

THEGOODNEWSOFGRACE

November 2019

A Newsletter for Members and Friends of Grace Lutheran Church 1408 Washington Street Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555 Volume 3 Issue 9

"Love your neighbor." (From Luke 10:27)

Dear friends in Christ,

I've been thinking, it's a radical thing to love one's neighbor. I don't suppose I do so well at this, but I know Jesus, and I know his directives in this area, and I pray for the Spirit to open my life up more and give me the capacity to love.

How do we define "neighbor?" It seems to be straightforward – a neighbor is someone nearby. However, a neighbor is anyone who is not you. Do you have a spouse? Neighbor. Do you have a child? Neighbor. Do you have a coworker? Neighbor. Is there someone around you whose first language is not English? Neighbor.

Jesus teaches us to do more than tolerate, get along with, and put up with our neighbor. Love is a mighty strong word that calls us to humility and the willingness to sacrifice for the well being of the neighbor. It's greater than respect and honor. Love your neighbor.

I think the core value of service is a calling we feel: to love our many communities. This perspective is built into our ministry structure as a congregation; we have a Social Concerns Team, for example, which represents our congregation to a handful of organizations through financial gifts and relationships. Even providing our building for other groups to meet is an expression of love. You may feel that you have a choice about who gets to be your neighbor, but that's only partly true. A neighbor you avoid, or dislike, is still your neighbor. A neighbor who sees the world in ways you cannot understand is still your neighbor. You are to love them. Yikes. This neighbor stuff might just be transformative.

My days off in November: Nov 4, 18, 25.

Together! 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.

Sabbatical Planning

Earlier this year, in accordance with our pastoral sabbatical policy, the church council approved a 3-month sabbatical for Pastor James, to take place May through July, 2020. The Pastoral Support Team has met with Pastor James several times throughout the year to collaborate and help with the planning process.

Pastoral sabbaticals have a deep-rooted tradition of extending vibrant and healthy ministry by providing a dedicated time for pastoral growth and training, rejuvenation, and refocused vision. In addition to pastoral benefits, sabbaticals provide an opportunity for congregational growth and renewal. Intern Jenna is actively training and will be prepared to step into many of the pastoral responsibilities during the sabbatical.

The Pastoral Support Team plans to host informational gatherings at the beginning of the coming year to share more about the sabbatical, answer questions, and allow Pastor James to share his developing plans and vision for this special time. Stay tuned for details of the gatherings to appear in the December/January newsletter!

An update from the Reconciling in Christ group

On October 20, 18 GLC members came together to discuss our continuing process to become a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Over the past 18 months, we have offered educational opportunities and discussion groups, including a session with Aubrey Thonvold, executive director of Reconciling Works. Our next step in the process is to conduct an Exploratory Survey of the congregation. Please keep in mind that becoming a RIC congregation means that we will be open and welcoming to all people – people of color, people of all abilities, ... ALL PEOPLE. Ultimately, we will create our own welcome statement which reflects the diversity of our community. The statement below is for feedback only. Please consider taking the time to complete the survey and return it to church. You may return it to the box in the narthex, or mail it to Grace Lutheran, attention "RIC Group".

Example of a partial welcome statement

This community commits to welcoming all people, including, and celebrating people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expression, people of color, and people of all abilities. (...)

If a vote were held today on the above welcome statement, how would respond?

	YES, wholeheartedly.
	YES, but I would appreciate more education.
	YES, but I would appreciate more scriptural engagement.
	NO, because I need more
Name:	

FAITH FORMATION

LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

November 3 - 9:30 a.m.

PreK/K: Solomon Builds the Temple 1st -Adult: Billy Balderbach - WRC (Women's Resource Center)

November 10 - 9:30 a.m.

PreK/K - High School: No Classes Adult: Stewardship Bible Study

November 17 - 9:30 a.m. PreK/K: Oueen Esther

1st -5th Grade: Creative Corner 6th - 12th grade: Church of the Three Hierarchs (8:40 a.m.)

Adults: Study Series

November 24 - 9:30 a.m.

PreK/K: Daniel in the Lions Den

1st -6th Grade: Women's Resource Center Project

Adults: Study Series

Sunday Faith Formation for Adults

November 3--A presentation from a representative of the Women's Resource Center in Wenatchee.

November 10--Part Two of a Bible study led by Jody Marquardt using some lesser known passages from St. Paul's letters to consider what the apostle had to say about Christian stewardship.

