

## Lord, Lead Us, We Pray

Psalm 25:4-5 are great verses for our congregation in our present context, and they are great verses for any context. It is a psalm of David, and there in Psalm 25 David declares, *“Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.”* There are many situations we find ourselves in and many experiences that we have on this side of glory when we just don’t quite know...

*What’s the right thing to do?*

or

*What’s the right thing think?*

or

*What is the right thing to say?*

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Circumstantial complexities, fear of failure, competing opportunities, conflicting goals, personal insecurities, relational turbulence, and countless other experiences and emotions can leave us suffering a kind of paralysis - a paralysis of action, a paralysis of mental clarity, or a paralysis of words. Such paralysis can lead to spiritual frustration and loneliness. King David led a turbulent life. His success and faithfulness to the LORD led to the murderous envy of King Saul, whom David was just trying to serve. David struggled with significant conflicts in his own family; he committed adultery and had Uriah killed to cover it up. His life was more than turbulent, it was pure chaos. He certainly had moments of not knowing what to do, or what to think, or what to say. And yet at the same time his life occasionally looked like a dumpster fire, he also experienced moments of tremendous joy and opportunity. God delivered Goliath into his hands, and gave him the honor of returning the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. In moments of such joy and opportunity, you wonder if David sometimes didn’t know what to do, or think, or say. Whether his life was mimicking a dumpster fire or a Super Bowl, David knew what to pray, *“Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.”*

Thankfully what God is accomplishing in and through Grace Lutheran feels much more like a Super Bowl than it does a dumpster fire. With all of the blessings and Gospel opportunities He is putting before us, it is important that we keep the prayer of Psalm 25 on our lips and in our hearts. As God answers this prayer we get to experience His ways, His paths, His truths, and His salvation. Here are a few updates on ministry items at Grace where we ask that God would make us to know His ways, His paths, and His truth.

### **Visiting Our Mission Partner Child Beyond**

Pastor Andrew and I had an opportunity to visit our mission partner, Child Beyond International (CBI) in early February. We were inspired and grateful for the faithful work of CBI in Guatemala, and we look forward to deepening our mission partnership with them in the months and years ahead. CBI is in need of additional funding to continue the great work they are doing, and we hope to schedule a short-term mission trip out of Grace Lutheran as early as the Spring of 2026. *“Make us to know your ways, O LORD...”*

### **Master Plan Update**

In January our Master Plan Committee shared the work that they have been doing with Fuqua and Partners Architects in developing a Master Plan for our campus. The meetings were well-attended and the accompanying survey provided great feedback to our Master Plan Committee. The committee has met and gone over that feedback and has reached out to Fuqua and Partners to schedule an additional meeting to refine the plan before it will be brought forward to the congregation to consider for approval. *“...Teach us your paths...”*

### **WORSHIP - Lent**

On Wednesday of this week, we enter into the season of Lent. During our midweek services this year, together we will track through a sermon series titled “Prayers of the Passion.” Each week we will unpack a prayer that came from the lips of Jesus during the time of His Passion. Blessings on your repentance and spiritual growth during the season of Lent. *“Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.”*

### **Principal Call Process**

We received news from Grace Stearns regarding the Call to serve as Principal at Grace Lutheran, and she has returned that Call. While this was disappointing news, we entrust ourselves to God’s will and His perfect timing. We also praise God for the faithfulness of His servant Delaine Schiestel and her willingness to continue to serve as principal of Grace should God not provide a new principal for the 2025-2026 school year. The Call Committee is continuing to work, and if you have any candidates for consideration, you can submit those to Mike Ellis (Committee Chair) or the church office. *“for you, Lord, we wait all the day long.”*

In Christ,

Pastor Russ



## Upside-Down Jesus

*“He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away.”*  
 –Luke 1:53

*“For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves?  
 Is it not the one who reclines at table?  
 But I am among you as the one who serves.”*  
 –Luke 22:24

This year, our lectionary readings have us walking through the gospel of Luke as we gather for worship on Sundays. We could have a whole different conversation about the lectionary, but that’s not important for today. What is important—or at the very least, helpful—is that over the course of this church year we read Luke’s account of the gospel, and we get to see the way Luke presents Jesus to the world. Right off from the beginning of his account, Luke paints this picture of what I’ll call an upside-down Jesus. The reality of the Christ in the world shakes the very foundations of life upside-down. The advent of the reign of God in the world makes high places become low, and low places are lifted up. Those who are highly regarded are humbled, and the lowly are exalted. Jesus shakes everything up as he reorients the world into what the reign of God and the kingdom of God look like. Nothing stays the same after Jesus gets his hands on it.

