

# The Spirit

October 2020

Amazing  
Grace  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF GRAYS HARBOR



## WE ARE ONE

One of the largest living organisms on earth is known as Pando (which means “I spread” in Latin). It looks like a forest of quaking aspen trees covering just over 106 acres in Utah’s Fishlake National Forest. But it is actually one individual made up of about 47,000 genetically identical male aspen above-ground stems, and one massive root system weighing over 13 million pounds.

The apostle Paul says in Romans, “though there are many of us, we are one body in Christ, and individually we belong to each other.”

We are one and we belong to each other. We are closer than family in many ways, sharing everything in Christ! In this season of life when we have not been able to be together in person in over 6 months, it can become difficult to grasp the truth that we are one. But, it has never been about what we can understand. It has always been true because of Christ’s overcoming the power of death and separation on the cross and because that is God’s dream for hu-

manity: to know that any separation we perceive is only superficial. In reality, in the truth of what’s unseen, like the roots of Pando, we belong to each other in the deepest sense.

I know many of us are fearful of what the future will hold. We fear how the election will play out, regardless of which side we’re on. We fear what the coming months will hold as Covid-19 presses on in our world. We fear the rise of polarization and hate groups. We fear what climate change is doing to our world. All of these fears hold an element of our own feelings of helplessness. We don’t know what difference we can make in an election other than our own vote. We can’t stop a virus. We aren’t personally involved in a hate group and we certainly don’t know what we can do to stop climate change.

That feeling of helplessness can cause us to freeze and it can cause us to despair. But, as scripture tells us, “Perfect love casts out fear.” 1 John 4:18 That’s not OUR love, which is never perfect. That’s GOD’S love for us and for all people. That God’s love working through us when we are grounded in

spiritual practices and ACT in ways that love God and love our neighbor.

We are all called to resist falling into a petrified state of fear as if someday we'll wake up and everything will magically be better. **Now is our time. Now is what the church was made for, prepared for. This is what we have studied and prayed and worshipped to prepare for – to BE God's church in this time and place.** Now we are called to act, to demonstrate God's love in the reality of this world in all its beauty and its pain.

What does that action look like? It looks like love. Real love – not a feeling. **“Love is not a feeling. Love is to will the good of the other!”**<sup>1</sup> Not waiting until we feel an emotion, we act on the truth of God's love poured out on us through Jesus' life and death and resurrection – trusting that God will use our actions in ways we can't imagine. So those acts of love are everything you do for those you love: acts of caring, spending time with them, reaching out to people knowing many of them are just barely holding on and can't ask for help. But it also looks like reaching out to those people we don't like or don't understand or don't “approve” of because that is always where God calls us as disciples, to the hard places that stretch us.

We “neutralize fear with acts of love despite our feelings.” And since this love is to “will the good of

the other”<sup>1</sup> it is THEIR good that guides us, not what we might want for them. We must be courageous in showing this love, despite the possible consequences and we must be courageous in **receiving the love of others** since giving also means giving others the opportunity to give to us.

Whatever we are feeling, whatever our experience, the answer, the action we are always called to is LOVE because we are one! Because we are all one!

As the weeks and months stretch out in front of us and the uncertainty of our gathering together again weighs upon us, cling to the truth that we are ONE in Christ. As a way to make that reality come to life for each of us we join together in all the ways we can, as often as we can. We worship together on facebook live every Sunday morning at 10. We PRAY for each other, bringing one another's joys and sorrows before our God. We deepen or begin spiritual practices that keep us grounded in the reality that despite our circumstances in this moment, God's love is working in us and in the world to bring God's dream of love for humanity to reality. We encourage each other to acts of love, especially for those we see as ‘other’ or ‘outsider’.

You are loved!  
Pastor Val

<sup>1</sup> Dr. David Brooks speaking at the Healing Collective Trauma Summit online 9/27/2020



Dear Friends in Christ,

I often wait until my November newsletter to urge people to get out and vote in the coming election. However, this year I am urging you to not wait until November. Rather, first **make sure you are registered to vote, then vote as soon as you receive your mail-in ballot in the mail, and finally, talk to your family members and friends and badger them until they also vote .**

We are at a pivotal time in the history of our nation. While we are probably not all in agreement about what direction we should take, I am sure that we do agree that we are faced with a crucial decision about who our leaders will be. Therefore, it is essential that we all vote. I am grateful that in Washington

## THE OFFICE OF BEING A CITIZEN

State we have a time-tested vote-by-mail system. Yet, it is still very prudent to vote as early as we can so that our vote will be counted, considering that our postal system is inflicted with slow-downs.

