people around you, reminding them that they are not missing.

Blessed Lent to you. I hope you are able to participate in our worship life this season.

Pastor James Aalgaard

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.



Notes for our Lenten season: Do you have palm branches from last year's Palm Sunday? We invite you to bring them to Grace by February 11. We will be using last year's palm branches to make ashes for **Ash Wednesday (February 14, 12:00 and 6:30 pm)**. Lent is a time to consider more deeply the effect of sin in ourselves, our community, and the world as together we look toward the cross of Christ and the promise of resurrection. Watch and listen for ways we will mark the season, such as planned time of intentional silence, and the omission of the postlude. On Wednesdays, we will be gathering at 5:15 for simple suppers of soup and bread. Please consider this one of your faith practices, as we are also called to hold in our hearts those who often do not have enough food to remain nourished. Our Wednesday vespers service is adapted from the Iona Community of Scotland. We will have opportunities to hear healing stories from the Gospel of Mark, and will be invited for the laying-on of hands with prayers for healing. Please join us!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, February 13

5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Join us for some Mardi Gras fun!
A free will donation will be taken - proceeds will benefit the youth program at Grace.



Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m., beginning February 21

Join us for our weekly Lenten Soup Suppers, each Wednesday during Lent, beginning February 21. Volunteers are needed to provide soup and bread or rolls. Sign-up sheets are just outside the main sanctuary doors in the narthex. Meals will be served at 5:15 p.m.

LECTIONARY READINGS

February 4
5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39

February 11
Transfiguration of Our Lord

2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

February 18
1st Sunday in Lent

Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15

February 25
2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

Songs from the Early 19th Century

7:00 p.m.
Friday, February 9

Melissa Schiel, Mezzo-soprano, and Tamara Caulkins, Classical Guitar, will present a program of early nineteenth-century Spanish songs, French chansons, and Italian operas by renowned early 19th-century composer Fernando Sor (1778-1839). The concert will take place at Grace Lutheran Church at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, February 9. The concert is free of charge with donations welcome. The program will include a lively mix of songs for voice and guitar.

Canadian Mezzo-soprano Melissa Schiel has established herself in the Pacific Northwest as a concert soloist, stage performer, and recitalist. She has performed with chamber groups and orchestras including Beethoven's Symphony No.9 with Yakima Symphony and Handel's Messiah with Wenatchee Valley Symphony, the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra, Rainer Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra, and Orchestra Seattle.

Tamara Caulkins, Guitar, specializes in historically-informed performances of early nineteenth-century music. She has conducted research in archives in France, Spain, and the U.S. to recover long-lost music for guitar, guitar and voice, and chamber music with guitar. Tamara has also studied eighteenth-century dance and has performed with Seattle Early Dance, Musica Antiqua, and the Musicking festival in Eugene, Oregon.



February 18 is A Capella Sunday

Worshipping communities around the world mark the first Sunday in Lent as A Capella Sunday. At Grace Lutheran, we sing well unaccompanied. Our worship experience on February 18 will hopefully encourage us all as we join in this growing ecumenical tradition.



Why sing a capella? 4 reasons:

1. Many Christians around the world have no instruments to accompany their worship. This gives us an opportunity to experience that, and rejoice in what we DO have.
2. The experience of a cappella singing offers us an opportunity to reflect on the strength of singing together.
3. When singing without instruments, we listen differently, and hear the corporate sound far more powerfully than with accompaniment.
4. Instruments provide inspiration and leadership, but take a secondary role to your singing voices.
- 5.

We move to ELW Setting 4 of the liturgy for this Lenten season, and we know that musical setting well. When we sing the hymns, you'll note that the choir or a soloist (leading from the center of the worship space) will always introduce each of them - with humming, singing a preparatory phrase, or jumping right in as marked. We trust you'll find that adding different colors and textures to our songs will keep them interesting.

May we find blessings in our corporate prayer and praise as we sing familiar songs in a new way.

Singer? Ringer? Can't make a long-term choir commitment?

Prayerfully consider singing/ringing for a season:
Lent (including Holy Week), from Feb. 14-March 30
Easter (including Pentecost), from March 31-May 19

We would love to include you in our ministry! Contact Deacon Ruth at the church office for more information, or to sign up.

