

Grace United Methodist Church  
10060 Foothills Drive  
PO Box 265  
Piedmont, SD 57769

# July 2025 Newsletter

Grace United Methodist Church

605-787-4858 — Email: [gumc@midconetwork.com](mailto:gumc@midconetwork.com)

Web site: [www.gracepiedmont.com](http://www.gracepiedmont.com)



Dear Grace United Methodist Church,

Summer is one-third over! Eek! On Sundays we have been connecting the themes and life lessons of Theodor Giesel (aka Dr. Seuss) to the themes and teachings of the Bible. We're wrestling with faithfulness and gratitude, with pride and envy, with love and commitment, with jealousy and greed, and with forgiveness and grace using the words of both Dr. Seuss and the Bible! Each Wednesday at 6 PM we have been gathering in the garden picnic shelter to read the book that connects with that Sunday's message. We've also had fun doing crafts that connect to the book that we're reading that week. That has been fun to incorporate into the Kids' Messages on Sunday morning!

The church and community gardens are growing!! Each week there is an opportunity to help out in the church garden. Don and Cherie work Wednesday evenings (6 pm) and Saturday mornings (9 am). They would appreciate a little help. It is mostly weeding right now.

I look forward to keeping in touch by seeing you in worship each Sunday!! Blessings to you and your family!!

- Pastor John



## June 2025 Finance Update (through half of June)

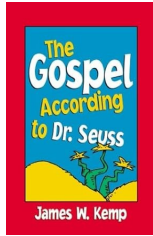
Total Revenues through mid-June 2025 —> \$ 82,726

Total Expenses through mid-June 2025 —> \$ 95,195

2025 Year-End Balance —> \$ - 12,469

# THE GOSPEL & DR. SEUSS

## READING SCHEDULE



### Giving in to Grace

June 29: Isaiah 2:10-18

June 30: Psalm 147:1-11

July 1: Daniel 4:34-37

July 2: Daniel 4:34-37

July 3: Philippians 3:17-21

July 4: 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:15-17

July 5: Romans 11:17-23

### **July 6: Luke 15:13-19**

Dr. Seuss: *The Zaks*

### A Mighty Powerful Combo

July 7: 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6:5-12

July 8: Acts 13:48-52

July 9: Isaiah 35:5-10

July 10: Obadiah 1:12-15

July 11: Luke 6:27-36

July 12: Philippians 4:10-14

### **July 13: Luke 19:1-6**

Dr. Seuss: *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*

### Subjected to Hope

July 14: 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 1:3-8

July 15: Psalm 6:3-9

July 16: Galatians 4:1-7

July 17: Psalm 24:1-2

July 18: 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:6-11

July 19: Isaiah 40:26-31

### **July 20: Romans 8:18-25**

Dr. Seuss: *Horton Hears a Who!*

### Lips to Speak, Ears to Listen

July 21: Romans 7:4-6

July 22: Ezekiel 37:1-11

July 23: John 10:11-16

July 24: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 20-31

July 25: Ezekiel 18:30-32

July 26: Acts 17:22-28

### **July 27: 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:14-20**

Dr. Seuss: *Green Eggs and Ham*

### Three Little Words (Or 2 1/2)

July 28: Ephesians 4:1-7

July 29: Isaiah 55:6-11

July 30: Matthew 23:11-12

July 31: Acts 26:15-18

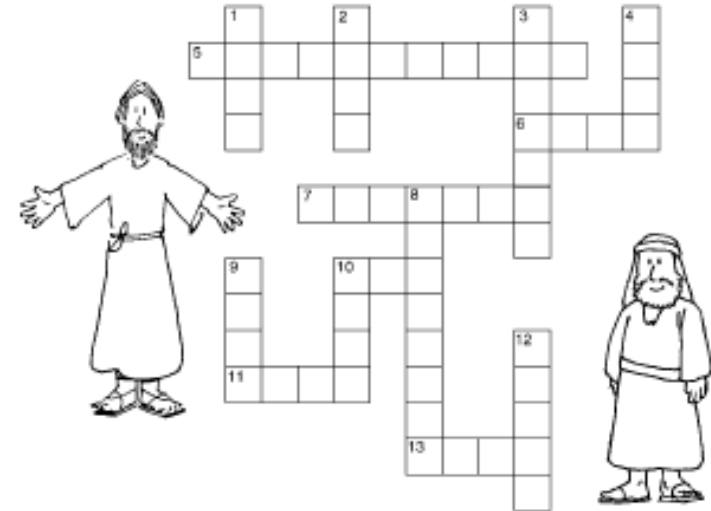
August 1: James 3:1-10

August 2: 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 7:5-7

Zacchaeus talked to Jesus. Find out what he said.

