Grace Lutheran Church & Grace Christian School Monthly Newsletter
JULY 2025 Volume 18, Issue 7

Hello July

Our Mission: Sharing the love of Jesus with all peoples. Providing opportunities and resources to bring people into a responsible relationship with Jesus and His Church.

July

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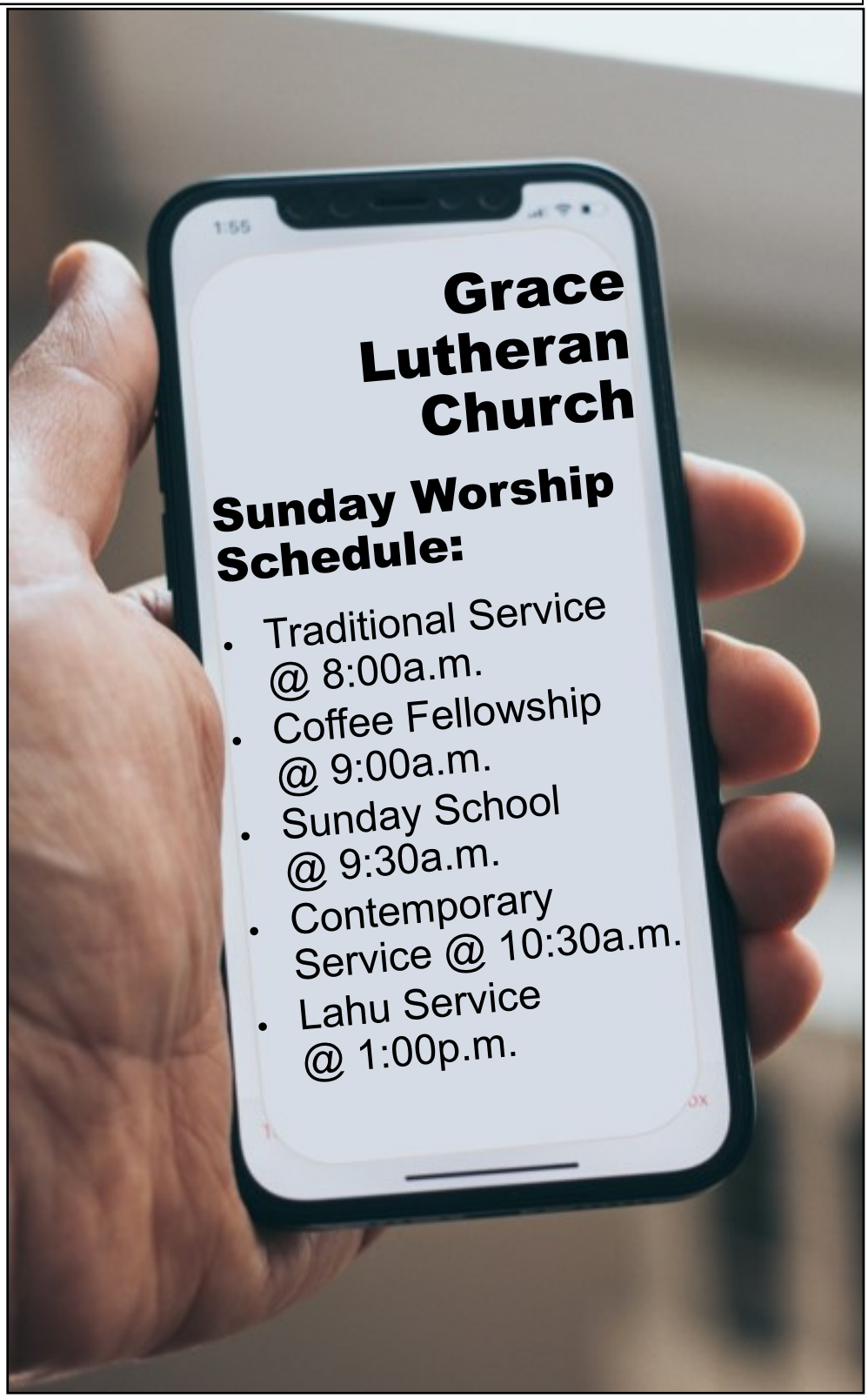

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Independence Day, Office Closed	5 Men's Bible Study 7am
6 Traditional 8:00am Contemporary 10:30am Lahu 1pm	7	8 Altar Guild Dinner @6pm	9	10	11	12 Men's Bible Study 7am
13 Traditional 8:00am Contemporary 10:30am Lahu @1pm	14	15 Governance Board Meeting @6:30pm	16	17	18	19 Men's Bible Study 7am
20 Traditional 8:00am Contemporary 10:30am Lahu @1pm XYZ Luncheon	21	22	23	24	25	26 Men's Bible Study 7am
27 Traditional 8:00am Contemporary 10:30am Lahu @1pm	28	29	30	31		

I am the Vine, You are the Branches

The California-Nevada-Hawaii District held its triennial convention last May in Sacramento. It was a time when the 174 congregations in the district gathered to elect officers and decide the goals and budget for the next three years of ministry. But the convention wasn't just about ministerial business and organization. We also learned and meditated on the Scriptures together. One of the highlights was learning about the vine and branches from Cindy Steinbeck of Steinbeck Vineyard, Paso Robles, and how it illustrates the truth of our life.

