

# The Herald of Grace

A Weekly Newsletter for Grace Lutheran Church

January 22, 2026

## Pastor's Newsletter

My wife Ashley and I will soon be welcoming our second daughter into this world. Having two girls instead of one has made me abundantly excited. So far, we have been blessed with good health but please continue to pray for Ashley and Baby Miller.

One of the most amazing aspects of pregnancy this time around has been the ability to let our first daughter Addison be a part of the whole process. Addison, at four, is old enough to know what is going on and to cherish the gift of life that is being brought forth as God intended. It's important for us to prepare her and know that this isn't some monster or a "fetus" growing inside her mother, but it is already her sister. And playing that role as BIG sister, she has been kissing Mommy's tummy, putting stuffed animals inside baby sissy's crib, preparing to help out, going to some doctor appointments to hear the heartbeat, feeling baby's arms and legs wiggle around, etc.

This reflects what Psalm 139 tells us of God's work in these matters: *"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made."* Pregnancy is an amazing teaching opportunity for all of us to see the value of life and the gifts of God in life.

These past 9 months, I have reflected on what God has in plan for our little family. What will the future hold for any of us and for the next generation of children? Whether expecting children or not, we are all the family of God; the Body of Christ; the Church. Life is a miracle and should be protected and defended at all costs. We also have the responsibility to encourage each child to have hope and faith in Jesus.

The Advent/Christmas/Epiphany season is ending with the Presentation of Our Lord on February 2. A baby brought hope. Jesus' birth changed everything for all of us. God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the father, by whom ALL things were made. The birth of Jesus and any life born today should make us all abundantly excited to serve the Lord and one another by walking in His ways to the glory of His holy name.

Thank you all for your prayers, gifts, support and love shown to us during this time as we soon so humbly welcome another addition to our family with joy and thanksgiving!

Peace to you,  
Pastor Miller

*Note: I will be taking a two-week leave once the baby is born to care for my family as we transition into this new chapter. We are blessed to have Pastor Dennis Jacobson who will be serving us on Sundays during my absence as well as making any emergency calls. You can also contact Debbie Milling at the Church Office through email or phone with any prayers, requests, emergencies, etc.*

# Weekly Calendar

Sunday, January 25	Children's Sunday School	9:15 am
<i>Conversion of St. Paul</i>	Worship- Divine Service	10:30 am
	Congregational Meeting and Potluck	<i>after service</i>
Monday, Jan.	<b>No Bible Study @ Our Savior (Galatians)</b>	
Wednesday, Jan.	<b>No Bible Study @ Grace (Galatians)</b>	
	<b>No Handbell Choir</b>	
	<b>No Adult Choir</b>	
Sunday, February 1	Children's Sunday School	9:15 am
<i>The Presentation of Our Lord</i>	Worship- Divine Service	10:30 am

**The 2026 Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, January 25** following the worship service. The meeting will be held downstairs and there will be a potluck served before the meeting begins. We will be presenting the 2026 budget as well as voting for another term of Council members. The Nominations Committee with the Church Council's approval present the following candidates to serve Grace during the 2026-28 term:

Congregational President: Julie Harvey (1<sup>st</sup> term)  
 Vice-President: David Lauber (1<sup>st</sup> term)  
 Treasurer: Tom Hankins (Interim)  
 Financial Secretary: Sue Dominguez (1<sup>st</sup> term)  
 Secretary: Martha Webb (2<sup>nd</sup> term)  
 Head Elder: David Griffin (1<sup>st</sup> term)  
 Education: Kelly Johnson (1<sup>st</sup> term)  
 Fellowship: Jan Tanner (1<sup>st</sup> term)  
 Youth: Micah Battaglia (1<sup>st</sup> term)  
 Missions: Kelly Beck (1<sup>st</sup> term)  
 Stewardship: Marilyn Griffin (1<sup>st</sup> term)  
 Communications: David LeGros (2<sup>nd</sup> term)  
 Trustee: Guy Marcum (1<sup>st</sup> term)

*\*Nominations may be offered on the floor with the consent of the one being nominated.*

## Urgent need for Handbell players!!



If you have any interest in learning to play handbells, now is the perfect time to get started. The need is great!

**Several spots are open.**

Rehearsals for Handbells begin at 5:30 p.m.

There is also a need for new choir members! Choir begins at 6:15 p.m.

