



THE PROCLAIMER

Something Old, Something New

Years ago, Pastor Schultz brought contemporary worship to this congregation. At that time, there were 100 plus members, and this church had two services: a traditional early service, and a contemporary late service. In going back through those services, I can see where contemporary hymns were the norm for that service. At our church council meeting this evening, the church council passed a motion to make the second Sunday of the month a “non-traditional contemporary” worship service. **This service will begin the Sunday after Easter, on April 11, 2021.**

I can already tell you what the theme of that service is going to be: **“The Greatest Practical Joke Ever Played in the Bible.”** We all know that God can and has judged nations and people. He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah for their wickedness. We know about God’s anger at sin, and His judgment. We also know about His grace in Jesus Christ. But did you know about God’s sense of humor? The Bible is full of stories of God’s sense of humor. One of my favorite stories where His humor comes out is the story of King Jehoshaphat. When he sent the army into battle in 2 Chronicles 20, do you know who he put up front? Here’s what the writer of the book records as happening:

And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the Lord, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: “Praise the Lord, for His mercy endures forever.” Now when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated.

Only God would have a sense of humor to put a band and the singers up front while marching into battle against THREE armies! Talk about punking the enemy—this was the ultimate insult and one that ought to bring a chuckle from anyone who ever was in a band or choir.

HERE’S WHAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO: A fresh approach, rooted in our faith, yet expressed in a way that is fresh and invites those who are not members of any church or don’t know Jesus to come and find out about Him in a way that they can relate to, yet at the same time, hold onto what makes us uniquely Lutheran. Expect the format to be somewhat different. However, if you listen closely, you will be constantly reminded about our faith.

Will there be contemporary hymns and hymns that are not found in our hymnbook? Yes, there will be. Will there be a hymn—maybe two—that you are familiar with? Yes! Every part of the liturgy will be present in this service. How we dress it up may be a little different.

Our purpose in doing this is to invite many around us to come and explore the faith, maybe for the first time. For some, it will be their first exposure to the faith. For others, it will be a time to perhaps reconnect with the Church—and when I say Church, I mean all of God’s people everywhere.

Do you know someone who does not go to church? I’ll bet you do. It is this service that you will want to extend an invite to them. In fact, within the next week or so, you will have an invitation that you can hand to them for this service with the date and time. It’s time we step up our game as COVID is now loosening its grip. This is the moment we have been waiting for since COVID gripped this nation in fear. We have persevered under some incredibly difficult circumstances.

Our prayer is this service will be one that will attract those who want and need a church home but for whatever reason don’t have one at the moment. Pray God opens doors and hearts as we move forward with “something old” and “something new.” --Pastor Mark Anderson

COVID-19: What Has Changed

If you've been fully vaccinated:

- You can gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask.
- You can gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household (for example, visiting with relatives who all live together) without masks, unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an [increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19](#).
- If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms.
 - However, if you live in a group setting (like a correctional or detention facility or group home) and are around someone who has COVID-19, you should still stay away from others for 14 days and get tested, even if you don't have symptoms.

What Hasn't Changed

For now, if you've been fully vaccinated:

- You should still take steps to [protect yourself and others](#) in many situations, like wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet apart from others, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces. Take these precautions whenever you are:
 - In public
 - Gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one other household
 - Visiting with an unvaccinated person who is at [increased risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19](#) or who lives with a person at increased risk
- You should **still avoid medium or large-sized gatherings.**
- You should still delay domestic and international travel. If you do travel, you'll still need to follow [CDC requirements and recommendations](#).
- You should still watch out for [symptoms of COVID-19](#), especially if you've been around someone who is sick. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should get tested and stay home and away from others.
- You will still need to follow guidance at your workplace.

All of this is good news. There have been other restrictions lifted as well. To give you an idea of what's happening. Look at these numbers:

January 8, 2021: **314,172 COVID infections** March 7, 2021: **41,675 COVID INFECTIONS**. **Almost a 7/8 drop in numbers.**

At one point in Washington State, there were 67 COVID infections per 100,000 people. Today, that number is 18.59 per 100,000 people. **This is down over 2/3rd of what it was.**

WE ARE HEADED BACK TO NORMAL!

PRAISE GOD!

The Deacon's Corner
Grace Lutheran Church, Everett WA.

March 2021

Cancel culture is not new.

The divided times we are living in have occurred before. But there are not a lot of canceling events recorded in history. It seems the victors write the history and leaves out a lot of the facts. Usually, facts about oppression and the suppression or control of free people and the free flow of information.

There are events in history where the attempt to suppress or shape information and ideas took hold for a short time. But freedom and truth eventually revealed the corrupt efforts to dominate whole societies, groups, or individuals. I won't go into specific events in the distant past or even events that we've experienced over the past year.