Through video recordings, Cindy showed the delegates and me how grafting is done. Do you know how grafting is done?

Here's how it's done: Cindy showed us a grafting tool that looked like pliers, but it's a special tool. It cuts the rootstock to make a notch, similar to a jigsaw puzzle's female end, and it cuts the branch in a shape similar to a jigsaw puzzle's male end. It cuts the branch in exactly the opposite way, so it fits perfectly to the rootstock. The rootstock becomes the host, and the branches fit perfectly together when they are grafted. This maximizes contact and locks them together.

And it's important to be locked together. Why? Because the rootstock grows deep into the ground and provides water and nutrients to the branch. The rootstock gives life to the branch. It makes the branch grow, mature, and fruitful.

Jesus said, *Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me (John 15:4).*

What a precious truth, and in a most effective way, Cindy and President Lange brought it to me and many others.

Do you want to bear fruit and bring the sweetness of God, the aroma of God, to your family, church, and friends? For sure, vacation is a big part of it, and I hope you get some this summer. But vacation alone won't make you fruitful. You need God's Son, Jesus, to be your host, your home, to whom you are completely attached. Remember this as you enjoy a glass of wine. You need to abide in Jesus, and Jesus in you.

And the good news is, Jesus wants to abide in you and you in Him. So, abide in Him.

How do you abide in Him? Keep coming to Jesus by attending the Sunday services He provides, by engaging with His Words (taught and written), by partaking in His Supper, and by joining His people to belong and live together. Jesus will nurture you and make you fruitful. May Christ make you fruitful and fill your life with sweetness.

Rev. David Jung

LWML Mites

GRACE MITES for MAY----------$467.68 (includes memorial gifts in memory of George Smith)

Friends of Grace, LOOK CLOSELY----"Do you see what I see?"

We are on Mission Grant # 12 helping Linc Youth Ministry Training in the Bay Area of Hayward, CA. When we hear from our district LWML/LWM/ the requested $7,500 has been funded, we will be looking at # 13.

It is not an unlucky or lucky number but a blessing just in time for 2025-2026. Why? This is the great news! FOR GRACE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, MISSION GRANT 13--TUITION ASSISTANCE for $ 10,150.

As written----" Grace Christian School of Visalia, CA, has been serving the community since 1977. The school currently teaches children kindergarten through 8th grade. Due to variability in enrollment numbers and some policies that affect tuition, they are currently in need of additional funding to partially pay tuition for students so that they continue their Christian education."

THANK YOU to those filling out the necessary information for inclusion in the final list presented to the CNH LWML delegates voting last year during their convention. We also thank the delegates giving our school a "yes". Be sure to visit the pictures for 12 and 13 on our bulletin boards. (if you can) Please keep Mission Mites in your prayers this summer----especially for our school--#13.

XYZ Summer
PICNIC
LUNCH
Come join
XYZ for lunch
& bunco
After the second
service
20 JULY

Fun, Food, & Friends

COFFEE BAR

Every Sunday morning you are invited to enjoy a cold or hot beverage at the Coffee Bar located in the multipurpose room on the church courtyard. Plus, there is always a cookie or some other treat to enjoy.

WHEN: Every Sunday morning

TIME: 7:30am before early service and 9:00-10:45 AM between services

Come for a quick beverage or have a seat and enjoy a conversation with old and new friends. Outdoor seating will be also available on the courtyard.

BUNCO

Every 4th Friday of the month.

You are invited to enjoy a great meal and tons of FUN!

TIME: 6-8PM

WHERE: Fellowship Hall

COST: $10 per person covers the meal and prizes.

WHO: Adults

To make sure we have enough food for those attending please contact Lonna Smith at 559-827-5101 or talk with her at church.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Do you enjoy spending time outdoors? We have a great opportunity for you and your family! Our church property has real grass, flower beds, and bushes that need care. Currently, we have not Included hiring a lawn service in our budget. We depend on volunteers, that is where you come in. If you like mowing, edging, trimming bushes, pulling weeds, or tending flower beds, we'd love your help. You don't have to do it all — just pick what you enjoy. We're collecting names and contact info from anyone interested in helping now and then. Think of it as a fun way to keep our church looking great! You can talk to Sandy Eitel after church or reach out in the coming weeks after you've had time to pray about it. Training will be available for using the lawn equipment. You can also "adopt" a flower bed or bush and take care of it regularly if that sounds more your style. Thanks for considering this fun and meaningful way to serve!