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**Sunday School**  
**MAKES A DIFFERENCE**

### **January 2026** **We need your help with our Sunday School!**

If you feel called to teach our children and help with this important mission of the church, please come downstairs this Sunday before or after church for information on lesson material and weekly signup. Lessons for the next few months cover the theme "God Sends His Son to Save Us".

Sunday School meets from 9:15-10:15 each Sunday morning. Classes include Preschool (Ages 3-5), Elementary (Grades 1-4), and Tweens (Grades 5-8).

Many thanks to our teachers and helpers throughout the month of December: David and Haddon Lauber, Lily Mcharo, Brittany Pollock, Sue Dominguez, Dylan Legros, Julie Harvey, and Shari Jacobson.

In December, the children learned Mary's Story, Joseph's Story, and of the Birth of Jesus.

Thank you to Brittany Pollock for making the Happy Birthday Jesus cookie. So good!

Contact Connie Rowe if you can help. 251 270-9000 [connierowe90@gmail.com](mailto:connierowe90@gmail.com)



*Jan. 25 – Kaitlyn Wood  
Jan. 28 - Travis Middleton  
Jan. 31 – David Hoffman, Jr.*

\*\*\*\*\*



*Altar  
Flowers*

**ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP SHEET FOR  
2026 IS NOW AVAILABLE!  
2026 Price: \$100/set or \$50/each**

**Upcoming Dates available:  
April 12**

*Pastor Miller's work phone is currently not in order.*

*Please call or text his personal number @ 251-230-1886  
or the Church Office @ 251-433-2749 to contact him for any  
pastoral needs / emergencies.*

## **FINDING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH'S WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE**

Beginning in April of this year, we began live streaming our church services on our Facebook and YouTube pages. We also have discontinued our service with PodPoint for hosting audio podcasts of our services.

Here is a quick guide on where you can find all our videos and podcasts.

### **LIVE STREAMS**

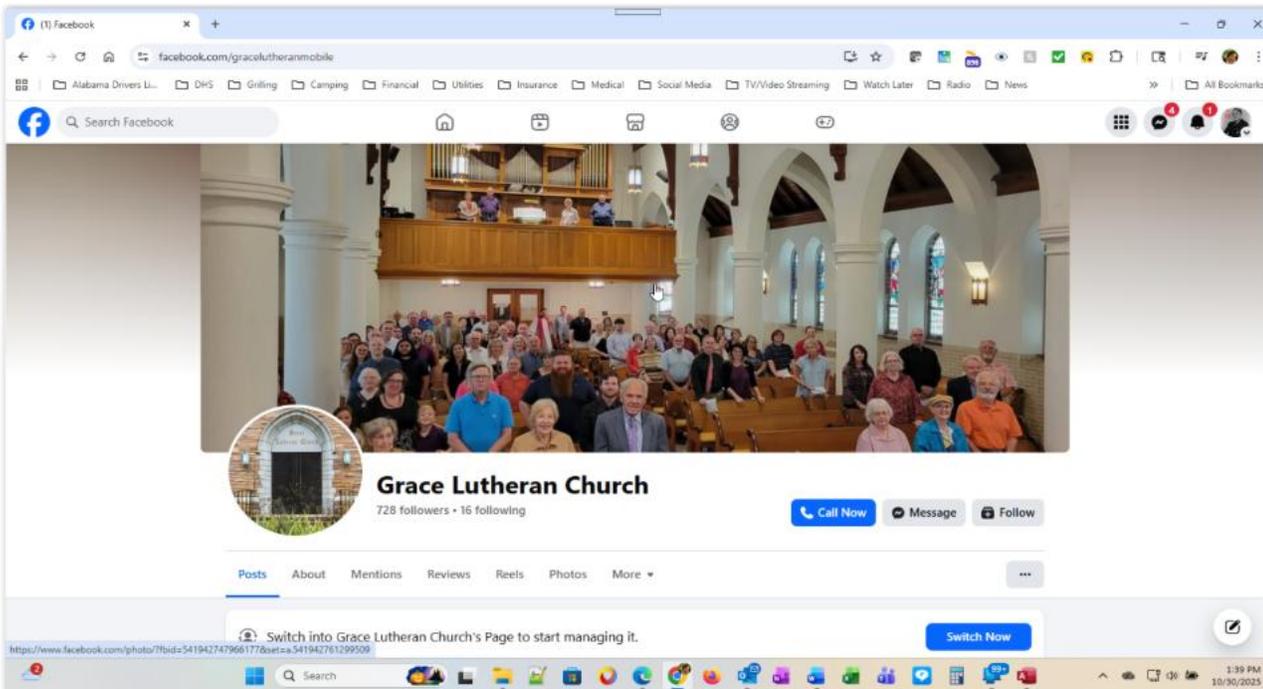
We stream simultaneously on Facebook and YouTube at present. The livestream generally begins 5 minutes prior to the 10:30 AM service. Please note that technology can have a mind of its own sometimes, and occasionally one of the platforms' streaming services may be down when we try to go live. If you don't see the livestream on one of these platforms, please check the other one.

