Grace Abounds

November 2026

A Center of Mission and Ministry – Celebrating and Sharing God's Grace!



Dear Grace family, as November arrives, I find myself thinking about the many ways God has blessed our life together. I am grateful for every prayer offered, every kindness shared, and every faithful act of service. Thanksgiving gives us a special opportunity to slow down, remember God's goodness, and say from the heart, "Thank you, Lord."

The psalmist invites us, "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever" (Psalm 107:1). I love that our gratitude begins with who God is, not with whether life is going exactly as we hoped. Seasons change, plans are interrupted, and burdens can feel heavy, but God's faithful love never leaves us.

Paul writes, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1Thess. 5:18). That does not mean we must pretend every circumstance is good. It means we can look for God's presence even on difficult days. We can thank him for grace that carries us, mercy that meets us each morning, and hope that holds us when we feel uncertain.

James reminds us that "every good and perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17). Often, God's gifts come wrapped in ordinary moments: a meal with someone we love, a phone call at just the right time, laughter with a friend, strength for one more day, or the encouragement of our church family. When we pause to notice these gifts, even an ordinary day can become an occasion for worship.

Our gratitude can also become a blessing to others. Colossians 3:17 tells us to do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, "giving thanks to God the Father through him." A thankful heart is ready to encourage a neighbor, forgive a hurt, share with someone in need, or simply say, "I appreciate you." In these small and loving ways, our lives become prayers of thanksgiving.

This month, I invite you to join me in a simple practice: begin or end each day by naming three things for which you thank God. You might even share one of them with a family member or friend. May our homes and our church echo the words of Psalm 100:4: "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name."

Please know that I thank God for you. It is a joy and a privilege to share this journey of faith with you. Long after the Thanksgiving meal is over, may gratitude remain in our hearts and may our lives continue to reflect the goodness of our faithful God.

Let us pray: Gracious God, open our eyes to your daily gifts, fill our hearts with gratitude, and help us share your love generously with others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Blessings always,
Pastor Dave

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Reminder:
Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, November 1st.

Please turn your clocks back an hour before you go to bed Saturday night. ☺

Please remember to send back your ***Time & Talent forms*** by Nov. 3rd. We need your help to carry out the ministries of our Lord here at Grace! If you need a copy, please pick one up at church or call the office.



Birthdays

2 Carolyn Boland
3 Justin Farr
10 Billy Ackerman, Suzanne Medlock
11 Linda Cromer
12 Peggy Thomas
17 Lynn Wessinger
18 Taylor Metz
19 Ronald Calsing
21 Edna Riley
26 Jacy Mitchell
27 Tom Neel

Baptism Anniversaries

1 Walt Quattlebaum
6 Terrell Allewine, Andrea Lewis, Wendy Riley
7 Mary Grace Whitlock
9 Buck Black
10 Julie Shealy
11 Kathy Brown, Zoe Frick
13 Nancy Derrick, Lexi Medlock
14 Michael Riley
15 Barry Hartman
22 Nathan Shealy
25 Hunter Neel





During the month of November, the Sanctuary Lamp is sponsored by Sharon Neel in loving memory of their grandfather, Hunter Fellers, a true Christian and member of Grace Lutheran Church.



Serving in November

Assisting Ministers
1 Deborah Ruff
8 Johnny Merck
15 Jessica Shealy
22 Candace Frick
29 Andy Hawkins

Altar Flowers
1 Wayde & Sally Dominick (white)
8
15
22 Ronnie & Linda Cromer
29 Roberta Capó

Live Stream Operators
1 Jessica Shealy
8 George Dawkins
15 Brad Waters
22 Brad Waters
29 Brad Waters

Acolytes
1 Lillie Waters
8 Raelynn Wessinger
15 Thomas Mewbourn
22 Allie Waters
29 Lillie Waters

Crucifer: 1 Allie Waters (*All Saints Day)*
22 Lillie Waters (*Christ the King Sunday)*

