



Grace ABOUNDS

April 2023

From Our Interim Pastor



As I write this, we still have two Sundays in Lent, Palm Sunday, and Holy Week services to go before Easter Sunday. As you read this, Holy Week still looms ahead of us before Easter Sunday as well. My first thought was that perhaps I should go ahead and write an Easter message anyhow, but then I changed my mind – because isn't that what we are too often prone to do – skip as much of Lent and especially Holy Week as we can and move right on Easter. We just don't want to deal with the hard stuff. And yet, without walking through Holy Week and especially Good Friday, I'm not sure the depth of the Easter message rings loudly in our ears.

So, let's give some thought as to why we need not rush through Lent and Holy Week. After all, we know the rest of the story, so why not just go there? Let's see!

So, what is it that we are called to remember during this Lenten season. Often there's an emphasis on the sacrificial offering Jesus made on our behalf so that we might be restored to a right relationship with God. Just as in Old Testament days sacrifices were offered as an atonement for sins, Jesus became the ultimate sacrifice, the Lamb of God, whose suffering and death paid the price for us. That's one explanation for the suffering and death Jesus experienced. Many adhere to this atonement theory and others question.

But there's another way to look at all those events in the life of Jesus that took place during Holy Week. Remember John 3:16 and 17? "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." That's the message that touches my heart, that brings me to my knees in confession, and lifts me up to be a faithful disciple. God's love for me, and not just for me, but for the whole world became alive and active through the suffering, death and resurrection of God's Son, our Redeemer. Love, amazing love is that theory's understanding of the events of Holy Week.

So, when we hear the gospel reading on Maundy Thursday and remember that Jesus loved his disciples so much that he was willing to wash their feet, that's love. When we remember on Good Friday, all the events of that day – the betrayal of Judas, the denial of Peter, the accusations, the beatings, the taunting, the condemning, and ultimately the cross – that's love.

And when we remember that we are so loved by our God even though we fail over and over again to love God, especially when we fail to love others as we have been loved, it moves us to confession and repentance. And then, on Easter Sunday when we hear again the angel's message, "He is not here, He is risen," we know he did all that just because God loves us so. And then with thankful hearts, we join our voice with that of Mary Magdalene, the first proclaimer of Christ's resurrection, "I have seen the Lord" – and then, having seen, we go and tell others how much God loves us all!

Walk with Jesus this Holy week! You'll be glad you did!

Pastor Jane

Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 2
10:30 a.m.



Maundy Thursday
Services
April 6
12:15 p.m., 7 p.m.

Good Friday
Service
April 7
7 p.m.



Sunrise Service
April 9 - 7 a.m.
Easter Worship
April 9 - 10:30 a.m.

APRIL Birthdays

- 1 - Bryan Hall, Patricia Kislevitz
- 5 - Edwina Wicker
- 7 - Chad Frick
- 8 - Sally Dominick
- 9 - Cole Dawkins
- 10 - Megan Nobles
- 11 - Joanna Kiker
- 12 - David Riley, Andy Hawkins
- 13 - Joe Dimock
- 14 - Walt Quattlebaum
- 15 - Jaylan Burnore
- 16 - Jill Thurman
- 17 - Caroline Dominick
Nicole H. Shaw
- 19 - Michael Derrick
- 22 - Sharon Scott
- 24 - Kyra Mattison
- 25 - Nancy Derrick, Georgie Riley
- 28 - Hayden Hall
- 29 - Cody Dominick, Zach Frick,
Edie Gwyn Morgan
- 30 - Susan Dawkins, Beverly Merck
Lillie Waters

APRIL Anniversaries

- 7 - Anthony and Brande Fanara (23rd)
- 8 - *Edd and Jane Wicker +*
- 12 - Andy and Kim Metz (9th)
- 16 - Tim and Lagina Harmon (40th)
- 18 - Mike and Kelly Whitlock (25th)
- 21 - Phil and Deborah Ruff (22nd)
- 24 - *Nathan and Sydney Shealy +*
+ Memorial Anniversary

2023 Grace Graduates

Please let the church office know of any Grace member who will be graduating from high school, tech school, or university in May or June (or who has graduated since May 2022). We don't want to leave anyone out. A date has not yet been set for Grace's annual Graduate Recognition Sunday.