The reign and kingdom of God challenges what many of us might think a reign or a kingdom or greatness might look like. As I reflect on my short time in Guatemala, I’m reminded that God’s kingdom looks different than what my eyes think it might. I come back to an essential question when reading any gospel account: Who does Jesus come to save? The Sunday School answer rightly says, “Jesus comes to save everyone,” and that’s exactly right. Jesus is for everyone. But how far does “everyone” include? “Everyone” is an easy answer to give when “everyone” looks, speaks, acts, dresses, and lives like we might. But that’s a limited view of “everyone.” If we really dug into it, there’s only one person who fits those exact qualifications, and that’s a far cry from “Jesus is for everyone.”

Jesus challenges our very understanding of ourselves, how we see others, and how vast his love is for his whole creation. How does Jesus see us? He sees that regardless of status, success, or failures in life, every single person has the exact same need. We all are broken people, we all are needy people, we all are hungry for the same thing. Jesus sees every person as one desperately in need of a savior. He sees every person as one starved for the love and forgiveness that only Jesus can provide. Jesus sees you, and the widow, and the orphan, and the centurion all as someone worth dying for. And it blows my mind every time I seriously ponder how deep Jesus loves everyone. Jesus' upside-down love is far beyond the selfish love we give to ourselves and perhaps to those who fit in our bubble. Jesus' upside-down love is so much greater and deeper than any of us could ever hope to have.

This month we begin our Lenten journey to the cross, and I have a few questions for you to reflect on. As Jesus is shaping you, where is Jesus flipping things upside-down? Where is Jesus making low the high places in your life? Where is he raising to new life the low places? How is Jesus continuing to mess with you? Where is Jesus calling you to serve and to give up your life for the sake of someone else?

Blessings on your Lenten journey as we follow Jesus together.

-Pastor Andrew

# PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

March 2025 Edition

## February Events

A number of special events took place at Grace Lutheran School this last month. In PE class, Huntsville Ballet and Tiger Rock visited to share different avenues for lifelong fitness.



Valentine's Day was celebrated by all the classes. It was a special dress out day for the students to dress in Valentine's colors. A school-wide assembly of the Nutty Professors, a visit by a donut truck, and classroom parties rounded out the busy day!



Pre-K classes had a special visitor come to read to their classes. They also sang in Sunday Worship and for chapel.



Special events continued off campus when the middle school classes attended The Aluminum Show at the VBC and the 4th graders attended the Symphony. The students felt the show was one of the “weirdest things” they have ever seen!



The 3rd and 4th grade basketball team wrapped up their season this month as well. Even though they didn’t have a winning record, we still celebrate them for all the achievements and growth gained from this season.

The month wrapped up with the Scholastic Book Fair, STEAM Night, and the Science Fair. Over 150 students and parents braved the cold weather to participate in the STEAM activities. Students tested what would sink or float, built light sabers, made helicopters, brought drawings to life, flew paper airplanes, as well as visited with six different community organizations.



**Coming up in March:** March looks to be a little calmer. Re-enrollment for the school year and summer camp is continuing. There are waitlists for some classes already. Please continue to keep the school in your prayers.

God’s Blessings,

Delaine Schiestel

# CDC HAPPENINGS

## March 2025 Edition

March is here and it feels like spring is finally coming! The CDC can't wait for warmer temperatures and more sunshine to play in! In honor of St. Patrick's Day this month, please enjoy Saint Patrick's prayer: *"Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me."*

In February the CDC celebrated Valentine's Day! There were pinks, reds, purples, and lots of hearts as we created and exchanged valentine crafts and did lots of fun activities. One of our favorite Valentine activities was when the dads got invited to ballet class with Mrs. Caty for a Daddy-Daughter dance! Most importantly, Valentine's Day gave the perfect opportunity to teach the children of the greatest love of all – the love of Jesus! We were closed on the 17th in honor of President's Day. Mrs. Tatum from Alabama Pediatric Dental Associates came by to teach our 3-year-olds about caring for their teeth! We also got to welcome Spoiled Rotten Photography back for their final visit this school year. We can't wait to see what they captured for our families!

