

Grace Monthly Newsletter

JULY 2026



Welcome to Tropical Trek VBS, where kids explore God's Word (the Bible) and discover how God finds and helps us in every situation we encounter in life.

Our world is filled with exciting things to explore and enjoy. But there are also challenges and hardships we face along the way. Our loving and powerful God desires to help us. He seeks us out and leads us to faith. We can trust in Him!

At Tropical Trek, kids will learn how Jesus seeks them and all people. He is the Son of Man, who came to seek and to save the lost!

Tropical Trek VBS will be June 6-10 9:30am-noon. During our week together, we will sing, create, play, and learn while engaging in lessons and activities that show us how God finds us no matter where we are and what we are going through.

Please invite your friends and families and plan to attend as a student or an adult helper. You can check out the bulletin board in the narthex outside of Pastor's office for more information, registration forms, and sign-up sheets for helpers.

If you can't help during the week but would like to participate, we encourage you to pray for our VBS and the children who will attend. You can also join us to set up and decorate after church on Sunday, July 5.

Please contact Deaconess Karen with any questions.
See you there!

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Church
Calendar

Lunch &
Learn

Education
News

Book
Club

Grace 250
Celebration!

Meals on
Wheels

LWML
District Retreat



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Worship 8, 9:30, 11 AM Sunday School 9:30AM GH PreConfirmation Class, 12:30 CR	29 Al-Anon 7:00 PM in GH	30 All Boards Mtg. 7:00 PM	1 Craft Group 9:30 AM in GH Canasta 1:00 PM in GH	2 Men's AA Mtg. 7:00 PM in GH	3 Office Closed	4
5 Worship 8, 9:30, 11 AM Sunday School 9:30AM GH PreConfirmation Class, 12:30 CR	6 Al-Anon 7:00 PM in GH VBS 9:30 - 12:00 in GH	7 Elder's Mtg. 7:00 PM in CR	8 Craft Group 9:30 AM in GH	9 Men's AA Mtg. 7:00 PM in GH	10 Bible Study 11:00 AM in CR	11 250 Celebration 4:00 PM in GH
12 Worship Service 8, 9:30, 11 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM, GH PreConfirmation Class, 12:30 CR	13 Al-Anon 7:00 PM in GH	14	15 Craft Group 9:30 AM in GH Lunch & Learn 11:00 AM in GH Canasta 1:00 PM in GH	16 Men's AA Mtg. 7:00 PM in GH	17 Bible Study 11:00 AM in CR	18
19 Worship Service 8, 9:30, 11 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM in GH PreConfirmation Class, 12:30 CR	20 Al-Anon 7:00 PM in GH	21 Book Club 7:00 PM Applebees	22 Craft Group 9:30 AM in GH	23 Men's AA Mtg. 7:00 PM in GH	24 Bible Study 11:00 AM in CR	25 Simple Assessment Review 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM in GH
26 Worship Service 8, 9:30, 11 AM Pastor Sandeno Mission Opp. 9:30 AM in GH PreConfirmation Class, 12:30 CR	27 Al-Anon 7:00 PM in GH	28 Men's Group 6:00 PM in GH	29 Craft Group 9:30 AM in GH Canasta 1:00 PM in GH	30 Men's AA Mtg. 7:00 PM in GH	31 Bible Study 11:00 AM in CR	1





On June 17th Lunch and Learn's special guest speaker, Mike Miller, shared his knowledge of South Carolina history with us. South Carolina Day serves as a reminder that South Carolina was among the earliest colonies to establish an independent government, playing a notable role in the nation's path to independence. It began with the Battle of Sullivan's Island, fought on June 28, 1776, near present-day Fort Moultrie. It was one of the first major Patriot victories of the American Revolutionary War and occurred just days before the adoption of the United States Declaration of Independence. A delicious lunch of fried chicken, calico beans, macaroni and cheese, salad and blueberry cobbler was enjoyed by all!

Thank You Mike!



A Home for Hope.
A Home for Nourishment.
A Home for Connection.



As we celebrate our 44th anniversary, we invite you to help us cross the finish line.

Thanks to a group of generous matching donors, **every gift will be doubled**—up to \$36,500—to provide the equipment, furnishings, and finishing touches needed to open our doors and fully bring this space to life.

Your support today is about more than a building. It's about ensuring that older adults throughout our community continue to receive not only nutritious meals, but also the care, compassion, and connection that have defined Meals on Wheels of Summerville for more than four decades.