**Voting is not only a patriotic duty, it is a Christian responsibility and, in fact, a very Lutheran thing to do.** These days I have found myself thinking again about Martin Luther's perspective on government and being a citizen. It's important to notice that Luther's views about being a citizen spring out of his then-revolutionary affirmation of “the priesthood of all believers”. In European society in Luther's day, people were viewed as having lives of meaning and worth only if they were “close” to God because of their religious work (nuns, priests and

popes) or because they had high social ranking and power (princes, bankers and emperors.) **In his reading of St. Paul and the Gospels, Luther re-discovered that we are all equally valued and cherished by God, not because of what we do or who we are socially, but because God unconditionally loves and prizes each one of us.** Luther then went on to say that, just as we are all equally loved by God, so we are also given lives of equal meaning and purpose. **From the first moment of our baptism, we all become priests, called and empowered to serve and care for others as God has cared for us.**

The exact form of our priesthood depends on the context of our lives and what we are specifically called to do, our vocation. Luther used the term “office” to describe the different vocations we take on. We might use the term “role”. We live out our priestly faith in the variety of offices and roles we play in our lives: parent, computer programmer, farmer, nurse, pastor. And, yes, the “office” of both citizen and elected leader are among the roles that Luther identifies as part of God’s royal priesthood.

Luther was still very much shaped by the sixteenth century society around him that was just emerging from feudalism. Therefore, he did not leap immediately into full-scale democracy. However, the rights and duties that he proposes for common people and their government leaders are quite stunning. As cities in Germany became “Lutheran”, they welcomed advice from Luther about how to re-form their government structures so that they would better reflect God’s equal, life-changing love. In response, for the first time in Europe’s history, Luther mobilized local governments to: (1) Establish and financially support free schools open to all boys and girls. (2) Establish a social assistance program that would provide material help to people in crisis (widows, the ill, the unemployed.) This welfare program or “community chest” would be equally administered

by a balanced leadership group of two nobles, two city council leaders, three town citizens and three peasant farmers. **Democracy was truly emerging out of Luther’s re-discovery of the priesthood of all believers!** (\*See the two books listed at the end of this letter that explain Luther’s teaching about government more fully.)

Reading Luther has encouraged me to see again how the office of being a citizen is a holy calling and part of our priesthood as God’s people. In the same way that parents care for children, **God is working through us as citizens to care for our nation and the world and to bring safety, adequate food, fair wages, education, healthcare, and justice to all people, regardless of color or language. That is God’s vision and will for us.**

So, Luther would say to us, VOTE! Tell everybody you know to vote! Then after you vote, get involved in local projects that improve your community. Finally, after the elections take place, we will also have an important ministry of healing and reconciliation to do. So much anger, bitterness and violence has been unleashed during the past four years. Therefore, our ministry as citizens must include bringing people together and rebuilding a sense of community, even as we make complicated decisions as a nation.

May God bless and guide us as we enter a new four-year chapter in our journey together as a nation.

In Christ,

The Rev. Bishop Jaech



\*Here are two books worth reading: Carter Lindberg and Paul Wee, editors, *The Forgotten Luther: Reclaiming the Social-Economic Dimension of the Reformation* (Lutheran University Press); Samuel Torvend, *Luther and the Hungry Poor: Gathered Fragment*, (Fortress Press).

## **WE ARE ENTRUSTED WITH THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER**

**Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,**  
you surround us with your compassion and your love.  
For that: **we give thanks!**

Your peace is as close to us as our own folded hands  
and bowed head . For that: **we give thanks!**

You have sustained your people through war, and

hunger, disease and despair. For that: **we give thanks!**

We plead for your intervention in our world today. Bring hope and healing to places ravaged by covid-19. Sustain those who wait and watch and weep: medical personnel, those who are dying, those who are entrusted with making decisions that affect the lives of so many: teachers, school administrators, those who govern, law enforcement officers.

Bring hope through your people's renewed commitment to living and serving as you have called us to by seeing those that are overlooked, serving those who have been forgotten, loving those who are despised.