Grace People in the News

CHRISTINA HENRICKS was pictured in the Newberry Observer outside the future home of the Newberry Arts Center. Christina is board chair of Create Newberry, a nonprofit formed in 2020 to support the work of the arts center.



APRIL Baptisms

- 1 - Paula Epting, Renée Stubbs*, Sonny Scott*
- 2 - Beverly Hawkins
- 3 - Emmett Wicker
- 4 - Susanne Nelson
- 6 - Rick Mercer
- 9 - Chesney Shealy
- 10 - Lisa Sulka
- 12 - Casey Dawkins
- 15 - Thomas Mewbourn, John Barbee, Searra Fishbeck,
Megan Nobles, Katie Norris, Alex Whitlock
- 18 - Jerry Vaughn
- 22 - Cali Rai Derrick, Joe Dimock, J.C. Wicker
- 23 - Jim Luther
- 28 - Ashley Ackerman, Haileigh Mercer,
Alexandra Renwick



IN THE MAIL ...



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, cards, and warm birthday wishes on my special day.

Edd Wicker

Grace Lutheran Church and Youth Ministry,

Thank you so much for supporting Newberry Campus Ministry, Ukraine, and the Wolves Pantry. You are such a blessing to us, and we thank you and thank God for you.

Pastor David

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gifts given to your synod received by Lutheran Disaster Response in January 2023. Thank you for sharing the hope of new life and fullness of Christ's joy.

*In Christ, Amanda White
Director, Congregational Generosity*

Palm Sunday, April 2



Our Holy Week observance begins with Palm Sunday, April 2 when we gather at 10:30 a.m. on the front lawn of the church for the Procession with Palms. As we enter the Sanctuary, our focus shifts to the reading of our Lord's Passion as we consider Christ's great sacrifice of love for us.

Easter Egg Hunt, April 2

Grace Youth will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday, April 2 from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Ministry Center. Pizza, drinks, and cookies will be served for lunch. In addition to the Easter Egg Hunt fun, there will be games and story time. All youth (and adults) are invited. Older youth are asked to help with the activities.



Maundy Thursday, April 6

Grace will offer two opportunities to worship on Maundy Thursday, April 6.



A Quiet Communion Service will be held at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

An Evening Service will be held at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will gather together for worship with Holy Communion. The service will end with the Stripping of the Altar.

Both services will conclude in silence as we ponder the next days of Jesus.

Easter Gifts Due April 2

Easter memorials and honorariums for loved ones will be published in the Easter lily insert on Easter Sunday. Please submit your memorials or honorariums no later than Sunday, April 2 for inclusion. Mark your donation "Easter Gift."



Good Friday Service, April 7

Our Good Friday Service will be April 7 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. On this holy night, we remember that Jesus suffered and died on the cross as the ultimate sacrifice for our sins.



Celebrate Our Risen Lord On Easter Sunday, April 9

Grace and Wightman are again sponsoring the annual Community Easter Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. Easter morning, April 9 across from Wightman. Immediately following the Sunrise Service, Wightman will host Easter breakfast for the community.

Sunday School Classes at Grace will meet at 9:30 a.m. as usual. At 10:30 a.m., we will worship and celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord in the Sanctuary adorned with Easter lilies. Holy Communion will be celebrated.



Please remember to bring **cut flowers** from your yards and gardens on Easter Sunday for our special Easter Cross. Leave flowers in the narthex by 9:30 a.m. so that the Worship Team can assemble the cross and put it in the Sanctuary before the service.



Don't Forget Your Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies can be picked up on Easter Sunday, April 9 after the 10:30 a.m. service. Thank you to all who donated lilies in memory or in honor of loved ones to decorate the Sanctuary for Easter morning.



