

GRACE



LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE GOOD NEWS OF GRACE

September 2020

A Newsletter for Members and Friends of
Grace Lutheran Church
1408 Washington Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555
Volume 4 Issue 8

Grace Reopening Committee Values

“Love one another.” (from John 15)

Dear friends in Christ,

The coming months are going to have interesting challenges. I’m using the word “interesting” in the Midwest sense: stressful, less than ideal, disappointing, frustrating, complex. Maybe even bad-tasting. “Interesting” is a catch-all word that reveals the nervousness of the speaker, but also a willingness to take a risk or two. What makes the coming months interesting is the number and kind of requests from folks who love to use our space. Church facilities glorify God when they can be busy places. One could say that the church building is “inwardly groaning” to use a phrase from the Apostle Paul. Groaning to be in use again.

My invitation to you is to think about the following values, set by the Reopening Committee as a way to frame and guide our work for the sake of all who love the place and the ministries of the congregation. Let them also be a guide for you as you participate on whatever level you can.

Protect the health and safety of every member. This sets a high bar which we can’t accomplish 100%. Yet we are learning about good practices that lower risk such as keeping the facility closed while case counts are high, and also practicing distancing and other measures. Your health is perhaps even more of a concern for us, than it is for yourself. We care about you. We love you.

Recall that our congregational values are Worship, Community and Service. These serve as end-goals as well as formative practices for how we view one another and the greater community. We love you.

The end goal is to be together in worship and other events. We don’t want to forget about the joy and goodness of being in the company of one another. I hope you have not gotten so used to being isolated that you have given up on the possibility that groups will gather together again. We love you.

Allowance for people to make decisions on their own. This could look like self-monitoring before venturing out to be with the congregation. This could mean that even though some people are still not comfortable, you might be, and are willing to live with the risks involved with gathering together again. As we continue together, your own decisions about participating will be yours to make with as much information as possible. We love you.

Openness for change while embracing traditional core faith practices. Enough has changed in the world around us that things might be in fact very different than you remember. You might have changed. We might have video cameras in the sanctuary. We might try to go “paperless”. Communion might be practiced differently. Please be okay with whatever changes come about. In the words of Abraham Heschel, “If you’re alive, you’re changing.” We love you.

Accessibility to congregational offerings – have options for people who have varying levels of comfort in meeting in-person. When we gather in-person, we don’t want to leave others behind. We want people to have options for participation in the life of the congregation. That will make for some busy days for the program staff and other leaders, and we will need to make well-informed decisions. We love you.

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.

Incremental steps are acceptable. We will be taking small-ish bites of this elephant, and it's likely we will be feeling our way through the reopening process. I was so naïve when I thought we would open back up as if we were flipping a switch (Pentecost Sunday, surely!). It will be more like a dimmer switch. Or maybe a sunrise. We love you.

Be healthy, and safe, dear people of Grace!

My days off in September: 7, 14, 21, 28

Together! Pastor James Aalgaard

Sunday Evening Compline

As Jameson Varpness steps down from his position as Director of Music Ministries, Sunday evening Compline will be suspended starting September 6. Thank you, Jameson, for your efforts to put together meditative compline for the last number of years!



Coming in October! Grace Lutheran Virtual Faith Formation

Plans are underway for a fun year of Faith Formation - even if we can't be together in person! We want to give everyone a chance to adjust to new school schedules, so our classes will begin in October. Watch for more information coming soon. If you have any questions, please contact Beth at youthandfamily@glcwen.org.

Living Lutheran Subscriptions

Living
Lutheran

If you would like to begin or renew your subscription to Living Lutheran at the discounted rate of \$8.95 plus sales tax per year (vs. \$19.95), please contact Roxanne Reindl in the finance office (finance@glcwen.org or 663-2189) by October 27. Include the name and address you would like the subscription mailed to. Payment of \$9.70 includes sales tax (checks only—no cash).

Checks can be mailed or put into the mailbox outside the office door. Please be sure to indicate "Living Lutheran" on the memo line.