Bring healing and comfort to those closest to us who are in need: Abby, Duke Hoiland, and his family Carl & June Bender, Professor Fetheim, Madonna Posey, Arlene Torgerson, Jean & Ray Hodge, Cathy Kallio, Hank Bilderback, Betty Schlaht, Lynn, Cindy & Harley, Isaac & his mother, Annie, Jeff & Bob, Nancy, Courtney, Adrienne, Bud, Andrea Barkstrom, Holly Henderson, Carter, Susie Kallen-

dar, Ginny Clark, Philip, Matthew Green and his family, David Shaw, Don Rabung, Whitney Moran, David Hanson and for friends and family mourning the death of Athena. May she rest in peace and rise in glory, and for those mourning the death of Lynn Paulsen. May she rest in peace and rise in glory and for those mourning the death of Grace Helleson. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

You hold them and love them even more than we do. Your healing has restored so many that we have prayed for. For that: **we give thanks!**

When we are tempted to despair, to blame, to lash out in anger, remind us of your forgiveness and compassion poured out for us in the death and resurrection of Jesus our brother. Still our tongues. Calm our spirits.

When we lose heart and slip into despair Your Spirit intercedes with us with sighs too deep for words.

For that: **we give thanks!**

For all these things and for those people and situations that need healing and hope that only you know we pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### BIRTHDAYS:

Eileen Schermer, October 3

Keith Lile, October 4

Doug Schermer, October 9

Michelle Weiberg, October 12

Dee Erickson, October 15

Philip Stegemoeller, October 20

John Tieder, October 26

Arlene Torgerson, October 30

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Walt & Linda Ebel, October 10

Bret & Theresa Kaufman, October 21



**Everyone** who continues to donate to the food bank.

**Kristine Finazzo & Judi Hubbard** for doing the deposit each week.

**Kristine Finazzo & Judi Hubbard** for delivering

some of the September newsletters.

**Union Gospel Mission** for those of you who provide meals and for adjusting to any changes they may have



in helping people stay healthy.

**Darci Jewitt** for cleaning up the garbage that was in the church parking lot.

**Jim Weiberg** for mowing the lawn at Amazing Grace.

**Judi Hubbard** for great janitorial work

**Everyone** who shared fresh produce.

**Mike Barkstrom** for coordinating the work on the roof that will keep our parish hall in good shape for years to come!

## THANKS WE'VE RECEIVED

- **Union Gospel Mission** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$99.41
- **Family Promise** thanks Amazing Grace for a donation of \$ 61.37 in August & \$48.92 in September
- Thank you to the quilting group for making this beautiful quilt which I wrapped my mother in for the long cold Minnesota winter. She loves it! She feels wrapped in God's love.

Diane Hanson.



Diane Hanson  
with her mom  
Jean Hanson

## SERVING AT AMAZING GRACE

### UNION GOSPEL MISSION

October 6

Mary Ellen Salmon, Leader

Elaine Lokken, Marge Kelling, Carmon Shaw, Sandra Windell, Amy Ostwald, Joni Hildreth

Substitutes: Hiedi Seelke, Carmon Shaw 360-532-2940

Kitchen manager, Doug, would like to



have food there at **3pm** if possible.

When you deliver, drive into the back alley, then call the Union Gospel office at 360-533-1064 and they will come out to the back alley to carry the food in for you.



### LIVING STONES PRISON MINISTRY ANNUAL RAFFLE

Thank you for supporting the Living Stones prison ministry through your prayers, visits, ingathering of items, and financial gifts. We are excited to announce our 2020 raffle.

There will be not one but four prizes: **The grand prize is \$2,020 cash** and the second is a \$202 cash prize. The third and fourth prizes are creations from

our men-one is a quilt and the other is artwork.

Tickets will be \$5 each or 6 for \$25. To buy tickets you may send a check to the church office. We'll get the ticket stubs to you. Or contact Joe Fernandez: [joseph.m.fernandez@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.m.fernandez@gmail.com)

**Ticket sales will run through Nov. 1. The drawing will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 17.**



## CARE TEAMS

Our faithful Care Team leaders have been checking in with everyone for **6 months** now! Thank you, Care Team!  
Some of the team members would like to step down and move on to other things, so if you would be able

to make approximately 10 phone calls every other week, or so, just to check in and listen for any needs with members and friends of the congregation, please let Pastor Val know as soon as possible.



## FOOD BANK

continues to distribute food every Tuesday from 3-5 and signs up more families every week. They are in need of canned goods, especially corn (whole kernel) peas and green beans, and boxed macaroni and cheese. They need diapers size 4,5, & 6. If you leave donations in the fellowship hall, we'll get them to the Food Bank on Tuesdays.

