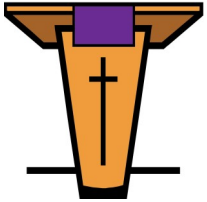




# Grace ABOUNDS

September 2023

## From Our Interim Pastor



So, here we go! Off and running to explore the possibility of partnering with another congregation to share a pastor to sustain our own ministries here at Grace and at that congregation and also to explore possibilities of ministry together – all in the name of Jesus.

First of all, I want to say thanks to all who have worked so hard to get us to this point. The Wake Up Team has literally spent hours researching and discerning the Spirit's call. The council has received their reports and worked with the Wake Up Team to critique and refine all proposals. And you, Grace family, have met twice to ask your questions, express your doubts, and to think together about what new possibilities there are for Grace congregation to be God's church in this time and in this place.

As I've listened to these conversations over these past months and then listened again at the called congregation meeting on Aug. 13, it's been impossible not to hear the angst that prevails. So many things we don't know – and won't know – until we take those first steps – and then more steps – and more. So many "what if" questions and honestly, more "I don't know" than concrete answers.

All this has brought back the time when I served as a licensed marriage and family therapist on the staff of what was then Lutheran Family Services – now Lutheran Services Carolinas. As part of my training, I participated in several workshops on domestic violence and how to work with and care for those suffering from both physical and emotional abuse. One of the things I learned then – not sure that it still holds true today – but then we were taught that a person (more often than not, a woman) trying to leave a violent home will leave but go back an average of seven times before she finally can be free. That's because the unknown is more scary than the known.

Please hear me! I am not comparing us in any way to domestic violence. I've told you again and again – and I'll say it again now – you are a warm, welcoming, accepting, loving people. What I am saying is that this casting out into the unknown is scary, and the pull to go back to the known is strong.

But have you noticed how powerfully our recent gospel readings for first three Sundays in August have spoken to this? On the 6th, we heard Matthew's account of the feeding of the 5,000. After blessing and breaking the bread and fish, Jesus gave it to the 12 disciples and told them, "you feed them." No one left hungry. On the 13th, we heard Matthew's proclamation that Jesus in indeed the divine, beloved Son of God and on the 20th, that fascinating encounter between Jesus and the Gentile woman who challenged him at his core. And in all these readings, the peace that comes only from God is lifted up.


And so, I pray for us to remember who we are – God's people. I pray for us to remember who Jesus is – God's divine Son. I pray for us to abide together in the boat with Jesus knowing that he not always still the storms. Sometimes he stills those in the storms.

*God's Peace, Pastor Jane*

Contact Pastor Jane by cell phone at 803-530-2045 or by email at [pjmitcham@gmail.com](mailto:pjmitcham@gmail.com).



**First Day  
of  
Preschool  
Sept. 5**  
*Welcome  
to students and staff!*



**Women's Bible  
Study - Sept. 6**  
*More details on pg. 3!*



**Sunday  
School  
Kickoff**  
**Teacher Installation  
Sept. 10**  
*See pg. 3 for details.*

**SEPTEMBER Birthdays**

- 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

**SEPTEMBER Baptisms**

- 5 - Billy George
- 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

**SEPTEMBER Anniversaries**

- 1 - Tim and Amy Raymond (16th)
- 10 - Lois and Bill Amick (Memorial Date)
- 11 - Allen and Lori Derrick (30th)
- 12 - Wayne and Sue Mitchell (8th)
- 12 - Joanna and Thomas Kiker (3rd)
- 21 - Johnny and Beverly Merck (54th)
- 24 - Daniel and Krista Scott (9th)



**IN THE MAIL...**



There are not enough words to express my thanks for all the care you have given to my family and me over the last several months. Thank you for all the prayers, cards, calls, flowers, and food you gave us after the death of Glenn. You have truly been a blessing to us.

*Margaret Kluttz*

Thank you, Grace, for all the ways you shared with us in our grief in the passing of my sister, Myrtie. All the acts of kindness meant so much to us! She will dwell with us through wonderful memories until we meet again. God bless all of us.

*Edna Riley and family*

**College Addresses Needed**

College students (and families), please let the office know where you are attending college or tech school so that we can list your name on the weekly Prayer List in the bulletin. If you will be living away from home, we encourage you to share your college mailing address with the office so that we can send you the monthly newsletter. Please share your address with the office even if it is the same as last year. Thank you!



