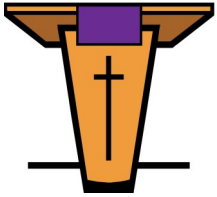




Grace ABOUNDS

June 2023

From Our Interim Pastor



Dear Church family,
Sometimes life just happens, and you just have to go with the flow! That's where I find myself as I sit down to write my June newsletter article. Not whining - but my plate is full and running over - our daughter has been experiencing shoulder pain for over four months now and has

run into dead end after dead end in the medical system. Her pain is so severe that we need to be available to her and her husband just to sit with her occasionally. My brother is experiencing major health issues and doesn't seem to be able to follow any medical advice he's given and so there are major problems there. You know, of course, of Mitch's fall; however, he has mostly recovered. Add to that that we are moving. Closing date is May 23 and any of you who have experienced this know the tasks involved there. And I know that some of you are experiencing major stress in your lives right now as well.

I'm hoping that by the time you read this in June much of this will have settled. But until then deep breathing and prayer are pulling me through. I found this prayer in one of my devotional books. It's providing me that quiet, breathing time with God that I need each day.

I pray it will be meaningful for you as well.

Be silent.
Be still.
Alone.
Empty
Before your God.
Say nothing.
Ask nothing.
Be still.
Let your God
Look upon you.
That is all.
God knows.
God understands.
Loves you with
An enormous love.
God only wants to
Look upon you
With love.
Quiet.
Still.
Be.
Let your God -
Love you.

Pastor Jane

Prayer from Edwina Gateley in All Will Be Well: A Gathering of Healing Prayers p. 88.



ORDINATION



**Celebration
of Pastor Jane's
25th Anniversary
of Ordination
Sunday, June 11
10:30 a.m.**

Reception to follow the service.



Grace VBS

June 25-29

6:30-8 p.m.

***Light meal served
at 6 p.m.***

***All children and youth ages 2-11 are
invited to join us for learning and
fun! See page 3 for more
information.***

JUNE Birthdays

- 2 - David Luther, Angela Mercer
- 4 - Everett Crafts, Sadie Epting
- 7 - Wendy Long
- 8 - Hanna Renwick
- 9 - Eddie Rivers, Bailey Stewart
- 12 - Ben Long, Ronda Mewbourn
- 13 - Grace Eldridge
- 15 - Donna Jacobs
- 16 - Easton Griffin, Lynn Wicker
Pastor Jane
- 18 - Paula Pridgen
- 19 - Hunter Hall, Melodie Waters
- 20 - Lewis Bedenbaugh
- 22 - McKenna Shealy
- 27 - Corey Fowler
- 30 - Billy George, Brianna Stewart

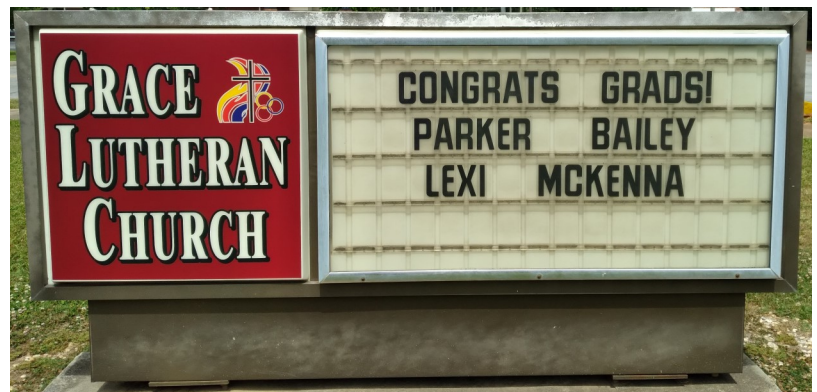
JUNE Baptisms

- 2 - Megan Templeton
- 5 - Robert Neel
- 7 - Jimmy Braswell
- 8 - Caroline Dominick
- 9 - Georgie Riley
- 11 - Andy Metz
- 13 - Kris Lindler, Mike Whitlock
- 15 - Thomas Dawkins
- 17 - Cody Dominick
- 18 - Camryn Long
- 20 - Michael Derrick, Hayden Hall,
Lillie Waters
- 24 - Ally Nelson
- 30 - James Derrick
- * - Steve Stubbs

Grace People in the News

KAY CHANDLER was pictured in the Newberry Observer with an article about Newberry College being named 2023 Partner of the Year by the SC chapter of HOSA - Future Health Professionals. Kay serves as Director of Online and Graduate Operations for Newberry College.

