

Grace United Methodist Church
10060 Foothills Drive
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November 2025 Newsletter

Grace United Methodist Church

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Web site: www.gracepiedmont.com



Dear Grace United Methodist Church,

The Fall Family Festival is behind us and the Turkey Dinner looms large on the horizon!! If you are able, please come and be a part of this wonderful community outreach event. There are lots of places to serve and we'll find just the right one for you!!



After All Saints' Day on November 2, we will begin an extended Advent — a seven week Advent! We begin the season with Part 1, titled "The



Days Are Surely Coming." We begin by looking ahead. Then, starting on November 30, we shift to Part 2, titled "Toda La Tierra Espera" (or "All the Earth is Waiting."). In this second part we will lean into Advent as a time of active and watchful waiting. It is tapping into the world's longing for redemption, salvation, and transformation.



Throughout these seven weeks we will connect each Sunday to the next, building on the themes of Advent through the classic hymn, "O Come, O Come, All Ye Faithful," using one verse each week. For more information and the daily readings for

November, please turn to page 3 of this Newsletter.

Thanks for your time! Blessings to you and your family! - *Pastor John*



October 2025 Finance Update

Total Revenues through October 2025 —> \$ 167,411

Total Expenses through October 2025 —> \$ 163,935

2025 Year-End Balance —> \$ 3,476

ADVENT 2025

READING SCHEDULE

The Latter Splendor

Nov. 3 – 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5
 Nov. 4 – 2nd Thess. 2:13-17
 Nov. 5 – Haggai 1:15b-2:9
 Nov. 6 – Haggai 2:6-9
 Nov. 7 – Luke 20:27-38
 Nov. 8 – Psalm 98:1-3
Nov. 9 – Psalm 98:4-9

Rejoice Forever in Creation

Nov. 10 – Isaiah 12
 Nov. 11 – Isaiah 65:17-19
 Nov. 12 – Isaiah 65:20-25
 Nov. 13 – 2nd Thess. 3:6-10
 Nov. 14 – 2nd Thess. 3:11-13
 Nov. 15 – Luke 21:5-11
Nov. 16 – Luke 21:12-19

Woe to the Shepherds

Nov. 17 – Jeremiah 23:1-6
 Nov. 18 – Luke 23:33-38
 Nov. 19 – Luke 23:39-43
 Nov. 20 – Colossians 1:15-20
 Nov. 21 – Colossians 1:11-14
 Nov. 22 – Luke 1:68-75
Nov. 23 – Luke 1:76-79

Signs and Times

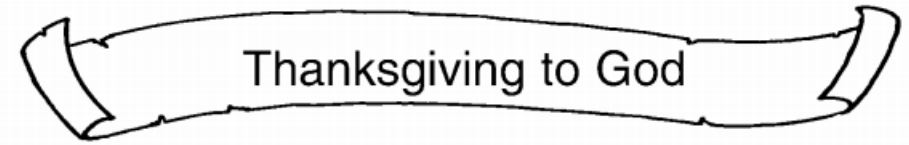
Nov. 24 – Deut. 26:1-11
 Nov. 25 – Psalm 100
 Nov. 26 – Philippians 4:4-9
 Nov. 27 – John 6:25-35
 Nov. 28 – Isaiah 2:1-5
 Nov. 29 – Psalm 122
**Nov. 30 – Rom 13:11-14 and
 Matt. 24:36-44**

Signs and Stories

Dec. 1 – Psalm 72:1-7
Dec. 2 – Isaiah 11:1-10
Dec. 3 – Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Dec. 4 – Romans 15:4-6
Dec. 5 – Romans 15:7-13
Dec. 6 – Matthew 3:1-6
Dec. 7 – Matthew 3:7-12

Signs and Truths

Dec. 8 – Isaiah 35:1-7
Dec. 9 – Isaiah 35:8-10
Dec. 10 – Matthew 11:2-6
Dec. 11 – Matthew 11:7-11
Dec. 12 – Psalm 146:5-10
Dec. 13 – Luke 1:46-55
Dec. 14 – James 5:7-10



David wrote, "May God arise!"
 What else did David say?

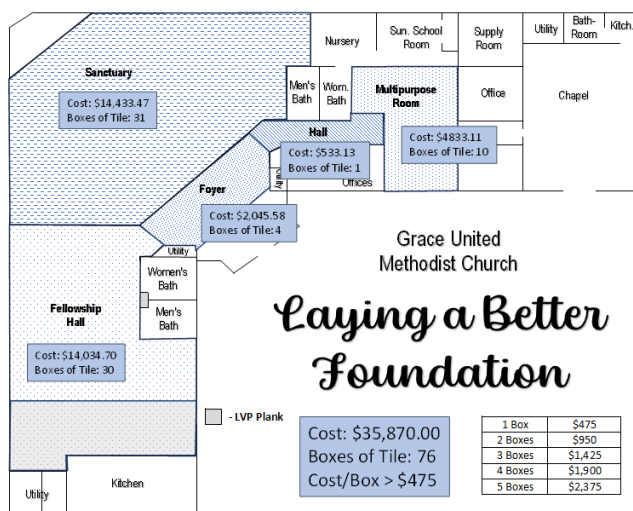
Use the code below to find out what else David said in Psalm 65!

