

What Are You Looking For?

By this time last year on the 12-month Gregorian calendar, we had already celebrated Easter. We had sung powerful hymns of the resurrection, returned “*Alleluia*” to our regular vocabulary, and enjoyed spending time with family, friends, and church members rejoicing in Jesus’ victory over the grave. But not this year. This year, we still have three weeks of Lent left before we hear of Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary taking the spices to the tomb to tend to Jesus’ body, when two men in dazzling apparel startled them as they asked, “*Why do you seek the living among the dead?*” (Luke 24:5b) In other words, “What are you looking for?”

Our congregation is in the Southern District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). The Southern District is a very large geographical district compared to the other districts in the LCMS because the density of Lutherans and Lutheran churches in the South is much lower than the density of Lutherans and Lutheran churches in other parts of our country (particularly the Midwest). The Southern District holds a convention once every three years where we hear reports from our Synodical President and Southern District President, elect officers and board members for our district, consider resolutions for the Southern District to adopt, and consider additional resolutions for the Southern District to send to the LCMS Convention for consideration. As is often the case, this year the Southern District Convention was held in Slidell, Louisiana (a six hour drive that takes eight hours when you have a flat tire like we did).

Each congregation in our District is expected to send one pastoral delegate and one lay delegate from their congregation to hear the reports and vote on the various matters. The elections go quickly, and then come the resolutions. Of note at this convention was a resolution to no longer hold District Conventions in the season of Lent. That resolution passed with a resounding applause from all of the pastors. There was also a resolution that was presented and debated on to replace “Easter” with “Resurrection Sunday” in all LCMS publications (including hymnals). That resolution was soundly defeated. The word “Easter” will remain a part of our liturgical calendar.

Inside this issue:

From the Desk of Pastor Andrew, Principal's Corner, CDC Happenings,	3-7
Grow Opportunities	8
Outreach Connections	9-10
Connection Groups	11-12
Saints Alive	13
Stephen Ministry	14
Announcements	15-22
Contact Info/Staff & Lay Leadership	23

This was the fifth District Convention that I have attended (one English District Convention and four Southern District Conventions). “What are you looking for?” was the essence of the question the two men in dazzling white asked the women at the tomb of Jesus, and after so many conventions I know exactly what to look for at a convention. There is a lot of sitting and some voting. There are some reports that provide helpful and interesting information, and some reports that you would rather not hear.

This year, however, I came across something that I was not looking for – at least not at a district convention. This year, part of the schedule at the convention was dedicated to breakout sessions where delegates were presented with material and techniques that might be helpful for their ministry. In those breakout sessions, I found something that I was not looking to find at a district convention. I heard a presentation called Missionary Pathway. Missionary Pathway is a method... a technique for equipping the body of Christ with the skill and confidence to be missionaries wherever they are. The idea is to have missionaries in the workplace, on the soccer field or baseball diamond, at the gym, in the book club, at the local coffee shop, and wherever Christians might be. The idea is that wherever you find Christians, you also find Christ being shared with others. But this idea was not just an idea, it came with a method for developing the body of Christ into everyday missionaries. It sounded perfect for Grace Lutheran. Pastor Andrew and I look forward to embracing Missionary Pathway at Grace in the near future. Sometimes God helps you find things that you are not even looking for to further His Kingdom, and we think that is what He is doing with Missionary Pathway. Get ready – Missionary Pathway is coming to Grace.

In Christ,

Pastor Russ



Free Throws and Habits of the Heart

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things 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.
Galatians 5:22-25

“You have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.” –St. Augustine *Confessions*

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We are creatures of habit. Our lives are full of habits; good, bad, and otherwise. We wake up and have a routine. We go to work and have a routine. We come home and have a routine. We end the day and we have a routine. Each of these routines are habits, and these different habits shape who we are, how we think, and how we live in the world. These habits and routines help us make sense of life, and when we miss these habits, it throws us off.

With so much basketball on recently, I can't help but think about free throws. These shots are some of the most important in a game. They can totally change a team's momentum, and countless games have been decided because of a team's ability, or inability, to make their free throws. Each player has their own habit about how to shoot a free throw. They do the same thing each time. They might roll their shoulders. They might spin the ball in their hand. They might bounce the ball three times. But it's always the same thing because these habits are critical to them being comfortable and able to make these shots. If the game comes down to the wire and they were to suddenly change their pre-shot habit, they'll likely miss because these habits are so ingrained in them.