Don't forget to share your good news with the office: by email at gracelutheran2@att.net; by phone at 803-364-3331; or leave a note in the office box.



Recognizing Our Grace Graduates

Grace celebrated the graduations of four members during the May 21 worship service. We were glad to have Bailey Stewart present to be recognized. Bailey, Lexi Medlock, and McKenna Shealy will graduate from Mid-Carolina High on June 2. Parker Metts recently graduated from the University of South Carolina. Congratulations to each of our graduates. May God bless each of you in all of your future endeavors.

JUNE Anniversaries

- 1 - Bob and Heather Harris (32nd)
- 4 - Ronnie and Paula Pridgen (35th)
- 5 - *Ralph and Andrea Lewis +*
- 10 - Perry and Georgie Riley (67th)
- 11 - *Jerry and Lisa Vaughn +*
- 11 - Steve and Edith Bedenbaugh (35th)
- 11 - Taylor and Alison Metz (1st)
- 19 - Craig and Susanne Nelson (25th)
- 21 - David and Edna Riley (65th)
- 25 - Maria and Jonathan Morgan (7th)
- 26 - Bryan and Jeanna Hall (24th)
- 28 - Billy and Rhonda Ackerman (15th)

+ Memorial Anniversary



Please remember to keep the church office up to date when your (or your family member's) mailing address, telephone number, or email address changes! Thank you!

Celebrate Pastor Jane's 25th Anniversary of Ordination



Grace will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Pastor Jane's Ordination on Sunday, June 11. We will have special guests during worship. A reception in Pastor Jane's honor will follow the service.

Pastor Jane was ordained into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on June 6, 1998, at the North Carolina Synod Assembly at Lenoir-Rhyne College.

Boston Butt FUNDRAISER

Cooked by Smokin Buttz BBQ

Saturday, June 17

Pick up 9 a.m. - Noon

\$30 donation each

Proceeds will go to pay down the principal of our Ministry Center Building Loan

Deadline to order and submit the donation for the Boston Butt is June 12.

Grace VBS Set for June 25-29

Vacation Bible School will be held at Grace Sunday, June 25 through Thursday, June 29 from 6:30-8 p.m. each night with a light supper provided at 6 p.m. This year's theme is **Twists and Turns** (Following Jesus Changes the Game).



All children ages 2-11 are invited to join us for learning and fun! Register now using the QR code at right. You can also register using the link at graceluth.org or our Facebook page. Be sure to invite your grandchildren and neighbors.

Volunteers are also needed! Sign up sheet is on the narthex board. Youth ages 12 and up are needed as helpers. Contact Susan Dawkins, VBS director, for more information on volunteering.



More information will be coming soon on other ways you can support VBS!

Synod Assembly June 8-10

This year's annual South Carolina Synod Assembly is set for June 8-10 at the Columbia Marriott. Voting members representing Grace will be Johnny Merck, Lynn Wessinger, Jessica Shealy (under 30), and Pastor Jane. This year's theme is "I See Jesus," and throughout the assembly, stories from across our Synod and synodical partners will be shared about where God is at work and where we see Jesus in those around us.



Manna House Item of the Month: Canned Tomatoes

Donations can be left in the Manna House box in the narthex. Thank you for supporting Manna House!



Sprucing Up Our Entrance: Dale Shealy and Phil Ruff with some help from Chop Cooper (not pictured) repainted the frame of the front entrance in early May. Dale later repainted the metal cross on the patio wall and the wooden bench on the patio.

Grace Prayer List

Grace Family: Margaret Kluttz (*knee replacement, 5/24*); Wanda Hartman; Cissie and Bob Dibble; Glenda and Everett Crafts; Heather and Bob Harris; Evelyn Harmon; Marysue Rivers; Faye Hartman; Lois Amick.



Residential Care: Sadie Epting (*Springfield Place, Rm. 11*); Sue Hartman (*JF Hawkins, Rm. 27*); Paula Epting (*White Oak, Rm. 323B*); Allene Dawkins (*Springfield Place, Rm. 19*); Wendy and Michael Riley (*Faith Nursing Home, Florence*).

College Students: Taylor Metz (*MUSC*).

Extended Family: Broko Boland, Kim Pittman (*Melodie Waters' cousins*); Brittany Cumalander, Ann Livingston (*Lynn Wessinger's cousins*); Mary Ellen Hartzog (*Eddie Rivers' cousin*).