November 17 and 24--Led by the Rev. Patton Boyle, retired Episcopal minister, we will discuss some common mental health issues that arise in Christian families and communities: how to recognize problems such as depression, addiction, and behavioral disorders and respond to them in a positive, caring, and effective manner.

December 1 (Thanksgiving weekend)--No adult class



Grace Lutheran Christmas Gift Fair Saturday, December 14 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

We will have local vendors selling handmade crafts, jewelry, Mary Kay, Color Street nails, Avon, Thirty One, Paparazzi, Stampin' Up! and more. Come do some Christmas shopping, check out the great raffle items and satisfy that sweet tooth with goodies from the youth bake sale. Don't miss all the fun!

Get Your Craft On

We are looking for donations of handmade craft items for our Christmas Gift Fair on December 14. All proceeds will support the 2020 Summer of Service. If you have items that you would like to donate, please contact Jen Gale at office@glcwen.org or 663-2189. Thank you for your continued support!

SOCIAL CONCERNS TEAM

Boodry Street Family Update

In August, Grace Lutheran Church had an opportunity to help a family that was flooded out of their home the first part of August. Grace Lutheran Church took a special offering and started collecting items for a new place to live. The following is an update on the family.

Erika and Jose and their three children have been living with relatives and friends for almost two months. The week of October 7th they finally found a place to rent. They moved into a two-bedroom duplex in East Wenatchee and the Wenatchee School District has agreed to transport the three children each day to and from Wenatchee's Mission View School in order to keep some continuity in their uprooted lives.

The family still needs bunk beds, bedroom dressers, and all furniture for the living room. If you can help, please phone Rhonda Lara at 662-8681 or 293-3795. Thank you!

Friday Night Bingo needs your help!!!

The second Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m., the Social Concerns Team sponsors a Bingo game night for those that have special needs. Approximately 20 individuals show up and the program runs for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jolane Guthrie at 509-669-9309. There is also a need for prizes. Any trinkets will do. A box labeled "Bingo Prizes" is in the narthex.

Plastic Bag Sleeping Mats for the Homeless

Members of our church will be utilizing used plastic bags by cutting them into strips, tying them together and crocheting them to make sleeping mats for the homeless. The following is a list of materials that are needed to make the sleeping mats.

- Plastic bags (500-700 grocery bags) per mat
- Knitting needles (size 10 or higher) or crochet needles (Q recommended) Scissors

The Mat Project is in need of people to crochet the mats. If you are interested please contact Beth Smallbeck at 509-663-2189, email youthandfamily@glcwen.org, or Kay Fisher at 509-669-3220, email threefishers@nwi.net. There is a box in the Narthex where you can leave your donated items. This project is part of our Cross Generational Faith Formation Project for this year.

November Featured Benevolence Women's Resource Center

The Women's Resource Center provides individuals and families experiencing poverty and homelessness with the housing and supportive services they need to be part of a healthy, diverse community.

The Women's Resource Center currently operates the following programs:

Permanent Supportive Housing

Parkside Apartments is a 15-unit facility that houses individuals who were previously, chronically homeless, have a diagnosed mental illness and earn less than 30 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). Parkside operates using the Housing First Model. We also have funding for seven scattered site Permanent Supportive Housing units that operate on the same model. Leases are written in the tenants' names and they pay rent on a sliding scale.

Bruce Transitional Housing

The Bruce Hotel in downtown Wenatchee, is home to families and individuals transitioning out of homelessness. Households are eligible for services up to 24-months; however, we start working with families right away to get them on track to exit to stable housing as soon as possible. Households must earn 30 percent or less of the Area Median Income (AMI). Residents are required to attend resident meetings, participate in self-sufficiency planning with case managers, abstain from using drugs and alcohol and perform chores. Residents are subject to drug and alcohol testing. There is a monthly program fee.

Homeless Street Outreach

Every weekday the Women's Resource Center Outreach Team hits the streets with USDA approved meals, water, hygiene products, information and a listening ear. While the goal of Outreach is to persuade people to come in and be housed, there is a certain percentage who, for a host of reasons, refuse. The Outreach Team can at least make sure they have some of their most basic needs covered and track folks to monitor potential health and safety problems. The Outreach Team has been very successful in engaging with folks and creating the kinds of relationships that turn lives around.

Landlord Tenant Liaison Program

The Wenatchee Valley Landlord Tenant Liaison Program (WV-LTL) is part of the City of Wenatchee's Ten-Year Plan to end homelessness. Since Chelan and Douglas Counties are unable to build enough new rental properties to address our housing shortage, we are partnering with private landlords in our community to rent to our most vulnerable clients. The WV-LTL is looking for private landlords who are willing to rent to households who have rental barriers such as past eviction, criminal background or bad credit, often due to circumstances not within their control.

