

# AMAZING GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 2026



## Pastor's Column

Submitted by  
Lead Pastor  
Tim Maybee

Dear Amazing Grace,

In April this year, we enter into the season of Easter. This is a period in the life of the faithful where God's possibilities are laid bare. Year after year, the season of Easter reminds us that, rather than merely being a historical fact that lives in our memories, the resurrection is a current reality that Christ ushers in through the Holy Spirit all throughout creation and a promise for which we await fulfillment. It is already occurring and not-yet here in full. Easter is not just a celebration of a historical event. It is a kind of birthday. It's our day of birth into NEW LIFE.

Easter is all about new life. The season is a celebration of a God who brings something forth out of nothing, possibility out of impossibility, and life out of death. Rather than being a fact to believe or a nice piece of doctrine to defend, the resurrection is more a promise to trust and a truth to live. It is an affirmation that God brings about new life where we see only death. It is an invitation not to passive acceptance

of a doctrinal fact (head-belief alone) but to passionate engagement in the new life—the new way of being set forth by Christ.

Believing in the resurrection is not a simple matter of agreeing with the veracity of events. Instead, it is a matter of living the new life for which Christ sets us free. Several years ago, I was having a conversation with a friend. At one point in the conversation, she called herself a birdwatcher. Naturally, I asked about her experiences with birdwatching. After a bit of a stuttering reply, she said that she'd purchased the equipment and watched some videos about it, but that she hadn't, herself, gone birdwatching. "So," she concluded, "maybe I'm not a birdwatcher. Maybe I'm just a fan of birdwatching, you know, as a concept." We laughed and then pretty quickly began talking about how this is so frequently the relationship we have with our faith. We may have some head knowledge and appreciate the tradition but struggle to put our faith into practice by living in the kind of compassion and love that Jesus calls us to. I know I am often a fan of Christ or Christianity, without necessarily acting Christlike or following Christ. I would rather have resurrection stay as a doctrine to believe than a truth to live and a promise to trust.

## Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Livestream or watch  
past worship  
services:

[AGLC's YouTube  
Channel](#)

## April Events

### **Maundy Thursday**

April 2  
7:00pm

### **Good Friday**

April 3  
7:00pm

### **Easter Sunday Worship**

April 5  
9:30 am  
11:00 am

## **Newsletter Articles**

Submit your newsletter  
articles to Sarah Bjorklund  
at [sbjorklund@aglcigh.org](mailto:sbjorklund@aglcigh.org)  
by the 20th of the month.

The theologian, Peter Rollins, lays this out very clearly in his book, *Insurrection: to Believe Is Human, to Doubt, Divine*. We will conclude our reflection on new life in Easter with his words:

“This new mode of living is not one in which the anxiety of death, meaninglessness, and guilt are taken away; it is one in which they are robbed of their weight and sting. In this new life, we do not escape our humanity but rather are invited to delve more deeply into it.”

[To] deny the Resurrection of Christ means nothing less than to turn away from the world, to run from our suffering, to avoid an authentic meeting with our neighbor, and to hide from ourselves. It means holding too tightly to what we have and identifying too closely with our idealized image. It means avoiding doubt, turning from our weakness, and refusing to face up to our finitude. In short, it means saying “no” to life. For most of us this means that we deny the Resurrection on a daily basis, regardless of what we confess with our lips. But then there are times when we may affirm it: times when we embrace life, face up to our pain, allow ourselves to mourn. Times when we meet our neighbor, look at ourselves without fear, take responsibility for our

actions, listen to our fears, find joy in the simplest of things, and gain pleasure through embracing the broken world. In times like these, we say “yes” to life and, in doing so, we say “yes” to Christ. For it is only when we are the site where Resurrection takes place that we truly affirm it. To believe in the Crucifixion and Resurrection means nothing less than enacting them.”

May you participate in new life. May you affirm the resurrection in your living. May we, as a church, embody our trust in the God who brings life out of death.

