



God's work. Our hands.



Important Dates for Grace Lutheran Church

IMPORTANT DATES FOR GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

- 9/25/1960** **FIRST SERVICE – ORMOND HOTEL CHAPEL**
- 5/7/1961** **ORGANIZATION DAY – Dr. Royall A. Yount – Announced the Organization of the Congregation**
- 9/10/1961** Rev. J.E. Von Holten installed as the First Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church
- 5/6/1962** First Building Campaign Began
- 6/21/1963** Ground Breaking – 333 Oceanshore Blvd.
- 8/15/1965** Pastor J.E. Von Holten Resigned to Accept Another Call
- 1/30/1966** Rev. Ralph W. Birk was installed as the Second Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church
- 2/27/1966** Donald Baron, son of Mr. & Mrs. Albert Baron was ordained. He was the Supply Minister at Grace from 9/65 – 1/66 and will go to Taiwan as a Missionary
- 5/15/1966** Celebrated 5th Anniversary at Grace with a Service in the morning and a History Program in the evening.
- 5/12/1967** Ordination of George F. Becker – Charter Member
- 3/20/1968** 25-Note Schulmerich Cathedral Chimes Dedicated.
- 6/15/1968** Airway between buildings cemented
- 11/16/1969** Dedication of Kindergarten & Narthex
- 5/1971** 10th Anniversary Observance with Dr. Carl Driscoll & Pastor George E. Becker
- 2/27/1972** Sanctuary Lamp Dedicated
- 7/2/1972** Private Communion Set Dedicated
- 8/15/1972** Pastor Ralph W. Birk Retired
- 9/3/1972** Christ Candle Dedicated
- 1/28/1973** Rev. Richard E. Martin was installed as the Third Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church
- 5/11/1973** "Holy Smoke" Players presented first play, "Exit the Body" at O.B. Women's City Club – Dinner Served
- 6/24/1973** Congregation voted to start Building Program for New Sanctuary
- 4/22/1974** Congregation voted to hire Joseph Blais as Architect for New Sanctuary
- 6/14/1974** Neptune Players of Grace present "See How They Run", Dinner Theater at Peninsula Junior Women's Club for two weekends

- 11/17/1974 New Constitution & By-Laws Adopted
- 12/24/1974 Dedication of Cornerstone for New Sanctuary sent by Pastor Naim Nassar, Evangelical Christmas Church in Israel – Stone comes from cave near Bethlehem (Birthplace of Jesus)
- 3/18/1975 Met with City Commission of Ormond Beach to discuss Building Plans
- 4/1/1975 City Commission Meeting to discuss neighborhood opposition to Garden of Resurrection portion of New Building Plans.
- 4/25/1975 Neptune Players Presented Play "Don't Drink the Water" at Peninsula Women's Club for two weekends.
- 5/6/1975 Public Hearing at Ormond Beach City Hall to Discuss Opposition to Garden of Resurrection.– Grace Granted Permission to Build
- 9/28/1975 Special Congregation Meeting – Fund Raising for New Sanctuary
- 12/14/1975 Ground Breaking for New Sanctuary and Related Buildings
- 1/27/1976 Grace hosted Bethune Cookman College Chorale Concert
- 5/30/1976 Cornerstone Laying Service – New Sanctuary
- 7/11/1976 Special Congregational Meeting to Approve Garden of Resurrection Constitution and By-Laws.
- 2/20/1977 Dedication of New Church Sanctuary with Dr. Royal Yount, President of Florida Synod & Most Reverend Thomas Grudy (Roman Catholic Bishop of Orlando) as Key Speakers. Newberry College Choir Performed and eight other pastors and priests from the Ecumenical Council of Ministers participated.
- 5/13/1977 Neptune players presented A Dinner Theatre "Pools Paradise" at Grace for two consecutive weekends.
- 12/4/1977 Organ Recital and Open House 500-600 People Attended.
- 2/11/1979 Special Presentation on New Lutheran Book of Worship
- 3/12/1979 Passover Seder
- 3/1/1979 Grace Lutheran Sponsored Art Show for Local and International Artists
- 3/11/1979 Grace hosted the Newberry Choir and Jazz Ensemble Concert
- 5/1979 Neptune Players Presented A Dinner Theatre "See How They Run" at Grace for two weekends.
- 1/13/1979 Daytona Beach Choral Society Concert "The Magnificent" and Bush's "Christmas Cantata".
- 2/23/1980 Bach Concert
- 5/4/1980 Special Congregational Meeting regarding Completion of Garden of Resurrection.

6/22/1980 Rev. Dr. Wilbert A. Boerstler Installed as Associate Pastor

12/21/1980 Special Congregational Meeting Approved Developing "Ormond Lutheran Manor" Life Care Facility

1/21/1981 Thiel College Choir Concert

5/15/1981 Neptune Players Presented a Dinner Theatre "You Can't Take It With you" for two weekends.