## FOOD BANK DROP-OFF

In order to help our Food Banks, please drop off food, diapers or other items at the parish hall at Amazing Grace Tuesday or Thursday between 8-1. There's a box outside the office for your donations. In, If it's raining, Vicky can let you into the parish hall.

## FAMILY PROMISE

### UPDATE:

**FAMILY PROMISE-** Family Promise has found a family for the program. The family consists of a single father and his nine-year old son. We are so very excited to have them with us and look forward to getting things up and running again. Thank you for all of your continued support, love, and prayers. Please expect



to hear from your volunteer coordinators soon!

Charles Scamman



## GARDEN SHARE

Vicky will have a table outside the office during office hours to make sharing garden abundance easy. If

you have something to share you can leave it during there. If you want some fresh produce, come get some. Office hours: Tues., Wed., & Fri.: 8-1.



## POLSON MUSEUM ROSE GARDEN

The Polson Museum Rose Garden, in Hoquiam, is in need of volunteers! You don't need to be a rose expert as we will train you! If you are interested in

volunteering, please call Marti Debandt at 360-591-6979 or email me at [catnip50@comcast.net](mailto:catnip50@comcast.net).

**No in-person gatherings including Sunday morning worship until further notice.** We continue to be guided by guidelines from the CDC, The State of WA, The ELCA and the SSWA Synod.

## OFFICE HOURS

Church office is open Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8-1. **No one** should be in the office while Vicky is there. You can drop mail in the mail slot or drop Food Bank donations in the fellowship hall. If you need help, talk to Vicky through the door or call her: 360.532.8250.

Please let Pastor Val or a council member know of any concerns or needs that arise for you AND ways you'd like to help others. We are figuring this out together. None of us has ever been the church in a pandemic! **What we know is that we are called to love God and Jesus told us that loving our neighbors (all of them, especially the marginalized) is how God wants us to show that love! So, what does that look like here, today in Aberdeen, WA?**



## ONLINE GIVING OPTION

Thank you for your faithful giving for the mission and ministry at and through Amazing Grace! Our website now has an online giving option using your credit/debit card or bank accounts. Please visit our website: <https://www.amazinggraceaberdeem.org/giving> While you're there check out the daily devotions, the newsletter, photos and lots more information about Amazing Grace. As always, you may mail in your tithe or drop it in the mail slot at the office.



## HEALTHY COMMUNICATION IN TOUGH TIMES

Healthy communication is important in the best of times. Throw in a pandemic and political turmoil and things can get messy. In the church we are especially careful to express our love for each other and for all our neighbors by practicing healthy communication skills. Some basics that are helpful in all relationships include the following.

- Everyone speaks for themselves. Each of us needs to take responsibility for expressing our own feelings or concerns.
- When there is a concern, we go directly to the person involved. Honest, direct, loving communication is the basis of all healthy relationships.
- If the concern is not resolved after direct communication, we ask a neutral person to join us in that conversation for the sake of understanding and healing.
- We avoid triangulation. Triangulation occurs when one person does not communicate directly with another person, instead using a third person to relay communication to the second. Triangulation distorts relationships and makes clear communication difficult.
- We pray for each other trusting that God loves us all and in prayer can heal our hurts and restore relationships.

## COUNCIL MEETING CHANGES

As we continue to adapt to a changing world, your church council has found new ways to meet and continue its' work, concisely stated as: ensuring that **“the purpose of the church is fulfilled (Love God and Love Neighbor) and managing the property and finances of the congregation so that purpose #1 can be fulfilled.”**

We have found Zoom meetings to be useful but exhausting and challenging. So, we divided the work of council into two parts: Mission and Administration. The first council meeting each month, on the second Tuesday we focus on the mission of the church., hearing reports from ministry leaders and addressing mission needs. The second council meeting each month, on the fourth Tuesday focuses on administrative responsibilities, including financial, hearing reports from the treasurer and financial secretary. Each meeting is scheduled to last one hour. We do our best to stay within that hour, honoring the reality of the stress and exhaustion many of us are feeling during this time.

In addition to those changes we do as much of the work ahead of time as possible, communicating via email, submitting reports far in advance so there is time for questions to be answered before we meet.

