



Grace ABOUNDS

Summer 2025
July and August

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



When our Summer Newsletter hits your mailbox – or email – this year's South Carolina Synod Assembly will be in our rear-view mirror by about a couple of weeks. But it's important for me to share some high points of my, Diane's and Len Fulmer's attendance at the Assembly. (Diane attended as a guest, Len attended as voting member for Grace. Kelli Fulmer attended as part of her group at LDR.)

Of course, the typical "business" for the Synod was conducted – voting on the budget, voting on Resolutions, voting on members for Synod Council, and having some time to gather in beautiful worship of God. From Thursday (6/12) through Saturday (6/14) the agenda kept all the delegates very busy and ready to get back to our rooms after long and busy days. The gathering also voted on our Synod's Vice President – electing Andrew Boozer to a 6-year term upon the end of service for Deacon Lexanne Graves. The VP of the Synod is tasked with numerous responsibilities and is a key person who works closely with our Bishop.

In addition to items noted above, resolutions were approved pertaining to the safety of children, and the "standing together" for our Synod, and the ELCA churches in SC. The Synod Resolution on protecting children is a document that details actions to be taken to ensure the safety of children when working with youth in our church. The reality is that Grace Lutheran has established guidelines that we currently follow, and we give thanks to all those who developed and carry out the critical aspects of caring for children.

The Resolution for our SC Synod churches emphasizes unity and countering division. It reminds us to share the Truth about Jesus and uphold God's Holy Word, avoiding misinformation. Before moving, Diane and I were unaware of efforts to divide churches in our communities. This Resolution encourages us to focus on our mission for God, and prevent negative information from disrupting the church.

The Bulletin of Reports that includes the agenda, annual reports of the bishop and others who help guide the Synod, is a 166-page booklet. We'll work on having a link set up so that you can access this document to obtain more information. All in all, the Assembly for our SC churches was well organized and provided great opportunities for those of us from Grace to meet and establish new relationships.

The following spells out the theme for the Assembly - Our Heritage, Our Hope: "God's Faithfulness to All Generations" - Psalm 100. This was the Thirty-eighth Assembly of the South Carolina Synod – ELCA, and the 200th meeting of the Lutheran Church in South Carolina! The Assembly theme and scripture was chosen to emphasize God's faithfulness spanning time – the past, the present and the future in relation to ministry in and through the South Carolina Synod.

God is faithful to us. Our response is to be faithful to God and to share the Good News of Jesus. That's why we gather and that's why as Christ Followers our goal is to reach out to the world and bring more people to know and love God!

Blessings always,

Pastor Dave

Contact Pastor Dave by cell phone at 219-707-9823 or by email at pastordaveadamsgrace@gmail.com.



Special Days in July and August

Birthdays

7/4 - Sue Mitchell
 7/5 - Bryce Medlock
 7/6 - Timothea Sharpe
 7/9 - Clyna Quattlebaum
 7/14 - Jessica Shealy, Matthew Shealy
 7/16 - Evelyn Harmon, Dale Shealy
 7/17 - Kelli Fulmer
 7/23 - Jeremy Medlock
 7/26 - Judy Bedenbaugh, Ashley Metts
 Mary Grace Whitlock
 7/30 - Buck Black, Johnny Merck
 8/2 - Lexi Medlock
 8/5 - Kimberly Lane
 8/11 - Casey Dawkins, Mike Whitlock
 8/12 - Candace Frick
 8/13 - Jeanna Hall, Deborah Ruff
 8/25 - Wayde Dominick
 8/28 - Lagina Harmon
 8/30 - Kim Metz, Ronnie Pridgen

Anniversaries

7/9 - Glenda & Everett Crafts +
 7/15 - Timothea Sharpe & Al Potter 24th
 7/17 - Ronda and Russell Mewbourn 21st
 7/27 - Sheila & Robert Martin 56th
 8/1 - Wanda & Barry Hartman 32nd
 8/5 - MarySue & Eddie Rivers 53rd
 8/6 - Meghan & Kellsey Bryant 3rd
 8/13 - Cissie & Bob Dibble 59th
 8/19 - Donna & Eugene Jacobs 47th
 8/22 - Susan & John David Dawkins 32nd
 8/30 - Linda & Ronnie Cromer 56th

