



Grace ABOUNDS

November 2025

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

This month felt like it went by quickly as I looked forward to writing for our monthly newsletter, and I found myself searching for the right message for Grace ABOUNDS. The inspiration finally arrived when I spent time with the children in our Preschool, and the guidance I had prayed for came through the Spirit and these precious kids.

Holy Scripture tells us how important it is to help bring people to God – especially our little ones. *“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it.”* (Proverbs 22:6, NIV)

“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them, and blessed them.” (Mark 14b-16, NIV)

On the Wednesday during Chapel time when inspiration struck, I was deeply touched by how these little children are primed to learn so many things as they grow up in their years. Their smiling faces, their joy in sharing what they know at this age, and yes, their pent-up energy they just cannot always seem to control, brings joy to my heart, and reminds me of our responsibility to teach them about God. It reminds me how much I still need to learn about the eternal life and love God provides for us.

When we welcome a child into Jesus' Church at Baptism, we share an important directive to all who are gathered for this Sacrament. We are reminded what our duties are in raising these precious children of God –

“As you bring this child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with him/her among God's faithful people, bring him/her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him/her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his/her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him/her in faith and prayer, so that your son/daughter may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.”

It has been told that Martin Luther had a plaque in his room that said, “When you wash your face, remember your baptism.” Something we should remember daily – something we should remember when we are with family and friends – and something we should remember when we are with “our little” children. If we teach them how to love and trust God; if we nurture them to pray and grow in faith; and, if live with them as examples of people who love God – just think how God's world will be – a place where we find joy and peace because we are living as God has called us to live. Amen and Amen.

Blessings always, *Pastor Dave*



Reminder:

Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, November 2nd. Please turn your clocks back an hour before you go to bed Saturday night.

Annual Congregation Council Nominations and Election

Annual Congregation Council nominations will be held on **Sunday, November 2**. 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 2024 and/or 2025*). Council election is set for **Sunday, November 16**. We will be electing four people to three-year terms on Council in addition to a youth council member. We will also be electing our church officers of Vice-President and Secretary.

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



Special Days This Month

November Birthdays

- 2 - Carolyn Boland
- 3 - Justin Farr
- 5 - Robert Hawkins
- 10 - Billy Ackerman, Suzanne Medlock
- 11 - Linda Cromer
- 12 - Peggy Thomas
- 16 - John Barbee, Jason Riley
- 17 - Lynn Wessinger
- 18 - Taylor Metz
- 19 - Ronald Calsing
- 21 - Edna Riley
- 22 - Jean Bedenbaugh
- 26 - Jacy Mitchell
- 27 - Tom Neel

Grace People in the News

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

Congratulations to Raelynn Wessinger

who's art from school was selected to be in the SC State Fair this year.



Baptism Anniversaries

- 1 - Walt Quattlebaum
- 6 - Terrell Alewine, 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
- 29 - Ben Derrick



Chrismon Tree Decorating

Mark your calendars and join us as we decorate the Chrismon Tree in the Sanctuary at 9:30.

December 4th

Newsletter
DEADLINE

Deadline for the December newsletter is Nov. 18th.

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Grace Family: Cissie & Bob Dibble; Evelyn Harmon; Heather & Bob Harris; Faye Hartman; Pastor Al Potter; Marysue Rivers; Larry Wessinger.

Residential Care: Wendy and Michael Riley

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

Extended Family: Bishop Ginny Aebischer; Bishop Yehiel Curry (Presiding Bishop of ELCA) Zac Triebold (*friend of the Adams*)

Community: Sue Moore, Mike Epps; Steve Culbertson

Military: 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; 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.



Memorials & Gifts

For October 2025

Community Service Fund

Judy Bedenbaugh in memory of Kelli Fulmer's sister, Kristi Jean.

Current Fund

James and Roberta Capó in memory of Hunter Luther & Louwilla Copper Fellers.

James and Roberta Capó in memory of Robert Meredith & Beverly Jeanne Meyers.

James and Roberta Capó in memory of Dr. James Porcel & Maria Luisa Capó

Scholarship Fund

Judy Bedenbaugh in honor of Jessie and Matthew Shealy



November 2

During our service on All Saints' Sunday, Nov. 2, we 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. 3, 2024:

*Allene Dawkins
Everett Crafts*

Serving in November

Assisting Ministers

- 2 - Teresa Cooper (*All Saints Sunday*)
- 9 - Jessica Shealy
- 16 - Judy Bedenbaugh
- 23 - Sally Dominick (*Christ the King Sunday*)
- 30 - Ronnie Cromer (*1st Sunday in Advent*)

