“Grace Greetings”
August 2026

Pastor Leslie will be on Sabbatical this summer (June-August). Check out the covenant on the next page for more information.

Grace Lutheran Church
521 Providence Road
Chesapeake, VA 23325

https://linktr.ee/gracelutheran

Grace Lutheran—a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.

Grace Lutheran Church

A worshipping community of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org

August 2026 "Grace Greetings"

Mission Statement:
We are a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.

Sabbatical Covenant

During the 3 months (June-August 2026) of Pastor Leslie's Sabbatical…

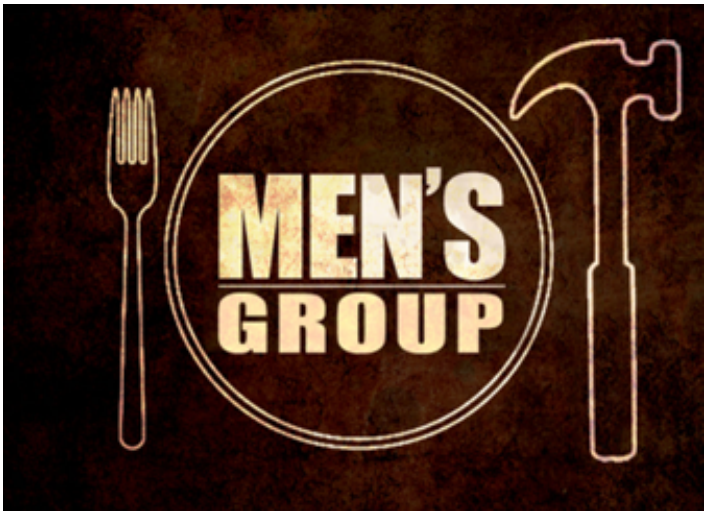
- **The congregation will:**
  - Sustain their participation in the life of the parish, in worship, in ministry, and in stewardship (time, talents, & treasures).
  - Look for the gifts of this season of renewal, and be patient when things aren't the way they usually are.
  - Take seriously their role in welcome of visitors and guests, and mutual care for one another.
  - Please notify the Council President (Rebecca Headings) of any special needs or changes, in your own household or that of another member/friend of Grace, that may require special care from the congregation or Coverage Deacon.
  - As always, look for ways their talents (things they are good at) and the things they love to do that might enrich the common life or ministries of Grace; and affirm other members when they offer their gifts to the church.
  - Respect Pastor Leslie's sabbatical by not contacting her during her 3 months of leave.
- **Council President (Rebecca Headings) will:**
  - Receive requests for pastoral calls/visits and coordinate response with the congregation and/or Coverage Deacon depending on what the situation calls for.
  - Supervise staff and oversee communications with the congregation.
- **Coverage Deacon (Deacon Lisa Geiger) will:**
  - Attend monthly Council Meetings.
  - Attend to any pastoral care emergencies (as informed by the GLC Council President or HCLC Management Team).
- **Supply Preachers will:**
  - Preach and lead worship on Sunday mornings.
- **Pastor Leslie**
  - **will:**
    - take time for study, personal growth, and reflection without the responsibilities of regular service
    - focus on social and spiritual reconnection
  - **will not:**
    - attend worship or other events at Grace.
    - be physically present in the office or available for pastoral care.
    - check/answer emails, phone calls, texts, or social media.

If you have a pastoral emergency while Pastor Leslie is on Sabbatical (June-August 2026), please contact Rebecca Headings [540-664-4675] to be connected with the Coverage Deacon.

Worship (hybrid)
Sundays at 10am
Join us for worship on site or on Zoom. You can also watch on Facebook or YouTube. Find links to these various platforms and the weekly bulletin and announcements at www.gracelutheranchesapeake.org/news--upcoming-events.html.

Summer Pause
The following ministries are on hiatus for the summer. See y'all in September!

- Sunday School
- Monday Bible Study
- Bell Choir
- Wednesday Potluck & Bible Study
- Craft Group

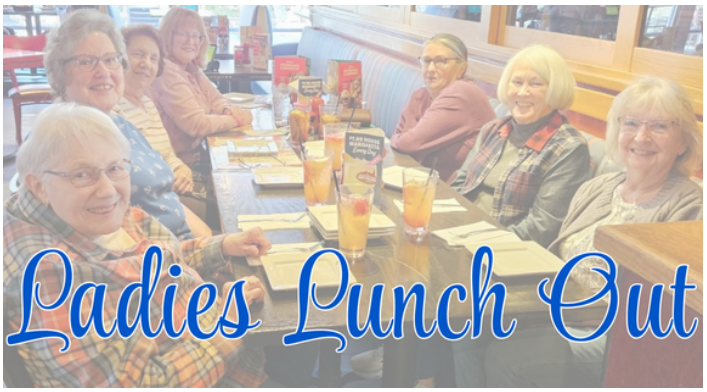


Men's Group
Saturday, August 8th at 8am
Join the men of GLC for potluck breakfast and work around the church.

