



Grace Abounds *September 2024*

Grace Lutheran Church

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



Grace is pleased to announce that Pastor David Adams' first day at Grace will be September 22, 2024. Please pray for him and his wife Diane as they make the transition from Indiana, to SC.



When I began to ponder what to say in my first Newsletter submission for Grace Lutheran Church, the one point that came to mind is how do I say, "THANK YOU?" With Google we can find an endless array of "things" to help answer our question. To my amazement the first site that came up says there are "22 different ways to say thank you in English!" That does not include any foreign languages.

I truly cannot say "THANK YOU" enough, or maybe even in the most gracious way for how everyone at Grace Lutheran has welcomed my wife Diane and me. We are humbled, we are blessed, and we are thankful to be Called to become part of your church family. We are very much looking forward to becoming part of the worship and history of your amazing church.

You continue to carry out the mission first set forth by Jesus when He told the apostles, "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. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matt 28:19-20) I am excited to begin learning and collaborating with you in the numerous areas of ministry you conduct. The monthly GYM time, Newberry College Campus Ministry, Grace Preschool, and so much more! The devotion to God, and how you continue Jesus' ministry is beautiful.

My promise to all is to work dutifully for our Lord, and to make sure everything I do with and for Grace Lutheran helps solidify your decision to Call me as your pastor. There will be missteps from time to time, but daily I will strive to be the kind of pastor of Grace you have prayed for. I look forward to meeting all who are part of this family of disciples. I will make sure those who cannot attend in person will be visited so their connection to our church remains strong, and with your help and guidance as new residents of South Carolina, I will love receiving your assistance as both Diane and I settle into our new place of worship and home.

Let me share some of what the Internet has provided for ways to say "THANK You":

"Thanks a lot!"

"That's so kind of you, thank you!"

"You're very kind, thank you."

"I'm really grateful, thank you."

"Words can't express how grateful I am for your kindness."

"You rock!" (very casual – I am telling you that you are wonderful people)

(I hope words like this are OK from time to time!)

In other words, THANK YOU!

Blessings and peace always,

Pastor Dave



- 4 - Renee Robinson
- 5 - Cindy Amick, Anna Kay Singley
- 6 - Jonathan Shealy
- 7 - Jennifer Lestage
- 12 - Diane Heffner
- 13 - Clayton Boland
- 16 - Jacob Harmon
- 19 - Andrea Lewis, Sara Peters
Dori Pitts
- 20 - Crystal Boatwright
Samantha Yarborough
- 21 - Terrell Alewine
- 22 - Tim Harmon, Sheila Martin
Marie Peters, Mike Shealy
- 25 - Glenda Crafts, Kay George
Barry Hartman
- 27 - Zoe Frick, Elizabeth Pridgen
Julie Shealy
- 29 - Barry Brown
- 30 - Camryn Long, Parker Pitts

- 6 - Dale Shealy
- 10 - Hanna Renwick
- 15 - Marci Bouknight
- 17 - Wendy Long
- 18 - Billy Leaphart
- 20 - Mary Wicker
- 21 - Lynn Wicker
- 23 - Bryce Medlock, Ashley Metts
- 24 - Ben Long
- 26 - Scott Epting, Jennifer Lestage,
Robert Martin, Deborah Ruff
- 28 - Candace Frick
- 30 - Christina Henricks
- * - Angela Mercer
- * - Craig Nelson
- * - Rev. Timothea Sharpe



- 1 - Tim and Amy Raymond (17th)
- 3 - Gregory and Laura Hardy (1st)
- 11 - Allen and Lori Derrick (31st)
- 12 - Wayne and Sue Mitchell (9th)
- 12 - Joanna and Thomas Kiker (4th)
- 21 - Johnny and Beverly Merck (55th)

GRACE PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Pastor James and Christina Henricks have accepted a call to St. Michael Lutheran Church in Blacksburg, VA. We wish them Godspeed on this new journey!



Please have your articles and announcements for our October Newsletter in by September 17th.