Altar Flowers

- 2 - Mike Shealy (*white*)
- 9 - Roberta M. Capó
- 16 - Meggie Kendrick
- 23 - Linda Cromer (*red*)
- 30 - Chrismon Trees

Live Stream Operators

- 2 - David Luther
- 9 - Brad Waters
- 16 - Mike Whitlock
- 23 - Johnny Merck
- 30 - Jessica Shealy

Communion Assistant Andy Hawkins

Communion Preparation

Cayce & Michael Moates

Communion Clean Up

Judy Bedenbaugh, Andrea Lewis

Acolyte Lillie Waters

Crucifer

- 2 - Jonathan Shealy
- 23 - Tomas Mewbourn

Torchbearers

- 2 - Thomas Mewbourn,
Jackson Wessinger
- 23 - Hanna Moates, Helena Mewbourn

Ushers

Dale Shealy, Judy Bedenbaugh, Deron Shealy, Mike Shealy, Emmett Wicker

Greeters Cindy Amick, Andrea Lewis

Offering Tabulators

David Luther, Sally & Wayne Dominick

Front Sign Dale, Julie & Jessica Shealy

Altar Guild Brad & Melodie Waters

Pew Rack Helper Sharon Neel



SANCTUARY LAMP SPONSORS



During the month of November the Sanctuary Lamp burns to the glory of God and in loving memory of her grandparents, H.L. and Louwilla Fellers by Sharon Neel.

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.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday	Sanctuary	* Online	Total
9/28	62	16	78
10/05	50	18	68
10/12	58	24	82
10/19	101	12	113
10/26	67	16	83

* Total Online viewers = Facebook and YouTube



9/28	26
10/05	28
10/12	15
10/19	32
10/26	31

New QR Codes for Facebook & YouTube

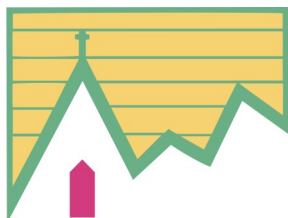
To watch Grace services on-line just use these updated links. It's easy!

Facebook:



YouTube:





Church FINANCES

Our Offerings for October

Through October 26
(Does Not Include Oct. EFTs)

MINISTRY BUDGET Our Monthly Need: \$ 15,549.00

Given during October	\$ 17,212.89
Given year-to-date	\$138,254.46
Goal through Oct. 26	\$154,293.89

MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP

Given during October	\$ 914.09
Given year-to-date	\$10,191.09

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Given during October	\$ 132.35
Given year-to-date	\$1,262.19

SCHOLARSHIP

Given during October	\$ 50.00
Given year-to-date	\$ 668.65

CAMPERSHIP

Given during October	\$ 0.00
Given year-to-date	\$ 60.20

COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND

Manna House	\$100.00
Given year-to-date	\$200.00
Community Assistance	\$25.00
Given year-to-date	\$200.00
Bookbag Food Ministry	\$ 0.00
Given year-to-date	\$1,600.79
Thanksgiving Meal	\$ 0.00
Given year-to-date	\$20.00
Total year-to-date	\$2,020.79

SPECIAL 2025 OFFERINGS YTD

Souper Bowl of Caring Offering	300.00
Youth Ministry	245.00
Lenten Offering	875.00
Easter Lilies	268.86
Mid-Carolina Football Meal	830.00
VBS Love Offering	250.06
Disaster Response	495.00
Bereavement Meal Fund	15.15

Thank you for giving!



MINISTRY BUDGET

Needed Thru Oct. 26: \$154,293.89

Given Thru Oct. 26: \$138,254.46

Amount Behind Goal: \$ 16,039.43



We need everyone's help to carryout the ministries of the Lord here at Grace. Please prayerfully consider how you can use your time and talents and complete this form and return it to the church office no later than **November 3, 2025.**

Manna House

This month we are collecting canned spaghetti sauce for Manna House. Donations can be left in the Manna House box in the narthex. We are deeply grateful for your generosity—whether through food donations or gift cards to Food Lion or Walmart.

Backpack Ministry

This ministry has started back for the school year. A wonderful opportunity to help needy children at Prosperity/Rikard Elementary School. A list of needed items is on the narthex bulletin board.



Thanksgiving Meal Bags

Once again, Grace will distribute Thanksgiving Meal bags of non-perishable food items to members of the community on Sunday, Nov. 23. 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. 17, to allow time to supplement donations as needed.

Thanksgiving Bag Shopping List

Stuffing mix (boxes/ bags)	Canned Corn
Chicken Broth (boxes/ cans)	Canned Green Beans
Canned Sweet Potatoes	Cornbread Mix
Mac and Cheese Boxes	Canned Pie Filling
	1-2 lb. bags of Sugar
	Gravy Mix Packets



Monthly GYM TIME

Sunday, November 23

Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Faith, Fellowship, Fun, and Food!