Each month GLC gives \$150.00 to Women's Resource Center to support their programs.

Grace Memorial Garden

The Grace Memorial Garden Committee would like to remind the congregation that there are still niches available in our lovely Columbarium. We would like to share some thoughts with you about making this decision. No one really wants to think about designating a spot for their cremains. However, it does take a burden off of family members when such a decision has been made early and everyone is thinking clearly, rather than when emotions are involved, and questions come up about the wishes of the loved one who has passed. It leads to a sense of peace for families if all has been arranged in advance. So please be thinking if you or your family would like to be among those whose final resting place is in Grace Lutheran Church's Memorial Garden. There are informational packets available in the copy room. Blessings to you as you consider this important decision! Please visit our sacred garden anytime you wish to remember a loved one or friend intered there, or when you need a peaceful place for prayer.



Worship Assistants

Please note: All worship assistants listed below are for the 10:30 service.

All Saints Sunday Sunday, 11/3 22 nd Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, 11/10		23 rd Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, 11/17	Christ the King Sunday Sunday, 11/24	
Worship 8:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	Worship 8:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	Worship 8:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	Worship 8:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	
Scripture Readings Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 Psalm 149 Ephesians 1:11-23 Luke 6:20-31	Scripture Readings Job 19:23-27a Psalm 17:1-9 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 Luke 20:27-38	Scripture Readings Malachi 4:1-2a Psalm 98 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19	Scripture Readings Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 46 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43	
Acolytes	Acolytes first Sunday of the month only.	Acolytes first Sunday of the month only.	Acolytes first Sunday of the month only.	
Altar Guild Kathy Gavin	Altar Guild Peggy Fenhaus	Altar Guild Hollie Olson	Altar Guild JuLee Fiebelkorn	
Communion Assistants Peggy Fenhaus Susan Hendrickson Chad & Della DuLac	Communion Assistants Sophie Fiebelkorn Nancy Boersma	Communion Assistants Rose Applegate Colleen Smith	Communion Assistants Riva Morgan Beth Smallbeck	
Lector	Lector	Lector	Lector	
Sound Technician Phil Gregg	Sound Technician Rob Salter	Sound Technician Kent Heminger	Sound Technician Lynn Heminger	
Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	
Flowers	Flowers Milly Damish	Flowers Gigi Shaw	Flowers Rhonda Stradling-Lara	

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Commitment Sunday is November 17. In early November, each family in the congregation will receive a stewardship letter and a commitment card. Please prayerfully discern how you will share your time, talent, and treasure with the household of faith at Grace Lutheran Church--and through us to people in need in our community and around the world.

SIMPLY GIVING

Simply Giving is an automatic offering method provided by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. It is open to anyone and YOU WILL NOT BE CONTACTED BY THRIVENT. Vanco Services is the company that administers the plan and Thrivent's only connection is to pay the administrative fee for us. Thrivent has no access to the names of people who are signed up for the service.

And it is easy to sign up. Just see Roxanne, the Finance Manager, and she will help you fill out and sign a simple form, or you can have a form e-mailed to you. Please bring a voided copy of one of your checks and she will do the rest. You can make monthly payments on any day of the month except the 31st since not every month has 31 days. You may also make weekly, biweekly, quarterly, and annual payments if you wish. Your payment can be credited to the budget and other accounts that you may wish to fund. The charge can be made to either your checking or savings account, or to a credit or debit card.

So, it's quick, it's easy, and it allows you to give regularly as you have pledged to give. If you are interested or have further questions, please feel free to call Roxanne at any time. Her regular office hours are Monday 8-1:30, Tuesday 11:30-5, Thursday 11:30-3:30.

A note for all current Simply Giving/Vanco givers, please submit your commitment/pledge cards. Even though you are set up on regular giving, we can't use this to fill out your pledge/commitment cards for you. This helps in our budget planning for the coming year.

