



# THE GOOD NEWS OF GRACE

March 2025

A Newsletter for Members and Friends of  
Grace Lutheran Church  
1408 Washington Street  
Wenatchee, WA 98801-2555  
Volume 9 Issue 2



*Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. (Isaiah 55:3)*

Dear People of Grace;

You are a vibrant congregation. You sing with energy. You pray fervently. You share your concerns and joys openly. You give freely. Many of you also commit time during the week to be part of the ministries of the Church. There is so much willingness. You accept the young children who are part of our worship. You ask about the wellbeing of one another. You provide insights (and help) for the renovation project.

Current events in our nation and world have given many people in the Church much to talk about. Some have checked in with me to share their concerns. Many of you have confided in one another. Nerves are on edge. Whether we know it or not, all of us have expectations about what the Church should or should not be saying during troubling times, and what ministries we should prioritize.

Do you want to spend some time together in a listening circle? It would be an opportunity to hear what has been on the minds of your fellow people of Grace. I propose setting up a **Sunday morning listening circle (9:00 a.m.)** and a **Wednesday listening circle (12:15 p.m.)**, starting **March 9 and March 12**. Meetings will be about an hour in length. This is a “come as you are” group. The topics can be varied, and we will be practicing healthy and respectful guidelines as we listen to one another. The listening circles are not designed to be places where decisions are made, but I think that the conversation generated in these circles will influence decision-making on some level.

You are all dear children of God, belonging to Christ. Let’s come together and remember we are parts of the same living body.

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.

## Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, March 5

12:00 and 6:30 p.m.



## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, March 4

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



There is a sign up in the fellowship hall for anyone who would like to contribute to the evening. Please consider also sharing a song, poem, or perhaps other kind of entertainment. Signups include: Set up, bringing pancake batter, making pancakes, bringing fruit or other similar items, pancake toppings, meats, clean up and entertainment. It's a community effort! Hope to see you there.

## Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m., beginning March 12

Join us for our weekly Lenten Soup Suppers, each Wednesday during Lent, beginning March 12. Volunteers are needed to provide soup and bread or rolls. Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall. Meals will be served at 5:15 p.m. ***You might consider bringing a bowl from home to use for the soup suppers. We do not know yet how the kitchen will be affected by the renovation project during the season of Lent.***



## Midweek Services During Lent

Join us at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary on Wednesdays starting March 12 for an evening service organized by the confirmation class, their families and prayer partners. The theme of the series is encountering God's presence with the five senses. We hope you can join us!



Friday Night Out  
presents

# Music from Ireland

and neighboring Isles

Friday, March 14  
7:00pm

*featuring regional musicians*

Connie Celustka  
Kathryn Castrodale  
Mark Boersma

Sherry Krebs  
Kara Hunnicutt  
Ruth Anderson

Instruments include hammered dulcimer, harp, piano,  
cello, recorders, drum and guitar.

Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day at this FREE concert.  
*Donations accepted at the door.*



Grace Lutheran Church, 1408 Washington Street, Wenatchee



# Join Us for Wenatchee Sings MESSIAH

We are delighted to invite you to the Wenatchee Sings MESSIAH event, an extraordinary evening of music and community spirit. This special audience-participation concert will feature choirs, families, and choruses from Chelan County, along with four professional soloists, a piano accompanist, a string quartet, and invited guest conductors and accompanists—all performing in a Community Sing setting.

## Event Details:

- **Date:** Friday, May 9, 2025
- **Time:** 7:00 PM
- **Location:** Grace Lutheran Church, 1408 Washington Avenue, Wenatchee, WA

This event is generously underwritten by the Zacher Fund, and all proceeds will benefit a newly established arts and music foundation in honor of Barbara Tilly.

The Wenatchee Sings MESSIAH event will also be live streamed, allowing you to join us from the comfort of your home. The event will be supported by donations and gifts to the foundation, helping to nurture and support the arts in our community schools, particularly benefiting low-income families.