Together, we can create a home for hope that will serve our neighbors for years to come.



*Thank You for your
continued support of
Meals on Wheels!
POC: Susan Star*



Winner of the 2021 Illumination Book Awards silver medal for Christian Fiction and #1 Amazon bestseller in Christian mystery and suspense fiction.

What if it wasn't an accident but providence instead?

Childhood secrets shrouded in mystery bubble to the surface when Adam Cross becomes the center of a tragic accident in the idyllic coastal town of Turtle Cove. Desperate for answers and questioning his faith, he searches for the truth, forced to confront his deepest fears and darkest past.

But when a cryptic package and a mysterious stranger cast more questions than answers, his once unwavering faith will be tested like never before.

Filled with unexpected twists and turns that keep you guessing, this inspiring tale of grace, faith, and resilience is perfect for fans of Charles Martin, Terri Blackwell, and Colleen Coble.

Are you ready to join him on his suspenseful pursuit of the truth as he journeys back to the past to uncover his future?

Let's Get Backpacking!

Social Ministries will be collecting school backpacks for the children who are supported by Dorchester County Advocacy Center (DCAC). A new backpack can boost the confidence and ability to have a successful school year.

We will also have a free will offering for the purchase of backpacks. Backpacks will be collected during the month of July. They will be brought to DCAC the third week of July. Thank you in advance for your support for the at-risk children in our community.

POC: Susan Star

Meeting on Tuesday, July 21st
@ 7:00 PM at Applebees

A festive poster for the 250th anniversary of the USA. The background is a collage of American flags and fireworks. The text is arranged in a central, celebratory layout. At the top, '250' is written in large, stylized numbers with an American flag pattern. Below it, 'YEARS' is on a red banner, 'FOR THE' is in smaller text, and 'USA!' is in large, bold letters with a flag pattern. A blue banner below contains the date and time: 'JULY 11TH 4:00 PM'. Another blue banner below that says 'AT GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH'. A list of activities follows: 'Patriotic Cake Competition', 'DELICIOUS FOOD', 'FUN & GAMES', and 'Costume Competition'. At the bottom, a red banner says 'JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE 250 YEARS OF FREEDOM!'. The bottom edge shows silhouettes of people holding flags and fireworks.

250

YEARS

★★ FOR THE ★★

USA!

★ **JULY 11TH** ★ **4:00 PM** ★

— **AT GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH** —

★ **Patriotic Cake Competition**

★ **DELICIOUS FOOD**

★ **FUN & GAMES**

★ **Costume Competition**

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE 250 YEARS OF FREEDOM!



*Patriotic
Costume
contest!*

*Win the best
Patriotic
Dessert
contest!*

GAMES!



FUN!

FOOD!

PRIZES!

GRACE 250 CELEBRATION!

July 11th at 4:00 PM

GRACE HALL

Sign up in the Narthex

NEW CHAIRS IN GRACE HALL

We received the new chairs for Grace Hall on June 10th. Thank you to the volunteers who helped move the old chairs from the hall to the shed. On June 11th volunteers unpacked and moved all 200 new chairs into place. Each chair was wrapped individually so it took a bit of work to unpack them. The chairs were stacked so high on the four pallets they barely made it through the front door of Grace Hall!

It's so wonderful to have beautiful new chairs. *We all need to make sure and keep the chairs clean.*

Volunteers—Jim and Nancy Clowney, Ken Blekicki, Bill and Kathleen Dinges, Ed and Shirley

*The old chairs went to two different area churches in need of chairs.



Education NEWS

Submitted by: Lindsay Ott

Are you looking for an opportunity to grow in God's Word and enjoy meaningful Christian fellowship? Grace's Friday morning Bible study is led by Deaconess Karen Suter and meets each week from 11am to noon in the choir room. The class alternates between topical studies and studies on books of the Bible. This study is similar to our Sunday morning Bible study, but the class size is smaller and more intimate which allows more time for comments, questions, and discussion. Lessons are provided at the beginning of class and no preparation is required ahead of time. Simply come and join in the discussion!

All are welcome to attend!

Carolinas LWML District Retreat

Theme:

Ephesians 6

The Full Armor of God

Metrolina Zone invites you to the 2026 LWML Retreat. The Dean will be Pastor Jeffery Ware of All Saints Lutheran Church, Charlotte, NC.