**Looking ahead:** In March we will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Think green, shamrocks, rainbows, leprechauns, and shenanigans! We will also host one of our favorite events – the spring Usborne Book Fair! Mrs. Melissa Slowick will be here for three days all set up with the latest and greatest children books, just in time for Easter baskets! Our kids, their families, and our center LOVE new books! I will be excited to report on the sales next month in the April Grace Notes, so stay tuned!

Thanks be to God!

Jessica McGuire



# GROW - BIBLE STUDY TOPICS

March 2025 Edition



## Bible Studies Topics – March 2025

### Sunday Morning Children and Youth

- Infant—Pre-K (Church Nursery) – Joshua and Judges: Land and Loss
- K—4th (Genesis Room) – Joshua and Judges: Land and Loss
- 5th and 6th Grade (School Library) – Bible Characters
- Confirmation (Room 106) – Faith Application
- High School (Youth Room) – Foundations in Personal Finance

### Sunday Morning Communities

- Quarter Life Questers (Room 202) - Christian Perspective on Enneagram
- Figuring It Out (Room 203) – Christian Perspective on Enneagram
- Balancing Act (School Band Room) – Day 7: For Work, Rest, or Play
- Tug of War (Room 204) – Cost of Discipleship
- Discovering Together (Room 209) – Upper Room Discourse

### Sunday Morning Bible Studies

- Cost of Discipleship (Cafeteria)
- 12 Questions Jesus Asked (Assembly Room)
- Bible for Non-Native English Speakers (Room 208) – Job

### Bible Studies During the Week

- Digging Deeper (Wednesday at 6:30 PM in the Assembly Room) – Revelation
- Women’s Bible Study (Monday at 1:00 PM in the Church Library) – Justification and Sanctification by Good News Magazine
- Women’s Bible Study (Tuesday at 9:30 AM in the Church Library) – Promised Hope by Michelle Diercks
- Men’s Bible Study (2nd Saturday at 7:30 AM in the School Cafeteria) – Facing Disaster Like a Man
- Ladies of Grace Circles (3rd Tuesday at 9:00 AM and 9:30 AM; 3rd Saturday at 2:00 PM in the Church Library and Genesis Room) - Topic Varies



# OUTREACH CONNECTIONS

March 2025 Edition



## LOCAL MISSION ENGAGE CONNECTIONS

Grace Lutheran has developed a relationship with **McDonnell Elementary School** (4010 Binderton Place, Huntsville, AL 35805). We have been advocates for the school and open to responding to needs as they are shared with us. We are still stocking their Little Library with children’s books. The library has been moved nearer to the school building as it was knocked down twice recently. **We have a need for children’s books, activity books, and basic school supplies.** You can support this project by contributing gently used children’s books or providing such items as commercially wrapped individual snacks (examples: Cheez-It crackers, Lance sandwich crackers, Rice Krispy or granola bars). Books and school supplies along with food supplies may be placed in the chest in the church narthex. Thanks for your generous support as you respond in the love of Jesus.



**First Stop** encounters the homeless where they are, connects them to critical services and support, and empowers them toward independent sustainable living. So far this year, the First Stop team has successfully assisted 53 individuals from homelessness to independent, sustainable living. These are 53 people who are no longer living on the street but are sleeping in the safety and comfort of their own homes.

**First Stop relies on volunteer support to provide hot meals twice a day at the temporary facility location – 2820 Governors Drive.**

### Volunteer Tips for providing meals:

- Meals should serve 80-100 people. Prepare food for 80 people! **3-4 servers** are needed to serve the meal.
- Provide food that is already prepared and only needs to be heated. No cooking, please.
- We serve Breakfast and Lunch, Monday through Friday. Breakfast meals are to delivered to **First Stop** by 7:45 AM and lunch meals by no later than 11:15 AM.
- Breakfast is served from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM.
- Lunch is served from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM.