Grace Prayer List

Grace Family: Greg Stewart; Margaret Kluttz (*rehab/Greenville*); Cissie and Bob Dibble; Larry Wessinger; Glenda and Everett Crafts; Heather and Bob Harris; Evelyn Harmon; Marysue Rivers; Faye Hartman; Lois Amick; Erynn, Lee, Raelynn and Jaxon Wessinger on the death of Erynn's grandmother, Mary Johnson, March 21; Sadie Epting and Family and Linda and Ronnie Cromer and Family on the death of our brother in Christ, J.B. "Snag" Epting, March 26.

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/Michael Riley (*Faith Nursing Home, Florence*).

College Students: Hayden Hall (*Piedmont*); Zach Frick, Parker Metts (*USC*); Payton Metts (*Piedmont*); Bryce Medlock (*Bluefield University/VA*); Taylor Metz (*MUSC*).

Extended Family: Mary Kennington (*Wanda Hartman's mother*); Alexander Capo (*Roberta Meyers Capo's nephew*); Jimmy Dawkins (*Allene Dawkins' son*); 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: Jackie Perry; Amy Frick Wicker; Davida Monsanto; Violet Wilmot; Mary Lawson; Shirley Thomas; Family of Suzanne Mayer; NC Bishop Tim Smith; Pastor William and Karen Hightower; Terri Kaloplastos.

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; homeless; jobless/underemployed; 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.



March Memorials and Honorariums

Gift to the Current Budget Fund

In honor of Emmett Wicker on his birthday by the Kevin Wicker Family

Gift to the Building Loan Fund

In memory of Bob Kirchner (*Kelly Whitlock's father*) by Phil and Deborah Ruff

Building Loan Principal Gifts to the Shrove Tuesday Fundraiser

In honor of Johnny and Beverly Merck by Bob and Heather Harris

In memory of Curtis and Elaine Shealy and Rudy and Allene Huffstetler by Dale and Julie Shealy and Family

In honor of Jessica Shealy by Emmett Wicker

Gift to the Bedenbaugh-Chariker Scholarship Fund

In memory of Earle and Jenny Bedenbaugh on their March birthdays by Jean Bedenbaugh

Gifts to World Series One Goal

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Bedenbaugh, Sr., Roscoe Bedenbaugh, Nancy Bedenbaugh and Robin Foy by Steve Bedenbaugh

In honor of Chop and Theresa Cooper for their work as Youth leaders during my youth; David Riley for his involvement with church softball and basketball teams in my youth; and Edna Riley as a Sunday School teacher by Steve Bedenbaugh

In memory of Pastor Alvin Fulmer for his work with the boys' basketball team in my youth by Steve Bedenbaugh

In honor of Johnny Merck for all his work with Lutheran Men and the Pee Dee Indian Project by Steve Bedenbaugh

In honor of Pastor Eric Fink for his help in all of these areas and helping to establish the World Series One Goal years ago by Steve Bedenbaugh

Christ in Our Home Devotionals

Quarterly *Christ in Our Home* devotionals for April, May and June are available on the narthex table near the Ministry Center entrance. Pick up a copy for your home and take one to a friend!

\$40,000 to Pay Down Loan Debt

During the called Congregation meeting on March 5, Grace voted to use \$40,000 from the Phoebe Callahan funds to pay down the Ministry Center debt. These funds were gifted to Grace in 2017 by former member Phoebe Singley Callahan. At that time, Council directed these funds be invested at Edward Jones with future use to be decided by Council.

The \$40,000 will be applied directly to the loan principal to decrease the money owed to the bank. Council, on recommendation of the Wake Up Team, is looking to pay off our Ministry Center loan within the next two years. By paying off this debt, this should free up \$56,638 a year in donations to the Building Loan Fund that we have been using to make the monthly building loan payments since 2009. This more than \$56,000 could then be used to bolster our pastor salary package and to fund ministries at Grace. Of course, this is contingent on donors continuing to give the funds they have currently been directing to the building loan payments but re-directing them instead to Grace's annual budget.



Synod Assembly June 8-10



The annual SC Synod Assembly will be held June 8-10 at the Columbia Marriott. This year's theme is "I See Jesus," based on Luke 24:32 - "Were not our hearts burning within us?" If you would like to represent

Grace as a voting member at the 2023 Synod Assembly, please see Deborah Ruff.