In our life with God, we have habits as well. We have a weekly habit of going to church. We have a habit of learning with other Christians through Bible study. We have a habit of prayer. We have habits that shape our life to follow Jesus. What happens when we miss these habits, when we forget to do these holy habits? Like Augustine wrote back in the 5th century, our hearts are restless. When I get wrapped up in my other vocations and responsibilities, I find that my heart becomes restless too. Psalm 42:1 shares this restlessness, “*As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.*” Our hearts yearn for and are restless for God. Where do our hearts find their flowing streams?

Augustine again gives us the answer. Our hearts are restless until they find rest in God. Our habits, good, bad, and otherwise, shape how we live our Christian life. If you want to make your free throws, you have to practice making your free throws the same way every time. If you want to grow closer to God, check your habits. Being in the season of spring, just like you might prune a plant, where do you need to prune your heart habits? What holy habits do you need to cultivate?

Paul encourages the Galatians in their holy habits. Love, joy, peace, patience... all of these are holy habits grown by and cultivated by the Holy Spirit. Like free throws, these are habits for us to practice as we follow Jesus. Practicing these habits, our hearts find their rest as we sit by the flowing stream of God's Word and promises. This month, as we live by the Spirit and keep in step with the Spirit, take one of these holy habits and practice it. See how God shapes you, how he forms your life, and how he moves you to follow him more closely.

May God bless your heart and the habits that flow out of his love as you follow him.

-Pastor Andrew

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

April 2025 Edition

School March Madness

The beginning of March saw the end of the third quarter and Spring Break. Before the break, classes celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America Week. When we returned, the students and teachers dove into the last quarter of learning for this school year. Lower grade classes enjoyed St. Patrick's Day shenanigans, trying to catch those pesky leprechauns. Science classes conducted a number of hands-on experiments including Pre-K simple machine art and 2nd grade dissecting owl pellets.



April Activities

Coming up on April 9th, Job, one of the Lutheran Church Charities' Comfort Dogs, will be visiting the school and CDC. Fourth quarter chapel offerings are designated for Lutheran Church Charities' Comfort Dog ministry. Thank you to Pastor Andrew for helping to coordinate this visit.



Enrollment is still going on, with waitlists for Grace Lutheran School's lower level classes. Summer Camp registration has closed. All camp classes are full, except for a few openings in the 3rd - 5th grade class.

Please continue to keep the Principal Call process in your prayers. Please also pray for our teachers/staff, students, and their families.

God's Blessings,

Delaine Schiestel

CDC HAPPENINGS

April 2025 Edition

April has arrived and we are praying that the sunshine is here to stay! Easter is in April this year and we will keep Easter as our focus this month! We are so thankful for the resurrection of Jesus and for the salvation his sacrifice provides us! *“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”* - 1 Peter 1:3

In March, we celebrated St. Patrick’s Day. So much green and many shamrocks, rainbows, leprechauns, and shenanigans! We also hosted one of our favorite events – the spring PaperPie Book Fair! Mrs. Melissa Slowik was here for 3 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 am excited to report that we earned **\$1,071.26** worth of free books for the CDC! Another exciting thing in March for the CDC are the two new sandboxes that we got for the playground. The kids have had so much fun playing in the sand!

Looking ahead: In April, we will be focusing on Easter! We will hunt eggs and do bunny crafts but most importantly we will be teaching the children about Jesus and his sacrifice, That’s what Easter is truly about. The CDC will be closed for Good Friday and our staff and children will get to spend some much-needed time at home with their families. We will also be planting our CDC vegetable and flower garden, and the kids will begin watering, watching, and waiting for growth. They are already excited about eating the first tomatoes that grow. We are so happy it’s finally SPRING!

Thanks be to God!

Jessica McGuire



GROW - BIBLE STUDY TOPICS

April 2025 Edition



Bible Studies Topics – April 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) – Attending Adult Bible Study
- Discovering Together (Room 209) – Upper Room Discourse

Sunday Morning Bible Studies

- Myth or Faith? Clearing Up Common Misconceptions about Christianity (Cafeteria)
- Bible Unearthed (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) – 1, 2, and 3 John
- 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

April 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

April 2025 Edition

ACTS Ministry



ACTS (**A**ctively **C**aring, **T**enderly **S**erving) 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

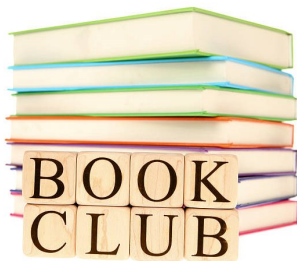
April 2025 Edition

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 2nd Wednesday of each month. Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, April 9th**, and we will be discussing *The Happiest Man on Earth* by Eddie Jaku. Our next read will be *A Treasury of Miracles for Friends: True Stories of God's Presence Today* by Karen Kingsbury. 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.