**Game Night**

Game Night on Friday, July 28 was fun for all ages. Those attending enjoyed fellowship and a delicious hot dog meal, sides and desserts as well as board games, corn hole, ping pong, and Bingo.



### Sunday School Kickoff Sept. 10 for EVERYBODY!

Sunday School Kickoff for children, youth, and adults is set for Sunday, Sept. 10. This is a great time to get involved in Sunday School. We will start the morning with breakfast (*and child safety training, see below*) at 9 a.m. in the Ministry Center. Our Sunday School Kickoff will start at 9:30 a.m. We'll introduce our teachers, hear a Bible message from Kevin Boozer and Willie, enjoy special music, and play some team Bible Trivia for children, youth, and adults.

Sunday School teachers and officers will be installed during the 10:30 a.m. service. See pg. 7 for details about a new class for our youth.



### Child Safety Training: Sept. 10

It has come to our attention that Grace is overdue in offering Child Safety Training for our members who work with children and/or youth. In order to remedy this shortfall, the Lifelong Education Committee is asking all members who presently work with children and/or youth or who are anticipating doing so, to attend an introduction/explanation of this training during breakfast from 9-9:30 a.m. before our Sunday School kickoff, Sept. 10. Training and background checks are recommended by our insurance company to keep our children and youth safe. If you have not had a background check for Grace within the past five years, we will also need to get you to complete that paperwork. (*Grace will pay the fee.*) Please call Andrea Lewis (803-924-4627) if you have any questions.




### Grace To Explore Partnering With Another Congregation

At a called congregation meeting on Aug. 13, the congregation voted 38 “yes” and 18 “no” to explore the option of partnering with another congregation in calling a pastor. This recommendation came from Grace’s Congregation Council.



Congregation Meeting




Congregation Meeting  
Sept. 10 after worship

For the purpose of voting on the sale of the Quattlebaum property with proceeds to go to the Building Fund.



### MC Football Team Meal

Grace fed the Mid-Carolina High football team and coaches on Friday, Aug. 18 before their home opener with Saluda. Thanks to Johnny Merck for coordinating the meal, to those who helped set up and serve, and to all who made donations to cover the meal expenses.



Manna House  
Item of the Month:  
2 lb. bags of corn meal

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



**Grace Prayer List**

**Grace Family:** Nan Loadholdt; Margaret Kluttz; Cissie and Bob Dibble; Glenda and Everett Crafts; Heather and Bob Harris; Evelyn Harmon; Marysue Rivers; Faye Hartman; Lois Amick.

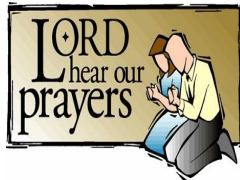
**Residential Care:** Sadie Epting (*Springfield Place, Rm. 11*); Sue Hartman (*JF Hawkins, Rm. 27*); Paula Epting (*White Oak, Rm. 323B*); Allene Dawkins (*Springfield Place, Rm. 19*); Wendy and Michael Riley (*Faith Nursing Home, Florence*).

**College Students:** Zach Frick (*USC*); Hayden Hall (*Piedmont*); Bryce Medlock (*Bluefield University*); Lexi Medlock (*Midlands Tech*); Payton Metts (*Piedmont*); Taylor Metz (*MUSC*); Bailey Stewart (*USC-Union*).

**Extended Family:** Grey Westbury (*Sue Mitchell's great-niece*); Broko Boland, Kim Pittman (*Melodie Waters' cousins*); Brittany Cumalander (*Lynn Wessinger's cousin*); Mary Ellen Hartzog (*Eddie Rivers' cousin*); Carol Farr Sanders (*Lynn Wessinger/ Beverly Merck/Craig Farr's 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:** those in Maui suffering from loss in the wildfires; victims of gun violence; Ukraine 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.

