



AMAZING GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2025



Pastor's Column

Submitted by
Lead Pastor
Tim Maybee

Dear Amazing Grace,

The annual meeting on Sunday, January 25 felt celebratory, and for good reason! It provided us with a chance to look back on a great year together and to consider what God might be doing among and through us in the year to come. Of course, we did the work of examining our financial situation and setting a budget for the year, electing new leaders and thanking those whose service has concluded, recapping the work of the Constitution team and ratifying that foundational document, but behind it all was a sense that we are privileged to participate in God's mission in this place, with this community.

The business we did together was and is good and important and I am grateful to partner with you in this work, but what really stood out to me were the stories shared of the ways we have seen God at work in this community. Some were overt stories of ministries and events that made an impact this year. Some of the stories,

however, were beneath the surface of what was explicitly said. We witnessed the story of loving service told beneath the words of our outgoing two-term Business Management chair. We heard stories of empowerment and growth beneath the words of other leaders who shared their gifts and the way they've grown in their gifts through servant-leadership in this community.

I am always delighted and encouraged when people come to see that they are capable of participating in God's work, even in ways that they had not imagined they'd be able. I cannot tell you how many gifted leaders I've seen recruited into positions that felt like a stretch of their gifts, only to come to see in themselves a person capable of learning, growth, and thoughtful leadership. It's a reminder to me that God can often see the good and the gifts in us that we are blind to.

God tends to do that—see us, and I mean really see us for who we are. There are voices that muddle our understanding of ourselves all around, telling us that we are not good enough. I mean, we're just ordinary people, right? And our mythologies of the "great man" that suggest that there are some people who are naturally big deals and others of us

Sunday Worship

9:30 a.m.

Livestream or watch
past worship
services:

[AGLC's YouTube
Channel](#)

February Events

Women's Bible Study

Wed Feb 18
9:30am

Family Game Night

Fri Feb 21
6:30pm

YogaDevotion

Mondays
6pm

Sanctuary Choir

Wednesdays
7:30pm

Newsletter Articles

Submit your newsletter
articles to Sarah Bjorklund
at sbjorklund@aglcigh.org
by 20th of each month.

who matter considerably less only go to further drive us down.

For this (counter-cultural) reason, I think it's important that church becomes a community committed to creating a safe place for people to experiment. Try, fail, succeed, learn—it's all a part of our growth as disciples. I love to tell our confirmands this as they near the conclusion of their confirmation experience. I want them to hear that this is *their* church and that the Spirit empowers them just as it empowers pastors and others in formal leadership positions. The same is true for you. As ordinary as we are, it is true for all of us.

God has always been about the business of lifting up the ordinary. In scripture we see it again and again—God choosing to work through the lowly rather than those who think they are particularly

“big deals.” God has worked through younger, unexpected siblings like Jacob and Joseph and David. God has worked through people with checkered pasts like Moses and people whose work or ethnicity made them “unclean” according to the culture of their time like Rahab and Ruth and Matthew and Zaccheus. God has worked through slaves and sinners, animals and stars, children and even teenagers. And God works through you.

I am grateful to be in this messy, experimental work of being church with you. I am thrilled to see where God leads us in our 2025 ministry year.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Tim

Annual Meeting Highlights

Minutes for the meeting will be made available in the office later this month for those who would like a copy.

At this year's annual meeting we:

- Celebrated leaders who have concluded their service and are moving on to new areas of involvement here.
- Lifted up the new members and perspective new members in our community.
- Heard of the great, generous work of our Endowment Committee.
- Learned more about the Family Emergency Fund's impact.
- Reviewed our financial health as a church.
- Examined and passed a balanced budget for 2025.
- Ratified our Constitution (following it's approval by the Saint Paul Area Synod).
- Installed new leaders in their positions.
- AND enjoyed a delicious pot luck brunch.



Thank you to everyone who made the meeting a meaningful and successful one!

President's Update: February 2025



A New Year, A New Role

Hello Amazing Grace,

For those of you who may not know me, let me introduce myself. I am Lynda Bartlette, my husband, Mark, and I recently celebrated 30 years of marriage and together we have four amazing kids who are *mostly grown now, though I still cannot believe how fast time has flown!* Outside of family, I run my own small business, and like many of you, this church has been a place of connection, faith, and growth for me over the years.