We delivered lots of items (baby bibs, burp cloths, numerous tummy-time quilts, and various blankets of all sizes) to the National Children's Advocacy Center, and we were given a tour of their facility. We also gifted a quilt that we made for Pastor Andrew and Hannah for their wedding shower.

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



CONNECTION GROUPS (PAGE 2)

April 2025 Edition



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

April 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 Spring!

We are going to be doing things a little differently on our trips in the future. Several times recently we have run into a school carpool issue when returning from a trip. So, the decision has been made to start and end each trip from the Gibson's parking lot. We will park near the Parkway, and the bus will meet us there. If a restroom is needed, the bus will take us to the back door of the old gym to use the restroom before we leave on the trip. That means that being on time is even more important!

Spring brings beautiful scenery and nice weather, so the Saints Alive have some activities planned to help you enjoy spring. On April 2nd we planted and picked lettuce at the **Manna House Hydroponic Garden** in Lacey's Spring. We had a great turn-out for the trip.

On **April 17th** the Saints Alive Members will travel to Fort Payne to visit **Orbix Hot Glass**. Orbix is a small glass studio nestled in the humble mountains of Alabama. This day is a change from our normal outings as Orbix has changed the day when they give demonstrations from Wednesday to Thursday.

Because the glassblowers cannot demonstrate for us until 1:00 PM, we will first go to lunch at **Vintage 1889**, a locally-owned and operated restaurant located in the 134-year-old historically-registered Big Mill Company building in Fort Payne. Following lunch we will visit the glass blowing company gallery and possibly purchase something. Then we will tour the studio and watch as glass artists give a private glassblowing demonstration. The artists will answer questions about the Process as well. The cost of the tour depends on how many people attend as there is a set cost for the group to come. The bus will leave from the church at **9:15 AM**. We will be back in time to attend the Maundy Thursday worship service. We will also share in the gas money for the bus. Donna Behnken and Kris Wyszynski are the coordinators of the trip. Sign up in the narthex.

On **May 7th** we will visit a new museum in Huntsville. **Signals - Museum of Information Explosion** just opened in Huntsville on University Drive near Red Lobster. The museum provides a hands-on, immersive experience where guests can explore, interact, and learn about communication technologies throughout history. Visitors will leave the museum with more appreciation for the business leaders and inventors alike that have paved the way for the digital technologies we rely on today. The cost of the tour is \$10. More information will be coming about lunch and departure time. Karen Crout is the coordinator for the trip.

On **May 21st** the group will visit the **Huntsville Botanical Garden** where we will have a tour. There will be shuttles available for those folks who don't want to walk on the tour. We will also have a group rate. Lunch will follow at Back Forty Brewery on Leeman Ferry Road.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

April 2025 Edition



Repeat... Repeat Again

By Merle Trich

What's that? What's that? Why? Why? Why? It's easy to become tired of the repeated questions of a toddler. However, repetition is the way we humans learn. Every parent and teacher knows that repetition reinforces learning. For parents, about the time you feel you're a broken record with your requests of your child, they suddenly follow through on the request without prodding.

We are all God's children. I'm sure glad that God doesn't get tired of repeating the same thing to me as his child. Jesus often repeated himself, sometimes to the point of exasperation. After telling a parable we hear the exasperation of Jesus in Matthew 15:16, "*But Peter said to him, 'Explain the parable to us.' And he said, 'Are you also still without understanding?'*" Jesus told his disciples he would die and be raised from the dead on at least three separate occasions, and they still were not prepared for it when it happened.

The Bible is full of questions and God's reminders. Jesus knew that important things needed constant reminders and taught his disciples the importance of preaching and reminding people of His teachings. As God's children, we should never dismiss a subject or teaching based on having heard it before. In 1 Corinthians 8:2 we are told, "*If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know.*" We may know a teaching. It is when we put a teaching into practice that we truly demonstrate we have "learned" His teaching. Paul's reminders to the Corinthians of the gospel they had heard and believed were to confirm the truths of the gospel so they would not drift from them. By each of us staying in His word, we continue to confirm and grow as Christians with hope.

God repeats himself often in the Bible. He knows we need to be told the same things several times before the lesson sinks in. Our lives are filled with ever-changing circumstances, and familiar lessons or teachings can take on a new meaning as we mature in our faith. God gave Jesus as a teacher and demonstrator of a sinless sacrifice. He tells us repeatedly in Acts 1:11, Matthew 24:30, and Revelation 1:7 that Jesus will return with power and glory and for us to be ready.