Council Meeting (hybrid)
Sunday, August 9th at Noon
https://us02web.zoom.us/meetings/87468766112/invitations?signature=ZmK1w65gXZ_KQMH2ElX3Jm3yDWTlPCXNoM6ZCaOSVRg

Red Cross Blood Drive
Saturday, August 15, 2026, 9am-1pm
Book your donation appointment online at www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=Gracelutheran
Be sure to confirm the location before reserving your spot!

Fellowship Hour
Sunday, August 23 after worship
Join us as we celebrate our July, August, and September birthdays and anniversaries! If you are able to help setup, cleanup, or provide refreshments, please contact Monique Schroeder.



Ladies Lunch Out
Wednesday, August 19th at Noon
Rancho Grande Mexican Restaurant
(1320 S Military Hwy, Chesapeake, VA 23320)
Join the ladies of GLC for fellowship & food. Please sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, August 16th.

Midweek Fellowship Dinner
Wednesday, August 26th at 6:30pm
Village Inn (1509 Cedar, Chesapeake)
Join us for midweek fellowship and food at Village Inn (1509 Cedar Rd, Chesapeake). Sign up in the Narthex by August 23rd and contact Ed Opperman with questions.

Lawn Care Volunteers Needed
For questions, contact Fred Schleede.
Sign up online: https://tinyurl.com/Lawn26

Altar Guild Meeting
Saturday, August 29th at 10am
We are seeking more volunteers to help with setting up the altar for church services. If you have any questions please contact La Quita Opperman.

Weaving Our Stories: Tapestry Story Telling Zoom Gatherings
Weaving Our Stories invites us to tell stories and listen deeply to one another. Each of the five Tapestry Threads will host a series of three Zooms to explore participant experiences about the focus Thread.
Tapestry's aim is to have meaningful dialogue and learn from each other's lives. Members of each of the focus communities, allies, and those seeking to learn and understand more are all invited to each of the series. It's okay to not have all the answers and to ask vulnerable questions.

- ~~**Racial Justice (Jan-Feb)**~~
- ~~**Justice for Women (Apr-May)**~~
- ~~**Accessibility Justice (June)**~~
- **Care for Creation**
  - Mondays, Aug 17, Aug 31, Sept 14
- **LGBTQIA+ Inclusion**
  - Tuesdays, Oct 13, Oct 27, Nov 10

Learn more and register at:
https://vasynod.org/ministries/tapestry/

School Supply Collection
through August 30th
Throughout August, we will be collecting the following supplies for local schools:

- Backpack
- Pencil Box/Bag
- Hand-held Pencil Sharpener
- Crayons (at least 24 pack)
- Glue Stick
- Erasers (large/cap)
- Highlighters
- Scissors (rounded)
- # 2 Pencils (package)
- Dry Erase Marker
- 3-Prong Folders (with pockets)
- Composition Notebook
- Markers
- Colored Pencils
- Ruler (inches & centimeters)
- Red pens
- Index Cards with lines
- Loose Leaf Paper
- 2-in binder
- Dividers with tabs
- Sheet protectors
- Protractor

Please place all donations in the box in the Narthex by Sunday, August 30th. Thank you in advance for your continued support and generosity! If you have any questions, please contact Rodney Haberkorn.

New Building Use: enCircle
EnCircle (formerly Lutheran Family Services) is a Virginia-based non-profit that has served children, families, and people with disabilities for over a century. Programs include foster care, special education, family reunification, parent coaching, group homes, and day support for adults with developmental disabilities. Treatment Foster Care provides a stable, family-based home for children with more intensive emotional or behavioral needs. Because many of their services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, you may occasionally see enCircle staff or clients at the church outside of our normal business hours. This is simply part of their ministry of meeting people where they are and responding whenever care is needed. At the end of July they moved in to classrooms 1 and 2a. When you see the enCircle staff around the building, please take a moment to introduce yourself and make them feel welcome.

