

# The Herald of Grace

A Weekly Newsletter for Grace Lutheran Church

January 30, 2026

*(The following is the final address as President that I gave at last week's Congregational meeting.)*

4 years! It's been 4 years since you, the people of Grace, put their trust and confidence in me, to lead you as President of this congregation, with, of course, the help, guidance and love of God. It has been extremely fulfilling and rewarding to have served you and Grace Lutheran Church.

I want to thank my Council over these past 4 years! God gave me a great support system, and they have tirelessly worked to improve and enhance our beautiful church, grounds and activities here at Grace. And now we have another great property, through the grace of God, the house on Espejo St. I am looking forward to wonderfully blessed work and events happening at that property, as well as at Grace, with your next elected Council.

My one observation and request of you, the people of Grace, is to prayerfully consider volunteering for committees, activities, work projects, mission projects, Bible studies, book groups, Sunday School, choir, and any of the many opportunities presented throughout the church year. We have a membership of 213 people, but honestly, most of the work is done by a fraction of those. We need more help! Volunteering is not only fulfilling but the fellowship and fun that comes with gathering with others is a blessing not just to you but also to others!

I will truly miss being your President, but I know God will give strength and wisdom to your next leader!

Finally, I won't be going far, as I will remain Administrative Assistant to Pastor Miller – whom I thank with all my heart for his support, help and guidance these past 4 years. I'm proud to truly call Grace my home away from home!

God's peace and blessings to you as we once again move forward into another era building upon what has been done in the past, united in the present and hopeful for the future of Grace Lutheran Church.

I'll leave you with the words I have used for 4 years as President:

May God lift you up – Saved by Grace.

Thank you – Debbie Milling



**It's a girl!! We congratulate Ashley and Pastor Miller on the birth of their new daughter, Lainey Mae Miller, born on January 28, 2026, at 8 lbs. 7 oz. We praise and thank God for a healthy baby girl and Pastor and Ashley thank you for your prayers.**

*Note: Pastor is taking a two-week leave now that the baby is born to care for his family as they transition into this new chapter. We are*

*blessed to have Pastor Dennis Jacobson who will be serving us on Sundays during his 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, February 1	Children's Sunday School	9:15 am
<i>The Presentation of Our Lord</i>	Worship- Divine Service	10:30 am
Monday, Feb. 2	<b>No</b> Bible Study @ Our Savior ( <i>Galatians</i> )	
Tuesday, Feb. 3	<b>No</b> Elders ( <i>will be rescheduled</i> )	
Wednesday, Feb. 4	<b>No</b> Bible Study @ Grace ( <i>Galatians</i> )	
	LWML	10:00 am
	Handbell Choir	5:30 pm
	Adult Choir	6:15 pm
Sunday, February 8	Children's Sunday School	9:15 am
<i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</i>	Worship- Divine Service	10:30 am

### **Note from the Treasurer**

In the contribution statements, the contributions made to the 10th Anniversary Fund were marked as non-deductible in the statements. After consultation with an accountant this has been changed to deductible and for those that contributed to this fund revised statements will be issued. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thanks,  
Tom  
Treasurer, Grace Lutheran Church  
(251) 533-1402

## 2025 Contribution Statements

The 2025 Contribution Statements are ready and many were given out at the last Sunday's Congregational meeting. If you did not receive yours, see Debbie Milling today after service. The remaining statements will be mailed if not picked up. Also, if you have any questions about your statement please contact Tom Hankins or Jeffery Griffin. Thank you.

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## Congratulations to the new 2026 Church Council!

The following list of candidates for the 2026-2028 Church Council term were approved at last Sunday's congregational meeting:

- 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)

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*Jan. 31 – David Hoffman, Jr.  
Feb. 4 – Bunny Kringel  
Feb. 5 - Lisa Burnette*



*Feb. 6 – Ronnie and Sherea Weiss*



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

The Sunday School teaching schedule for **February-May 2026 is in urgent need of teachers. No additional teachers have volunteered! Most weeks are still unfilled on the schedule. Please consider volunteering to teach.** We provide structured teaching material that is easy to follow for each class. The classes are:

Preschool - ages 3-5 years

Elementary - Grades 1-4

Tweens - Grades 5-8

Contact Connie Rowe 251 270-9000 if you are willing to help with this ministry.

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**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.



### **“A Sounding Joy & M&M’s”**

Grace Lutheran Mission Ministry and LWML are raising funds to go toward the purchase of a Carillon keyboard. The original Carillon was played for many years since 1977 until it was struck by lightning and could not be repaired. All funding for the new Carillon will come from individual donations. Will you Be Sweet and help us kick start the “Sounding Joy Project” for Grace Lutheran’s Carillon Bells?  
Here’s how you can help....

M&M Mini’s candy container’s can hold up to \$12 worth of quarters. Starting next Sunday please consider taking a tube of M&M’s in order to fill it with quarters and return it to its collection box located at the foot of the stairs going into Foundation Hall (Folding money and/or check are also allowed in the tubes....and encouraged:)

Whatever legal tender you choose to fill the tube PLEASE be sure to return it or have your child return it if they take one.

Thank you!

A Sounding Joy Carillon Project  
GLC Missions Ministry & Grace Lutheran Women in Mission



*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.

