

The Maycember Finish Line

Everyone loves crossing a finish line. Whether the race was a marathon or a sprint, whether you dragged yourself to the end or finished strong, whether the race was literal or figurative, crossing the finish line brings relief. You can catch your breath, regroup, and rest.

We have just completed the month of May, or as you may have heard it referred to by others, Maycember. The portmanteau “Maycember” was coined back in 2016 by The Holderness Family, content creators popular for their videos on marriage, middle-age, and parenting, but it has become a bigger part of the cultural lexicon in recent years, popping up in news stories and as a topic on morning talk shows. The term is defined as *“the whirlwind of events, obligations, and celebrations that crowd the month of May, making it feel as hectic and overwhelming as the holiday season in December.”* There are concerts, recitals, awards ceremonies, field days, field trips, graduations, sports practices and games, and a number of other events that the school invites parents to attend in the middle of a weekday. As a parent of three school-age children, our schedule was full, and while there is much to enjoy in all of these activities, the stress and exhaustion resulting from trying to keep up with everything while also attending to work and other household responsibilities can be a thief of some of that joy. It was a relief to turn the calendar page from the color-coded chaos of May to a month with a few more empty squares. We finally have a chance to catch our breath, regroup, and rest.

Grace Lutheran had a bit of its own Maycember, especially if you extend it back to include the last few weeks of April. We crossed the finish line of the Lenten season by celebrating the resurrection of our Savior on Easter. We celebrated six of our youth as they confirmed their faith in front of the congregation. We hosted the LERT training that had been rescheduled from the beginning of the year. We voted on a Master Plan to pursue in order to accommodate our growing ministries. We welcomed new members and honored graduates. Grace Lutheran School wrapped up their academic year, and we voted to issue a call to another principal candidate. Lastly, a large group of our members and their families attended a Trash Panda game to enjoy fellowship together. Pastor Russ and Pastor Andrew have faithfully shepherded our congregation through all of these events, while Pastor Andrew crossed some personal finish lines of his own as he and Hannah closed on their first home together and got married. They were able to celebrate the end of those races by taking off for their honeymoon, and Pastor Russ is currently enjoying a family trip out West visiting some of the national parks. They all are getting to catch their breath, regroup, and rest.

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As we cross the various finish lines in our personal lives and as a church, and enjoy a slower pace, it's also important to continue looking forward. Hebrews 12:1 tells us, *"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."* The finish line for this race is not the end of a month, or a season, or a particular event. This is the race of our earthly life as Christians, and the finish line is eternity in Heaven, whenever God calls us home. Until then, we press on. Ministry continues here at Grace throughout the summer. VBS begins tonight, and the hard work of church staff and volunteers will come to fruition as children learn about Jesus through games, songs, and activities. The CDC continues to provide Christ-centered childcare for both our members and members of the Huntsville community. Summer Camp kicks off this week, serving school families and functioning as an outreach opportunity to those outside of Grace. We will begin the Red Letter Challenge, focusing on strengthening our discipleship. Work is being done to prepare our budget for the next fiscal year, and that along with future ministry plans will be discussed at a Voters' Assembly Meeting later this month. And before we know it, it will be time to prepare for the upcoming school year, and the pace of everyday life will pick up once again.

There is Kingdom work to be done in our personal lives as well, whether that be through our jobs, volunteer opportunities, community engagements, or even simply within our own families. May we draw strength from rest while looking for ways to spread the Gospel to those around us.

God's blessings on your summer!

Kristin Haycock



LERT Training Recap

*And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.
 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone,
 and especially to those who are of the household of faith.
 –Galatians 6:9-10*

It finally happened! What started in the middle of September finally found its conclusion on a very wet weekend in May.

Back in September, Pastor Russ and I were getting excited about a mission trip opportunity to visit our mission partners at Child Beyond International in Guatemala. We were so excited that we didn't leave for the airport in time and we missed our flight. Rebooking the flight didn't go very well because at that same moment in time Hurricane Helene was preparing to make landfall. Pastor and I decided to not take the flight down. Other than the moral of that story being to not travel with me (plenty of stories on that for other times) I learned another lesson that day: pay attention to what God is doing and how he is leading you.

Following our failed Guatemala trip, it seemed as though God was telling us "no." It also seemed as though God was pointing us to another place where we could Engage in service, through disaster relief with LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team). The effects of Helene are well known; communities in the Carolinas continue to recover and will be rebuilding for years. What if God was calling us to serve our neighbors much closer than Guatemala? What if our neighbors were only states away?