Adding a unique touch to the evening, two quick-sketch artists will capture the singing and playing in real time, creating a visual memory of this joyous occasion.

For more information, please contact Deacon Ruth Anderson at 509.663.2189.

We look forward to celebrating this unforgettable evening of music and community with you!

**NOTE: To ensure a seat in our limited space, reservations are required ... first come, first served. Reserve your (free) seat early. Call the Grace Lutheran office (509-663-2189), leaving your name, voice part, phone number and email address. A limited number of scores will be available on loan. Please indicate if you need to be on the list of borrowers.**

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Father Ambrose Press | Partner in the venture philanthropy organization, the 7 Arts Foundation and business development partners with publishers, recording labels and studios around the globe. Emily Hall, Foundation Fellow.



**Friday, March 21**  
**6:00-8:00 p.m.**

**Fellowship Hall**

Do you like to play board games, card games, dominoes, Bunco?

We invite you to join us for **Family Game Night** on **Friday, March 21, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a snack and your favorite game to share. **EVERYONE** is invited to an evening of fun and fellowship!



All are welcome! Please park in the lot just off of Elliott street and use the East Entrance.

# Listening Circles

How are you doing with so many changes happening at Grace and on the national and international level? If you are interested in sharing with a group of folks from the congregation, as well as offer a listening ear, you are invited to any of the listening circles, to be facilitated by Pastor James. Listening circle opportunities are Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m., and Wednesday afternoons after lectionary Bible study at 12:15 p.m., starting Sunday March 9. Depending on attendance and interest, these may develop into a regular meeting. These circles are for respectful listening to one another, not to make leadership decisions for the congregation, although we know that our conversations will help the Church have a better understanding of how the congregation is doing.

## GRACEFUL GARDEN RAISED BED RENTALS



The Graceful Garden Team will be offering the opportunity to rent a raised garden bed to the wider community this year. Last year all beds were rented by Grace Lutheran members. If you would like to rent a bed to plant for this year's growing season, please speak with Linda Sinnett (509)699-8256. The rental fee is \$15.00 for the season. Each box is 4 feet by 8 feet and has its own drip system. The non-potable water will not be available until the ditch is opened for the season in mid-April.

## SOCIAL CONCERNS TEAM



Nearly 1-in-10 people – 733 million – in our world are hungry.

As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work.

Working with and through our congregations, in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. (Source: [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org))

### You can help support ELCA World Hunger this spring with our Noisy Offering!

Please start saving your loose change for our annual World Hunger Noisy Offering collection day on Sunday, April 13. The Social Concerns Team will have Noisy Offering boxes available during Lent. Fill them up with your loose change and bring them back to church on Palm Sunday, April 13.



### Lent Giving Tree

During Lent, we will have a giving tree in the Fellowship Hall. The tree has ornaments with different animals that can be gifted to support families in need. Just choose the gift that means the most to you.

**Make your check payable to “ELCA Good Gifts” and mail it with the tag to:**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
P.O. Box 1809  
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009



# ANNA & MIRIAM CIRCLES

**Anna Circle** will meet on Tuesday, March 18, at 10:00 a.m. at Grace. If you have questions, feel free to contact [Linda Sinnet](#) or [Faye DeJong](#).

**Miriam Circle** will meet on Tuesday, March 18, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Cathy Sweeney. If you have questions, please contact the church office.