Use this code to read more of the psalm.											
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●=B	◑=F	⊕=J	◻=N	◻=R	◻=V	◻=Z					
◐=C	◑=G	⊕=K	◼=O	◻=S	◻=W						
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Laying a Better Foundation

The Trustees invite you to join them in a project to update the flooring in the foyer, Fellowship Hall, office hallway, multi-purpose room, and sanctuary. Please see the drawing below for more details. We hope to replace the worn and “rippled” flooring with carpet squares plus some vinyl plank flooring outside the bathroom and on the west end of Fellowship Hall.



The cost of the project will be about \$36,000. We are asking people to “buy” carpet by the box or to donate monetarily as their finances allow. Each box “costs” \$475

and that includes the removal and disposal of the old carpet or vinyl, the removal of the old glue, the removal and reinstallation of the baseboards, and the installation of the new flooring.

If you are able to help with this project you can write a check or you can donate at gracepiedmont.com/give. These QR codes will also bring you to this same donation site.

To donate any amount, use this QR code.



To donate by the box, use this QR code.



Advent 2025 at Grace

After All Saints’ Day on November 2 we will begin an extended Advent. We begin the season with a three week series titled “The Days Are Surely Coming.” We look ahead by returning to the promises of God — the promise of a new reality, a new hope, and an ongoing presence that will usher all of creation into this new kingdom and kin-dom of relationship and joy. Though this series is grounded in the Hebrew scripture lectionary texts, Christ is the center of our worship and the ground of our hope. These first weeks of Advent remind that the days are surely coming when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.



Part 2 of Advent leans into the season as an active and watchful waiting. Doing so, we tap into the world's longing for redemption, salvation, and transformation. The beautiful hymn “Toda la Tierra,” #210 in the United Methodist Hymnal, is a reminder of

what is at stake. “All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty” in the first verse allows us to look back to the story of the Incarnation and to look forward to the coming of the kingdom of heaven, when the will of God will be done on earth as in heaven. All of creation is waiting for this fulfillment. In worship, we can see the signs of the nearness of Emmanuel, God with us.

There are small group and individual study guides available for these series. Join the Adult Sunday School class or the Men’s Group (Thursdays@5:30 pm) or the Early Riser’s Ladies Group (Friday@6:30 am)... or pick up a copy and learn on your own! Booklets are available on the front table!

Grace Kids



Each Monday we gather with 16 students, grades K-4. We begin with play time and a snack. We then move into our story time, where the students

learn about different characters and events from the Bible. We split into two groups and rotate through a craft station and a kitchen station. We wrap up singing and worship! — *David Weeks and the Crew*



Art With Heart

We invite all 5th and 6th graders to join us Tuesdays after school to be creative, have snacks, and grow in faith.



October was a good month at AWH. We made color wheels and painted mini pumpkins to learn about color tone and blending. We practiced culinary arts in the kitchen, making a yummy chocolate

mousse! My favorite week was making cards for Sue after her husband's passing. The students were caring and creative, and I was so proud of the way they put themselves into their very best efforts.



Thanks for sharing your young creators with us, we sure enjoy spending time with them! --Kristin, Sue, and Pastor John

- All plumbing was looked at and passed inspection.
- Lawn sprinklers were blown out for winter.
- John Leipold will plow parking lot (\$75/plow)
- Lauren and PJ built roofs for playground
- John S. will do Parsonage Review
- Cindy P. needs computer upgrade

*Old Business-

- Fall Kickoff- Attendance in 2025 was low.
Do we still do it?
- Ideas for future Kickoffs: Music inside, Have after Sunday Service, Potluck or brunch.

*New & Continuing Business-

- Charge Conference Nov. 9, 2025, 10:30 AM
- Future Development of Lot 3-
 - Retirement Home/Elderly Care/Care Facility/Elijah House/ DSS
- Get State Funding? Investors?
- Talk to Bob Powles, would need septic and sewer. Lot not hooked to city water.

Meeting Adjourned at 8 PM. 1st bu Jeff and Prairey 2nd.
Followed by prayer.

Minutes by Tanya T.

** Next meeting: December 16 – Teams @ 6:15 PM & Leadership @ 7:00 PM

LEADERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

October 21, 2025

Present: Pastor John, Prairey Walking (Chair), Cindy Puckett (Finance & Kitchen), Jeff Kottwitz (Trustees), Tanya Taylor (Recording Secretary). Not present, Tom Stevens (Kitchen) and Matt Pfister (SPP).

