SUMMER

Summer 2017 officially begins on Wednesday, June 21st. As a child, I knew better. Summer began the very moment you turned in your books and paid any library fines and were set free!

Summer was playing out late until the street lights came on and even a little after. Summer was going from house to house up and down the block just to see what everyone else was doing. Summer was playing in the woods, damming up the creek, making secret forts with booby-traps for nosey kids from other blocks. Summer lasted almost forever, with a pause in the middle to buy firecrackers and rockets for the fourth of July. There were bicycle races. There were crawfish fights. There were “campouts” where we spent all night talking about everything in the world — though we knew almost nothing about the world.

Summer was fishing and taking bags of onion and mustard sandwiches to eat — because it was tradition. Summer was safe and warm and friendly and full of adventures.

Summer was also Vacation Bible School time — not just for my church, but for every church! I went to more than one. One year I think I went to three. It turned out that the Presbyterians had the best cookies and snacks. The Methodist had the best crafts (we put together bird houses from precut kits — for Methodist birds). The Baptists had the most memorization and actual Bible at Bible School — which at the time I did not consider a plus. But I have noticed over the years that people who grew up Baptist can find a passage much faster than people who grew up Methodist. (I’m just saying)

VBS was absolutely a part of my Summer adventure as a child — even up to the sixth grade. That was about the time when what we were talking about and the crafts we were making all started to mean more and sink into my soul and begin to grow.

We’ve officially passed the registration date for our Vacation Bible School — but I’m pretty sure there is room for your child, grandchild or neighbor’s child. Call Beverly Blevins and see.

I never do all night campouts or fireworks anymore. I haven’t dammed up a creek or built a fort in decades. But I still remember fondly and I am still building on the foundation I got in the various VBS’s I experienced as part of my Summer adventures of old!

June 19 - 23, 8:45 a.m - 12:00 p.m.

See page 2 for more VBS info...

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Jim Dennis, Jr.

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Important Links:

www.gotgraceumc.org
http://tinyurl.com/GraceUMC-NA
www.gotgraceumc.info/talent/
CHILDREN’S MINISTRY: Making Young Disciples of Christ

**HERO CENTRAL IS FINALLY HERE!**
8:45 AM - 12:00PM
Preschool Classes: downstairs Asbury Building
Elementary Classes: upstairs Asbury Building

**Colors of the Day and Themes:**
Monday: **RED** - God’s Heroes have Heart!
Tuesday: **YELLOW** - God’s Heroes have Courage!
Wednesday: **PURPLE** - God’s Heroes have Wisdom!
Thursday: **GREEN** - God’s Heroes have Hope!
Friday: **BLUE** - God’s Heroes have Power!

**Offering** to Benefit Heifer International
**School Supplies** for area school children
**Snack supplies** for Ronald McDonald House

**OPEN HOUSE:**
Friday at 12:10 in the Wesley Center
Then ENDING with our Friday Evening FUN!
Swim & Pizza Party 6:30 - 8:30 PM
Hammond Hill Pool

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**Infant/Toddler Nursery**
**Paid Nursery Worker Position**
We are in need of a new nursery worker for the infant/toddler nursery beginning in July. This position would be every other Sunday from 8:15 am to 12:15 pm, Wednesday nights during the school year as well as other nurseries throughout the year. **This is a paid position.** You must be over 18 and pass a background check. You must have experience with young children. If you are interested, please send your resume to allison@gotgraceumc.org.

**GRACE SUMMER GUITAR CLASS**
Taught by Beverly Blevins
Class will start on Wednesday, July 12 at 10:00 AM
Children who have completed 2nd grade and up who would like to be a part of a summer guitar class, please contact Beverly Blevins.
You will learn basic chords and learn to share God’s word through song!