As we celebrate this most holy time of Easter, may we watch for the many reminders in the Bible of our hope in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior and the promises of Jesus' return.

Grace offers support through GriefShare and Stephen Ministry to support your journey of maturing in Christ and finding hope during challenging circumstances of life. 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.

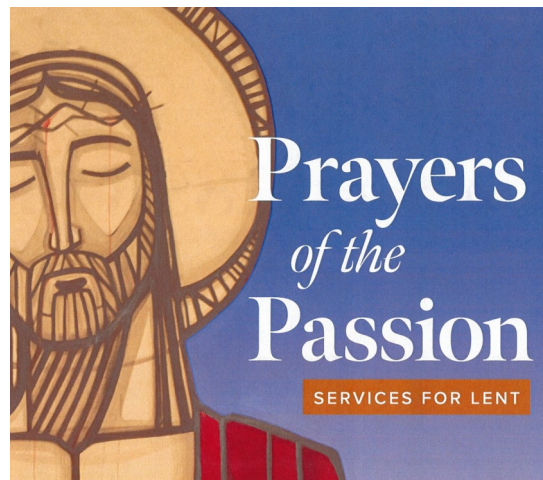
May God guide and strengthen our Stephen Ministers and GriefShare facilitators as they serve and pray for members of our congregation and the community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2025 Edition

Men's Ministry Service Activity

During their monthly meeting in March, the Men's Ministry group gave the Grace buses a good cleaning. Thank you men for your hard work!



Lenten Worship Begins

Our Lenten worship continues this **Wednesday, April 2nd**. Join us for the service at **6:30 PM**, with a preservice fellowship meal beginning at **5:30 PM**.

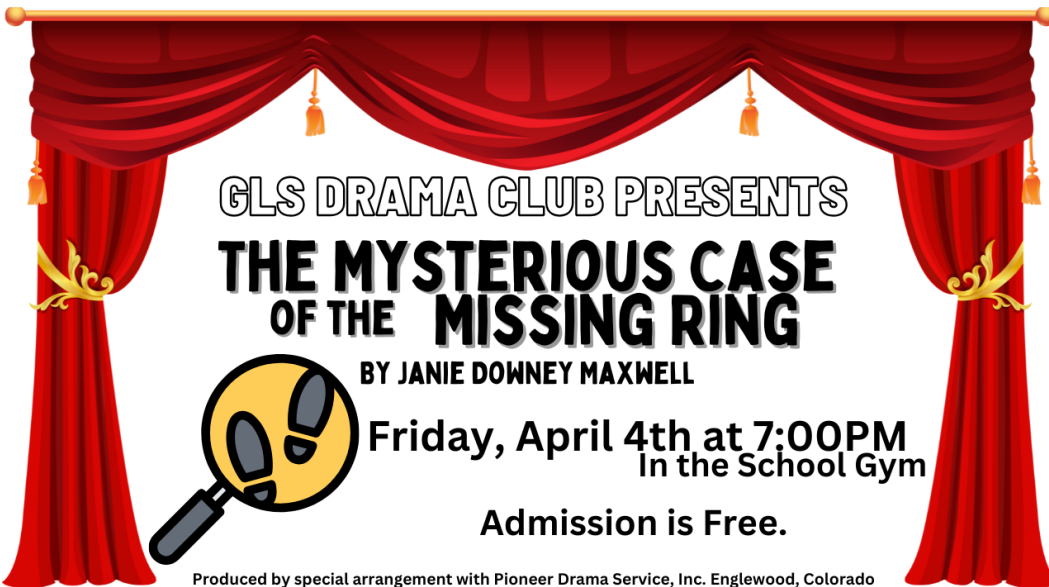
Midweek Lenten Sermon Series - *Prayers of the Passion*

4/2—Into Your Hands


4/9—Simon, I Have Prayed For You

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2025 Edition



GLS DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS
**THE MYSTERIOUS CASE
OF THE MISSING RING**
BY JANIE DOWNEY MAXWELL



Friday, April 4th at 7:00PM
In the School Gym

Admission is Free.

Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc. Englewood, Colorado



Voters' Assembly
Meeting
APRIL 6TH
12:00 PM



Raymond Hauer Memorial Service

Raymond Hauer, former principal at Grace Lutheran School, passed away on March 23rd. His wife, Erika, was also active in LWML at Grace.

His memorial service will be held at Faith Lutheran Church in Thompson Station, TN on April 12th at 11:00 AM, with visitation at the church from 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Click [here](#) to view his obituary.

If you wish to send a card to Erika, please reach out to the church office for her address.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2025 Edition



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 **Wednesday, April 9th** 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.

