

The Herald of Grace

A Weekly Newsletter for Grace Lutheran Church

September 17, 2026

Join us after
church as we
celebrate

OKTOBERFEST DINNER FUNDRAISER

Sunday, September 27, 2026

**Brats, German Potato Salad,
Sauerkraut, Bake Sale**

BYOB!



**\$ Donations requested at event to support
our kitchen renovation fund \$**



menu



Bratwurst and Bun
German Potato Salad

Sauerkraut

Hot Prezels

Hot Dogs

Chips

LWML Bake Sale

BYOB

Fellowship

Raffle

Photo Booth

Kid's Kraft Area

Free Will Donations

Food: Kitchen Renovation

Bake Sale: LWML Fund

thrivent[®]

Our Sponsors

preservan
MOBILE

Oktoberfest 2026 Q & A

This is our 5th Oktoberfest in recent years at Grace. This year's Oktoberfest celebration has been scaled back to a simple in-house dinner fundraiser for our members and friends after church on Sunday, September 27.

Why the change this year from our large community Oktoberfest's of previous years?

We are taking a break for a number of reasons: while previous Oktoberfest's have been largely successful seeing 400-500 people, we have sort of outgrown our volunteers. There was certainly a volunteer shortage at Grace that was felt by some of the workers, especially before and after the event, and the burnout was real. And so thank you to all the volunteers we have had in the past! Secondly, the growing expense of the event is making it increasingly difficult to make a decent profit (it's not all about the money, but it certainly is one of the goals in addition to fellowship and community outreach!) Thirdly, there are some local food and beverage licensing and regulations that need some attention which again increases expenses and changes the process in how we handle the different aspects of the event.

Will our large community Oktoberfest return next year?

We hope so! There is great passion for Oktoberfest among many of our members including our pastor. In taking a small break this year with a smaller event, it has motivated some to explore bringing the large event back. If so, strong recruitment of volunteers will be essential and some cost-saving measures and other changes will need to be made to keep the event profitable while retaining good fellowship, outreach and Oktoberfest authenticity.

Where and when is this year's Oktoberfest?

All members and our families and friends are encouraged to attend immediately after church on Sunday, September 27. MOST EVERYTHING DOWNSTAIRS! The event will be held in Foundation Hall with a few pop-up tents and yard games outside. The event will last as long as people are here!

Is there a cost to attend?

No, but we are asking for donations to help raise funds for our kitchen renovation fund. We will also need to keep our Oktoberfest designated fund intact for future Oktoberfest's. Thank you in advance for your support!

BYOB?

Yes! Beer and wine only. After all, it is Oktoberfest! Remember to pack a cooler and share if you like. While the church will not be providing or serving any Lutheran beverages, you are welcome to consume responsibly on your own inside or outside. Prost!

What will return from previous Oktoberfest's?

Our dinner plate will still have our freshly grilled bratwursts, homemade German potato salad and sauerkraut. Dessert, however, will be a bake sale hosted by our LWML. Also, enjoy our Bavarian Pretzels again with cheese dip! We will have our famous photo booth downstairs with Martin Luther. You are welcome to wear your Lederhosen or Dirndl to church that morning. We

will play recorded music this year instead of live musicians. Most of all, may our congregation enjoy healthy Christian fellowship in the spirit of Oktoberfest! May God bless us once again.



ADULT CATECHISM CLASS

8 Week Course on Thursdays at 6:00 PM

Starting Thursday, September 10, 2026
In the Foundation Hall of Grace Lutheran

All are invited including new and existing members!

Upcoming Sunday Readings and Hymns:

Readings: Isaiah 55:6–9 Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30 Matthew 20:1–16

Divine Service Setting 4

Opening Hymn: By Grace I’m Saved LSB 566

Hymn of the Day: The Gifts Christ Freely Gives LSB 602

Distribution Hymns: Salvation unto Us Has Come (vs. 1-6) LSB 555
Not unto Us LSB 558

Closing: Salvation unto Us Has Come (vs. 7-10) LSB 555



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

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

Upcoming Dates Available:

October 11, 18

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

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, Sept. 20 <i>Seventeenth 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
Wednesday, Sept. 23	Bible Study – @ Our Savior	11:00 am
	No Handbell Choir	
	No Adult Choir	
	Confirmation/Communion Youth Class	6:00 pm
Thursday, Sept. 24	Bible Study	11:00 am
	Adult Catechism Class	6:00 pm
Sunday, Sept. 27 <i>Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	No Children's Sunday School	
	No Adult/Teen Fellowship and Bible Study @Espejo House	
	Worship- Divine Service	10:30 am
	Oktoberfest	<i>after service</i>



September 17 – Whitney Hankins
September 18 – Darrell Butler
September 21 - Christopher Griffin, Sr.
September 22 – James Oswalt
September 24 – Thomas Peña



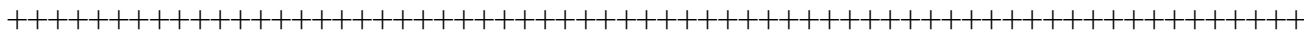
September 25 – Wesley and Glenda Wilson



Join these smiling faces every Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m, in Foundation Hall, for children's Sunday School!!

Coffee, fellowship, and Adult Sunday School is also at 9:15 a.m. across the street in the Espejo House!

Don't miss out!!



Pray it + Plan it + Pledge it

Please turn in your
2027
Stewardship
Pledge Cards
Soon

+

Thank you for your faithful giving.

A black and white photograph of a mailbox. The mailbox is open, and a card is sticking out of it. The card has the text "My Pledge" and a heart symbol. The mailbox has the text "My Home" and a heart symbol on its side.



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.



Grace
LUTHERAN CHURCH



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

• gghenry@travellleaders.com

Greetings Grace Lutheran Church from Camp Dixie!

We were able to spend parts of our summer programs with various campers from some of your congregations and we treasure those moments. We have some truly wonderful Lutheran families in the area, as well as other groups that we get to interface with and minister to.

Retreats: Please share these opportunities with your church members! Camp Dixie is once again running Family Foundations weekends during this retreat season. This is a retreat for children in grades K-8 to experience camp with a grown-up by their side. The retreat for boys is coming up on October 2-4, while the girls retreat is March 5-7. Adult registrations must be same-gendered due to our bunk room lodging. For example, boys in October can bring Dad, Grandpa, Uncle, or another relative/family friend. I am attaching a bulletin announcement and a flyer (one digital version, one printable version) that you can share with your church to spread the word about these retreats.

Camp Dixie Family Foundations retreats are open for registration! These weekend programs are for grades K-8 accompanied by a same-gendered adult. Participate in devotions and classic camp activities for a memorable and formational Camp experience. Register online at campdixieministries.org

School and Church Visits: I am currently putting together my visit calendar for the rest of 2026 and early 2027. If your church would like a visit from Camp Dixie, please give me a call and I would be glad to look at dates with you. When I visit churches, I will often meet with the children during Sunday School to lead songs and share a devotion - sometimes with a puppet show/object lesson/brief game! I also like to share a few words during announcements at the beginning or end of the service so that families can better put a face to the Camp Dixie Director. Other churches have asked me to share about Camp during their adult Bible study so that their congregants can learn more about what we do. I am happy to do any of this, or whatever your church needs during a visit. My family and I have been blessed to make connections with the surrounding churches in this area for the past year and a half that we have been here, and we enjoy worshipping with each local church that we visit.

Chicken Dinner Fundraisers: Our next fundraiser meal is Sunday, Sept 13 from 11am-2pm. \$15 for a full meal supports this outdoors ministry and the Christ-centered programming that we offer.

In Christ alone,

Sam Schmidt

Camp Dixie Director
29711 Josephine Dr
Elberta, AL 36530
251-987-1201 | www.CampDixieMinistries.org

"Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path." (Psalm 119:105)

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

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

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