Military: SGT. Anderson Dibble (*Marines/Iraq - Cissie/Bob Dibble's granddaughter*); Everett Crafts V (*Air Force/Guam - Glenda/Everett Craft's grandson*); Walker Eldridge (*Coast Guard/VA*); Caleb Salyers (*US Army Cavalry Scout/Ft. Hood, TX - Rev. Al Potter's grandson*).

Community: Dean Wise; Jackie Perry; Amy Frick Wicker; Davida Monsanto; Violet Wilmot; Mary Lawson; Shirley Thomas; NC Bishop Tim Smith; Pastor William and Karen Hightower; Brian Cassady.

God's World: victims of gun violence; Ukraine and neighboring countries; those suffering and under stress due to COVID-19 in the US and across the world; those affected by wildfires, flooding, hurricanes, earthquakes, and tornadoes; military families; jobless/underemployed; homeless; refugees; those suffering due to natural disasters, unrest, and fighting throughout the world; our enemies.

Contact the office by phone (803-364-3331) or email (gracelutheran2@att.net) to add or remove someone from the Prayer List.

May Memorials and Honorariums

Gift to the Current Budget Fund

In memory of James B. "Snag" Epting by Beverly Hawkins

Gifts to the Building Loan Fund

In memory of James B. "Snag" Epting and Sheryl Dimock by Jenny and Jimmy Braswell

In memory of James "Jimmy" Dawkins

By: Wayde and Sally Dominick
James and Nancy Derrick

In memory of Mary Kennington (*Wanda Hartman's mother*) by Beverly Hawkins

In memory of Janice Crowell (*Faye Hartman's sister*) by Beverly Hawkins

In honor of Edd Wicker by Kevin and Diane Wicker

In memory of our Mothers by Andy and Mike Hawkins

Gifts to the Community Service Fund

In memory of James "Jimmy" Dawkins

By: Thomas Dawkins
Judy Bedenbaugh
Helen Morris
Kelly Shealy
Tarry and Melinda Long
Beverly Hawkins
Emmett Wicker
Larry and Barbara Wise
Kenny and Johnsie Long
Edd Wicker
Edwina Wicker
Bob and Heather Harris
Holly Wessinger
Alan-Jon W. Zupan
Elona Eargle Rhame

Gifts to the Bereavement Meal Fund

In memory of James B. "Snag" Epting by David and Edna Riley

In memory of Janice Crowell (*Faye Hartman's sister*) by David and Edna Riley

In memory of Mary Kennington (*Wanda Hartman's mother*) by David and Edna Riley

In memory of James "Jimmy" Dawkins by David and Edna Riley

Gift to the Bedenbaugh-Chariker Scholarship Fund

In honor of Bailey on her graduation from Mid-Carolina High by Lynn and Larry Wessinger

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**GAME NIGHT AND
HOT DOG SUPPER**

FRIDAY, JULY 28

6 P.M.

Bring a side dish and/or
dessert to share.

Everything else will be provided.



IN THE MAIL . . .



Dear Siblings in Christ,

Your gift is planting seeds for the future ...

We are embarking on a capital campaign to build a new chapel, a new entrance way, and a new swimming pool for Camp Kinard! A chapel that will serve as the centerpiece of our Camp, grounding us in our faith. A new entranceway that takes us from the bustle of our everyday life and brings us into this holy space. And a new swimming pool that is accessible to all, for fun and relaxation, to rejuvenate and renew.

THANK YOU for your generous gift of \$2,500 to our Building + Renewing + Believing: Holy Spaces campaign on April 21, 2023.

You are helping to make dreams come true as together we envision more opportunities for people of all ages to grow in faith and experience radical hospitality at Camp Kinard. Thank you for your generous support and investment in the future of South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers at Camp Kinard as we provide holy spaces for God to change lives! With deep gratitude,

*Deacon Dallas J. Shealy, Executive Director
SC Lutheran Retreat Centers*



Dawn Smith Jordan
August 20 - 4 p.m. at Grace
Mark your calendar!

Scholarship Forms Due July 1

Applications for the Grace Bedenbaugh - Chariker Scholarship are available in one of the wall pockets outside the church office window. The deadline to apply is July 1. The Grace Bedenbaugh - Chariker Scholarship Fund provides assistance for active Grace members enrolled in post-high school degree programs.

