



GRACE MENNONITE  
FELLOWSHIP

209 Lacey Spring Rd. Rockingham, VA 22802  
540-442-6235  
gracemennofellowship@gmail.com

**July 20, 2025**

Sunday School 9am Worship Service 10am  
Office hours: Tues & Thurs. 10-2

Pastor Joshua Cox/919-616-7782/revjoshcox@gmail.com  
Pastor LaShonda Russell/540-578-0782/lalaruss78@gmail.com

**Welcome to Grace Mennonite Fellowship!**

We are glad you are here today to worship with us. Here at Grace, we strive to learn more about Jesus through the scriptures, song & each other. We want to walk alongside you on your faith journey! Our hope is that you will feel at home here at Grace.

The Grace family is made up of people from all walks of life and all ages. We pray that you will find where you fit in and let your gifts shine.

Pastor Josh and Pastor LaShonda are available to meet you over coffee, in their office or your home.

**Important Contacts**

*Mike Oswald, Elder Chair*

*Kent Armentrout, Council Chair*

*Larry Davis, Head Trustee*

*Tamra Puffenbarger, Care Team Lead*

*Kay Kibler, Administrative Assistant*

*CL Russell, Sound Tech*

*Bekah Mongold, Visuals*

*Please turn your cell phones off or silence them during the service.*

*Wifi Network: Connect to Gracequest Password JesusSaves*

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Opening Prayer**

**Margie Clement, Worship Leader**

**Lighting of the Peace Candle**

**Announcements**

**Music**

**Offering**

**Dismiss Children for Children's Church**

**Message: Pastor LaShonda Russell**

**"But God..."**

**Ephesians 2**

**Hymn**

**Sharing Time**

**Benediction**

### ***Worship Schedule***

	<b>July 20</b>	<b>July 27</b>
<b>PREACHING</b>	<b>Pastor LaShonda</b>	<b>Pastor Josh</b>
<b>WORSHIP LEADER</b>	<b>Margie Clement</b>	<b>Wren Whetzel</b>
<b>CHILDREN'S CHURCH PreK-3rd Grade</b>	<b>Jones Family</b>	<b>Andrea Keckley &amp; Renee' DeJongh</b>
<b>Jr. Church 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday's</b>	<b>Ginger Brubaker &amp; Billie Jo Mohler</b>	<b>_____</b>
<b>TODDLER ROOM</b>	<b>TBD</b>	
<b>Music Team</b>	<b>Mathias Family</b>	<b>Doris Davis</b>
<b>Secure Church</b>	<b>Chris Mathias</b>	<b>Jake Buchanan</b>



# **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN FAMILY MINISTRY**

## **Children's Church News**

As a parent, have you wondered what your children will be learning today in Children's Church? Today's lesson...

### **"Prayers for the People"**

**Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:1-8**

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## ***GIVING...***

### **Attendance**

**Last Sunday: 123**

**One year ago: 122**

**All Giving Last Sunday:**  
**\$4602**

### **Breakdown of Last Sunday**

**General Fund: \$4254**

**Philippines: \$100**

**Philippines Fundraiser: \$43**

**Campout: \$205**

<b><i>EASY TITHE</i></b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>
<b>General</b>			
<b>Pantry</b>			
<b>L. Stand</b>			
<b>VCM</b>			
<b>Philippines</b>			
<b>Compassion</b>			
<b>Youth</b>			
<b>Totals</b>			

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## **This Week's Calendar**

**Sunday, July 20**

**Monday, July 21**

**Tuesday, July 22**

**Wednesday, July 23**

**Thursday, July 24**

**Friday, July 25**

Food Pantry, VCM, Elders

Church Cleaning

Bible Study

## **July Birthdays**

24 Carl Callahan

25 Judy Comer

27 Larry Davis

30 Wayne Showalter

31 Butch Delp

## **Announcements**

**\*Pastor Josh is planning a membership class in July.** If you are interested in joining, please talk to him.

**\*We are winding down accepting recipes for the “Flavors of Fellowship” cookbook.** Don’t wait much longer to get your recipes in! See Amanda Fauls & Melinda Armentrout.

**\*Call for Singers!** Chordially Yours, a community SATB choir, is seeking additional sopranos, tenors, and basses for our winter season. Directed by Scott Zane Smith, we perform a diverse selection of music each December and May. Rehearsals for the winter season are held on Monday evenings starting September 8 at Linville Creek Church (Broadway). Interested? Contact Scott at [szanes@aol.com](mailto:szanes@aol.com) by **August 21, 2025** to learn more or schedule an audition.

**\*Pastor Josh will be on vacation next week.** If you need Pastoral Care, please reach out the Pastor LaShonda or one of our Elders.

**\*\*There will be a Celebration of Life service for Flo Benner** on Fri, July 25<sup>th</sup> 6pm here at Grace. Flo passed away on July 4th.

## **Blue Ridge District News**

**\*July 26 (Sat) 6:30-8:30pm - free Ordinary Time [Concert Series](#)** at the amphitheater of Brethren & Mennonite Heritage Center (1921 Heritage Center Way, Harrisonburg); rain location, Harrisonburg Mennonite Church. Jake Sawyer is an elementary school teacher and the Chief Musician at All Souls Anglican in Richmond. Bring lawn chairs, blankets, friends!

