

# Ministries In Action



A Letter to the People Who Serve

Volume 20 No. 2

# **Mission Statement**

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church exists to fulfill God's call. We believe God calls each ministry of the church to develop opportunities for all members to experience the Love of Jesus and to reach out and share it with those yearning for greater spirituality and meaning in their lives.



Sunday 9:00 A.M. (Traditional) Sunday 11:00 A.M. (Contemporary)

Sunday School after the children's sermon at the 11:00 service.
All children ages 2 – 6th grade are welcome!

# Family Sunday School Faith Formation for People of All Ages

Join Pastor Greer the first Sunday of every month at 12:30 P.M. in the Social Hall for family focused faith and lunch.

Next date is February 5th.

# **Bible Study**

Led by Pastor Greer Wednesdays from 11:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. (NO Bible Study on February 1st)

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# Shrove Tuesday All You Can Eat Pancake Dinner

February 28th
6:00 and 6:45 P.M. seating
Tickets \$5.00 per person/\$20 per family
75% of proceeds go to the general fund/
youth group mission trip,
25% to Food for the Poor



# **Pastor's Corner**



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we embark on the journey of Lent, we once again prepare our hearts, minds, souls and selves for reflection and preparation for Holy Week. The Lenten journey is not one that is only about 'giving something up' but rather is also about taking something on. I remember this challenge from my childhood pastor many years back. Rather than deprive ourselves of something, why not take on something else that might positively impact the life of others. Be it: doing a daily devotion, or attending a weekly Bible study, reading your Bible everyday, giving a \$1/day to a charity or serving at a Soup Kitchen a couple of times.

As a congregation we will study our faith AT THE CROSSROADS throughout the season of Lent. These 40 days will be about reflection. Many of those involved in the story of the Passion of Christ came to a crossroads and had to decide which way to go. Some chose well, some struggled to be faithful to the Messiah and the stories of each of those experiences at various crossroads help us to learn and grow. Ultimately, these stories of crossroads reveals how Christ's life, death and journey toward resurrection lead us to follow God's path and live an active faith. So, as we come to the CROSSROADS of faith, life and our journey, my hope is we will take on the practice of serving Christ in our neighbor.

Here are some exciting things coming this Lent. Tuesday, February 28th at 6:00pm we will host a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner. What is **Shrove Tuesday** you might ask? Shrove Tuesday is a day preceding Ash Wednesday (the first day of Lent), which is celebrated in some countries by consuming pancakes. In others, especially those where it is called Mardi Gras, this is a carnival day, and also the last day of "fat eating" before the fasting period of Lent. The expression "Shrove Tuesday" comes from the word shrive, meaning "absolve". Shrove Tuesday is observed by many Christians, including Lutherans, Methodists and Roman Catholics, who make a special point of self-examination, of considering the need for repentance, and what amendments of life or areas of spiritual growth they especially need to ask God's help in dealing with. Basically, confession of our faults and our need for God's intersession and grace. Lent is a season of reflection and refocus.

Being the last day of the liturgical season historically known as Shrovetide, or Epiphany, before the reflective season of Lent, related popular practices, such as indulging in food that one sacrifices for the upcoming forty days, are associated with Shrove Tuesday celebrations, before commencing the fasting and religious commitments associated with Lent. The term Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday", referring to the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season, which begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1 with worship at 7:00p.m. and the imposition of Ashes. So, we will connect this practice of "Shrove/Pancake Tuesday" to connect our faith at the crossroads of having enough to eat, with our call to ensure others have food to eat and the essentials for survival.

We will worship together every Wednesday evening in Lent at 7:00p.m. with a Soup Supper at 6:00p.m. We also continue to worship on Sunday mornings as we journey the crossroads of faith together. I also am excited to introduce our Lenten giving focus which will be asking that we contribute a \$1/day to Food for the Poor. This international faith organization strives to create sustainable housing and resources for villages and people in severely underfed countries. We have the opportunity to partner and create relationships with Food for the Poor and a village and people of Nicaragua. My prayer is, that this Lent, we reflect on how blessed we are and can use these blessings to serve Christ in our hungry sisters and brothers in Nicaragua.