As has always been the case, congregation members are invited to join council meetings. If you have an agenda item you want included at the meeting or if you would like to sit in on a meeting, send those requests to council president, Joelle Buckman. She can be reached at: [joelle\\_buckman@email.com](mailto:joelle_buckman@email.com) or 360.589.6111. Please submit those requests far enough in advance that she can determine at which meeting they would be most appropriate.

Zoom meetings require a link which must be kept secure to avoid being “zoom bombed.” (I know! For every

new technology there a new way to make things difficult. Zoom bombing is when unwanted people join the meeting sometimes flooding it with inappropriate or disturbing photos or video.) Joelle will provide you with that link so you can join the meeting. There will be time at the end for you to comment if you wish to do that. Council members are always available to answer questions. Their contact information is at the end of this newsletter.

**Please pray for your church leadership, including Pastor Val.** These times are challenging for all of us. The leadership of the church feels that challenge personally as well as the need to faithfully listen to God's Spirit leading the church into an unknown future.

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church  
Administrative Council Meeting Minutes  
August 25, 2020

**Vision: A welcoming place where grace happens.**

**Mission: To Experience and share God's love through worship, education, and community.**

**Values: Radical Hospitality; Passionate worship; Intentional faith development; Risk-taking mission and service; Extravagant Generosity.**

**As Church Council, we 1. Ensure that the mission of the church is fulfilled (Love God and Love Neighbor) and 2. Manage the property and finances of the congregation so that purpose #1 can be fulfilled.**

Attendance: Joelle Buckman, Mike Barkstrom, Amy Ostwald, Curtis Steinhauer, Dee Erickson, Theresa Kaufman, Phil Stegemoeller, Carrie Erwin

- I. Call to Order by President Joelle Buckman 6:03
- II. Prayer and Devotions – 5 Practices of Fruitful Congregations – Ch. 4
  - Council members will go over chapter 4 during Mission Council Meeting in September.
- III. Establish Quorum
  - Review and Approve Agenda **M/S/P**
  - Added V. for approval of minutes
- V. Review, correct and final approval of minutes from 7/14, 7/28 **M/S/P** and 8/11 **M/S/P** with one abstain
- VI. **Financial Reports**
  - A. Treasurer's Report – Theresa Kaufman
    - Theresa will amend the Budget Analysis and will have corrected numbers for next month.
    - Transactions by Account **M/S/P**
      1. Updated costs for health insurance- Pastor Val is eligible for Medicare.
  - B. Financial Secretary's Report – Phil Stegemoeller
    1. Giving Statements with stewardship letter
      - Pastor Val is going to add a stewardship letter along with the Giving Statements.
    2. New Program for financial secretary
      - Phil sent links to the council members for two proposed programs (Breeze, Servant Keeper). Council will choose the one for the financial secretary to use.
- VII. **Business items**
  - A. School District request – update?
    - No updates currently.
  - B. Funding Audio/Video updates
    - First round was funded with the Technology Grant. Grant was used to extend Wi-Fi coverage to include the Sanctuary. The next round of Audio/Video is around \$4500, and council needs to decide if they want to move forward and how it will be funded. Council has decided to table this discussion to a month from now and will also come to a decision.
  - C. Bel Aire Property
    - The offer has been withdrawn.
  - D. 4F Dinner



-4F dinner is set for October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Property Report- Mike Barkstrom

-Lock to the office church broke and required a new lock to be put in.

-Eaves on parish hall needs to be painted.

Motion to get the Eaves in parish hall painted and not to exceed \$2500 M/S/P

Task Assignments

-Theresa will get the Portico numbers for health insurance out to council members

-Council members need to look at the two links that Phil sent for the new secretary program and send any feedback to Phil and prepare to discuss.

-Joelle will leave School District request on the Agenda for future meetings.

-Joelle will send an email clarifying what the next round does for the Audio/Video situation.

-Amy will go through the stuff in the Sunday School room. It was suggested it be made into a multi-purpose room.

