

# Grace Notes



A Monthly Publication of the Congregational Activities of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Newton, NC  
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**CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE** – The Call Committee met Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at Grace. The meeting was to update the Call Members on the progress of the pastor call. There has been no news; however, we all knew the process takes patience and prayer. Prayers were offered up for encouragement and unity. The Committee will once again ask for prayers from the congregation in this call process. Thank you – Call Committee.



Prayer for Congregation to consider:

*Almighty God, giver of all good gifts, look on your church with grace and guide the minds of those who shall choose a pastor for Grace Lutheran Church, that we may receive a faithful servant who will call for your people and equip us for our ministries. Through Jesus Christ, Amen.*

# HELLO AND GOODBYE!

## **WELCOME KRISTI TUCKER, NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AT GRACE!**

Hi everyone! I wanted to take a few minutes to introduce myself so that you all can know more about me. My husband, Josh, and I have been married for 15 years and have 2 kids. We have a daughter, Gracyn that will be 9 later in July and we have a son, Elliot that is 6. We live in Conover, which is home for Josh. I grew up in Taylorsville, so just across the river! We have been back in the area for almost 2 years after living away for 13 years. Josh started seminary shortly after we were married and is currently serving in Taylorsville as a Lutheran Pastor. It's nice to be back "home" where we plan to stay for a very long time! I would love for you to stop by the office during office hours so that I can put a face with a name, I would love to meet you!

I would also like to take a minute to thank Pam Tallent for sharing all her wonderful knowledge with me over the past few weeks. It has been such a blessing to have a few weeks to work with her and learn from her. I know you all have been blessed to have her here for the past few years. I truly hope she enjoys retirement with her husband and gets to do all the things they have been wanting to do for so long!

## **GOODBYE AND THANK YOU FROM PAM TALLENT, FORMER ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AT GRACE!**

Thank you for the opportunity and pleasure of serving as your Administrative Assistant for the past 3-1/2 years. Although I haven't personally met every member, I have talked to quite a few of you and I know in my heart that you are all "mighty fine people" (as my dad used to say). My husband is retiring at the end of June, and we decided that it's time for us to do things that we have been looking forward to (and putting off) for years since we aren't spring chickens anymore. Plus, my husband's "honey-do" list has grown tremendously since he made the decision to retire...he just doesn't know it yet! I am leaving you in good hands...Kristi is wonderful to work with, and I know you're going to love her! I wish only the best for the Congregation at Grace...a beautiful church that is filled with beautiful people!

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JULY

- |                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| ❖ Lector               | Herb Travis                  |
| ❖ Ushers               | Jeff Scronce & David Wilfong |
| ❖ Communion Assistants | Cindy Bivens & Libby Travis  |
| ❖ Altar Preparation    | Herb & Libby Travis          |
| ❖ Offering Tabulators  | Todd Childers & Jason Yoder  |

*Please be mindful of your commitment to serve. If you are unable to fulfill that commitment, be reminded that it is **your** responsibility to find someone to serve in your place.*

## FLOWER CHART FOR JULY



7/07	OPEN		7/21	Kim Parker & Gary Leatherman
7/14	OPEN		7/28	Todd Childers

If you wish to give the flowers for a given Sunday, please list your name on the chart in the narthex. *You are responsible for ordering the flowers from a florist of your choice; we do not have a standing order with any florist.* The liturgical color of the day is listed to assist you in selecting flowers appropriate for that Sunday. You should contact the Church Office so that the correct information is placed in the bulletin for that Sunday. Please notify the Church Office the Tuesday prior to your selected Sunday. You can call the Church Office between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM Monday - Thursday, leave a note on the desk, or send an email to let us know the occasion or memoriam for this wonderful gift of beatification of the worship.

## ATTENDANCE AND GIVING TO OUR LORD'S WORK FOR MAY/JUNE

	5/26/24	6/02/24	6/09/24	6/16/24	6/23/24
Sunday School	10	6	10	10	6
Worship	37	46	41	39	35
General Fund Offerings	\$2,230.00	\$1,755.00	\$4,160.00	\$1,685.00	\$1090.00

Needed Each Week = \$3,268.54  
**General Fund Offerings, May 2024 = \$10,419.73**  
**General Fund Expenses, May 2024 = \$5,838.62**  
**Difference = +\$4,581.11 (offerings exceeded expenses)**



**New office hours starting July 1, 2024 will be 9am – 1pm Monday through Thursday and closed on Friday.**

**THE GRACE PRAYER BREAKFAST** will be held on **Saturday, July 13th at 9:00 AM** at Four Peas in a Pod Restaurant on Highway 70 in Conover. Great food and great fellowship! Please come and bring a friend!

**PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO BE A WORSHIP ASSISTANT!** Please offer your services as a Lector, Usher, or Communion Assistant during the summer! All you need to do is contact Tim Eckard. Your help is very much appreciated.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY SUPERVISION** will be canceled until August.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LEADERSHIP MINISTRY BOARD** is scheduled for **Monday, July 15th at 6:00 pm.**

**THIS IS A REMINDER THAT THE GRACE PRAYER LUNCHEON WILL NOT BE HELD DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.** Betty Wilfong would like to let you know that she appreciates everyone who has been attending the luncheons and she looks forward to seeing you all again this fall!

**THE ASHURE (FORMERLY ECCCM) FOOD ASK FOR THE MONTH OF JULY** is snacks for kids. The food pantry will accept any food donations; however, the monthly food ask is a way to help make sure that certain items are stocked. Ashure is also currently low on grocery bags. It's a real way to make a difference right here in Catawba County.