If you use the Facebook or YouTube phone apps, just search for "grace lutheran church mobile alabama." If you use an internet browser, here are the direct URL links.

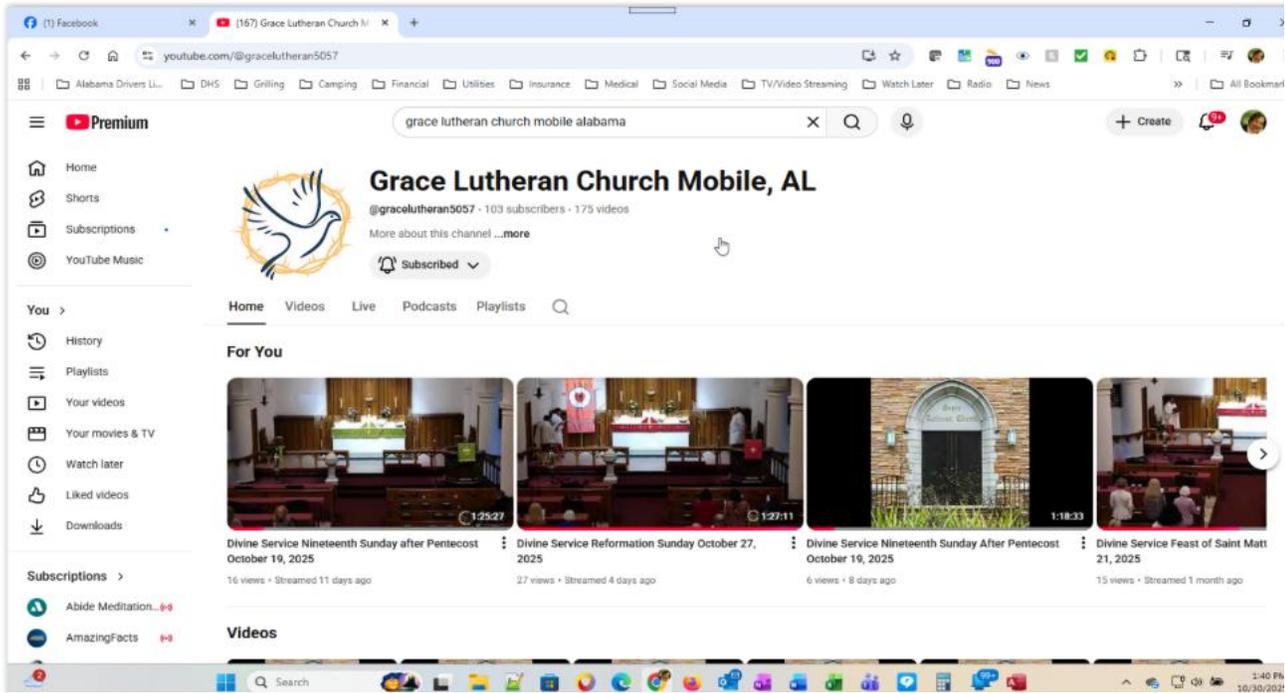
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheranmobile>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@gracelutheran5057>

Whatever method you use, here are the pages you want to wind up on:



## Facebook



## YouTube

### **VIDEO ARCHIVES**

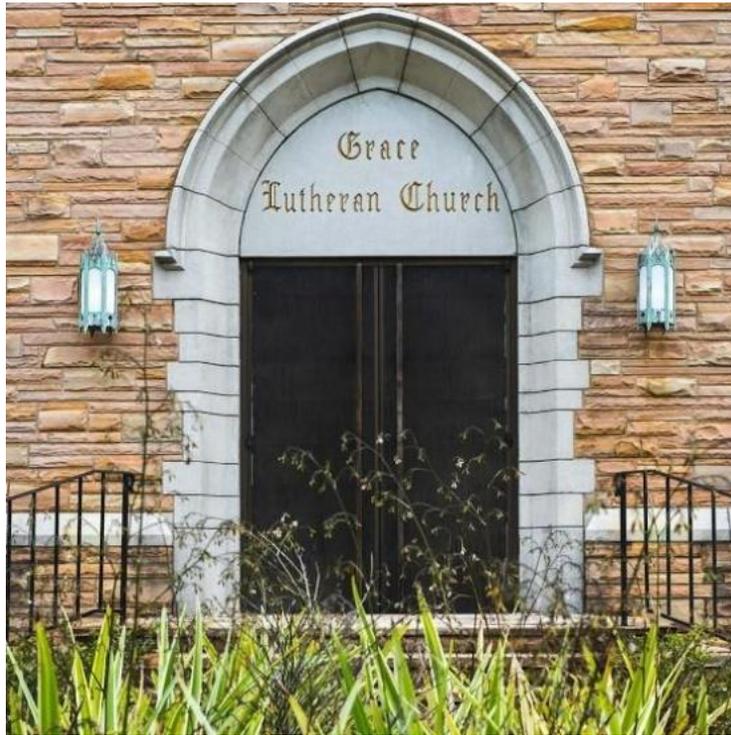
After the livestream ends, both Facebook and YouTube archive the video so you can view it later, should you miss the actual livestream. On Facebook, the video will be on the main Posts page. Please note that Facebook automatically deletes archives of live videos 30 days after they are posted.

On YouTube, the video archive is currently maintained indefinitely, so all videos are kept until the channel owner manually deletes them (which we do not do). To find the archived video, just click on the Live tab on our YouTube channel page.

### **PODCASTS**

The archived video from YouTube is downloaded, and through a free service available through Spotify, a podcast version of the service is created which is automatically pushed out to all the major podcast platforms (Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, and YouTube Music). The podcast on Spotify is a video podcast; all the other platforms are audio only.

The name of the podcast on all platforms is Herald of Grace. If you use a phone app for any of the platforms, just search for Herald of Grace. The page logo on all the platforms is a picture of the front of the church.



If you are using an internet browser, here are the URL links for the podcasts:

Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/show/6cvTcKLeN9B5R6c17NsC7>

Apple Podcasts: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/herald-of-grace/id1840014717>

Amazon Music: <https://music.amazon.com/podcasts/fc17026d-2a14-4db9-bb5c-bd75795d9aca/herald-of-grace>

YouTube Music: <https://music.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8ZokvQV6mUGikk48-oHQjessIfU5syr>

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. Email me at [communications\\_it@gracelutheranmobile.com](mailto:communications_it@gracelutheranmobile.com), call or text me at 251-422-0993, or catch me in the narthex after service on Sunday.

Dave LeGros  
Communications Chairman



**STILL AVAILABLE AT ONLY ONE YEAR AWAY! BOOK NOW!**  
**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
- ◆ Gratuities to shipboard staff
- ◆ Optional shore excursions
- ◆ Travel Protection

### NOT INCLUDED:



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@travelleaders.com](mailto:gghenry@travelleaders.com)

# CAMP DIXIE 2026

## Chicken Dinners

Join us at Camp Dixie for our Chicken Dinner fundraiser events! 11am-2pm on the listed dates. \$15 for a good meal of fried chicken, green beans, mashed potatoes, and more! Stop by our Camp Store while you're with us and grab some Camp Dixie swag like a new t-shirt or water bottle!

## 2026 Dates

January 11  
February 8  
March 8  
April 12  
June 7  
September 13  
October 11  
November 8



## A Light Before Others

“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” Matt. 5:16

What is Camp Dixie’s aim? Ultimately, to glorify God! Let us reflect His light, teach of His sacrifice, and encourage other believers to do the same. Shine on!

In Christ,  
Sam “Uno” Schmidt  
Camp Dixie Director



## Support Camp Dixie

Please keep Camp Dixie in your prayers and consider supporting this ministry further. Options include:

- Monetary Donations (head to website for digital donations)
- Gifts from our Wishlist
- Thrivent Action Team Grants
- Volunteer Service

See our website for more information



**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  
251-230-1886  
[pastor@gracelutheranmobile.com](mailto:pastor@gracelutheranmobile.com)

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

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

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

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



**If you would like to watch our  
Worship Services, you can find them here:**

**Grace Lutheran's Facebook page  
or  
youtube.com**

**(Search and subscribe to Grace Lutheran Church, Mobile, AL)**