



AMAZING GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2025



Pastor's Column

Submitted by
Lead Pastor
Tim Maybee

Dear Amazing Grace,

“All of our humanity is dependent on recognizing the humanity in others.”
Archbishop Desmond Tutu

A few nights before Christmas a small group from AGLC got together to discuss the book, *God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Times* by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Together, we learned some of Rev. Tutu's story and, based on his ideas, discussed what it looks like to cultivate hope in our lives. Among the many insights we shared were a couple of important ideas.

First, the cultivation of hope in our lives does not mean that we are meant to close our eyes and ears to the suffering in ourselves or the world around us. Looking squarely at injustice and getting involved in overcoming it tends to impel us to hope. Desmond Tutu's own life is a testament to this fact, as he was a lead voice in the anti-apartheid movement and later the truth and reconciliation commission, the aim of which was to find a way forward for all

the diverse people of South Africa.

This brings us to the second core idea in the cultivation of hope: recognition and celebration of our interdependence. The quote at the beginning of this newsletter perfectly encapsulates this idea. Behind the healing work of the truth and reconciliation commission was an honest effort to recognize the humanity of others, even those considered to be one's enemies. Practitioners of non-violent transformation will always point to the humanity of the enemy in much the same way that Jesus did when he commanded us to love our enemies and do good to those who harm us.

In an age where we are regularly encouraged to demonize those who are different from us and consider them somehow less than human, it is important to cling to this command to recognize the humanity we share with *all people*. This is not an erasure of difference, but a celebration of the uniqueness and diversity of God's creation. In this way, cultivating hope for another kind of world, another kind of community, or what Jesus called the Kingdom of God, necessarily means standing against the temptation to create hierarchies of worth around our differences.

Later this month, we will observe the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day in

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Livestream or watch
past worship
services:
[AGLC's YouTube
Channel](#)

January Events

**Saturday January 11
9:00am**
*Christmas/Advent
Decoration Clean-Up*

**Saturday January 25
7:00pm**
*Annual Wine Tasting at
the Morgan's*

**Sunday January 26
10:30am**
*Annual Congregational
Meeting*

Newsletter Articles

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

our nation. In a 1960 essay entitled, "Pilgrimage to Nonviolence," Dr. King describes his own journey to becoming a person of hope, committed to God's vision of the Kingdom or the Beloved Community as he was wont to call it. It began with a recognition of his own humanity in a world where he was told he was less than human because of the color of his skin. That is, it began with squarely looking at the injustice and suffering he experienced and witnessed. He writes, "The first time that I was seated behind a curtain in a dining car I felt as if the curtain had been dropped on my selfhood. I had also just learned that the inseparable twin of racial injustice is economic injustice. I saw how the systems of segregation ended up in the exploitation of the Negro as well as the poor whites." His own experience of suffering linked him in common humanity with others who were also suffering under the hand of oppression.

Amazing Grace, we are called to be people of hope. We can cultivate hope by engaging the world in all its

problems and consistently reminding ourselves and others of the humanity even of our enemies.

People of the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Area Synods will have opportunities to cultivate hope together this month. First, over MLK Day weekend youth from some area churches are getting together for a social justice centered lock-in. Find more information here: <https://mpls-synod.org/event/justmove-lock-in/>. Second, the following Saturday, January 25, the Saint Paul Area Synod's Advocates for Racial Equity are hosting a workshop on the practice of deep listening and racial justice. Find more information here: <https://spaselca.regfox.com/deep-listening-and-racial-justice>

In Christ,

Pastor Tim Maybee

2024 Giving Statements

Your 2024 giving statements will be emailed to you the week of January 6, 2025.

Please check to make sure you have received your giving statement, including checking your email spam and junk folders. Emailed statements will go to the email address of your family's head of household as listed in Breeze. Statements will be mailed to those without a head of household email address or those who ask for their statements to be mailed.

Please contact Craig Yotter with any questions or to request a mailed giving statement at cyotter@aglcigh.org.

AGLC Annual Wine Tasting Saturday, January 25 at 7:00p.m.

As is an Amazing Grace tradition, the night before the January congregational meeting, all are invited to attend the ANNUAL WINE TASTING!

Your hosts this year are Mark and Annie Morgan: 1573 Oakbrooke Terrace, Eagan, MN, 651-270-4091
Saturday, January 25, 7 p.m. - All are welcome!

Bring a snack or sweet treat to share if you wish (but arriving empty-handed is also great).

We will enjoy a variety of white and red wines, and we'll feature a mulled wine and an iced wine. We'll also have a selection of non-alcoholic beverages.. Feel free to bring anything that suits your preferences.

Faithful Readers

January 2025 brings new stories to explore with a new book list. The January book is Mrs Poe by Lynn Cullen. This is a novel of historical fiction. It is described in these terms. "A writer and his demons. A woman and her desires. A wife and her revenge...."