For more information, **contact Lorna Menzel or Pastor Andrew!**

# OUTREACH CONNECTIONS

March 2025 Edition

## ACTS Ministry



**ACTS** (Actively Caring, Tenderly Serving) Ministry has been redefined. We have a new email address which is **ACTS@gracelutheran-hsv.org** that can be used to volunteer to support **ACTS** activities or to request specific help/support. Please respond to let us know how you desire to participate and help this ministry on an occasional basis.

We now have five coordinators in place to support the ACTS Ministry via Grace Lutheran:

- **Pam Lowe** (Hospitality - Meal trains, potlucks, etc.)
- **Mairlyn Johnson** (Cards - Those ill or recovering/birthdays, etc.)
- **Kathy Cook** (Visits/Calls - Friendly calls, friendly visits)
- **Bill Duncan** (Transportation - Pickups and appointments)
- **Rusty Graves** (House/Yard Work - Technology help, lawn, repairs)

If you know of someone who can benefit, or if you have a particular need for yourself, let us know the need by calling the church office. Call and ask for extension **347** to leave your message. If calling after hours, please select option 7 and you can leave a voicemail.

### Volunteer Support:

- Sending cards to homebound and those on our care list.
- Checking in by phone with individuals on our care list.
- Visiting those in need, primarily our homebound.
- Providing meals - Case by case, but normally for an illness or coping with a health condition.
- Errand/driving support - Pick up a prescription or groceries, take someone to a medical appointment.
- Helping someone with a technology equipment issue.
- Miscellaneous - Mowing a yard, shrubbery care, cleaning up a kitchen, or whatever a family member might need.

### Help Request:

- I would appreciate a friendly visit.
- I have a need for meals.
- I need help with someone to pick up items (i.e. groceries or prescription).
- I need help to get to a medical appointment.
- I need help with upkeep of my lawn/shrubbery.
- I need help with technology use and equipment.
- I need help with a repair in my home (list): \_\_\_\_\_

It is our intent to share needs as they arise with the ACTS Ministry volunteers. You choose which activity you want to respond to and help!

Please join us in prayer as together we seek to care to serve one another sharing the love of Jesus!

**CONNECT CARD** – You are encouraged to invite a friend, neighbor, or work colleague to visit our church’s website at [www.gracelutheran-hsv.org](http://www.gracelutheran-hsv.org) and complete a **CONNECT CARD**. The link is located on the lower part of the homepage. Persons completing the **CONNECT CARD** are added to our MailChimp list and receive the weekly e-mail from Pastor Russ with a link to our livestream worship service.

**Serving Persons Via Facebook:** Visit the **Grace Lutheran Church** page on Facebook. Go to the page and “**LIKE**” the page (in the top section at the bottom left side of the cover photo— not below the posted content). Liking the Grace Lutheran page helps us to get information to your Facebook account!

# CONNECTION GROUPS

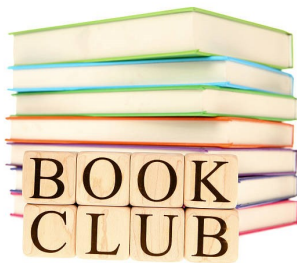
March 2025 Edition

## ARE YOU CONNECTED?

**Connection Groups (formerly called interest groups)** are a means of “building bridges” to connect with others (unchurched or dechurched) in your neighborhood or our community. It’s about building a group around a similar interest (hobby, craft, fun activity, sport, or just about anything else under the sun). The goal is to help connect persons to Christ, the church, and the community. Dream the possibilities and then explore the opportunity to set up a group that meets at least on a bi-weekly basis. Of course, you can choose to take breaks in the schedule as needed for holidays/summer vacation, etc. Grace Lutheran’s vision is to grow in being passionate servants. Organizing or leading a connection group is a means of being a passionate servant. Have you ever thought that you can be instrumental in connecting others around interests as a means of serving God?

Want to start your own group? Contact Kathryn Bradshaw or the church office. Not in a group? We encourage you to join one of our existing groups.

