November 19, 2026

Grace
Presbyterian Church (USA)

Following Jesus, we love, welcome and serve.

View Grace's Statement of Welcome

Greetings

Visit our Website

I (Joanne) was grateful to be able to lead the women's retreat for Dorchester Presbyterian Church (Summerville.) We spent the weekend at a pretty Episcopal retreat center on Seabrook Island (with food that was not nearly as good as we eat at the Grace women's retreat.) On Saturday afternoon, a walk by the estuary yielded some great dolphin watching. I'm grateful to Sam for filling the pulpit.

We now turn our heads towards Advent! We have one more Sunday, then it's Advent with all the attendant activities and opportunities to serve. I hope that you will lean into this season with us in worship, fun and service.

Advent – Epiphany Worship & Events Calendar

Ready for Worship



WORSHIP LINKS
Digital Bulletin
Livestream of the 10:15 service

SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE
8:00 am - Worship Service
9:00 am - Sunday School
10:15 am - Worship Service
11:30 am - Half Notes
11:30 am - Membership Lunch and Learn
5:15 pm - DEIJ Zoom
6:00 pm - Undue Medical Debt Task Force

Announcements

CHRISTMAS GIFTS: CAFÉ JUSTO AND NEW BUTTONS

As you know, Grace is supporting coffee growers in Mexico by purchasing coffee from Cafe Justo to be used weekly for our Sunday coffee service. We also offer coffee for you to purchase for home enjoyment. More of the delicious coffee arrived! **$15 a lb.! Whole bean and ground are available! Bags will come gift-wrapped for the first 15 people to purchase coffee!** Contact Pam for more information.

We also have new buttons for sale (see above) "KINDNESS MATTERS". Contact Beth Herendeen to purchase one.

Opportunities to Give



GREAT CHICKEN CHALLENGE FOR FORT MILL CARE CENTER: LAST SUNDAY TO BRING CHICKENS IS THIS SUNDAY!

The fourth annual Great Chicken Challenge is in progress! Between now and Nov 22, we are collecting whole chickens to donate to FMCC for their Thanksgiving baskets. Not every family needs a full-sized turkey, thus the chickens. With food insecurity at an all-time high, the need is greater than ever. When you're at the store, please grab a whole chicken, bring it to church and place it in the freezer in the kitchen. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Blackhurst.



ANGEL TREE AND PAJAMAS FOR PARADISE

The holidays are approaching, and Grace is once again preparing to make Christmas just a little bit brighter for the children in our community. There are two opportunities for you to participate:

2026 DSS Angel Tree: This long-standing program allows members of the community the opportunity to provide Christmas gifts for children in the care of the Department of Social Services in our area. Many of these children might otherwise not have any gifts if it weren't for the support of the community. Here is a link to the sign-up genius for the kids that Grace is sponsoring this year (please also grab a tag from the tree).

Pajamas for Paradise: Now in its fourth year, Pajamas for Paradise is a gifting opportunity for folks to give a new pair of Christmas pajamas and slippers to children who participate in Historic Paradise Foundation's after school program. Historic Paradise is a 501(c)3 organization which supports families living in Fort Mill's historic black neighborhood. **Keep an eye out for the Christmas tree with tags on it for both programs coming to the sanctuary this Sunday!**



RAINdeer GIFT CARDS FOR AFFINITY HEALTH

RAINdeer gift cards are for clients of Affinity Health, an organization which provides services to families affected by HIV/AIDS and other low-income families. **Buy as many $10 gift cards from local grocery stores** such as Food Lion, WalMart, Aldi, Harris Teeter and Target as you wish. Please return the gift cards to the office or place in the offering box by **Sunday, December 13th**. If you have any questions, contact Lori.

Opportunities to Serve



GAP SERVES BETHEL DINNER

Sunday, November 29th at 5:00pm - 7:30pm

One of the important ways that Grace serves the Bethel Men's Night Shelter is by, once a month, preparing and serving dinner to the shelter guests. This month, GAP will be providing dinner. If you are interested in helping, please contact **Lori Ochsner.**



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY (HELP NEEDED)

December 12th from 4:30-7:30pm.

