

AMAZING  
GRACE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

JULY/AUGUST 2018

## @The Intersection

### Synod Assembly 2018 We Are Lutheran: Restless & Resolute

By Pastor Julie Wright

As a representative of Amazing Grace, I attended the 2018 St. Paul Area Synod Assembly May 18-19 at St. Andrew's – Mahtomedi, the annual gathering of the 112 congregations and mission starts in the synod. The theme of this year's assembly was "We are Lutheran: Restless & Resolute" which focused on young adults as a vital part of the church and its future.

*Bishop Lull writes, "With the theme ... we will engage one another in honest conversations about God's work in our midst, the yearnings of new neighbors and young adults and the bold trust we are called to in this synod. All of us know something about being both restless and resolute in a godly way."*

All of the guest speakers were young adults, as well as the small group leaders who shared this about being a young adult in the Lutheran church:

- *I wish people would understand that young adults are busy BEING the church in the world.*
- *When it comes to the church, I wish young adults would understand that if we don't show up, the changes we value won't happen.*
- *Young adults work hard and want to make a difference in our communities. We don't just want to go through the motions of life; we yearn for intentional, meaningful experiences.*
- *I wish people would understand that young adults are passionate, driven and capable people who shouldn't be underestimated based on age.*

Additionally, I was surprised to learn that the Lutheran church in Tanzania is comprised by 60% of *young adults*. Tanzanian Lutherans are, as a whole, very young, vibrant, and growing in number and energy! The Lutheran Church is in good hands with these young adults, but only if we hear and then amplify their voices, encourage and equip them in leadership and in ministry. As one young adult leader said,

*“Young adults are not just the leaders of tomorrow;  
we are the leaders of today.”*

## Wednesday Evening Outdoor Summer Worship Schedule!

Summer is in full swing and along with that many members are out of town on weekends. To make sure we all have opportunity to come together with our faith community, we are offering 30-minute Wednesday evening services around the campfire with s'mores and social time after the service.



Over 80% of the recent survey responses indicated our congregation would definitely, most likely, or will try to attend our Wednesday night outdoor services. Mark your summer calendar for the second and fourth Wednesdays in July and August: July 11 & 25; August 8 & 22.

See you at 6:30 p.m. around the campfire!

## July Worship

Sunday	Lessons	Worship Services
July 1	Lamentations 3:22-26 Psalm 30 Mark 5:21-43	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
July 8 Beatitudes Series	Psalm 18:1-6, 16-19 Matthew 5:3 This Blessed Darkness	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
July 15	Psalm 30 Matthew 5:4 Blessed Mourning	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
July 22	Psalm 37: 1-11 Matthew 5:5 The Blessed Meek	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
July 29	Psalm 42 Matthew 5:6 Blessed Hunger, Blessed Thirst	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion

## What is a “Pray-Ground?”

Jesus said, *“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”* Mark 10:13-14

Our children are an integral part of our church family. Jesus recognized these little ones and was clear about their role in God’s kingdom. We also recognize our little ones and know that it is important to include them in worship and learning about Jesus.

*“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”*  
Proverbs 22:6

We pride ourselves on having an open place to worship and on being a “kid friendly” parish. However, at times, children may have other plans and not cooperate and sit still through the service. Our nursery ministry team provides a caring, welcoming, and safe place for the youngest of God’s children to be during worship, when needed. Beginning on Sunday, July 1, we will try out a new approach for including our children in the worship experience.

When you come to worship on Sunday, July 1, you will see a “Pray-Ground” set up in the middle of the left side wall. A “Pray-Ground” is an area for children to play, near parents, inside the sanctuary. The children can be included in the service and at the same time remain engaged in activity to keep them occupied. Grace Lutheran Church in Apple Valley set up a “Pray-Ground” three years ago and has found it successful. For more information and answers to frequently asked questions about Grace Lutheran’s “Pray-Ground”, go to <https://graceofav.org/prayground/>

We will be trying out the “Pray-Ground” during the summer and welcome your feedback and ideas to make it successful. If you have questions or comments, please connect with me, Louise Lentz (651) 452-4454 or Laura Ingalsbe (612) 770-5111.