**Lesson Plans for:** June 18
**Sunday School for grades 1st - 5th**
**UNIT 1:** Courageous Bible People
“Courageous Friends”
Memory Verse:
“Hope in the Lord! Be strong! Let your heart take courage! Hope in the Lord!”
Psalm 27:14

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**YOUTH: Passion for Christ | Passion for people**

**GET INVOLVED WITH AMPED THIS SUMMER**

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**SUPERHERO RIDE**
on the greenway with Rev. Dennis!
June 20 @ 1:00 p.m.

**Amped Student Movie Matinee**
June 22 @ noon
Wesley Center
FREE Sub Sandwiches for lunch

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**SNO CAP LUNCH**
June 19 @ noon
bring $10-$15

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**Amped student...**
Singer/Songwriter Ed Kilbourne

Don’t let the kids have all the fun at VBS!
Vacation Bible School for “Grown-ups”
“The Gospel According to You”
Coming to Grace, August 28-30
10:00 - 12:00 noon,
followed by a light lunch
Led By:
Singer/Songwriter Ed Kilbourne
Save the dates and watch for details!
For Adults 50+

It will all kick-off with...
“It’s 5 O’clock Somewhere!”
Concert for ALL ages by Ed Kilbourne
Sunday, August 27 at 5:00 PM

North Augusta Salkehatchie

Host: Grace United Methodist Church
When: July 15 - 22
Look for more info to come

SLAND CASTAWAYS
Creative Arts Camp For Kids

We need YOU! JUST 16 SPOTS AVAILABLE!!!
June 26-30 9am-noon
For completed 1st-5th grade
$25/child
$40/2 children same family

Please Join us for our Friday Performance
June 30 at 12 Noon in the Wesley Center
Bring a bag lunch for you and your camper.
So...just sit right back and you’ll hear a tale....

Join us for our Gospel Hymn Sing
“Homecoming Style”
Sunday, August 6 at 6PM
In the Wesley Center

CHOIR RETREAT PLANNING

SAVE the DATES:
September 2 - 4.
Looking forward to another great
time of singing and fellowship.

Come and support the many events we have planned for your enjoyment at GRACE UMC!
**WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS!**

| SUNDAY, June 18 | 8:30 AM 830 Worship - Gathering, Sanctuary  
|                 | 8:45 AM LifeSong Contemporary Worship, Wesley Center  
|                 | 8:45 & 11:00 AM BLAST program, Asbury Building  
|                 | 9:45 AM Sunday School, Campus, All ages  
|                 | 11:00AM Traditional Worship Sanctuary  
|                 | 5:00 PM Audit Committee meeting, Conference room |

| MONDAY, June 19 | BUS - Vacation Bible School 5th grade mission adventures  
|                 | 8:45 - 12:00 PM Vacation Bible School, Campus  
|                 | 9:15 AM Jazercise, Family Center Gym  
|                 | 6:30 PM Youth Worship Team Rehearsal  
|                 | 8:00 PM Men’s Basketball, Family Center Gym |

| TUESDAY, June 20 | BUS - Vacation Bible School 5th grade mission adventures  
|                 | 8:45 - 12:00 PM Vacation Bible School, Campus  
|                 | 6:00 PM Jazercise, Family Center Gym  
|                 | 7:00 PM History Committee Meeting, Wesley C History room |

| WEDNESDAY, June 21 | BUS - Vacation Bible School 5th grade mission adventures  
|                    | 8:45 - 12:00 PM Vacation Bible School, Campus  
|                    | 9:15 AM Jazercise, Family Center Gym  
|                    | 1:00 PM Newsletter Folding & Labeling crew, Conference room  
|                    | 6:15 PM GIFTS Evening group, Wesley Center room C  
|                    | 6:15 PM Grace Worship Team Family Group, WC Parlor  
|                    | 7:00 PM Chancel Choir, Bitchington Music room  
|                    | 7:00 PM Worship Run-Through, Wesley Center |