This fund was founded by the late Earle and Jeannine Bedenbaugh who provided financial support for many years. In 2018, Susan and John David Dawkins began matching donations as an ongoing memorial to Susan's mother, Kathryn D. Chariker, a long-time educator.

How To Make A Donation

Scholarship Fund envelopes are available behind the guest register in the narthex. Donations may be made in honor or in memory of loved ones. Remember: your donation will be matched!

Grace Wicker Campership Fund



The Wicker Campership Fund provides financial assistance to our baptized, active Grace youth who attend any Novusway summer camp such as Lutheridge, Lutherock, or local Lutheroad summer day camp. Green Campership forms are available now in one of the pockets outside the office window.

Thanks to the family of Edd Wicker and the late Jane Wicker who made the initial donations in October 2000 to begin the Campership Fund and to all who have generously contributed to the fund over the years.

Please continue to support the Campership Fund. Envelopes are available behind the guest register in the narthex.



Serving in June

Assisting Ministers

4 - Christina Henricks
11 - Candace Frick
18 - Judy Bedenbaugh
25 - Susan Dawkins



Altar Flowers

4 - Andrea Lewis
11 -
18 -
25 - Bob and Cissie Dibble

Acolyte

Lillie Waters

Crucifer - June 4

Hunter Hall

Torchbearers - June 4

Thomas Mewbourn, Jonathan Shealy

Communion Assistant

Andy Hawkins

Communion Preparation

Deborah Ruff

Communion Clean Up

Dale and Julie Shealy

Ushers

Nathan Shealy (head), Deborah Ruff, Phil Ruff, Camryn Shealy, Jonathan Shealy

Greeters

Sue and Wayne Mitchell

Offering Tabulators

Nathan Shealy (head), Deborah Ruff, Phil Ruff, Camryn Shealy

Altar Guild

Brad and Melodie Waters

Pew Helper

Jessica Shealy

Front Sign

Dale and Julie Shealy

SANCTUARY LAMP SPONSORS



During the month of June, the Sanctuary Lamp burns to the glory of God and in honor of Caroline's Baptismal anniversary (June 8, 1997) and Cody's Baptismal anniversary (June 17, 1990) by Wayde and Sally Dominick.

For honorary or memorial information to be included in the newsletter and bulletin, information and \$30 donation should be received by the office by the last Sunday of the month prior to the month you sponsor.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	Sanctuary	* Online	Total
5/7	74	14	88
5/14	59	6	65
5/21 Graduate	60	16	76

* Total Online viewers = Peak views x 2 per SC Synod instructions.



5/7	25
5/14	22
5/21	22

Altar Flower Sign Up

The 2023 Altar Flower Chart is posted on the narthex board. A number of Sundays are still available, including June 11 and 18; July 9 and 16; Aug. 6, 13, and 27; and Sept. 3. Sign up on the chart or contact the church office by phone or email to re-



NewsLetter
DEADLINE

**Deadline for
the July 2023
Newsletter:
June 19**



Beginning June 1, summer office hours for the church secretary will be Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon.



While our monthly GYM is on break for the summer, we encourage our Youth to take part in Grace's Vacation Bible School, *Twists and Turns*, June 25-29. Those ages 12 and up are needed to serve as group assistants and station helpers. Those under the age of 12 are invited to take part as students. See you at VBS!



May Gym Time

Youth and guests enjoyed Gym Time May 21 with devotions and a friendly game of kickball followed by a hot dog and hamburger meal to celebrate the final GYM time until fall and the ending of the school year.



GYM Time: Looking Ahead

Because no feedback has been received from our youth families, we are repeating this article from May's newsletter.

Beginning in January, Grace Youth Ministry has been having a monthly GYM Time — a time each month for fun, food, fellowship, and to come together to *strengthen* our faith and friendships. So far, this time has been scheduled for the fourth Sunday of each month from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., with the start time adjusted to 5 p.m. in February and March to accommodate for the 6 p.m. Sunday evening Lenten services. After our May GYM Time, at which we celebrated the end of the school year, we will pause for the summer months of June and July.

Youth families, this is where your input is very much wanted and needed! Looking to resume our monthly GYM Time in the fall, what is most likely to work best for your family's schedule? Do we keep things as is, on the

we need your feedback

fourth Sunday of each month, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.? Do we need to pick a new time frame? Another Sunday of the month? A different day of the week? Please let Jessica Shealy know your thoughts, whether at church, by text (803-271-5580), or by email (jessicashealy14@gmail.com).