5/30/1981 Twentieth Anniversary Banquet held at St. Brendan's Social Hall.

5/30/1981 Twentieth Anniversary Service – Rev. Clarence Caldwell, Sec. of LCA Florida Synod, Guest Speaker

4/15/1982 Associate Pastor Dr. Wilbert A. Boerstler Resigned.

4/18/1982 Issued Call to Rev. Robert C. Wittler to Serve as Assistant Pastor.

5/7/1982 Neptune Players presented a Dinner Theatre, "Don't Drink the Water" for two weekends.

12/31/1982 Pastor Richard E. Martin Resigns

5/1983 Neptune Players presented a Dinner Theatre "The Curious Savage"

5/29/1983 Rev. Robert Whittler installed as Fourth Pastor Grace Lutheran Church

5/4/1984 Neptune Players Presented a Dinner Theatre "Daddy, Dear Daddy"

4/1985 Neptune Players Presented a Dinner Theatre "Play On"

3/2/1986 Air Force Academy Cadets Chorale Concert

5/4/1986 25th Anniversary Celebration – Reception Followed Service

8/29/1986 Neptune Players Presented a Dinner Theatre "I'll Get My Man" for two weekends.

8/31/1986 Russell Kline, Concert Pianist and Teacher at State Conservatory in Austria Performs.

9/1986 New Cross Installed on Outside Cross Tower

9/1986 New Outdoor Sign Installed

5/12/1987 Constitutional Convention to Form ELCA FL-Bahamas Synod was held in Orlando – Church Delegation Attended

9/25/1987 Fall Family Festival

10/1987 Handbells Ordered

1/1/1988 Pastor Robert C. Wittler Retires

1/1/1988 Pastor Frederick Fritsch Begins Serving as Interim Pastor

- 1/10/1988 Festival Service of Thanksgiving Held at Stetson University at Celebrate Merger of LCA, ALC & AELC
- 10/9/1988 Rev. Dr. M. Thomas Sublett installed as Sixth Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church
- 3/19/1989 Began Using Lay People as Lectors
- 5/14/1989 Began Using Lay People as Communion Assistants
- 5/21/1989 Dedication of Baptismal Shell
- 5/13/1990 Congregational Meeting To Approve Addition of 191 Niches to Garden of Resurrection
- 9/1990 Faceted Glass Windows in Nave Removed and Redone
- 10/1990 Parlor Completed by Women of Grace
- 11/4/1990 Dedication of "Advent" & "Ephiphany" Section of Niches in Garden of Resurrection
- 10/12/1991 30th Anniversary Banquet Held at St. Brendan's Hall
- 10/13/1991 30th Anniversary Worship Service with Retired Bishop Royall Yount Presiding
- 11/17/1991 Congregational Meeting to Adopt New Constitution and By-Laws
- 12/1991 Bell in Garden of Resurrection, Donated by Christ the King Lutheran Church, began tolling each Sunday to Call Worshippers to Grace
- 3/1/1992 New Choir Vestments Worn for the First Time
- 4/26/1992 30th Anniversary Celebration concluded with the Burning of the Mortgage at the Worship Service
- 9/14/1992 Noah's Ark Pre-School Begins
- 1/24/1993 Congregational Meeting Approves Renovation of Choir Loft, Repairs to Roof & Salary for Seminary Intern
- 8/1/1993 Lane Bombeck begins his Internship at Grace
- 1/23/1994 Congregational Meeting Approves Establishment of the Garden of Resurrection Trust Fund for Perpetual Care
- 2/13/1994 Dedication of New Baptismal Shell, Acolyte and Youth Choir Robes
- 4/4/1994 Lenoir Rhyne College Choir Concert
- 5/1/1994 Congregational Meeting to Approve Major Roof Repairs and Purchase of Digital Piano with Memorial Funds
- 5/29/1994 Dedication of Clavinova and Sanctuary Light Bracket
- 7/31/1994 Intern Lane Bombeck Completed His Internship

9/6/1994 Paul Galchutt Began his Internship at Grace

1/22/1995 Congregational Meeting To Approve Purchase of Zimmer Digital Organ for \$65,000.00. A Fund Drive was Established and Funds Raised were Matched by a Private Donor

8/20/1995 Intern Paul Galchutt completed his Internship.

4/28/1996 Dedication of Zimmer Organ, Bishop William Trexler Presiding. An Afternoon Music Festival was held with Local Church Choirs Participating

4/26/1997 35th Anniversary Banquet held at Ramada Inn, Surfside, Rev. Don Himmelman, Guest Speaker

8/1998 Barbara McCormick resigned as Secretary of Grace after 25 Years of Service.