We began 2025 excited about LERT training, but our first attempt found a frozen pause. The weekend we had scheduled got snowed out; it turns out there is a limit to "this training will occur rain or shine," and Southerners don't handle snow very well. What a bummer! We'd have to delay this training for warmer weather. And it finally happened! A few weekends ago Grace hosted a LERT training event. We had people from across the South, from Louisiana to Kentucky, come to Grace for disaster training. On the afternoon of May 10th, a very brave chainsaw class ventured into the "rain or shine" (it was a deluge). Over 20 people received LERT training through the weekend. In this one training the Southern District tripled the amount of chainsaw certified operators for disaster situations.

Where does this lead us next? Who knows? God continues to mess with us and point us in directions as we Engage in service. We look forward to future conversations with LERT officials as we build a team and discover ways in which we can effectively care for our brothers and sisters in God's kingdom. God has given us an amazing opportunity, let's go out and take it.

Pastor Andrew



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

June 2025 Edition

Looking Back

May was the final month of the 2024-2025 school year. So many things happen over the last few weeks of school. We finished our end of year MAP testing to see how much the students have grown over the year, teachers wrapped up their final units, middle school classes took their final exams, and the end of year celebrations took place.

The 5th–8th graders had their final band concert of the year. One bonus from that concert was the addition of the “Family Band,” where parents, staff, and staff spouses who play instruments were invited to join the 6th–8th graders on a song. Not only did they sound great, the students had the blessing of performing with more experienced instrumentalists, which gave them insight and confidence.

The Kindergarten class had their Kindergarten Recognition and Celebration during the last week of school. They performed songs for their parents with a reception following. We are proud of how much they have learned and grown, as we are for all our students.



The 8th graders graduated Wednesday, May 21st. We pray God's blessings over them as they head off to a variety of local high schools.



The students and teachers celebrated the end of the school year with Field Day on Thursday, May 22nd. The PTL, parents, and volunteers staffed a variety of games and activities for the students in the morning. The afternoon activities were wet and wild as everyone participated in a bucket sponge race and an all-school water fight.



On Friday, May 23rd we closed out the school year with an Awards Assembly and Closing Chapel. Students who exemplified the school's Vision Statement of Discipleship, Leadership, and Innovation were recognized, as well as those who achieved honor roll, art recognition, and physical fitness standards. Pastor Russ led the closing chapel, reminding us that our "Endurance" (our theme for the year) depends on our timeless God who was with us in the past, is with us now, and will be with us in the future.

We thank you for all your prayers for the school. Please continue to lift it up over the summer as we are staffing classrooms, calling an administrator, and making plans for next year. May God continue to provide, as He always does!

God's Blessings,

Delaine Schiestel

CDC HAPPENINGS

June 2025 Edition

Summer is here and at the CDC we are still going strong. It's business as usual! We will continue on with our classes until **July 29th** before closing for 3 days to prepare for our new school year. Our new school year will begin **August 4th**. We plan to have an **AWESOME** summer full of fun in the sun! We are thankful for bright days full of activity and Jesus! *This is what the Lord says to me: 'I will remain quiet and will look on from my dwelling place, like shimmering heat in the sunshine, like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.'* - Isaiah 18:4

In May we celebrated Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week. It was a wonderful time of the year as the CDC teachers and staff got spoiled, and they deserved every bit of it! They are so dedicated and work so hard every single day to care for and teach the children! It was also Mother's Day in May, and the kids had so much fun crafting gifts for all the Grace CDC mommies. We had our "Muffins with Moms" event in the Genesis Room, where Moms got to enjoy a muffin and some juice with their child before dropping them off. The kids had so much fun with the bounce houses and slides that the school shared with us on Field Day. We ended the month of May with a day off of work to celebrate Memorial Day with our families and to remember all those who lost their lives serving our country.

Looking ahead: This summer we will be working very hard to finish our CDC school year and prepare for the upcoming one! In the upcoming year we will be welcoming many new CDC families and employees. We are so thankful for the opportunity to spread God's love to both new and current families this year! In June we will host the "Donuts with Dad" event to celebrate Father's Day. We appreciate all our Grace dads! We will close the summer by celebrating Independence Day and making sure everything is in place for the new CDC school year. Please continue to pray for God's blessings over the CDC as we continue to carry out God's plan for our ministry!

Thanks be to God!