Peace,  
Pastor Tim

PS: There is a shorthand word that scripture uses for living our faith in the resurrection. That word is “love.” This season we will be studying “The Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus-Centered Life,” a program developed by the former Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the US.

More info to come!



We will be hosting a spring clean-up day on Saturday, April 25 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. We will have both indoor cleaning and organizing projects as well as outdoor (weather permitting) garden work planned for the day. Please bring work gloves and any other supplies or tools you think could be helpful. Light refreshments will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Cyndi Berg at [cyndi.a.berg@gmail.com](mailto:cyndi.a.berg@gmail.com). Your help is needed and appreciated.

## Upcoming Wednesday Faith Formations

4/8: Off

4/15: Intergenerational Movie Night (the Pixar film, "Elemental")

4/22: Off

4/29: Feed My Starving Children @ 7:15 PM (we have 20 spots reserved, sign up in the narthex or email Pastor Tim if you want to participate)

5/6: Middle and High School Youth Group

5/13: Middle and High School Youth Group

5/20: Intergenerational Event

5/27: Bonfire in the Backyard

# AGLC President Update: April 2026

Submitted by Annie Morgan

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for Coffee with the Council at the end of February. Your presence, your ideas, and your thoughtful conversation made the gathering fun, encouraging, and impactful for our shared ministry at Amazing Grace.

Across our three focus areas—Strengths & Assets, Worship, Activities & Action, and Welcome, Inclusion & Community Connection—you contributed 39 ideas that reflect who we are today and who we hope to become. We also invited participants to “vote” for the ideas they felt most energized about, helping highlight shared priorities across the congregation.

Here are a few themes that rose to the top:

## Deepening Belonging and Fellowship

Ideas like regular social events (including game nights) and monthly “adopt-a-restaurant” lunches received some of the strongest support. These suggestions reflect a shared desire for more ways to connect across ages and life stages.

## Strengthening Community Partnerships

Many of you expressed interest in exploring a partnership with another church in service to our neighbors. Many also shared an interest in exploring what it means to be a Reconciling in Christ church, formalizing our broad welcome statement. These ideas affirm our identity as a congregation that wants to be both rooted in and accessible to the neighborhood around us.

## Expanding Service and Justice Opportunities

There was a strong call to continue living out our passion for justice through regular, planned service activities that offer multiple ways to participate—at church, in the community, or even from home.

## Celebrating Variety in Worship

From a “camp-style” music service to increased member participation, you shared creative hopes for worship that is meaningful, engaging, and reflective of the gifts in our congregation.

## Using Our Building and Grounds as a Ministry Tool

Several of you named our building and outdoor space as a true asset—and encouraged us to explore ways to use these gifts more intentionally for fellowship, community events, and hospitality.

## What Happens Next

The Council has already begun reviewing the full set of ideas, the vote results, and the themes that emerged. These insights will serve as the foundation for our planning throughout the coming year. We’ll use your input to guide decisions, shape priorities, and identify a few focused initiatives that will help us move forward with clarity and joy. Thank you again for sharing your voice, your hopes, and your vision. We are grateful for the Holy Spirit’s movement in this community—and grateful for each of you.

## **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 the year are listed below. All are welcome to join in the discussion. Let's all read together faithfully!

### **April 26 The Women by Kristin Hannah**

Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student, Frankie hears those words, it's a revelation. It is 1965 and the world is changing. She sees a different path for her life. She joins the Army Nurse Corps and is shipped to Vietnam. She is as green as the men serving there, it is over whelming. As is her return to a changed world.

### **May 24 The Distance Between Us by Maggie O'Farrell**

At the same instant two people on opposite sides of the world who don't know one another suddenly feel they are in danger for their very lives. They each flee. The novel explores what happens next.

### **June 28 The Pretender by Jo Harkin**

The novel is inspired by a footnote to history. The true story of little known Simnel, who was a figurehead of the 1487 Yorkist rebellion and ended up working as a spy in the court of Henry VII. The Pretender is a portrait of British monarchy and life within the court with a cast of heroes and villains drawn from 15th century England.

