



THE GOOD NEWS OF GRACE

March 2023

A Newsletter for Members and Friends of
Grace Lutheran Church
1408 Washington Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555
Volume 7 Issue 2



I will be with you always. (from Matthew 28)

Holy Interruptions

People of Grace;

The late Henri Nouwen, a beloved writer and leader of a faith community for the developmentally challenged, remarked in one of his books that his “work week” was in constant flux. Every plan seemed to be sabotaged by circumstances beyond his control.

It really bothered him, for a time. He felt like a failure according to his own standards. He wanted to accomplish so much and just couldn’t find the time. People, and emergencies small and great, pulled him away from his personal task list.

As he examined this problem from a spiritual point of view, he eventually surrendered to these interruptions and viewed them as one of the ways Christ was teaching him and being revealed to him. After a long process of letting go, Nouwen realized that his best gift to his surrounding community was availability. The Spirit was able to sort out his priorities. It wasn’t a perfect new “plan”, but it was a perspective that gave him new life and a better sense of connection with his people (and projects).

I am writing this while isolating at home due to another run-in with Covid. Two out of three from our household are down for the count. My wife is at the hospital undergoing emergency surgery. Other emergencies, small and great, have interrupted my workflow. The interruptions are certainly frustrating, but Christ is still speaking, teaching and proving his faithfulness throughout these strange times.

I ask for understanding from you. Family is important, and I know I’m where I should be for this time. The challenge is in seeing the interruptions as the main thing and in being open for the Holy Spirit to sort it all out.

Pastor James Aalgaard

P.S. I hope you have considered a Lenten practice this year. Would you like to walk more often? Have daily prayer? Participate in a book study and devotional? There are a few suggestions on the bulletin board near the church office. I encourage you, for whatever practice you try, to view it as a way for Christ to be present for you in a new and very real way.



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.

Sunday Funday March 12

Join us for Sunday Funday on March 12 at 12:15. Join us for lunch, play, and learning! The education focus is pre-k through 5th grade, but it's also a great opportunity to catch up and strengthen bonds with other adults. We will have pizza this month. All are welcome!



Lenten Soup Suppers

Join us for our weekly Lenten Soup Suppers, each Wednesday during Lent. Volunteers are needed to provide soup and bread or rolls. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board across from the church office. Meals will be served at 6:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

Join St. Luke's Episcopal, Grace Lutheran, and First United Methodist Churches for a Shared Worship service on Maundy Thursday. We will have a simple soup supper in the Fellowship Hall after which we will move to the sanctuary for the worship service.

All are welcome! Call St. Luke's office at the number below if you have any questions.

Date: Thursday, April 6th

Time: 6:00 p.m., simple soup supper followed by worship at 7:00 p.m.

Location: St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 428 King Street, Wenatchee
(509) 662-5635



Save the Date: Spring Clean-up!

Saturday, April 1
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
More details coming soon!





Do you have the Luck o' the Irish? Join us **Friday, March 17**, and find out! The Youth Team is hosting a **Bunco party** at the church on March 17th at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome! Age doesn't matter, or if you have ever played Bunco before – you won't want to miss this evening of good food, good fellowship, and good fun. Please bring an appetizer to share – beverages and PRIZES will be provided. Guaranteed not to be boring!

WEAR YOUR GREEN



Wenatchee Youth Community (WYC) is an ecumenical youth group that meets at 6:00 p.m. on the 2nd Sunday of each month, typically at the YWCA. On **March 12**, they will have a murder mystery party at the YWCA. All youth in grades 6 -12 are welcome!

PEOPLE OF GRACE



Congratulations, Pastor Bergen!

Bergen Eickhoff, our 2020 - 2021 Pastoral Intern, was ordained on Saturday, January 7. Bergen accepted a call as the Associate Pastor for Children, Youth, and Family Ministry and Outreach at The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Olympia, WA.



Congratulations, Anna and Josh!

Anna Ferro, our 2021-2022 Pastoral Intern, and Josh Blauert were married on February 4 at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. Anna is currently finishing her last year of classes and is hoping to find a call in Minnesota.

LECTIONARY READINGS

March 5 Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

March 12 Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

March 19 Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

March 26 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

ANNA & MIRIAM CIRCLES

Anna Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 21, at 10:00 a.m. at Grace. If you have questions, feel free to call [Linda Sinnet](#) or [Faye DeJong](#).

Miriam Circle will meet Tuesday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. Please contact [Melanie McQuaig](#) for location or further information.