## Here is a listing of the current Connection Groups (Continued on next page)



**The Christian Book Club** meets in the church library at 10:00 AM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, March 12th**, and we will be discussing *An Elephant in the Garden: Inspired by a True Story* by Michael Morpurgo. Our next read will be *The Happiest Man on Earth* by Eddie Jaku. If interested in attending, contact Karen Crout or the Church Office with any questions.

*Can't come to the Book Club? Books from our reading selections are also available in the church library. They are located on the shelf to the left of the TV. **Feel free to take any of the books!***

**The Sew 'n Sews** meet on Mondays from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM in the Genesis Room.

Donations of fleece and knitted hats (along with a few blankets) were made to First Stop/Suds and Buds. Knitted hats were given to the Cancer Center (currently working on pillow ports). Blankets and all sorts of other items were given to The National Children's Advocacy Center.

**No special skills needed! Come and join us!** Contact Harriett Kicklighter or the church office for more information.



# CONNECTION GROUPS (PAGE 2)

## March 2025 Edition



**A Bridge Group** meets once a month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday except in November and December (meeting instead on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday). This is party bridge – just for fun and friendship. If interested, contact Mary Jane Reumann or the church office for more information.

**Friday Afternoon Golf** is organized by Dennis Sierk and Phil Nelson. Time and place: The par 3 course at Hampton Cove every Friday afternoon. For more information, contact Dennis or Phil. Please note the following rules:

1. No score keeping.
2. If you don't like your shot, take another one.
3. If you don't like your lie, move it.
4. Refreshments in the clubhouse, afterward.



INTERESTED IN A LWML SMALL GROUP?

**Peace Circle**  
 3rd Tuesday | 9am | Genesis Room  
 Contact: [pamjons1@bellsouth.net](mailto:pamjons1@bellsouth.net)

**Hope Circle**  
 3rd Tuesday | 9am | Church Library  
 Contact: [croust@juno.com](mailto:croust@juno.com)

MITES COLLECTED ON 5TH SUNDAYS IN THE NARTHEX

# SAINTS ALIVE

## March 2025 Edition

**Saints Alive** is an adult organization within Grace Lutheran Ministries. The group is open to Grace Lutheran members and their friends. The organization hosts two activities each month on the first and third Wednesdays. Always sign up on the sheets on the narthex easel. There is a little change for the sign-up sheets going forward. There will be two sheets, one will be for those riding the bus and the other for those who are planning to drive themselves. This just makes it easier for us to keep track of when the bus is full.

### Busy Schedule Ahead!

Unfortunately, because of the winter weather forecast for Wednesday, February 19th, we had to reschedule the trip to Orbix Glass in Fort Payne. We will be going there on **April 16th** instead.

On **Wednesday, March 5th** we will be going to Decatur to tour the **Princess Theatre**, an old movie theater that opened to silent movies in 1919. The theater was remodeled in art deco style and reopened in 1941. We will tour there and then watch the movie, "The Magic of Belle Isle," starring Morgan Freeman. It has had good reviews from seniors and has no bad language or sexual content. The bus will leave Grace at **9:15 AM** and will stop at the Cracker Barrel to pick up folks from the Madison area. The cost of the tour is \$5 per person with the option to get popcorn and coke for \$12 per person. Lunch will follow at Kimmie's restaurant across the street from the theater. Shirley Vigil is the coordinator for this trip. Sign up on the easel in the narthex.

On **March 19th**, the Saints Alive will travel to **Chattanooga** for two activities. First we will visit the IMAX Theater at the Tennessee Aquarium at **11:00 AM ET** to view the 45 minute documentary entitled *T. REX 3D* featuring leaps in CGI wizardry and revolutions in tyrannosaurus paleontology over the past 25 years. Next we will have lunch at the Mellow Mushroom. Following that, at **2:30 PM ET**, we will tour the campus of the University of Tennessee Chattanooga, provided by the admissions department. We will leave Grace at **7:00 AM CT** and return about **5:30 PM CT** just in time for the Lenten supper at church.