I am honored (and admittedly a little nervous!) to step into the role of church council president this year. Just last year, I was serving on the council for the first time, learning the ropes, and now I find myself in this position. It is a reminder that sometimes God calls us into roles we may not have expected—but with faith, support, and a bit of humor, we find our way. Thankfully, I am surrounded by an incredible council team and a congregation full of caring, dedicated people.

As we move into this new year together, my hope is that we continue to strengthen our church community, uplift one another, and embrace the opportunities ahead. Whether that means stepping into a new volunteer role, deepening your faith, or simply being present for someone in need, every small act of kindness and service matters.

I may not have all the answers (yet!), but I am here to listen, learn, and walk alongside you on this journey. If you ever have thoughts, ideas, or just want to chat, please do not hesitate to reach out. I am excited for what this year holds, and I look forward to growing together as a church family.

Blessings,
Lynda Bartlette

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good,

For those who are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28

Thank You!

Thank you to the family of Patricia Morgan (Nancy Pollock's sister) who gave a gift to the AGLC Family Emergency Fund in Patricia's memory. The Family Emergency Fund provides direct, immediate assistance to community members in need.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

When: Friday,
February 21st
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Where: AGLC



We will have snacks, drinks, and prizes! Please bring your favorite game to play. We'll bring BINGO.

Any questions, reach out to Todd or Linda Erickson.

Neighbor's Inc. Food Drive

It's time for our annual Neighbor's Food Drive. This year's theme is Noah's Ark, so let's have some fun with that! Please consider bringing donation items two-by-two so that we can fill the ark and "flood" Neighbor's with food! Of course, monetary donations are also much appreciated. If you can't afford a donation at this time you can still help, Neighbor's is always in need of paper bags and empty egg cartons.

Thank you for your continued support of Neighbor's Inc.!



Women's Bible Study

The women's Bible study will meet Tuesday, February 18 at 9:30 a.m. in the Upper Room. We will continue our study of Faithfulness. This session is titled "Faith in the depths - Psalm 22". When trying to hold onto faith during hard times, the words of Psalm 22 show us how to confess both pain and praise. All are welcome at this gathering.

Yogadevotion

Yogadevotion continues to meet Mondays 6-7pm in the narthex at Amazing Grace through February. The next session of 8 weeks will be March 3 - April 21. The cost for this full session is \$88. Registration for the session will open in late February.

Yogadevotion is a practice of breath, prayer and movement led by a trained yoga instructor. Beginning and experienced yogis are welcome in this community. All you need are comfortable clothes and a yoga mat. Drop ins are welcome to explore this community. You can register on line for drop-in classes or for the next session at <http://www.yogadevotion.com>

ReFresh ReNew Remember: A Day for Women Connecting Saturday, Feb. 15 - 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Bethesda, Inver Grove Heights

Women of all ages from surrounding congregations and neighborhoods are welcome to this retreat to help you remember who you are: a beloved child of God! This event includes a continental breakfast and lunch, music and worship, small groups and fellowship and speaker Taunya Todd.

The cost is \$30 per person (scholarships available). Advance registration preferred, but walk-ins accepted. [Learn more.](#)

Worship and Music Update: February 2025

Recently I went to the first church that I felt was my “Church Home.” While on my way there I started thinking about how many churches I have been a member of that I felt were my Church Home. I have been a member of several churches, however, only 3 of them have felt like “Home” to me. I was able to fellowship with several of my previous church family, which some I have not seen for quite some time. I felt like it was old home week, since their pastors I met at my other previous church home! It’s wonderful to look back, but it’s also awesome to look forward. I love that our church makes me feel like it’s “Home”! Our church makes me feel comfortable, like I’m able to be myself, and yet encouraged to grow. Grow in my faith, within our community, and beyond. Pastor Tim’s sermon this morning encouraged us all to try new things without judgement, letting us know, it’s ok to make mistakes because that’s how we do grow. I thank the Lord for bringing me to Amazing Grace and making me a member of this amazing family where I can keep growing in my faith!