Meeting was called to order at 7PM, by Prairey. Pastor John shared Reflection time and opened with prayer.

The August minutes were discussed and approved by Jeff, and 2nd by Prairey. They passed unanimously.

Ministry Reports as follows-

*Finance and Stewardship- Cindy P.

- 3% increase for hourly employee wages
- Budget for 2026
- Past expenses

All was approved and passed.

*Kitchen Committee - Cindy P.

- Family Fall Festival Oct, 24, 2025
- Turkey Dinner Nov, 7, 2025

*SPP - Pastor John representing

- Filled out "STAY/GO" form
- Pastor compensation form is done
- John taking a 4-week leave in April or May

*Trustees - Jeff and assistance from John

- New Carpet from Carpet Garage. \$475.00/box
- Recommended to pull \$10,000 from savings to lock in lower rate.
- Need carpet plan by Nov. 9

Youth Group News

We want to extend a big *thank you* to our congregation for your continued support of our youth ministry — especially for providing meals each week. Your generosity and encouragement make a tremendous difference in the lives of our students and help create a welcoming space for fellowship and faith to grow.



Although we did not participate in DakYouth this year, a few of our youth were able to spend a night at Storm Mountain, and we had a wonderful time together enjoying nature, faith, and fun.

Throughout this month, our youth group has been following along with the Sunday sermons and taking time each Wednesday to



discuss how those messages apply to our daily lives. These conversations have been meaningful and full of great insight from our students.



We also had the joy of helping set up for the Fall Festival — thank you to everyone who joined in that effort! In addition, we kicked off our new **Game Night** on the first Wednesday of October. It was a hit! We're excited to continue this tradition on the first Wednesday of each month throughout the year.

Thank you again for your prayers, encouragement, and continued support of our youth. We are so grateful to be part of such a caring and faith-filled congregation. - Blessings, Kristal

Piedmont Valley

Community

Church



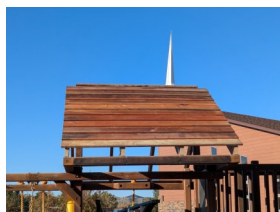
“Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for the One who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds” (Hebrews 10:23-24).

Our online ministry includes live-streaming worship on Sunday mornings and PVCC, our private Facebook group. The main features of PVCC are the Bible Verse of the Day, which uses the readings from the Lectionary to spur thought and discussion; and times to pray for and with each other. If you can help with any of these ministries, please let us know!

PVCC is an outreach ministry of Grace UMC on Facebook, seeking to grow our faith, to develop servant hearts, and to share the love and hope of Jesus in an online community.



Service Saturdays — On the third Saturday of each month folks from the church gather to serve for about 3 hours. If you or someone you know (a neighbor or friend) could use some help with a project... please contact Pastor John.



Upcoming Events and Meetings at Grace UMC

Weekly Spiritual Grow Opportunities:

- Sun.— 8 AM — Adult Sunday School — Sunday Sch. Room
- Sun. — 9 AM — Worship (in person or online) - Sanctuary
- Mon. — 3 PM — Grace Kids — Fellowship Hall
- Tues. — 3 PM — Art with Heart — Fellowship Hall
- Wed. — 7:45 AM — Women’s Small Gr. — Sunday Sch. Room
- Wed. — 1:30 PM — Midweek Chat — Chapel
- Wed. — 5:30 PM — Youth Group — Fellowship Hall
- Thur. — 5:30 PM — Men’s Bible Year Study — Fell. Hall
- Fri. — 6:30 AM — Ladies’ Bible Study — Chapel

Upcoming Monthly Events and Meetings:

- Nov. 7 — Annual Turkey Dinner — 4-7 PM
 - Nov. 9 — Charge Conference — 10:30 AM
 - Nov. 23 — Community Thanksgiving Service — 6 PM
- @Piedmont Valley Lutheran Church



Birthdays for November:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Nov. 5 — Jan Zabel | Nov. 23 — Tommy Jacobsen |
| Nov. 8 — Meredith Pfister | Nov. 23 — Diana Evans |
| Nov. 9 — Dick Helmstetter | Nov. 28 — Bryan Carter |
| Nov. 10 — Esther Newbrough | Nov. 28 — Deb Meendering |
| Nov. 13 — Mike Marsland | Nov. 28 — Phyllis Stevens |
| Nov. 15 — Don McVay | |
| Nov. 18 — Nakia Thurman | |
| Nov. 20 — Matthew Brown | |
| Nov. 21 — Ivan Masters | |
| Nov. 22 — Richard Kruger | |
| Nov. 20 — Nadine Stromberg | |