In regards to the Lenten dinners, the Saints Alive members will provide the meal at the dinner on **March 26th**. Sign-up sheets will be on the bulletin board in the narthex for those who are willing to help in various ways. The main dish will be baked spaghetti. The ingredients will be provided to those who are willing to bake a dish. Thrivent Action Team funds will be used to buy the ingredients and other food items. Please consider helping with this meal.

On **April 2nd** we will travel to Lacey's Spring to visit **Manna House's Hydroponic Garden**. Come and see where 5–10 acres of lettuce (21,000 heads) can be grown in one room! We will be given planting/harvesting instructions and put on a disposable gown, shoe covering, etc. before we plant or harvest lettuce. Then we will proceed to the Harvest Room and Water Supply Room before entering the gardens. There is the opportunity for us to harvest or plant lettuce seeds for about one hour. Simple instructions will be provided. Please wear comfortable clothing and shoes. More information about times and other details will be coming as the date gets closer.

# STEPHEN MINISTRY

March 2025 Edition



## Temporary

By Merle Trich

“It’s only temporary.” How many times have we all heard that phrase? The “temporary” crown at the dentist, the “temporary” pain after surgery, the “temporary” shelter after storm damage, the “temporary” absence of a loved one during military deployments. Temporary situations or things are not meant to last forever.

Our dear friend and sister in Christ, Judy Zecher, was a leader of Stephen Ministry for many years at Grace Lutheran. She embodied compassionate care and prayer. Judy lived out 1 Timothy 2:1 *“I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.”* She had a constant focus on her permanent home in heaven, which was an anchor in this temporary world of constantly changing circumstances. She frequently referenced the book *Imagine Heaven* and the *Imagine Heaven Devotional* which she had read multiple times. As Paul directs the Colossians in Col. 3:2 and as the author records, “The purpose of the devotional is to help us truly set our minds on the magnificent promises of Heaven, so that it will change how we live today.” Judy is now in her permanent home in Heaven. However, her temporary time in this world made a difference in the lives of so many people she touched and cared for through interaction and prayer. *“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.”* -Romans 8:28.

May we all continue our earthly journey focused on our permanent destination, Heaven!

Temporary situations can sometimes cloud our view of the “permanent” destination. If you are struggling with a temporary storm in your life, Grace offers support through GriefShare and Stephen Ministry. Please contact or speak to Pastor Russ, Pastor Andrew, Dexter & Joyce McClure, or Merle Trich if you would like more information on either supportive program.

May God guide and strengthen our Stephen Ministers and GriefShare facilitators as they serve and pray for members of our congregation and the community.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 2025 Edition



## New Members

We welcomed six new members into the Grace family last month. View their pictures and contact information [here](#), and be sure to welcome them and introduce yourself when you see them in the future!

**SUMMER CAMP IS LOOKING FOR:**

- **PAPER TOWEL TUBES**
- **TOILET PAPER TUBES**
- **MAGAZINES**

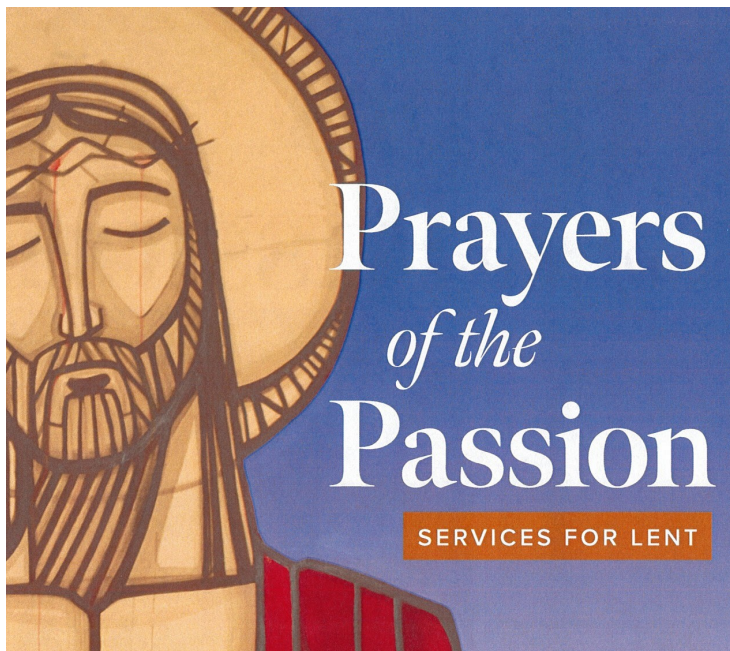
**These items can be dropped off in the school office. Thank you!**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 2025 Edition