GYM Time has the potential to be exponentially more fun and enjoyable for everyone the more youth (and your friends, who you are always welcome to invite!) that are able to come. We want to be sure we are scheduling this monthly get-together time — and other youth group activities, like painting the Youth Room, which we still hope to do — for a time that is the most suitable to as many of you as possible. Thank you!



Church
FINANCES

Our Offerings for May

Through May 22
(Does not include May EFTs)

MINISTRY BUDGET *Our Monthly Need: \$13,344*

Given during month.....	\$3,590.05
Given year-to-date.....	\$40,426.31
Goal through May 31.....	\$66,720.00

BUILDING LOAN FUND *Our Monthly Need: \$4,720*

Given during month.....	\$2,471.46
Given year-to-date <i>(includes fundraisers)</i>	\$18,576.95
Required through May 31.....	\$22,656.00
Gifts to Be Applied to Principal.....	\$1,500.00
Fundraisers for Principal	\$621.15

MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP FUND

Given during month.....	\$270.00
Given year-to-date	\$2,030.69

PARSONAGE FUND

Given during month.....	\$10.00
Given year-to-date	\$50.00
Fund Balance, May 21	\$4,370.38

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Given during month.....	\$60.00
Given year-to-date	\$512.00

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Given during month.....	\$25.69
Given year-to-date	\$250.69

CAMPERSHIP FUND

Given during month.....	\$65.69
Given year-to-date	\$250.69

COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND

Community Assistance.....	\$551.58
Given year-to-date	\$971.58
Bookbag Food Ministry	\$10.00
Given year-to-date	\$10.00
Thanksgiving Meal	\$0.00
Given year-to-date	\$0.00
Total year-to-date.....	\$981.58

SPECIAL 2023 OFFERINGS

Estate of Larry Spotts.....	\$25,000.00
St. Jude (Preschool Trike-a-thon)	\$1,275.00
Bereavement Meal Fund.....	\$1,010.00
Shrove Tues. Building Loan Fundraiser...	\$621.15
Scholarship Fund Match 2022.....	\$550.00
Boys' Farm (Preschool Chapel Change).....	\$525.00
Livestream Upgrade.....	\$515.15
Interfaith Comm. Services (Lenten Offering)	\$488.00
Youth.....	\$425.69
Manna House (Preschool Closings)	\$390.00



MINISTRY BUDGET

Needed Thru May 31:	\$66,720
Given thru May 21:	\$40,426

Amount Behind Goal: \$26,294

BUILDING LOAN

Required Thru May 31:	\$22,656
Given thru May 21:	\$18,577

Amount Behind Goal: \$ 4,079

Don't forget your offerings while you are on vacation this summer. You can donate online at graceluth.org; mail in your offerings; or use the drop box by the front entrance.



Summer Stewardship Reminder



With our renewed focus on paying down our building loan for the Ministry Center, we can celebrate that the principal due on the loan is now under \$100,000.

As of the May 1, our loan balance was down to \$93,778.66. Over the past few months, we have looked for ways to make additional payments toward the principal: \$40,000 from the Edward Jones account; \$5,300 transferred from the Youth account at the donor's request; \$1,500 in individual donations designated toward the loan principal; and \$621.15 from the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper fundraiser.

See pg. 3 for information on our Boston Butt fundraiser to work toward this goal.

SPECIAL 2023 OFFERINGS continued

Disaster Response (for Mid East Crisis)...	\$300.00
Youth (Thrivent).....	\$240.00
Easter Lilies.....	\$270.10
Souper Bowl (Wolves Pantry/Newberry Col.)....	\$212.25
LSC New Americans Program.....	\$60.00
Christian School.....	\$50.68
Disaster Response.....	\$20.00

Update on the Call Process

From notes prepared by Council Chair Deborah Ruff and presented to the congregation after the May 21 service.

There is some paperwork required by the ELCA - not just the SC Synod - for the call process. When we started, we did the History and Vitality Survey. Then we met with the Bishop and were shocked by the small number of pastors available and the assessment of Grace's finances with regard to paying a pastor so we put things "on hold."



From the Council Chair

We were recently reminded by the Bishop that absolutely nothing can move forward with the call process without our completing the Ministry Site Profile. This is mostly demographic information: ages of congregation members; percentage of male to female; distance members live from the church, etc. There are some areas about strengths and visions for the congregation. This document will be presented at Council's June meeting for approval.