Easter Breakfast

The Youth will be serving breakfast on **Easter Sunday** from **7:15 AM - 10:30 AM**. Join us in the Family Life Center gym for egg casserole, hash browns, and assorted pastries. A free will offering will be taken. All funds will go to support the Youth!

If you would like to help bring any food items to help make this a great breakfast, please sign up in the Church Center app, through the GLC website, or [here](#). All items will need to be dropped off in the Family Life Center Kitchen on **April 19th** from **3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2025 Edition



Holy[†]*Week* **SCHEDULE**

Maundy Thursday	6:30 PM
Good Friday	7:00 PM
Easter Sunday	6:30 AM 8:00 AM 10:45 AM

**EASTER BREAKFAST
7:15 AM - 10:30 AM**

Combined Youth Event



**Rescheduled - April 27th
Ascension Lutheran Church from 4:00 - 6:00 PM**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2025 Edition



Upcoming Discovering Grace Class

Are you thinking about membership at Grace Lutheran or seeking to grow in your discipleship of Jesus? Discovering Grace is a class that is designed for those wanting to learn more about our Church, School, and CDC, and learn more about our discipleship process – WORSHIP | GROW | ENGAGE. The next class will meet **Saturday, May 3rd** from **9:00 AM - 12:00 PM** and on **Sunday, May 4th** during the Sunday School/Bible Class hour from **9:30 AM - 10:30 AM**. Register [here](#) or on the Grace Lutheran website.



Acolyte Training

We will hold an acolyte training session on **Thursday, May 8th** at 4:30 PM in the Sanctuary for those who will be going in 5th - 8th grade. This training session is for new acolytes as well as those who have previously served to go over the basics on how to serve. If you have any questions about being an acolyte, contact Pam Lowe or Jen Roettjer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2025 Edition



2025 Graduates

If you or a family member is graduating from High School or College, we would like to recognize all graduates. Please submit the following information with a picture to Kristin Haycock.

College Graduates – Full name, College, Degree, Honors/Activities/Interests, Plans after college, Parent Blessing

High School Graduates – Full name, Name of high school, Confirmation verse, Honors/Activities/Interests, Plans after high school, I would like to thank... Parent Blessing

The deadline to submit information is **May 11th**. We will honor our graduates on **May 18th**.



Grace Night at the Trash Pandas

Grace Lutheran will host a fellowship event on **Wednesday, May 28th** at **6:35 PM** as the Rocket City Trash Pandas take on the Biloxi Shuckers at Toyota Field. Grace has reserved 55 seats, which includes your seat and an all-you-can-eat meal. Cost for each ticket is \$35 a person. Please register by **May 14th** so we know if we need to purchase additional tickets. The cost of additional tickets will be \$40 each. The menu for the evening includes: all beef hot dogs, conecuh sausage, pulled chicken, potato salad, seasonal fruit, Frito Lay chip bags, ice cream sandwiches, small cans of Pepsi, and water coolers. We will provide bus service from Grace, leaving at approximately **5:00 PM**. This night is open to members and friends of Grace Lutheran, and it is a good opportunity to get to know others! For questions or further information, contact Mike Ellis. Register [here](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2025 Edition



Panoply Arts Festival Volunteers

It's almost time for the annual Panoply Arts Festival. The festival is a very popular family event held in Big Spring Park in downtown Huntsville and will be held **April 25th - 27th**. The festival relies on volunteers to make it happen. Donna Behnken is one of the co-chairmen for the Lost Kids Committee at the event. Volunteers are needed to put wristbands on children as they enter the park. The wristband will have the parent's phone number so that he/she may be called if the child gets lost in the park. Volunteers must be at least 15 years old or older. A 14-year-old may volunteer if working with a parent. Please consider volunteering for a 2-3 hour shift for this committee or another one sometime during the weekend. If you have any questions, please contact Donna. Sign up to volunteer [here](#).

Have You Seen the Pinwheel Garden?

On March 28th members of our Sew 'n Sews group went to tour the National Children's Advocacy Center. Members of the sewing group have been busy making various items for NCAC to give to children who have appointments there. The items include tummy-time quilts, fleece blankets, knitted hats, burp cloths, and bibs. NCAC asked us to put a pinwheel garden at church to acknowledge that April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. The garden is in front of the sanctuary.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 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 a year ago. During March we collected around **\$30,000.00**, which brings the total collected for the campaign to around **\$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 earlier this year. You can give online or by check with GraceLand Capital Campaign or GCC in the memo line.

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

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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Business Manager..... Laura Muelling
Properties Manager..... Jack Hengel
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