Today we are all experiencing disinformation at various levels from various sources. And the resulting interpretations of what is fact or fiction have caused division among friends and made fear and distrust a significant factor in our daily lives. We are being led into a cancel culture debate where people in power seem to be hell bent on keeping and gathering more power by canceling the dissenting voices and trampling on the diversity of thought.

This has happened before, and it will happen again after we are gone. Not all the turnarounds of mankind came about by war and conquering armies or victorious revolutionaries. But in either result the victors wrote the history.

I will remind you of a time long, long ago where an innocent man told the truth and received the ultimate punishment for it, but also delivered an ultimate reward. The corrupt leaders of his time were threatened by his knowledge of history and the law, and his commonsense word's on living rightly and free from tyranny. The ruling class was always trying to trip him up and arrest him, but they failed. When they could no longer tolerate the pressure of the truth, they trumped up charges, confined him and tried to get him removed from society with a trial and false witnesses.

Ultimately the wishes of the corrupt ruling class prevailed, and He was crucified. But as history will tell it, the victory was His and has been passed on to us as His disciples with the forgiven of sins for all mankind.

The history of Jesus, His persecution, His resurrection and victory is clear throughout the scriptures.

After Jesus ascended and the left the scene the corrupt people in charge focused on canceling his followers. The cancel culture of Jesus time did not suppress His truth and we should not let the truth be suppressed in our time.

Today Christians may be experiencing some of the cancelling pressure that the original disciples felt. But God gave them the strength and a lasting reward for their steadfast faithfulness. We too should not shutter away from fellowship with each other or being the voices of truth in our communities. Fear and distrust should not continue to keep us apart. God has a plan, and His word will bring us together again to experience His glory, power, and faithfulness.

Mike Ryan
LL Deacon
Grace Lutheran Church Everett



National logo



District logo



District Biennium logo

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is an official auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). Membership is available to any woman who is a communicant member of a congregation in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Forty districts make up LWML in the United States.

We are in the Washington-Alaska (WA-AK) District; and 11 zones comprise our district. We are in the Mt. Baker Zone. Each zone consists of groups (societies) usually in a congregation. The name of our church society is The Women of Grace.

Carol Davis is the society president. Marilee Ryan is the secretary/treasurer.

We have a Heart to Heart Committee encouraging women of diverse ethnic groups to serve the church, participate in LWML, witness to the world, and grow in relationships.

We also have a Young Woman Committee to energize and mentor younger women to connect and grow in relationships as sisters in Christ.

Donations to WA-AK District help fund the mission grants, twenty-five (25) % of the money goes to LWML to help fund the national grants. Since the beginning of LWML 78 years ago, over ten million dollars has been received through the giving of mites.

With so many gatherings being canceled, the mite donations have, of course, gone down, too. The good news is that all the district grants for the 2018-2020 biennium have been paid, and our 25% obligation to national is also current!

We will be choosing grants for the next biennium at the district convention in September. We plan to gather at the Great Wolf Lodge September 25-27. Our convention theme is "Walk in the Light". Deb Burma, national speaker and author, will be there presenting the keynote address and sharing a Bible study. We have two local mission speakers sharing how our district mites have provided for their missions, trips, and activities. Everyone is invited to attend. Please ask Marilee for details.

I invite you to visit our district website at www.wa-aklwml.org and the LWML website at www.lwml.org.

Marilee Ryan

Marilee Ryan, President,

Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington-Alaska District

Mark Anderson
Pastor
[Redacted]
glcpastor8401@gmail.com

Kathy Lawson
Chairman Board of Stewardship
Local Missions \$ Focal
[Redacted]

Walt Ziebell
Elders
[Redacted]

Mike Ryan
President
[Redacted]

Jackie Fannin
Fellowship
[Redacted]

Byron Malloy
Vice President
[Redacted]

Helen Holton
Webmaster
[Redacted]

James Koch
Council Treasurer
[Redacted]



Margaret Dildine
Council Secretary
[Redacted]

Elaine Pearson
Financial Secretary
[Redacted]

God's blessings to you both on your birthday!	
Margaret Dildine.....	6
Mike Ryan.....	9
Ray Wans.....	14



March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		2	3 Women's bible Study 9:30 AM	4 ELDERS 6:30 PM	5	56
7 10:00 Worship Service With Holy Communion	8 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING 6:30PM	9	10 Women's bible Study 9:30 AM	11	12	13
14 10:00 Worship Service	14	15	17 Women's bible Study 9:30 AM	18	19	20
21 10:00 Worship Service With Holy Communion	22	23	24 Women's bible Study 9:30 AM	25	26	27
28 10:00 Worship Service	29	30	31 Women's bible Study 9:30 AM			





Grace Lutheran Church

8401 Holly Drive
Everett, WA 98208
(425)353-1852

Web: www.grace-everett.org
Email: gracelcms8@gmail.com