Manna House Item of the Month: 4 lb. bags of sugar

Donations may be left in the Manna House box in the narthex. Thank you for supporting Manna House food pantry!

Newberry College Sunday



Grace will be observing Newberry College Sunday on April 30. Newberry College is celebrating the 166-year partnership in ministry between Newberry College and the Lutheran Church. We will receive a love offering in support of Newberry College and hope to have a college representative speak to us.

Backpack Ministry Update

Thank you for all of your generous donations this school year to Grace's Backpack Ministry. As summer break draws near, we have plenty of pudding packs to finish out the year, but could still use donations of other items on the shopping list. Thanks again for your support of this special ministry!



Be sure to check out our updated Grace website at graceluth.org. Thanks to Jessica Shealy for volunteering her talents and countless hours of work in revising and revamping our website; adding additional information; and giving our website a more contemporary look! Jessica plans to add additional information and pages in the future.

People of Grace and Yearbook

Don't forget to pick up a copy of our 2023 *People of Grace* directory as well as the 2023 *Yearbook*. Copies are available on the table in the narthex.

People of Grace lists contact information for Grace members and friends. The *Yearbook* serves as our annual report and contains 2023 ministry assignment information.



Yearbook Update

Please add Mike Hawkins as Chair of the Finance Team in your 2023 *Yearbook*.

Serving in April

Assisting Ministers

- 2 - Johnny Merck (*Palm Sunday*)
- 6 - Deborah Ruff (*Maundy Thursday - 7 p.m.*)
- 7 - Johnny Merck (*Good Friday - 7 p.m.*)
- 9 - Candace Frick (*Easter Sunday*)
- 16 - Melodie Waters
- 23 - Sally Dominick
- 30 - Ronnie Cromer

Altar Greenery/ Flowers

- 2 - Emmett Wicker (*Palm Sunday - palms*)
- 9 - Lynn Wessinger (*Easter - white flowers*)
- 16 - *Open*
- 23 - Phil and Deborah Ruff
- 30 - Melodie Waters

Acolyte

Thomas Mewbourn

Crucifers

- 2 - Allie Waters
- 9 - Zoe Frick

Torchbearers

- 2 - Jonathan Shealy, Lillie Water
- 9 - Helena Mewbourn, Camryn Shealy

Communion Assistant

Jessica Shealy

Communion Preparation

Sue and Wayne Mitchell

Communion Clean Up

Emmett Wicker

Ushers

Craig Farr (*head*), Judy Bedenbaugh,
Nancy Derrick, Brad Waters,
Lynn Wessinger

Greeters

Wayne and Sue Mitchell

Offering Tabulators

Dale Shealy (*head*), Judy Bedenbaugh,
Julie Shealy, Emmett Wicker

Altar Guild

Emmett Wicker

Pew Helper

Dale Shealy

Front Sign

Emmett Wicker

SANCTUARY LAMP SPONSORS



During the month of April, the Sanctuary Lamp burns to the glory of God and in honor of Edd Wicker and in memory of Jane Wicker by Edwina Wicker.

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
3/5 a.m.	58	16	74
3/12 a.m.	48	24	72
3/19 a.m.	60	20	80
3/26 a.m.	51	30	71
P.M. Service	Ministry Center	* Online	Total
3/5 p.m.	39	10	49
3/12 p.m.	34	10	44
3/19 p.m.	30	8	38
3/26 p.m.	28	8	36

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

✓ Sunday School ATTENDANCE

3/5	34
3/12	23
3/19	26
3/26	20

Altar Flower Sign Up

The 2023 Altar Flower Chart is posted on the narthex board. A number of Sundays are still available, including April 16 and May 7. Sign up on the chart or contact the church office by phone or email to reserve an available date.

Altar
Flower
SIGN-UP



NewsLetter
DEADLINE

**Deadline for the
May 2023 Newsletter:
April 17**



Monthly GYM TIME

Sunday, April 23

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

**Faith, fellowship,
fun, and food!!**



Your friends are always welcome
at our youth activities.

More Youth = More Fun!



