

# The Herald of Grace

A Weekly Newsletter for Grace Lutheran Church

May 7, 2026



“Blessed Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You grant us life through our parents and You set children in families. Be pleased to bless our mothers, especially on this Mothers’ Day. Help them recognize the holy office You have entrusted to them, and strengthen them to serve faithfully and well within it. Grant that their motherly service may not be burdensome, but rather joyful and glad. Bless all women who do not have children and those whose children are estranged from them, that their hope and confidence may ever remain in You in whom true joy is found. Give us loving hearts that give thanks for our mothers, and that we heartily forgive them where they have failed and fallen short, and that we gladly honor them. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.”

Mother’s Day is this Sunday, May 10, 2026

## A Letter from Pastor

Dear Grace,

Since last July, Grace Lutheran Church and her leaders attained an opportunity to expand our ministry space through the purchase of 120 Espejo Street, kitty corner behind the Church building. This was a Spirit filled decision with challenges and excitement as the congregation moved forward overwhelmingly in support. After 8 months of ideas, meetings, city approval, renovation, restoration and construction, we are grateful to open the house officially for the use of Grace Lutheran Church and her ministry.

This house will be formally commissioned at service on Sunday, May 10 and all of you are invited to an open house on Friday, May 15, anytime from 3:00-7:00. We will have tours and refreshments and hopefully some fellowship! Come by for 15 minutes or stay an hour!

Most of all this coming week and prayerfully for years to come, we praise the Lord for all he has done and will do in this space. 120 Espejo has turned out to be a historic, beautiful space for offices, gatherings, meetings, small groups and bible studies. The work of the Espejo team led by God's servant, Jan Tanner, has been a success. Debbie Milling, our Volunteer Office Assistant, and I have worked to move in, and it has taken months because the ministry of Grace has so much to be cared for and that is a good thing! We are very grateful for the work, resources, givers and volunteers that have contributed so much.

We will soon declare this house solely to God's glory. In this home, God's Word will be shared and may all who enter find peace in Jesus. May those who do not know the Lord, find him here. Within these walls, learning will take place, everyday administration will be conducted, crushed souls will be consoled, couples will prepare for marriage, and leadership will meet to work for the good of Grace. May we gather here as Christian brothers and sisters sharing in fellowship, thought, conversation and laughter. And may this house give us strength in our ministry to send out His light and love to the world. May God bless our commissioning and open house from foundation to roof, from wall to wall, and may the Holy Spirit dwell within this space as we dedicate it to God. 120 Espejo is Spanish for mirror. May it reflect the image, glory and work of Jesus for our church family and community.

Enjoy and Give Thanks!

Peace,  
Pastor Miller



**ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED**

# Espejo Open House

**FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2026**

**ANYTIME BETWEEN 3-7 P.M.**

**Tours and Refreshments**

120 Espejo Street, Mobile, AL  
Kitty Corner behind the Church

## Upcoming Sunday Readings and Hymns for May 10:

Readings: Acts 17:16-31      1 Peter 3:13-22      John 14:15-21

Divine Service Setting One

Opening Hymn: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus LSB 821

Hymn of the Day: Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings LSB 782

Communion Hymns: Jesus Loves Me LSB 588

Rejoice My Heart, Be Glad and Sing LSB 737

Closing: Now Thank We All Our God LSB 895

## Weekly Calendar

Sunday, May 10 <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	Children's Sunday School	9:15 am
<i>Mother's Day</i>	Worship- Divine Service	10:30 am
	<b>No</b> Abide Youth Night	
Tuesday, May 12	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
Wednesday, May 13	Bible Study – Our Savior	11:00 am
	<b>No</b> Handbell Choir	
	<b>No</b> Adult Choir	
Thursday, May 14	<b>No</b> Bible Study -Augsburg Confession	
Friday, May 15	<b>Espejo Open House</b>	3:00 – 7:00 pm
Sunday, May 17 <i>Ascension Sunday</i>	Children's Sunday School (Foundation Hall) *Adult Gathering and Bible Study (Espejo)	9:15 am
	Worship- Divine Service	10:30 am
	Abide Youth Night	6:00 pm

**\*NEW:** A Sunday Morning Gathering and Bible Study will occur at the Espejo House on Sunday mornings beginning on May 17 @ 9:15 am. This will provide a space for adults and parents of Sunday School children to gather and also learn about Jesus. Coffee and refreshments will be shared.



*May 8 – Cade Middleton*  
*May 11- Jeremy Griffin*  
*May 14 – Heike Crane*

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**During the month of May, we are featuring in our newsletter, members of Grace Lutheran Church who are graduating from high school or college. Please submit your graduates with a brief bio, picture and their future potential plans. God bless our 2026 graduates!**

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*Altar  
Flowers*

**ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP SHEET FOR 2026 IS NOW AVAILABLE!**

**2026 Price: \$100/set or \$50/each**

**Upcoming Dates available:  
July 12, 19, 26**

Hi parents and students,

I am so excited to announce the launch of Abide, a new 4-week youth night pilot program starting on May 3.

We know that between school, sports, and life, schedules are incredibly busy and students are often running on empty. Abide is designed to be a completely different kind of youth group experience. Instead of a traditional classroom setting, we are meeting at the Espejo House across the street for a relaxed, living-room-style night focused on authentic connection, rest, and community, centered around the message of the Vine and the Branches from John 15.



Here are the details for the 4-week pilot:

Dates: May 3, May 17, May 24, and May 31

Time: 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Location: The Espejo House (120 Espejo St, Mobile, AL 36604, across the street from the church)

Ages: 14-18

What to expect: Every night will kick off at 6:00 PM with free dinner (including Foosackley's, Little Caesars pizza, Jimmy John's, and Chipotle taco bar on our final night!), followed by some fun group games like Catch Phrase to break the ice. We will then transition into a short, 15-minute conversational teaching and break out into relaxed living-room discussions.

The goal of this pilot is to create a safe space where students can just breathe, hang out, and grow together without any pressure.

If you have any questions, please let me know. I can't wait to see everyone there!

Best,

Youth Council Member: Anthony Micah Battaglia 251-978-0002

Sunday, May 17

12 - 3 PM

# SUNDAY SCHOOL SUMMER PICNIC

Medal of Honor Park

1711 Hillcrest Rd, Mobile



Lunch \* Playground \* Splash Pad



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

Sunday School meets from 9:15-10:15 each Sunday morning.

Classes include: Preschool (age 3-5)  
Elementary (grades 1-4)  
Tweens (grades 5-8)

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**Note from the Treasurer:** Please consider, when donating to the Building Fund, to mark it for the Espejo House Principal. The loan for the purchase of the Espejo House was from the Grace Building Fund and all additional Espejo House Principal payments go back into the Grace Building Fund. Donations marked this way reduces the principal remaining on the loan and saves on the Grace loan interest payments on the life of the 20-year loan. (Instead of Grace paying the interest, the money will earn interest in a Thrivent account)

Original Loan Amount \$109,651.00 current Principal Remaining \$96,483.50

The missions project for a Carillon Bell system has received, to date, \$2,057, estimate project needs ~\$20,000.

*Take Note!* 🎵



**CARILLON FROM CANDY AND COINS!!**

Please take an M&M tube of Mini's so you can return it in February full of quarters, folding money or a check into the steeple of the little "Sounding Joy Church"

Collection Drop Box.

Proceeds go toward funding a new Carrillon musical system for Grace Lutheran Church.

Thank you



**STILL AVAILABLE AT ONLY 8 MONTHS 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**

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)**