I will meet you at the Crossroads. Peace, Pastor Greer

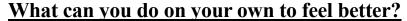
# **Darish Health**

# Got the blues? Cabin fever? Bored? Depressed?

You may have SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder)

This is a form of depression and is real.. Symptoms may include:

- Feeling sad, grumpy, moody, or anxious.
- Losing interest in your usual activities.
- Eating more and crave carbohydrates, such as bread and pasta.
- Gaining weight.
- Sleeping more but still feel tired.
- Having trouble concentrating.
- How is it treated?
- Light therapy is the main treatment for SAD. Medicines and counseling may also help.



Regular exercise is one of the best things you can do for yourself. Getting more sunlight may help too, so try to get outside to exercise when the sun is shining. Being active during the daytime, especially early in the day, may help you have more energy and feel less depressed.

- Moderate exercise such as walking, riding a stationary bike, or swimming is a great way to get started. But any activities that raise your heart rate-including daily chores-can help, especially if you can do them outdoors or near a sunny window.
- Try to do muscle-building exercises at least 2 times each week, such as weight training or stair climbing.

Moderate exercise is safe for most people. But it's always a good idea to talk to your doctor before you start an exercise program.

Some people try complementary treatments to help with SAD. One example is melatonin, a hormone that may help regulate your biological clock. If you want to use melatonin or other complementary treatments, be sure to check with your doctor first. These medicines may interact with other treatments. \*

Finally, do not underestimate the power of the Lord in your life. Daily prayer can and will help. Speak to your Pastor and get a spiritual check-up. Attend worship and ask for help from the members of the body of Christ. We are all in this together and depend on God's grace in our life.

Yours in Christ,

Pete Fisher



# The Prayer of Faith

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful?

They should sing songs of praise. James 5:13 NRSV

\* http://www.webmd.com/mental-health/tc/seasonal-affective-disorder-sad-topic-overview#1



# **Ministry Members**

#### **Worship Ministry**

Chair - Denise Rodi
Council Liaison - Nancy
Engalan

# **Ministry Members**

- ♦ Julie Ambris
- Pete Fisher
- ♦ Angela Kenmuir
- Rosilyn Stearnes-Brown
- Betty Jean Switzer

# **Stewardship Ministry**

Chair - Laura Jewell

Council Liaison - Laura Jewell Ministry Members

- ♦ Ken Jewell
- ♦ Judi MacCosh
- ♦ Sheila Roberts

# **Property Ministry**

Chair - Lisa LaBarge
Council Liaison - Lisa LaBarge
Ministry Members

- ♦ George Gerios
- Jean Gerios
- Margarete Kammer
- ♦ Bob Potter
- ♦ Jim Roberts
- Keith Williams
- Mark Wisniewski
- Earl Wright

# **Service Ministry**

Chair - Elaine Dalton Council Liaison -Ministry Members

- Kozay Bates
- Colleen Chmelko
- Cathy Jarvis
- Winnie McDonald
- Mary Ann Masch
- ♦ Joan Shelby
- Becky Vanderveer
- Tammy Wenzel

# **All Ministry Night**

Tuesday, Feb. 7th at 7 PM

### **Council Meeting**

Tuesday, Feb. 21st at 7 PM

# Witness Ministry

Chair - Gail Williams
Council Liaison - Kristin
MacPhee

#### **Ministry Members**

- Mary Haller
- Marilyn McQueen
- Barb Westerberg

# **Learning Ministry**

Chair & Nursery Coordinator

Cindy Lohr

**Council Liaison** 

Matthew Jewell

**Confirmation Liaison** 

Julie Ambris

**Communications** 

Sherri Loweke

# **Ministry Members**

- ◆ Terri Gilbert
- Joan Jenkins

#### **LIGHT Youth Team**

Liaison - Kara Miller

- Noah Miller
- Pastor Greer

# **Finance Ministry**

Chair - Ken Jewell

**Council Liaison -** Matthew Mazurek

Co-Treasurer - Keith Williams

Co-Treasurer - Mark Wisniewski

**Financial Secretary -** Ken Jewell

#### **Ministry Members**

◆ Lisa LaBarge

Church Office Hours Monday – Thursday 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

#### **Church Officers**

President Debbie Alsaiyad Vice Pres. Kathie Bair

Secretary

**Co-Treasurers** Keith Williams

Mark Wisniewski

#### **Council Members**

Nancy Engalan Laura Jewell Matthew Jewell Lisa LaBarge Kristin MacPhee Matt Mazurek

### **Parish Health Ministry**

- LouAnn Bishop
- Pete Fisher
- Margarete Kammer
- Rochelle Mazurek

### **Mutual Ministry**

- ♦ Kathie Bair
- Ken Jewell (consultant)
- Kevin Liske
- Jim Williamson
- Pastor Greer

# Watch For Your Weekly E-Mail Updates

On Tuesdays e-mails are sent through Constant Contact with updates of activities and worship times at Amazing Grace for the current week. Please take a look at it to keep informed. If you are not receiving it, please let Denise know.