Sunday, April 2

Easter Egg Hunt

Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 23

Monthly GYM Time

5:30 - 7 p.m.

Faith, fellowship, fun, and food!

Sunday, May 28

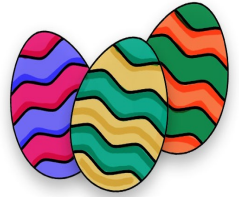
Monthly GYM Time

5:30 - 7 p.m.

Faith, fellowship, fun, and food!

Easter Egg Hunt

Older Youth are asked to help with the Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 2 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Pizza, drinks, and cookies served for lunch at noon. Come join in the fun!



Youth Room Painting Postponed

Youth had planned to begin painting the Youth Room on Saturday, March 25, but due to conflicts, the activity was postponed. We would love for all of our youth to get to participate in the painting process, so please contact Jessica Shealy, Andy Metz, or Kim Metz and let them know when you could help with this huge Youth project.



Grace Youth Ministry (GYM)

now has a GroupMe!

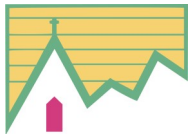
If you have not been receiving these group messages but would like to be, please see Jessica to get that worked out.



Lutheroad Day Camp July 17-21

Dates for the Lutheroad day camp that Grace helps to sponsor are July 17-21. This year's theme is "Beloved: Be Loved." Day camp registration packets are available in one of the pockets beside the office window. Day camp is for youth who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade. Lutheroad day camp brings some of the special experiences summer camp at Lutheridge to the local church. Day camp includes fun, worship, games, Bible Study, fellowship, crafts, sharing, and prayer.





Church
FINANCES

Our Offerings for March

Through March 26
(Does not include March EFTs)

MINISTRY BUDGET	<i>Our Monthly Need: \$13,344</i>
Given during month.....	\$6,973.00
Given year-to-date.....	\$24,900.72
Goal through Feb. 28	\$40,332.00

BUILDING LOAN FUND	<i>Our Monthly Need: \$4,720</i>
Given during month.....	\$3,400.07
Fundraisers year-to-date	\$621.15
Given year-to-date (includes fundraisers)	\$9,532.25
Required through March 31	\$14,160.00
Gifts to Be Applied to Principal.....	\$400.00

MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP FUND	
Given during month.....	\$460.00
Given year-to-date	\$1,550.00

PARSONAGE FUND	
Given during month.....	\$10.00
Given year-to-date	\$30.00
Fund Balance, March 26	\$4,350.38

SUNDAY SCHOOL	
Given during month.....	\$95.00
Given year-to-date	\$341.00

SCHOLARSHIP FUND	
Given during month.....	\$150.00
Given year-to-date	\$175.00

CAMPERSHIP FUND	
Given during month.....	\$40.00
Given year-to-date	\$120.00

COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND	
Community Assistance.....	\$40.00
Given year-to-date	\$145.00
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.....	\$155.00

SPECIAL 2023 OFFERINGS	
Shrove Tues. Building Loan Fundraiser...	\$621.15
Scholarship Fund Match 2022.....	\$550.00
Livestream Upgrade.....	\$500.00
Lenten Offering (Interfaith Comm.).....	\$407.00
Youth.....	\$325.00
Disaster Response (Middle East Crisis).....	\$300.00
Souper Bowl (Wolves Pantry/Newberry College).....	\$212.25
Easter Lilies.....	\$230.00
Youth (Thrivent)	\$96.00
Bereavement Meal Fund.....	\$55.00

MINISTRY BUDGET	
Needed Thru March 31:	\$40,332
Given thru March 26:	\$24,901
Amount Behind Goal:	\$15,431
BUILDING LOAN	
Required Thru March 31:	\$14,160
Given thru March 26:	\$ 9,532
Amount Behind Goal:	\$ 4,628

Lenten Offering: SCLRC

Through March 26, Grace has received \$407 for our annual Lenten offering, which Council designated for our local Interfaith Community Services. You can find Lenten offering envelopes in the pew racks or behind the guest register in the narthex or mark any envelope "Lenten Offering." You may also donate online. Use the "Other" line and type "Lenten Offering."