Semi-annual Congregational Meeting at Grace

The church council is exploring options for a congregation meeting in September, as our Constitution requires meeting both in September and in January. We ask that you be in prayer and communication with one another regarding the following election positions: Council president (2 year term), treasurer (2 year term), Council member at large (two year term), Council member at large (two year term), Grace memorial garden (three-year term), Mission endowment committee (three-year term), Synod assembly voting member male, Synod assembly voting member female.

Put Me In Coach, I'm Ready to Play

By Bergen Nelson

I am an extrovert, and there are few things I miss more during this time of quarantine than being able to be in the presence of my church community. I am following the call to ministry because I believe that there is something uniquely powerful about the relationship we form that are centered on our faith journeys and spiritual questions. These relationships encourage vulnerability, growth, self-discovery, and codependence, and communities based on these relationships create change, call us to justice, and provide the path to self-acceptance. Ministry is the work of both becoming and helping others become who God creates and calls us to be, and we accomplish this work through an involved and loving community.

It's been hard for me to adjust my ministry practices to a time when we all need to maintain distance from one another. I have found music to be an incredibly important expression of ministry, whether it's singing along with recorded hymns or performing some of my favorite songs on a piano. I've also found meaning from using this time to delve deeper questions of how the church can be a force for positive change in the world. I've become especially passionate about racial, gender, and sexuality justice within the church, and am excited to talk with people about Grace's work to become a Reconciling-in-Christ congregation.

So, when I think about where I'd like to be involved in the ministry at Grace, my hope is to get involved with the relational ministry of Grace. From the conversations about how to continue the role of music in the congregation's life, to the discussions about how the church can combat racism and reconcile with people that it has historically oppressed, to the work to create an engaging space for children, youth, and families to explore their spiritual curiosities and questions. I hope to spend this year working with you all to figure out how we can sustain the Christ-centered relationships that give us life and call us to be people of God. And if nothing else, if you have anything that you'd like to talk about, know that I'm always willing to set up a Zoom call or meet for a socially-distanced conversation at a Riverside park so that we can grow in our faith together!

Welcome Intern Bergen!

You are invited to a drive-by welcome for Intern Bergen and his wife Clara on Sunday, August 30. Drive by the vicarage (1012 Bryan Terrace, Wenatchee) between 4 and 5 pm to say hello and drop off greetings. The Intern Team is preparing a welcome basket for greeting cards and gift cards to help welcome them to our community. The internship program is an integral part of our ministry at Grace and we appreciate the continued support of our congregation.

Congratulations to Former Intern Wayne Shipman!

Wayne Shipman will be ordained into the ministry of word and sacrament at St. John's Lutheran Church in Victor, New York on Saturday, September 12 at 7:00 a.m. PDT. The service will be streamed (details coming soon) and he welcomes all from Grace Lutheran to attend virtually.

Wayne has accepted a Call to serve Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Pocatello, ID and Emanuel Lutheran Church in Blackfoot, ID.

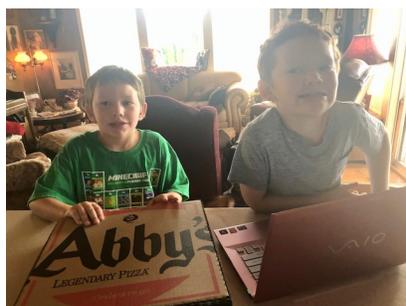


VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2020

BEING A NEIGHBOR

IN YOUR HOME & ON YOUR BLOCK

"God has told us what is good: to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God"



Reconciling in Christ

Thank you to everyone who has had a conversation with members of our RIC core team regarding the proposed welcome statement. We have taken your suggestions and made a few changes to our initial statement. You will find the revised statement below.

The RIC core team will continue to reach out to members over the next few months to have a short conversation either by Zoom or by phone. As a member of Grace, we want to make sure your voice is heard and included.

Here is a sample of some of the things we would like to know:

- What makes you feel welcome at Grace?
- What stands out to you in this statement?
- What makes Grace special?

If you would like to provide feedback via email, please reach out to Paula Salter at bpsalter@mac.com or Hilary Martinez at spurmar76@gmail.com.

The stained-glass windows in our church display a beautiful collection of glass pieces, each one unique and important. The same is true for all of God's children. As people of Grace Lutheran Church, our diversity makes us stronger and more resilient.