August Worship		
Sunday	Lessons	Worship Services
August 5 Beatitudes Series	Psalm 23 Matthew 5:7 This Blessed Mercy	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
August 12	Psalm 24 Matthew 5:8, 12:43-45 Blessed Hearts	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
August 19	Psalm 34:1-14 Matthew 5:9 Blessed Peacemaker (and Peaceful Troublemakers)	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
August 26	Psalm 34:1-14 Matthew 5:9 Blessed Persecution	9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion

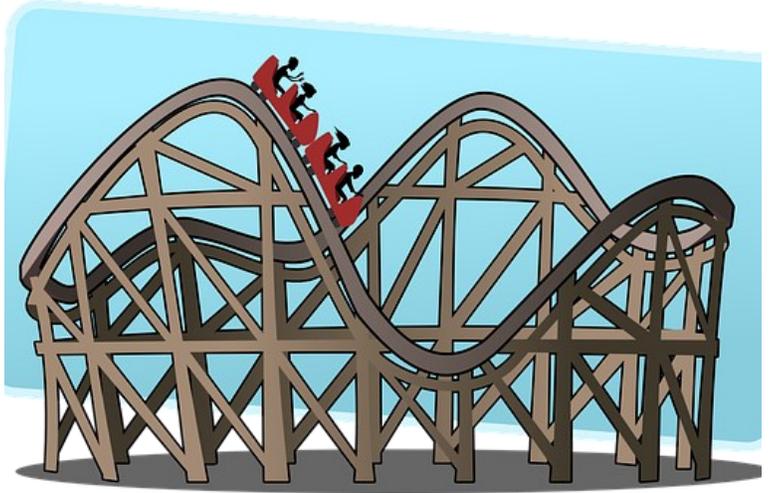
# From the President

## Life can be a rollercoaster!

*"Do not be afraid, I am with you! I am your God, let nothing terrify you! I will make you strong and help you; I will protect you and save you."*  
Isaiah 41:10

As I write this article after I tucked my boys into bed, I am reflecting on the anticipation of summer, trying to not have such a hectic schedule this summer and rollercoasters. Why rollercoasters? My boys just got back from the youth trip to Valleyfair today. They had a great time. It is interesting as yesterday one was

worried about the other as it would be his first time to Valleyfair and he was worried that he wouldn't have a good time. The other was worried about going on rides as he was not one that likes big scary rides and didn't know what to expect as it was his first time going there. I, of course was a little worried too, as I hate rides and as a mom naturally worry about my kids when I am not with them. What a difference a day makes! The worry was gone and filled with excitement about what they experienced today. It was hard to get them to settle down to go to sleep, a little bit like a roller coaster...



Can't life be like a roller coaster sometimes? We worry about the things that could happen. Sometimes that worry can get in the way of even experiencing new and exciting things, because we are riddled with fear of the unknown. If we are lucky enough to not let fear take over and take on new experiences, we may find that it can bring us joy and excitement we have never experienced before! Emotions can go up, down and round and round! When I get into the mode of worrying more than enjoying, I remember to pray and put it in God's hands. I always feel better and there have been times that I would of missed out on some amazing experiences, if I would of let fear stop me. This verse from Isaiah 41:10 is a good reminder on how blessed and loved we are from God. He wants us to trust in him and experience the thrill of the ride! So get out there this summer and have some fun, try something new that might scare you a bit, but you have always wanted to do and be safe.

Peace and Blessings,  
Jennifer Rutschke, Council President

## Attention Theater Lovers

The games afoot in this summer's mystery at Park Square Theatre. Reserve one of 28 seats for the Saturday, Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m. performance of *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* by Ken Ludwig. This is a fast paced comedy about everyone's favorite detective solving his most notorious case. You will find the evening anything but elementary! **The deadline to sign-up is Sunday, July 8.** Tickets are \$30. Questions? Contact Barb Malamen 651-454-1858

# From the Children and Youth Minister

By Tim Marburger

You've heard me talk about our Joint Ministry Team that has been working together this past year to coordinate our youth activities between several churches. We are now expanding this to include quarterly elementary age events. Luther Memorial and Amazing Grace will start this joint effort in September.