We may need volunteers to help provide food for our GYM Time meal.

Be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board.

Reminder:

Christmas Program Practice Begins Nov. 2

Calling all youth! Practice for the annual Christmas program begins Sunday, Nov. 2 at 9:30a.m. All children and youth are asked to participate. We will practice during Sunday School each Sunday in November. We will present our program on Dec. 7 during the worship service. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Shealy or Jessica Shealy .



At our September GYM Time, the Youth enjoyed a delicious lunch, played games and had a meaningful devotion time. During devotion time we continued to work on answering the question "What is Jesus like?" by turning to Luke 15:11-32 and Ephesians 3:17-19 to discuss how Jesus loves us—His love is prodigal!

Thanks for supporting our youth!

Thank you to Judy Bedenbaugh, Diane Gonzales, Andrea Lewis, Sue Mitchell, Cayce Moates, and Lynn Wessinger for providing the chicken nuggets, mac-n-cheese, and dinner rolls for our September GYM Time meal! Also thank you to Diane Adams, Beverly Hawkins, Cayce Moates, Deborah Ruff, and Lynn Wessinger for providing all the components we needed for the sub sandwiches at our October GYM Time meal!

Upcoming Events

All Sundays in November

Youth Christmas Program Practice
9:30 a.m. (during Sunday School)

Sunday, November 23

Monthly GYM Time 12-1:30 p.m.
Youth Ministries Team Meeting, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 6

Parade Float Decorating, time TBA

Sunday, December 7

Christmas Program Practice 9:30 a.m.
Youth Christmas Program, 10:30 a.m.
Congregational meal and the Prosperity
Christmas Parade, after church

Friday, December 19

Christmas Caroling & Party
Time TBA



At our October GYM Time, the Youth enjoyed a yummy sub sandwich lunch thanks to some members of the congregation, packed the food bags for Grace's Backpack Ministry, competed in a puzzle competition, and had meaningful devotion time.



Grace's Carowinds Trip was so much fun! Here's a picture of 10 of the 13 people who went.

Council Meeting Minutes— October 14, 2025

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

Deborah Ruff shared an Autumn Prayer for devotions as we transition into Fall.

Pastor's Report: We have been approached with a proposal to upgrade Grace's signage. Pastor Dave will get details and an estimate from the sign company for the council to evaluate the proposal.

Pastor Dave reported that Melinda McCormick has graciously been working on cleaning spots on the church's carpet.

Three estimates were presented to the council for replacing the church copier when the current lease expires. The bid from Novatech for a Sharp copier was significantly less expensive than the other two proposals. After discussion, Len Fulmer moved to accept the bid from Novatech when the current lease expires. David Luther seconded the motion, and it passed.

It was reported that Faith Lutheran Church sent prayers for Grace.

Adoption of Reports: Deborah made a motion to accept the reports as presented, seconded by Linda Cromer, and passed.

Discussion: The Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 14. After discussion, Len moved to have Newberry College Food Pantry as the recipient of this year's Advent/Christmas Offering. George Dawkins seconded the motion and it passed.

It has been determined that the existing church computer can likely be updated to use Windows 11, eliminating the immediate need for a new computer.

Johnny Merck reported that the company who paved the new handicap parking area, Willingham Landscaping, has proposed sealing and striping the entire Grace parking lot for \$8,000. After discussion, Johnny made a motion to accept the bid, seconded by George, and passed.

The need for a church Security Plan was discussed. Robert may be able to bring in a security professional to advise at the next council meeting. Chop Cooper will get an estimate to add another camera for the handicap parking area.

Ministry Team Updates: George provided a preview of the mailout and intent cards to be sent by the Stewardship Team. The intent cards will be placed anonymously in a box after services. A total of 73 letters will be sent out.

Shepherding Concerns: Bishop Ginny Aebischer has recently been diagnosed with cancer. The next council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 pm in the Ministry Center. Pastor Dave closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted, David Luther, Council Secretary



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The Care and Fellowship Team is sponsoring an Advent Family Night on November 30th at 5 o'clock. Tree and lights, donated by Pastor Dave and Diane, will be placed in the ministry center and decorated that night. We will have fun making Christmas ornaments to hang on the tree. Please bring finger foods to share. Everything else will be furnished.



Special Christmas Gifts

If you would like to make a special Christmas gift to Grace in memory or in honor of someone, please place your donation in the offering plate or bring it to the church office no later than Sunday, Dec. 7. Christmas gifts will be listed in the special poinsettia bulletin insert on Sunday, Dec. 14. Mark your envelope "Christmas Gift" if you would like it to be included in the insert.

