

Grace Vine

Grace Lutheran Church, ELCA

1245 6th Ave. W., Hendersonville NC 28739

gracehendersonville.com / pr@gracehendersonville.com / 828-693-4890

Mission Statement: We believe that God in Christ is central to all life and we WORSHIP him through TELLING his story, GROWING in faith, SUPPORTING each other, and CARING for his world.

Purpose: Transforming Lives Through Christ.

June 2019

THE JOY OF SERVING

Serving In Small Ways



Did you ever inherit something and you are not sure how or why you became the owner? Well this is a shaggy dog story so bear with me. About 9 years ago when we joined Grace, I started attending a Bible study class which was great - I need to learn more. When the leader of the class moved, luckily we had a retired pastor pick up the class. Yeah, but as things go, he moved also. That was about 5 years ago. Told you it was a shaggy dog story. Well rather than have the class fold, I told Sue Filson that I would lead a class if we could come up with material that I felt comfortable leading (still being a novice on the Bible). That is how the Lectionary Class came about and has been going on now for about 5 years. The interesting thing about the class is that you never know who or how many will attend. We have had as many as 12 and there have been Sundays with only me. One of the benefits of the class is that it has increased my knowledge of Jesus' message, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, be an example for my grandchildren.

The youngest granddaughter, Kinley, was baptized here about a year ago. For numerous and varied reasons, her baptism was delayed until she was three years old. She was old enough to listen to Pastor Ken's message on the meaning of her baptism and her Church family. Consequently, she believes the people in the Church belong to her, just like her sister, mom, dad, and grandparents. She gives her family a hug when she goes to sleep and when anyone leaves the house. Therefore, in church when we greet each other and share the peace, she will shake hands or give a hug to those she meets on her way to the front for the children's message. She makes a point of hugging each of the pastors at the end of the service. We wait patiently, well sometimes not so patiently, outside the Fellowship Hall for Pastor Oviedo's service to finish so she can get her final hug. She said of the pastors, "I like them and they give good hugs all of them, and our church has Living Water."

This is my joy in serving.

~David Pigors

Message from Senior Pastor Greg Williams

Pastor Greg Williams – gwilliams@gracehendersonville.com / 828-693-4890 x307

Caring Conversations in a Charged Culture

November 2020 is well over a year away. Candidates are already hitting the campaign trail hard and hitting each other even harder. Our nation is enduring divisive and often damaging conversations. Harsh words only deepen the divisions and harden polarized positions. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called, commissioned, commanded by Jesus to be different. I believe that in being different we will grow as a diverse faith community and attract others seeking a place of calm in the midst of controversy.



The **biblical basis** to be compassionate, loving, understanding, patient, tolerant, and unique in the midst of tumultuous times comes from Jesus. A small sampling:

+ **John 13:34-35; 15:12-17** - Jesus commands us to love each other in the same way he loved us - sacrificially for the well-being of the other believer.

+ **John 14:15-17** - Jesus knows that we are incapable of this character of love consistently, so he gives us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit to abide with us IN ORDER THAT we can love one another and keep the commandments of Jesus to love one another.

+ **John 17:20-21** - Loving each other sacrificially and consistently as THE KEY characteristic of our Christian community is so difficult that Jesus prays for us: "*that they all may be one*" as Jesus and the Father are one.

+ **Acts 2:43-47** - The early church is evidence that the characteristic of loving one another in the way Jesus loves us and shows us is so radically positive and powerful from the surrounding society that people flocked to join.

So, **what does this mean for us today?** I believe that it means we do not need to agree on every social or political issue that arises. I believe that we must honor the other person as a loved and forgiven child of God (which is what each of us is) by FIRST listening deeply and thoroughly to understand. Then take a deep breath, see the image of God in the other person BEFORE you speak. Ask a question to clarify the other person's statement. Listen to understand - stop yourself from thinking of your response while the other person is talking. Listen first. Once you understand the other person, THEN with humility (Jesus modeled this character of love when he washed feet) share your thoughts gently, calmly, and clearly. I believe that love compels us to continue to listen to the other person's response as the dialogue continues.

