

Vestry Members

Kirri Kinley - 2024-2026
Mike Magaha - 2024-2026
Debbie Hand, Sr. Warden - 2024-2026
Henry Todd - 2025-2026
Jodie Webb, Jr. Warden - 2025-2027
Bill Scott - 2025-2027
Cyndi Dougherty - 2025-2027
Heiko Erlenkauser - 2025-2027
Buddy Bilbrey - 2026-2028
Jamie Ward, Clerk - 2026-2028
JoCarol Titmas - 2026-2028
Tracey Lidlow - 2026-2028

Delegates to the Convention

Janet Rippy
Debbie Hand
Bill Scott
Jamie Ward
Jodie Webb 1st alternate
Carol Miller 2nd alternate
JoCarol Titmas 3rd alternate

Grace Church Endowment

Matthias Kloeck
Lee Hancock
Ken Langford, Treasurer
Carol Miller
Lang Foster



Van Gogh 1889

STEPHEN GAZED INTO HEAVEN

GRACE CHURCH

3 May 2026
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Grace Church, Episcopal
711 S. McDuffie St
Anderson, SC 29624

gracechurchanderson1851@gmail.com

(864) 225-8011

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:10 a.m. - 2:10 p.m.

Welcome to Grace!

The Liturgy Begins on page 323

The Word of God

The Collect

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Psalm

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (*read responsively by half verse*)

In te, Domine, speravi

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.

SAVE THE DATE

Save The Date: Grace will have a **Whitsun Ale drop in** on Pentecost Sunday, [May 24th](#), [from 4 - 7 p.m.](#) at the home of Brett and Rebecca Dixon, 389 Graham Rd, Anderson SC 29625. Bring a dish to share and enjoy some of Brett Dixon's home brewed ale.

SAVE THE DATE: Grace Annual BBQ is [October 10, 2026](#).

VBS: we are gearing up for VBS! [Every Wednesday night in July](#) beginning on July 8, we will have VBS [from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.](#), and the whole church is invited! If you are interested in serving in any capacity at VBS this year, please make sure you talk to Sharon so we can make sure you are Safe Church certified.

Weekly Meetings

Fiber, Friends, and Fellowship: Starting May 5th FFF will begin meeting every Tuesday from 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Women, Wine, and Wisdom meets every Tuesday from 6:30 - 8 p.m.

The Ladies' Prayer Group meets every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Those with birthdays this week

Hugh Osburn

Ellie Cooper

Catherine Cutting

Matthias Kloeck

Van Colman

Maggie Cox

Baptismal Newbirth Day

30 November

23 December

07 July

03 November

03 October

Those with Baptismal Newbirth Days this week

Nita Colman

06 May

Scott Mattison

07 May

Bess Boyer

08 May

- **Saturday Servants** will meet [May 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th](#). Volunteers are needed. We also need donations of grape jam, creamy peanut butter and waters. If you are interested in helping contact Tracey Lidlow at tjlidlow@gmail.com
- **Eucharistic Minister Training:** Arch Deacon Mary Jeffers will be holding a eucharistic minister training on [Saturday, May 9th from 10 - 11:30 a.m.](#) at Grace. If you are currently trained as an eucharistic minister, Nikki will be reaching out to let you know if it is time to renew your training. If you are not trained and would like to be, please contact Nikki in the church office to let her know.

- **WWW** will begin a new book on [Tuesday, April 28th](#) *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren. Join us in the parlor on Tuesday evenings from [6:30 – 8 p.m.](#) All are welcome at the table.
- **Fraud Protection Class:** United Community Bank is considering hosting a Fraud Protection Class at Grace to help individuals and families stay safe from scams, identity theft, and financial fraud. Topics may include; recognizing common scams, protecting your personal and banking information, tips for safe online and mobile banking and what to do if you suspect fraud. At this time, we are gathering interest to see if this class would be beneficial for our church community. If you are interested please email Nikki at gracechurchanderson1851@gmail.com.

Those who serve

- Vestry-in-Charge:** Mike Magaha
- Second Counter:** JoCarol Titmas
- Lector:** Andy Potter
- Intercessor:** Michelle Ricketson
- Chalice:** Annette Guiseppi-Elie
- Chalice 2:** Michelle Ricketson
- Church Opener:** Jim Harris

Expectant Parents
 Brent and Kirri Kinley
 Donovan and Erin Colman
 Joey and Asheton Benson

Stewardship Report
 As of 3/31/2026
 YTD 2026 Revenue \$118,873
 YTD 2026 Expenses \$122,568
 YTD 2026 Surplus \$3,695

THE GRACE CODE
 Scan or tap to visit:



- New to Grace
- Outreach giving
- Facebook page
- Family Promise

Altar Flowers

Flowers are giving to the Glory of God and in Celebration of those having Birthdays this week, by Tony and Annette Guiseppi-Elie.

- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
**for you have redeemed me,
 O LORD, O God of truth.**
- 15 My times are in your hand; *
**rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
 and from those who persecute me.**
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me.

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
 a cornerstone chosen and precious;
 and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
 has become the very head of the corner”,

and

“A stone that makes them stumble,
 and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
 but now you are God’s people;
 once you had not received mercy,
 but now you have received mercy.

The Holy Gospel

Priest: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

People: *Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

John 14:1-14

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Priest: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

People: *Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed - page 326

Prayers of the People - page 328

Confession of Sin and Absolution - page 330

The Peace

Announcements (*Please notify the rector beforehand*)

Sending Forth of the Graduating Seniors: Emiline Hughes

Celebrant: Dear people of God: Our lives are journeys. At certain times and in certain places we are called to end one stage of the journey and begin another. In the midst of change we claim God's presence and guidance through it all. Today we pray for all High School Seniors and especially for Emiline Hughes, who have grown up in our

midst. With them go our prayers and support. We rejoice for God blessing us with their presence and we commend them to God's continual love and care as they go down life's path. We call upon God's blessing on all our youth and give thanks for their life, their ministries, and their presence among us. Amen.

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer II - page 340

Post Communion Prayer - page 339

The Sending Forth - page 339

Grace Notes

- **Welcome Visitors:** Please take a moment to fill out the visitor card located in the pew and place it in the offering plate. We are glad you chose to worship with us today.
- **WWW** is asking for YOUR help in our efforts to collect diapers, wipes, and feminine hygiene products support the Anderson County Diaper Bank. Donations may be placed in the cloister. We are grateful to **Louise Knisley** for coordinating collection and delivery on our behalf.
- **Daughters of the King** are collecting chicken lunch pouches to out in Blessing Bags for the unhoused. Please place any donations in the tote in the cloister.
- **Grace Life** is forming a committee to help with church events and creative new ways to enrich parish life. All are welcome to join. If interested contact Cyndi Dougherty (631) 766-3619 text, email cyndidoug458@gmail.com, or see her.
- **IMPORTANT – KEY ENTRY TO THE BUILDING WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE. The church has been re-keyed. If you need access to the building and have not been contacted about this, please contact the church office.**
- **St. Catherine's Guild** will meet **Monday, May 4th at noon** at Grace. We will be discussing adding a new project. Bring a sandwich, but drink and dessert will be provided.
- **FAVOR UPSTATE:** Please join us for Lunch with Lesley to have lunch and to have a chance to connect, share perspectives and hear more about where FAVOR is headed and how we continue to strengthen recovery across the community. Lunch will be held at Grace **Wednesday, May 6th from noon - 1 p.m.** Please rsvp to Janelle Walker at Janelle@favorupstate.org if your interested in joining.
- **Daughter's of the King** will meet **Saturday May 9th at 10 a.m.**
- **Mulch Madness:** We will have mulch madness **Saturday, May 9th beginning at 8 a.m.** We need volunteers to help spread mulch and beautify the church grounds. Bring your shovels, rakes, and wheel barrels and be ready to work.