If you have a concern your would like addressed at a council meeting or a ministry meeting please contact Debbie Alsaiyad (council) or the ministry chairperson (listed on this page) to have it added to the agenda.

# **Service to Others**

# Alzheimer/Dementia Support Group

Meetings are in the Narthex on the second Tuesday of each month, the next date is Feb. 14th at 7:00 P.M.

#### **Dysfunctional Families Group**

Meetings are in the Learning Center on Wednesdays at 7:30 P.M.

They are under the umbrella of Adult Children of Alcoholics but changed the name to Dysfunctional Families Group. All 12 Step Groups are direct descendants of Alcoholics Anonymous...the granddaddy.

# L.S.S.M. English Class

Lutheran Social Services of Mich. (LSSM) holds English as a Second Language class in the Learning Center Monday - Thursday from 9 AM - 11:30 AM.

#### **Social Hall Use for Members**

Effective Immediately

- To reserve the Social Hall for a private event, please contact Denise in the church office to set the date on the church calendar. There is a minimum donation of \$50 at time of reservation.
- The member making the request **must be present** at the event.
- All items in the Social Hall used in the event must be returned to the proper storage place. (table, chairs, etc.), and all food items and decorations taken home
- All kitchen items used must be cleaned and returned to the proper storage area.
- All trash cans are to be emptied and trash removed from the building.

#### **Book Club**

The next discussion is Wednesday, February 8th at noon. The book is "Circling the Sun" by Paula McCain.

### **Movie Monday**

P.M. come and watch "Sully" with Tom Hanks in the Learning Center. Snacks served, bring your own beverage.



Mondays at 7:00 PM. Drop in \$5.00.

### Flint Water Update

We are currently almost ready to begin Phase 5 of the Flint Water Project. So far, we've raised 13,180 bottles of water from Phases 1-4 and have a reserve of funds in savings for future phases. Thanks be to God for the generosity of our members and their willingness to serve others!

Things are slowly improving in Flint with the promise of the government replacing thousands of pipes in the next year. However, the fact remains that there are actually hundreds of thousands of ruined, rusty pipes to replace and the residents do not trust the water coming from their taps, even though it is filtered and theoretically clean.

So we will continue to serve our brothers and sisters of Flint going forward, bringing light to those who need it.

Matt Jewell

# **Euchre/Pinochle/ Game Night**

Join us the first & third
Friday of each month, the February
dates are the 3rd and 17th at 7:00
P.M. Bring a snack to share.

# We are still collecting

- unwanted eyeglasses
- cell phones
- rinsed pop cans/bottles, put them in the designated box in the Learning Center. The money will purchase Bibles for new members & Sunday school
- used ink cartridges (the church gets \$2.00 per cartridge which will help with office expenses we can recycle 20 per month. That's \$40 each month the church saves!
- canned goods for Holy Cross and Mt. Calvary for their food pantry (place canned goods in the basket in the Narthex).
- Target, Meijer, Kroger gift cards for people in need.
   Please give them to Pastor Greer for distribution.

Thank you for your support!

#### The Yum Yum Club

Join us for fun and fellowship as we dine with fellow members of Amazing Grace. All ages welcome!

Sat., February 11th at 4:00 P.M. Brass Point, Farmington Hills.

Sat., March 11th at 4:00 P.M. at Mongolian Buffet, Warren.

Sunday, April 23rd at 1:00 P.M. Buddy's, Warren.

Fri., May 26th 6:30 P.M. Mr. Miguels,

If you are planning on attending or need directions call the church office 4 days prior to the dinner. Ideas for future restaurants are welcome!