Finally, I remind you that the words of Jesus about our relationships command us to value the person - our sister or brother in Christ, created in the image of God and loved by God - more than winning the argument or blindly adhering to any specific social or political stance.

We are all sinners in need of forgiveness. Therefore, no single, perfect solution, answer, or political platform can originate from imperfect people. Let us breathe in the Holy Spirit and breathe out the love of Christ in our words so that people around us always recognize that we are disciples of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, first and foremost.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Greg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Children & Family Ministry

Dir. of Children & Family Ministry: Jill Wingard – jwingard@gracehendersonville.com / 828-693-4890x344



Community Vacation Bible School

June 24-27, 2019 | 9 a.m. to Noon

Trinity Presbyterian Church

900 Blythe Street



We welcome Children age 4 (entering Pre-K in the fall) through 5th grade. Community VBS is sponsored and planned by Grace Lutheran Church, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Providence Baptist Church, St. James Episcopal Church, and Trinity Presbyterian Church and by Henderson County Churches Uniting. Register online at Gracehendersonville.com

Gifts Ministry

Director of Gifts Ministry: Delia Jovel – djovel@gracehendersonville.com / 828-693-4890 x316



Connecting volunteers to meaningful ministries.

Want to volunteer or have a need? See Delia to help make meaningful connections. Submit volunteer needs by email before noon on Monday for the next Sunday bulletin.

Thank you for your Service ...

All of us, as members of a church, experience the desire to live our faith from a personal experience of connection and dialogue with God. However, many times we underestimate that we can also find that same great and celestial connection to God through direct contact with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

But how to approach others when we feel insecure? How to approach others when it is difficult for us to establish relationships with others? Occasionally, we think that our relationship with God is just a one to one. Sometimes we just do not give ourselves the opportunity to meet others or just leave our comfort zone.

You have to know that one of the best ways to go beyond all these situations is participating in the resources that our church has for all of us. The Gifts Ministry leads to a large number of service opportunities where you can connect with the members of this church and also find other ways that God uses to talk to us.

The Gifts Ministry (GM) connects members with meaningful needs, deeds, and opportunities at church and in our community by using and discovering our unique and special talents, spiritual gifts, abilities, character, and personality given by God.

Grace has a diverse and an important number of ministries to serve at church and in our community where you can find an opportunity to share and improve your gifts and talents and have the experience of the love of God, his mercy and grace.

Our church implements an accurate tool – the YOUUnique process - that helps us to have a better knowledge and understanding about ourselves, our personality, our passions and gifts that helps us be mindful about being a unique, special and a blessed creation of God. This tool - designed for people from 14 years old and older - helps us to know more about our personality traits, behaviors and attitudes in life, that make us aware about the way we face a particular situation.

Personality is unique to each son/daughter of God, and knowing what makes us, "us", can lead to more life satisfaction and also to making better life choices and better relationships in our personal, familial, professional and spiritual lives that will help us to live with joy and satisfaction.

Delia Jovel

Joy of Serving

Mondays are a special time for me at Grace because I spend several hours each week at the front desk greeting people and answering the phone. I am rewarded as I get to know the staff better, chat with the pastors and become better acquainted with church members.

What an experience scanning the name tags has been! Recording Sunday's attendance each week is an important step in the record keeping of the church.

I became a member of Grace in 1997 and feel I am giving back in a small way, for the countless blessings God has given me.

~Mimi Laux



Thank You!

Judy Lichtenhagen and Rheta Luy are retiring from their volunteer positions of name tag monitors. Thank you so much for your dedication and time.



Grace Youth Ministry

Director of Youth Ministry: Anne Monroe – amonroe@gracehendersonville.com / 828-693-4890 x309

2019 Grace Graduation Milestone celebrated

We give thanks to God for our graduates and the opportunity to celebrate this milestone in their lives. Each high school senior is given a personalized handmade quilt lovingly made by our quilting ministry. During the milestone, seniors bless their families and then seniors are blessed by the congregation.