+ memorial anniversary

Baptism Anniversaries

7/10 - Sally Dominick
 7/17 - Margaret Kluttz, Paula Pridgen
 7/21 - Caroline Whitlock
 7/23 - Georgia Hartman
 8/01 - Donna Jacobs
 8/05 - Lewis Bedenbaugh,
 Beverly Merck, Lynn Wessinger
 8/11 - Ronnie Pridgen
 8/12 - Camryn Shealy
 8/13 - Jim Luther, Melodie Waters
 8/15 - Brad Waters
 8/22 - Sharon Neel
 8/23 - Rev. Al Potter
 8/25 - John Dawkins, Tara Stewart
 8/31 - Hunter Hall

People of Grace Directory Updates:

Emmett Wicker has a new address:

113 Byrd Street
 Prosperity, SC 29127
 Home phone: 803-364-2653
 Cell phone and email address
 have not changed.

Lauren Derrick married Robbie Long September 28, 2024

Her new address is:
 8383 Macedonia Church Road
 Prosperity, SC 29127

Michael Derrick married Stephanie Bundrick December 7, 2024

His new address has not changed.

Grace People in the News ★

Don't forget to share your "good news" or
 address changes, etc. for members of Grace
 with the church office by email, by phone, or with
 a note in the office box.

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Grace Family: Peggy Thomas; Beverly & Johnny Merck; Evelyn Harmon; Cissie & Bob Dibble; Marysue Rivers; Pastor Al Potter; Heather & Bob Harris.

Residential Care: Wendy and Michael Riley

College Students: Payton Metts (*Piedmont*); Camryn Shealy, Bailey Stewart & Allie Waters (*Newberry College*).

Extended Family: Justin Ford & Taylor Jordan Ford (*The Adams' family members*); Kathy Buchanan (*Beverly Hawkin's cousin*); Kay S. Hager (*Kelly Shealy's sister*).

Community: Steve Culbertson; Debbie Wertz.

Military: Lt. J.G. Alexandra Dibble (*Naval Destroyer- USS Stout*); Staff SGT. Anderson Dibble (*Marines/Stone Bay, NC*) – *The Dibble's granddaughters*; Everett Crafts, V (*Air Force -Glenda Craft's grandson*); Walker Eldridge (*USCG/Seattle, WA*).

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; The homeless ; Individuals who are unemployed; Refugees worldwide; and our adversaries.

June Memorials and Honorariums To the Current Fund:

- * In memory of Allan Harris, Bob Harris' brother by Judy Bedenbaugh.
- * In memory of Kenneth Wright, Heather Harris' twin brother by Bob and Heather Harris.
- * In memory of Everett Crafts by Wayne & Lynn Dowd.
- * In honor of Judy Bedenbaugh's birthday by Kim and John Uhas.

To the Maintenance Fund:

- * In memory of Kenneth Wright by Judy Bedenbaugh

To the Scholarship Fund:

- * In honor of the 55th anniversary of Pastor Al Potter's ordination to the ministry by Judy Bedenbaugh.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	Sanctuary	* Online	Total
6/01	50	20	70
6/08	No services	-	-
6/15	60	14	74
6/22	56	24	80

* Total Online viewers = Facebook and YouTube

If you are out of town or can't make a service, please watch online. We are on Facebook and YouTube now!

Just scan the QR code for YouTube



6/01	30
6/08	-
6/15	32
6/22	31

Interested in formally joining Grace Lutheran Church?

Pastor Dave will be presenting a 90-minute session in July for disciples of Jesus who may be thinking of formally joining Grace Lutheran as members of this church body. Please let Pastor Dave know if you will attend so we can schedule this opportunity to learn more about our Lutheran heritage and that of Grace Lutheran. Jesus the Christ has commanded us directly in Matthew 28:19-20 to, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." We are Called to share the Good News of Jesus who is always with us so we may have God with us as we work to grow His Holy Church.