# Faith In Life



# **February Birthdays**

Cara Harm	2
Matthew Fedewa	3
Margarete Kammer	4
Jack Kenmuir	4
Seema Barnwal	5
Chris Sanders	6
Olivia Seeburger	8
Wayne Snyder	8
Sherry Palmer 1	
Denise Cavanagh	13
Rodney McDonald	13
Mary Ann Masch	17
Alexander Trysh	17
Millie Ziemann	18
Stacy Barrells	19
Matthew Jewell 20	
Rick Biernat 21	
Ken Jewell	21
Jeanne Yasso 21	
Connor Boccaccio 2	
Elizabeth Boccaccio	22
Pierce Morse	22
Drew Miller	24
Britton Howland	25
Betty Jean Switzer	26
Lorraine Brandt	27

# Recycling

Bring: Mail, Newspapers, Catalogs, Magazines, paper, and place them in the Abitibi Paper Retriever bin at the back of the parking lot.

# **Online Giving**

A convenient alternative to writing checks If you're writing checks and preparing envelopes every week, you may find it more convenient to give online. In a few short minutes, you can make a one-time gift or set up a donation that will process automatically on a recurring basis. Recurring donations are convenient and provide our church with much needed consistent support throughout the year. To give online, visit our church's website at aglc-warren.org, locate the online giving link (top menu bar) to donate.

Secure donation services are provided by Vanco Services, LLC. Vanco processes electronic donations for more than 15,000 churches and nonprofit organizations. The Simply Giving® Program endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union is operated by Vanco Services. SimplyGiving® is a registered trademark of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Thrivent Federal Credit Union assumes no responsibility for the products and services offered by Vanco Services under the Simply Giving® Program.

Simply Giving offering cards available on the welcome table in the Narthex for online givers to place in the offering plate.

#### **Thrivent Members**

Follow our Thrivent representative Bryan Knop on Facebook or Linkedin. Facebook.com/ bryanknop.thrivent Linkedin.com/in/bryanknopthrivent Thrivent Choice Dollars from 2016 can be directed at any time until March 31, 2017. Go to Thrivent.com. Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your generous donations of various toys and gift items for our annual Christmas Toy Shop and Angel Tree Program! Your assistance is essential in our efforts to provide a joyous Christmas for the many disadvantaged families in our community.

We face a tremendous challenge as the number if people struggling in today's economy is increasing to record heights. Many of our neighbors cannot afford the demands of daily living let alone any Christmas "extras". With this serious challenge ahead of us, it makes us all the more appreciative of your willingness to help others by sharing your gift with those less fortunate.

We thank God for special friends like you. Knowing you are there with a giving spirit and strong support encourages us in our mission to give comfort to those who are in such desperate need.

May God bless you!

Sincerely

Peter & Catherine Mount, Captains

# **Spaghetti Luncheon**

Sunday, February 12th 12:30 - 2:30 P.M. Help send Olivia Seeburger to the World

Dwarf Games 2017 in Canada (a division of the Para Olympics)

Suggested donation \$5.00 per person Raffle baskets!

# Faith In Life

# Shopping? Amazing Grace gets the rewards when you shop at Kroger

Rewards members will need to reenroll to continue earning in the Kroger Community Rewards program. <u>All participants must sign up</u> <u>for the program in order to earn</u> <u>funds for Amazing Grace.</u> To enroll you can visit

#### www.krogercommunityrewards.com.

Just scan your card each time you shop at Kroger and they send Amazing Grace a check every 3 months. We currently have 21 households who shop at Kroger and swipe their card.

#### **Amazon Smile**

If you are shopping at Amazon go to our web page click "Give Back", click on the yellow box "Get Started" or use this web link for purchases and AGLC receives 5%: <a href="http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-3381697">http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-3381697</a>.

#### **Grace Notes**

The deadline for submitting announcements for the Sunday "Grace Notes" is by 11:00 AM each Tuesday.

### Ministry In Action Newsletter Submissions

Please e-mail your information/articles no later than the 15th of each month to Denise Rodi at aglcwarren@gmail.com

Written information may be submitted in the newsletter box in the work room.

# Save 10% At These Local Businesses!

#### Northern TV and Vacuum

Located on John R. in Mad. Hgts. Just bring in the ad found on the bulletin board in the main hallway.

### **Eat at Cozy Cabin**

2129 E. 12 Mile Road, Warren (east of Dequindre), Tell them you are from Amazing Grace and receive 10% off your food order.



