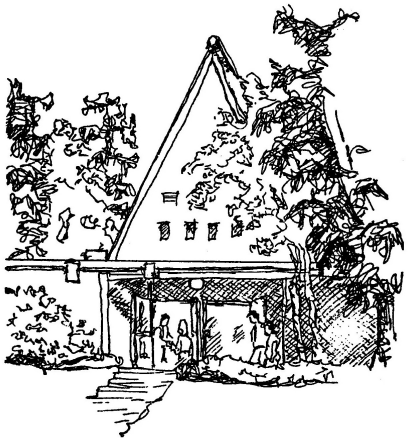
# Grace Lutheran Church Creates Hope for Others



Grace Lutheran Church began holding worship services almost 70 years ago, before the city of Bellevue was even incorporated. Over the years, there were many memories created through friendships, weddings, births, baptisms and funerals. The church's relationship in the community grew deep roots with local organizations to include Congregations for the Homeless, The Sophia Way, LifeWire, Matthew House, Lutheran Counseling Network, and Congregations for Kids. To these and many other organizations, Grace Lutheran gave time, money, meals, and hope.

In recent years, Grace Lutheran was faced with hard questions about their sustainability, so the church council formed a task force to work through the process of determining the best steps moving forward. After a thoughtful process, church members ultimately chose to sell the church property and use the assets of that sale to continue their long legacy of giving back to the community. Guided by feedback from the congregation, they chose to emphasize helping the most vulnerable in the community by making an impact on the homeless and affordable housing crisis on the Eastside.

After 70 years, Grace Lutheran held its last worship service on Sunday, March 3, 2019, and gave a major farewell gift to over 25 community institutions and nonprofit organizations. In an interview with Imagine Housing, Grace Lutheran Committee Members Gail D'Alessio, Marcia Bodin and Howard Johnson said, "We did something that helped. And that's what matters. We're grateful that we were able to do as much as we did."

Earlier this year, Imagine Housing was extremely blessed to receive a generous gift of one million dollars from Grace Lutheran Church. The gift has inspired a new name for an Imagine Housing property, which will soon be called Grace Place. There are not enough words to describe our gratitude to Grace Lutheran Church and their members. Their generosity and compassion will affect the lives of so many who are in need within our community.

## Quicklinks

Raise the Roof

Lunch & Learn

Donate

Why Housing Matters

**Shop at AmazonSmile**
and Amazon will make a donation to:
ImagineHousing
building eastside communities
Get started
amazonsmile

## Save the Date!

**July 13:** LGBTQ Allyship will host its inaugural LGBTQ+ North Seattle Housing Fair from from 11am to 3pm at Maple Leaf Lutheran Church. The event program will include North Seattle resources, an intergenerational LGBTQ+ panel, LGBTQ renters' rights training, community artist performance, and community networking opportunities.

**July 18:** Sign up for Lunch & Learn at Imagine Housing's Velocity community in Kirkland,

In the church's closing days in early June, Grace Lutheran organized a gifting event to distribute their last remaining furniture and kitchen items to the community. A new Imagine Housing resident who was formerly homeless came to the gifting event and church members were thrilled to be able to provide dishes at no cost for her and her children to use in their new affordable home. Even through this last chapter in the life of their church, Grace Lutheran members have been inspired to help. They hope their story might inspire other organizations in similar circumstances to find solutions to help those in need.

## Thank You 30Bellevue Bed Donors

Microsoft

We want to give a huge shout out to our community of donors and supporters who have helped us so much already at 30Bellevue, our newest community for families and individuals. Our residents are extremely grateful to the individual donors and to Microsoft Real Estate Services, who stepped forward with a sizable grant, to ensure that each new household has new beds, bedding and a handmade quilt made by St. Luke's congregation.

# Thank you!

## Make Some Noise for Affordable Housing!

Thursday, July 18 from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm. (See article in main newsletter for more information.)

**Oct 2:** Tickets are on sale now for Raise the Roof! Make some noise for affordable housing at this fun-filled event Wednesday, October 2nd. (See article in main newsletter for more information.)

Join us for a fun-filled event with great people, music, food and libations! Enjoy creative, exciting appetizers and desserts from some of our favorite chefs and restaurants in the community—all accompanied by tastings from amazing wineries, distilleries and breweries.

VIP tickets include a Whiskey 101 Class & Tasting presented by John Howie Steak's "Spirit Director" Tim Lodahl. This 60 minute class will include the opportunity to taste some of the best whiskeys in town!

Proceeds will support our Imagine 1000 goal of serving 2,400 people in 1,000 affordable homes by 2022.

Tickets are on sale!

REGISTER NOW

**Sponsored by:**

SYMETRA
RETIREMENT | BENEFITS | LIFE

HomeStreet Bank

**Thank you to our fabulous partners for the evening!**
Stay tuned, as more are being added each day.

JOHN HOWIE STEAK

FOGO DE CHÃO CHURRASCARIA

DeLILLE CELLARS

lobo hills

The Stone House

COPPERWORKS DISTILLING CO.

ROGUE

425 CELLARS

GUARDIAN CELLARS

Elevation cellars

PinkaBelle CupCakes

WILDWOOD SPIRITS CO.

SPARKLING ICE

## Join the Conversation on Facebook

Like us on Facebook and join the conversation! Get updates on current events in affordable housing, volunteer opportunities and photo updates from Imagine Housing.

## Come Have Lunch with Us

Each quarter, Imagine Housing hosts lunch at Velocity, our award-winning community in Kirkland, for people to become more informed about the housing affordability crisis in King County.

Register here to join us for the next Imagine Housing Lunch & Learn to be held on Thursday, July 18, 2019 from 11:45 AM-1:00 PM.

This short educational lunch program offers an overview of our mission, programs, goals, and most importantly, how you can help. We promise you'll learn a lot, meet other like-minded people and get more connected to the Eastside.

Questions?