Growing In Grace Preschool
July 2025

Welcome to Summer Mode!

The children are reveling in the joys of summer! This month, they've been delighted by various water play activities, where laughter and splashes abound. We've also been diving into fun arts and crafts projects!

Important Dates

Preschool Closures: Please note that we will be closed on July 3rd and 4th in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Later in the month, the preschool will also be closed from July 28th to August 6th. Please plan accordingly.

Ice Cream Social: Join us for a sweet and meaningful event on Wednesday, July 23rd. This is a wonderful opportunity for new families to get acquainted with our preschool program. Parents can bring their child's school supplies and any required paperwork while enjoying refreshing ice cream treats!

July Highlights

- Water Play Wonderland: With the summer heat in full swing, our water play activities have been a huge hit. From sprinklers to water tables, the children are staying cool while engaging in exciting sensory play.

Reminders for Parents

Submit any required paperwork during the Ice Cream Social on July 23rd.
- Dress your child in comfortable, weather-appropriate clothing for outdoor activities.

Looking Ahead

As summer continues, we are thrilled to share these moments with your little ones. Thank you for being a part of our preschool family and for helping us create lasting memories.

Summer Office Hours

The office will be closed on July 4th

July Birthdays

Grace Christian School Students/Staff:

Ella: July 4

Mrs. Overstreet: July 8

Joshua: July 10

Ava: July 11

Mrs. Sherri: July 15

Adalyn: July 26

July Newsletter, Grace Christian School

Dear Friends,

It may be summertime, but the teachers at Grace Christian School are already preparing for the next school year! We are cleaning up, clearing out, and setting up shop! We are so excited to welcome our classes and make this year the best one yet!

We are proud to welcome Mrs. Nicole Overstreet and Mr. Nathan Thornburg to our teaching team! Mrs. Overstreet will take over the first and second grade class and Mr. Thornburg will join Mrs. Neipp in team- teaching the junior high. We are very excited to see how God works through both of them this next school year! Our students will be so blessed!

We are looking forward to our first day on August 14th! Right now we are planning this year's field trips, family fun events, and fabulous fundraisers. Our school has so much to offer! Our small class sizes allow us to give that very special one on one time. We love getting to know our students and their families. Each one is special and unique! We love taking them out and about so they may experience the beautiful world around them and make their learning come alive! I personally love filling up my empty lesson plan book. This new year is one big endless possibility! Each day will be filled with opportunities to talk and share, listen and learn, connect and grow! I can't wait to pencil in some tried and true old favorites and then add some new ideas!

So we look forward with hope! We are ready to accept the blessings God will bring our way! We are already thankful for His goodness and His grace. We trust that He will hold us in His hands this year as we seek to do His work!

Blessings,
Joanne Cook

Thank you for your donations to help make the dream of Christian Education come true for the children in our community!

Grace Christian School | 2025-2026 CALENDAR

AUGUST '25						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

12 Ice Cream Social
14 1st Day of School
19 Back to School Night

(12)

JANUARY '26						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

1-9 Christmas Break – No School
19 M.L. King Day – No School
30 Noon Dismissal - Family Day

(14)

SEPTEMBER '25						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1 Labor Day – No School
12 Grandparents Day

(21)

FEBRUARY '26						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

16 Presidents' Day – No School
27 End of 2nd Trimester

(19)

OCTOBER '25						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

13 Columbus Day – No School
16 Picture Day
30 End of 1st Trimester
31 Teacher Prep Day – No School

(21)

MARCH '26						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

2 Teacher Prep Day – No School
3 Noon Dismissal - Conferences
21 Annual Auction Fundraiser
27 Easter Eggstravaganza
27 Noon Dismissal
30-31 Spring Break – No School

(20)

NOVEMBER '25						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

6-7 Noon Dismissal - Conferences
10 Teacher In-Service – No School
11 Veterans Day – No School
21 Pie Extravaganza
24-28 Thanksgiving Break – No School
(14)

APRIL '26						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

1-6 Spring Break – No School

(19)

DECEMBER '25						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

11 Christmas Musical
19 Noon Dismissal

22-31 Christmas Break – No School

(15)

MAY '26						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

7-8 Spring Musical
25 Memorial Day – No School
28 8th Grade Graduation
29 End of 3rd Trimester

29 Last day of school

(20)

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Please help keep this section updated. If you know members or relatives of members currently serving in the military, please contact the office (559) 734-7694 . **Thank you!**

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School: gracechristianvisalia.org

Email us!

info@gracevisalia.org

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