Adjournment and closing prayer 6:48

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

Mission Council Meeting Minutes

Sept. 8, 2020

**Vision: A welcoming place where grace happens.**

**Mission: To Experience and share God's love through worship, education, and community.**

**Values: Radical Hospitality; Passionate worship; Intentional faith development; Risk-taking mission and service; Extravagant Generosity.**

**As Church Council, we 1. Ensure that the mission of the church is fulfilled (Love God and Love Neighbor) and 2. Manage the property and finances of the congregation so that purpose #1 can be fulfilled.**

Attendance: Pastor Val, Joelle Buckman, Dee Erickson, Phil Stegemoeller, Amy Ostwald, Curtis Steinhauer, Mike Barkstrom

- I. Call to Order by Pres. Joelle Buckman 6:10
- II. Prayer and Devotions – 5 Practices of Fruitful Congregations – Chapter 4
  - Intentional Faith Development. What are we missing on people participating in Faith Development?
- III. Establish Quorum
- IV. Review and Approve Agenda
- V. **Business items** (these are generally items that are beyond any one ministry or don't fit under any ministry, special requests from the community)
  - A. Mutual Ministry Update – Joelle
    - Did not meet in August.
  - B. Synod Affordable Housing Initiative – Pastor Val/Curtis
    - Meeting scheduled for next week (3<sup>rd</sup> week in September). Council will be looking at options.
  - C. 4F Dinner – take out - Oct. 3
    - No change
- VI. **Ministry Reports**
  - A. Worship – Dee Erickson and Pastor Val
    1. Resuming in-person worship Task Force – report
      - Task Force has not met since Pastor Val was gone. Task Force will meet as soon as possible. There will be no in-person worship anytime soon.
    2. Report on audio/video updates; Tech Grant update
      - Received the grant funding. Added Wi-Fi into the sanctuary, which has worked well. The second phase is to make the Sunday worship available at the same time for in-person worship and those watching online.
  - B. Outreach – Amy Ostwald
    1. Request from William Rabung and school district – update?
      - No update at this time.



2. Porta-Potty Ministry/Family Promise - Pastor Val and Curtis  
-Family promise is accepting a new family. Porta-Potties will be removed.
  3. Chaplains dinners  
-The Chaplains dinner is happening every Sunday. Amy has been in contact with Rev. Sarah about how it has been going. There is a group (Mike, Dee, Rabungs, Carmon, Johnstones and Hildreths) from Amazing Grace that will be cooking for the Chaplain's Dinner on Sept 13th.
  4. God's Work Our Hands- Amy will come up with an event in the coming months or six weeks.
- C. PSALM report – Joelle & Pastor Val  
-No new participants from Amazing Grace. There are 5 new lay ministers at Amazing Grace from the last PSALM class.
- D. Youth & Family – Curtis Steinhauer
1. Sunday School  
-Pastor Val has identified a curriculum. A survey will be sent out to the families with kids.
  2. Confirmation – Pastor Val  
-The class will start again in October. One person is being confirmed during the last Sunday service in October. Confirmation students have been working on children's sermons for this coming Sunday and a later Sunday.
  3. Adult group study –Dear Church Thurs. 6pm  
-Regrouping in October.
  4. Morning Prayer – Thurs 10am  
-Cancelled.
- E. Fellowship – Carrie Erwin  
-Will need to look at the care teams. More to follow in the next few weeks.
- F. Property – Mike Barkstrom  
-On Monday and Tuesday, Mike had a contractor working on the Parish Hall. They have been doing pressure washing, scraping, and painting of the eaves, windows, and the chimney. There is a firm bid of \$750.
- Roof- Mike spoke with Mike Spencer from Lupo Construction and the roof should be done during the first two weeks of September.
- G. Stewardship - Discerning and funding mission and ministry – 4F Dinner funds  
- Stewardship issue that relates to mission and faith. How to tie in what we have learned from the Holy Currencies and the 5 Practices books and how that can help us discern how we use our money.  
-Mike Barkstrom stated that the sole purpose of the 4F group is to raise money for the care and maintenance and improvement of this facility. Will discuss 4F funds further later.
- VII. Pastor's Report – no update
- VIII. Task Assignments  
-Joelle will do some research on where the funds from the Bel Aire property will go and will speak with Gene Schermer and Mike O'Connor.  
-Pastor Val will get in contact with Keith about the audio/video updates. Any specific questions, pass on to pastor Val  
-Amy will plan an event for the God's Work Our Hands  
-Joelle will investigate what the synod is doing with the Dear Church book  
-Mike will get in contact with Mike Spencer from Lupo Construction about the roof.  
-Council had no retreat this year. Look into a 1 ½ zoom meeting to further discuss: Stewardship - Discerning and funding mission and ministry
- IX. Adjournment and closing prayer 7:23