Torchbearers:
1 Hannah Moates, Jaxon Yarborough
22 Mollie Waters, Raelynn Wessinger

Communion Assistant: Cindy Amick

Communion Preparation: Deborah & Phil Ruff

Communion Clean Up: Dale & Julie Shealy

Ushers: Dale Shealy, Chop Cooper, Andy Metz, Deron Shealy, Emmett Wicker

Greeters: Beverly Merck, Lynn Wessinger

Offering Tabulators: David Luther, Wayde & Sally Dominick

Front Sign: Dale, Julie & Jessica Shealy

Altar Guild: Brad & Melodie Waters

Pew Rack Helper : Lynn Wessinger



Manna House Items Needed:

Any of these items will be much appreciated- **Pasta Sauce 24 oz, canned Meats, Tuna & Luncheon Meat, cans of Vegetable Soup, Mac & Cheese, Rice #1, Rice #2, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Breakfast Cereal**

Donations can be left in the Manna House box in the narthex. You can also help by donating gift cards to Food Lion or Walmart. Thank you.

People of Grace Updates

Rev. Timothea Sharp has a new address:
1108 Fair Street in Newberry SC 29108.
Her cell # remains the same.



Congratulations to Raelynn Wessinger for making Honor Roll at MCMS and to Jaxon Wessinger for making Honor Roll at Pomaria-Garmany.



Poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary for the December 13th service and can be picked up after worship on Christmas Eve. Cost for the Poinsettias is $12.75 per plant, and they will be wrapped in green paper with no bow.

To order please take one of the designated envelopes, complete the information, and enclose your payment. Place your envelope in the offering plate or church office box. Deadline for orders is Sunday, November 22nd.

Please be Praying for...

Grace Family: Diane Adams; J.C. Caughman; Cissie Dibble, Becky Everett; Len Fulmer; Evelyn Harmon; Bob Harris; Faye Hartman; Wayne Mitchell; Pastor Al Potter; Marysue Rivers.

Residential Care: Heather Harris, Wendy & Michael Riley

College Students: Hunter Neel (*Midlands Tech.*); Camryn Shealy; Bailey Stewart; and Allie Waters *(Newberry College);* Hunter Hall, Lyla Kendrick *(Piedmont Tech);* Zoe Frick *(Univ. of SC).*

Extended Family: Harold Adams (*Anna K Singley's son);* David Caldwell (*former member*); Lill Hamman *(Diane Adams' friend);* Kay Richardson *(Lynn Wessinger's Aunt, Beverly Merck's cousin*); Bert Sharpe *(Pastor Timothea's brother);* Randy Turner *(Cayce Moates' father);* Rev. James Swanson and Rev. Dale Zylstra *(Pastor Dave's colleagues).*

Community: Ed & Joan Kyzer; Young Ran; Michael Scott; Terry Wheeler, Linda Wolfe.

Military: Everett Crafts, V *(Air Force -Glenda Craft's grandson); W*alker Eldridge *(USCG/Seattle)*

God's World: Global Concerns: Individuals affected by conflict, such as those in Israel, throughout the Middle East, Ukraine, and various African nations; Military families both domestically and internationally; People impacted by natural disasters including hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, floods, and earthquakes; victims of gun violence; Those experiencing homelessness; Individuals who are unemployed or underemployed; Refugees worldwide; Those facing hardships due to unfavorable economic conditions; and our adversaries.

To add or remove a name from the Prayer List, please contact the office at 803-364-3331 or gracelutheranprosperity@gmail.com or leave a written note in the office box. We would like to keep this list up to date as much as possible.

Follow us on Instagram!