Our 2019 Graduates as Lutheridge Confirmation Campers the summer before High School

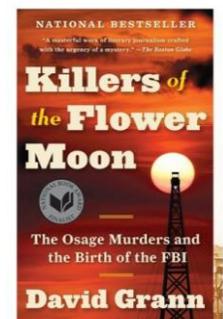


Proud to display their graduation quilts, left to right: Jennifer Zaragoza, Perla Bautista, Aidan Simons, Adelaide Haack

GYM Mission Trip team participates in book study

Please pray for our 25 Mission Trip team participants as they depart for the annual summer mission trip Friday, June 28 at 5:30 a.m. In preparation for this cultural and service experience, the youth and adult guides read the nonfiction book: *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann and participated in a book discussion in April. *Killers of the Flower Moon* is a true story that provides a historical lens, fabulous insight, and cultural understanding/context into what the Osage Nation have experienced as a people. Author David Grann offers a detailed account of a little-known but devastating chapter in American history: the Osage Reign of Terror officially recognized as a period of five years from 1921 to 1926 during which Osage Indians were murdered in cold blood for access to their valuable shares of oil money. Many living in the towns on and around the Osage reservation sought to harm members of the tribe through cruelty, trickery, and downright evil in order to inherit their fortunes.

Junior Elise Trexler shared her perspective of the book: "I learned a lot about the history of the Osage Nation, and the trauma they've had to go through. We learn about Native American injustice in history every year, but this was really specific and made it more real. Even though many government officials were corrupt and took advantage of the Osage people, I liked the fact that special agent Tom White never did that and was always fair in the investigation. There's always some good in the world."



Listed below are the graduates who responded to the information request form. If you know a Grace graduate not listed below, please send their information to the church office, and we will include it at a later date.

High School Graduate	School	Graduation Plans	Parents/Grandparents or Guardians
Perla Bautista	East Henderson High	Attending Blue Ridge Community College	Miriam Oviedo-Clark and Adrian Clark; Grandparents Pastor Alfredo and Alejandra Oviedo
Brandon Buman	East Henderson High School	Attending college; interested in film and directing	Sue and Steve Buman
Sarah Beth Freeman	North Henderson High School	Attending Blue Ridge Community College	Laura and Jamie Freeman
Adelaide Haack	East Henderson High School	Attending college as a math or science major; interested in a STEM career	Tricia and David Haack
Nicholas Owens	East Henderson High School	Attending Blue Ridge Community College and forestry service in the future	Leslie and Steve Owens
Aidan Simons	West Henderson High School	Attending college	Cindy and John Simons; Grandparents John & Rochelle Simons
Jennifer Zaragoza	East Henderson High School	Attending Blue Ridge Community College for physical therapist program and transferring to Queens University of Charlotte in the future	Jenny Solano and Javier Zaragoza; Grandparents Bertha and Salatiel Solano

***Thank you to our Grace Quilters who put their time, love and hard work into making beautiful quilts for our High School Graduates!**

College Graduate	School	Graduation Plans	Parents or Guardians
Mary Claire McCarthy	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Attending Graduate school at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Catharin McCarthy Banta, George Banta
Olivia Slagle	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Young Adult Volunteer with Young Adults in Global Mission assigned to Jerusalem and the west bank of Israel	Anita and Dave Slagle; Grandmother: Arleen Slagle

Blue Ridge Prison and Jail Ministries

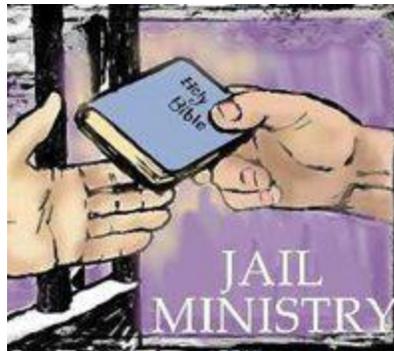
A letter from Rev. John A. Andrews

Dear ones in Christ:

There is a man in the Bible that was filled with the spirit of God but no word is recorded that he said. He was gifted of God to work with his hands... Bezale-el who made the tabernacle and its furnishings. Thank you, Grace Lutheran for all of you like-minded who worked so hard to fix and paint Blue Ridge Prison and Jail's building...for all of you who contribute books and Bibles for our inmates... for those who pray for us... for financial support. God bless you with all spiritual blessings. Your involvement in this work is such an encouragement. I have to acknowledge special people such as Tim and Susan Snyder. They will be greatly missed. Also, God's richest blessing on Chuck Clay who has spent so much time fixing... (especially my shelves for Bibles and books.) Likewise, often in the grocery or hardware, an ex-inmate thanks me for the work Richard Mummert is doing giving them something to read in the long tedious hours sitting in their cells. You all are greatly appreciated for all you do for our inmates and their families.

In HIS wonderful love,

Rev. John A. Andrews, Representative at large



Grace Operation Blood Drive, June 27

The Gift of Life

What if you had been told that your demise could be in the near future, then because of the kindness of strangers, specifically their donation of blood, you suddenly had years of life to look forward to? What would you hope to see happen in those years?

Perhaps it would be graduations or weddings of children or grandchildren, the birth of children, grandchildren or even great grandchildren. It might be the satisfaction of knowing a spouse would be adequately cared for in the years to come, or even a bucket list dream vacation.

One donation of blood can give the gift of life to up to three people. Will you join others to give someone the experiences and memories of a longer life? If so, you can sign up at the Sign-up Station to donate blood at the Grace/WLOS/WTZQ Operation Blood Drive on Thursday, June 27. Give the gift of life.

~Bonnie Pierce

Spotlight on Social Ministry

2019 Rescue Mission Food Drive: June 16-30

Since 1981 the Hendersonville Rescue Mission has been committed to meeting the needs of the less-fortunate in our community without funding from the federal or state government. As a Christian ministry, the staff and volunteers at the Rescue Mission share their faith freely with everyone who enters its doors. Because of the faithful and generous support of Grace Lutheran Church those struggling with alcohol and drug addictions find recovery; those who need shelter from the elements have a hot shower and warm bed; those who are hungry are fed; those who have no clothing are provided with clothes; those who need medical care receive it. During the winter of 2018 the Rescue Mission experienced record numbers of women and children seeking shelter. **In December 2018 alone, 92 men, 26 women and 6 children were sheltered at the Rescue Mission, equating to an average stay of 17.37 days.**

Brittany's testimonial symbolizes how the lives of a mother and three children were impacted by the encouragement, support and nurturing that they received at the Rescue Mission. *"I wanted to volunteer to help some of the ladies down at the Rescue Mission because I used to live there. Though I didn't live there long, the advice that I received and the help that they gave me really helped me to get an education so that way I could provide for my children. Whenever I was left by my ex, I had no way to provide for my children and I thought I just couldn't do it. It was really hard having three children and going through all the education and having to be a single mom and provide for them while in school but there's so many different ways you can receive help to where you can get that education to provide for your children. Doing hair was the perfect outlet for me because I could still make my own hours and be there for my children and make enough money to where I could give them everything that they need."* ~Brittany

Social Ministry invites you to participate in our annual food drive beginning June 16 through June 30. Please take home a grocery bag located in the church lobby and return it with food, toiletries and other supplies listed on the bag (large size, non-perishables are always appreciated). If you prefer to give a monetary donation, make your check payable to "Grace Lutheran Church", indicate "Rescue Mission" in the memo section and place in the offering plate. We urge you to give generously during the food drive. Thank you for your participation.



Stewardship

The generosity that we share together as part of our Grace family comes from God's gift of His Son for us. At an early age, I learned that the 10 cents I put into my Sunday School envelope was sharing what I had with others. I had odd jobs as a youngster, such as cutting grass and selling fresh vegetables that we grew on our farm. My parents made sure that my Sunday School offering came from the money I earned, not something they gave me. I didn't realize it at that time, but being generous was part of my upbringing.

Ruthie and I believe that giving to help and support our church family and others is an essential part of who we are. We have been truly blessed, but now we realize that all things come from God - it wasn't just what we did for ourselves. We want to give so that other people can know that God loves them and wants only the best for their lives. We encourage everyone to look at your own blessings and give thanks to God for what we have and then open your hearts and share those gifts with others.