### **July 26 Miss Morgan's Book Brigade by Janet Skeslien Charles**

In 1918 as the Great War rages, Jessie Carlson takes a leave of absence from the New York Public Library to work for the American Committee for Devastated France. Founded by millionaire Anne Morgan, this group helps to restore French communities ruined by the war. Working close to the front Jessie establishes children's libraries, turns ambulances into bookmobiles and trains the first French female librarians. Then she disappears. In 1987 Wendy Peterson stumbles across a passing reference to Jesse and becomes obsessed with discovering her fate.

### **August 23 The Cemetery of Untold Stories by Julia Alvarez**

When celebrated author, Alma Cruz inherits a small plot of land in the Dominican Republic, she turns it into a place to bury her untold stories - literally. Alma wants her characters to rest in peace, but they have other ideas and the cemetery becomes a mysterious sanctuary for their true narratives.

### **September 27 Strangers in Time by David Baldacci**

A WWII story set in London during the blitz. Two teens on their own in London during the blitz meet up with one another. Both have lost all contact with their family. They meet a "protector", who has also recently experienced the death of his wife. Together they rediscover the spirit of family they each have lost. They need to trust each other as bombs fall to survive.

### **October 25 The Stationery Shop by Marjan Kamel**

The novel opens in Tehran in 1953 with the backdrop of the American influenced Iranian Coup. A young couple in love is separated in the crush of the main square of Tehran on the eve of their marriage. Unable to find one another they go their separate ways. They are reunited 60 years later having led separate, independent lives in America. What happened that day in the square?

### **November 22 People of Means by Nancy Johnson**

Two women. Two pivotal moments. One dream for justice and equality. The first moment is 1959, the beginning of the Civil Rights movement. The second comes in 1992 with the ruling from the trial of the officers in the Rodney King beating. The novel offers a glimpse into the quest for racial equality, the pursuit of personal and communal success and the power of love and family ties.

### **December No Organized Discussion Share a Book with a Friend!**

## Music and Worship Update—April 2026

I wrote this devotion in October of 2020. Many things have changed since then. All of us at Amazing Grace, have come a long way since then. It's nice to acknowledge and ponder over the changes, some good, some hard, but so much learned. My prayer is still the same. It seems there's always someone going through challenging times. I'm so happy to have found a caring family that helps each other through the rough times and helps celebrate the good times! May we all reflect and see how far we have come together!!!

*11} For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

*12} Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.*

*13} You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:11~13 NIV*

Originally, I concentrated on Jeremiah 29:11 only. It was a comfort knowing that God has a plan for my life, even though I may not. Especially in times of trial, it was a comfort to know that God not only has a plan for me but also gives me hope and a future.

The hardest time in my life was when my previous husband of thirty-six years was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer that metastasized his brain. Three and a half short weeks later he died. We did not even know he was sick. As I wrote on his caring bridge site, I always tried to find the positives in everything happening. My focus was on God having a plan for us, not how this was all going to play out. I am not going to pretend that all this was easy, because it was truly the hardest time in my life. Focusing on God and knowing that He only wants what is best for me, helped me to get through my husbands' illness and his death. I had to move on in life without my husband. I had to find out who I was without him.

I came to Amazing Grace shortly after marrying my husband, Vern. I was looking for a Church that I would feel at "Home," A Church that gives back to its community and helps abroad. I found that at Amazing Grace! I know that together we can get through this tough time and move on to the plans that God has for our AMAZING FUTURE!!! Because God gives us hope and wants what is best for us ALWAYS.

*Prayer: My dearest Lord and Savior. Thank you so much for always being here for us, in the bad times as well as the good. Help us Lord at this difficult time that we are all going through. You know what each one of us needs, even more than we ourselves know. Help us to trust in you, that you know what is best for us and already have plans for our future.*

Together we journey,

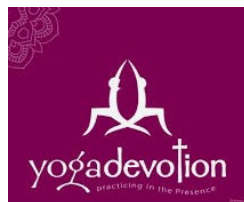
Jeannie Hall

### Yogadevotion

The current session of Yogadevotion continues thru April. Class meets on Monday evenings 6-7pm.