PRAYERS OF GRACE

The Zanol family - Praise & thanksgiving celebrating Carolyn Grisez's 92 years of a life well-lived. She will be missed by Greyson, Oliver, Lisa, Tim & (daughter) Karen Zanol.

The Aalgaard Family - For healing: Pastor James, recovering from COVID; Dawn, recovering after a surgical procedure; Trish (Dawn's mom), recovering from COVID.

Bill and Linda Sinnett – Thanks and praise for successful surgeries and dedicated, experienced, and caring medical professionals.

Arlene Kang & Christine Kang (relatives of Joe Trowbridge) – prayers for health and well-being

Jill Kang (relative of Joe Trowbridge) - prayers for a successful surgery and for recovery

Donna Pincome (Joe Trowbridge's cousin) and her daughter Jeanie – prayers for recovery from a viral infection

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.

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.

A Note From the Finance Office

PLEASE do not use last year's offering envelopes for this year's donations. The envelope numbers have changed due to members using Simply Giving and other donation platforms, so we ordered fewer envelopes. If you use last year's envelope, your donation could be credited to another person. So, please, recycle last year's envelopes and only use 2023 envelopes.

BUILDING VISIONING COMMITTEE (aka BVC)

The committee has not met formally in February, but we have arranged meetings with potential bidding vendors for projects that can move forward on ADA family restrooms and kitchen improvements.

Our gracious pro-bono architect presented a program on January 18 for about 18 congregants. He presented an updated architectural sketch reflecting many of the ideas gleaned from conversations with ministering teams to modify and modernize the entire church and grounds. A recent third survey of the membership is being prayerfully considered as BVC, Council, Fox Trust Committee, and membership make these major decisions for our church.

On a final “good news” note, Dave Coe and Tom Gausman are heading up a newly formed Building and Grounds Team of: Bob Sparks, Milt Herman, Dean O’Daffer, Bob Bartlett, Tom Redmond (on special projects), Mike Sweeney and spiritual advisor Pastor James Aalgaard. There has already been productive “cross fertilization” of ideas and work between the BVCer’s and the new Building and Grounds team!!

TREASURER TALK:

1/31/23 Results

January, 2023 offerings total \$30,748. This is (\$2,585) under budget. Expenses are \$30,665, (\$8,760) under budget. Resulting Net Operating Surplus (\$83) compares to projected budget deficit(\$6,091).

	Jan 2022	Jan 2023	2023 Jan Budget	Variance
Total Offerings, Misc	\$ 24,193	\$30,748	\$33,333	(\$2,585)
Operating Expenses	(36,576)	(30,665)	(39,424)	(8,760)
Net Margin (Deficit)	(\$12,382)	\$83	(\$6,091)	\$6,174

Cash on hand \$161,686 includes Treasurer Reserve \$40,000.

	12/31/23	1/31/23
Cash Surplus Position	\$121,102	\$ 121,686
Treasurer Reserve	40,500	40,000
Total	\$161,602	\$161,686

2023 TEAM & COMMITTEE LEADERS

Arts:	Phil Gregg
Building & Grounds:	Dave Coe, Tom Gausman
Endowment:	Karen Zanol
Faith Enrichment:	Open
Fellowship:	Open
Pastoral Support:	Julie Banken
Staff Support:	Ernie Bentsen
Social Concerns:	Kay Fisher
Stream Team:	Marlena La Paz
Worship:	Kathy Gavin
Youth:	Sue Coe
Memorial Garden:	Open

2023 CHURCH COUNCIL

President:	Suellen Harris
Vice President:	Dave Coe
Treasurer:	Open
Secretary:	Jody Marquardt
Members-at-Large:	Riva Morgan
	John McQuaig
	Paula Salter
	Tami Woolsey

SOCIAL CONCERNS TEAM

It's Noisy Offering Time!

It's time to start saving your loose change for our annual Noisy Offering for World Hunger. Be sure to check your pockets, shoes, sofa, and car seats for your extra change – it all adds up! The Social Concerns Team will have banks available in the Narthex during Lent. Take one home, decorate it, and start filling it up for our Noisy Offering which we will collect on April 2 (Palm Sunday).

Packing Friendship/Little Free Pantry Lenten Food Drive

The Social Concerns Team is holding a food drive for our Packing Friendship and Little Free Pantry ministries during Lent.

Packing Friendship is a weekend food program for students who are at risk of hunger on the weekends. Grace Lutheran serves 59 students from three schools in the Wenatchee School District on a weekly basis.