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

**August Memorials / Honorariums**

**Gifts to the Building Fund**

In memory of Glenn Kluttz (*Margaret Kluttz's husband*)

By: James and Nancy Derrick  
Ron and Ann Calsing  
Everett Crafts  
Deborah and Phil Ruff  
Mike and Katie Davenport  
Tommy and Pamela Arrington

In memory of Myrtie Wessinger (*Edna Riley's sister*)

By: James and Nancy Derrick  
Judy Bedenbaugh  
Deborah and Phil Ruff  
Faye Hartman

In memory of Bill Ackerman by Billy Ackerman

**Gift to the Building Loan Principal**

In memory of Myrtie Wessinger (*Edna Riley's sister*) by Bob and Heather Harris

**Gift to MCHS Football Team Meal**

In honor of the "Men at Grace" by David and Edna Riley

**Gift to the Current Fund**

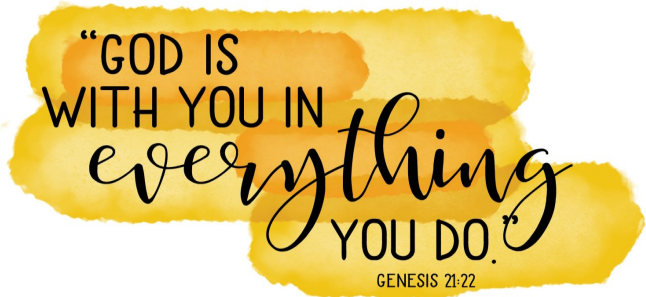
In memory of Myrtie Wessinger (*Edna Riley's sister*) by Beverly Hawkins

**Gift to Youth Ministry**

In memory of Sergio Pascual by Lynn and Larry Wessinger

**Gift to the Maintenance Fund**

In memory of Dorothy H. Wise (*aunt of Mike Hawkins, Lewis Bedenbaugh, Steve Bedenbaugh*) by Judy Bedenbaugh



### Women’s Bible Study: Sept. 6

Grace’s Women’s Bible Study group will resume on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 6 p.m. after a break for the summer. We will take a look at *The Longing in Me* by Sheila Walsh. All women are invited to join in for Bible study and fellowship.



Women’s Bible Study

### Grace Homecoming: Oct. 15

Grace will celebrate Homecoming on Sunday, Oct. 15. Our special guest pastor will be the Rev. Christopher Shealy, a son of Grace congregation. A covered dish meal will follow the service. Please invite your family members and former members to join us.



CHURCH HOMECOMING

We will also honor our Golden Age members as we celebrate their years of service to the Lord and to Grace congregation. If you will be 70 years of age or older by Oct. 15, 2023, and do **NOT** want to be recognized, please let Julie Shealy know. At your request, we will not include your name in the recognition.



### Carowinds Trip - Oct. 21

Grace Youth Ministry is sponsoring a trip to Carowinds on Saturday, Oct. 21. ALL are welcome. We tentatively plan to leave around 8 a.m. and return by 8 p.m. A sign up sheet is posted on the narthex board.



Craig Farr has agreed to drive the bus. In order to get discounted tickets, we need at least 15 to sign up. Adults will need to pay their own way, and we hope to have a fundraiser to help pay for youth.

### Preschool Opens Sept. 5

First day of classes for Grace Preschool is Tuesday, Sept. 5. We welcome our Preschool staff, students, and families.



Robin Romano is our new Preschool director and will also

lead the 2-year-old class for the second year along with her assistant Jessica Ringer. Robbie Hunter will be our lead 3-year-old teacher, assisted by newcomer Stephanie Barry. Abby Lasater returns as 3/4-year-old class teacher with Cheryl Mitchell serving as her assistant.

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](http://graceluth.org). Contact Administrator Chop Cooper at 803-924-0352 or Director Robin Romano at 803-364-3330 for more details.



### Community Concert at Grace

Dawn Smith Jordan, Christian singer and author, presented a concert “This is My Story, This Is My Song” at Grace on Sunday, Aug. 20. A reception followed the concert.



Don’t forget to like and follow Grace Lutheran - ELCA on Facebook.