Beginning on September 16, we will invite all families with children in grades 1 – 6 to join us for a bite and an overview of what we're hoping to do in 2018 – 2019 for this age group. This initial meeting will be held at Amazing Grace. Look for a sign-up later this summer. Please add these to your calendar and don't miss out.

## Some of the activities we are planning:

October 21, 2018 – Grades 4 – 6 Miniature Golf

November 11, 2018 – Grades 1 – 3, Service Project for Neighbors at Luther Memorial

January 25 – 27, 2019 - Grades 3 – 6, Camp Onamia

February 10, 2019 - Family Snow Tubing (we did this last year!)

February 22 – 24, 2019 - Grades 6 – 9, Camp Onamia

March 16, 2019 - Grades 1 – 3, Movies

June 9, 2019 - Family picnic, 12 – 2:30 p.m.

Group of 4 – 6 graders at Valleyfair on National Lutheran Day!



## ELCA YOUTH GATHERING REPORT

We have scheduled a stockholders' dinner and EVERYONE at AGLC is invited! We will have lunch at Luther Memorial on Sunday, September 23, at 12p.m. (noon). More details to come, but please add this event to your calendar.

### Upcoming Youth Events

**July 13 – 15** – SEEDS at Camp Wapo

**July 15 – 20** – Youth Week at Camp Wapo

**July 30 – August 2** – Summer Servants (cost \$50)

**September 16, 12 – 1:30 p.m.:** Grades 1 – 6  
Family meeting @AGLC

**September 23, 12 – 2 p.m.:** Stockholder's lunch at Luther Memorial. Come have lunch and hear about the ELCA Youth Gathering.



### “Secret Service” By Pastor Tess

One man attended church so infrequently that people assumed he was a visitor. After one Sunday service, the pastor grabbed him by the hand and pulled him aside.

“Friend, you need to join the army of the Lord!” the pastor said.

The man replied, “I’m already in the army of the Lord, pastor.”

“Then why don’t I see you except at Christmas and Easter?” the pastor asked.

The man whispered in response, “I’m in the secret service.”

Having been here 2 months, working, visiting, worshipping, watching, I have been overjoyed to see that most people at Amazing Grace are NOT in that “secret service.” Instead, people in this congregation serve willingly, faithfully, dependably – and JOYFULLY!! The devotion in their service is not for recognition or accolades from others, but in loving service to the Lord.

As minister of “Congregational Care,” this is a most refreshing and hope-filled picture of the Church, of THIS church. I see lay ministers attending to the needs of those who are shut-in, or in some way unable to attend the worship and events of the church. I see friendly faces and out-stretched hands of welcome to family, friends, visitors, even strangers. I see helping hands, willing, “ready to go” feet, and loving hearts reflected in each person I meet.

Certainly, AGLC is alive, growing, visible and definitely NOT in a “secret service.”

## AGLC Family Camp-out God's LOVE is IN TENTS!

Everyone that is a part of the AGLC Family (regardless of household type) is invited to join us for a fun campout the weekend of August 10-12, Friday night to Sunday around lunchtime.

Where: we have reserved a group camp site at Baker Park Reserve in Medina, MN (about a 45 minute drive from church).

Co-hosted by the Morgan and Ingalsbe families.

If you would like to learn more, please contact:

Annie and Mark Morgan [mavel.morgan@gmail.com](mailto:mavel.morgan@gmail.com)

Adam and Laura Ingalsbe [adam.ingalsbe@gmail.com](mailto:adam.ingalsbe@gmail.com)



To learn more about Baker Park Reserve, check out their website:

<https://www.threeriversparks.org/location/baker-park-reserve>

### Attention Faithful Readers.....More Books for 2018

We gather the third Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers Cafe on Promenade in Egan for discussion of our book of the month. The upcoming schedule is listed below. We read a variety of books. Title suggestions are welcome any time. All are welcome to join in the discussion. Contact person is Barb Malamen 651-454-1858. Let's read together--Faithfully.

