

# The Herald of Grace

A Weekly Newsletter for Grace Lutheran Church

March 6, 2025

## **The Wonderful Privileges of the Pastor**

(A reflection on my upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary at Grace.)

It seems a little premature for me to reflect on my 10 years in ministry, all of which has been my call to Grace in Mobile, with some additional pastoral duties at Our Savior in Mobile and throughout the circuit. But with a 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee formed and working tirelessly to prepare for a grand celebration on June 29, I feel moved to respond humbly. Over the past few months, I've been saying to myself and my wife, this is my 10<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Eve service at Grace, this is my 10<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve service at Grace, this is my 10<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday Service at Grace, etc., etc.

I was first hesitant in observing my 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my ordination/installation here at Grace. I remember the challenges that came my way in the ministry fresh out of Seminary. Some have been resolved by God's grace. Some challenges still exist that I haven't been able to fix. I think about that often. What is so special about these 10 years? I can understand 25 or 50 years together, but then I thought how many of us have that kind of time together? Togetherness is one of the great privileges God opened to me as a pastor. I am only 1 of 3 (out of 72 classmates) who graduated from Concordia Seminary in 2015 who are still serving their first call. These last 10 years have been such a blessing for me personally and professionally. Being a pastor and working in the context of a parish is truly a wonderful privilege.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the people of Grace Lutheran Church are the reasons to celebrate these 10 years. This anniversary is not only a celebration of me, though I am humbled and honored, but most importantly a celebration of the pastor-parishioner relationship.

*Next Page*

People let me into their lives; the best and worst of it. I was privileged to share in their joys at the births of babies, baptisms, and marriages. People invited me to celebrate and rejoice with them on holidays, birthdays, graduations and many other good times.

Other privileges of the pastor, though for some people it is hard to see, are the times when you sit with people in their darkest moments such as times of crises; death, marital and family problems, sickness, etc. In many circumstances they look to the pastor for strength, guidance, support and presence. Indeed, these are wonderful privileges of the pastor.

My family and I are humbled, grateful and undeserving. But a celebration is in order for Grace Lutheran Church. I hope you can attend as we celebrate the great privilege of life together in Christ.

A bit premature, but thank you Grace, and the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, our Church Leadership and our Lord for these wonderful ten years in the gospel ministry.

May God bless our (10<sup>th</sup>) Lenten season together.

Pastor Miller



**LENT 2025: GUIDED TO THE CROSS** Lent is a season when we are guided to the cross. Throughout this holy time, we are drawn to Calvary to live in forgiveness, hope, love, peace, trust and perseverance. Each week, the services and daily devotions reveal how Christ and his cross serve as examples for us of how to live our lives for and through our crucified Lord and Savior. Sundays in Lent:

**Ash Wednesday • Guided to Forgiveness** (Colossians 1:13-14):  
When we confess our sins, we find forgiveness in the cross of Christ and are empowered to forgive others.

**Week 1 • Guided to Hope** When we are uncertain about what the future holds, we discover in the cross the sure hope of heaven.

**Week 2 • Guided to Love:** When we are separated from others and from God by our sin, the cross brings us together through its love.

**Week 3 • Guided to Peace:** With wars waging within and without, the cross settles them all with peace to body, mind and soul.

**Week 4 • Guided to Trust:** Plagued by doubt and competing voices, we turn to the cross to put our trust fully in the salvation won for us there.

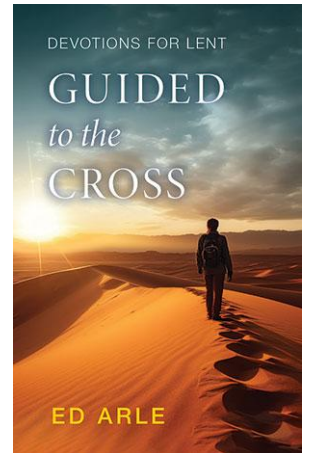
**Week 5 • Guided to Perseverance:** When we are faced with hardship, we look to Christ on the cross who endured to the end so that we might carry on.

**Wednesday Midweek Worship • *Guided to the Cross w/ Spiritual Vision Problems***  
Supper will be served from 6:15 - 7:00.