Grace has now been on Instagram for two months, and our page is growing... slowly! If you are on Instagram and haven't already done so, please give us a follow - **gracelutheranprosperity**! Help us grow our Instagram presence so we can reach more and new people who may not hear about Grace otherwise! The more followers we have interacting with and sharing our posts, the more our Instagram page can become an impactful means for spreading the word about Grace's events and ministries.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday	Sanctuary	* Online	Total
10/4	71	--	71
10/11	69	16	85
10/18	103	9	112
10/25	56	10	66

Sunday School ATTENDANCE

10/4 - 25
10/11 - 30
10/18 - 34
10/25 - 28

BACKPACK Ministry

Our Backpack Ministry has started back at Prosperity-Rikard Elementary School. Currently we have 12 children that we are helping with food for the weekends. That number may be increasing. If you would like to help, please check the list of needed items on the narthex bulletin board. Thank You!

Thanksgiving Meal Bags

Once again, Grace will distribute Thanksgiving Meal bags of non-perishable food items to members of the community on Sunday, Nov. 22. We ask for the congregation's help in providing the following list of items for our meal bags. Please bring your donations to the church no later than Monday, Nov. 16, to allow time to supplement donations as needed.

Thanksgiving Bag Shopping List

Stuffing mix (boxes/bags)
Chicken Broth (boxes/cans)
Canned Sweet Potatoes
Mac and Cheese Boxes
Canned Corn
Canned Green Beans
Cornbread Mix
Canned Pie Filling
1 lb. bags of Sugar
Gravy Mix Packets



All Saints Sunday

During our service on All Saints' Sunday, will remember the lives of our sister and brother in Christ at Grace who have passed to life in the church triumphant since last All Saints Day, Nov. 2, 2025: *Kay Chandler and Bob Dibble.*

Additional Adult Sunday School Class

Would you like to know more about the book of James? We have a new Sunday School class for adults of all ages beginning November 15 at 9:30am in the library room. (*This is in addition to the other adult class*). Join us as we gather, learn, and pray together in order to be better disciples for Christ. If you have any questions please contact Melinda McCormick at 803-722-3279.

Fellowship Meal and Advent Kickoff



The first Sunday in Advent is Nov. 29, and this year we will celebrate after worship with our 5th Sunday Fellowship meal followed by Advent Kickoff activities.

Please bring a covered dish (or several) to share for our meal. Beverages, plates, cups, and utensils will be provided. After lunch, we will have several stations where you will be able to make ornaments for our Advent Family tree, which will be set up in the Ministry Center. This beautiful 9 ft. tree and lights were gifted to Grace in 2025 by Pastor Dave and Diane Adams, beginning a new Grace tradition. You may also make ornaments for your personal Christmas tree.

Plan now to be a part of this special dual event sponsored by the Care and Fellowship Team.

Looking Ahead: Bishop Roof to Visit Grace

Mark your calendars now for Jan. 24, 2027, when newly installed SC Synod Bishop Wade Roof will be visiting Grace.

Bishop Roof will preach at our 10:30 worship service. He will also be our guest at a covered dish meal in the Ministry Center after the service.

This will be a special day at Grace. Come and meet our new Bishop and enjoy fellowship together at our meal. This lunch will take the place of our 5th Sunday Fellowship meal that would have been held Jan. 31. We encourage all of our church family to be present to help welcome Bishop Roof.

Council Minutes

Meeting – October 13, 2026

Len Fulmer called the meeting to order with a reading of the Mission Statement. Devotions based on Jeremiah 6:16 and Joshua 1:7-8 were shared by Craig Metz followed by discussions about congregational growth. We should follow the good path and the Book of Laws given to Moses by God.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Dave could not attend this meeting due to illness. Len read the Pastor's Report in his absence. Diane Adams will need additional heart tests and will likely undergo heart surgery in the near future. We are thankful for opportunities to enhance worship with violin music from Vira Adams and a 1960s Folk Music service led by Pastor Ron Brown. We are also blessed to have Pastor Herman Yoos and Dr. Andres Leone teaching contemplative prayer classes through October 25 to deepen our connection with God. Pastor Dave hopes that we can offer this series again for Grace and the Prosperity community. Grace members are invited to consider serving in church leadership this time of year.