## **Upcoming events:**

**4F Dinner Oct. 3rd**

**Food Bank Thanksgiving Baskets– November 19**

# AUGUST BALANCES OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS

Name	Date	Total
Checking		\$ 16,620.46
-PSALM		\$ 100.00
-Caring Cupboard		\$ 433.51
-Pastor's Sabbatical Reserve		\$ 2,620.00
-Music		\$ (13.54)
-Bells		\$ 465.95
-Friends in Need		\$ 357.76
-Reformation Fund		\$ 1,071.20
-Outreach Funds		\$ 500.00
-Altar Restore		\$ 386.83
-Altar Guild		\$ 367.00
-Noisy Offering		\$ -
-Family Promise Maintenance Holding		\$ 1,900.00
Technology Fund		\$ 750
-Grace Fund		\$ 340
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 28,899.17</b>
Fundraising Checking		\$ -
Maintenance Checking		\$ 48,790.27
-Roof		\$ -
Youth Checking		\$ 295.75
Memorial Savings		\$ 2,306.36
Mikkel Thompson Savings		\$ 1,907.82





President	Joelle Buckman	(360) 589-6111	Joelle_buckman@email.com
Treasurer	Theresa Kaufman	(360) 537-1190	Theresamarie4739.3@gmail.com
Financial Secretary	Phil Stegemoeller	(360) 580-9310	phil@willisent.com
Youth & Family	Curtis Steinhauer	(360) 580-2301	turtis21@gmail.com
Outreach	Amy Ostwald	(360)-482-2306	Ostwald@olynet.com
Worship	Dee Erickson	(360) 533-7948	deekaye1@comcast.net
Fellowship	Carrie Erwin	360-500-3767	mcerwin@comcast.net
Property	Mike Barkstrom	(360)532-3319	mkbarks1@gmail.com
Endowment	Darrell Lokken	(360) 532-1615	delokken@comcast.net
Pastor	Val Metropoulos	(360) 580-8977	vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu
Church Secretary	Vicky Kolb	(360) 532-8250	amazing111@comcast.net

## BUILDING REPAIRS/MAINTANCE

Please notify Mike Barkstrom or send a message to the church office if there are any repairs needed at the church. Sometimes members or visitors notice things that need to be fixed that the committee is not aware of. Your input is helpful in these matters.

Mike Barkstrom: mkbarks1@gmail.com - (360) 589-1393

### Ministers: The People of Amazing Grace

111 E. 4th Street, (360) 532-8250

[amazinggraceaberdeen.org](http://amazinggraceaberdeen.org)

[amazing111@comcast.net](mailto:amazing111@comcast.net)