## March Worship Assistants

	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Tech</b>	<b>Communion Assistant</b>
<b>3/2</b>	Dennis and Lisa Burgett	Lisa Zanol	Dee Ann Gregg	Denise Miller		Karen Zanol
<b>3/9</b>		Joyce Owens	Joyce Owens	Rose Applegate		
<b>3/16</b>		John Hergert				
<b>3/23</b>						
<b>3/30</b>						

## 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

**March 2**  
**Transfiguration of Our Lord**

Exodus 34:29-35  
Psalm 99  
2 Cor. 3:12 - 4:2  
Luke 9:28-3a

**March 9**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16  
Romans 10:8b-13  
Luke 4:1-13

**March 16**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Gen. 15:1-12, 17-18  
Psalm 27  
Philippians 3:17-4:1  
Luke 13:31-35

**March 23**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

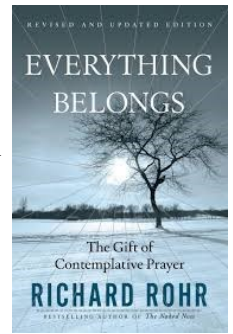
Isaiah 55:1-9  
Psalm 63:1-8  
1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
Luke 13:1-9

**March 30**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Joshua 5:9-12  
Psalm 32  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

## Thursday Book Club

Our Thursday Book Club, led by Pastor Nancy Gradwohl, meets on Thursday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. They are now reading *Everything Belongs* by Richard Rohr. A sign-up sheet is available in the Fellowship Hall. Please put a check mark behind your name if you would like Pastor Nancy to order a book for you. Books are 18.97 on Amazon.



## Morning Prayer

We invite you to Morning Prayer, meeting Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m. (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.

## PRAYERS OF GRACE

- ♦ **Mim Schwich (Jody Marquardt's mother)** - receiving end of life care.
- ♦ **Bonnie Howeler** – Declining cognition and recovering from recent falls.
- ♦ **Paul Arndt** – pulmonary fibrosis which is untreatable.
- ♦ **Patty Christensen** - receiving hospice care.
- ♦ **Erling Rivedal** – receiving hospice care.

*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.*

### 2025 TEAM & COMMITTEE LEADERS

<b>Arts:</b>	Marshall Thomas
<b>Building &amp; Grounds:</b>	Dave Coe, Tom Gausman
<b>Endowment:</b>	Karen Zanol
<b>Faith Formation:</b>	<i>Open</i>
<b>Fellowship:</b>	<i>Open</i>
<b>Graceful Garden:</b>	Linda Sinnett
<b>Pastoral Support:</b>	Julie Banken
<b>Staff Support:</b>	<i>Open</i>
<b>Social Concerns:</b>	Mike Sweeney, Bob Bartlett
<b>Stream Team:</b>	Marlena La Paz
<b>Worship:</b>	Kathy Gavin
<b>Youth &amp; Community:</b>	Sue Coe
<b>Memorial Garden:</b>	Ernie Bentsen

### 2025 CHURCH COUNCIL

<b>President:</b>	Suellen Harris
<b>Vice President:</b>	Dave Coe
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Dennis Burgett
<b>Secretary:</b>	Chad DuLac
<b>Members-at-Large:</b>	Tory Schmidt John McQuaig Paula Salter Tami Woolsey



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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

### Growing In Grace—Faith Formation for Children

We invite the children of Grace (and friends!) to Growing in Grace. Two 45-minute meeting options are offered: Wednesday at 4:30 pm, and Sunday at 9:15 am. The Wednesday class will be repeated the following Sunday morning. Music, faith practices, Bible stories, liturgical education and other activities will typically be part of the lesson. Ages 3 to 5th grade. See you there!

### Construction Update

We are seeing more progress on the renovation project! Excavators have been busy pulling up the concrete from the breezeway at the front entrance. They are also digging trenches for new footings for the roof structure. Inside, there will be electrical work done which will mean the power to the Admin wing will be off Monday March 3 and 4, and possibly March 5. The staff will have limited capacity during those days. Designers are working with the Clerks of the Works regarding flooring, countertops and fixtures for the bathrooms. The decision was made to also include the plaza between the fellowship hall and the admin wing. There had been a question about how our expenses were looking, but now the team feels confident that this should also be part of the finished product. There has been extensive planning related to the firewalls that will be necessary to meet building code requirements. We will learn more soon about how that part of the project is going to impact our access to the fellowship hall and kitchen.