**Shoppers!** Next month we will be celebrating Christmas in July at our thrift store, Thrifty Threads & Treasures, located onsite at Ashure Ministry! Each day we will put out new Christmas items for purchase! Get your Christmas shopping behind you while it is too hot to do much else! You will be excited to see the new items which will be brought out daily! Join us throughout the month for Christmas in July!

Our thrift store is an outreach of Ashure Ministry and provides quality items at affordable prices to bargain shoppers and everyone in the community. For those that qualify, free clothing is available. 100% of all thrift store proceeds are directed to the crisis ministries that serve Catawba County.



### Ways to help:

- Shop: We are open Monday through Friday from 8:30am - 4:30pm. Come find your treasure!
- Volunteer: Our thrift store volunteers help greet our customers, sort donations, keep things tidy, and more. Our volunteers help make it possible for us to keep our prices at a level that directly supports those we serve and the community at large. Interested in serving? Check out our website under the VOLUNTEER tab.
- Donate: If you are looking for somewhere to donate clothing or household items you no longer use, check our website for what we are able and unable to accept.

### CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS LOOKING FORWARD IN 2024!

Christmas poinsettias are such a wonderful way to adorn and beautify Grace Church at Christmas! We give thanks to all who glorify our Lord in this way! Again, with so many holiday expenses hitting us all at once, we will make order forms available earlier in 2024! Once again, there will be special envelopes to designate for poinsettias.



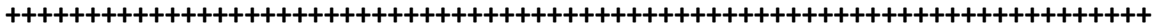
**SPECIAL OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX SHIPPING FEES!** There is now a supply of special envelopes specifically for Christmas Shoebox Shipping Fees located in the Narthex, and another supply is located with the supply of shoeboxes in the children's choir section. These envelopes can be used any Sunday. **AND PLEASE REMEMBER...**There are empty shoeboxes (located in the children's choir section) that are ready to be filled. When finished, please place them back in the children's choir section on an empty pew. Hopefully, these early reminders will give us more time to be able to budget and stretch our dollars!

**ARTICLES FOR NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME AND APPRECIATED!** The deadline for newsletter articles is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month. If you have an article you would like to see in the newsletter, you can:

- Write it down and put it in the church office mailbox downstairs
- Send it by email to [gracenalcnwton@aol.com](mailto:gracenalcnwton@aol.com)
- Call the church office (704-462-1035) and give the information to Kristi.

**GOING ON SUMMER VACATION?** Many of our families at Grace are planning to get away for some summer fun and relaxation over the summer. We pray that your vacation time will be safe and a source for many happy memories. Aren't you glad that God doesn't take a vacation?

**THE PEOPLE OF GOD AT GRACE** extend our Christian sympathy, love and prayers to the family of Harold Ray Scronce, who entered the Church Triumphant on June 9, 2024. Harold was the brother of Jeff Scronce. May God comfort all who mourn. Services to celebrate and remember Harold were held on June 12, 2024 at Daniels Lutheran Church in Lincoln.



**MINUTES**  
**Leadership Ministry Board Meeting**  
**Monday, June 17, 2024**

**Call to Order**    Called to order at 6:00 pm by Tim Eckard.

**Devotions**        Tim Eckard

**Roll Call**        Present: Tim Eckard, Jason Yoder, Rick Bivens, Libby Travis, Jeff Scronce,  
Sheila Drum

Absent:    Todd Childers, Alan Shull

**New Business**

- A. Kristi Tucker has settled in very well in the Secretary/Administrative Assistant position. Pam Tallent will be retiring this month.
- B. Minutes for the May meeting were approved as written.
- C. One of the church’s AC units is not working... Rick has called for someone to come out and check it.
- D. Wreaths across America will be held here again this year at Union Church before Christmas; date TBA.

**Old Business:**

- A. One of the organ speakers in the back of the church was taken down and found to be blown. Motion was made and carried to approve purchasing two new speakers for the back of the church to begin the process of replacing church speakers due to their age.
- B. Rick has reached out to Eric Menken Company to come out and look over the Organ.
- C. Received a quote from Blue Ridge Lawncare & Landscaping to mulch the church, parsonage, Union Church and the Memorial Garden. The quote was for \$6435. A motion was made to proceed and the motion was carried.

**Ministry Team Reports:**

- A. Praise and Worship – Tim Eckard
  - 1. July 7 – Gary Coble, July 14<sup>th</sup> – TBA, July 21<sup>st</sup> – TBA, July 28<sup>th</sup> – Gary Coble
  - 2. Sandi Tallant is scheduled to be back with us this coming Sunday.
- B. Youth Ministry/Christian Education – Alan Shull
  - 1. Vacation Bible School went very well and Grace Church will be hosting it next year.
- C. Call Committee – Jason Yoder
  - 1. The committee continues to ask the congregation to be patient and remain strong in Prayer.

- D. Fellowship/Hospitality – Rick Bivens
  - 1. Nathan Yoder has confirmed that he will preach at Homecoming. No date has been set.
- E. Finance/Stewardship – Rick Bivens
  - 1. The building fund expenditures for the month of May were significant but it remains in good shape.
- F. Property/Facilities
  - 1. Landscaping work to be scheduled for the church property.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business *a motion to adjourn was made and seconded.* **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Next meeting: Monday, July 15 at 6:00 PM*

*Devotions – Todd Childers*

*Offering Tabulators – Todd Childers and Jason Yoder*

# Grace Notes

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