This is a book in a bag selection. See Barb Malamen for a copy of the book. The book discussion will be held Sunday, January 26 at 2pm in the cafe at Barnes & Noble Bookseller on Promenade St. in Eagan. The complete list of book selections for 2025 will be available in the February newsletter. Lets all read together faithfully!

Women's Bible Study

The women's Bible study will meet January 21 at 9:30am in the upper room at Amazing Grace.

All are welcome to join this meaningful time of conversation.

Help Needed: Decoration Clean-Up

Please mark your calendar for Saturday January 11 at 9:00a.m. That marks when we are putting away our Advent/Christmas decorations until next year. Many hands make light work. Thank you in advance for all your help!

Worship & Music Team

Notice: Annual Congregational Meeting! Sunday, January 26 at 10:30 a.m.

Mark your calendars for the AGLC annual congregational meeting on the last Sunday of January. January 26 at 10:30a.m.

Social Justice Themed Lock-In for Middle and High School Youth January 19 1p.m. to January 20 7a.m.

Mark your calendars! The JUSTmove Lock-In is back at Woodlake Lutheran on January 19th 1pm - January 20th 7am. Youth from all over the Twin Cities will come together for a justice themed Lock-In centered on being one body with many members. All 6-9th grade youth and their friends, 10-12th graders are invited to participate as leaders. Contact Pastor Tim to learn more or follow the link to register: <https://shorturl.at/OgG07>

Worship and Music Update: January 2025

Happy New Year Amazing Grace,

As many of you know I recently had an injury. It's an injury that has left me unable to drive, which of course makes me have to rely on other people. Most of us, if we've lived long enough have been in this vulnerable situation. It's so much easier for most of us, me included, to be the one who is helping others. It's hard when we are on the other end. My sister reminded me of how good I felt when I helped others. She asked me to please let her feel good in helping me. I am doing my best to remember that, and to remember to have patience with myself and others.

We are still looking for a couple more people that would be willing to work with streaming our worship services. Adam will be doing the streaming until the end of the year. Training date TBD. We will put the information in the Friday updates. If you are interested, please let Pastor Tim know. Thank you for your consideration.

January 11, 2025! Mark your calendar, if you are able to help put away all of the Advent/Christmas decorations, it's much appreciated! Many hands make light work.

Thanks for all that you do to make Amazing Grace an AWESOME FAMILY!

"He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Isaiah 40:29-31

Together we journey,
Jeannie Hall

Yogadevotion

Registration is open for the winter session of Yogadevotion. The dates are January 6, 2025 to February 24, 2025. This is an 8 week session at a cost of \$88 for the full session. Individual class registration is also available. The class meets Monday evenings, 6-7pm in the narthex at Amazing Grace.

Yogadevotion is a practice of breath, prayer and movement led by a trained yoga instructor. Beginning and experienced yogi are welcome in this community. All you need to participate are comfortable clothing and a yoga mat. Consider adding this practice to your New Year's resolutions for 2025.

Online registration at <http://www.yogadevotion.com>

Questions? Barb Malamen bmalamen@aol.com

January Worship Volunteers

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

	January 5	January 12	January 19	January 26
Greeters	Jean Jantzen	Darlene Wold	Janet Aguirre	Ingrid Emerson
Ushers	Cyndi Berg and Julie Linscheid	Wendy and Jack Hoffman	Russ Barnhart and Bruce Klopfleisch	Katie Klopfleisch and Todd Erickson
Readers	Barb Malamen	Bruce Klopfleisch	Mary Garfield	Julie Linscheid
Sound	Katie Klopfleisch	Markus Linscheid	Jeannie Hall	Nate Linscheid
Altar Care/ Acolyte	Nancy Pollock	Julie Linscheid	Lisa Barnhart	Teri Santema
Counter	Helen Yotter	Pete Malamen	Mary Garfield	Tim Sanborn

January AGLC Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day 2025	2 10am Inver Glen Worship	3	4
5 9:30am Worship	6 6pm Yogadevotion	7 6:30pm Executive Council Meeting	8 6pm Youth Group 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	9	10	11 9am Christmas/ Advent Decoration Clean-Up
12 9:30am Worship 10:40am Sunday School/Story: The Plagues	13 6pm Yogadevotion	14 10am Stewardship and Evangelism 6:30pm AGLC Council Meeting	15 6pm Youth Group 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	16 5:30pm Girl Scouts Meeting	17	18
19 9:30 am Worship 10:40 am Sunday School/Story: The Plagues	20 Martin Luther King Day 6:30pm Isaiah Gathering	21 9:30am Women's Bible Study	22 6pm Youth Group 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	23	24	25 7pm Annual Wine Tasting at the Morgan's
26 9:30 am Worship 10:30am Annual Congregational Meeting	27	28	29 6pm Youth Group 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir	30	31	



Website:

www.aglcigh.org

Church Office Hours:

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

Staff:

Lead Pastor—Pastor Tim Maybee
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763-233-9576

Pastor of Congregational Care—
Pastor Tess Panamarow
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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—Wendy Hoffman
wendaful68@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***

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

*Joining Together to Serve the World
Around Us*