We strive to welcome all. We want to be a church where all are safe, all are welcome. Believers, non-believers, doubters, seekers, and questioners: You are welcome here. Old and young. Able or disabled. People of all sexual orientations and gender identities: You are welcome here. Rich and poor. Black, brown, and white: You are welcome here. Jeans and a t-shirt or a suit and tie. Addiction and mental health concerns: You are welcome here.

You are welcome and valued here, because we are all pieces of stained glass, broken and beautiful in our own way.

As a church, we resolve to open our hearts, our minds, and our doors. We seek to reconcile ourselves to one another and to God, the Master Artist.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dane Schmidt	9/2	Elsa Vogt	9/11	Jesson Vogt	9/22
Marina Heminger	9/3	Jackie Carmichael	9/12	Suzanne Helgersen	9/23
Albert Rookard	9/4	Pixieanne Kalcic	9/12	Wanda Ashcraft	9/24
Chad DuLac	9/5	Sophie Fiebelkorn	9/13	Della DuLac	9/24
Milt Herman	9/5	Ron Koch	9/14	Della Brett	9/25
Bob Bartlett	9/6	John Porter	9/14	Melissa Herrick	9/26
Mike Kintner	9/6	Celia Gale	9/17	Kris Paxman	9/26
Virginia Hwang	9/8	Olivia Weaver	9/19	Jackson Dunckel	9/28
Darren Lake	9/8	Lorraine Jarstad	9/20	Helen Morton	9/28
Jane Rivedal	9/8	Gary Otheim	9/20	Mike Sweeney	9/28
Greyson Zanol	9/8	James Aalgaard	9/21	Courtney Coe	9/29
Tom Redmon	9/9	Marjory Radford	9/21	Bill Reed	9/29
Gerri Kern	9/10	Linda Sinnett	9/22	Tami Woolsey	9/29

Virtual Worship

Facebook

Click [here](#) and watch for the "Facebook Premiere" which will show "live" on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and remain on our page afterwards for viewing anytime.

Zoom

Grace Lutheran Sunday Worship (and coffee fellowship)

Time: 9:00 a.m., with fellowship following worship

To join Zoom on a computer/tablet/smartphone, click here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81304421918>

Meeting ID: 813 0442 1918

For connecting with a phone (audio only):

+1 669 900 6833 US

Meeting ID: 813 0442 1918

- When prompted, dial 813 0442 1918 #
- You may be asked to press # one more time
- That's it! You should be in after that.



Virtual Coffee Fellowship

Sign onto Zoom (following the instructions for worship) following worship for virtual coffee fellowship! Pour yourself a cozy beverage and call or sign in to meet and catch up with the Grace community. People will be randomly put into smaller virtual "rooms" for more intimate conversation. All are welcome!

How are you doing? Listening Sessions Available Every Thursday

If you would like to check in with one another over Zoom, Pastor James is facilitating a regular listening session every Thursday at noon. Here's the Zoom link, along with the phone number for the audio. Everyone is welcome!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83596386508>

Meeting ID: 835 9638 6508

Dial-in for audio

+1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 835 9638 6508

Council Corner

1. Motion carried to establish a weapons policy for GLC and amend the staff handbook to incorporate the new language. Carrying weapons into the church is discouraged but by law cannot be outlawed.
2. The lighting and sound system improvement project has been on hold during the pandemic. We hope to resume work on plans with the contractor soon.
3. GLC online worship time will continue to be at 9:00 AM until further notice.
4. The work of the congregational meeting normally held in September--including the election of president, treasurer, council members at-large, and other positions specified in the constitution--will be carried out via email and regular mail. Watch for further information.
5. All of the proceeds from the sale of the Fox Trust East Wenatchee property have been deposited in the GLC bank account, and our tithe of \$17,100 will be given to the entities specified by our tithing policy for gifts to the congregation.

SOCIAL CONCERNS TEAM

God's Work, Our Hands/Little Essential Pantry:

God's Work Our Hands Day is Sunday, September 13. This year's project will be the GLC Essential Pantry. The Pantry will be under the breezeway by the front entrance of the church. Details will be coming soon on how you can donate to the pantry. Some of the items we will be looking for are food, socks, hats, household, and hygiene items. There will be no barriers - this Pantry will be open and accessible to all. The Social Concerns Team COVID19 Block Grant will help initially to stock the Pantry and long-term donations will be greatly appreciated.