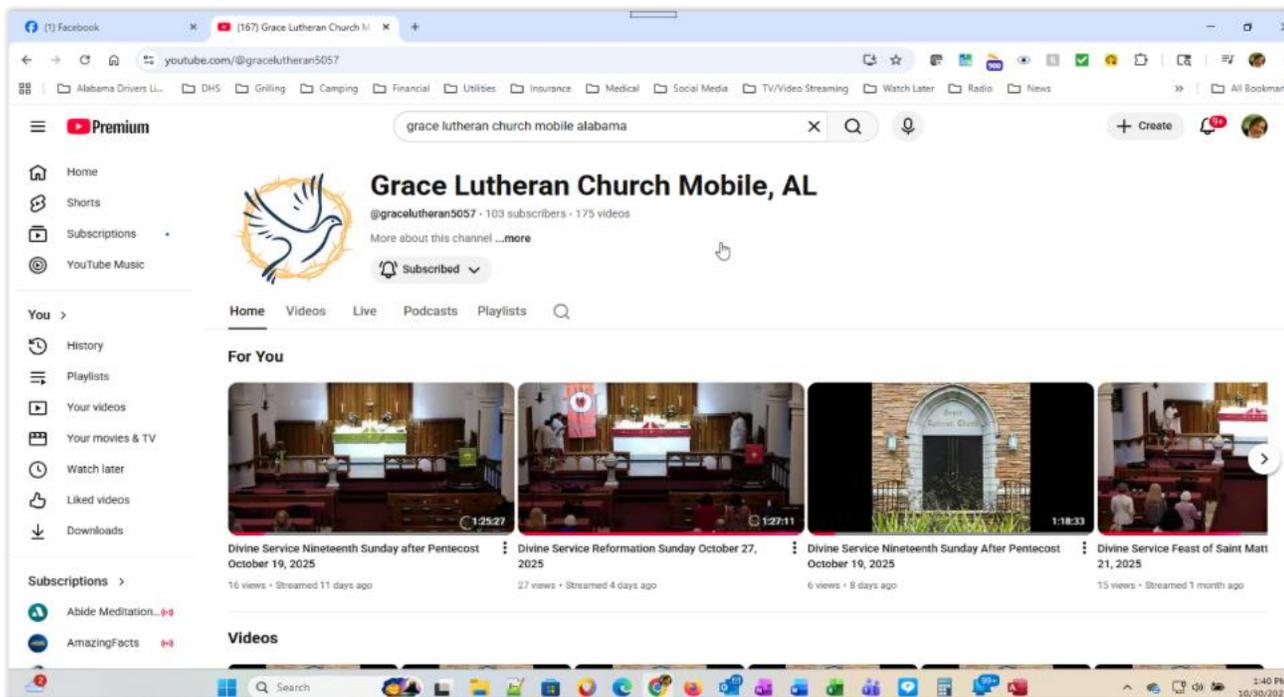
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheranmobile>

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

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



Facebook



## YouTube

### **VIDEO ARCHIVES**

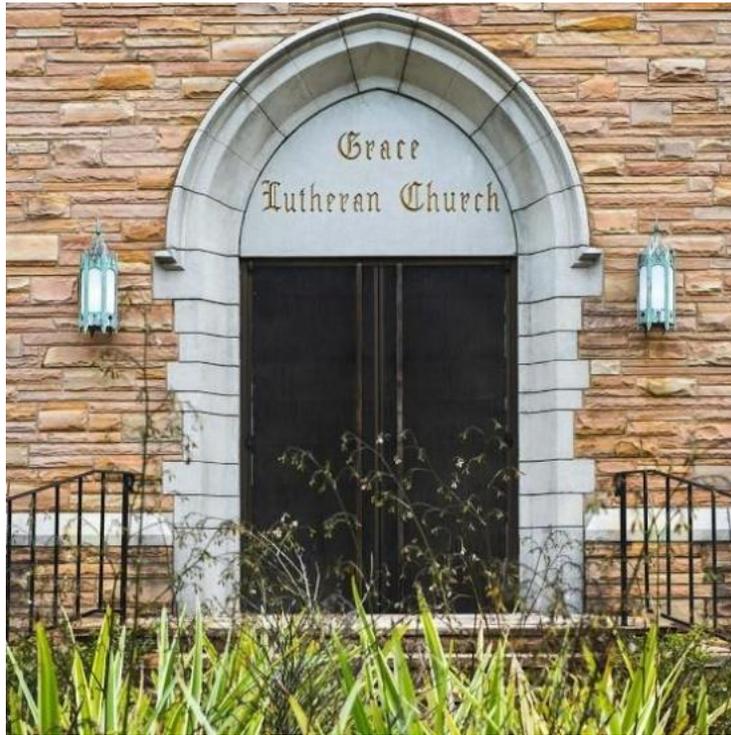
After the livestream ends, both Facebook and YouTube archive the video so you can view it later, should you miss the actual livestream. On Facebook, the video will be on the main Posts page. Please note that Facebook automatically deletes archives of live videos 30 days after they are posted.

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



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**6 NIGHTS JANUARY 11 - 17, 2027**

Sailing from Mobile, Alabama to The Bahamas

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**FELLOWSHIP | BIBLE STUDY | WORSHIP | PRAYER | FUN**

Includes meals, retreat materials, \$50 onboard credit

See next page for more details.

**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

**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**

### 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

### 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 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)**