PLU Christmas Concert



Over a dozen friends/members of Grace attended the Christmas concert at PLU (Pacific Lutheran University) on December 2nd.



Christmas Caroling

An enthusiastic intergenerational group went Christmas caroling on December 16, sharing the good news of the Incarnation with members and acquaintances of Grace. Afterward, we enjoyed a light supper, laughs, and good conversation.

Organist's Assistants



Bailey Henson and Joshua Gale served as Organist's Assistants for the first time on December 17. Cara Henson, an eager assistant-to-be, looked on with intense fascination.



GLC Valentines

Each year we send Valentines to college students, military personnel and other far-flung friends of Grace. The valentines will be in the narthex on Sunday, February 11, for you to sign. Please take a minute to add a greeting or simply sign your name. We'll add some treats and send the love to our siblings in Christ who are away from home.

February Worship Assistants

	Greeters	Ushers	Lector	Altar Guild	Tech	Communion Assistant
2/4			Dee Ann Gregg	Kathy Gavin	Marlena La Paz	Colleen Smith
2/11			Riva Morgan	Rose Applegate	Phil Gregg	Riva Morgan
2/18			Nancy Gradwohl		Chad DuLac	
2/25			Karen Zanol	Rose Applegate	Phil Gregg	Karen Zanol 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.

2024 TEAM & COMMITTEE LEADERS

Arts: Phil Gregg
Building & Grounds: Dave Coe, Tom Gausman
Endowment: Karen Zanol
Faith Formation: *Open*
Fellowship: *Open*
Graceful Garden: Linda Sinnett
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: *Open*

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

Christmas Eve 2023



Kids' Talk

Young worshippers gather for the Kids' talk at the 5:00 p.m.



Vocal Trio Christmas Eve 2023

Three young members (Joshua Gale, Bailey & Cara Henson) prepare to lead our singing of a new song in the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service, working enthusiastically with Deacon Ruth.

PRAYERS OF GRACE

- ◆ **Rylan (great-nephew of Jean Spiedel's friend Donna)** - Rylan has been diagnosed with bone cancer. Please pray for healing; wisdom for his doctors; and courage, peace, and hope for Rylan and his family.
- ◆ **Sarah Ankenbrand -Crosby (Joe Trowbridge's nephew's wife)** – thank you for the many prayers offered. Sarah has recovered and is doing well.
- ◆ **Barbara Tilly** – prayers for healing and strength.
- ◆ **Bonnie Howeler** – continued prayers for healing for her back, and for encouragement.
- ◆ **Glenn Liner** – for wisdom and the right treatment plan in light of the discovery of a tumor.
- ◆ **Mim Schwich** (Jody Marquardt's mother) – for God's presence and a peaceful mind as she continues on long-term care.
- ◆ **Pastor Don Short (Susan Hendrickson's brother-in-law)** (serving Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Othello WA) - healing after shoulder surgery, hospitalized due to complications
- ◆ **Arlene Pearson (Jen Pearson-Gale's mom)** – Continued prayers for ongoing heart-related issues.

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

It's Noisy Offering time!



On February 14th, the Social Concerns Team will be distributing boxes that you can decorate and put your loose change in for those who are in need. So, it's time to start saving all your loose coins from your pockets, shoes, socks, drawers, underneath the bed, the sofa and car seats. Wherever you can find it, collect it and put it in your decorated loose change box and bring it back to the church on March 23 where a Social Concerns Team member will be collecting them. So, start collecting all those coins!!! For more information contact [Mike Sweeney](#).

Little Free Pantry Food Drive

There has been a high use of the pantry this winter, and since we are no longer able to acquire food from Chelan Douglas Community Action, we are in need of donations more than ever before. So, during Lent to go along with our hunger emphasis, we will be collecting food items for our Little Free Pantry. We appreciate all the items you are providing, and we make them stretch as far as possible. For example, if you leave a box of 12 Top Ramen packages, we break down that box and just put out one or two a day. We have found that the Dollar Tree is an economical place to purchase toiletries, cleaning supplies, and milk that doesn't need refrigeration. Another bargain place is the Franz Bakery Outlet where bread products are very reasonably priced. During Lent we would like to emphasize the following items: toilet paper, diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, peanut butter, rice, and beans.