There will be an opportunity in the near future for the congregation to share thoughts in regard to mission and vision and desired gifts of a pastor. Look for more information to be coming on this soon.



Once the Ministry Site Profile is sent to the Synod, the Bishop and staff members will set up a meeting with the congregation to review survey results and answer questions.

Thought To Ponder: A Call for Each Church



What distinguishes any two churches in a given community from each other? If God is the champion of order rather than of chaos and if he is not asking his people to compete with one another to reach the unreached, can we conclude that he has a unique calling in mind for each church? That calling is based on the resources and gifts he has brought together in that church, the ministry environment in which the church is located and the special anointing he gives to each person he calls to lead his people.

- George Barna in *Today's Pastors*, January 1998

Grace Leaders

Congregational Officers

Susan Dawkins, vice president
Deborah Ruff, secretary

Congregation Council

Deborah Ruff, chair
Susan Dawkins, vice chair
Cindy Amick, secretary

Ronnie Cromer	Sue Mitchell
George Dawkins	Nathan Shealy
Lisa Farr	Brad Waters
Candace Frick	Lynn Wessinger
Beverly Hawkins	Camryn Shealy
Robert Martin	(youth)



Care and Fellowship Team

Dale Shealy, chair

Christian School Team

Sarah Eargle, chair

Community Hope Team

Wayne Mitchell, chair

Facilities Team

Walt Quattlebaum, chair

Finance Team

Mike Hawkins, chair

Good News Team

Beverly Hawkins, chair

Lifelong Education Team

Andrea Lewis, chair

Worship Team

Deborah Ruff, Emmett Wicker, co-chairs

Youth Ministry Team

Lynn Wessinger, chair

Church Staff

Julie Shealy, Office Secretary
Eddie Rivers, Choirmaster/Organist
Chop Cooper, Preschool Administrator
Tim Harmon, Janitorial Services Contractor
Craig Farr, Groundskeeper Contractor

Fund Treasurers

Linda Cromer, Current Fund, Sunday School
Kim Metz, Building Fund
Edwina Wicker, Maintenance Fund
Julie Shealy, Community Service Fund
Teresa Cooper, Campership Fund
Candace Frick, Scholarship Fund



Preschool Closes Successful Year

Grace Christian Preschool celebrated the end of its 23rd year with closing programs on May 15 and 16. A total of 334 family members attended these special occasions. The closings were also livestreamed on Grace's Facebook page.

Grace Preschool would like to thank our parents and congregation members for a fun and faith-filled preschool year. We experienced many of God's blessings each day we were together. We appreciate your continued support of this ministry.

We hope that everyone will have a fun and safe summer - and we look forward to our 24th Preschool year in the fall!

We give thanks for the leadership and love provided by our Preschool staff this year: director and teacher Andrea Hawkins; teachers Robbie Hunter, Abby Lasater, and Robin Romano; and teacher assistants Dawn James, Cheryl Mitchell, and Jessica Ringer.

We also give thanks for the leadership, guidance, and support provided by our dedicated administrator, Chop Cooper.

We thank Shelby Felker for leading music each week and Karen West for her service as treasurer. In addition, we appreciate Pastor Jane, who led our weekly Wednesday Chapel.

We bid farewell to our director and teacher Andrea Hawkins and to assistant Dawn James, who will not return in the fall. They will be greatly missed.



Register Now for Preschool

Preschool Registration for the 2023-2024 year is going on now.

Registration packets are available outside the church office window or may be printed from the Preschool page at graceluth.org. **Registration fee increases from \$60 to \$75 after June 1.** We have classes for 2-year-olds, 3-year-olds and 4-year-olds, but space is limited. Birthday deadlines are Sept. 1. Contact Administrator Chop Cooper at 803-924-0352 or the Preschool office at 803-364-3330 for more information. Leave a message and

someone will get back with you as soon as possible.

Please help spread the word about this special program.



Thank you to all of our Preschool parents, family, friends, and guests who donated \$390 in offering for Manna House at the Preschool closing programs, and a huge thank you to everyone who helped to make this a great year for our Grace Christian Preschool ministry!