~Hal Derrick

For it is in
giving
that we
receive.



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.™

By directing designated Choice Dollars through Thrivent Choice, eligible members recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars.

Grace Lutheran Church

Barbara Fountain
Lynn Kester
Carol Miley
Richard Miley
Rev. Greg Williams
Els Wolters

Thank you for designating Grace for your Thrivent Choice dollars!

Memorials –

Dave Roach

Herschell and Mary Ann Jones

Dorwin Larsen

Terry & Jane Andersen
Alan & Janet Harms
Ruth Ostrem
Norma Jean Rist
Dan & Judy McAthie
Jan & Ken Hexdal
Buzzy Hoegger
Barry & Bonnie Pierce

A Message from Our President: Vicki Marthaler A Penny for Your Thoughts

Pennies. How many of you have collected pennies or found a penny on the sidewalk or rolled 50 of them in a red paper wrapper to take to the bank, thankful to turn that nuisance of 50 coins into two nice quarters? Pennies.



What else do we think of when we think of pennies? Are you a "Penny Pincher?" You are certainly not a "bad penny!" Ever buy something that "cost a pretty penny?" There are those who are "penny wise, pound foolish." Maybe you have enjoyed picking out "penny candy" or been the proud owner of "penny loafers." And if you are a Beatles fan, you probably know all the words to "Penny Lane!"

How about the wise saying from Benjamin Franklin's book, *Poor Richard's Almanac*: "A penny saved is a penny earned." Well, the North Carolina Women of the ELCA have taken pennies to heart. Every year the NC Women of the ELCA sponsor a Penny Project. This year pennies are being saved, collected and gathered from women of North Carolina ELCA Lutheran churches and deposited into one collective account for the express purpose of aiding the mission of Vigilante Truth which combats sex trafficking. (www.vigilantetruth.com)

So ladies – start scrounging under cushions, check pant pockets, clean thoroughly the floors and seats of your cars and when you get change back at any cash transaction, welcome the pennies and add them to your 2019 Penny Bank earmarked for the North Carolina Women's Penny Project to combat sex trafficking.

A penny may not seem like much, but just like the sparrow that God keeps His eye upon or the two mites from the widow donated from her heart, our collected pennies will go a long way to touch broken lives for good. Small things can certainly add up to big things. Together we can make a difference!

The women of Grace host a December Tea. All pennies gathered can be turned in at that meeting. Or any time you have a stash of pennies to donate to the cause, please feel free to bring them to the church office with a note "For the NC Women of the ELCA 2019 PENNY PROJECT."



For additional information about this and other ministries of the Women of the ELCA, see the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall or contact our president, Vicki Marthaler (315-657-6099).

Birthdays



Mannon Stallings	6/1	Joseph Stancar	6/11	Elsa Keiser	6/22
Terrell West	6/1	Jill Wingard	6/11	Darrell Kruse	6/22
Larry Cannady	6/2	William Butz	6/12	Molly Zink	6/22
Joe Martinez	6/3	Leah Harmon	6/12	Robin McIntosh	6/23
Misty Masha	6/4	Joan Nyitrai	6/12	Noah Trexler	6/23
Hildegard Schmidt	6/4	Lita Johnson	6/14	Lynn Royal	6/24
Martha Bashore	6/5	Joe Gillett	6/14	Joe Warren	6/24
Judy Stoltenberg	6/5	Donald Henderson	6/14	Charlynn Fennell	6/25
Rebecca Jackson	6/6	James Stockman	6/14	Lisa Johnson	6/25
Josephine Knight	6/7	Tony Bumgarner	6/15	Louise Larsen	6/25
Sebastian Knight	6/7	David Haack	6/16	Lynne Wenz	6/25
Olivia Brown	6/8	Michael Freeman	6/17	Christine Renken	6/27
Payton Brown	6/8	Way Plowman	6/18	Donna Christensen	6/28
Marisol Gollnick	6/8	Kevin Klingensmith	6/19	Christopher Davis	6/28
Kindra Taylor	6/8	Hannah Michels	6/19	Christian Renken	6/28
Irene Carlson	6/9	Steve Presley	6/19	Doug Sigmon	6/28
Cheryl Fangmann	6/9	Della Taylor	6/19	Bill Hamilton	6/29
Steven Nyitrai	6/9	Pat Gardner	6/20	Jeanny Hart	6/29
Robert Greco	6/10	Bertha Solano	6/20	June Ogden	6/29
Gil Romstadt	6/10	Mimi Laux	6/21	Susan Wood	6/29
Myrnelle Wulff	6/10	Olivia Slagle	6/21	Janet Geyer	6/30
		George Celtrick	6/22	Phyllis Seibert	6/30