Thank you for all you do to make this free food available for our less fortunate neighbors. They are so very appreciative, and they express their gratitude to us when we see them using the pantry. Please contact [Pat Fitzgerald](#) or [Kay Fisher](#).

Lent Giving Tree

During Lent we will have a giving tree out in the Narthex. The tree will have ornaments that will have a bee, goats or pigs on it. Your job is to pick the tag from the tree and send the money in for the tag you select. If you choose a pig you send in how much it is for a pig. The money is sent to ELCA Good Gifts.

Little Free Pantry and Packing Friendship Receive Grant

Advent Lutheran of Spokane Valley has awarded a \$450 Endowment Fund Grant to our ministries that address food insecurity in our community. These funds will be split between the two programs and will be used to purchase food and other items that are needed. We are very grateful to Advent Lutheran for their support of our programs!

A Special Thank You to Gwen Sparks

For those of you who witnessed
The Tree Skirt that was Blue;
Gwen's Advent grand creation
So elegant to view!

We appreciate your mastery
Of biblical techno and art--
You captured so exquisitely
Images to bless our heart.

Each stitch and star is wonderful
It gives our tree such class;
We are grateful for your skill set
No other project can surpass.

Over 16 names for Jesus
This skirt will each one tell - i.e.,
Prince of Peace, Messiah
Good Shepherd and Lo, Immanuel.

Intricate liturgical outlines
Sacred names and vocabulary we all know;
Will adorn and surround the tree of Grace
Making the theme of Advent glow.

Thank you, Gwen, we love you
Not just for this fine piece;
But all you do behind the scenes
May our gratitude increase!

Gigi Shaw-M. 24



GARDENING SPACE AVAILABLE



Would you like to have a garden but don't have the area or means to prepare a plot? Raised beds are available for the 2024 growing season at Grace Lutheran. The Graceful Garden Team is offering some of the raised beds for individual or family use for \$15.00 per year. If you are interested in renting one, please contact [Linda Sinnett](#). Paperwork to finalize rentals will be available by March 1, 2024.

ANNA & MIRIAM CIRCLES

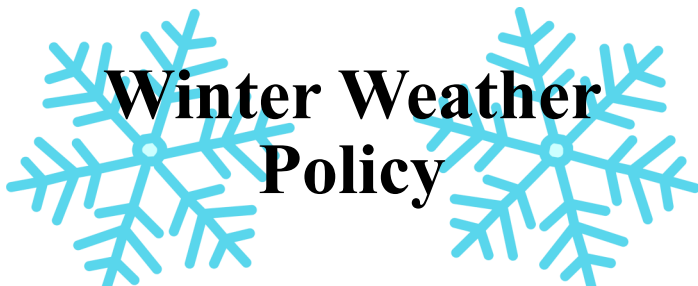
Anna Circle will meet on Tuesday, February 20, at 10:00 a.m. at Grace. If you have questions, feel free to contact [Linda Sinnet](#) or [Faye DeJong](#).

Miriam Circle will meet Tuesday, February 20, at 7:00 p.m. at Grace.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Mary DeMarce	2/1	Isaiah Banken	2/13	Mary Henson	2/23
Tony Fisher	2/1	Gabe Stefanides	2/13	Shannon Salter	2/23
Dorothy Thompson	2/1	Emily Tilger	2/14	Carl Sjoberg	2/23
David Bentsen	2/2	Ted Crum	2/16	Rose Applegate	2/24
Barry Heminger	2/3	Deborah Dormaier	2/16	Alan Olson	2/24
Lynn Heminger	2/3	Alex Henning	2/16	Alora Martinez	2/25
Monte Vogt	2/3	Sarah Kintner-Thorpe	2/18	Nancy Spurgeon	2/25
Judy Johnson	2/6	Cole Godfrey	2/19	Sarah Eisert	2/26
Sara O'Daffer	2/6	Denise Miller	2/19	Mark Lee	2/26
Collin Paiva	2/7	Patty Christensen	2/20	John Applegate	2/27
Dee Griffith	2/8	Joe Trowbridge	2/20	Tom Gausman	2/27
Matt Tilger	2/8	Dawn Aalgaard	2/21	Deb Lapo	2/27
Peggy Swanson	2/10	Pat Brown	2/21	Jen Pearson-Gale	2/27
Kate Gregg	2/11	Kathy Jo Evans	2/21		