*The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

Lamentations 3: 22-23 (ESV)

Together we journey,
Jeannie Hall

ENGAGE Focus **Thursday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m.** **Online**

In 2023, 569 people died by gun violence:
407 by suicide
147 by homicide
8 by accident and police
8 undetermined

It is proven that rightly-focused legislation for gun violence prevention (GVP) saves lives. Join this online Zoom conversation with knowledgeable gun violence prevention (GVP) and legislative leaders to discuss steps forward. This session is brought to you by the ENGAGE Work Group of the Saint Paul Area Synod. All ELCA synods in Minnesota are invited to participate. [Register here for the Zoom link.](#)

Questions? Email letnes.ron@gmail.com.

SafeTALK Suicide **Prevention Training** **Saturday, Feb. 8 - 9 a.m.-1 p.m.** **Bethlehem, Minneapolis**

Learn how to support someone’s desire for safety by recognizing the warning signs of suicide, identifying people who are at risk, and applying the TALK steps (Tell, Ask, Listen and KeepSafe) to connect a person to suicide first aid resources. Listed on the national best practice registry, safeTALK allows time for both practice and discussion. safeTALK is based on research that shows people experiencing thoughts of suicide often send out subtle invitations to help them stay safe. This free four-hour class is for members of the community over the age of 16 who want to learn and practice the basic best practices in suicide prevention. The class is hosted by Mental Health Connect, a collaborative of Twin Cities faith communities that work together to help destigmatize mental illness and assist all in finding the help they need. [Register here.](#)

Faithful Readers: So Many Books!

We gather at 2pm at Barnes & Noble Booksellers Cafe on Promenade in Eagan for our book discussion. We meet the fourth Sunday of the month. The books for the rest of 2025 are listed here. There is the possibility of a change in book scheduling due to book availability. All are welcome to join in the discussion. Let's all read together faithfully!

February 23 A Place for Us by Fatima Farheen Mirza a book bag selection

A story of family identity and belonging follows an Indian family beginning with the parents arrival in the US

March 23 Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid

A young black woman, babysitter for a white family, is accused of kidnapping the toddler in her charge when shopping in a grocery store. A crowd gathers and the action is filmed. The novel watches the drama unfold.

April 27 The River We Remember by William Kent Kruger

It is Memorial Day 1958 in a small town in Minnesota. The body of a wealthy resident is found and suspicion falls on a native American who has recently returned to town with a Japanese wife. Secrets abound in the town. Can the murder be solved before the town explodes.

May 18 The Maid by Nita Prose a book bag selection

An excentric maid discovers a guest dead in his bed in her hotel. She becomes a suspect. This is a Clue like mystery. The story explores what is it like to be just like everyone else and also totally different. Caring for one another is what is important

June 22 The Paris Daughter by Kristin Harmel a book bag selection

Set in Paris during WWII. A story of 2 mothers and 2 daughters, Elise becomes a German target and to protect her daughter leaves her with a good friend Juliette and her child. After the war has ended Elise finds Juliette's bookstore destroyed and that Juliette and girls have disappeared. The novel follows Elise's desperate search for her daughter.

July 27 The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams a book bag selection

Esme spends time during her childhood with her father and other lexicographers, who are collecting words for the first Oxford English Dictionary. She finds that many words relating to women and common people are being discarded. She begins collecting these words, continuing as she grows up, creating her own dictionary of lost words.

August 24 Tom Lake by Ann Patchett

In the spring of 2020 Lara's three daughters return home to the family orchard. As they pick cherries the daughters ask their mother for stories of her past. As she tells her stories her daughters examine their own lives and their relationship with their mother. They also reconsider everything they thought they knew.

September 28 A Council of Dolls by Mora Susa Power

The story of three Native American women from three different eras told in part through the stories of the dolls they carry.

October 26 The Last Russian Doll by Kristen Loesch

A story of secrets, revenge and redemption that follows three generations of Russian women from 1917 revolution to the last days of the Soviet Union.

November 26 The Marriage Portrait by Maggie O'Farrel

Historical fiction. Lucrezia de' Medici marries Alfonso II, duke of Ferra. She begins to think her life is in danger, is it? Historically, the answer is yes. The author brings Lucrezia to life.