Grace Preschool Class of 2023

(Graduating 4-Year-Olds)

Nell Alexander
 Caroline Berry
 Gavin Freeman
 Kendall Gallman
 Bryleigh Greenberg
 Brayden Gregory
 Luke Jeffcoat
 Lachlan Kemp
 Raylynn Larson
 Braylon Moore
 Braedy Rikard
 Drake Roton
 Eric Smith
 Adalyn Sutphin
 Lydia Turner
 Ellie Weaver
 Cohen Webb




Congregation Council Meeting – May 9, 2023

Funds from the Spotts' gift to the congregation were deposited into the Grace Current Fund to be held until a designated use is decided. The tithe has been made to Camp Kinard's Holy Spaces Campaign. *(Editor's note: See pg. 5 for a thank you from Dallas Shealy, Executive Director of SCLRC.)*

Council is looking into getting fiber connected that can enable better livestreaming the worship service. *(Editor's Note: Carolina Connect installed fiber and became the internet provider at Grace on May 18.)*

Dawn Smith Jordan will hold a concert at Grace, tentatively planned for Aug. 20, and more information will be shared about how church and community members can sign up to attend. A meal as a fundraiser at the event was discussed.



Next Meeting
Tuesday, June 13
6 p.m.

At its last meeting the Wake Up Team went through the Ministry Site Profile for Grace and will bring more information to the June council meeting. Pastor Jane revisited information about the process of calling a pastor, compensation guidelines, and creating a partnership agreement. It was recommended to have another congregational meeting before engaging further in the call process and to offer some discussions for members to learn more about the partnership model.

The church schedule was busy with many upcoming events including: the preschool year-end programs on May 15 and May 16; Graduate Recognition Sunday on May 21 with gifts for graduates from the Lifelong Education Team; Confirmation on May 28 with breakfast provided by Youth Ministries Team with gifts for confirmands from Women's Bible Study; celebration of the 25th anniversary of Pastor Jane's ordination on June 11; and VBS the week of June 25-29 with Susan Dawkins as director and support from the Lifelong Education Team.

Summary Submitted by Christina Henricks, Council Secretary

April Financial Reports

	<u>Balance, 4/1</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Balance, 4/30</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
Current/Budget Fund	\$54,611.21	\$11,380.64	\$13,013.90	\$52,887.95*	\$11,099.03 CD
Building Loan Fund	\$36,160.12	\$47,673.24+	\$ 4,719.85	\$79,113.51	(\$144,402 balance owed)
Maintenance Fund	\$ 7,239.78	\$ 211.30	\$ 91.82	\$ 7,359.26**	n/a
Sunday School Account	\$ 2,969.41	\$ 134.26	\$ 78.57	\$ 3,025.10	n/a
Christian Schools Acct.	\$26,401.53	\$ 6,747.69	\$ 6,521.34	\$25,627.88	n/a
CS Educational Fund	\$ 8,086.71	\$ 856.00	\$ 1,054.26	\$ 7,888.45	n/a

*Current Fund Balance does not include designated monies for the LED Bulb Fund (\$534.37); Sound System Fund (\$335.39); Livestream Upgrade (\$515.15); Adult Choir Fund (\$325); Bereavement Meal Fund (\$1,920.61); Sydney Shealy Memorial Gift (\$5,555.68); or Larry Spotts Estate Gift (\$22,500) contained within the Current Fund Checking Account.
 + Building Fund receipts include \$40,000 from Phoebe Callahan funds withdrawn from Edward Jones account and \$1,100 in donations, all designated for the loan principal. A principal payment of \$46,400 *(including \$5,300 transferred from the Youth Fund at the donor's request)* was made on May 1, reducing the building loan balance to \$93,779.
 **Maintenance Fund balance does not include Parsonage Fund (\$4,360.38) or Front Door Fund (\$816.38) contained within the Maintenance Fund Checking Account.



Congregation Council Meeting – April 11, 2023

Congregation Council held its regular monthly meeting on April 11, 2023 at 7 p.m. in the Ministry Center.

Robert Martin presented the recent efforts in pulling down the Ministry Center loan balance. The Wake-Up Team will continue to explore the possibilities for fundraisers and emphasis to the congregation on focusing on this specific loan balance.

Council discussed some of the difficulties with livestream, current phone systems, and internet. Robert shared with Council that Carolina Connect is getting closer to being a possibility for the church. Current option from AT&T for phone service is \$500 per month if we work on a month-to-month basis. AT&T wants to take us off the analog system and put in new phones at the cost of \$250. Robert will share more information regarding options at the next council meeting.

Areas of concern were expressed with the livestreaming of worship, including internet connectivity; professional installation; camera; and audio. More conversation and some additional research will be needed. St. Paul may be a resource of additional contacts to be made for further discussion. Donations toward the goal of improving the livestream are ongoing.