November Birthdays

Ross Gavin	11/1	Peggy Johnson	11/12	Bob Sparks	11/21
Sheri Rookard	11/1	Nancy Boersma	11/13	Jennifer Collins	11/22
Martha Ann Hames	11/3	Beatrice Tait	11/13	Andrew Fischer	11/22
Bill Mooney	11/3	Jordan Gilman	11/15	Kai Mueller	11/22
Rick Schiefelbein	11/3	Rich Williams	11/15	Rich Smallbeck	11/22
Donald Wallace	11/3	Judy Olson	11/16	Alaina Morgan	11/23
Paul Arndt	11/4	Bob Curtis	11/17	Diane Senn	11/24
Jameson Varpness	11/4	Erik DuLac	11/17	Susan Marshall	11/25
Dave DeJong	11/5	RaNita Gebers	11/17	Susan Coe	11/27
Bradyn Rookard	11/6	Renee Morgan	11/17	Kent Heminger	11/27
Angie Redmon	11/8	Nate Smallbeck	11/17	LaVerne Amend	11/28
Glenn Liner	11/9	Kristen Boyer	11/18	Allison Fischer	11/28
Steve Johnson	11/11	Earl Tilly	11/19	Ina O'Connor	11/29
Casey Vogt	11/11	Marty Levine	11/21	Grace Miller-Tran	11/30
Jane Dunbar	11/12	Tory Schmidt	11/21	Evan Mueller	11/30
Daniel Hutchison	11/12				

Midweek services during Advent



Join us for Holden Evening Prayer at 5:15 pm these Wednesdays: Dec 4, 11, 18. "Together @ Grace" meal begins at 5:30 pm. Advent is a wonderful season of preparation for our spirits, and this service is a beloved one for our community. Bring a friend!

Faith Enrichment and Stewardship Team Meeting

Friday, November 8, 10:00 a.m. at the church. We are looking for new members! Please let team leader Jody Marquardt (741-9771) know if you are interested.

Council Corner

- 1. Council continues ongoing dialogue regarding the Fox Trust in Faith Formation sessions this past month.
- 2. November 17, 2019 is Commitment Sunday. Please fill out soon-to-come pledge cards and bring to worship, mail or swing by the office with your gracious commitment.
- 3. Jody Marquardt gave a recap on our Faith Formation education that is in place through December.
- 4. Both properties of the Fox gift will be undergoing appraisals.

Treasurer Talk...

GRACE'S GENEROUS GIVINGS - SEPT 2019

	Jan-Sept 2019	Jan-Sept 2018		9/30/19	9/30/18
Total Offerings,	\$368,761	\$349,590	Cash Position	\$77,610	\$49,685
Misc					
Operating Expenses	(380,277)	(374,536)	Treasurer Reserve	<u>51,968</u>	<u>54,054</u>
Net Margin (Deficit)	(\$11,516)	(\$24,946)	Total	\$129,578	\$103,739

As of 9/30/19, net deficit is (\$11,516), which is in line with forecasting. Budgets for 2020 are beginning to be worked on by the Teams. Based on forecasting for the remainder of 2019, there appears to be excess cash reserve based on established guidelines. Team Leaders have been asked to explore any special projects they would like to sponsor. Council will be reviewing proposed budgets in November and December, with final budget completed in January, 2020.

Gwen Sparks, Treasurer. 630-4239.

Sunday 9/29 Attendance 152 Weekly Offering \$6,373.50 Sunday 10/6 Attendance 40 & 115 Weekly Offering \$11,828.55 Sunday 10/13 Attendance 30 & 120 Weekly Offering \$6,815.00	Sunday 10/20 Attendance
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Women's Fellowship

"Circles" are groups of women that meet monthly for Bible study and mutual support.

YOU are invited to attend. Please contact the church office or the monthly host (listed at right) if you would like more information. Miriam Circle meets Tuesday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m. at Vicki Cunderla's home (662-4419).

Anna Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 12, at 10:00 a.m. at the church.





This month's Prayer Shawl meeting will meet at Wanda Rivedal's home at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 21. Please contact Wanda (663-6654) with any questions.

2019 TEAM & COMMITTEE LEADERS

Arts: Phil Gregg
Building & Grounds: Phoebe Nelson
Endowment: Inku Hwang
Faith Enrichment: Jody Marquardt
Fellowship: Shirley Leslie
Trish Simmons
Andy Sheets

Pastoral Support: Micah Florea
Staff Support: Ernie Bentsen
Social Concerns: Annette Mueller
Worship: Denise Miller
Youth: Jen Pearson-Gale

2019 CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Chad DuLac
Vice President: Monte Olson
Treasurer: Gwen Sparks
Secretary: Colleen Smith
Members-at-Large: Jody Marquardt
Shirley Leslie

Shirley Leslie Rebecca Lake Andy Sheets

"It Takes a Village"

From the desk of Intern Jenna

We all know that age-old saying. But how much do we recognize it or live by it? I was recently at Holden Village where that expression truly manifests itself in the everyday rhythms of mealtime, sending and receiving people and worship. In this literal "village," you really see it. I had the privilege of being there for their bi-annual "Barge