## High School Seniors — Get Ready for the Future!

This flagship four week mentorship program, led by Grace’s young adult community group, will be packed with faith encouragement, life skills, and real-world prep for high school seniors! From college hacks to career tips, this is the ultimate guide to thriving after graduation. Don’t miss it! A Parent and Student Information Meeting will be held **March 2nd** from **12:00 PM - 12:30 PM**, immediately following the 10:45 AM worship service, in the **Youth Room**.



## Lenten Worship Begins

The Lenten season begins this **Wednesday, March 5th** with Ash Wednesday. Join us for the service at **6:30 PM**, with a preservice fellowship meal beginning at **5:30 PM**.

### Midweek Lenten Sermon Series - *Prayers of the Passion*

- 3/5—Ash Wednesday: Let This Cup Pass
- 3/12—Why Have You Forsaken Me?
- 3/19—Father, Forgive Them
- 3/26—Jesus, Remember Me
- 4/2—Into Your Hands
- 4/9—Simon, I Have Prayed For You



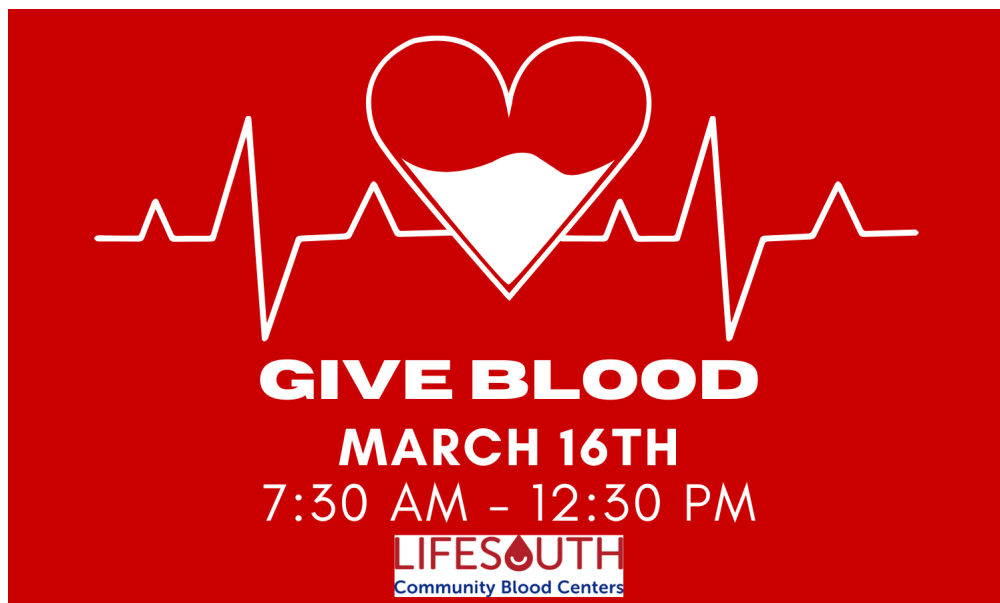
# ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 2025 Edition



## First Stop Engage Opportunity

This month we are resuming our ministry of gathering items for a local service organization. We will be collecting food and other needs for **First Stop**. You can pick up a bag with a list of requested items in the narthex and are asked to please return those bags by next Sunday, **March 9th**. If the items you are donating do not fit in the white bag, please use a different bag and attach the donation sheet.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## March 2025 Edition

### Combined Youth Event

We will join together with the youth from Faith in Madison and Ascension in Huntsville for another combined youth event. Here's what you need to know: The event is open to youth going into **grades 6th through 12th**. We will meet at **Ascension Lutheran Church** on **Sunday, March 30th** from **4:00 PM - 6:00 PM**. Our activity for the day will be playing kickball and enjoying a hot dog dinner together. We look forward to seeing you there!



