

The Herald of Grace

A Weekly Newsletter for Grace Lutheran Church

July 23, 2026

Upcoming Sunday Readings and Hymns:

Readings: Deuteronomy 7:6–9 Romans 8:28–39 Matthew 13:44–52

Divine Service Setting 4

Opening Hymn: The Church's One Foundation LSB 644

Hymn of the Day: When I Behold Jesus Christ LSB 542

Distribution Hymns: Love Divine, All Love Excelling LSB 700
How Wide the Love of Christ LSB 535
Sent Forth by God's Blessing LSB 643

Closing: Blest Be the Tie That Binds LSB 649



July 24 – Mary Ann West
July 26 – Barbara Boettjer
July 29 – Libby March



July 29 – David and Ashley Lauber

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, July 26 <i>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Children's Sunday School	9:15 am
	Adult/Teen Fellowship and Bible Study @Espejo House	9:15 am
	Worship- Divine Service	10:30 am
	Semiannual Congregational Meeting and Potluck	<i>After worship service</i>
Wednesday, July 29	Bible Study – @ Our Savior	11:00 am
	No Handbell Choir (restarts in Sept.)	
	No Adult Choir (restarts in Sept.)	
	Confirmation/Communion Youth Class	6:00 pm
Thursday, July 30	Bible Study	11:00 am
Sunday, August 2 <i>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Children's Sunday School	9:15 am
	Adult/Teen Fellowship and Bible Study @Espejo House	9:15 am
	Worship- Divine Service	10:30 am



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

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

Upcoming Dates available:
August 16,30 and September 6,13,27

**Please return any glass vases and liners the floral arrangements
are placed in when sent home.**

Semiannual Congregational Meeting and Potluck on Sunday, July 26.

For the potluck, please bring something to share if you are able. With the summer heat, we prefer cold salads, sandwiches, fruits, etc. so the ovens are not needed. Thank you!



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

Sunday School News- July 2026

Our Sunday School children are having a great time this summer. During June, the children have been on a discovery hunt, attacked Goliath with slingshots and ping pong balls, built and then destroyed the Walls of Jericho. Our adventures continue during July. Thanks to Kelly Johnson who has planned, organized, and is teaching the summer program. Our adventures continue during July. Come and join us for the fun!

Sunday School News

June 7 - August 2
9:15 - 10:15

Join us for
SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL



Veggie Tales
Crafts
Games
Snacks



Carillon Donation Challenge This Summer!

We have a generous anonymous donor who is matching up to \$7500 for a new digital Carillon system. Our goal is having the Carillon operational for Christmas. The cost of the new system will be approximately \$18,000. Together with current funds raised and the donor's \$7500 match, we can easily meet the goal by the end of the summer.

Cash and coins can be placed in the wooden church donation box in the narthex. Checks are to be made to Grace Lutheran Church with the memo line marked "Carillon Project". Checks can be placed in the offering plate.

Thank you and we look forward to bells ringing once again from Grace Lutheran Church praising our Lord and serving the community.



Grace Lutheran Camp Dixie Weekend!

All men, women, children and families are invited to a Camp Dixie Weekend on August 14-16, 2026!

More information will be forthcoming!

From the Treasurer:

Carillon Fund Contributions to Date (July 19); \$ 7,563.42 (Does not include offerings from 7/19)

Espejo Loan from NBC Fund: (After July 20 payment)

Original Loan Amt: \$109,651.00 - Principal Due: \$92,376.56

Food for Thought: Who is ShangTi? (From Genesis and the Mystery Confucius Couldn't Solve by Ethel R Nelson/Richard E Bradberry) A Brief summary and excerpts from two chapters.

For 40 centuries (4,000 years) the reigning emperor of China traveled annually to the border of the country or imperial city and on an outdoor altar they sacrificed and burned young unblemished bullocks to ShangTi, the Heavenly Ruler. This Border Sacrifice ceremony started before the first dynastic rule, which began in 2205 BC and continued until the rite ended in 1911 AC when the Manchus rule ended.

So important to the mind of the sage Confucius (551-479 B.C.) was this Great Sacrifice that he compared a comprehension of the ritual to the efficient ruling of the Chinese empire. Yet he himself could find no reason for the sacrifice. In the 15th century the Great Sacrifice was moved to the southern part of Beijing where an extensive park had three edifices, Hall of Prayer for Good Harvest, Temple of Heaven, and the Altar of Heaven. These are now tourist attractions in Beijing.

Some of the statues recited at the sacrifice are: "Of old in the beginning, there was the great chaos without form and dark. The five elements (planets) had not begun to revolve, nor the sun and moon to shine. You O Spiritual Sovereign (ShangTi) first divided the grosser parts from the purer. You made heaven. You made earth. You made man..." "All living things are indebted to Your goodness, but who knows from whom his blessings come to him? You alone, O Lord, are the true parent of all things."

The author makes a case for the history of the Chinese people from the lineage of Noah and other similarities between the Chinese Border Sacrifice and the Hebrew writings.

Just for Laughs:

What do you call a wizard who's really bad at football? Fumbledore

What does a karate master get rewarded with while driving? A seat belt

Where do wasps like to go for lunch? A bee-stro

PAWS for a Cause



The City of Mobile Animal Services has provided a wish list of needed items for their shelters throughout Mobile County. There will be a collection box located in the narthax throughout the month of June. Your generous donations will help the shelters care for the rescue animals they provide for daily. Our pets give us unconditional love, let us return that love to animals in need.



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

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

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



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 3rd and 4th 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 • ghenry@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

Rev. Wayne J. Miller, Pastor
251-230-1886
pastor@gracelutheranmobile.com

Connie Rowe, Organist
251-270-9000
connierowe90@gmail.com

Debbie Milling, Volunteer Office Manager
251-433-2749
debbie.milling@gracelutheranmobile.com

Chris Rowe, Choir Director
251-278-8596
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)