| THURSDAY, June 22 | BUS - Vacation Bible School 5th grade mission adventures  
|                   | 8:45 - 12:00 PM Vacation Bible School, Campus  
|                   | 9:00 AM Agape Pastoral Counseling, Lower level Wesley Center  
|                   | 9:00 AM Summer Children’s Day Out, CDC Wing  
|                   | 11:30 AM Wisdom of the Ages, Conference room  
|                   | 1:00 PM Library Committee, Library  
|                   | 6:00 PM Caring and Sharing, Lower level Wesley Center |

| FRIDAY, June 23  | BUS - Vacation Bible School 5th grade mission adventures  
|                  | 8:45 - 12:00 PM Vacation Bible School, Campus  
|                  | 9:15 AM Jazercise, Family Center Gym |

| SATURDAY, June 24 | BUS - YOUTH Piedmont Salkehatchie  
|                   | 9:15 AM Jazercise, Family Center Gym |

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**Message of thanks from SPRC**

The Grace Staff Parish Relations Committee is sad to inform you that Michael Keltz will be leaving Grace as Youth and Contemporary Worship Director on August 3 to become the art teacher at North Augusta Elementary School. He and his family will remain members of Grace.

*Please thank Michael for all he has done for Grace.*

**Job Opening: Youth Director**

The Youth Director position will be open when Michael leaves. A job description for this full-time position is available in the church office or on the church website. On our website go to employment opportunities on the Grace homepage.

Resumes may be submitted to Karen at the church office or e-mailed to marianne@gotgraceumc.org through July 10, 2017. If you know anyone who would be good for this position please pass this information on to them or let Mark Phifer (278-2801) know who. Please be in prayer for our new Youth Director. Thanks. The Contemporary Worship director position will be advertised later.

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**From page 1**

**GIFTS GETS FIDGETY**

*(Gathering in Fellowship to Share)*

The picture on the front page of this newsletter is a fidget blanket. They provide comfort to dementia and Alzheimer’s patients. They can be embellished with all kinds of textures and objects to keep hands busy. The GIFTS group recently delivered more than a dozen to National Health Care to be distributed to some of their residents.

Please consider joining this group of ladies who quietly go about improving the lives of others by using the varied talents granted them by God. “GIFTS in the morning” meets second and fourth Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. In the Youth Wing. “GIFTS in the evening” meets every Wednesday evening at 6:15 in the Wesley Center’s Seekers classroom, on the lower level.

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**SAVE the DATE from our United Methodist Women**

**PILLOW MINISTRY**

Saturday, August 26 at 10:00 AM  
In the Wesley Center

With your gracious donation of material last year, we have enough to make our pillows for this year! We are in need of willing hands and hearts as well as seamstresses with sewing machines.

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**Thurmond Lake Recreation Facility**

**SUMMER FUN is here!**

*(Available for use for our Church members)*  
Please enjoy our Thurmond Lake Recreation Facility for a summer outing. If you don’t have a key, they can be purchased for $5 each in the Church Office (limit of 2 per family). Pick up a brochure about the facilities & location.
FAITHFULNESS

We promise to uphold Grace with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness

OUR PRAYER and PRAISE REQUESTS: week of June 11, 2017

Sympathy to:      Rob Lacer in the death of his mother, Anna Marie Lacer on June 8 in Olathe, KS
Prayer Request:   Lal Younginer
Walton Rehab:     Lou Ann Sink
NHC Rehab:        Virginia Machak, Mildred Weeks, Ruth Ballard
Stevens Park Health & Rehabilitation: Betty Dollar

OUR PRESENCE: June 11
Worship: 432 Sunday School: 262

OUR SERVICE: June 18
Acolytes: Molly Glenn, Katie Elk
Crucifer: Emily Miller
Count Team: 6/19 Debbie Yano, Suzanne Fletcher, Angela Davis
Offertory: Robert Meadors
8:30 Layreader: Galan Potter
8:30 Greeter(s): Annette Crawford
11:00 Greeter(s): (Main) Bob & Charlene Miller
(Ga. Avenue) Mark & Loralee Kokovich
Doorstep Visitation: Jo Barton & Mary Ann Rose
LifeSong Refreshments: Journey Sunday school class
Flower Committee: Donna Hobbs & Lee Koehler