Anniversaries



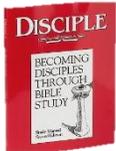
Flip & Brenda Fisher	6/3/1972	Chuck & Marjorie Jones	6/20/2008
John & Jennifer Moore	6/3/2006	Ken & Marj Loken	6/20/1980
Steve & Beth Spencer	6/3/1965	Walter & Marcy Bashore	6/21/2015
Mike & Debbie Freeman	6/4/1983	Zachary & Candice Pritz	6/21/2014
Jim & Vicky Rhol	6/4/1988	Hal & Ruthie Derrick	6/22/1974
Joe & Joyce Dixon	6/5/1965	Harry & Susan Steiner	6/22/1991
Tony & Lilly Cruz	6/7/1975	Doug & Brenda Decker	6/23/1963
Arthur & Joyce Green Eddy	6/8/1984	Rev. Carl & Barbara McKenzie	6/24/1961
Joe & Alice Copeland	6/9/1951	Reid & Claudia Northrup	6/24/1978
Dean & Amber Klingensmith Fort	6/9/2001	Whipp & Lita Johnson	6/25/1977
David & Tricia Haack	6/12/1993	Bill & Sandi Brust	6/25/1972
Larry & Beverly Cannady	6/13/1964	Burton & Cathy Bumgarner	6/25/1977
Bill & Phyllis Seibert	6/13/1959	Allan & Lynn Huffman	6/26/1982
Butler & Kindra Taylor	6/14/2014	Damian & Mary Tody	6/26/2004
Steve & Lynne Presley	6/15/2006	Rev. Greg & Brenda Williams	6/26/1982
Steve & DaLora Trumann	6/15/1975	Chuck & Irene Carlson	6/27/1964
Einar & Irene Syvertson	6/18/1966	Rev. Mike & Jan Hoffmann	6/27/1992
Roger & Nadine Christensen	6/19/1965	Pat & Pam Zachman	6/27/1970
Don & Jane Henderson	6/20/1987	Jim & Fran Shaw	6/30/1962



Grace Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

1245 6th Ave W
Hendersonville NC 28739
*****Return Service Requested*****

Disciple Bible Study



Do you need something to motivate you to sign up for a Bible Study class? How about the opportunity to make some new friends and get to know some old ones better? For example:

David, **I**saac, **S**olomon, **C**hrist, **I**saiah, **P**eter, **L**azarus, **E**lijah

These and many more biblical characters, places, and events are reviewed and discussed in Disciple Bible Study, beginning in late August. It doesn't matter how much or how little you have studied the Bible. The study manual is geared to all levels. The discussions often bring new insight, even to those who have been involved in previous in-depth Bible study programs.

The program involves daily readings from the Bible and the study manual plus weekly open discussion sessions, resulting in varying thoughts and ideas, normally lasting 2–2½ hours. If you haven't been involved in Disciple Bible Study, please consider signing up now. Sign-up sheets for next year's classes will be in the Fellowship Hall beginning June 30 through July 21. You will almost certainly gain fresh insight and understanding about many places, events, people, and items from God's Word, such as:

Bethlehem, **I**srael, **B**aptism, **L**ight, **E**gypt
Samuel, **T**rinity, **U**nity, **D**iscipleship, **Y**ahweh