This is a mat-based gentle yoga practice for both new and experienced yogis. Drop in students are welcome.

Register at [Yogadevotion.com/classes](http://Yogadevotion.com/classes)



### Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, April 21 at 9:30am in the upper room

The study is found in *Gather* magazine. It is titled Gate and Shepherd: God, whose name is "I AM," moves with us - knowing, protecting and leading us. Information about subscriptions is available however you do not have to subscribe to the magazine to attend the study.

All are welcome to attend. Questions contact Barb Malamen.

## **Gerten's Spring Plant Sale: Still Time to Order by April 6!**

The online site to order Gerten's spring plants is still open! New this year, you will be able to direct the profit from your purchase to either future Tanzania Mission travel, Youth Mission travel, the Family Emergency Fund or Neighbor's Inc. Simply select which fund under the "Seller" drop down menu.

Please place your order online by Monday, April 6 (online ordering closes at 10pm) and mark your calendar to pick up your plants Wednesday, May 13. Sellers will need to pick up their orders and deliver them to their customers.

To access the site and place an order:

- Go to [www.gertensfundraising.com](http://www.gertensfundraising.com)
- Enter the Store ID code **134** into the text field and click 'Enter ID to Continue'

### **AGLC New Member Classes**

Interested in joining Amazing Grace as a member?

We will be holding our annual new members' classes immediately following worship on April 19 and May 3, with a Rite of Welcome in worship on May 17.

Established members are encouraged to attend the classes to build connections with our newer members. Contact Pastor Tim or Linda Erickson for more information.

### **Upcoming Sunday Adult Faith Formation**

4/12: MLK's Practice of Nonviolence

4/19: New Members' Class

4/26: Off

5/3: New Members' Class

5/10: Introducing "The Way of Love" (our summer study)

5/17: New Members' Sunday Fellowship and Celebration

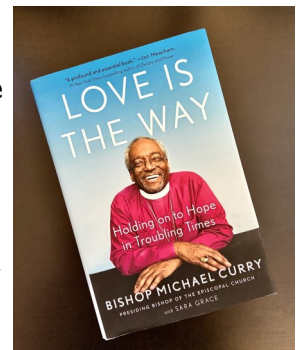
5/24: The Way of Love

5/31: The Way of Love

## **The Way of Love: Summer Discipleship Series**

This Summer, we are exploring the Way of Love, a discipleship program produced by former Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, Rev. Michael Curry. To get the ball rolling, we will hold Sunday morning discussions on the ideas in Bp. Curry's book, *Love Is the Way*, on 5/10, 5/24, and 5/31.

Reading the book is great, but not required for these discussions. Copies are available for sale. Indicate interest by signing up in the Narthex or contacting Pastor Tim. Beginning in June, we will use the resources from the Way of Love curriculum to grow in our discipleship over the summer. Look for more to come!



## April Worship Volunteers

*If you would like to volunteer to help with a worship service,  
please contact Julie Linscheid [njlinscheid@gmail.com](mailto:njlinscheid@gmail.com)*

	<b>Easter April 5 9:30a.m.</b>	<b>Easter April 5 11:00a.m.</b>	<b>April 12</b>	<b>April 19</b>	<b>April 26</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Glenn and Cathy Armstrong	Janet Aguirre	Janet Aguirre	Gail Marek	Anna Wilson
<b>Ushers</b>	Jason Teiken and Jeannie Hall		Todd Erickson and Bartholomew Wilson	Katie Klopfleisch and Russ Barnhart	Mark Bartlette and Julie Linscheid
<b>Readers</b>	Barb Malamen		Julie Linscheid	Mary Garfield	Barb Malamen
<b>Sound</b>	Pete Malamen	Bruce Klopfleisch	Jeannie Hall	Bruce Klopfleisch	Pete Malamen
<b>Altar Care/ Acolyte</b>	Julie Linscheid	Nancy Pollock	Lisa Barnhart	Teri Santema	Lynda Bartlette
<b>Counter</b>	Helen Yotter	Helen Yotter	Pete Malamen	Mary Garfield	Tim Sanborn