Adoption of Reports: Julie Shealy noted that Allie Waters is working on a church logo design as she completes a design course at Newberry College. It was previously reported that this was a project for all of the Grace youth. Robert Martin moved to accept the reports as presented, seconded by Ronnie Cromer, and passed.

Discussion: Johnny Merck met with Diamond Electric Service to get a quote on installing 120v outlets in the Sanctuary ceiling for new LED light fixtures. Diamond has not provided a quote and is not responding to phone or text messages. Johnny will get quotes from other companies if Diamond does not come back with an estimate. Parsonage shrubbery and overgrown landscaping is being trimmed this week. It was noted that council and church officer nominations will be accepted on Sunday, November 1 and elections will be held on Sunday, November 15.

Ministry Teams: Julie shared that the Care and Fellowship Team is preparing for Homecoming Sunday on October 18 to be followed by a covered dish meal. Golden Age members will be recognized, and Pastor Jane Mitchum will be our guest at this service. The next 5th Sunday Fellowship meal will be on November 29. Grace youth enjoyed a September apple picking trip and will be going to Carowinds on October 17. There is a new designated Nursery room to better accommodate those with small children. The Finance Committee will meet at 6:30 pm on Monday, November 2. The Annual Meeting to elect a Congregational Vice President, Congregational Secretary, and approve the 2027 budget will be held on Sunday, December 13.

Shepherding Concerns: Shepherding concerns were shared, especially for Diane Adams (heart), Len Fulmer (foot surgery), and the family of Bob Dibble.

The next council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 in the Ministry Center. Len closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, David Luther, Council Secretary

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Annual Congregation Council Nominations and Election

Annual Congregation Council nominations will be held on **Sunday, November 1**. Each voting member can nominate four individuals who meet the qualifications for voting members. *(Voting members are those who have communed and contributed on record in 2025 and/or 2026).* Council election is set for **Sunday, November 15**. We will be electing four people to three-year terms on Council in addition to a youth council member. The annual meeting to elect a Congregational Vice President, Congregational Secretary, and approve the 2027 budget will be held on **Dec. 13th**.

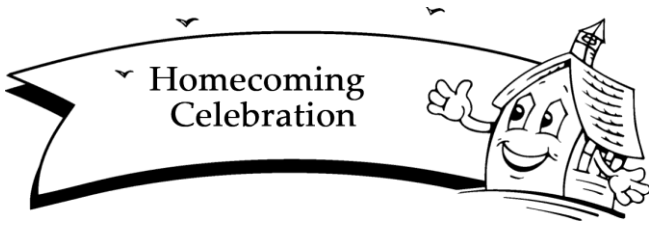
HOMECOMING 2026



Grace celebrated a wonderful Homecoming on Oct. 18 with 45 Golden Age members present. What a blessing these special people are to our congregation as they continue to love and serve our Lord! We missed those who were unable to join us for this occasion.







What a special day! Thank you to everyone who took part in our Homecoming celebration on Oct. 18. It was a great reunion of our church family. We were excited to have 103 present at worship, including 45 Golden Age members, with nearly that many staying for our covered dish meal following worship. Thank you to everyone who brought delicious food to share at our meal.

Special thanks to Pastor Jane Mitcham for leading worship and bringing the message and to our Care and Fellowship Team for hosting the meal.

For more photos, visit our Facebook page or check out our new Instagram page: @gracelutheranprosperity.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth and Young Adults Sunday School

Our high school youth and young adults began an exciting new study in mid-September called *13 Very Cool Stories and Why Jesus Told Them.* We have been enjoying our weekly deep dive into the parables Jesus used in his teachings and how they relate to our lives!

These stories are cool – and it's cool to be in Sunday School! Don't miss out on this weekly chance to grow in faith together with our young people at Grace!