**July 15**      **Camino Island by John Grisham**

A gang of thieves stage a daring heist from a secure vault deep below Princeton University's Firestone Library. Can the manuscripts be recovered? Characters include thieves, a bookstore owner/rare book dealer, young novelist with writer's block, security agents and the FBI

**August 19**    **The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck**

This epic of the Depression chronicles the Dust Bowl migration of the 1930's. Refugees-The Haves and the Have Nots

**Sept 16**      **After You by JoJo Moyers**

This is the sequel to Me Before You. What happens to Louisa Clark after Will Traynor dies? When one story ends, another begins.

**Oct 21**      **Finding Hollis by Pauline Knable Williams**

After a traffic accident, a woman's dying request to one trying to help is find Hollis. This novel is set in north Minneapolis in 1944. The story weaves together the stories of 3 separate worlds first by circumstance then by understanding.

**Nov 18**      **News of the World by Paulette Jiles (book kit)**

In the aftermath of the Civil War, an aging itinerant news reader agrees to transport a young captive of the Kiowa tribe back to her family. This historical fiction novel explores the boundaries of family, responsibility, honor and trust.

**December**    **No meeting**

Share a favorite book with a friend

## St. John's Bible on Display

In 1998, Saint John's Abbey and University commissioned renowned calligrapher, Donald Jackson, to produce a hand-written, hand-illuminated Bible. The first words were written in 2000 and the Bible was completed in 2011. The Bible is 2 feet tall and 3 feet wide when open. The Gospels from this Bible will be on display at Cerenity Residence on Humboldt (formerly the Wilder campus on the West side of St. Paul), 514 Humboldt Ave., St. Paul, MN 55107 from August 3-15, 2018. Certain days and times will be designated for public viewing, which have not been determined at this time. To learn more about this unique event, visit [cerenityseniorcare.org](http://cerenityseniorcare.org) or call Stacy at 651-220-1702.

## Thank you for another wonderful Vacation Bible School!!

We couldn't have done it without all of our fantastic adult and youth volunteers. Everyday we had volunteers encouraging, teaching, safeguarding, and caring for God's children. Check out the AGLC website and Facebook page to see all we did!

Save the date for VBS 2019: June 17, 2019!



## Prayer

Hello, God, I called tonight  
To talk a little while,  
I need a friend who'll listen  
To my anxiety and trial.

You see, I can't quite make it  
Through a day just on my own.  
I need your love to guide me  
So I'll never feel alone.