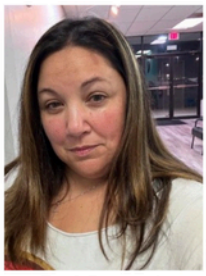
Solar Panel Update: Installation!
Phase 1 of the solar project is now complete with the solar panels installed on the roof of the classroom wing. Phase 2, the electric hookup to Dominion Energy, should be completed in the next few weeks. Stay tuned for more updates!

2026 Congregational Council

Rebecca Headings
President

Monique Schroeder
Vice President

Bryan Black
Secretary


Toni Comack

Rich Fraenkel

Doug Miller

Fred Schleede

OPEN SEAT

OPEN SEAT

Dear Siblings in Christ,

As we enter the final month of summer, there is much to celebrate here at Grace! God continues to bless our congregation and our community in many wonderful ways.

The solar panels are now installed on the roof of the classroom wing, marking an exciting step toward caring for God's creation and stewarding the gifts we have been given.

We are also pleased to welcome enCircle, which has moved into the building. We look forward to seeing how this partnership grows and how our shared space can continue to serve our community.

Our school supply drive is in full swing, and we are grateful for everyone who has donated supplies, time, and encouragement. What a wonderful way to support local students and families as a new school year approaches!

As we savor these final weeks of summer, let us give thanks for the opportunities God has placed before us and for the many ways we can serve one another. Let us also lift up in prayer all the students, teachers, administrators, and school staff who will soon return to the classroom. May God bless their year with wisdom, patience, curiosity, strength, and joy, and may every student know that they are valued and loved.

May the closing days of summer be filled with rest, fellowship, and gratitude as we look forward with hope to all that the coming season will bring.

Rebecca Headings
2026 Council President

Worship Server Signup
For questions, contact Savanna Baltero.
Sign up here: https://tinyurl.com/Servers26

August 15	Janice Black
August 17	Mark Woodard
August 21	DJ Solomon
August 23	Mo Moeller
August 30	Ann Anderson
August 31	Annette Fillmore

August 17	Mike & Tracy Ownby
August 23	Tara Moeller
August 24	Rich & Sandra Fraenkel

To add/correct any birthdays or anniversaries, please email Communications@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org

PRAYER LIST

We Pray for Our Members

Elaine Babb
Suzanne Bergsten
Brandon Breitsprecher
Emma Eley
Annette Fillmore
Carmen Fraenkel
Marlene Hubert
Grantley Jackson
Patricia Jackson
Leonora Jones
Jack Justice
Scott Kayser
Betty Keefer
Dawn Killian
Lori Killian
Ray Miles
Collin Moody
Kim Moody
Mike Olson
LaQuita Opperman
The Pritchard Family
Monique Schroeder
Juanita Urps
Thomas Washington

We Pray for Our Friends

Katie Benisek
Sarita Bowell
Laura Braugh
Shirley Bright
Marge Fantaskey
Madison Garriott
Cindy Garwood
Jenell Gordon
Ashley Marie Hampton
Bryan Harrover
Jax Hockenberry
Ruby Hockenberry
Brian Hubert
Henry Kappes Jr
Mark Kohan
Murray Leffers Jr
Andrew Lowe
Faye Miles
Kim Patterson
Stephan Pleli
Kenneth Price
Lisa Sanders
Ron Simmons
Larry Smith
Marilyn Stern
Samantha Strother
Cindy Van Pelt

The Military & their Families
Our Food Pantry Clients
ELCA Missionaries & YAGM students
All who mourn

In a effort to keep the prayer list up to date, please update the Communications Director, Savanna, monthly regarding your friends/family on the list.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10am Worship	**3** 9am Food Pantry	**4**	**5**	**6** *8pm AA*	**7**	**8** 8am Men's Group
9 10am Worship Noon Council Meeting (hybrid)	**10** 9am Food Pantry	**11**	**12**	**13** *8pm AA*	**14**	**15** 9am-1pm Red Cross Blood Drive
16 10am Worship	**17** 9am Food Pantry	**18**	**19** Noon Ladies Lunch	**20** *8pm AA*	**21**	**22**
23 10am Worship Noon Fellowship Hour	**24** 9am Food Pantry	**25** *6:30pm American Sewing Guild*	**26** 6:30pm Midweek Fellowship Dinner	**27** *8pm AA*	**28**	**29** 10am Altar Guild Meeting
30 10am Worship	**31** 9am Food Pantry					

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