Council approved Lillie Waters and Helena Mewbourn for confirmation. Council shared a long conversation about confirmation and the current guidelines of the process. Some areas of concern were two years versus three years of instruction, the current format, and how the participants are feeling about their growth in faith. Discussion will continue regarding this topic. No one is going into confirmation next year. More conversation will need to be had by families and students.

Council approved the request from Peggy Thomas for membership at Grace.

Synod Assembly is June 8-10. Johnny, Jessica, Pastor Jane, Lynn, and Deborah are the current possibilities for delegates.

Council decided that the Spotts' Gift to the congregation would be placed in the general fund and held there until the use is designated. It was clarified that the tithe of the Spotts' gift will go to Camp Kinard's 50th Anniversary Holy Spaces campaign.

Council authorized Johnny or Julie to withdraw the approved funds from the Phoebe Callahan monies in the Edward Jones account and deposit the funds into our Building Loan account. The money will then be placed on the principal of the loan for the Ministry Center.

Dawn Smith Jordan will give a Concert on Aug. 20 at Grace. A love offering will be received during the concert. This will be a community event. More information to come next month.

Guidelines for the Community Service Fund were discussed. Council decided that \$300 once a year is the limit for assistance per individual. The office will be provided with a list of available resources in the community.

Upcoming Events: Grace Graduation Recognition will be May 21. Newberry College Sunday will be April 30.

Kids Unlimited requested use of the facilities, which was approved.

Preschool visited Springfield Place and shared songs with residents of Springfield.

Finance Team meets April 17. Worship Team meets April 27.

Youth Ministry Team reported that 24 or 25 children and their families were in attendance at the Easter Egg Hunt. Special thanks to the Preschool participants and guests from the community.

Old Business: Further discussion was held regarding the parsonage. Ministry ideas are welcomed. Council will continue to explore options and opportunities.

Pastor Jane dismissed council with prayer.

From Minutes Submitted by Susan Dawkins, Acting Council Secretary, Council Vice Chair

** March financial report summary was printed in the May newsletter.*

June 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	2	3
4 <i>The Holy Trinity</i> Breakfast - 9:15 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - 10:30 a.m.	5	6 Heartland Conference Pastor's Meeting - 11 a.m.	7 Bible Study - 6 p.m. Adult Choir - 7:30 p.m.	8 Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	9 SC Synod Assembly June 8 - 10 Columbia Marriott	10
11 <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i> Breakfast - 9:15 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - 25th Ordination Anniversary Celebration for Pastor Jane - 10:30 a.m. <i>Reception to follow the service.</i>	12	13 Council Meeting - 6 p.m.	14 <i>Flag Day</i> Bible Study - 6 p.m. Adult Choir - 7:30 p.m.	15 Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	16	17 Boston Butt Fundraiser Pickup Time: 9 a.m. - Noon
18 <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i> Breakfast - 9-9:25 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - 10:30 a.m.	19 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> NewsLetter DEADLine	20	21 Bible Study - 6 p.m. Adult Choir - 7:30 p.m.	22 Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	23 WELCA Convention at Lutheran Church of the Zion, Lexington	24
25 <i>4th Sunday after Pentecost</i> Breakfast - 9-9:25 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - 10:30 a.m.	26	27 Newsletter Team - 9 a.m.	28	29 Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	30	1  <i>Deadline for Bedenbaugh- Chariker Scholarship Applications</i>



Twists and Turns VBS
Light Meal - 6 p.m.; VBS - 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.





Grace Lutheran Church

210 Grace St.
P.O. Box 188 (Mailing Address)
Prosperity, SC 29127

www.graceluth.org

803-364-3331

gracelutheran2@att.net

Ministers: The People of Grace

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jane P. Mitcham

Online Giving

Scan this symbol
with your smartphone
to be connected to our
online giving page.



NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
PROSPERITY SC
PERMIT NO. 7

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

June Highlights



SC SYNOD

**SC Synod
Assembly
June 8-10**

**Celebration of
Pastor Jane's
Anniversary of
Ordination
June 11**



**Boston Butt
FUNDRAISER**

**Boston Butt Fundraiser
June 17**



**Vacation
Bible
School**

**Twists and Turns
June 25 - June 29**



**Don't Take
a Vacation
from Church**

Looking Ahead

**Bedenbaugh-Chariker
Scholarship Application
Deadline: July 1**



**Lutheroad
Day Camp
July 17-21**

**Game Night
And Hot Dog
Supper
July 28**