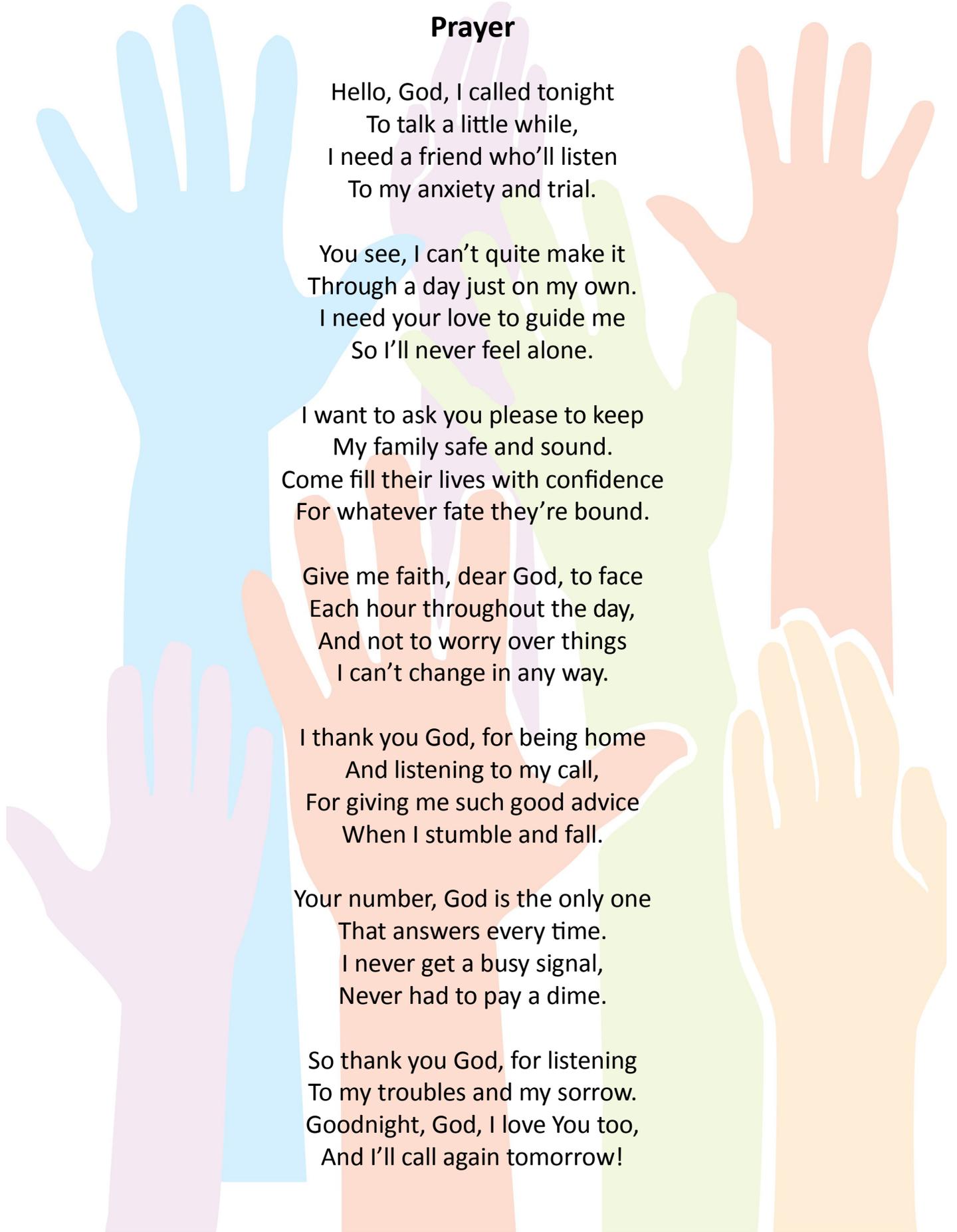
I want to ask you please to keep  
My family safe and sound.  
Come fill their lives with confidence  
For whatever fate they're bound.

Give me faith, dear God, to face  
Each hour throughout the day,  
And not to worry over things  
I can't change in any way.

I thank you God, for being home  
And listening to my call,  
For giving me such good advice  
When I stumble and fall.

Your number, God is the only one  
That answers every time.  
I never get a busy signal,  
Never had to pay a dime.

So thank you God, for listening  
To my troubles and my sorrow.  
Goodnight, God, I love You too,  
And I'll call again tomorrow!



## Who, What, Why Prayer Partners

Most Sundays during the school year we have a listing in the bulletin that says Individual Prayer Partner is available in the back of the church during Holy Communion.

What does this mean? We have some members of our church family who have volunteered to be there to offer to pray with anyone who would like to have a special prayer with anyone who has a burden, a problem, or a special joy they would like to bring to God. Sometimes another Christian friend can find words that seem beyond us, or we just need to share.

Prayer is a conversation with God. That means both talking and listening! We are looking to start listing our Prayer Partners again in September. If you would be willing to be listed one Sunday a month at either 8:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m., or if you have some questions regarding this, please give Elizabeth Anderson a call 651-455-5142. This is a wonderful way to serve and to receive much joy in our congregation!



Prayer Concerns can be called in to Mary Garfield at 612-834-2955

## PASTORAL CARE

Please call or text Pastor Julie Wright, Pastor Tess Panamarow, or call the church office when you or a loved one is in need of care:

- Sick or injured
- In the hospital
- Having surgery
- In crisis
- Having trouble with marriage, family or other relationships
- In need of prayer

Remember that due to HIPAA privacy rules, hospitals do not inform us when you are in the hospital. God is with you, but we want to be there for you too!