We are a "heart-filled" group of warm and wonderful Christian women of Amazing Grace.

If you are participating in the "Secret Sister", program, remember to keep your "Secret Sister" in prayer, and send her a card, occasionally, leave "small surprises" on the coat rack in the hallway at church. to let her know you are thinking of her. It is a special feeling to know you are being thought about and prayed for by your "Secret Sister".

Our next social activity is Thurs., February 9th at 7:00 P.M. Bring a snack to share.

Bible Study is Saturday, February 25th at 10:00 A.M.

#### **Rubino's Road Test**

Call (586)795-3399 to schedule a road test in our parking lot.

#### Mission of WELCA

To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. To love one another as God has loved and forgiven us.

#### **Bible Study**

Tuesday, February 14th at Noon Topic: "Galatians, Christian Faith or Freedom, Children of Faith" Bring your sandwich. Beverages and dessert supplied.

Hostess: Barb Westerberg

### WELCA Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, February 16th at 7:00 P.M. Topic TBA

#### NO Willing Workers in February

Join us for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Feb. 28th.

#### Women of the Year Luncheon

Amazing Grace will be honoring Joan Shelby & Rachel Alsaiyad. Sat., March 18th 10:30 A.M. at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 26601 Ryan, Warren. Sign up by Feb. 28th. Tickets \$25.

Save the date: Spiritual Retreat in Ida, MI March 11th. "Freedom Through Forgiveness". Cost \$38. Deadline March 1st.

Real life. How wonderful that no one need wait a single moment to improve the world. Anne Frank

**WELCA** (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America)

President Sherri Switzer
Vice Pres. Barb Westerberg
Secretary Mary Haller
Treasurer Marilyn McQueen
Action (WWW) Sherri Switzer

Millie Ziemann

Growth Terri Gilbert

(Bible Study)
Community Barb Jetmore

# **Power of Prayer**

# **Prayer Blanket Ministry**

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

Isaiah 40: 1,2



Our Prayer Blanket Ministry makes prayers real to those who are having surgery or who are suffering serious illness or infirmity or any other struggle in life. Brought together into each blanket is the gift of prayer: the symbol of faith in God and in His power to comfort, strengthen and heal. This ministry began in April 2006, and as of January 22, 2017 234 blankets have been made.

Prayer blanket request forms are found in the attendance books. To request a blanket for a member of Amazing Grace who is in the hospital or seriously ill, fill one out and place it in the offering plate, or contact Denise Rodi.

# Pray for...

Please remember to keep in your prayers these members and friends of Amazing Grace

Roy Burgess, Dorothy Greenstrand, Barb & Bob Potter, Jim Roberts, Art & Doris Toellner, Vera Vroman.

# Communion Visitation Ministry

Please contact the church office or Pastor Greer for a visit.

Julie Ambris
Debbie Alsaiyad
Janet Broadwell
Colleen Chmelko
Nancy Engalan
Terri Gilbert
Laura Jewell
Matthew Jewell
Mike Martinson
Denise Rodi
Joan Shelby
Mary Stevick
Earl Wright



Several items have been donated to Amazing Grace such as walkers, canes, wheelchair, and bedside commode, if you need to borrow any of these items see Denise in the church office.

# **Prayer Chain Ministry**

Our Prayer Chain Ministry is here for you. If you have an immediate prayer concern and would like our team members to pray for you or your loved one, please call the church office or one of our team members. Once the prayer chain has been activated, the first person calls a team member, who calls the next team member, who calls the next team member...you get the idea! Within a very short time, our whole team is praying for you. As Christians, we pray with absolute confidence that God hears all of our prayers. We are here for you whenever you need us.

- Debbie Alsaiyad
- ◊ Janet Broadwell
- ♦ Barb Jetmore
- ♦ Laura Jewell
- Margarete Kammer
- ♦ Judy MacCosh
- ♦ Rochelle Mazurek
- ♦ Marilyn McQueen
- ♦ Judy Sutherland
- ♦ Barb Westerberg
- Mark Wisniewski

All are welcome to join the Prayer Chain Ministry. Prayer is such a vital part of our faith and we can all pray.