Jessica McGuire



TRASH PANDA FELLOWSHIP NIGHT



GROW - BIBLE STUDY TOPICS

June 2025 Edition



Bible Studies Topics – June 2025

Sunday Morning Children and Youth

- Infant—Pre-K (Church Nursery) – Kings: Foolishness and Wisdom
- K—4th (Genesis Room) – Kings: Foolishness and Wisdom
- 5th and 6th Grade (School Library) – Bible Characters
- Confirmation (Room 106) – Catechism Topics
- High School (Youth Room) – Red Letter Challenge

Sunday Morning Communities

- Quarter Life Questers (Room 202) - Red Letter Challenge
- Figuring It Out (Room 203) – Red Letter Challenge
- Balancing Act (School Band Room) – Day 7: For Work, Rest, or Play
- Tug of War (Room 204) – Red Letter Challenge
- Discovering Together (Room 209) – Upper Room Discourse

Sunday Morning Bible Studies

- Red Letter Challenge (Gym)
- Bible for Non-Native English Speakers (Room 208) – Isaiah

Bible Studies During the Week

- Digging Deeper (Wednesday at 6:30 PM in the Assembly Room) – Will resume in the Fall
- Women's Bible Study (Monday at 1:00 PM in the Church Library) – Will resume in the Fall
- 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) – Nurturing Your Faith: Called
- 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

June 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

June 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 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

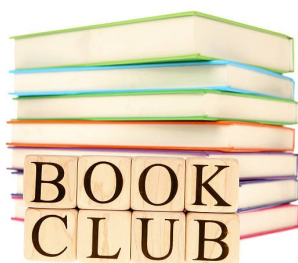
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ARE YOU CONNECTED?

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 2nd Wednesday of each month. Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, June 11th**, and we will be discussing *The Bride’s Room: The Adventures of Mildred Budge* (Book 3) by Daphne Simpkins. Our next read will be *The Island of the Sea Woman* by Lisa See. 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 normally meet on Mondays from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM in the Genesis Room. ***During the summer months we will meet only on June 9th, July 14th, and August 11th. Our weekly meetings will resume on September 8th.***

We will continue to work on a number of projects throughout the summer months.

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



CONNECTION GROUPS (PAGE 2)

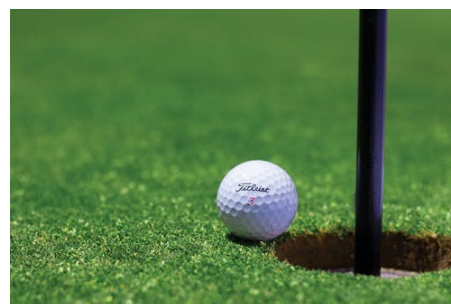
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A Bridge Group meets once a month on the 4th Thursday except in November and December (meeting instead on the 3rd Thursday). This is party bridge – just for fun and friendship. If interested, contact Mary Jane Reumann or the church office for more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

Hope Circle
3rd Tuesday | 9am | Church Library
Contact: crout@juno.com

MITES COLLECTED ON 5TH SUNDAYS IN THE NARTHEX

SAINTS ALIVE

June 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.

Summer Plans

The Saints Alive group continues to provide opportunities to explore topics and places around north Alabama and southern Tennessee. We welcome all who would like to join us for our experiences.

June brings the end to 2025's first six months of planned activities for Saints Alive. Two more events are planned until we hold another **Planning Meeting** for the rest of the year. That planning meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 25th at 10:00 AM** in the **Genesis Room**, followed by lunch nearby. All are invited to attend the meeting. The planned activities will cover the months of July through November. Our annual Christmas dinner will be held in December. Please think about some possible activities in north Alabama or southern Tennessee or some topics that could be presented by someone on the Grace campus.

During June there are two activities planned. First on **June 5th** (a Thursday due to when the restaurant we are visiting is open) we will travel to **Ivy Green**, the home of Helen Keller, in Tusculumbia. We will tour the house and grounds. The cost of that is **\$8**. We will then eat at the **Rattlesnake Saloon** for lunch. The saloon is the watering hole under the rock where we can enjoy connecting to local history. The restaurant is handicap accessible. The bus will leave from the Gibson's parking lot at 9:00 AM and should be back by 3:30 PM. Those who prefer to drive themselves to these places are also welcome. Sign up on the sheets in the narthex. Jack Hengel is the coordinator for this trip.