**\*Aug 9 (Sat) - Putt For Missions** at Mulligan’s Golf Center (141 Carpenter Ln, Harrisonburg). A day of mini-golf fun and fellowship in support of the work of VMissions. The event begins at 9:00 am for families and friends, and the special youth round begins at 10:30 am. Youth team, come and meet other teams from different churches. To learn more and register: [vmmissions.org/partner/events/putt-for-missions](https://vmmissions.org/partner/events/putt-for-missions).

**\*Oct 19 (Sun) 6:30pm - District hymn sing** at Weavers. Includes fellowship time with Smileys ice cream and toppings provided. More details to come.



## **LMC News**

**Sept 24-27 (Wed-Sat) - LMC Fall Leadership Assembly ‘No Other Foundation’**—this year a longer, four-day assembly celebrating 500 years of Anabaptism. **Wed and Thurs - resourcing event** around team leadership at East Petersburg Mennonite Church. Cost \$60. **Fri eve -**

**partner organization Expo followed by worship service** at Weaverland Anabaptist Faith Community. Expo from 5-7pm includes table displays by LMC resource partners, appetizers and ice cream, giveaway gifts, door prizes, scavenger hunt for the children, MDS Storm Trailer (virtual experience of a tornado). Cost FREE.

**Sat - worship, speakers, stories, and seminars** at Weaverland Anabaptist Faith Community. Cost \$30.

More info at [lmchurches.org/connections/fall-leadership-assembly](http://lmchurches.org/connections/fall-leadership-assembly).

### **UPCOMING THIS FALL....**

**\*Oct 24-26 (weekend) - The SOIL+SEED FESTIVAL at Highland Retreat**, a family-friendly retreat that features concerts, times of worship, sing-alongs, hiking, campfires, and opportunities to connect with others around nature, music, and faith in Jesus Christ. More at [thesoilandtheseedproject.org/events](http://thesoilandtheseedproject.org/events)

**HOUSEKEEPING**...When using the church, please remember to leave things better than you found them, turn off lights, and make sure the doors are **closed and locked**.

### **Prayer List**

Prayers for the boys that were in the car accident a few months ago, Margie Clement, Kay & Richard Early, Aaron White's family, Dan Benner, Paul Mishler, Esther Harman. Remember all the lives lost from the flooding.

**PRAISE GOD** for the Lacey Spring Food Pantry, sermons from Pastor Josh, the young people that are making a commitment to Jesus!

**Please remember our shut-ins by sending them a card.**

**Addresses can be found in the online directory on our website.**

Dan Benner

Frances Showalter

Liz Landis

Paul Mishler

Millie Early

# **Ministries of Grace**



## **GMF Philippines Learning Center**

**Grace has a school in the Philippines, that is for 3-5 year old children. We have been supporting them since 1999. For more information, please talk to Wayne & Joanne Showalter.**



## **The Lacey Spring Food Pantry**

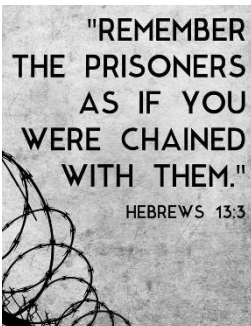
**is open on Mondays from 1-5:30pm for anyone in need of food. If you or someone you know that is facing food insecurities, have them talk to Kay Kibler or Amanda Fauls. We are a mission of Grace.**

## **Vertical Connections Ministry**

**This is a clothing ministry open on Mondays from 10am-1pm. For more information, talk to Glen Adams.**



VERTICAL CONNECTION MINISTRIES  
MOBILE CLOTHES BANK  
540-405-1568



## **Prison Ministry**

**Grace has a men's jail discipleship class that meets from 8:45am-9:45am each Friday in Rockingham Regional Jail. Out of the class has developed a breakfast with jail volunteers and friends made on the inside that are now free. Talk to Pastor Josh if interested.**



### **Mission Statement**

**We will endeavor to faithfully give ourselves to prayer, worship, and study of the Bible. We acknowledge that God invites us to practice love, forgiveness, and hospitality to all humanity. We commit ourselves to invite others to faith in Jesus and to seek God's peace in our homes, work, neighborhoods, & the world.**

### **Vision Statement**

**God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as a witnessing community of love, grace, joy and peace; so that God's healing and hope flowthrough us to the world.**

# Fun Facts

## **The Bible is the Most Stolen Book**

Ironically, although one of the Ten Commandments is “thou shalt not steal,” the Bible is the most stolen book in the world. Bibles are regularly taken from hotels, hospitals, bookstores, and other locations.

## **The Bible is the Bestselling Book in the World**

The Bible is the most-read book in the world. This best-selling book sees up to 100 million copies sold or donated annually. Approximately 20 million copies are sold each year in the U.S. alone.

## **Jesus Is Never Described in Detail**

While churches and iconography worldwide depict images of Jesus, the Bible never truly describes what he looks like. There are hints to his features found in some books of the Bible, but a full description is lacking. The only Bible verse that gives any indication of Jesus’s appearance is Isaiah 53:2 “he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.”

## **Bible Translations**

As the Bible was carried to other countries, it was translated into the common language of the people by scholars who wanted others to know God’s Word. Today there are still 2,000 groups with no Bible in their own language.