# Servants

#### **Usher Teams**

<u>9:00</u> <u>11:00</u>

#### February 5

Colleen Chmelko Mark Kaifesh

Mary Ann Masch Angie & Wally Kenmuir

Bob Potter Jack Kenmuir

Mackenzie Robinson Pierce & Cassidy Morse

Bill & Destinie Shelby

Judy Sutherland

#### February 12

Mike Martinson Lisa LaBarge Earl Wright Mike Lohr

Jim Roberts

Mark Wisniewski

#### February 19

Mackenzie Robinson

Jim Williamson

Georgette Williamson

Tom & Joey Jenkins

Ken & Matthew Jewell

Ben, John & Rob Sawyer

#### February 26

Lucimar Turner Angie & Alex Boccaccio

Earl Wright Mike Martinson

Bob & Jean Regan Jacob Seeburger

Altar Guild

February Colleen Chmelko, Joan Shelby March Sheila Roberts, Betty Jean Switzer

#### **Visitor Hospitality**

Cookie Runners deliver a plate of cookies and a church newsletter to first time visitors. Please help by baking or delivering home made cookies. See Denise Rodi.

February 5 Needed

February 12 Mary & Stan Haller

February 19 Pete Fisher February 26 Jack Kenmuir

**Offering Counters** 

February 5th

Dick Aurand, Mark Kaifesh, Joan Shelby

February 12th and 19th

Terri Gilbert, Judy Sutherland, Earl Wright

February 26th

Mark Kaifesh, Bill Shelby, Shelly Shelby

#### **Bulletin Folders**

February 2 - Angelo Rodi, Earl Wright

February 9 - Mary Ann Masch

February 16 - Jean Regan, Mary Stevick February 23 - Newsletter Crew (pizza) March 2 - Colleen Chmelko, Joan Shelby

March 9- Mary Thornton, Jeanne Weiderman

March 16 - Angelo Rodi, Earl Wright March 23 - Newsletter Crew (out lunch)

March 30 - Mary Ann Masch

#### **Newsletter Staff**

Editor - Denise Rodi

Proof Reader- Colleen Chmelko

Newsletter Crew - Colleen Chmelko, Margarete

Kammer, Mary Ann Masch, Joan Shelby, Mary Stevick, Mary Thornton, Doris Toellner, Jeannie Weiderman

#### Staff

**Pastor** Greer Cherney Johnson

**Secretary** Denise Rodi

Music Staff Christian Avila, Kathy Brinker,

Alison Buckman, Gary Jones, Genna

MacPhee, Gwen MacPhee,

Drew Miller, Erik Miller, Noah

Miller, Rocco Popielarski

Choir Director Rosilyn Stearnes-Brown

Choir Peter Fisher, Cathy Jarvis,

Marilyn McQueen, Tom

Pesamoska, Wally Ponican, Barb Potter, Sheila Roberts, DeAnna & Mackenzie Robinson, Dorian & Lucille Staff, Betty Jean Switzer, Barb Westerberg, Tammy Wenzel

**Volunteer** Pete Fisher, Matthew Jewell,

Vocalists Jeanne Yasso
Custodian Matthew Jewell,

MISD job site training program for a

Autistic impaired students, Lamphere Center Job Training

# Sheep Sharing...And Caring Confirmation Corner

The youth in the confirmation class are amazing!!! What a blessing and joy is has been in learning about our Lutheran faith together. "Teaching one another" how to live "out" in action our Christian faith. We share highs and lows with questions, hopes, dreams and struggles. We know our God loves us and accepts us. That He is the God of grace and mercy. Jesus is our closest friend and Savior, who is always with us no matter where we go or what we do. (Especially in school).

We had a class in December where we discussed the book of Psalms in the Old Testament. The last Psalm in the book s 150. We focused on the versus 3-6.

Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet.

Praise him with the harp and lyre.

Praise him with tambourine and dancing.

Praise him with the strings and flute.

Praise him with the clash of cymbals.

Praise him with resounding cymbals.

Let everything that has breath Praise the Lord.

PRAISE THE LORD.

They were to pick an instrument from those appearing in the verses, draw that instrument and write words of praise "coming out" of that instrument. The flow of spirit filled words of praise were a symphony to our ears and hearts

They each read their own words of praise as "Gifts to Jesus" at the Creative Expressions Program. We wanted to share them with all of you if you were unable to attend.