August 14-16, 2026

Camp Linn Haven, Linville, NC 28646

Come to Retreat to relax, renew and rejoice. Come to sing, to give thanks, to listen, to learn and to worship our Mighty God.

- *Camp Fire*
- *Free Time*
- *LWML Store*
- *Wonderful Meals*

*Information and Registration in the
May 2026 CCC Newsletter.*

July 5

Tabulators Jen Miller
Ed & Kathy Peters

Elders

8:00: Sammy P. (L), John K.
9:30: Steve H. (L), Josh G.
11:00: Ben H. (L), Paul O.

Ushers

8:00: Ken Blekicki
9:30:
11:00: Ed & Shirley Marquardt

Altar Guild Nancy B.

Acolyte 8:00 TBD

11:00: Ezekiel Brindis

Reader 11:00: Paul Ott

July 12

Tabulators Sherri Marquardt
Martha Hicks, Diane M.

Elders

8:00: Jon M. (L), Brian B.
9:30: Josh G. (L), Brian B.
11:00: Paul O. (L), Ben H.

Ushers

8:00: Greg Sheldon
9:30:
11:00: Grant & Christine B.

Altar Guild Carol Skinner

Acolyte 8:00 TBD

11:00: Jordan Gray

Reader 11:00: Jane Mary Gay

July 19

Tabulators Sherri Marquardt
Tom & Louise Sage

Elders

8:00: John K. (L), Jon M.
9:30: Steve H. (L), Aaron J.
11:00: Aaron J. (L), Josh G.

Ushers

8:00: Rich Wilson
9:30:
11:00: Cori Harding, Leon Mills

Altar Guild Susan S.

Acolyte 8:00 TBD

11:00: Caleb Brindis

Reader 11:00: Sherri Marquardt

July 26

Tabulators Jen Miller
John K. & Marta Simpson

Elders

8:00: Sammy P. (L), Aaron J.
9:30: Kyle S. (L), John K.
11:00: Brian B. (L), Kyle S.

Ushers

8:00: Ken Blekicki
9:30:
11:00: Shirley M., Marta S.

Altar Guild Nancy Blekicki

Acolyte 8:00 TBD

11:00: Claire Ott

Reader 11:00: Ben Harding

Grace Lutheran Church
 Treasurer Report
 5/31/26

Balance Brought Forward January 1, 2026			\$79,533.55
RECEIPTS for MAY			
General Operating	\$41,792.31		
Designated Funds	\$33,594.75		
Endowment Fund	\$0.00		
		\$75,387.06	
RECEIPTS for JANUARY - APRIL			
General Operating	\$167,286.55		
Designated Funds	\$26,018.28		
Endowment Fund	\$0.00		
		\$193,304.83	
TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$268,691.89
EXPENSES for MAY			
General Operating	\$41,127.65		
Designated Funds	\$34,354.23		
Endowment Fund	\$400.00		
		\$75,881.88	
EXPENSES for JANUARY - April			
General Operating	\$146,243.79		
Designated Funds	\$24,086.90		
Endowment Fund	\$978.45		
		\$171,309.14	
TOTAL EXPENSES			\$247,191.02
CHECKBOOK Balance May31, 2026		\$66,452.90	

Estimated \$9,495.15 needed per week. Estimated needs for May \$37,980.60. We received \$41,792.31

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS2026-2027

Rev. W. Richard WillseaPastor
Karen SuterDeaconess

John KinneyExecutive Director
Kyle SinisiAsst. Executive Director
Sammy PeekTreasurer

Lindsay OttDirector, Board of Christian Education
Grant BarsuhnDirector, Board of Church Properties
Steve Hoffman Director, Board of Elders
Jodell JenkinsDirector, Board of Evangelism
Kathy DingesDirector, Board of Parish Fellowship
Kevin Henry.....Director, Board of Public Relations
Susan StarDirector, Board of Social Ministry
Paul OttDirector, Board of Stewardship
Cori HardingDirector, Board of Youth
Phillip GrahamDirector, Board of Columbarium

Sherri MarquardtFinancial Secretary
Carol SkinnerChair, Altar Guild
Shirley MarquardtWomen of Grace (LWML)
Ellen PearsonAdministrator/
Editor, Grace Newsletter
TBDWebmaster, Grace Website

Patricia BarnesOrganist/Choir Director
Merna AhlemeyerJunior Choir Director