6/30/1999 Pastor M. Thomas Sublett Retired

7/4/1999 Rev. Dr. Leander Ecola began serving as Interim Pastor.

6/4/2000 Rev. Virginia K. Barnes Installed as the Eighth Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church.

2000 Sanctuary Sound System; Installed New Sign on A1A; Received large Bequests from Estates of Roxie Spence and Marion Musselman

2001 Special Pojects Fund Established – “The Musselman Fund”

3/21/2002 Congregation Approved Refurbishment of Building Called “The Musselman Project”

Congregation Approved Purchase of Car for Pastor; 2 Octave Chimes Were Installed

9/2002 Musselman Project Completed which included Major Renovations in Kitchen, Fellowship Hall, Office, Sacristy, Conference Room, Parlor, Choir Room, Entryway, Pre-School and Sanctuary

5/2003 Installed New Lighted Sign and New Security System

6/2003 Established One Worship Service at 10:00 am

3/20/2004 Care Ministries Established

3/2004 Entered into a Lease Agreement with Volusia County to “Rent” the Parking Lot for Beachgoers

2004 Established \$100,000 Endowment Fund

2005 Memorial Committee Purchased New Schulmerich Carillon

Congregation Approved of Car for Pastor

New Computer System Installed in Office

2/2006 Hung New Wooden Cross in A1A Tower

- 5/2006 Celebrated 45th Anniversary – Rev. Robert Schaefer, Assistant to the Bishop, Presiding
- 7/2006 Parking Lot Entrance was Remodeled with Landscaped Islands & Posts to Block Off Parking Lot As Needed
- 2/11/2007 Dedication of New Hymnals
- 3/2007 Bishop Edward Benoway Presided at Worship Service
- 10/2007 New Urn Stand for Funeral Services
- 3/2008 New Ceiling for Narthex
- 3/2008 Started "Going Green" – Five (5) Year Landscape Project on Becoming Environmentally and Ecologically Responsible
- 8/2008 All Four of the Bathrooms in the Fellowship Hall were Remodeled.
- 12/2008 New Entrance Gate for Garden of Resurrection
- 2/1/2009 Pastor Virginia K. Barnes Resigned.
- 3/1/2009 Pastor Charles Wallick became Interim Pastor of Grace
- 3/2009 Main Bathrooms of the Church were Remodeled
- 3/2010 Installed New Entrance Signs
- 8/2010 Repaired and Painted Garden of Resurrection
- 8/2010 Installed New Handrail and Renovated Parking Lot Entrance
- 9/2010 Exterior of Church was Cleaned and Painted
- 11/2010 Congregation Approved Adding 86 Niches to the Garden of Resurrection
- 12/2010 Completed Renovation of Classrooms, Fellowship Hall, Choir Room, Parlor, Conference Room, Pastor's Office, Sacristy, Altar Guild Room and other interior areas of Church
- 1/31/2011 Jacksonville University Choir Concert
- 4/10/2011 Rev. Dennis W. Koch installed as the Ninth Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church

'10/2013 Remodeled and enlarged the Noah's Ark playground
03/2014 We reroofed the center section of the building and installed a skylight in the narthex
04/2014 We installed our new security system
08/2014 Installed our Phone Tree System
09/2015 Installation of sun shades to the Noah's Ark playground
10/2015 Dedication of new choir stoles
11/2015 Dedication the third octave of chimes for the handbell choir
12/2015 Received large bequest from Verna Hauser trust fund
09/2016 Dedicated new shed for storage
01/2017 Began celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation
03/2018 Completed repairs to hurricane damaged areas of the church
04/2018 Dedication of new communion set
05/2018 Glenda Cunard retires after 13 years of Director of Music Ministry
10/2018 Pastor Dennis W. Koch resigned
12/2018 Pastor Dennis R. Meyer became Interim Pastor at Grace
01/2019 Renovation and replacement of electrical system and upgrade to security system

IMAGINE by Timothy R. Roberts

To us the world of Grace,
describes a wondrous place.
Filled with peace and love,
emanating from God above.

We were all created by One.
The Master, who gave his only Son.
Freeing us from our sins.
Exemplifying where love begins.

Grace Lutheran, has taught me many things.
The ways to mend my broken wings.
You have taken me out of the cold.
With open arms, accepting me into the fold.

Such a kindness, words cannot describe.
A love flowing like a gentle tide.
Your wonders never cease to amaze.
You have brightened my darkest days.

As we celebrate growth over 50 years,
Facing times of stress and tears.
Lets us not forget the laughter and praise.
Holding firm to our faith in many ways.

Today stands an exalted place of worship.
Survivors and families, with a true kinship.
A spectacular place of love, to behold.
Where the glorious word, continues to be told.

With solidarity as the church matures,
Beginning the journeys of our futures.
Changes will continue to come and pass,
As we preserve, with dignity and class.