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

**Deadline for the
September newsletter is
August 19th**

Serving in July



Serving in August

Assisting Ministers

6 - Johnny Merck
13 - Sally Dominick
20 - Deborah Ruff
27 - Allie Waters

Altar Flowers

6 - Timothea Sharpe
13 - Mike & Kelly Whitlock
20 - Brad & Melodie Waters
27 - The Frick Family

Live Stream Operators

6 - Brad Waters
13 - Mike Whitlock
20 - Jessica Shealy
27 - Johnny Merck

Communion Assistant

Judy Bedenbaugh

Communion Preparation

Deborah Ruff

Communion Clean Up

Wayne & Sue Mitchell

Acolyte

Hannah Moates

Ushers

Mike Whitlock, Chop Cooper, Wayde Dominick, David Luther, Craig Metz

Greeters

Andrea Lewis, Robert Martin

Offering Tabulators

Deborah Ruff, Camryn Shealy,
Nathan Shealy

Front Sign

Cayce Moates, Deborah Ruff

Altar Guild

Beverly Hawkins

Pew Rack Helper

Edwina Wicker



Acolytes

We are in need of adult volunteers to crucifer and acolyte. If you would be interested please contact the church office or please see Candace Frick.

Assisting Ministers

3 - Candace Frick
10 - Sally Dominick
17 - Teresa Cooper
24 - Andy Hawkins
31 - Ronnie Cromer

Altar Flowers

3 - Cindy Amick
10 - Donna Jacobs
17 - Nathan Shealy
24 - Roberta Meyers Capó
31 -

Live Stream Operators

3 - George Dawkins
10 - David Luther
17 - Brad Waters
24 - Mike Whitlock
31 - Jessica Shealy

Communion Assistant

Cayce Moates

Communion Preparation

Emmett Wicker

Communion Clean Up

Teresa Cooper, Sharon Neel

Acolyte

Raelynn Wessinger

Ushers

Nathan Shealy, Deborah & Phil Ruff,
Camryn Shealy, Jonathan Shealy

Greeters

Michael & Cayce Moates

Offering Tabulators

Johnny & Beverly Merck,
Brad & Melodie Waters

Front Sign

Mike Shealy

Altar Guild

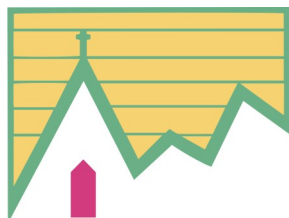
Emmett Wicker

Pew Rack Helper

Beverly Hawkins



THANK YOU ALL!



Church FINANCES

Our Offerings for June 2025

*Through June 22nd
(Does Not Include June EFTs)*

MINISTRY BUDGET Our Monthly Need: \$15,549.00

Given during month10,199.73
Given year-to-date..... 85,155.34
Goal through June 2289,705.75

MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP

Given during month 660.65
Given year-to-date.....5,986.43

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Given during month84.00
Given year-to-date665.90

SCHOLARSHIP

Given during month250.00
Given year-to-date595.45

CAMPERSHIP

Given during month0.00
Given year-to-date40.20

COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND

Community Assistance.....00
Given year-to-date100.00
Bookbag Food Ministry.....0.00
Given year-to-date270.79
Thanksgiving Meal0.00
Given year-to-date0.00
Total year-to-date370.79

SPECIAL 2025 OFFERINGS YTD

Scholarship Fund Match 2023.....386.38
Souper Bowl of Caring Offering.....300.00
Youth Ministry245.00
Lenten Offering.....875.00
Easter Lilies268.86
VBS Love Offering.....241.02



Thank you for giving!



MINISTRY BUDGET

Needed Thru June 22: \$ 89,705.75
Given Thru June 22: \$ 85,155.34
Amount Behind Goal: \$ 4,550.41

SANCTUARY LAMP SPONSORS



During the month of July the Sanctuary Lamp burns to the glory of God and in honor and memory of loved ones by James and Nancy Derrick.