ALTAR FLOWERS for June 18

The beautiful flowers on the altar are placed there to the glory of God in celebration of the marriage of Stuart Rawlinson and Michelle Lillash who wed in Mentor, Ohio on June 17, and in honor of all the fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers

by Pam, Rodney and Zachary Rawlinson

Memorials through June 11, 2017

IN MEMORY OF...
Sara Ruczko Bell, mother of Suzanne Fletcher
Mary Jane Wisenbaker
Greg Benjamin
(Michael Hargrove Scholarship) Charles Pierce
Lou Brisie
(WC Debt Reduction) Charles Pierce
Frances Crook
Mary Jane Wisenbaker
Michael Hargrove
(Michael Hargrove Scholarship) Charles Pierce
Daniel O’Neal
(Kids Club) John & Yvonne O’Neal
Blake & Joyce Sawyers, parents of Donna Hobbs
Mary Jane Wisenbaker
George Shaw
(Scouts) Jimmy Adams
The Ruben Family
Amos Steedley
F.R. and Tamara Cannon

Our Gifts: The Lord’s Treasury

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$1,369,332.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Requirements to date 06/11/17: $620,064.00
- Receipts through 06/11/17: $618,674.83
- Amount needed weekly: $25,836.00
- Received 06/11/17: $17,800.75

Events at Grace and in Our Community

VBS in the History/Archives Room

Remember “Checkers the Cheetah” and “Ocho the Octopus”? The display may be viewed June 11—June 25th.

Come visit these as well as many other VBS puppets from the past years in the History/Archives room in the Wesley Center. Come and reconnect with facts, friends, and memories from the past through photos and other memorabilia.

Your children and grandchildren will see “Flame, the Red Panda” making an appearance in this year’s 2017 Hero Central VBS.

MUSIC in the PARK SERIES

Each Thursday at 7:00 PM

The free hour-long outdoor concerts will be held in North Augusta’s Maude Edenfield Park. The series is for all ages, and we invite everyone to bring a chair or blanket and enjoy music in this beautiful outdoor setting. Concerts are moved inside the Community Center in the event of inclement weather. For more information and links to preview performers, visit naarts council.com.

- **THIS THURSDAY!** June 15 – Double D
- June 22 – Backline Bluegrass
- June 29 – Philip Lee Band with food purchases available from the Riverside Smoke food truck
- July 6 – 246th Army Band
- July 13 – Doug and the Henrys
**SUMMER IS HAPPENING!**
(...AND SO ARE OTHER THINGS!)

**Programs and Activities:**
- **Vacation Bible School**, June 19 - 23
- **Creative Arts Camp**, June 26 - 30
- **Piedmont Salkehatchie**, July 24 - July 1
- **NA Salkehatchie**, July 15 - 22
- **Christmas in July**, supports Salkehatchie, July 19
- **Jr. Jazzercise Camp**, July 17 - 21

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**Island Castaways**

**Creative Arts Camp For Kids**

June 26-30 9am-noon
For completed 1-5th grade

$25/child
$40/2 children in the same family

Contact Jenny Lou Jones at jljou7@comcast.com for more info

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**Grace United Methodist Church**

639 Georgia Avenue, North Augusta, SC 29841

**Main Office:** 803-279-7525
**Child Development Center:** 803-279-7528
**Fax:** 803-279-1434
**Email:** info@gotgraceumc.org
**Website:** www.gotgraceumc.org
**Rev. Dennis:** 864-910-0664 (daytime)
803-426-8500 (evening)

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**GRACE HIGHLIGHTS**

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**Join us for “Christmas in July”**
July 19, 6:00 p.m., Wesley Center

**Menu:**
Lasagna roll-ups, Caesar salad, garlic bread, dessert.

For planning purposes, your reservation is strongly suggested by noon on Tuesday, July 18. Sign up forms are available in the Worship attendance pads or call the church office.

*Donations will be accepted for this special meal with our NA Salkehatchie workers.*