December Share a book with a friend! No Discussion

February Worship Volunteers

*If you would like to volunteer to help with a worship service,
please contact Julie Linscheid njlinscheid@gmail.com*

	Feb 2	Feb 9	Feb 16	Feb 23
Greeters	Connie and Terry Raddatz	Gail Marek	Mary Garfield	Ras and Gloria Rasmussen
Ushers	Cyndi Berg and Julie Linscheid	Wendy and Jack Hoffman	Russ Barnhart and Jeannie Hall	Katie Klopfleisch and Todd Erickson
Readers	Annie Morgan	Scott Ferriss	Norm Beckman	Bruce Klopfleisch
Sound	Miranda Barnhart	Markus Linscheid	Bruce Klopfleisch	Nate Linscheid
Altar Care/ Acolyte	Linda Erickson	Nancy Pollock	Lisa Barnhart	Julie Linscheid
Counter	Tim Sanborn	Pete Malamen	Mary Garfield	OPEN

March Worship Volunteers

*If you would like to volunteer to help with a worship service,
please contact Julie Linscheid njlinscheid@gmail.com*

	March 2	March 9	March 16	March 23	March 30
Greeters	Nancy Pollock	Jean Jantzen	Darlene Wold	Ingrid Emerson	Janet Aguirre
Ushers	Cyndi Berg and Julie Linscheid	Wendy and Jack Hoffman	Russ Barnhart and Jeannie Hall	Bruce Klopffleisch and Todd Erickson	Cyndi Berg and Julie Linscheid
Readers	Mary Garfield	Barb Malamen	Julie Linscheid	Scott Ferriss	Mary Garfield
Sound	Miranda Barnhart	Katie Klopffleisch	Miranda Barnhart	Markus Linscheid	Pete Malamen
Altar Care/ Acolyte	Teri Santema	Linda Erickson	Lisa Barnhart	Julie Linscheid	Nancy Pollock
Counter	Mary Garfield	Pete Malamen	Mary Garfield	Tim Sanborn	Mary Garfield

February AGLC Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30am Worship 10:40am Sunday School/Story: Noah's Ark	3 6pm Yogadevotion	4 AGLC Council OFF—Monthly Reports Due 4:30pm Executive Council Mtg	5 6pm Youth Group 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	6 10am Inver Glen Worship	7	8
9 9:30am Worship 10:40am Sunday School/Story: Noah's Ark	10 6pm Yogadevotion	11 10am Stewardship and Evangelism 6:30pm New AGLC Council Meeting	12 6pm Youth Group 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
16 9:30 am Worship 10:40 am Sunday School/Story: Noah's Ark	17 President's Day 6pm Yogadevotion 6:30pm Isaiah Gathering	18 9:30am Women's Bible Study	19 6pm Youth Group 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	20 5:30pm Girl Scouts Meeting	21 6:30pm Family Game Night at AGLC	22
23 9:30 am Worship 10:40 am Sunday School/Story: Noah's Ark	24 6pm Yogadevotion	25	26 6pm Youth Group 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	27	28	



Website:

www.aglcigh.org

Church Office Hours:

*By appointment only
Phone: 651-455-0093*

Staff:

Lead Pastor—Pastor Tim Maybee
tmaybee@aglcigh.org
763-233-9576

Pastor of Congregational Care—
Pastor Tess Panamarow
TPanamarow@aglcigh.org
651-289-2261

Office Administrator—Kari Rogers
agladmin@aglcigh.org

Communications Coordinator—Sarah Bjorklund
sbjorklund@aglcigh.org

Sanctuary Choir Director—
Barbara Forthun
bforthun@aglcigh.org

Worship Musician—Sandy McAllister

AGLC President—Lynda Bartlette
bartlettefamily4@gmail.com

Deadlines:

***Newsletter article submissions are due
by the 20th of the month to Sarah
sbjorklund@aglcigh.org***

***Friday Email Announcements are due
Wednesdays by 6pm to Sarah
sbjorklund@aglcigh.org***

***Bulletin Announcements are due
Wednesdays by Noon to Kari
agladmin@aglcigh.org***

**AMAZING
GRACE**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

*Joining Together to Serve the World
Around Us*