This little free pantry will serve many in need in our neighborhood and throughout the community. The Pantry will need to be filled daily and there will be a padlock on it in the evening. The GLC Essential Pantry will be done in coordination with other area churches. If you are interested in helping stock shelves, locking, and unlocking the cabinet please contact Jen Pearson-Gale at 509-393-8897 or Kay Fisher at 509-662-4763.

Food Drive Challenge:

As many of you know, the Social Concerns Team along with several members of our congregation started a food drive the first of June and will continue to September 13th, 2020 (God's Work. Our Hands Day). The purpose of the food drive is to help support the Wenatchee Valley Area Food Banks. The Social Concerns Team has committed up to \$10,000 to match what monies can be raised by the church.



Here is a breakdown of what we have raised so far. We want to thank everyone that has contributed. What a blessing to have a church community such as ours.

Serve Wenatchee Valley	\$ 2,750	Social Concerns Team Contribution	
Lighthouse Ministries	\$ 4,375	Community Action Council - Mission Ministry/Fox Trust	\$2,875
Community Action Council	\$ 3,125	Lighthouse Ministries - Mission Ministry/Fox Trust	\$4,375
Mend Leavenworth	\$ 1,500	Little Essential Pantry – COVID 19 Block Grant	\$2,000
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 1,000	Packing Friendship – Mission Ministry/Fox Trust	\$2,000
WHS Panther House	\$ 500	Families in Need – COVID 19 Block Grant	\$5,500
Holy Apostles	\$ 500	WHS Panther House	\$1,375
Congregation Subtotal	\$13,750	Social Concerns Team Subtotal	\$19,500
		Total Raised	\$33,250

Families in Need Update:

The Social Concerns Team has been working with Families in Need in our local community this year. Families that need assistance are identified by a school advocate; or members of Grace can refer a family.



Currently the Social Concerns Team is working with three families. For privacy purposes we have identified the families as Family L, Family P, and Family J. Each of these families has at least two children residing at home and attending school in the Wenatchee School District. These families are all hard-working families that have fallen on hard times.

Family P's father passed away and left the mother, grandmother, two high school students and a high school graduate working the night shift five nights a week at Stemilt. The mother and grandmother do not speak English, but the children are able to translate. The children are extremely interested in helping their mother and grandmother. Members of the Social Concerns Team have delivered Grocery Gift Cards, back to school gift cards for clothes and supplies.

The Social Concerns Team was also able to work with their landlord to have a pest management company come to their place to get rid of their bugs problems.

Continued on next page

The mother of Family L lost her fulltime job due to COVID19 and other medical issues. She has recovered and is currently working two jobs to make ends meet. The Social Concerns Team has helped with rent, groceries, clothing, home improvements and school assistance.

Family J is a single mother with two children. She works at Regency Manor and lives with her parents. She is searching for a place of her own. The Social Concerns Team has assisted Family J with food, school clothes and supplies.

Members of the Social Concerns Team have helped Family P to get on a couple of housing rental lists. If anyone is aware of an available rental for this family, please call Kay Fisher at 509-669-3220 or email threefishers@nwi.net.

If anyone at Grace knows of someone or a family in need please contact a team member or Pastor James.

TREASURER TALK:

	Jan-July 2020	Jan-July 2019		7/31/20	7/31/19*	
Total Offerings, Misc	\$229,870	\$293,721		Cash Position	\$3,647	\$45,335
Operating Expenses	(278,655)	(297,515)		Treasurer Reserve	44,500	51,968
Net Margin (Deficit)	(\$48,785)	(\$3,790)		Total	\$48,147	\$97,303

*Cash position in 2019 is reduced by \$40,000 which funded Special Projects.

Total receipts are \$229,870 through July. This is approximately (\$70,000) less than budget project. Likewise expenses at \$278,655 are (\$36,000) less than projected. Net variance is (\$34,000) comparing actual to budget. Cash position continues to fund losses. It is anticipated the SBA Payroll Protection Program loan \$72,300 will fund these losses once the loan is forgiven.