Fit the words from the word bank in the crossword, then transfer the words to the lines below.

pay	give	look	times	anything
back	half	Lord	anybody	possessions
four	here	poor	cheated	



" \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_! \_\_\_\_\_ and now I

4

1

2

\_\_\_\_\_ of my

13

9

\_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_, and if

5

10D

I have \_\_\_\_\_ out of

7

3

\_\_\_\_\_, I will \_\_\_\_\_

8

10A

6

\_\_\_\_\_ the amount."

11

12

# SECOND Annual Hoses and Hallelujahs Sunday, August 3 - 5 pm

Join us to support our local Piedmont Fire and EMS!!  
Bring a lawn chair or a blanket, enjoy some praise music,  
and a FREE meal, PLUS help raise some funds for our local  
first responders.  
We will sing some songs and then enjoy a meal together. A  
fire truck (or two) will also be present for the kids to  
explore and engage!!



Please come out and support  
those who give so much to our  
local community!!

Sponsored by the Piedmont  
Valley Ministerial Association.

Can't make it on August 3<sup>rd</sup>?  
Still want to support the fire  
and EMT  
folks?



<- Scan  
the code!

## Piedmont City Park Hoses and Hallelujahs

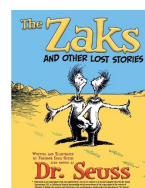
# Summer Suppers



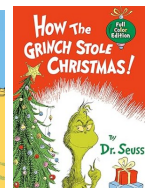
Summers can be hard for some families  
in our communities. School is out so  
more falls on the family. A common  
struggle can be providing meals. As United Methodists, we  
like to eat! JOIN US on **July 13** as we offer FREE a community  
meal at **6 PM**. PLEASE think of those that you know that  
could benefit from a free meal and invite them to JOIN YOU  
for this meal. If you'd like to help out, sign up on the  
clipboard on the entry area table or talk to Pastor John!!

# Summer with Seuss

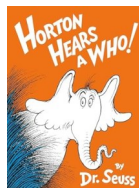
Parents of children (and adults who haven't read Dr.  
Seuss in a long time), JOIN US out in the community  
garden picnic shelter each Wednesday at 6 PM to read  
the next Sunday's featured Dr. Seuss book!!



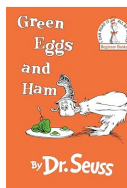
July 2



July 9



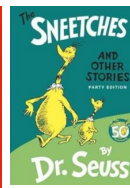
July 16



July 23



July 30



Aug. 6

## Children's Ministry Update

VBS is getting closer!! **Save the Date!**

VBS 2025 will be August 11-13!!



## Youth Group News

Hello everyone!

I hope you're all enjoying a wonderful summer so far.

On **Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>**, the youth group had the opportunity to prepare and serve the **Street Meal**. This continues to be a meaningful and impactful experience for everyone involved. If you ever have the chance to volunteer for this outreach, I highly encourage it — your help truly makes a difference.

Looking ahead to July, we're planning a **Bear Butte Hike** on **Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**. We'll meet at the church at **7:30 AM** and head out together — weather permitting, of course!



And just to get it on everyone's radar, we're planning a **Lake Day** for **Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>**, following Sunday service. More details will be shared as we get closer, so stay tuned!

Thank you all for your continued support and prayers.

**Blessings, Kristal**



SPPR — Matt Pfister reported that his committee is meeting on Thursday of this week to finish filling out the Clergy Evaluation Form. Phyllis is still in her position but has begun to train Tanya when it works in Tanya's schedule.

TRUSTEES — In Jeff's absence, Pastor John reported that the main issue for the Trustees continues to be the need for carpet replacement in the foyer. There was some discussion on squares vs. tiles, and how to finance the project but no decisions were made other than it is a genuine need we must address soon.

With no further business, Prairey adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm!

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis Stevens

## Community and Church Garden

Plants are growing and the garden is coming along nicely. So are the weeds. If you can help Don and Cherie Wednesdays@6 pm or Saturdays@9 am, that would be absolutely FANTASTIC!! You know the old saying... many hands make light work.



## Rummage Sale Information

The Chapel is READY to begin receiving your donations for this year's sale!! THANK YOU!!

## LEADERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 17, 2025

Present: Pastor John, Prairey Walkling (Chair), Matt Pfister (Staff Pastor Parish), Kelly Kruger (Finance), Lavincia Pfister (Youth), Susan Bass, Tom Stevens (Kitchen), and Phyllis Stevens (Recording Secretary).

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm by Prairey. Pastor John shared a devotion based on Genesis 49:25, a scripture on blessings, followed by prayer.

The minutes for April were distributed and following some typo corrections Tom made a motion to approve them which was seconded by Kelly Kruger. Passed unanimously.

FINANCE – Kelly gave a report on the financial status of the church and noted which funds were currently a concern because of their negative status. Those are the Discretionary Fund, Special Project Fund, Youth Fund, and the Mission Fund. Overall, our finances are in the negative. She believes it is not an expense issue but rather a revenue issue. There was discussion on how that issue can be solved and ideas were offered. Pastor John offered to go to ¾ time to save on the payroll but the group was not in favor of that solution at all. More ideas will come and hopefully our giving will increase as snowbirds return to the area.

KITCHEN – Tom reported that nothing is currently happening in his committee other than serving on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, and their usual serving for various events such as VBS and the Fall Kick-off.

## Upcoming Events and Meetings at Grace UMC

### Weekly Meetings:

- Sun. — 9 AM — Worship (in person or online)
- Wed. — 1:30 PM — Midweek Chat — Chapel
- Wed.—6 PM—Summer with Suess — Comm. Garden
- Thur. — 5:30 PM — Men’s Bible Year Study — F. Hall
- Fri. — 6:30 AM — Ladies’ Bible Study — Chapel

### Upcoming Monthly Events and Meetings:

- July 13 — Summer Supper — 6 PM — Fellowship Hall
- July 25 — Youth Group Hike — 7:30 AM (Meet@church)
- July 25-26 — Church Rummage Sale — 8 AM — F. Hall



### Birthdays for July:

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| - July 9 — Janet Powles      | - July 21 — Shirley Whitney  |
| - July 10 — John Boylan      | - July 26 — Austin Pritts    |
| - July 10 — Rose Jamison     | - July 28 — Larry Meendering |
| - July 11 — Te’arron Hennies | - July 29 — Ethan Marsland   |
| - 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 21 — Alana Pritts     |                              |



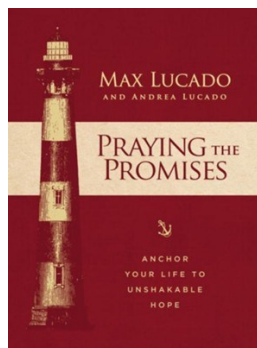


## PVCC — Piedmont Valley Community Church!



*"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*

This summer we are praying the promises of God. Each weekday, I post a Bible verse, thought, and prayer prompt inspired by the book *Praying the Promises: Anchor Your Life to Unspeakable Hope* by Max Lucado and Andrea Lucado. Comments and discussion are always welcome!



Our online community responds wonderfully to prayer requests. If you are not part of the group and would like our community to pray for you, please let me know.

--Kristin

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

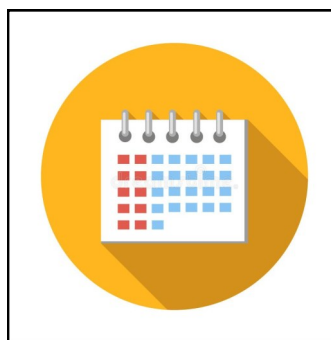


## Grace Kids

In May we wrapped up another successful school year of Grace Kids, our Monday after-school program for students kindergarten-4th grade. I would like to thank our weekly volunteers: Pastor John, Kelly Carter, Don Hilton, Donna Jacobsen, Meredith Pfister, Phyllis Stevens, and Prairey Walkling. In addition, I would like to thank our super subs: Kristin Britt, Cindy Puckett, and Judy Watts.



As we get ready for the 2025-2026 school year, we are looking for several replacements for retiring volunteers. If you are interested in working with our youth or would like more information, please contact me, David Weeks, or Pastor John.



### Calendaring Help Needed!!

Every summer (and during the school year) our youth and other folks from our church are involved in activities — football, volleyball, soccer, baseball, soccer, plays, concerts. **Is there a way** to safely

and securely share events so that we, the people of Grace UMC, could go to our folk's games, concerts, events???

IF SO... please share your idea(s) with Pastor John.