### Easter Egg Hunt

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 12th** for Grace's Annual Easter Egg Hunt! We will have plenty of eggs for everyone to get their fill of goodies. Come early or stay a little later to visit our activity stations, where you can learn more about the Easter story and find some more treats.

- 9:30 AM – Registration and activities open**
- 10:05 AM – Ages 0-2 and 3-5 Easter Egg Hunt**
- 10:15 AM – Ages 6-10 Easter Egg Hunt**

### Easter Egg Hunt Service Opportunities

In order to make our Easter Egg Hunt a great event for the children, we have several ways you can get involved. We need volunteers to help with set up, take down, check-in, and running activities. Contact Jen Roettjer if you can help.

We also need eggs filled with candy! All eggs must be delivered by **Sunday, April 6th** to the treasure chest in the Narthex. Please keep in mind the following:

- ALL candy must be packaged in its original packaging.
- NO loose candy, such as jellybeans.
- Avoid using candy with peanuts.
- Only put candy inside. NO toys.
- Make sure the candy fits inside the egg, so that the egg closes without popping open.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 2025 Edition



## VBS Save the Date

June 1st - 5th, 2025

Registration opens April 27th!

## VBS Volunteers

VBS is a great opportunity to tell our children about God's word. Would you like to join us in making a difference in these kids' lives? We are looking for a variety of volunteers, including people to help with crew leaders, games, dinner, and more. VBS runs from **June 1st - 5th** from **5:30 PM to 8:15 PM** each day. You can sign up on the church center app or [here](#).



## GraceLand Capital Campaign Update

Thank you to all who have been supporting the GraceLand Capital Campaign since it began in April. During February we collected close to **\$40,000.00**, which brings the total collected for the campaign to almost **\$360,000.00!** The more of the principal of our loan that we pay down during this period puts us in a better position to begin executing the stages of the Master Plan, which was presented to the congregation last month. You can give online or by check with GraceLand Capital Campaign or GCC in the memo line.

## Child Beyond International Newsletter



We were blessed to hear about Pastor Russ and Pastor Andrew's visit to Child Beyond International this past month. We are looking to strengthen our connection to and support of this organization in the future. In the meantime, you can view Child Beyond International's most recent newsletter [here](#) to read about their Children's Home and work in the mission field.

## Grace Lutheran Church & School

3321 South Memorial Parkway  
Huntsville, AL 35801

Phone: 256-881-0552  
Fax: 256-881-0563  
E-mail: [secretary@gracelutheran-hsv.org](mailto:secretary@gracelutheran-hsv.org)

### JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

#### Sundays

**8:00 AM**

Blended Worship

1st & 2nd Sundays of the Month

Traditional Worship

3rd & 4th Sundays of the Month

**10:45 AM**

Contemporary Worship

Every Sunday

#### Communion

8:00 AM 1st & 3rd Sunday

10:45 AM 2nd & 4th Sunday

**Check Us Out Online!**  
**[www.gracelutheran-hsv.org](http://www.gracelutheran-hsv.org)**

## STAFF & LAY LEADERSHIP

### STAFF

Pastor.....Pastor Russ Gipson  
Associate Pastor.....Pastor Andrew Frerichs  
Principal ..... Delaine Schiestel  
CDC Director..... Jessica McGuire  
Director of Christian Education ..... Jen Roettjer  
Business Manager..... Laura Muelling  
Properties Manager..... Jack Hengel  
Event & Facility Coordinator..... Pam Lowe  
Office Manager ..... Kristin Haycock  
Receptionist.....Laura Ohme

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice Chair .....Brian Steeve  
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Member at Large ..... June Kalange  
Member at Large .....Tony Luchner  
Member at Large ..... Jeff Rullman

### ELDERS MINISTRY TEAM

Michael Beutel	Ed Fulda
Mike Banzhoff	im Hartmann
Dick Bradshaw	Jordan Haycock
Kyle Britton	Scott Jagger
Craig Camealy	Kevin Pedersen
Jason Cuny	Dexter McClure
Mike Ellis	Tom Naatz

Grace   
LUTHERAN