Come when you can! Even if you're away at college right now, the Youth and Young Adults class will always be thrilled to see you whenever you're home!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 15
GYM Time 12-1:30 pm

Saturday, December 5
Parade Float Decorating 10 am

Sunday, December 6
Prosperity Christmas Parade after church

Friday, December 18
Christmas Caroling leave the church at 5:30 pm

Sunday, January 17
GYM Time 12-1:30 pm



21 youth and adults enjoyed a fun day at Carowinds, filled with laughter and friendships.



Christmas Parade Planning



The 2026 Prosperity Christmas Parade theme is "Prosperity's Gingerbread Village Christmas." Decisions are forthcoming for how the Youth will theme and decorate the float we are sponsoring in the parade. But tentatively make plans to wear brown (like gingerbread people) on parade day.

DON'T FORGET **GYM Time is now on 3rd Sundays!** **Hope to see you November 15th.**

October Memorials & Gifts

Current Fund *In memory of Bob Dibble*

Kaye Jamison

Robert Stepp and Meredith Manning

Brenda Argoe

Martha & Sterling Beckman

McSwain-Evans Funeral Home

Rev. David and Marilyn Seymour

Dorothy Britton

James & Nancy Derrick

Phil & Deborah Ruff

Julie & James Strack

Roger & Becky Everett

Lisa Gibson

Maintenance Fund *In memory of Bob Dibble*

Jennifer Suber

Thomas N. Ertel, Jr.

John L. Barnes

Evelyn Abel

Mr. & Mrs. Pearce Flemming

J. Lyles & Melanie Glenn

Craig & Kim Metz

Beverly Hawkins

Walt & Clyna Quattlebaum

Chuck & Hannah Stiles

Current Fund

Billy & Libby Bedenbaugh in memory and honor of Woodrow & Elise Bedenbaugh, H C Martin and Judy Bedenbaugh

Deborah & Phil Ruff in honor of Emmett Wicker

Scholarship Fund

Judy Bedenbaugh to celebrate Matthew & Jessica Shealy's baptismal anniversary

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Community Thanksgiving Service

Grace Lutheran Church will be joining Colony and Mt. Pilgrim Churches for a Thanksgiving Eve service - Wednesday - November 25th at 7PM at Mt. Pilgrim Lutheran Church. Our gifts we share will be given to *We Care* to help provide important products for those who *We Care* serves. A light snack will be available after the service at Mt. Pilgrim. Join us as we say thank you to God for all that He provides every day.



Deadline for our December Newsletter is November 17th.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All Saints Day 1 End of Daylight Savings Time 9:00 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Council Nominations	2 Preschool Out 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting	*Election Day* 3 Preschool Out	4 Weekly: 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 6:45pm Cantata Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	5 4:00pm Care & Fellowship Team Meeting	6	7
8 9:00 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	9	10 6:30pm Council Meeting	*Veterans Day* 11 	12	13	14
15 9:00 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship (Council Elections) 12-1:30 GYM TIME	16 *Thanksgiving Meal Donations Deadline*	17 November Newsletter Deadline	18	19	20 	21
Poinsettia orders due 22 9:00 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 1-3:00 Meal Bag Distribution	23 Preschool Feasts 	24 Preschool Feasts 9:30am Newsletter Team *(youth room)*	25 7pm Community Thanksgiving Service at Mt. Pilgrim	26  Ministry Ctr. Reserved	27 Ministry Center Reserved	28
First Sunday of Advent 29 9:00 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12:00 *5th Sunday Fellowship Lunch & Advent Kickoff Fellowship*	30					

Manna House Needs:
Pasta Sauce 24oz., Canned Meats, Soup, Rice #1 & #2 bags, jelly, peanut butter, cereal … gift cards 😊

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Coming Up at Grace



Council Nominations –11/1
Elections- 11/15

Youth GYM Time – Nov. 15th after worship

Time & Talent Forms Due – November 3
We need everyone's help with the ministry of Grace.



Thanksgiving Meal Bag Collection all month.
Distribution 11/22



Fellowship Meal & Advent Kickoff November 29th after worship.