Semi-annual giving statements should be mailed out shortly. Please review and let us know if there are any inaccuracies. Thank you for your continued financial donations.

Gwen Sparks, Treasurer. 630-4239.

Tune in for Our Weekly Virtual Gatherings

(on Facebook unless otherwise indicated)

Sunday

- ◆ Worship, 9:00 a.m. (also via Zoom, contact GLC office)
- ◆ Fellowship Time via Zoom, following worship
- ◆ Jr./Sr. High School Youth group, 6:30 p.m. (via Zoom, contact Beth)

Wednesday

- ◆ 10@10, 10:00 a.m.
- ◆ Lectionary Study (via Zoom, contact Pastor James), 11:00 a.m.

Thursday

- ◆ Listening Session, 12:00 p.m. (via Zoom)

Friday

- ◆ 10@10, 10:00 a.m.



2020 TEAM & COMMITTEE LEADERS

Arts:	Phil Gregg
Building & Grounds:	Open
Endowment:	Karen Zanol
Faith Enrichment:	Jody Marquardt
Fellowship:	Shirley Leslie
Intern:	Andy Sheets Melanie McQuaig
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

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*
Della Brett - *overall health, grieving the death of her sister Deda*
Walter Brooks
Patty Christensen - *thanks for healing and prayerful support*
Genevieve Crosby - *prayers for Genevieve and for her son and grandson*
Vera Curtis - *thanks for healing and recovery*
Eric DeJong - *recovery from cancer*
Marv Dunbar - *prayers for health*
Anne Erdmann
Don Evenhus - *continued prayers for health*
Chuck Graves
Anna Guthrie - *support while in Indonesia*
Shirley Houghland - *healing*
Bonnie Howeler - *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*
Carol Sunada - *prayers for health*
Beatrice Tate - *for her daughter, also grieving the death of her daughter Deda*
Wanda Rivedal - *prayers for patience and strength*
Jackie Carmichael - *for comfort and strength with a chronic health issue*
Ruthella Skagen - *peace in the midst of cancer treatment*
Thelma Allen - *prayers for Linda Luke's mom for health issues*
Tony Fisher - *for ongoing health issues*
Kay Fisher - *for recovery from surgery*
Gary Nelson - *prayers for healing*
Barbara Tilly - *prayers for healing*
Bob Curtis - *health support*
Charlene Hodgson (Shirley Leslie's sister) - *prayers for comfort as she mourns the loss of her husband, ongoing health issues*
Dale Olson (Hollie Olson's father-in-law) - *prayers for health and peace*
The Family of Barbara Fleisher
Joe Trowbridge and extended family *at the death of his nephew Matthew*
Sonya Westerman and family *at the death of her mother*
Millie Seeman - *prayers for comfort during a time of grief*

LECTIONARY READINGS

September 6
11th Sunday after
Pentecost

Ezekiel 33:7-11
Psalm 119:33-40
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

September 13
15th Sunday after
Pentecost

Genesis 50:15-21
Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

September 20
16th Sunday after
Pentecost

Jonah 3:10--4:11
Psalm 145:1-8
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

September 27
17th Sunday after
Pentecost

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Psalm 25:1-9
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom)	3 12:00 p.m. Listening Session	4 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	5
6 9:00 a.m. Worship	7	8	9 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom)	10 12:00 p.m. Listening Session	11 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	12 4:00 p.m. Alumni Youth Zoom Hangout
13 9:00 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Zoom Hangout	14	15 7:00 p.m. Miriam Circle	16 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom)	17 12:00 p.m. Listening Session	18 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	19
20 9:00 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Zoom Hangout	21	22 Newsletter Deadline 6:00 p.m. Council	23 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom) 6:30 p.m. RIC	24 12:00 p.m. Listening Session	25 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook)	26 4:00 p.m. Alumni Youth Zoom Hangout
27 9:00 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jr./Sr. High Youth Zoom Hangout	28	29	30 10:00 a.m. 10@10 (Facebook) 11:00 a.m. Lectionary Study (Zoom)	31 12:00 p.m. Listening Session		

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555
(509) 663-2189

Return Service Requested

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

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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
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SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

As of this 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