**Serving in September**

**Assisting Ministers**

- 3 - Judy Bedenbaugh
- 10 - Christina Henricks
- 17 - Teresa Cooper
- 24 - Kelly Whitlock



**Altar Flowers**

- 3 -
- 10 - Roberta M. Capó
- 17 - Al Potter
- 24 - Chad and Candace Frick

**Acolyte**

Hunter Hall

**Communion Assistant**

(All Sundays with Communion except 1st)  
Melodie Waters

**Communion Preparation**

Donna Jacobs

**Communion Clean Up**

Teresa Cooper, Deborah Ruff

**Greeters**

Mike Shealy, Lynn Wessinger

**Ushers**

Dale Shealy (head), Robert Martin  
Andy Metz, Deron Shealy, Emmett Wicker

**Offering Tabulators**

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

**Altar Guild**

Brad and Melodie Waters

**Pew Helpers**

Wayne and Sue Mitchell

**Front Sign**

George Dawkins Jr.

**SANCTUARY  
LAMP  
SPONSORS**



During the month of September, the Sanctuary Lamp burns to the glory of God and in honor of the people of Grace by David and Edna Riley.

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
8/6	60	16	76
8/13	78	16	94
8/20	52	24	76
8/27	60	12	72

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

\*\* Technical issues with the 8/14 livestream.

**Sunday School**  
ATTENDANCE

8/6	32
8/13	32
8/20	26
8/27	23

**Altar Flower Available Dates**

Altar flower donors are needed for Sept. 3, Oct. 8, Oct. 22, and Nov. 5 (All Saints Sunday/white flowers). If you would like to be a donor, please sign up on the chart in the narthex or call the church office.



Altar Flowers

Thank you to all who have donated altar flowers in 2023.

**Newsletter  
DEADLINE**

**Deadline for the  
October 2022  
Newsletter:  
Monday, Sept. 18**



**Monthly GYM TIME**

**Sunday, Sept. 24**

**12 -1:30 p.m.**

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

Note the new GYM Time schedule we will be trying for September through November (4th Sundays from 12-1:30 p.m.) We will be asking parents or other volunteers to sponsor our meals. (The Youth Team will sponsor pizza for September.) Be on the lookout for a sign up sheet and more information.



Your friends are always welcome at our youth activities.

**More Youth = More Fun!**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Carowinds Trip - Oct. 21

Youth Christmas Program practice - Nov. 26, Dec. 3, Dec. 10 - 9:30 a.m. (during Sunday School)

Parade Float Decorating - Dec. 2

Prosperity Christmas Parade - Dec. 3

Youth Christmas Program - Dec. 10, 6 p.m.

Christmas Caroling - Dec. 21, 5 p.m.

**New Youth Sunday School Class**

A new Youth Sunday School Class will begin Sept. 17 in the Youth Room. All youth from grade 6-grade 12 are encouraged to come and take part. We will be taking a look at *The Greatest Story*, which covers the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Julie Shealy and Jessica Shealy will lead the class. Please feel free to stop by the Ministry Center, grab breakfast, and bring it with you to the Youth Room.



**Training, Installation for Acolytes, Crucifers, and Torchbearers**

One of the most important ministries for our youth is serving as acolytes, torchbearers, and crucifers during worship. All youth of Grace in grades 3-12 are encouraged to participate in this ministry.



Acolytes Crucifers Torchbearers

ALL youth serving as acolytes, torchbearers, and crucifers will be installed on Sunday, Sept. 24 during the 10:30 a.m. service.

In September, Jessica Shealy will lead training sessions for all torchbearers (grade 3 and up); acolytes (grade 5 and up); and crucifers (grade 7 and up). Two sessions will be offered on Sundays, Sept. 10 and 17 after church (about 1/2 hour).

If you are entering a new role (see above breakdown), please plan to attend a training session. You may want to come to both sessions to get comfortable with your new role. If you were trained last year and are comfortable with your role, you do not have to re-train this year, but are welcome to come for a brief "refresher."

If you can't attend either training session, please contact Jessica Shealy (803-271-5580), and she will work with you to find a time that suits your schedule.

If you think you need to be resized for a robe, see Jessica. This can be done at a training session or after church any other Sunday.

**Youth Team Meeting**

The Youth Ministries Team met with Youth and Youth parents on Aug. 27 to discuss plans for the remainder of 2023 and their vision for Youth Ministry.