All children of Grace are invited to our Children's Christmas Party on December 12 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. We'll enjoy dinner, games, crafts, holiday treats, and a cozy Christmas movie! While the kids celebrate together, their parents are invited to head over to their own Christmas party! We are seeking help for the Children's Party! If you are available, please sign-up here or contact Kim Palmer.



NEW CHAIR ARRIVAL

We are replacing the sanctuary chairs and many of the chairs throughout the building. At this time, the order is still tracking a tentative delivery during the week of 12/7-12/11. We will need help moving the new chairs in and the old chairs out. As soon as we have a confirmation of arrival date, a separate e-mail will be sent out. If

you think you may be available to help move chairs, please let Jason know...many hands make light work!

Opportunities to Gather



GAP @ HOME AT THE DOUDS

Friday, November 20th at 6:00pm

Our hosts are serving Grilled Chicken marinated with Spiedie sauce and an array of regular and adult beverages. Please bring something yummy to go along, savory or sweet, and they aren't offended if you decided to BYOB. We frequently close the night around their firepit, if there is interest for that. Please RSVP on Realm or by contacting Ray.





GAP @ MATTHEWS PLAYHOUSE: LITTLE WOMEN

Friday, Jan 22nd, 2027 at 7:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Meet up at Matthews Playhouse for a production of Little Women the Broadway Musical.

NOTE RSVP ON REALM DOES NOT GET YOU A TICKET. Please only RSVP after you've bought your ticket so we know who to expect. Right now, there is a decent block available in the center in the E-I rows. It's fun to block together, but ultimately, pick what looks good to you.

Go to this link and buy your own tickets. Make sure you select January 22. Show starts at 7:30pm with an estimated 2.5 hour runtime.

Between now and then, we'll make a plan for those who want to meet up for dinner before the show.

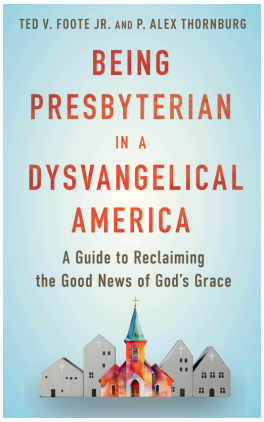
Opportunities to Learn



MEMBERSHIP LUNCH AND LEARN

Sunday, November 22nd at 11:30

Lunch and Learn is time to learn more about Grace – our history, staff, missions and programs. It's also an opportunity to get to know you and for you to get to know us and have your questions answered. There is no obligation to join the church at that time, but if you are ready, that's when people are received into membership. If you would like to attend this Lunch and Learn, please RSVP to Joanne.



ADULT EDUCATION GROUPS

- Tuesday Study Group (10am on Zoom) We are studying ***The Gospel of John***, by Amy-Jill Levine. We would love to have you join us. We watch a video and talk about the book. Next meeting Dec.12th.
- Wednesday Study Group (7:30pm on Zoom) We have just started ***Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America: A Guide to Reclaiming the Good News of God's Grace***.

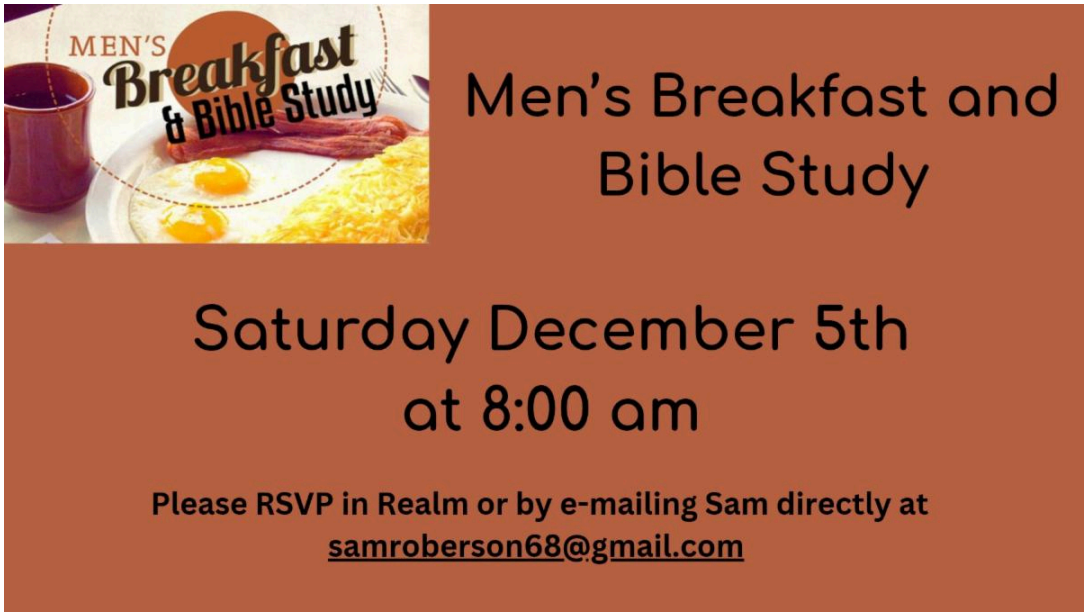
E-mail Joanne for more information about either of these groups.

