

July 2026 Newsletter

Grace United Methodist Church

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Web site: www.gracepiedmont.com

Dear Grace United Methodist Church,

We are 1/3 of the way through the summer! In some ways it is hard to believe it's July 1, but in other ways the summer has been full and wonderful already. Kristin and I were blessed to spend some time with our oldest son Matthew, his wife Alex, and their daughter Ellie. Their visit paired with Matthew spending the week before in the area with his youth group from Richardson, TX. Several teams worked here in Piedmont, and I was blessed to spend some time working alongside these teams. It was really good for me to be around the youth and their wonderful energy.

For July we will turn to a series that draws from Romans 7 and 8. It is called "Core Faith." Join us each Sunday in July as we walk through our ongoing struggle with sin and with the love of God found in Jesus Christ that helps us in this battle and eventually guides us to overcome the power of sin, so that we can live as new creations, sharing God's love with our world.



Thank you for your time! Blessings to you and your family this day and every day!! – *Pastor John*

June 2026 Finance Update *(Through three Sundays)*

June Giving: \$ 10,186

Year-to-Date Giving: \$ 92,068

Year-to-Date Expenses: \$ 87,983

Overall: \$ 4,085

JULY READING SCHEDULE

Core Faith

"Delight in the Law"

June 29 – Gen. 24:34-38, 42-49

June 30 – Psalm 45:10-15

July 1 – Genesis 24:58-67

July 2 – Psalm 45:16-17

July 3 – Matt. 11:16-19, 25-26

July 4 – Matthew 11:27-30

July 5 – Romans 7:15-25a

"Set Your Mind"

July 6 – Psalm 119:105-106,
Romans 8:1-5

July 7 – Psalm 119:107,
Matthew 13:1-9

July 8 – Psalm 119:108,
Matthew 13:18-23

July 9 – Psalm 119:109,
Genesis 25:19-26

July 10 – Psalm 119:110,
Genesis 25:27-34

July 11 – Psalm 119:111,
Matthew 13:1-2

**July 12 – Psalm 119:112,
Romans 8:6-11**

"Waiting with Eager Anticipation"

July 13 – Genesis 28:10-19a

July 14 – Psalm 139:1-12

July 15 – Psalm 139:23-24

July 16 – Romans 8:12-17

July 17 – Romans 8:18-25

July 18 – Matthew 13:24-30

July 19 – Matthew 13:36-43

"More Than Conquerors"

July 20 – Genesis 29:15-28

July 21 – Psalm 105:7-11, 45b

July 22 – Psalm 105:1-6, 45b

July 23 – Romans 8:26-30

July 24 – Romans 8:31-39

July 25 – Matthew 13:31-33

July 26 – Matthew 13:44-52

Praise Break

Behold the Face

July 27 – Genesis 32:22-24

July 28 – Genesis 32:25-31

July 29 – Psalm 17:1-2

July 30 – Romans 9:1-5

July 31 – Psalm 17:3-7, 15

August 1 – Matthew 14:13-20

August 2 – Matthew 14:21



VBS 2026 – “Just Like Me” – August 9-11 – 5-7 pm



Please join us for an exciting VBS this August!! Using this wonderful curriculum, we will help kids celebrate their identity as God’s beloved creations just as they are! Through scripted lessons and extension activities, students will practice sharing, asking questions, using their voice, finding community, and speaking up for others.” Themes for this year’s VBS include agency, generosity, community, solidarity, and advocacy.

Jennifer Hall, our new Christian Education Director, will be getting into the swing of things at Grace by helping with VBS this year. We look forward to having her in this new role at our church.

Each night we will begin with supper at 5:00. For ages 4 through grade 4, we will follow dinner with a large group assembly then stations – crafts, science, and games – and end with a closing assembly. For students in grades 5-8 we will also start with dinner and then branch off to learn about the themes in variety of fun, engaging, and age-appropriate activities.

To register for VBS, go to: gracepiedmont.com/events

(The page that loads will look like this at the top!)

Children's Church (Grades K-4) Dept. 56 (Grades 5-6) Sunday Mornings	Grace Kids (Grades K-4)  Mondays after school	Art w/Heart (Grades 5-6)  Tuesdays after school	Youth Group (Grades 7-12)  Wednesday evenings
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Section 1 of 4

Children and Youth Ministries Registration

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Attention MEN!!

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Men's Breakfast

July 11 - 7:30 a.m.

Join us for...

- Free food
- Fellowship
- A word of encouragement

Attention PARENTS!!