**Church**  
FINANCES

**Our Offerings**  
**for August**

*Through August 27*  
*(Does not include August EFTs)*

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

Given during month .....	\$7,232.00
Given year-to-date .....	\$75,230.55
Goal through August 31 .....	\$106,752.00

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

Given during month .....	\$3,877.05
Given year-to-date .....	\$33,723.31
Required through August 31 .....	\$37,760.00
Gifts to Be Applied to Principal .....	\$1,700.00
Fundraisers for Principal .....	\$1,558.66

**MAINTENANCE/UPKEEP FUND**

Given during month .....	\$605.00
Given year-to-date .....	\$3,842.76

**PARSONAGE FUND**

Given during month .....	\$10.00
Given year-to-date .....	\$80.00
Fund Balance, August 31 .....	\$4,400.38

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Given during month .....	\$118.00
Given year-to-date .....	\$834.53

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Given during month .....	\$0.00
Given year-to-date .....	\$296.38

**CAMPERSHIP FUND**

Given during month .....	\$65.69
Given year-to-date .....	\$422.06

**COMMUNITY SERVICE FUND**

Community Assistance .....	\$ 40.00
Given year-to-date .....	\$1,191.58
Bookbag Food Ministry .....	\$0.00
Given year-to-date .....	\$60.00
Thanksgiving Meal .....	\$0.00
Given year-to-date .....	\$0.00
Total year-to-date .....	\$1,251.58

**SPECIAL 2023 OFFERINGS**

Estate of Larry Spotts .....	\$25,000.00
St. Jude (Preschool Trike-a-thon).....	\$1,275.00
Bereavement Meal Fund .....	\$1,165.00
Boston Butt Building Loan Fundraiser ...	\$937.51
Manna House (bucket offering) .....	\$701.55
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

<b>B</b>	<b>Update</b>	<b>MINISTRY BUDGET</b>
<b>E</b>		Needed Thru Aug. 31: \$106,752
<b>T</b>		Given thru Aug. 27: \$ 75,231
<b>D</b>		<b>Amount Behind Goal: \$ 31,521</b>
<b>G</b>		<b>BUILDING LOAN</b>
<b>E</b>		Required Thru Aug. 31: \$ 37,760
<b>B</b>		Given thru Aug. 27: \$ 33,723
<b>U</b>		<b>Amount Behind Goal: \$ 4,037</b>



**Finance Team Plans Budget**

Finance Team will meet Monday, Sept. 11 at 6:30 p.m. to continue planning for the 2024 Ministry Budget. The team held an initial budget planning meeting on Aug. 28.



**Lutheran Disaster Response Helping Maui Wildfire Victims**

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the immediate needs of the people impacted by the wildfires in Maui and is committed to accompanying these communities in the years ahead.



You can make checks payable to Grace and mark the check/envelope "Maui Wildfires".

**SPECIAL 2023 OFFERINGS** *continued*

Youth .....	\$451.38
Manna House (Preschool Closings).....	\$390.00
Vacation Bible School .....	\$310.00
Disaster Response (for Mid East Crisis)...	\$300.00
MC Football Team Meal.....	\$280.00
Easter Lilies.....	\$270.10
Youth (Thrivent).....	\$240.00
Souper Bowl (Wolves Pantry/Newberry Col.)...	\$212.25
Interfaith Comm. (bucket offering/fans) .....	\$184.01
ELCA World Hunger .....	\$100.00
LSC New Americans Program .....	\$60.00
Christian School.....	\$50.68
Disaster Response.....	\$20.00



### Scholarship Thank You Notes

Grace Lutheran,  
I would like to reach out with great appreciation for the opportunity to apply for this scholarship. I'd like to personally thank the Bedenbaugh Family as well as Ms. Susan and Mr. John David Dawkins for continuing this scholarship throughout the years. It is a great blessing, and I thank the congregation for your continued support throughout my schooling.



*Thank You Notes*

*Best, Zach Frick*

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the Grace Bedenbaugh-Chariker Scholarship Fund. I know it will continue to help off-set the cost of my remaining semesters at Piedmont Tech.

*Hayden Hall*

Thank you to the Bedenbaugh family for providing this scholarship opportunity. I am forever grateful for the help this provides.

*Payton Metts*

Thank you to the scholarship fund and everyone who contributes to it. It is a blessing I truly appreciate.

*Love, Bailey Stewart*

Thank you for your continued support of my endeavors. This has been a long journey, and I feel fortunate to benefit from the gracious gifts of this church to support my education and pursuit of my calling. This has allowed me to pursue my training and participate in research that has helped folks find a bit more comfort in this world. This fund has helped so many, and I am grateful.