Midweek programming for our congregation should be a safe experience for all participants. At times, we must consider road conditions. When Wenatchee schools cancel activities due to inclement weather, Grace Lutheran Church will respond in kind and cancel or postpone all activities. We will communicate these decisions to the congregation and the public to the best of our ability.

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer	2 9:00 a.m. Quilters	3
4 9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace 10:30 a.m. Worship 12:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Group	5 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	6	7 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:15 p.m. Together @ Grace 6:15 p.m. Bells of Grace 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	8 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:00 p.m. Recital	9 9:00 a.m. Quilters 7:00 p.m. Concert <i>"Songs from the Early 19th Century"</i>	10 4:00 p.m. Recital
11 9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Wenatchee Youth Community at YWCA	12 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	13 4:00 p.m. Arts Team 5:30 p.m. Pancake Dinner 6:30 p.m. Social Concerns Team	14 Ash Wednesday 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 12:00 p.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Worship	15 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 5:00 p.m. Church Council	16 9:00 a.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. Recital	17
18 9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace 10:30 a.m. Worship 12:00 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Group	19 7:00 p.m. Appleaires 7:00 p.m. Recital	20 Newsletter Deadline 10:00 a.m. Anna Circle 7:00 p.m. Miriam Circle	21 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:15 p.m. Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers 6:15 p.m. Bells of Grace 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	22 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer	23 9:00 a.m. Quilters 7:00 p.m. Craft Night	24
25 9:15 a.m. Growing in Grace 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Group	26 9:00 - 6:00 Piano Adjudications 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	27 9:00 - 6:00 Piano Adjudications	28 9:00 - 5:00 Piano Adjudications 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:15 p.m. Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers 6:15 p.m. Bells of Grace 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	29 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 9:00 - 6:00 Piano Adjudications		

COUNCIL CORNER

January 18, 2024

- GLC formally hired Brad Brisbine (MJ Neal) as architect for GLC building project.
- Council approved final 'draft' 2024 operational budget for presentation at the semi-annual congregation meeting.
- Washington Elementary school will be partnering with GLC's community garden for a youth spring project.

TREASURER TALK:

12/31/23 Results

2023 offerings total \$401,706, over budget by \$1,706. This does include \$15,152 interest income. Expenses are \$443,560, (\$29,537) under budget. Resulting Net Operating Deficit (\$41,854) compares to projected budget deficit (\$73,097).

	Jan-Dec 2022	Jan-Dec 2023	2023 Budget	Variance
Total Offerings, Misc	\$387,736	\$401,706	\$400,000	\$1,706
Operating Expenses	(471,093)	(443,560)	(473,097)	(29,537)
Net Margin (Deficit)	(\$83,357)	(\$41,854)	(\$73,097)	\$31,243

Cash on hand \$162,289 includes Treasurer Reserve \$40,000 and transfer of \$41,500 (monies set aside to fund 2023 deficit).

	12/31/22	12,31/23
Cash Surplus Position	\$119,330	\$ 80,789
Treasurer Reserve	40,500	40,000
Deficit Reserve		41,500
Total	\$159,830	\$162,289

Gwen Sparks. 630-4239.

Gwen101@nwi.net

Morning Prayer

Thursday mornings, at 7:00, you are invited to join us in the sanctuary. Our morning prayer will typically involve reading of scripture, then a time of prayer, then finish with the Lord's Prayer.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

1408 Washington Street

Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555

(509) 663-2189

Return Service Requested

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor James Aalgaard Pastor
pastor@glcwen.org

Deacon Ruth Anderson Director of Music Ministries
deacon@glcwen.org

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

(509) 663-2189
office@glcwen.org

WEBSITE

www.glcwen.org