During the month of August the Sanctuary Lamp burns to the glory of God and in loving memory of her husband, David, by Edna Riley.

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

Altar Flower, Lamp Sign Up



The 2025 Altar Flower and Sanctuary Lamp Chart is posted on the narthex board. Sign up on the chart or contact the church office by phone or email to reserve your special dates.

We have several open dates!



Manna House Items

July - Canned Fruit

August - 1 lb. bags of rice

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



There is a thank you card posted on the church bulletin board from the Mid-Carolina High School Band "Rebel Regiment" thanking us for donating to their band banquet.

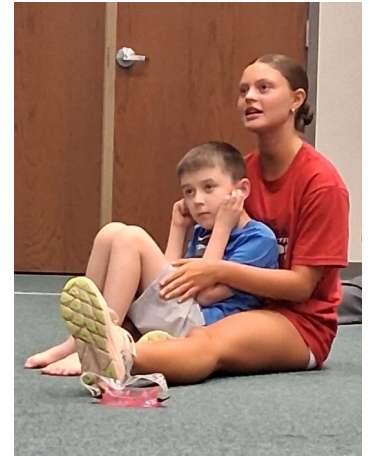


Monthly GYM TIME
Sunday, August 24
Noon - 1:30 p.m.

We may need volunteers to help with our August GYM Time Meal. Be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Youth at VBS

Thank you to our youth who served as group assistants and station helpers at our Vacation Bible School and to those who participated as students too! Your presence at VBS was needed and much appreciated!



2025





Council Minutes for June 10, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Robert Martin with a reading of the Mission Statement.

Deborah Ruff shared devotions with a reading of Psalm 23. God provides rest and refreshment on busy days. Quiet moments are a gift from God.

Pastor's report: Norfolk Southern Railway sent a bill for \$316.62 to cover the annual lease for parking space. Enrollment in Vacation Bible School stood at 27, a large increase from the previous year (37 were enrolled by Sunday 6/15). Columbia Fireflies has a family night in August, and a sign-up sheet will be posted to gauge interest in attendance from the congregation. Grace will apply for a World Hunger grant of up to \$10,000 that can be used to increase the backpack ministry, stock the pantry at Newberry College, and for Manna house, Thanksgiving meals, and other local ministries. Typically, there are about 400 applications for the 50 available grants. Envelopes will be placed in pews for gifts for Newberry College. A discussion took place about placing attendance cards in pews to be taken up with offerings in lieu of using the black registration books.

Adoption of Reports: Johnny Merck suggested checking to make sure that officers listed on the church's Edward Jones and other accounts are current. Andy Metz made a motion to accept the reports as written, seconded by Deborah, and passed.

Discussion: Johnny has a copy of the church's By-Laws and will make copies for other members of the By-Laws Committee to review.

Robert discussed procedures for having doors locked during church services and having someone monitor the front door at all times. Security training is available through the town of Prosperity if anyone wants to attend.

Chop Cooper reported that Lloyd Roofing in Greenwood submitted high estimates of \$129,800 to replace the flat roof and \$58,000 to replace the pre-school roof. Jordan Roofing estimated that the flat roof can be repaired for \$6,000. Chop will continue to check with other companies.

Sue Mitchell indicated that Vacation Bible School plans have been finalized. Chop has submitted four new people for background checks.

The next council meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 8, at 6:30 pm in the Ministry Center.

There are no new shepherding concerns. The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer by Pastor Dave.

Respectfully submitted,
David Luther, Council Secretary



July 8, 2025
6:30 p.m.



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU to all who helped with the meals for VBS! We fed between 65 and 80 people Monday through Thursday and more than 100 on Friday night for our closing celebration. It took a lot of working hands to set up each night, prep the food, serve participants, and then clean up each night. These awesome folks are listed below.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU to all who provided food donations for VBS to help keep meal expenses down. What a blessing! You and your donations are very appreciated! Special thanks to those who made crockpots of mac and cheese, spaghetti sauce, and hot dog chili! You rock!

It was a great week of VBS where souls were fed with God's Word and tummies were filled with good food. Thanks be to God!