*Blessings, Taylor Metz*

### Scholarship Fund Donations



*Bedenbaugh-Chariker Scholarship Fund*

We give thanks to God for the scholarships awarded to Grace students since 1997 made possible by donations from congregation members, the generous initial donation and matching

funds from the late Earle and Jeannine Bedenbaugh, and the more recent matching donations from Susan and John David Dawkins in memory Kathryn D. Chariker, Susan's mother and a long-time educator.

If you would like to make a donation to the Scholarship Fund, envelopes are available in the narthex. The Dawkinses will match all donations.

Lutheran Youth Day  
NEWBERRY COLLEGE  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

### Newberry College vs Emory & Henry

#### Schedule of Events

- 2:30pm - Check In
- 3:00pm - Welcome and Worship
- 4:00pm - Berry Bound Carnival plus Campus Tours, Scavenger Hunt, and Pictures with Scar
- 4:00pm - Carnival Food
- 5:40pm - Tunnel for Team Entrance
- 6:00pm - Game Time

Cost is \$20: includes t-shirt, meal, and game ticket. Follow QR Code to register:



### Boys Farm

## 19th Annual Fall Festival

### Saturday, Oct. 14

**Free Activities: Bounce Houses, Hayride Tours, Fishing, Classic Car Cruise-In, live music and more**



**Pulled Pork Barbecue available from 11 - 4.**  
**\$10 a plate**

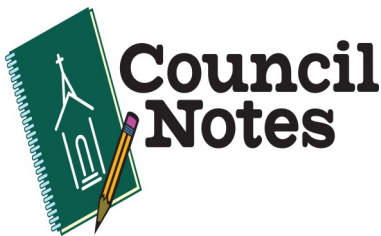
**boysfarm** 6655 SC Hwy. 34, Newberry

### SCLRC Events

South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers has several upcoming events, and we hope you'll join us for them! Visit the links below to find out more information or to register.



- Suicide Prevention Training - Sept 11-12 at Camp Kinard: [sclrc.com/training/](http://sclrc.com/training/)
- Laugh, Learn, & Lunch: "Taste & See the Lord is good...and so is BBQ!" - Sept 19 at Camp Kinard: [sclrc.com/LLL/](http://sclrc.com/LLL/)
- 21st Annual SCLRC Golf Classic - Oct 3 at Ponderosa Country Club: [sclrc.com/golf/](http://sclrc.com/golf/)



## Council Minutes – August 8, 2023

Motions to accept facility requests and adopt reports carried unanimously.

Council elected Brad, Linda, Deborah, and Dale as Sunday School officers.

Regarding financial matters, council voted to move unused front door funds into the Property and Maintenance Fund and to put the Spotts' gift to the congregation into a Money Market account. Council discussed exploring estimates for bookkeeping/accounting services.

Telephone service installation with Carolina Connect was expected to be completed soon, at which time the church will end AT&T service.

Beverly also provided updates about progress with quotes on livestreaming, taking care of copyright/privacy considerations with worship content, and job descriptions for church staff.

Robert agreed to check on the building condition of the parsonage.

Council prepared logistics for the congregational vote Aug. 13. Council discussed possibilities of refinancing versus paying off the building loan that could be explored in tandem with exploring partnership. Council reviewed a template parish agreement for outlining conditions of partnership.

As the fall and school year starts, ministry teams were preparing for several upcoming events, including Sunday School kickoff and the start of a new youth class by the Lifelong Education Team.

The Community Hope Team reported that donations to Manna House have been very generous.

Christina presented a plan for a ministry team update task force, and Council voted in support of this outline. This team will meet over the next several months to propose a structure for Grace's ministry teams to renew focus and achieve the church community's goals for the next several years.