## *A capella* Sunday – March 9

*A Cappella* Sunday is a day when worshipping communities across the United States commit to singing *a cappella* (unaccompanied) in their Sunday morning worship service. We tried it for the first time last year and it was well-received.

### Why?

Spending one Sunday a year to focus on our congregation singing without instrumental accompaniment has many benefits and purposes.

- **It connects us to the history of the church.** For thousands of years, *a cappella* singing was the mainstay of the church's song. By recognizing this and exploring this way of music-making, we are acknowledging and honoring the saints of the past.
- **It connects us to many Christian denominations, traditions, and regions of the world that continue to use *a cappella* music as their primary mode of music-making in corporate worship.** Those include (but are not limited to) many Mennonite denominations, the Church of Christ, many Orthodox traditions, the Church of God in Christ, and South African Methodists.
- **It offers to God something that is, for many congregations in the United States and Canada, a gift that is different from our usual music-making.** Psalm 96:1 tells us to "Sing a new song to the Lord," which can be achieved for some of us by singing *a cappella*.
- **It encourages the congregation's song by building up confidence in their own voices.** Many in our congregations believe that they can't sing, or can't sing well. Singing *a capella* presents those people with the best opportunity to hear themselves and others singing, giving them a fresh perspective on their assumptions of their own abilities and the ability of the congregation's combined voice.
- **It emphasizes the unique ability of instruments to enhance the congregation's song.** By showing the congregation that they can sing without instrumental accompaniment, instrumental accompaniment can then begin to enhance and empower the congregation's voice rather than acting primarily as a crutch.
- **It allows the instrumentalists to spend a Sunday listening carefully to the congregation to assess where their voice needs support.** Often times it is hard to listen carefully to the congregation when you are focusing on playing your instrument accurately and musically. This gives the instrumentalists permission to step away for a Sunday without feeling like they are leaving the congregation stranded.
- **Finally, singing *a cappella* is fun!** By removing our typical means of accompanying song, our minds are often challenged to come up with new and creative ways to sing together that maintains energy and vitality. It can bring out the best in not only the congregation, but in the musician's leadership. May it be so for us!

Thank  
You

I want to give so much thanks to all who have supported me with prayers, cards, and meals while I have been recuperating from the flu. It has been a long journey with many challenges. A special thanks to the wonderful friends who brought delicious meals. You are special in your ministry. I'm so thankful to be back in my condo, getting stronger and able to do more for myself. I have had wonderful help from home health services which provided a nurse, occupational therapist and physical therapist. Those services will end the last of February. I also have a care giver who comes twice a week for 2 hours. Above all, I couldn't have done it without my family, especially daughter Kris who is giving me more than I could ever recount.

Dorothy Thompson



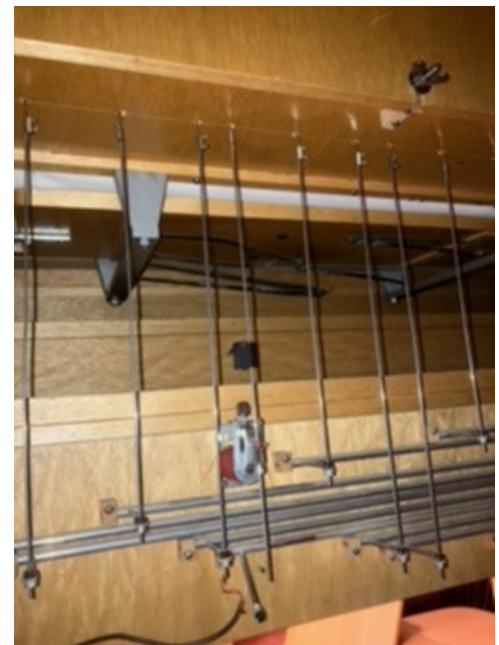
Eleven new members are received on January 26.



Marshall Thomas, Vinny Lee and Dee Ann Gregg prepare a TaG meal.



Two technicians from Bond Organ Builders, Inc. work to repair a broken solder in the pedal division.