Wednesday, March 12	Supper hosted by Hugh Sovik
Wednesday, March 19	Supper hosted by Council
Wednesday, March 26	Potluck hosted by Everyone
Wednesday, April 2	Supper hosted by Elders
Wednesday, April 9	Supper hosted by LWML/Missions

### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE AT GRACE**

- Palm Sunday, April 13 • Government Street Palm Processional - 10:30 AM
- Maundy Thursday, April 17 • *“The Way of the Cross”* Journey - 4:30-7:30  
Groups of 12 or less will depart every half hour. The Journey will last approx. 50 min.  
Sign up requested but not required.
- Good Friday, April 18 • Tenebrae *“Service of Darkness”* - 7:00 PM
  - Easter Sunday, April 20 • 10:30 AM  
*Continental Easter Breakfast Served from 9:15-10:15 AM*



# Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 9	Children's Sunday School	9:15 am
<i>Lent 1</i>	Worship - Divine Service	10:30 am
	Bible Study	<i>After Service</i>
	Camp Dixie Chicken Dinner	11:00 am- 2:00 pm
Tuesday	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
Wednesday	Lenten Service at Our Savior	11:00 am
	Handbell Choir	5:30 pm
	Choir	6:00 pm
	Supper	6:15 pm – 7:00 pm
	Lenten Service	7:00 pm
Thursday	Pastor's 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Meeting	6:00 pm
Saturday	Griffin/Kearney Wedding	4:00 pm
Sunday, March 15	Children's Sunday School	9:15 am
<i>Lent 2</i>	Worship- Divine Service	10:30 am
	Bible Study	<i>After Service</i>



**BIRTHDAYS**

March 7 – Tom Hankins  
 March 8 – Nicole Hosey  
 March 10 – Kathy Brokaw Hanson  
 March 10 – Yeabsira MeKonnen

HAPPY  
*Anniversary*

March 8 – Steve and Jan Watkins  
 March 12 – Darrell and Heidi Butler

---

***Thank you to everyone who has been praying for Blair Mueller,***



the baby daughter of GLC members Luke and Lauren Mueller. Blair was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia and is undergoing treatment. *For those who would like to stay up to date on her care, Luke and Lauren will be updating Blair's journey on her CaringBridge website. Just click on the QR Code provided and it will take you there.*

If you would like to do more there are many ways to help and they are listed within the site. *God bless Blair and her family, and please continue in your prayers for them.*



Members of Grace Lutheran are warmly welcomed to witness the marriage ceremony of David Griffin and Marilyn Kearney on Saturday, March 15, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church. *A private reception will be held afterwards.*



You are cordially invited to celebrate Pastor Miller's  
10th Anniversary of his ordination and installation  
on Sunday, 6.29.25,  
immediately following the 10:30 am service.

**The committee requests that you please sign up so that plans can  
be made for a venue.**

Grace's Foundation Hall, as well as Crown Hall (853 Dauphin St.),  
are both under consideration at present.

**The sign-up sheet will be available Sundays  
beginning 2.23.25 through 3.9.25.**

*Otherwise, please email Martha Webb at  
marthahwebb@aol.com or text to 251.423.7783.*

Be sure to include the name of each guest, email address and phone  
number. **Please sign up no later than Sunday, 3.9.25.**




***10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
DONATIONS***

As previously announced at the annual congregational meeting, funding for this special event stands completely on its own outside of the Church budget and tithing.

This memorable occasion in honor of Pastor Miller's noteworthy tenure and accomplishments is a unique opportunity to express our deep gratitude and love.

Please make your check payable to Grace Lutheran and designate "10th Anniversary Celebration" should you wish to make a donation.

*Your generosity in supporting recognition of this milestone is greatly appreciated.*





You can sign up for text message or email notifications on our podcast hosting service, PodPoint. When you subscribe, you will be alerted when new content is added.

To sign up, go to the web address of <https://podpoint.com/grace-lutheran-mobile>. On the Subscribe menu option, select your preference (Subscribe via Email Notification or Subscribe via Mobile Text) and fill out the form on the next page. You can sign up for both if you like.



If you need help, please find Dave LeGros after service on Sundays, and he will assist you. He is usually downstairs about five minutes after service ends.

**You may also find our service recordings thru this link:**  
**<https://gracelutheranmobile.com/message/>**



**Saturday, March 8**

**8am - 12 Noon**



**Many hands needed for basic cleanup, touch up painting,  
small repairs and organizing areas of our church home here**

**at**

**GRACE LUTHERAN.**

**All ages, genders and skill levels needed.**

**Can you spare a few hours to share?**



**LUNCH PROVIDED!**



February / March



Grace Lutheran Mission  
Activity

# Light the Night

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025

## LIGHT OF THE VILLAGE

A Christian non-profit charity serving the youth of  
Mobile's inner city.