Day" when staff, volunteers and guests are all invited to help "chain" (pass from one person to the next) the many pallets of goods that came up Lake Chelan and made their way to the main lodge to supply the Village through the winter. We chained everything from 50-lb bags of flour and rice to #10 cans of tomatoes, laundry soap and toilet paper (wow - so much toilet paper). It was fun to take part in "Barge Day", complete with music, dancing and special bonding with your fellow "chain-mates" next to you. At a place like Holden, there's a closeness you feel with everyone, but the sense of survival and dependence also feels more pronounced, necessitating that "village" mentality. And yet, I think Christ calls us into that kind of living everyday and everywhere.

Sometimes it can be challenging being one person in a village of many; other times, it's wonderfully humbling. Since arriving at Grace and moving to this new village (from my former "village" of 7.2 million people in Hong Kong), I have felt incredibly welcomed and cared for on many accounts. It's been particularly fun to discover who helped put together the vicarage where I live - dishware from the McQuaigs, artwork from Trish Simmons and a bedroom set built by Jim Caulkins (just to name a few!). That place truly has a sense of "home" for me and reminds me of the ways in which I have received from people here and from others in villages around the world. It has also inspired me to give thanks and share that space for meals and people who need a place to stay in an effort to pay it forward. Even so, I know I can always do more - in giving to others, as well as asking for help!

In our individualistic society, the village mentality can be quite counter-cultural. I often find myself trying to do things by my own efforts, but Christ desires us to live in community with our neighbors and lean on God, together. "Where two or more are gathered" is a call to the closeness and vibrancy of village life and to the act of worship that comes out of being in relationship with our neighbor.

So who is - or could be - in your "village"? How do you live into the "village" mentality - both in giving and receiving/asking? In what ways could you live more fully into the village life, God's Kingdom Come, in which Christ calls us all to take part?

Pumpkin Picking 2019







November 2019

					T	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Mo Worship: 8: Faith Form	1	2				
3 **See above for Sunday Morning Schedule 5:30 p.m. Chancel Schola 6:30 p.m. Middle School & Senior High Youth 8:00 p.m. Compline Choir 9:00 p.m. Compline	4 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	5 10:30 a.m. Alzheimer's Support Group 6:30 p.m. Recital	6 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:30 p.m. T@G Meal 6:15 p.m. Bells of Grace 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	7 7:00 a.m. 1st Prayer	8 10:00 a.m. Faith Enrichment & Stewardship Team Meeting 6:30 p.m. Bingo	
10**See above for Sunday Morning Schedule **No Youth Faith Formation** 5:30 p.m. Chancel Schola 6:30 p.m. Middle School & Senior High Youth	11 1:00 p.m. Greg Wegner Memorial Service 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	12 10:00 a.m. Anna Circle 4:30 p.m. Arts Team 6:00 p.m. Youth Team 7:00 p.m. Suicide Loss Support Group 7:00 p.m. Miriam Circle	13 9:30 a.m. Intern Team 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 4:00 p.m. 3rd - 5th grade Youth 5:30 p.m. T@G Meal 6:15 p.m. Bells of Grace 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	14 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 a.m. 1st Prayer	15	16
17**See above for Sunday Morning Schedule 5:30 p.m. Chancel Schola 6:30 p.m. Middle School & Senior High Youth 8:00 p.m. Compline Choir 9:00 p.m. Compline	18 7:00 p.m. Appleaires 7:00 p.m. Compassionate Friends 7:00 p.m. Recital	19 10:30 a.m. Alzheimer's Support Group 6:00 p.m. Council 7:00 p.m. Recital	20 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:30 p.m. T@G Meal 6:15 p.m. Bells of Grace 7:30 p.m. Voices of Grace	21 7:00 a.m. 1st Prayer 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl 6:30 p.m. Social Concerns Team 8:00 p.m. Grace Brass	22	23
**See above for sunday Morning Schedule 5:30 p.m. Chancel Schola 6:30 p.m. Middle School & Senior High Youth	25 7:00 p.m. Appleaires	26	27 Lectionary Study	28 Happy Phanksgiving! Offices Closed	29 Offices Closed	30

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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Rich Smallbeck Facilities Maintenance Manager

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Jen Gale Office Administrator

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Roxanne Reindl Finance Manager

finance@glcwen.org

FAITH FORMATION

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

COMPLINE

1st and 3rd Sundays, 9:00 p.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday- Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Friday

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

PHONE: (509) 663-2189

WEBSITE

www.glcwen.org