August Honorariums & Memorials

Gifts to the Current Budget Fund

- In honor of Pastor Jane Mitcham by Faye Hartman
- In loving memory of Bill Ackerman by Ackerman's Used Parts, Inc.
- In loving memory of David Riley by Allene Dawkins & Mr. & Mrs. Ken Long
- In loving memory of Billy George by Allene Dawkins & Mr. & Mrs. Ken Long by Katherine M. Bennett by Charles & Mitzi Epting by Phil & Deborah Ruff by Lorex Drug Company by Ronnie & Linda Cromer

Community Service Fund

In loving memory of Billy George by Edna Riley

Mid Carolina Football Team Meal

In loving memory of David Riley by Edna Riley

Grace Family: Sadie Epting's family; Kay George; Bailey Stewart; Sharon Neel; Cissie & Bob Dibble; Marysue Rivers; Evelyn Harmon; Pastor Al Potter; Glenda & Everett Crafts; Heather & Bob Harris.

Residential Care: Allene Dawkins (*Springfield Place, Unit 4 Rm.207*); Wendy and Michael Riley (*J.F. Hawkins Rm. 221*)

College Students: Hayden Hall (*Piedmont*); Bryce Medlock (*Bluefield University*); Taylor Metz (*MUSC*); Lexi Medlock (*SE Esthetics Institute*); Payton Metts (*Piedmont*); Bailey Stewart (*USC-Union*).

Extended Family: Kathy Buchanan (*Beverly Hawkin's cousin*); Jim Sealey (*Lori Derrick's father*); Libby & Billy Bedenbaugh; Michael Torrence (*Jeanna Hall's brother*).

Military: Staff SGT. Anderson Dibble (*Marines/Stone Bay, NC- The Dibble's granddaughter*); Everett Crafts V (*Air Force - Glenda/Everett Craft's grandson*); Walker Eldridge (*USCG/Seattle, WA*).

Community: Joe White; Steve Culbertson

God's World: Victims of gun violence; Haiti, Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, and neighboring countries; those affected by wildfires, flooding, hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes, and other natural disasters; military families; homeless; jobless/underemployed; refugees; those suffering due to unrest and fighting throughout the world; our enemies.

To add or remove a name from the Prayer List, please contact the office at 803-364-3331, leave us a note, or email us at: gracelutherenprosperity@gmail.com.

NOTES IN THE MAIL . . .

August 1, 2024

My Dear Grace Family,

Words do not exist to convey to you my thanks and my love for being you—and for the way you have loved and cared for me—and worked with me these last 2 ½ years.

Thanks for the gifts. I will treasure the Bible with its beautiful inscription and I will buy something special with the financial gift. Your Godspeed note is stored safely in my Grace memory box and even more so in my heart. And the song, Ron Brown, I will treasure it forever!

Dear Grace—thank you for the memories!

God bless, Pastor Jane



Serving in September

Assisting Ministers

- 1 Deborah Ruff
- 8 Teresa Cooper
- 15 Jessica Shealy
- 22 Allie Waters
- 29 Ronnie Cromer

Altar Greenery/Flowers

- 1
- 8 Roberta M. Capó
- 15 Edwina Wicker
- 22 Grace Youth
- 29

Livestream Operators

- 1 David Luther
- 8 Brad Waters
- 15 Mike Whitlock
- 22 Johnny Merck
- 29 Jessica Shealy

Acolyte

Hunter Hall

Communion Assistant

Andy Hawkins

Communion Preparation

Deborah Ruff

Communion Clean up

Brad & Melodie Waters

Ushers

David Luther, Judy Bedenbaugh, George Dawkins Jr., Craig Farr, Robert Martin

Greeters

Mike Hawkins, Edwina Wicker

Offering Tabulators

Debroah Ruff, Phil Ruff, Camryn Shealy, Nathan Shealy

Altar Guild Brad & Melodie Waters

Pew Helper Beverly Hawkins

Front Sign Mike Shealy

Sanctuary Lamp Sponsor

During the month of September the Sanctuary Lamp burns to the glory of God and in loving memory of their parents, Martha & Gurney Warren, Ethel & W.B. Rikard, and Leo Wessinger by Lynn & Larry Wessinger .

Altar Flower Sponsors



Altar Flowers

Please sign up on the chart on the narthex bulletin board or contact the church office to reserve a date to sponsor the flowers. There are several dates still available.

WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE

	Sanctuary	* Online	Total
7/28	68	14	82
8/04	45	10	55
8/11	65	6	71
8/18	41	12	53
8/25	49	12	61



7/28	25
8/04	18
8/11	24
8/18	22
8/25	26



LSC Sunday 9-22-24

Lutheran Services Carolinas is a faith-based health and human services organization serving children, families, and refugees in South Carolina. Their services include foster care, recovery programs, assistance for refugees and survivors of human trafficking, disaster response, and more.

They will have a representative here to say thank you, share stories and celebrate our child and family ministries across the state. For more information visit their website LSCarolinas.net.

Our Offerings for August

Through August 25

(Does not include August EFTs)

MINISTRY BUDGET *Our Monthly Need: \$13,634*

Given during month.....	16,922.75
Given year-to-date.....	84,390.50
Goal through August 25	106,977.60

MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP FUND

Given during month	1,123.00
Given year-to-date.....	18,619.88

PARSONAGE FUND

Given during month.....	0.00
Given year-to-date	0.00
Fund Balance, August 25.....	4,640.38

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Given during month	125.00
Given year-to-date	844.50

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Given during month	0.00
Given year-to-date	275.00

CAMPERSHIP FUND


Given during month	0.00
Given year-to-date	150.69

COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND

Community Assistance.....	30.00
Given year-to-date	155.00
Bookbag Food Ministry	35.79
Given year-to-date	701.19
Thanksgiving Meal	0.00
Given year-to-date	0.00
Total year-to-date	856.19

SPECIAL 2024 OFFERINGS YTD

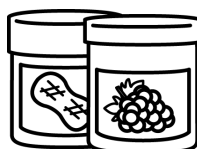
Scholarship Fund Match 2023	386.38
Lenten Offering	698.12
Youth	115.79
Disaster Response	0.00
Souper Bowl (Feed Thy Neighbor)	326.51
Easter Lilies	231.00
Love Offering (Henricks Family)	960.00
Bereavement Meal Fund	335.79
Christian Schools	0.00
Love Offering (Torrence Family)	1,817.00
Love Offering (Newberry College- Pantry)	167.00
MCH Football Meal	265.00
VBS Love Offering	20.00
VBS	464.00



MINISTRY BUDGET

Needed Thru August 25:	\$ 106,977.60
Given thru August 25:	\$ 84,390.50
Amount Behind Goal:	\$ 22,587.10

Manna House Donations



The item needed for the month of September is **Peanut Butter** and for October it is **Jelly**.

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



Finance Team Plans the Budget

Our Finance Team is in the process of planning for the 2025 Ministry Budget.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support for the ministries at Grace.



We have begun rehearsing for the 2024 Christmas Cantata and would like to invite you to sing with us.

We have a new cantata this year that will include some traditional carols as well as new music. Rehearsals are each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Come join us!



Council Meeting Minutes for August 13, 2024

- Mrs. Deborah Ruff led devotions.
- All reports were adopted as presented.
- Approved for Mr. Johnny Merck to be contacted in case of emergencies until Pastor Dave arrives.
- Will get estimates for handicap ramp, spaces, signs for handicap plan for big church.
- Insurance updated to change parsonage from insured value to actual cash value of 283,000. Will save \$424/year.
- Approved maintenance on organ to come out of Property and Maintenance Fund.
- Job descriptions approved with amendments.
- Staff salaries approved for 2025.
- Amendment made to July minutes: 4% salary increase for pastor to occur in 2025 and future raises will be decided by council yearly to cover cost of living increases.
- Mrs. Lynn to get in contact with Pastor Jesse from Gamecock Lutheran Ministry for the Youth.
- Request for Wicker family to use ministry center 11/29/24 approved.
- Request for Bedenbaugh family reunion in ministry center 9/28/24 approved.
- Mr. Johnny read Pastor Dave’s thank you note to council.
- Ministry Teams Update given.
- Shepherding concerns discussed.
- Next meeting Tuesday, September 10th at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted by,
Candace Frick – Council Secretary



July Financial Reports

	<u>Balance 7/1</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Balance,7/30</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
Current/Budget Fund	\$ 61,193.39	\$ 20,784.31	\$ 17,714.41	\$ 64,263.29	\$ 11,304.13 CD
Maintenance Fund	\$ 60,157.92	\$ 1,300.09	\$ 372.50	\$ 61,085.51	n/a
Sunday School Account	\$ 3,347.79	\$ 70.00	\$ 530.26	\$ 2,887.53	n/a
Christian Schools Acct.	\$ 15,063.23	\$ 2,087.23	\$ 2,277.89	\$ 14,872.57	n/a
CS Educational Fund	\$ 8,036.50	\$ 40.00	\$ 69.99	\$ 8,006.51	n/a

Current Fund Balance does not include designated monies for the LED Bulb Fund (\$534.37); Bereavement Meal Fund (\$1,465.61); Choir Fund (\$325) or Sydney Shealy Memorial Gift (\$307.74) contained within the Current Fund Checking Account.



SEPTEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	2 Labor Day	3 Preschool  First Day 7pm Worship Team Meeting	4 6:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir	5	6	7
8 Sunday School Kick Off 9:00 Breakfast 9:30 Games & Introductions 10:30 Worship	9	10  Council Meeting 6:30 pm	11 6:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	12	13	
15 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	16	17  October Newsletter Articles Due	18 6:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir	19	20	21
22 <i>Pastor Dave's</i> <i>First Sunday</i> 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship LSC Sunday 12-1:30 GYM Time	23 	24	25 9:30 am <i>Newsletter Team</i> 6:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28
29 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	30					



New Year, New Testament!

The new Sunday School year kicks off with a celebration on Sunday Sept. 8. The Youth Sunday School class is planning to begin looking at the New Testament on Sunday, Sept. 15. The class spent the previous year going through the whole Old Testament!

Monthly GYM TIME

Sunday, September 22

Noon-1:30 p.m.

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

For our August GYM Time meal. Be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet on the narthex board.



Sunday, September 22

GYM Time

Noon-1:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 27

GYM Time

Noon-1:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 24

GYM Time

Noon-1:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 7

Parade Float Decorating (*tentative*)

Sunday, December 8

Prosperity Christmas Parade

Sunday, December 15

Youth Christmas Program (*tentative*)

Friday, December 20

Youth Christmas Caroling (*tentative*)



Don't forget that your friends are always welcome at youth activities.

More Youth = More Fun!



Grace Youth Ministry had our monthly GYM Time August 25th. We shared a delicious hot dog meal, and fellowship, discussed what “youth group” is and can be, had devotion time about how we are one body with many members, (1 Cor. 12:12-27) and played games together!



Preschool Opens September 3

The first day of classes for Grace Preschool is Tuesday, September 3. We welcome our Preschool staff, students, and families.

Limited student spaces are still available. Registration packets are outside the church office window or may be printed from the Preschool page at graceluth.org. Contact Chop Cooper at 803-924-0352 or Robin Romano at 803-364-330 for more details.



September 8th

Come for breakfast from 9-9:30 a.m.

Introduction of Teachers and Fun & Games from 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Teachers will be installed during the morning worship service.

Mid Carolina Football Team Meal

Grace fed the football team and coaches on Friday, Aug. 23rd before their home game. Thanks to those who helped set up and serve and to all who donated to cover the meal expenses!

A special thanks to Johnny Merck for coordinating it all!



Come and Celebrate Homecoming
October 20, 2024!

It's that time of year again!

We are looking forward to worshipping and celebrating together at the 10:30 a.m. service. Pastor Erick Fink will be our guest preacher for the day, and after the service we will enjoy a covered dish lunch and fellowship in the ministry center. Please bring covered dishes of food to share!

As is a long-standing Grace tradition, we will also recognize and honor our Golden Age members (those who are 70 and above.)



Grace Lutheran Church
 210 Grace St.
 P.O. Box 188 (Mailing Address)
 Prosperity, SC 29127
 Graceluth.org
 803-364-3331

Gracelutheranprosperity@gmail.com
 Ministers: The People of Grace
 Pastor: The Rev. David Adams

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 online giving page.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Coming Up at Grace



First Day of Preschool
September 3

Women's Bible Study
Resumes in September



Women's Bible Study



Sunday School
Kickoff Sept. 8th
Breakfast 9 am
Games & Introductions
9:45-10:15 am

Teacher Installation- 10:30 Service

September 22

Pastor Dave's first Sunday

LUTHERAN SERVICES
 CAROLINAS
LSC Sunday
 &

GYM Time after worship



Homecoming
Golden Age Recognition
Sunday, October 20