Julie Shealy, VBS Meal Coordinator

2025 Vacation Bible School Staff

Director: Meghan Bryant

Publicity/Social Media: Jessica Shealy

Photography: Jessica Shealy, Diane Adams, Melinda McCormick

Welcome Desk: Wayne Mitchell, George Dawkins, Jessica Shealy

Security: Barry Hartman

Pre-K: Cayce Moates, Robin Romano, Diane Adams, Jaxon Kelly, Melinda McCormick

Kindergarten-Grade 2: Sally Dominick, Lynn Wessinger, Sharon Neel, Lillie Waters

Grades 3-6: Sue Mitchell, Ronda Mewbourn, Len Fulmer, Kelli Fulmer, Helena Mewbourn

Storytime: Pastor Dave Adams

Music: Ronda Mewbourn, Ron Brown

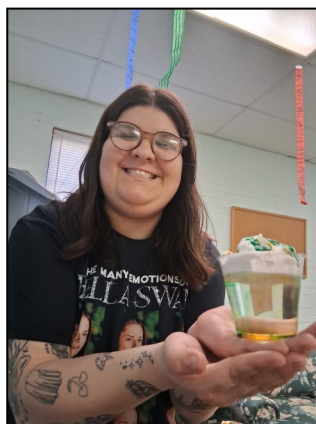
Science: Taylor Clarkson, Wanda Hartman

Crafts: Emily Mills, Hayden Hall, Katie Mills

Games: Bailey Stewart, Allie Waters, Jonathan Shealy, Landon Kendrick, Harris Crosby

Kitchen (food prep, set-up, serving and/or clean up): Julie Shealy (meal coordinator), Dale Shealy, Judy Bedenbaugh, Nancy Derrick, Beverly Hawkins, Kathy Brown, Emmett Wicker, Mike Shealy, JC Caughman, Ron Brown, Kelli Fulmer, Len Fulmer, Jessica Shealy

Wednesday Pancake and Sausage Cooks: Chop Cooper, Mike Hawkins, Wayde Dominick, George Dawkins, Dale Shealy





JULY

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Manna House Item for July: Canned Fruit		1	2 <i>No Wednesday choir rehearsal this month</i>	3	4 	5
6 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Children's Church	7	8 6:30 p.m. Council Meeting	9	10	11	12
13 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Children's Church	14	15	16 	17	18	19
20 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 3:00 ICE CREAM SOCIAL 	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	28	Valerie on vacation this week.			 <i>You will go out</i> IN JOY <i>and be led forth</i> IN PEACE. <small>ISAIAH 55:12, NIV</small>	



AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Manna House Item for August: 1 lb. bags of Rice					1	2
3 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	4	5  This week	6 6p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	7	8	9
10 Scholarship Sunday 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Children's Church	11	12 6:30 p.m. Council Meeting	13 6p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	14	15  LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR heart & WITH ALL YOUR soul AND WITH ALL YOUR mind. <small>MATTHEW 22:37</small>	16
17 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	18	19 September 	20 6p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	21	22 Spend time with God this Summer.	23
24 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12-1:30 GYM Time	25	26	27 9:30 a.m. Newsletter Team 6p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	28	29	30 
31 Normal Sunday schedule						



Grace Lutheran Church

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

www.graceluth.org
803-364-3331

gracelutheranprosperity@gmail.com

Ministers: The People of Grace

Pastor: Rev. Dave Adams

pastordaveadamsgrace@gmail.com

Online Giving

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



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Coming up at Grace



Sunday, June 29

King James Boys
here at Grace.

**Grace Scholarship Fund
Deadline July 1st**



Ice Cream Social

Sunday, July 20

3 p.m.

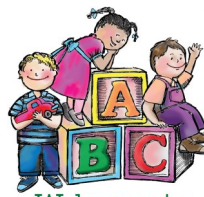


Women's Bible Study

**Women's Bible Study
starts back August 6.**

**Scholarship
Sunday**

August 10th



Welcome to
Preschool

**Preschool starts
back Sept. 2nd.**