#### GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage **PAID** Blaine, WA Permit No. 41

### **Worship Services**

Sunday 10:30 am Bible Class 9am Contemporary & Sunday School 4:30

#### **Upcoming:**

Charitable Planning Workshop by Thrivent—Sunday, 3/5 @ 11:45am

Cares Committee— Tue., 3/21 @ 12:30pm

March 2023



#### Sing with me...

"Here I am, Lord. Is It I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart."

Why do I spend my time, talent, and treasure on Grace House? Caring for Grace House and it's tenants is not easy. Sometimes it's frustrating and time-consuming. Continually being available to families who are struggling can be overwhelming. Why do I keep doing it?

According to the Blaine Homeless Liasson there are currently 60 children experiencing homelessness in Blaine. They are sleeping in cars, on couches, in tents, or motels. They are vulnerable and at risk for continuing to live a life of barely surviving. A thriving country begins with thriving communities which begin with thriving families. My hope and prayer is that all children would have a warm, safe bed and trustworthy adults to look after them until they are thriving adults.

I am not a case worker or counselor, but I spend time with our Grace House families as a friend. Sometimes all I can offer is a listening ear, or words of encouragement or to cry together, or to bring a gift or haul away garbage. I don't understand the ways God works but I know He's with me, helping me shine my little light in the darkness. The family that just moved after spending two years at Grace House is tremendously grateful for all the help that Grace Lutheran members gave. It makes a difference to each person, each family, to know that someone cares... that there is hope for a better future.

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the people in our community. I am thankful for Pastor Aaron and the many volunteers who tirelessly give to make Grace House possible. I am thankful for a God bigger than I can

ever comprehend who cares for us and shows us that the most important thing is love. Love your neighbors, love those who do not know what love is... 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.

"So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up."

Galatians 6:9

Gretel

# M is for March. M is for Majesty. M is for Mighty. We are joyful! God is Faithful! God is Mighty!

There's this great song that you may know, it starts like this, "My God is so great, so strong & so mighty! There's nothing my God cannot do!" That is what I'd like to talk about this month: our Great & Mighty God & what He does!

He uses His Word to talk to us! Our Sunday Morning Bible Study has been discussing His Word as we go though the book of Haggai. Our Ladies' Bible Study has been discussing this as we explore, "The Path to the Cross." I'd like to briefly talk about how God's Might shines through in both studies.

In Haggai (which is a super short book of the Bible I encourage you to read) God has charged His People to rebuild the Temple. God reminds His People three times to be strong. He reminds them that He is with them; His Spirit remains among them. He tells them, do not fear! He promises them that the glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house & that He will grant them peace! Wow, what a Mighty God we serve!

"The Path to the Cross" discusses many things, among them, being in the desert to be tested.

Continued...

Parallels are drawn between the Israelites', John the Baptist's & Jesus' time in the desert. It is fascinating. There is so much to talk about regarding that but I will simply point out a few things & encourage you to dig deeper.

The Israelites entrance into the desert was on the heals of crossing the sea on dry ground. God had parted the waters & they made it safely, talk about Might! In the desert the Israelites immediately kinda forgot that God had just done that & so began their 40 year journey in the desert. John's stint in the desert was not that long & Jesus' was even shorter. God uses our desert times to help us to F.R.O.G. & D.O.G. (Fully Rely On God & Depend On God.)

God gives us His Word to defend ourselves against the evil one. God gives us our daily bread. His Might sustains us & His ultimate Might culminated during Holy Week!

May you know God's Majesty & Might in a new way this March!

Mrs. Z

## Cares Committee & Friends Volunteer Opportunity

When: Tuesday, March 21 Time: 12:30pm to 3:00pm Where: Fellowship Hall



Please come join us to prepare cards for our April, May and June birthdays, as well as Get Well and Thinking of You cards. It's not only a time to serve others, but a great time of fellowship with one another. All are welcome. Give me a call at (360) 332-7311, to let me know if you can make it, or if you have questions.

Blessings to you and thank you, Lenore Onyon, Cares Committee Chairperson

PS: If you have any blank greeting cards you'd like to donate, please bring them by the church at your convenience.

Grace Budget Draft	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	
Summary	Jan	Jan	
Income	32,542	19,348	
Expenses	<u>19,511</u>	<u>21,184</u>	
Excess Revenue / (Shortfall)	13,031	1,836	

Servants	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26	
ACOLYTES	Hannah	Caeden	Caitlyn	Caeden	
ALTAR COMM.	Rona & Ann	Rona & Ann	Rona & Ann	Rona & Ann	
SCRIPTURE READERS	Lenore Onyon	Gwynne Fowler Briggs	April Mouw	Joan Gregory	
COMMUNION Assistants	Dennis Wildermuth		Sandie Miller		
PIANIST	Janet Mehus	Brent Johnson	Janet Mehus	Brent Johnson	
ORGANIST	Brent Johnson	Brent Johnson	Brent Johnson	Brent Johnson	
USHERS	Jim Higby Dick Johnson	Jay Pukaluk	Jon Huffman Dan Persse	Jim Higby	
FLOWERS	Emma				



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 MEN'S Bible Study 8 am
5 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship w. Com. 4:30 Contemporary Srv. & Sunday School Thrivent Wrkshop 11:45	6	7 Preschool Prep-2pm	8	9	10	11
12 <b>Daylight Savings</b> 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 4:30 Contemporary Srv. & Sunday School	13 Ladies' Bible Study 7pm	14	NewsLetter DEADLine	16	17	18 MEN'S Bible Study 8 am
19 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship w. Com. 4:30 Contemporary Srv. & Sunday School Family Dinner	20	21 Cares Committee 12:30pm	22	23	24	25
26 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 4:30 Contemporary Srv. & Sunday School	27 Ladies' Bible Study 7pm	28	29	30	31	

#### **BIRTHDAYS** 9 Karmen Terris Tamera (Holleman) Mastropoalo Justin Bleazard Sharon Neem 1 10 Mike Halldorson 28 Leona Olason Rochelle Halldorson 2 11 Shirley Pukaluk **Gracie Renskers** 29 Harold Olason 13 David Hrutfiord Owen Liebert Jeremy Hinchey Steven Hrutfiord Mickaylah Tevelde Jodi (Robbins) Beveridge 30 15 Robert Onyon Susan Allen Elizabeth Liebert 31 Rosetta Johnson 17 Caitlin Phelps-McDonald Nicki Cortez 18 Courtney Carleton 4 Kristin Nawman Susie Hollarn 5 Mardella Montgomery 19 Marsha Wahl **ANNIVERSARIES** 8 Jared Liebert 23 Max & Josie Shelton

21 Caeden Chambers

**Holly Johnson**