## May Worship Volunteers

*If you would like to volunteer to help with a worship service,  
please contact Julie Linscheid [njlinscheid@gmail.com](mailto:njlinscheid@gmail.com)*

	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
<b>Greeters</b>	Jason Teiken	Norm Beckman	Jean Jantzen	Teri Santema	Pete and Barb Malamen
<b>Ushers</b>	Rick and Cyndi Berg	Jeannie Hall and Katie Klopfleisch	Susanna Jackson and Nancy Pollock	Gail Marek and Craig Yotter	Rick and Cyndi Berg
<b>Readers</b>	Annie Morgan	Heather Tautges	Louise Lentz	Helen Yotter	Jason Teiken
<b>Sound</b>	Nate Linscheid	Markus Linscheid	Miranda Barnhart	Bruce Klopfleisch	Sophie Ball
<b>Altar Care/ Acolyte</b>	Linda Erickson	Lisa Barnhart	Jeannie Hall	Anna Wilson	Julie Linscheid
<b>Counter</b>	Helen Yotter	Pete Malamen	Mary Garfield	Tim Sanborn	Craig Yotter

# April AGLC Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:30pm Choir Practice	2 10am Inver Glen Worship 7pm Maundy Thursday Worship	3 7 pm Good Friday Worship	4
5 Easter Sunday 9:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Worship No Sunday School	6 6pm Yogadevotion	7	8 No Wed. Faith Formation 7:30pm Choir Practice	9	10	11
12 9:30am Worship 10:40am Sunday School: Walking on Water 10:40am Adult Faith Formation: MLK Practice Nonviolence	13 6pm Yogadevotion	14 10am Stewardship and Evangelism	15 Intergenerational Movie Night: Elemental 7:30pm Choir Practice	16	17	18
19 9:30am Worship 10:40am Sunday School: Walking on Water New Member Class	20 6pm Yogadevotion 6:30pm Isaiah Gathering	21 9:30am Women's Bible Study	22 No Wed. Faith Formation 7:30pm Choir Practice	23	24	25
26 9:30am Worship 10:40am Sunday School: Walking on Water	27 6pm Yogadevotion	28	29 7:15pm Feed My Starving Children 7:30pm Choir Practice	30		



**Website:**

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

**Church Office Hours:**

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

**Staff:**

Lead Pastor—Pastor Tim Maybee  
[tmaybee@aglcigh.org](mailto:tmaybee@aglcigh.org)  
763-233-9576

Office Administrator—Kari Rogers  
[agladmin@aglcigh.org](mailto:agladmin@aglcigh.org)

Communications Coordinator—Sarah Bjorklund  
[sbjorklund@aglcigh.org](mailto:sbjorklund@aglcigh.org)

Worship Coordinator —Barbara Forthun  
[bforthun@aglcigh.org](mailto:bforthun@aglcigh.org)

Worship Musician—Sandy McAllister

AGLC President—Annie Morgan  
[ann1216morgan@gmail.com](mailto:ann1216morgan@gmail.com)

**Deadlines:**

*Newsletter article submissions are due  
by the 20th of the month to Sarah Bjorklund  
[sbjorklund@aglcigh.org](mailto:sbjorklund@aglcigh.org)*

*Friday Email Announcements are due  
Wednesdays by Noon to Sarah Bjorklund  
[sbjorklund@aglcigh.org](mailto:sbjorklund@aglcigh.org)*

*Bulletin Announcements are due  
Wednesdays by Noon to Kari  
[agladmin@aglcigh.org](mailto: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*