Church office 651-455-0093  
 Pastor Julie Wright 651-271-1427 (cell)  
 Pastor Tess Panamarow (712) 899-9747 (cell)



Servant  
MINISTRY



### Pastoral Care—Focused Outreach

Servant Ministry Coordinator: Pastor Julie Wright

- Meal Coordinator: Lynda Bartlette
- Ride Coordinator: Norm Beckman
- Funeral Support Coordinator: Barb Malamen
- Personal Prayer Coordinator for Worship: Elizabeth Anderson

### Hands and Feet Ministry—

Coordinator: Pastor Tess Panamarow



- 1—Myriam Husmann
- 1—Andrea Oleson
- 1—Joseph
- 2—Herb Restorff
- 3—Karli
- 3—James Jeyachandran
- 4—Liesl
- 5—Ellie Lindeman
- 8—Vinny
- 10—Graeme
- 11—Maddie
- 11—Javier Rhein-Medina
- 11—Kristina Wolfe
- 13—Tim Marburger
- 14—Stella
- 16—Kris Bloomel
- 16—Joan Weiden
- 17—Brad Ketterling
- 18—Nate Linscheid
- 20—Mark Gallagher
- 21—Todd Erickson
- 22—Arvie Beckman
- 22—Kathryn Klopfleisch
- 23—Kate
- 23—Olaf
- 24—Janet Aguirre
- 25—Todd Rabell-
- O'Halloran
- 25—Anne DePalma
- 25—Mike Schornak
- 26—Vonnie Kinney
- 28—Charlotte Gronseth
- 28—Clare
- 28—Sandy Johnson
- 31—Michael Rutschke



- 2—Caroline Berg
- 2—Denny Currin
- 2—Jessica Thelemann
- 3—Dan Plash
- 6—Luke
- 6—Noah
- 9—Sarah Yotter
- 10—Angela Mattson
- 12—Patty Johnson
- 14—Tony DePalma
- 14—Jim Jacobs
- 14—Olivia
- 14—Vic Johnson
- 15—Matt Oleson
- 16—Gary Sommerland
- 17—Jack
- 24—Mary Garfield
- 24—Laurel Oseth
- 25—Sabrina
- 27—Matt Lange
- 29—Jaime Lange
- 30—Karsen



- 1—Larry and Vonnie Kinney
- 1—David and Darlene Wold
- 5—Doug and Connie Nelson
- 7—Rick and Cyndi Berg
- 7—Nate and Julie Linscheid
- 9—Mike and Carol Steinmetz
- 16—Eric and Molly Olson
- 18—Michael and Jennifer Rutschke
- 19—Stan Marquardt and Jean Jantzen
- 26—Chuck and Betty Frid
- 29—Tony and Jill Redmond
- 30—Kevin and Kathy Hanson
- 31—Eric and Kris Holsen



- 1—Pastor Julie Wright and Patricia Mattern
- 3—Jeff and Angy Thelemann
- 9—Christopher and Anna Hahnfeldt
- 18—Bert and Angela Mattson
- 20—Matt and Jaime Lange
- 28—Terry and Connie Raddatz
- 28—Timothy and Lori Sanborn

*If we have missed your birthday or anniversary please contact the church office so that we can add it to the list!*



**Website:**

[www.aglcigh.org](http://www.aglcigh.org)

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Children and Youth Minister—Tim Marburger  
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Building Supervisor—Larry Kinney  
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Worship Musician: Brad Pipal

Sanctuary Choir Director—Barbara Forthun  
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King's Kids Choir Director—Barbara Forthun  
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Trish Ebensteiner: [tebensteiner@aglcigh.org](mailto:tebensteiner@aglcigh.org)

Vacation Bible School Coordinator—  
Zella Vandervort: [zvandervort@aglcigh.org](mailto:zvandervort@aglcigh.org)

**Main Office Hours:**

Tuesday—Thursday 9:00 a.m.—3:40 p.m.

**Deadlines:**

The newsletter article deadline is always on the 15th of the month. Bulletin announcements are due on Wednesdays.

AMAZING  
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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Amazing Grace Lutheran Church  
Joining God at Work in the World!  
All are welcome!!