A valve magnet was added and then wired to the key contact under the floorboard. We are thankful they found a solution to this dead note.

## COUNCIL CORNER

- The Grace Building Visioning Committee charter was extended till February 2026.
- Marshall Thomas was appointed as the new Arts Team leader.
- Grace Lutheran gifted \$1,000 from the Huggins Memorial Fund toward John Brett's final Seminary costs.



We prayed and thanked God for our beloved magnolia before Mark Woolsey ....



...cut it down.



Jan and Milt Herman look on.



The next day, fencing was erected and a portion of the roof was removed.



The timber came down....



... and some went up (a temporary wall in the Multi-purpose Room prepares workers for a fire wall installation).



We thank Rimmer and Roeter for quick construction of a ramp and walkway from the parking lot...



...and for the accessible entrance through the sacristy door.

# March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2</b> <b>9:15 a.m.</b> Growing in Grace  <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Worship  <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Recital	<b>3</b>  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Appleaies  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Recital	<b>4</b>  <b>5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</b> Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	<b>5</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b>  <b>12:00 p.m.</b> Worship  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Worship  <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Voices of Grace	<b>6</b>  <b>7:00 a.m.</b> Morning Prayer	<b>7</b>  <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Quilters  <b>12:00 p.m.</b> Outstanding Student Recital	<b>8</b>  <b>10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</b> Young Musicians Competition
<b>9</b>  <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Listening Circle  <b>9:15 a.m.</b> Growing in Grace  <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Worship	<b>10</b>  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Appleaies	<b>11</b>  <b>3:30 p.m.</b> Building & Grounds Team  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Social Concerns  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Ukulele Group	<b>12</b>  <b>11:00 a.m.</b> Lectionary Study <b>12:15 p.m.</b> Listening Circle <b>4:00 p.m.</b> Confirmation <b>4:30 p.m.</b> Growing in Grace <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Soup Supper <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Evening Worship <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Bells of Grace <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Voices of Grace	<b>13</b>  <b>7:00 a.m.</b> Morning Prayer  <b>10:00 a.m.</b> BeFrienders	<b>14</b>  <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Quilters  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Friday Night Out Concert: <i>Music from Ireland</i>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>  <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Listening Circle  <b>9:15 a.m.</b> Growing in Grace  <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Worship	<b>17</b>  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Appleaies	<b>18</b>  <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Anna Circle  <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Church Council  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Miriam Circle	<b>19</b>  <b>11:00 a.m.</b> Lectionary Study <b>12:15 p.m.</b> Listening Circle <b>4:00 p.m.</b> Confirmation <b>4:30 p.m.</b> Growing in Grace <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Soup Supper <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Evening Worship <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Bells of Grace <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Voices of Grace	<b>20</b>  <b>7:00 a.m.</b> Morning Prayer  <b>5:00 p.m.</b> Graceful Garden Team	<b>21</b>  <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Quilters  <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Game Night	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>  <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Listening Circle <b>9:15 a.m.</b> Growing in Grace <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Worship	<b>24</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Appleaies	<b>25</b>  <b>12:00</b> BBT Board  <b>5:30 p.m.</b> Drum Circle  <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Ukulele Group	<b>26</b>  <b>11:00 a.m.</b> Lectionary Study <b>12:15 p.m.</b> Listening Circle <b>4:00 p.m.</b> Confirmation <b>4:30 p.m.</b> Growing in Grace <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Soup Supper <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Evening Worship <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Bells of Grace <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Voices of Grace	<b>27</b>  <b>7:00 a.m.</b> Morning Prayer	<b>28</b>  <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Quilters	
<b>30</b>  <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Listening Circle <b>9:15 a.m.</b> Growing in Grace  <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Worship	<b>31</b>  <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Appleaies					

**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

**Jen Gale**

Office Administrator

office@glcwen.org

**Ann Martinson-Bartlett**

Office Assistant

**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