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Starting this FALL, we will again be offering Confirmation. This program is open to students in grades 7-12. (Pastor John is willing to consider other students based on family need and/or age arrangement and

maturity level of potential candidates.)

Here are the expectations for the Confirmation program:

- 1) Worship each Sunday during the course of the program.
- 2) Small group gathering after worship (10:30-11:30) roughly every other Sunday, beginning on September 20th. We will again use *Sparkhouse's* 15-lesson UMC-focused curriculum.
- 3) Confirmation Retreat (at Storm Mountain Center, usually towards the end of March)
- 4) Confirmation Sunday (to be held in May 2027.)

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor John. Thanks!

To register, go to: gracepiedmont.com/events

Weekly Spiritual Grow Opportunities:

- Sun. – 9 AM — Worship (in person or online) - Sanctuary
- Wed. – 6 PM – Church Garden Volunteering
- Thur. – 5:30 PM — Men’s Bible Year Study — Fell. Hall
- Fri. – 6:30 AM — Ladies’ Bible Study — SS Room
- Sat. – 9 AM – Church Garden Volunteering

Upcoming Monthly Events and Meetings:

- July 11 – Men’s Breakfast – 7:30AM – Fellowship Hall
- July 18 – Service Saturday – 9 AM – Location TBA
- August 2 – Hoses and Hallelujahs 3 – 5 PM – City Park

Birthdays for July:

- July 9 – Janet Powles
 - July 10 – John Boylan
 - July 10 – Rosemarie Jamison
 - July 11 – Te-arrron Hennies
 - July 12 – Clara Kruger
 - July 12 – Harper Reiger
 - July 12 – Myles Baird
 - July 17 – Bonnie Nelson
 - July 18 – Paula Honerkamp
 - July 19 – Mandy Hennies
 - July 20 – Pam Hemmingson
 - July 21 – Truett Sagaser
 - July 28 – Larry Meendering
 - July 29 – Ethan Marsland
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Fall seems like a LONG TIME away, but it will be here before we know it. If you'd like to take a few minutes to sign up your children and/or youth for any of our programs, you can do so at the following web site: gracepiedmont.com/events

Grace UMC Children/Youth Registration Form

Please click on the link below to register your children and/or youth for all things - Children's Church, After School Programs, Youth Group, Confirmation, VBS...

Please click [HERE](#) for our registration form!

Here is
what it
looks like!

LEADERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

June 16, 2026

Present: Pastor John, Tanya Taylor (Recording Secretary), Kelly Kruger (Finance & Stewardship), Tom Stevens (Kitchen Committee), Matt Pfister (SPP), Mike Marsland, and Lavincia Pfister. Not present, Prairey Walking (Chair) and Jeff Kottwitz (Trustees).



Meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Tom S.

Pastor John shared reflection time and led us in prayer.

The May 19, 2026, minutes were read and discussed. Mike made a motion to approve the minutes and Kelly 2nd them. They were unanimously approved.

Ministry Reports as follows-

* Finance & Stewardship – Kelly Kruger

- +\$500 – General Fund
- + \$5,000 – Total Funds
- Matt made motion to accept and Mike 2nd.

* Kitchen Committee – Tom Stevens

- Will provide snacks and meals for VBS Aug. 9-11, 2026
- Initial discussion of Welcome Back/Fall Activities after church on Sept. 13th.
- Turkey Dinner – 1st Friday in November

* Staff Pastor Parish – Matt Pfister

- Interviewed Jennifer Hall for Children's Education position. She will help Diana run VBS.
- discussion of "End of Year" reviews

* Trustees – N/A

- Discussed opening our church to the Piedmont Fire Department for any functions they may not have the space to accommodate. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Old Business –

- * Volunteers to mow lawn, John B, Larry H, & Loren K with Rick and Jolene H as subs.
- * Carpet for Chancel, offices and Adult SS room.

New Business –

- * Discussed development of 3rd lot, Senior living and Isiah House
- * Possibly have Art with Heart re-paint mountains on Chancel to match new carpet.
- * Call Sean at Carpet Garage for quote.

Tom S. adjourned the meeting at 7:33 and led us in prayer.

Next meeting August 18, 2026, Teams at 6:15 PM and Leadership at 7 PM.

Minutes by Tanya T.

A great **BIG thank you** to our mowing team!!
Pastor John greatly appreciates your help with caring for our church yard! Mowing and trimming our grounds is a pretty big job – so thank you **VERY MUCH** for your willingness to give of your time and talents!!



- Loren (and Marjean) Kuper
- Larry Hofmeister
- Rick (and Jolene) Hanson (*subs*)

Grace United Methodist Church

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