The GLC Little Free Pantry serves those in our community who may need help making ends meet by providing food items, cleaning supplies, and personal hygiene items. It is meant to serve as an emergency pantry to help individuals get by until the beginning of the following month. It is estimated that the pantry serves 20-30 families/individuals per week.

The Social Concerns Team will collect items before and after worship on Sundays and on Wednesday evenings at the Soup Supper. They are asking for donations of the following items:

Packing Friendship

Fruit cups
Instant Oatmeal
Canned pasta (ravioli, etc.)
Tuna
Macaroni and cheese
Chicken noodle & tomato soup

Little Free Pantry

Toilet paper
Peanut Butter
Rice
Toothpaste
Dish detergent
Laundry Detergent

Bingo at Grace



On the first Friday evening of each month, Developmentally Disabled adults come to Grace to play Bingo. We have volunteers who help those who need assistance with numbers, we serve pretzels and ice water while they play, and then we take a 10-minute break when cookies are served. There is much excitement and cheering when someone yells bingo. Each participant receives about 4-5 prizes each time. If you haven't been part of this fun, you can sign up to help, you can provide cookies or pretzels, or you can donate prizes. We all have various items around our home that we can part with - knickknacks, sports team swag, holiday items, or most anything else. Also, the Dollar Tree has unlimited cool things. There is a box in the narthex for donated items for Bingo prizes.

If you would like to be part of this fun, contact [Pat Fitzgerald](#) or [Kara Melton](#).

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Jody Marquardt	3/2	Anna Guthrie	3/9	Erin Reed	3/20
Michelle Harrison	3/3	Jim Wurl	3/11	Nicholas Boersma	3/22
Taylor Melton	3/3	Micah Florea	3/12	Langley Vertrees	3/22
Gene Abel	3/4	Jan Herman	3/12	Vera Curtis	3/24
Conrad Lake	3/4	Karen Zanol	3/13	JoAnn Koch	3/24
Annette Mueller	3/5	Sam Stevens	3/14	William Neer	3/26
Jan Romey	3/5	Gail DuVall	3/15	Joel Banken	3/27
Silas Morgan	3/7	Wanda Rivedal	3/16	Jolane Guthrie	3/27
Kelli Ottley	3/7	Michele Sandberg	3/19	Dave Coe	3/31
Mike Mueller	3/8	Colleen Smith	3/19	Ruth Westby	3/31



Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 12.

March Worship Assistants

	Greeters	Ushers	Lector	Altar Guild	Tech	Communion Assistant
3/5			Karen Zanol			Kate Gregg
3/12			Dee Ann Gregg			
3/19			Jim Caulkins			
3/26			Riva Morgan			Riva Morgan

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00 - 5:30 Piano Adj. 5:45 p.m. Lenten Worship 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 6:30 p.m. Lenten Book Group 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	2 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer 8:00 - 5:15 Piano Adjudications 1:00 p.m. Befrienders	3 9:00 a.m. Quilters 9:00 - 5:00 Piano Adjudications 6:30 p.m. Bingo	
5 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth	6 6:30 p.m. Recital 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	7 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Apollo Club	8 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:45 p.m. Lenten Worship 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 6:30 p.m. Lenten Book Group 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	9 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer	10 9:00 a.m. Quilters 10:00 a.m. Outstanding Student Competition	11
12 10:30 a.m. Worship 12:15 p.m. Sunday Funday 6:00 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth @ YWCA	13 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	14 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 6:00 p.m. Youth Team 7:00 p.m. Apollo Club	15 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:45 p.m. Lenten Worship 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 6:30 p.m. Lenten Book Group 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	16 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer	17 9:00 a.m. Quilters 5:30 p.m. Bunco	18
19 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth	20 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	21 Newsletter Deadline 10:00 a.m. Anna Circle 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Miriam Circle 7:00 p.m. Apollo Club	22 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:45 p.m. Lenten Worship 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 6:30 p.m. Lenten Book Group 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	23 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer	24 9:00 a.m. Quilters	25
26 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth	27 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	28 5:00 p.m. Church Council 7:00 p.m. Apollo Club	29 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:45 p.m. Lenten Worship 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 6:30 p.m. Lenten Book Group 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	30 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer	31 9:00 a.m. Quilters	

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****Rev. James Aalgaard, Pastor**

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Judy Olson, Organist

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Jen Gale, Office Administrator

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Roxanne Whitmire, Finance Manager

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SUNDAY WORSHIP**10:30 a.m.****CHURCH OFFICE HOURS****Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.****Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.****CONTACT**

(509) 663-2189

office@glcwen.org**WEBSITE**www.glcwen.org