Advent/Christmas Offering

The Congregational Council has designated the Advent/Christmas Offering to go to the *Wolves Pantry* at Newberry College this year. The *Wolves Pantry* is where students who need help obtaining food can go and get items they need.



Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary for the December 14th service and can be picked up after worship on Christmas Eve. Cost of Poinsettias is **\$13.50 per plant**. These will be wrapped in green paper. **TO ORDER**, please take one of the designated envelopes, complete the information, and enclose your payment. Place the envelope in the offering plate, return it to the office, or leave it in the drop box. **Order deadline is Sunday, Nov. 23rd.**



Christmas Program

Practice for the annual Youth Christmas program will begin Sunday, Nov. 2, at 9:30 a.m. All children and youth are encouraged to participate. We will practice during Sunday School each Sunday in November. We will present our program on December 7 during the worship service. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Shealy or Jessica Shealy.



Don't Miss Sunday, Dec. 7

The youth Christmas program, a congregational lunch, a brainstorming session, and a Christmas parade means Dec. 7 will be a great day to be a part of Grace!

Our youth will present their annual Christmas program during the morning service. This year's program *5G Christmas* will help get your heart ready for the Christmas season.

Following the service, the Youth Team will sponsor a soup and sandwich lunch for the congregation. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the narthex bulletin board for those who would like to help by providing soup, sandwiches, or desserts for the meal. After lunch, Pastor Dave will lead a brainstorming session for members to share their ideas about possibilities for future ministries and programs at Grace.

The Prosperity Christmas parade begins at 3 p.m. Grace Youth are sponsoring a float in the parade, and everyone is invited to ride. The float will need to be in the line up by 1:30. Everyone else is welcome to hang out at Grace then walk over to Main Street for the parade and cheer on the folks riding the Grace float. Come and be a part of this exciting day at Grace.



Save the Date Grace's Live Nativity will be December 14th

More details coming very soon.

Volunteers Needed for New Communications Team



Grace is looking for enthusiastic and creative individuals to be a part of a new Communications Team. The team will begin meeting in the new year and be charged with developing Grace's brand identity and improving how we communicate the ways God is working through Grace to better share the Good

News with our community. This team will be exploring issues such as branding and messaging; new logo design; evaluation of our mission statement and crafting a mission slogan; social media content; and communications to the community about Grace and the ministries of Grace.

Please contact Pastor Dave or Jessica Shealy if you are interested in being a part of this exciting team.

Living Lutheran Magazine

This magazine is now back in print. If you'd like to get the latest news, reflections and stories from across the ELCA and gain insight, inspiration and resources from your fellow Lutheran ministers, lay leaders and congregants you can subscribe just by going to the website: livinglutheran.org/subscribe. November 10th is the subscribe date if you want to receive the winter issue.

Homecoming / Golden Age Sunday 2025

We celebrated 166 years of Grace at Homecoming on Sunday, October 19, with a wonderful worship service, delicious covered dish meal, and lots of fun and fellowship. A special thanks to all who helped make this day so special! A record 34 Golden Agers were in attendance and approximately 100 worshipers stayed for the covered dish lunch. Pastor Al Potter, son of the congregation, shared with us his path to becoming an ordained Lutheran Minister. The *Joyful Noise* group shared beautiful music for our entertainment. It was a delightful day enjoyed by all! Check out our Facebook page if you want to take a peek at more of the great pictures taken.



Our "Golden Agers"



NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Manna House Item Needed: CANNED SPAGHETTI SAUCE					 DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME ENDS	1
2 Daylight Savings time ends 9:00 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Nomination Sunday	3	4 Election Day	5 6:00 Women's Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	6 6:00 p.m. Joyful Noise	7	8
9 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Ministry Center Reserved 2-5pm	10	11 Veterans Day 6:30 p.m. Council Meeting	12 6:00 Women's Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	13 6:00 p.m. Joyful Noise	14	15
16 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Election Sunday	17 Thanksgiving Bag orders due	18 November 	19 6:00 Women's Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	20 6:00 p.m. Joyful Noise	22	22
23 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 S. School 10:30 Worship 12-1:30 GYM TIME 1-3:00 Thanksgiving Bag Distribution 30 Regular Morning Schedule 5:00 Advent Family Night	24	25 9:30 a.m. Newsletter Team	26	27 	28 Ministry Center Reserved	29



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.



NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
PROSPERITY SC
PERMIT NO. 7

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Coming up at Grace



NOMINATIONS
and ELECTION

Nominations—11/2

Elections—11/16



**Forms due
November 2
please!**

**Thanksgiving Meal Bag Collection
all month. Distribution 11/23.**



November 23



Advent

Family Night

**The first Sunday of Advent,
November 30 @ 5:00 p.m.**