*Submitted by Christina Henricks, Council Secretary*



### July Financial Reports

	<u>Balance, 7/1</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Balance, 7/31</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
Current/Budget Fund	\$50,943.49	\$13,173.89	\$13,455.34	\$50,653.04*	\$11,099.03 CD
Building Loan Fund	\$32,948.84	\$ 5,990.84	\$ 6,362.10	\$32,576.80	(\$79,545.46 balance owed)
Maintenance Fund	\$ 6,721.15	\$ 841.19	\$ 00.00	\$ 7,562.34**	n/a
Sunday School Account	\$ 2,577.52	\$ 92.27	\$ 12.84	\$ 2,656.95	n/a
Christian Schools Acct.	\$24,606.42	\$ 739.21	\$ 3,788.66	\$21,556.97	n/a
CS Educational Fund	\$ 5,251.46	\$ 1,568.54	\$ 401.46	\$ 6,418.50	n/a

\* Current Fund Balance does not include designated monies for the LED Bulb Fund (\$534.37); Sound System Fund (\$335.39); Choir Fund (\$335.39); Livestream Upgrade (\$515.15); Bereavement Meal Fund (\$1,768.97); or Sydney Shealy Memorial Gift (\$5,555.68) contained within the Current Fund Checking Account. \*\*Maintenance Fund balance does not include Parsonage Fund (\$4,390.38) or Front Door Fund (\$534.32) contained within the Maintenance Fund Checking Account.

# September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> <i>Last Day of Preschool Get Acquainted Visits</i>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <i>14th Sunday After Pentecost</i> Breakfast - 9:00 Sunday School - 9:30 Worship - 10:30 a.m.	<b>4</b> Labor Day (Office Closed) 	<b>5</b> Preschool First Day 	<b>6</b> Women's Bible Study - 6 p.m. Cantata Practice - 7:30 (WUMC) Adult Choir - 8 p.m. (Grace)	<b>7</b> Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> <i>15th Sunday After Pentecost</i> Breakfast - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School Kickoff - 9:30 a.m. Worship - SS Teacher/ Officer Installation - 10:30 a.m. Congregation Meeting - after worship Acolyte Training after meeting	<b>11</b> Finance Team - 6:30 p.m.	<b>12</b>  Church Council Council Meeting - 7 p.m.	<b>13</b> Women's Bible Study - 6 p.m. Cantata Practice - 7:15 (WUMC) Adult Choir - 8 p.m. (Grace)	<b>14</b> Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> <i>16th Sunday After Pentecost</i> Breakfast - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - 10:30 a.m. Acolyte Training after worship	<b>18</b> 	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Women's Bible Study - 6 p.m. Cantata Practice - 7:15 (WUMC) Adult Choir - 8 p.m. (Grace)	<b>21</b> Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <i>17th Sunday After Pentecost</i> Breakfast - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - (Acolyte, Torchbearer, Crucifer Installation) - 10:30 a.m. GYM Time - 12 noon - 1:30 p.m.	<b>25</b> <i>Preschool Nothing Bundt Cakes Fundraiser Begins</i>	<b>26</b> Newsletter Team - 9 a.m.	<b>27</b> Women's Bible Study - 6 p.m. Cantata Practice - 7:15 p.m. (WUMC) Adult Choir - 8 p.m. (Grace)	<b>28</b> Bulletin Deadline - 9 a.m.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>



# Grace Lutheran Church

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

[www.graceluth.org](http://www.graceluth.org)

803-364-3331

[gracelutheran2@att.net](mailto:gracelutheran2@att.net)

Ministers: The People of Grace

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Jane P. Mitcham

### Online Giving

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## September Highlights

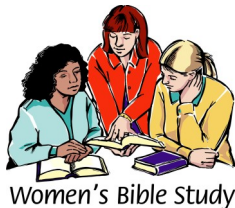


**First Day of  
Preschool  
Sept. 5**



**Congregation  
Meeting  
Sept. 10**

**Women's  
Bible Study  
Resumes  
Sept. 6**



Women's Bible Study

**Acolyte, Crucifer  
and Torchbearer  
Training**



**Sept. 10, Sept. 17  
Installation - Sept. 24**

**Sunday School Kickoff  
Sept. 10**



**Breakfast  
- 9 a.m.**

**Kickoff -  
9:30 a.m.**

**Installation of Teachers/  
Staff - 10:30 a.m. Service**



**Newberry College  
Lutheran Youth  
Day - Sept. 16**

**GYM Time  
Sept. 24**



## Looking Ahead



**Homecoming  
Golden Age  
Recognition  
Oct. 15**

**Carowinds  
Trip  
Oct. 21**



**Reformation  
Sunday  
Oct. 29**

**Trunk-or-  
Treat  
Oct. 31**