**Alex Boccaccio** - Praise the Lord, oh the Lord is great. Praise the Lord, oh the Lord is good. For the Lord is all powerful and strong let his enemies tread at his heels. All who sin are forgiven, All who morn are blessed. Those who are humble, are now exalted. Those who are exalted are humbled.

London McDonald - When God is praised: we are loud: we are happy; and we are proud of our praise.

**Ben Sawyer** - Praise the Lord for he is great. Praise the Lord for he is great. Praise the Lord for he is great. **Jonathan Sawyer**- Praise the Lord, for hands to play music. Praise the Lord, for a mouth to sing. Praise the Lord, for the feet we have, so we can tap to the rhythm of a song. Praise the Lord, for all of these things, so we can praise him more. Praise the Lord.

**Jacob Seeburger-** Lord in you I am safe, and you protect me from all evil You help me through hard times and the good. Lord you are almighty! You are all powerful!

**Sarah Switzer-** Praise the Lord! He gives us mercy and love, even when we aren't deserving. He is forever ACCEPTING! Praise the Lord.

**Noah Yasso-** Thanks for all you've done, you are my God. Thanks for all you've done, you are my God. Thank you Lord for what you have done for me. My faith is strong with you.

Around this world so big, and "Oh! In Little Towns". "God Rests on Merry Gentleones" and wipes away their frowns. "God gives Joy to the World' on any "Silent Night", if we seek like "The Three Kings" not shepherds filled with fright. "You Came All Ye Faithful" to witness the "Angels Heard on High" To see our youth and children bearing the gifts they did untie. Our Savior is not far "Away in a Manger" some where, but in the hearts of believers with His "Good News" to share.

Thank you to our "WISE" teachers and the parents, who are not from the Orient, nor did they ride in on camels. They did ride in on the Spirit of Gods love, bearing gifts...the children! They found the star in each of our children who shined brightly Epiphany Sunday at the creative Expressions Program.

Thank you! In Christs Peace and Love, Pastor Greer and Julie Ambris

# AGLC February 2017 Learning Ministry Update



### **Thanks for a Great Creative Expressions Program**

Several gifts were presented to our Lord at our January 8th creative expression program. Our congregation, youth, Sunday school and nursery age children offered beautiful gifts of reading our Bible, music, art, magic, and culinary skills. We enjoyed this celebration of Epiphany. Thank you too for those who volunteered, prepared and served, and cleaned up after the program – we appreciate everyone's love and support.

### **February Learning Ministry Topic & Activities:**

. Date	Adult Bible Study	Confirmation Class	Sunday School: Sundays during 11:00am worship service in Learning Center
Week of February 5	Bible Study Wednesday, February 8 @ 11:30 am	no class	Family Sunday School 12:30 – 3:00pm in the Social Hall (includes lunch) <b>Lesson:</b> Love
Week of February 12	Bible Study Wednesday, February 15 @ 11:30 am	Sunday, February 12 12:30pm-2pm	INVITE A FRIEND TO CHURCH DAY  Lesson: Jesus Teaches about Anger  Readings: Matthew 5:21-37  Teachers: Jeannie Weiderman & Pete Fisher
Week of February 19	Bible Study Wednesday, February 22 @ 11:30 am	no class	Lesson: Love Your Enemies Readings: Matthew 5:38-48 <u>Teachers</u> : Gail Williams & Joan Jenkins
Week of February 26	no class (Ash Wednesday)	Sunday, February 26 12:30pm-2pm	Lesson: The Transfiguration Readings: Matthew 17:1-13 Teachers: Matthew Jewell and Judy Sutherland

# **Nursery Program Provides Learning Through Creative Play**

The infants and toddlers who are attending our new nursery program during the 11:00am worship service have been enjoying reading stories, singing, and other activities. Check out our program, and encourage our youngest congregation members to join the fun! Contact Cindy Lohr or a member of our Learning Ministry for more information.













# **MINISTRIES IN ACTION**

A Letter to the People Who Serve

February 2017

**Amazing Grace Lutheran Church** 29860 Dequindre Road **Warren, MI 48092** 





**Sunday Worship Services** 

9:00 AM (traditional) 11:00 AM (contemporary)

Sunday School after children's sermon during the 11:00 service



**Phone** 586-751-7750 E-mail

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www.amazing-grace-lutheran.org Website

Pastor Greer Cherney Johnson - pastorgreeraglc@gmail.com Amazing Grace is Wheelchair Accessible