INVITES YOU TO JOIN THE CHILDREN,  
VOLUNTEERS, AND STAFF FOR DINNER AND A  
WONDERFUL PRESENTATION BY GOD'S  
MASTERPIECE'S!

A table for eight (8) has been reserved for members of  
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
interested in attending.

(A \$50 donation is appreciated but not required.)

1035 Cody Rd N, Mobile, AL 36608-4847  
Doors open at 6:00pm. Dinner begins at 6:30pm.

See Marilyn Kearney, Missions Coordinator  
if you would like to attend.  
Dress is business casual.



**Try to book by February 24 for best location and guaranteed prices!  
Call Galyna Henry. Deposits could be as low as \$50 pp.  
More info on next page.**



# 6-DAY BAHAMAS CRUISE

## Carnival Spirit

Monday, January 11 – Sunday, January 17, 2027

Starting at **\$734.00** per person

### ITINERARY:

- Monday, January 11: Depart Mobile, AL 3:30 PM
- Tuesday, January 12: Fun Day at Sea
- Wednesday, January 13: Celebration Key, The Bahama
- Thursday, January 14: Nassau, The Bahamas
- Friday, January 15: Fun Day at Sea
- Saturday, January 16: Fun Day at Sea
- Sunday, January 17: Arrive Mobile, AL 8:00 AM

**STATEROOMS:**  
*Prices are per person based on double occupancy.*

Cat. 4D - Interior  
**\$734.00**

Cat. 4E - Interior  
**\$744.00**

Cat. 8D - Balcony  
**\$944.00**

Cat. 8E - Balcony  
**\$954.00**

Cat. 8K -  
Extended Balcony  
**\$974.00**

### INCLUSIONS:

- ◆ 6-day cruise aboard **Carnival Spirit**
- ◆ Meals and entertainment on board the ship
- ◆ Port charges, government taxes, and fees

### NOT INCLUDED:

- ◆ Gratuities to shipboard staff
- ◆ Optional shore excursions
- ◆ Travel Protection



Prices are per person, based on double occupancy. Stateroom categories and prices are subject to availability and are on a first come, first serve basis. Other categories may be available by request. Pricing and stateroom availability for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> guests are available upon request. Prices are subject to change due to fuel charges and other vendor charges. **A valid passport is required with at least 6 months validity beyond return date.**  
**Deposit of \$250.00 per person is due with the completed registration form by February 24, 2025. Final payment is due September 29, 2026.**



Galyna Henry  
(251) 414-4634 • [gghenry@travellers.com](mailto:gghenry@travellers.com)

# Camp Dixie 2025

## Chicken Dinner Schedule

*All Camp Dixie Chicken Dinners are served from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm*



### Dates for 2025!

January 12, 2025  
February 9, 2025  
March 9, 2025  
April 27, 2025  
June 8, 2025  
September 14, 2025  
October 12, 2025  
November 9, 2025

**Bring Your Family And Friends And Enjoy Fellowship,  
And Fun, While Having Some FANTASTIC Fried Chicken!**

**Dine-In & Take Out Orders  
For More Information, Please  
Call (251) 987-1201 Or Visit Our Website  
[www.campdixieministries.org](http://www.campdixieministries.org)  
Located At: 29711 Josephine Dr. Elberta, AL 36530**

**All Proceeds Benefit Camp Dixie Lutheran Outdoor Ministry.**

*Mission Statement: Camp Dixie is a place where campers, counselors, and staff members are able to grow spiritually, physically, emotionally and intellectually, in a positive way by experiencing, reflecting and evaluating in an outdoor-based Christ-centered program.*

**Grace Lutheran Church**  
**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 am**  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 am**  
**ADULT BIBLE STUDY *After Service***

Rev. Wayne J. Miller, Pastor  
251-622-7445  
[pastor@gracelutheranmobile.com](mailto:pastor@gracelutheranmobile.com)

Connie Rowe, Organist  
251-270-9000  
[connierowe90@gmail.com](mailto:connierowe90@gmail.com)

Debbie Milling, Volunteer Office Manager  
251-433-2749  
[debbie.milling@gracelutheranmobile.com](mailto:debbie.milling@gracelutheranmobile.com)

Chris Rowe, Choir Director  
251-278-8596  
[cmrbobcat@gmail.com](mailto:cmrbobcat@gmail.com)

If you would like to listen to the  
Sunday Worship Service you can find them here:

**Grace Lutheran's Facebook page**  
**or**  
**[podpoint.com/grace-lutheran-mobile](http://podpoint.com/grace-lutheran-mobile)**

Weekly newsletter items must be submitted by Wednesday of each week.