- Thursday Study Group (10am -11:30am hybrid) We are studying ***Invitation to Romans*** by Pamela Eisenbaum, part of the **Disciple Bible Study Series**. There is a video followed by a discussion about the readings and reflections of that week. This a participant lead study group.

E-mail Celia Wilson for more information.

- Adult Sunday School (9:00am in-person) Come and join the conversation on Sundays! Our multi-generational Sunday School class is a great spot to connect with others at Grace and explore your faith! No prep or pre-requisite required, come as you are! As a reminder, our class officially starts at 9:15; we use 9-9:15 to chat and enjoy coffee as everyone gathers.

E-mail Dre Manoni for more information.



MEN'S BREAKFAST AND BIBLE STUDY

Saturday, December 5th at 8:00am

We will meet on December 5th at 8am for Breakfast and Bible Study. We will be studying Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85; and Mark 1:1-8. We hope to see you there! Please RSVP here or by contacting Sam directly!

This week's activities:

Sunday, November 22: Sunday school 9-10am

For those that RSVPed for the Escape Room...meet at Hometown Escapes at 3:45pm and pick up from Super Chix at 6pm. Please bring money for dinner or let

me know if you need the church to cover that. Thanks!

Friends are welcome at GYG events!!!

Here is a link to this week's Youth Email

Celebrations and Concerns

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

11/21 Janet Hamilton
11/22 Brad Ward
11/24 Nick Sizoo-Roberson
11/24 Betsy McLean
11/24 Michelle Fowler
11/25 Mary Montano
11/26 Vivian Harbin

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

11/20/1971 Rick and Sandie Meacham

PRAYER REQUESTS

As you pray this week, remember:

Gratitude for:

. All our blessings
Pray for:

- Those who are sick or in treatment, including: Grace members Becky, Barry, Mike, and Ray Smith, recovering from valve replacement and pacemaker insertion
- Those in hospice care and making decisions about end-of-life care
- The people of our country and for the world, we pray for justice, and for leadership committed to the same
- Evelyn, Elton, Allie, Gil & Binky and others in residential facilities and homebound folks Chuck & Karen, John & Brenda, Agnes, Ruthanna and Larry & Janet
- People with, and families affected by, mental health and substance use disorders
- Those who serve in the military, including Grace folks Clay, Heath, Carrie, Daniel, David and Jacob, and for those former military folks who struggle

. The victims of natural disasters,

- Our unhoused neighbors
- Those who grieve

. Those affected by the gun violence epidemic in our country

- Those who will be born today and those who will die today

**You can submit a prayer request by e-mailing Joanne during the week or writing it down Sunday morning to give to a member of staff.

E-info

E-Game - Grace Wordle

Are you ready to combine the wordle craze with this Sunday's worship service? Check out the custom Wordle to see how many guesses it takes for you to solve the puzzle.

Receiving the Message

Did you know that you can watch our worship service each week?

- YouTube - Check out our YouTube channel. You'll find worship services on there as well as other great videos: hymns, anthems, historical pieces, and promo videos.

Looking Ahead

Is there something that should go in the newsletter or on the website?
Send it in by noon on Wednesday.

To put items in the newsletter, send it to Ami by clicking here
To send a note to Joanne, please email her by clicking here

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Please note that Grace's mailing address is not the same as our physical address. Mail sent to the physical address will be returned to the sender by the US Postal Service.
Please send all mail to our box at The Postal Route:
Grace Presbyterian Church
2764 Pleasant Rd. No. 10904
Fort Mill, SC 29708

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