For the second June activity we will host **Patty Sykstus**, the co-founder and CEO of **Not One More Alabama (NOMA)**. She will give her presentation in the **sanctuary** at Grace on **June 18th at 9:30 AM** to talk with us about the work her organization does. NOMA began in November of 2016 when a group of family members and professionals began collaborating to discuss the impact of addiction on families in the state of Alabama. Realizing that other interventions had good intentions but produced extremely poor results, the group formed NOMA and decided to step forward and share their personal experiences, knowledge, hope, and support with those impacted by the disease of addiction. NOMA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded and operated by compassionate individuals who volunteer their support, education, and inspiration to those impacted by addiction. Funding is provided by donations and corporate contributions. A sign-up sheet will be on the easel in the narthex beginning **June 8th**. Lunch will follow the presentation at **Farm Burger** on Bob Wallace. Karen Ager is coordinating this event.

Thanks to all of you who have joined Saints Alive for our activities the past six months. We look forward to having you join us again in the future.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

June 2025 Edition



Weeds

By Merle Trich

I love to garden! I plant new flowers every year and tend to my blueberries, blackberries and herbs. I get so excited walking through the garden centers thinking of how all those beautiful plants would look in my yard. But then the rain comes and among all my gardens the weeds start to grow – stealing the nutrients and choking the flowers. I use weed suppressant, hand pull, and use “Grandpa’s Weeder” for the deep, hard-to-get roots. Weeding is an ongoing process to keep my gardens vibrant and alive.

Galatians 5:22-25 says *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.”*

In our lives it is easy for spiritual weeds of worry, anxiety, doubt, and sin to steal our joy in Christ. How many weeds are rooted in your life? Just like it’s important to weed my flower garden, it’s more important to weed my spiritual garden. Are we investing our energy and time in the fruits of the Spirit? What is distracting you from tending to your spiritual fruits? Is it social media, worries being reviewed in your mind, doubts, desire for what others have, focus on what others think versus what God wants for us?

Dealing with the weeds is a struggle, but it’s worth it! In Colossians 3:5-11, Paul tells us to make sure we are dealing with our spiritual weeds. *“Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature; Sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, all of which is idolatry. And, because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. There is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.”* So as we do our spiritual weeding and fight sin, may we do so with patience, hope, and gratitude for grace.

Grace offers support through GriefShare and Stephen Ministry. If you are looking for encouragement and strength during challenging circumstances in life and spiritual weeding, a Stephen Minister can listen and support you as you look for peace and hope in His Word. No matter the circumstances, always remember that we belong to Christ Jesus!

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

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*Attention
Volunteers!*



Child & Youth Volunteer Reminder

This is a friendly reminder from the Business Office that if you volunteer at Grace with children or youth you must complete a background check and 30-minute online child safety training video and quiz in order to volunteer. The background check and online child safety training must be renewed once every three years if you continue to volunteer with children and youth. If you are due for renewal, you will receive an email notice from the Business Office.

If you have received email requests to either complete an online consent form for a background check or to complete the online child safety training, please complete those tasks as soon as possible.

Thank you for your commitment to keeping our children and youth safe!



Prayers for VBS!

VBS kicks off tonight as children from the church, school, CDC, and the community will gather to learn more about Jesus. Please pray for all of the faithful volunteers who have dedicated their time preparing for this week, and will now help to carry it all to fruition. Please also pray that the songs sung and messages heard will either strengthen the faith of those in attendance, or plant a gospel seed in those who have yet to hear the good

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Lost & Found

Missing something? Please see the box behind the Welcome Center in the narthex for items found in the sanctuary and around the building in recent weeks.



New Members

We welcomed new members into our congregation at both services on May 18th. You can find their pictures and information [here](#). Be sure to introduce yourself when you see them!



Spring 2025 Graduates

During our May 18th worship services we honored our Spring 2025 high school and college graduates. You can view the booklet [here](#). We celebrate them for their achievements and accomplishments, and pray for them as they pursue their future plans!

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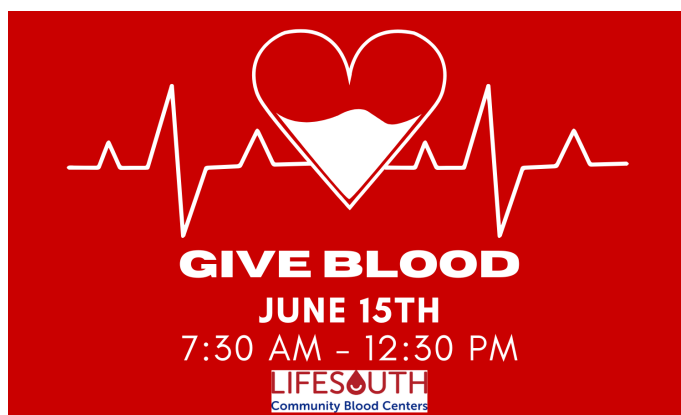
Red Letter Challenge Invitation