As part of our Lenten discipline, let us all consider how we may follow our Lord's example to sacrifice for the sake of others and spread the good news of God's saving love in Jesus!

Shrove Tuesday Fundraiser

Our final total for our Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday fundraiser shows that \$621.15 was raised to go toward the building loan principal to help us work toward our goal of paying off our Ministry Center loan. We appreciate all who attended and those who helped cook; all those who made special financial gifts; and all those who donated gifts of supplies to help keep expenses for the pancake supper, Mardi Gras activities, and Mardi Gras decorations to a minimum.



YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

SPECIAL 2023 OFFERINGS CONTINUED	
Christian School.....	\$25.00
Disaster Response.....	\$20.00

The Beauty of Stewardship

Reprinted from ChurchArtOnline



Stewardship has to do with how we manage our time, talent, resources - basically our entire lives. It's a beautiful concept when properly understood. Here are the basics of good stewardship: God is the source of all creation, including our lives. God is the primary owner of all that exists.

We are blessed by being given the task of managing well all that we have influence over: our lives, our abilities, our minds and bodies, our time, our part of the earth, our finances, our children, our church buildings, our automobiles, etc.

Although we can make decisions regarding each of the above, ultimately we are responsible to God. Sooner or later, we must give an account of our management of God's creation and of God's gifts.

When we properly use the talents, resources and property that God allows us to manage, we find great joy. Think of planting a garden which soon overflows with colorful flowers, wonderful vegetables and flavorful herbs, etc. God gave us the plot of ground, God gave us the seed, God gave us the wisdom and strength to bring forth such beauty, such good things to see or eat, or smell. Yet we did the work, with God's help, to make it a reality. Like Adam we tilled it and kept it. But God gave the increase. God's provisions and our labor brought the garden to its fulfillment.

Good stewardship enables us to do something positive and wonderful with the money God has allowed us to have. What feels better than knowing one has managed money well? Our bank account, our checkbook and our portfolio tell the story. When money is handled well, we have enough for ourselves and are still able to give to God's work.

That is the beauty of stewardship.



The Stewardship of Life

"Life is an accomplishment. Each moment has a meaning and you must use it. Life is given to you like a flat piece of land and everything has to be done. I hope that when I'm finished, my piece of land will be a beautiful garden." - Actress Jeanne Moreau

The question each of us must deal with as Christian stewards is what our "piece of land" will be like when God tells us we are finished with it.

Grace Leaders

Congregational Officers

Susan Dawkins, vice president
Deborah Ruff, secretary

Congregation Council

Deborah Ruff, chair
Susan Dawkins, vice chair
Christina Henricks, 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



Council Notes

Council Meeting - Tuesday, March 14

Congregation Council held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 14 at 7 p.m. in the Ministry Center.

The congregation voted March 5 in support of transferring \$40,000 in discretionary funds toward the building loan balance. This will bring the building loan balance down considerably. The Wake Up Team continues to explore other funds available to continue paying the loan off more quickly.

All monthly reports and annual reports in the 2023 Yearbook were adopted unanimously. Council also voted in support of a recommendation from the Current Fund treasurer to enable a higher interest rate on the endowment savings account.

The Finance Team had a productive meeting over the past month. Mike Hawkins has agreed to serve as Finance Team chair. The Finance Team plans to work with all committees over the next several months to assess financial needs for operating those ministries and focus on creating a ministry-driven budget.

At the suggestion of the Worship Team, Council voted to purchase an upgraded subscription to the Sundays and Seasons worship planning resource so that hymns can be printed in the bulletin as needed.

Sunday Evening Lenten services have been well-attended.

Pastor Jane is helping to plan for continued content for the adult Sunday School class.

In other business, it was reported that the Souper Bowl Sunday contribution was made to the Wolves Pantry at Newberry College.

Grace will recognize Newberry College Sunday on April 30 with a bulletin insert and love offering.

Grace can send three representatives to the SC Synod Assembly June 8-10 in Columbia, SC. Any members interested can reach out to church staff or a council member.