Pastor Val Metropoulos-(360) 580-8977

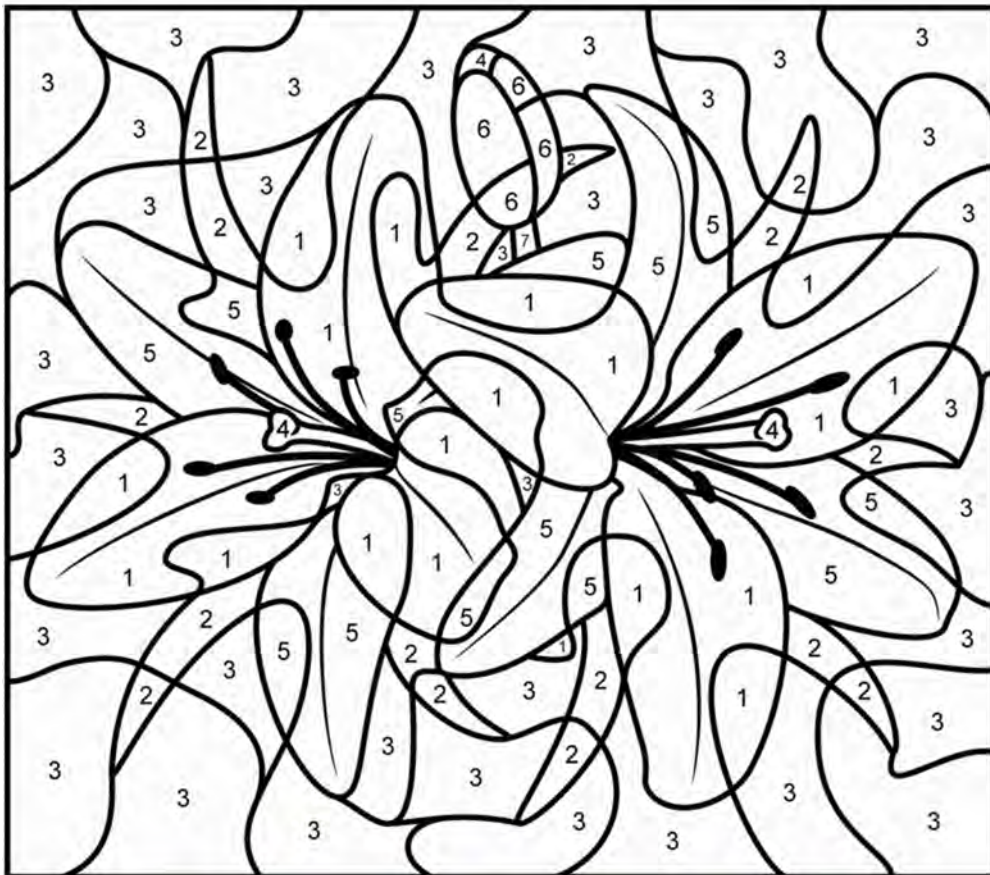
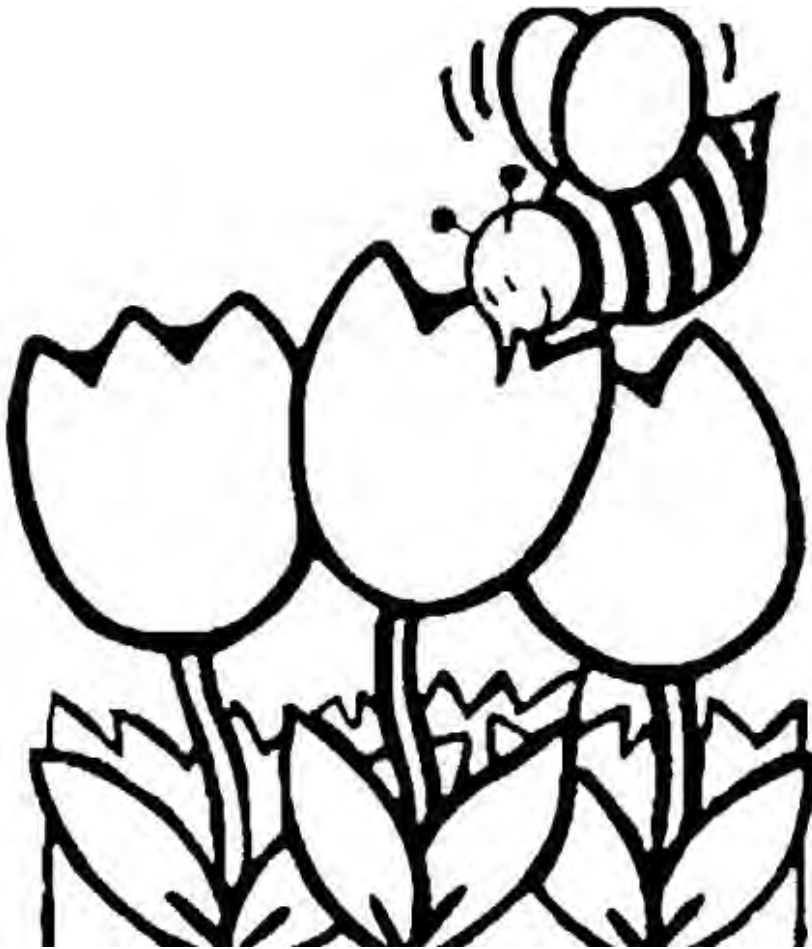
[vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu](mailto:vmetropoulos001@luthersem.edu)

**Office Administrator:** Vicky Kolb

**Liturgists:** Hank Bilderback, Keith Lile, Laura Carle,  
Charles Scamman, Curtis Steinhauer, Diane Hanson

**Musicians:** Kristine Burns, Heidi Seelke







**Please join us for worship  
Sundays at 10am on our Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/Amazing-Grace-Lutheran-Church-114570725233786/>**

**Or anytime at: [amazinggraceaberdeen.org](http://amazinggraceaberdeen.org)  
*AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
of Grays Harbor***



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

**VISION**

A welcoming place where grace happens!

**MISSION**

To experience and share God's love through worship,  
education and community

**VALUES**

Radical Hospitality  
Passionate worship  
Intentional faith development  
Risk-taking mission and service  
Extravagant generosity

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church of  
Grays Harbor

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE