



ALL THE GOOD NEWS

GRACE CHURCH

August 2026



Back to School and Learn Something New

It's August, which means the shelves are stocked with school supplies of every kind, from pencils to markers; from backpacks to binders. Who knew there were so many kinds of binders – and who knew they were so expensive? Kids are deliberating over the coolest backpack print with the latest characters, because that's really what matters when you're in school. The truth is, going back to school is fun, even if we didn't always act that way. However, many adults often think their days of education are over once they receive a diploma or degree.

Biblically, though, we see a much different approach to learning. The Bible treats learning as a lifelong pursuit, and it's clear that learning is something worth doing. After all, the Old Testament literally has a section of books known as "Wisdom (and Poetry) Literature," which includes Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, while Psalms and the Song of Solomon make up the poetic books. Wisdom literature isn't exclusive to Christianity (it's very prominent in Confucianism in China, for example), but much of our understanding of what wisdom is comes from Biblical wisdom literature, particularly in the book of Proverbs.

The proverbs are written by King Solomon, and in verse two we are explicitly told they're written "for gaining wisdom and instruction," and in verse seven we read, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." Proverbs shows that there's never an end to learning, since in verse five the wise are instructed to "listen and add to their learning." Even in the New Testament, teaching is a foundational part of Jesus' ministry, and the disciples certainly had much to learn, as Jesus corrects and guides them even after His resurrection.

While kids might be going back to school, I invite you to also return to school – no, not literally, of course. Challenge yourself to learn something new. Perhaps you read a new book of the Bible and really dig into the Scriptures. Maybe you're interested in the theology of the Eucharist or in learning about the Episcopal Church – many people would be happy to offer resources! Don't feel like you have to learn on your own either. Perhaps you and a friend meet for coffee and a chat over a chapter of the Proverbs. I invite you to enjoy the pursuit of knowledge and the greater wisdom and understanding that comes as we pursue Christ.

Sundays

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:30 Coffee Hour



ACTION!

GRACE

Understanding Grace Church Endowments – Part 1

For nearly 90 years, the Grace Church endowments have supported worship, ministry, outreach, and improvements to our facilities through the generosity and foresight of church members and friends. But what is an endowment, and how does it work?

An endowment is a fund built through gifts from church members and friends. These gifts may include donations, memorial gifts, or bequests made through a will. Rather than being spent immediately, the funds are invested, and a portion of the earnings is used each year to support Grace Church's ministry and mission. The original gift remains intact, allowing it to grow and benefit the church for years to come.

Grace Church has a long history of faithful stewardship through its endowments. Our first, the Perpetual and Cumulative Memorial Endowment (P&CME), was established on November 5, 1938, and was later renamed the Grace Church Endowment. It helped fund the Parish House, the purchase of two organs, and numerous property improvements. In 2008, the Cobb and Denise Oxford Endowment was created to support capital improvements and outreach. Since then, it has funded efforts such as the Good Shepherd project – new Parlor, Nursery, and Choir Room; the Renew and Refresh Campaign – Church refresh with new pews and a porch on the back of the Parish Hall; and provided annual support for our Outreach Ministries.

An endowment is one of the most lasting gifts a person can make to the church. For generations, Grace members have used these funds to strengthen the church's mission through faithful stewardship. Because of the generosity and foresight of those who came before us, Grace Church continues to benefit from resources that strengthen ministry today and help sustain it for the future.

In Part 2, we'll look at how Grace Church's endowment funds are managed and how they support the church's work.

ST. CATHERINE'S GUILD

We decided to meet on Monday, July 6th, at noon at the church instead of in August. After a sandwich lunch, we had a backpack work party! Robert Shore, a member of our Grace congregation, donated forty-eight backpacks to our new Helping Hands outreach project, and this allowed us to begin the project earlier. We organized the backpacks, bath totes, hand-knitted and crocheted stocking caps, hand-crocheted octopus pocket pets, and books. The members of the Fiber, Friends, and Fellowship group at our church provided the caps and octopuses. Three of our members delivered our gifts on Monday, July 13th. Helping Hands provides a home for abused and neglected boys referred by the state Department of Social Services. We were given a tour of the facility, which is more like a welcoming family home than an institution. We are excited to be able to provide ongoing support to these foster boys!

We delivered backpacks and gifts for the current sixteen boys, and we left an additional ten backpacks and gifts for future boys. Because of Mr. Shore's generosity, we still have plenty of backpacks to deliver to Helping Hands as needed along with all the other gifts. We also delivered to the Richard Campbell Veterans Nursing Home all of your generous donations. Thank you all so much for your many years of supporting this veterans gift drive! Saint Catherine's Guild will meet again at noon at the church on September 14th, which is the second Monday. We usually meet on the first Monday, but that is Labor Day. As usual, we will bring sandwiches, and dessert and drinks will be provided. We always welcome all to our meetings! For more information, please call Anne Martin (864-561-2187)



Opportunities to serve at Grace Episcopal Church

Usher Ministry – more ushers are needed.

Usher responsibilities:

- 1) Hospitality ministry--welcoming people as they arrive to church. Usher badges are located with the count slips or in the light switches box in the narthex.
- 2) Masks continue to be optional.
- 3) Please give people bulletins as they arrive for the service. The bulletins are located on a table in the cloister or in the sacristy.
- 4) The offering plates will continue to be passed at the time of the Offertory, which follows the Announcements. The offering will be brought to the altar on the third verse of the Doxology, **or on the third or fourth verse depending on the version printed in the bulletin.
- 5) Please do a count of those in attendance, fill out the count slip and tell the server(acolyte) the count during the Peace and place the count slip in the offering plate.
- 6) During Communion, the ushers are now dismissing people row by row to receive communion. ***Please let the Celebrant and Eucharistic Minister know where people are sitting that need communion brought to them.
- 7) At the end of the service, the congregation will continue to leave on their own. Coffee hour will be in the parish hall. Please place any bulletins left in the cloister or in the church in the recycling container in the copy room.
- 8) If you notice any new people, please ask them if they would like to fill out an information card, so they can receive emails from the church. The information cards are in the pews and in the cloister. Also, there are now welcome bags for our visitors. The bags are located on the bench in the narthex.
- 9) If any individuals make comments to you or if you have any concerns during or after the service, please inform the member of the vestry who is serving as the VIC for the day. (Vestry in Charge).

Please note****There are wheelchairs, rollators, and walkers located in the parlor closet available for people to use - especially in case of emergencies.

All are invited to be part of this important ministry. If you are interested in finding out more about serving as an usher, please contact Maxwell Jeffers at jeffers6sc@att.net. (Ushers usually serve one Sunday a month, and will serve in teams of two or four)

MEMORIALS

Received March 16, 2026 through April 15, 2026

In memory of Gail Adamo to the Altar Guild from: Anonymous

In memory of Gail Adamo to the Pastoral Care Fund from: David & Pat Bradham

In Memory of Rebecca Castles by:

Joanie Roberts

Carol C. Sharpe

If donors prefer to remain anonymous, please indicate this with your Memorial or Honorarium

Gatherings at Grace

Women, Wine, and Wisdom

The women of WWW have been busy giving back this summer! Our group recently pulled together a diaper bank delivery, brimming with boxes of diapers and personal essentials for families in our community who need a little extra support. It's a small reminder of what happens when women gather around books, wine, and wisdom: it doesn't stay at Grace, it spills out into the world.

And speaking of gathering — we're excited to share our reading list for the 2026/2027 season! We'll kick things off on September 8 with Robin Wall Kimmerer's Braiding Sweetgrass. Here's what's ahead:

- Braiding Sweetgrass (Sept–Nov)
- The Four Agreements (Nov–Dec)
- An Altar in the World (Jan–Feb)
- The Enneagram (Feb–Mar)
- Walking on Water (Apr–May)

Whether you've been with us for years or you're just curious, there's always room at the table. Come as you are! It's your presence, not your preparation, that counts.

We hope to see you back in the Parlor on September 8 at 6:30 pm!



Outreach

Will meet Sunday, August 2nd after the 10:30 liturgy

Guys Gathering at Grace

GGG will not meet for the month of August.

Bridge Card Group

If you are interested in playing or learning how to play Bridge join us every Wednesday from 3-5 p.m. in the Grace library. For more information contact Debbie Hand at 316-617-2409 or at handrab@yahoo.com



Fiber, Friends, and Fellowship

We meet every Tuesday from 10 a.m. - noon in the parish hall. Join us as we knit, crochet, and get to know one another. Bring any portable project you want to work, on or we do have supplies available.

For more information contact Lisa Mattison at lisamattisonrn@gmail.com

Daughters of the King

Daughters of the King will meet Saturday, August 8th at 10 a.m.

Grief Support

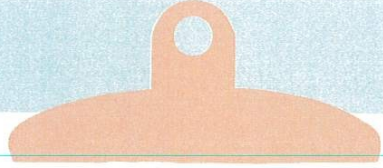
Grace Grief Support welcomes anyone who may be in a journey of loss to meet once a month at Grace for a time of conversation, fellowship, and sometimes lunch. Our next meeting will be Thursday, August 27th at 10 a.m. For more information contact John Taylor at newberryjohn@yahoo.com

Grace Ladies Prayer Group

The Grace Ladies Prayer Group meets every Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the parish library. All ladies are welcome to join.

Family News

August 2026



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Our annual Blessing of the Backpacks will be August 2 at both services. All students, teachers, staff, and other school personnel are invited to bring their bookbags and receive a blessing and a prayer card to celebrate the start of the new school year.



VBS

Thank you to everyone who served and experienced Vacation Bible School this year! I am incredibly appreciative of all who gave of their time to help with food, arts, crafts, games, music, and serving as group leaders and assistants. We had a wonderful time coming together as a church family to learn about stories from the Bible!



GRACE ON THE GO

Grace on the Go's theme for August is Hit the Books! - The Wisdom of Proverbs

It will be delivered the first week of August. If you are not currently receiving GOTG and would like to receive it, please reach out to Sharon!

LET'S CONNECT!

I'd love to meet with you if you're a parent at Grace! Please make sure your contact information is updated so that we can get together and chat!





August 2026

EYC NEWS



Carowinds Trip

EYC will be going to Carowinds on August 8. We will leave the church at 8am, and we plan to return between 7-8pm that evening. Lunch will be provided. The cost for each student is \$20. If you are interested in going on this trip, please talk to Sharon to sign up. The deadline to sign up is August 3.

Highlights

Happening #95

Happening #95 is November 20-22 at Camp Gravatt in Aiken. It is open to all teens in 10-12 grade. This is an exciting weekend of spiritual development that is ran by teens. If you are interested in attending as a participant or working as a part of the staff, please talk to Sharon Dorsey for more information. Staff are required to attend the overnight retreat on September 19-20 at Grace Episcopal Church in Camden, SC.

EYC Meals

If you are interested in providing/sponsoring a meal for EYC, please let Sharon know! This is an easy way to meet our teens and get to know more about EYC.



Upcoming Events

- August 2 - Blessing of the Backpacks
- August 8 - Carowinds Trip (\$20)
- September 13 - LEAF
- September 19-20 - Happening Staff Retreat
- October 8-11 - EYC Retreat
- October 17-18 - Converge
- November 8 - EYC Serves @ South Main



EYC Retreat

Reminder! The EYC retreat is October 8-11 in Highlands, NC. The cost is \$150 per student. If your teen is interested in going on this fun weekend filled with fellowship and learning, please talk to Sharon Dorsey ASAP!



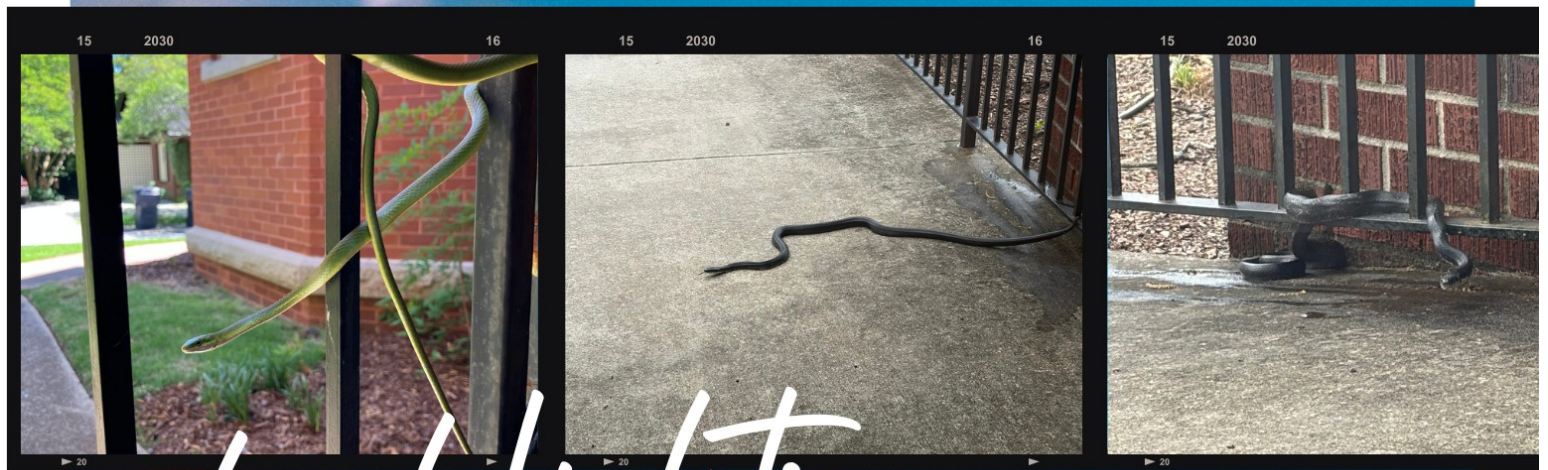


highlights



June and July

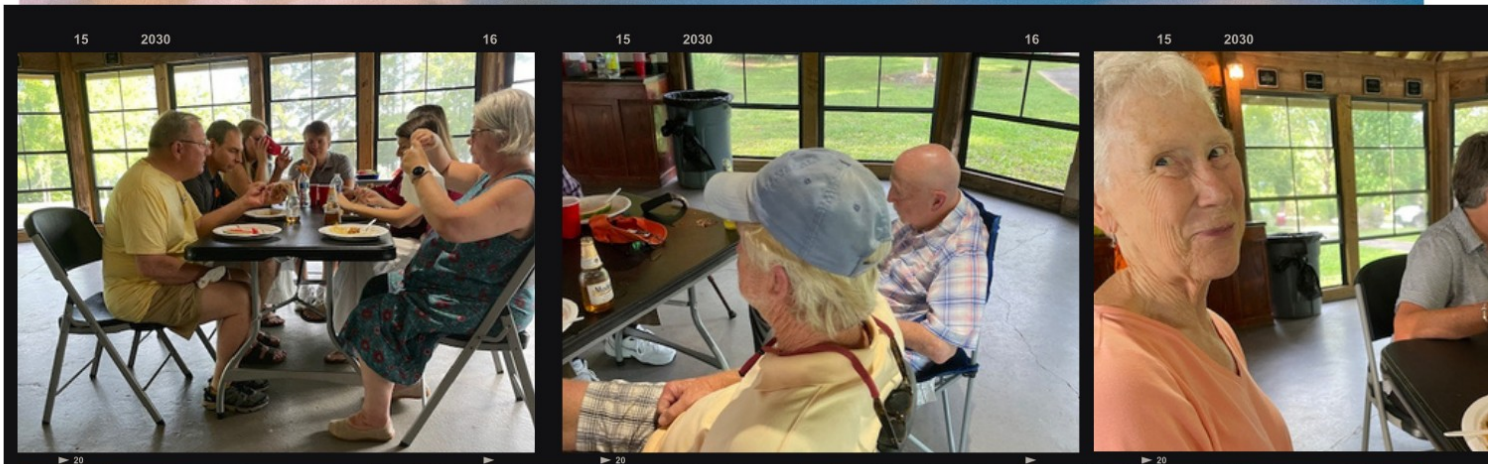




highlights



June and July



August Birthdays

2nd Kathy Bostater
2nd Jodie Webb
2nd Gretchen Foster
3rd Judy Simon
3rd Greg Souther
4th Eric Kent
6th Carmelita Trotter
8th Pat Bradham
11th Kahty Benson
12th Nikki Price
13th Mike Cheek
15th Mike Rippy
15th Andy Potter
17th Amy Cox
18th Janie Fleming
18th Jeff Ricketson
19th Mike Digby
19th Michael Lollis
21st Julian George
23rd Tracey Lidlow
26th Jimmy Poupalos
26th Sandy Kress
26th Caroline Ripley
26th Robert George
27th Glenda Swinford
28th Jane Kelly
28th Diann Simms
29th Jackie Lenhart
29th James Pennell

Expectant Parents

Joey & Ashton Benson
Hunter & Lori Foley

August Bapstimal Newbirth Days

10th George Sutcliffe
12th Heather Morhardt
17th Brent Hardaway
18th Lebrena Campbell
18th Sally Hancock
21st Amanda Knobel
26th Cindy Hopkins

Stewardship

As of 6/30/2026

YTD 2026 Revenue: \$230,502

YTD 2026 Expenses: \$238,205

YTD 2026 (Deficit): \$8,000

Save the Date

Grace Annal BBQ is October
10, 2026

It's almost fall, yall! Save the
date for the Fall Festival on
October 18, after the 10:30
service.

The annual EYC Holiday
Vendor Market will be held
November 7, from 9 a.m. - 2
p.m. If you are interested in
having a space, please talk to
Sharon Dorsey.

PRAYER LIST

John Bostater: by Kathy Bostater
Karlann Bostater: by Kathy Bostater
Bill & Anne Jameson: by Kathe Harris
Michael Bays - Cancer
Jean Wilson: by Pam & Joe Herold
Sharon Honeycutt - Jodie Webb's Mother
Robyn Bundy: by Stuart & Gail Adamo
Mary Oppermann: by Joey Opperman
Matt McAlister: by Marty Jenkins
Mary Anna Scott - Pat Bradham's Sister
Mitchell Fullerton: by Susan & Steve Fullerton
Dewell Garner: by Linda Hoffman
Tammy Chamblee: by John Heeny
Lake Morris: by Lynne Prince
Carroll Price: by Heather Morhardt
Doctor Rajeev Malik: by Gill Powell
Rogers' Family: by Sara Cheek
Stephen Heeney: by John Heeney
Bonita Glover - Healing: by John Heeney
Erwin Karl: by Pam & Joe Herold
Beckham Owens: by Maxwell Jeffers
Stephanie Flaherty: By Jackie Lenhart
Larry Strong: by Jodie Webb
Irene Rose: by Pam & Joe Herold
Lola Josey: by Linda Hoffman
Millie Chamberlean: by Lisa Tucker
Elaine Junkins-Suzanne McMahan's sister
David Bradham: by Pat Bradham
Sutton Jeffers: by Maxwell Jeffers
BHS' 67 gals: by Pam & Joe
Riley Gilbert: by Jackie Lenhart
Bill Shaver: by Linda Hoffman
Jeff Nelson: by Kirri & Brent Kinley
Pam Herold: by Joe Herold
Sam & Cayce Baker by Cindy Baker
Jeane Dixon by Brett & Rebecca Dixon
Ruby Eppler: by Cindy Baker
Captin Tracy Pumford by: Janet Rippy

Matthew Sharkey
Susan Fullerton
Linda Wilson
Joe Ball
Mason Winarski
Joshua McMillan
Amelia Hanks
Diane Obright
Connie Whiteside
Alex Gundry
Missy Parson
JoAnn Watson
Kervin Family
Bill Speer
Eddie Benenati
Sandy Sloan
Greta Jacobsen
Bob Cooper
Suzanna McMahan
Vivian Fink
Gary Bechert
Lib Christeson
Frederick Hall
Sarah Reeder
William Moore
Rick Schlup
Debi Frantz
Judy and Mark Blakenship
Kathy Benson
Martha Gregory

Those in the Military

Xander Melecia
Matthew Robertson
Stephine Kern
Tracey Pumford

GRACE CHURCH

Office Hours

Monday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Contact Information

Phone: (864) 225-8011

Email: gracechurchanderson1851@gmail.com

Website: gracechurchanderson.com

The Grace Code



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