Synopsis Provided by Christina Henricks, Council Secretary



**Tuesday
April 11
7 p.m.**





February Financial Reports

	<u>Balance, 2/1</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Balance, 2/28</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
Current/Budget Fund	\$55,732.58	\$12,307.16	\$11,035.82	\$57,003.92*	\$11,099.03 CD
Building Loan Fund	\$33,389.64	\$ 3,692.18	\$ 5,119.85	\$31,961.97	(\$153,931 balance owed)
Maintenance Fund	\$ 9,738.37	\$ 460.68	\$ 315.18	\$ 9,883.87**	n/a
Sunday School Account	\$ 2,910.22	\$ 189.00	\$ 233.00	\$ 2,866.22	n/a
Christian Schools Acct.	\$24,219.83	\$ 3,566.66	\$ 6,174.24	\$21,612.25	n/a
CS Educational Fund	\$ 4,858.98	\$ 125.50	\$ 1,242.36	\$ 3,742.12	n/a

* Current Fund Balance does not include designated monies for the LED Bulb Fund (\$534.37); Sound System Fund (\$335.39); Bereavement Meal Fund (\$1,550.41); Choir Fund (\$325) or Sydney Shealy Memorial Gift (\$5,555.68) contained within the Current Fund Checking Account. **Maintenance Fund balance does not include Parsonage Fund (\$4,340.38) or Front Door Fund (\$816.38) contained within the Maintenance Fund Checking Account.

April 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 30 <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i> Breakfast - 9:15 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - Newberry College Sunday - 10:30 a.m. <i>Community Registration for Lutheroad Day Camp Ends May 1</i>						1 <i>Deadline for Early Registration for Lutheroad Day Camp for Members of Sponsoring Churches</i>
2 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Breakfast - 9:15 Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - Procession with Palms - 10:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt - Noon	3 Grace Christian Preschool on Spring Break April 3-10	4	5 Women's Bible Study - 6 p.m. Adult Choir - 7:30 p.m.	6 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.  Services 12:15, 7 p.m.	7 <i>Good Friday</i>  Service 7 p.m.	8 <i>Holy Saturday</i> 
9 <i>Easter Sunday</i> Sunrise Service - 7 a.m. (across from Wightman) Breakfast at WUMC - after sunrise service Breakfast at Grace - 9:15 Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Easter Worship - 10:30 a.m.	10 <i>No Preschool</i> <i>Church Office Closed</i> 	11 Congregation Council Meeting - 7 p.m.	12 Women's Bible Study - 6 p.m. Adult Choir - 7:30 p.m.	13 <i>Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.</i>	14	15
16 <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i> Breakfast - 9:15 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - 10:30 a.m. Wake Up Team after worship	17 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> Finance Team - 6:30 p.m.	18	19 Women's Bible Study - 6 p.m. Adult Choir - 7:30 p.m.	20 Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	21	22
23 <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i> Breakfast - 9:15 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - 10:30 a.m. GYM - 5:30 p.m.	24	25 Newsletter Team - 9 a.m.	26 Women's Bible Study - 6 p.m. Adult Choir - 7:30 p.m.	27 Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	28	29 30 <i>See top left for schedule</i>



Grace Lutheran Church

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Ministers: The People of Grace

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jane P. Mitcham

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

April Highlights



Palm Sunday
April 2
Procession with
Palms
10:30 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, April 2
Noon-1:30 p.m.



Maundy Thursday
April 6
Services at Grace
12:15, 7 p.m.

Good Friday
April 7
Service - 7 p.m.



Easter Sunday,
April 9
Sunrise
Service- 7 a.m.
(Across from WUMC)
Easter Breakfast
at Wightman UMC

Festival Worship Service
at Grace - 10:30 a.m.



Monthly
GYM
April 23
5:30 p.m.

Newberry
College Sunday
April 30

Looking Ahead

Preschool
Year-End
Programs
May 15, May 16
(Last Day of
Preschool - May 18)



Pentecost
Sunday
and
Confirmation
May 28

REGISTER
NOW

2023-2024
Preschool
registration is
open. Get your registration
packet at graceluth.org or
call the church office.