Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church!!
Sunday – October 4, 2026 – 9:00 AM



Meditation Verse: *"Brothers and sisters,*
I myself don't think I've reached it, but I do this one thing:
I forget about the things behind me and reach out
for the things ahead of me."
- Philippians 3:13

Grace United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 265 | Piedmont, SD 57769

(605) 787-4858 | www.gracepiedmont.com
gumc@midconetwork.com

Pastor John Britt
(605) 787-2414 | pastorjohnbritt@gmail.com

Check us out on Facebook!

Church Staff:

Pastor	John Britt
Office Administrator	Tanya Taylor
Children's Ministry	Jennifer Hall
Youth Ministry	Kristal Hamm
Financial Administrator	Cindy Puckett
Custodian	Tanya Taylor
Digital Campus Host	Kristin Britt
Audio/Visual	Steve Hilton
Lay Leader	Prairey Walkling
Pianist	Julie Marsland

Order of Worship

Welcome

*Opening Song: House of God Forever

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship:

Leader: We live in a world that entices us with influence, power, and accolades.

People: We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call.

Leader: Sometimes we find ourselves wishing for heaven without working to bring heaven to earth.

People: We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call to live righteously here and now.

Leader: Other times, we find ourselves exhausted by working for the gospel, wondering if anything we do is making a difference.

People: We remind one another to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call, leaning on Christ as the source of our perseverance and hope.

Leader: Beloved, God calls us not to escape this world but to build the kingdom of God in this place and in this time.

People: We choose to press on toward the prize of the heavenly call to embody God's mercy and justice as we build God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

*Passing of the Peace - Is "heaven" a present reality, a glorious time to come, or...? Explain your thoughts!

Bible Presentations

Scripture: Philippians 3:4b-13

*Sharing in Holy Communion
- Hymn #2172 – We Are Called
- Hymn #514 – Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

Sacrament of Baptism

Kids Message

Message: "The Heavenly Call"

*Song of Response: Redeemed

Morning Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Announcements

*Closing Song – I've Found Jesus

*Blessing

*(Please stand as you are able.)

GPS – Grow, Pray, Study

1) *Grow.* Paul writes of *"forget about the things behind me,"* of letting go. What won't you let go of that is keeping you from growing closer to Christ? How can you let go?
2) *Pray.* Where is God calling you – to greater spiritual discipline, to acts of mercy, to works of justice and inclusion? Pray for courage and direction from the Lord.
3) *Study.* Read Philippians 3:15-21. On a scale of 1-10, 10 being high, how would you honestly rate your spiritual maturity? What needs to change so that you might be like Paul, someone that others looked to as a model of faith?

This Week's Scripture Readings:
Oct. 5 – Exodus 32:1-10
Oct. 6 – Exodus 32:11-14
Oct. 7 – Psalm 106:1-6
Oct. 8 – Matthew 22:1-14
Oct. 9 – Psalm 106:19-23
Oct. 10 – Philippians 4:1-7
Oct. 11 – Philippians 4:8-9

To go a little deeper into the reading for each day this week, go to pastorjohnb.org

Next Sunday's Message: "Rejoice in the Lord" – Joy gives us sustenance to maintain life, hope, resilience, and perseverance, even in the most impossible circumstances. Joy isn't an escape. In our passage, Paul says, let joy spill out because that joy in the Lord is not just for you, not just so that you get a boost, a lift, a skip in your step. And when joy is hard to find, Paul says, get on your knees. *(continued)*

(continued) Don't worry but pour it out. Don't worry but beg and plead and pound on the doorways of heaven with both fists. Through prayer, we sense that we do have a place, a home, an identity, an existence right here and right now that is meaningful, useful, transformed, and transforming. From here, joy is not far away.

This Week at Grace

- Sun. – 8 AM – Adult Sunday School – SS Room
- Sun. – 9 AM – Worship (in person or online) – Sanctuary
- Mon. – 9:30 AM – Message/Lectionary Study – Chapel
- Mon. – 3 PM – Grace Kids – Fellowship Hall
- Tues. – 3 PM – Art with Heart – Fellowship Hall
- Wed. – 7:30 AM – Young Ladies Bible Study – SS Room
- Wed. – 3:30 PM – Grief Support – Chapel
- Wed. – 5:30 PM – Youth Group – Fellowship Hall/Chapel
- Wed. – 6 PM – Church Garden Volunteering
- Thurs. – 5:30 PM – Men's Bible Study – Fellowship Hall
- Fri. – 6:30 AM – Ladies' Bible Study – SS Room
- Sat. – 9 AM – Church Garden Volunteering

Upcoming Happenings at Grace

- Oct. 6 - Parent Teacher Feed – Stagebarn M.S.
- Oct. 20 – 6:15/7 PM - Team/Leadership Meetings
- Oct. 23 – 5 PM – Family Fall Festival
- Nov. 6 – 4-7 PM – Annual Turkey Dinner

Announcements:

The Mission of the Month for October is Socktober. Bring socks, hats, and gloves for our local elementary and middle school students!

To make a one-time gift to Grace UMC or to the Mission of the Month (or to set up a recurring gift), Please scan the QR code. Thank you for your generosity and support!

Please check the sign-up sheets across from the drinking fountains to see when YOU could serve as a greeter, reader, or treat provider.

May God Bless You throughout the coming week!