Discipleship is a life-long pursuit. At its most basic level, it simply means following Jesus. Discipleship is not merely knowledge, but it is not void of knowledge either. Discipleship is about putting into practice what Christ has revealed and spoken to us. Jesus modeled a whole life and even told us how to follow Him in HIS OWN WORDS (the red letters found in many Bibles). This summer our Summer Adult Sunday School will be embarking on the Red Letter Challenge (RLC). The RLC is a 40 day challenge aimed at mastering five discipleship targets: Being, Forgiving, Serving, Giving, and Going. The challenge includes daily devotional reading and meeting on Sunday mornings at **9:30 AM**. The class will run from **June 8th through July 20th**. Sign-up to participate [here](#).

Huntsville Community Chorus Summer Musical Event

The Huntsville Community Chorus invites you to “**Once Upon a Mattress**,” a musical version of the classic tale, “The Princess and the Pea.” In this musical the swamp princess, Winnifred the Woebegone, has delightful answers to Queen Aggravain’s marriage test questions. If she passes the test, Winnifred may marry the prince. There are lots of wonderful songs, dances, and side-splitting shenanigans that will delight the whole family.

“Once Upon a Mattress” will be presented at **Thurber Arts Center**, Randolph School’s Garth Road Campus, on June 6-7, and 13-14 at 7:00 PM and June 8th & June 15th at 2:00 PM. Tickets are \$27 for adults, \$25 for military and Seniors, and \$20 for students Pre-K through Grade 12. Order tickets through the website. For group rates use this [email](#). Contact Donna Behnken if you have any questions.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 2025 Edition

LOG Summer Lunch Dates

Over the summer the LOG Circles will gather for lunch dates to reconnect. Please contact Karen Crout or Rita Lange with any questions.

- Tuesday, June 17th at 11:00 AM at Olive Garden on University (Hope Circle)
- Tuesday, July 15th at 11:00 AM, Hope Circle will carpool from Grace to Athens for a Birthday Lunch with Millie Sallo
- Saturday, August 16th at 2:00 PM at City Café on Drake (Faith Circle)
- Tuesday, August 19th at 11:00 AM at Cheddar's on University (Hope Circle)



Nominations for Board of Directors and Elders Ministry Team

At the **Voters' Assembly Meeting** on **June 22nd**, we will hold elections for the Board of Directors (BOD) and Elders Ministry Team. We will be electing a Vice Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, and two Members at Large for the BOD, and one Elder for the Elders Ministry Team. We are especially looking for someone with financial experience for the Treasurer position. Scott Jagger, Nancy Kiser, Phil Hallenbeck, and Pastor Russ are serving on the Nominations Committee. Please submit nominations to any of the committee members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Rocket City Scholarship Donation Instructions

Spring time is scholarship season at Grace Lutheran School. As a community we are blessed to be able to work with several scholarship organizations in addition to our Mamie Adams scholarship fund to help make Christian education affordable for families. Our most utilized external scholarship opportunity is Rocket City SGO. This is a scholarship granting organization which directs donations to students in Madison County who wish to participate in a private school program. The program is funded by donors, like you, who make 100% tax deductible donations to the program, which then offset their personal tax liability. Furthermore, when these donations are motivated by Grace Lutheran School we are credited for motivating those donations which increases the amount of scholarship dollars offered to our students.

For the upcoming school year, we have had 19 students apply for the Rocket City Scholarship. Given the funds we expect to receive, we anticipate that our allocation will cover roughly half of our current scholarship needs. The good news is that donations directed to Rocket City on our behalf will be made available for the 25-26 school year as long as those donations are received by June 30, 2025. We are asking that if you have not already done so, please consider directing a portion of your 2025 tax liability to Rocket City SGO and indicate on an included note that you were motivated to donate by Grace Lutheran School. Instructions for this process can be found on the Rocket City SGO [website](#) or by picking up a donation flyer in the church lobby. If you have any questions please contact Jessica Chartier in the school office. Thank you for supporting the students of Grace Lutheran School!

GraceLand Capital Campaign Update

Thank you to all who have been supporting the GraceLand Capital Campaign since it began a year ago. During May we collected around **\$10,000.00**, which brings the total collected for the campaign to over **\$390,000.00!** 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 beginning stages of the Master Plan, which was approved by congregational vote on May 18th. Click [here](#) to see a layout of the approved plan. You can give online or by check with GraceLand Capital



Grace Lutheran Church & School

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Huntsville, AL 35801

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Fax: 256-881-0563
E-mail: 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

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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
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