

Good News From Grace



God's work. Our hands.



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Celebrating Our 65th Year

On May 30, 2026 we celebrated our 65th Year as Grace Lutheran Church. This newsletter will be a commemorative edition. We will share with you some of the history of our Church and some key facts about our Church. We will also be reaching out to our members to see what they want the future of Grace to look like. So sit back, read this newsletter and remember the "gold old days". Also, think about what we can do together to assure a bright future for Grace Lutheran Church. Thank you.

And so it Began—The History of Grace Lutheran Church

Having determined in 1960 that there was a need for a Lutheran Congregation in the growing Ormond Beach community, Lutheran Church in America's Board of American Missions assigned young Pastor James E. Von Holten to get a church started. Soon groups of dedicated Christians were meeting informally in the former Ormond Hotel.

Interest grew, and before long, the developing congregation assumed the responsibility for paying a large part of the Mission Pastor's salary. Formal organization took place May 7, 1961. A parsonage was purchased and the present site for a new church was negotiated.

Continuing to meet in the hotel, the congregation began planning for the future. A Building Committee was formed and a fund raising program took shape. Members pledged and met their pledges. The Church was on its way. Building plans were developed, financing was secured and ground was broken for the new church on July 21, 1963. It was dedicated December 21st of the same year.

The young Pastor Von Holten, having completed his mission goal, resigned in 1965. A Pulpit Committee was organized. After a search, The Rev. Ralph W. Birk, was called on November 7, 1965 to be the new Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Ormond Beach. (Continued on Page 3)

338 Ocean Shore Blvd. Ormond Beach, FL 32176 Phone 386-677-9141

J
u
n
e
2
0
2
6

Church Contacts

<p>Office Telephone Mailing Address Office Email</p>	<p>386-677-9141 338 Ocean Shore Blvd. Ormond Beach, FL 32176 GLC50@cfl.rr.com</p>
---	--

CHURCH STAFF

<p>Interim Pastor Organist Office Administrator Bookkeeper</p>	<p>Rev. Johanna Kiefner Corine Keefer Ellie Faust Patricia Brown</p>
---	---

COUNCIL MEMBERS

<p>President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Council Members</p>	<p>Barbra Sparber Barnes Richard Brown Janet Renick Peter Koehneke David Bemdorf Scott Nattinger Theodore MacLeod Carl Wince</p>
---	---

CHURCH FINANCIALS- April 2026			
INCOME	MONTH-Actual	MONTH-Budget	YEAR to Date-Actual
Regular Giving	\$ 16,335.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 44,480.00
Loose Offering	\$ 720.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,781.65
Other Income	\$ 7,850.13	\$ 3,986.00	\$ 24,953.22
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 24,905.13	\$ 14,486.00	\$ 72,214.87
EXPENSES	\$ 14,366.21	\$ 16,104.00	\$ 57,917.08
NET INCOME / LOSS	\$ 10,538.92	\$ (1,618.00)	\$ 14,297.79



(Cont'd from Page 1)

The Church continued to grow and prosper. By this time, Grace Lutheran Church had achieved its initial mission. It was important to its members and to the life of Ormond Beach.

After less than seven years, Pastor Birk expressed a desire to seek a calling that would permit reduced activity. He resigned July 31, 1972. Once again, a Pulpit Committee was organized. Pastor Richard E. Martin, of Baltimore, met with the committee and was offered a call. The Call was accepted and he was installed as the Third Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church on January 14th, 1973. With continued growth it was evident that an expanded church facility had to be built. A Building Committee was appointed, and an in-depth study was made of needs, potential, and costs. This committee was to take two years to complete its work. A new concept in contemporary church building was developed. As an integral part of the new structure, there was an area identified as the Garden of the Resurrection. There, loved ones would be interred in sealed crypts and the ashes of cremated Christians would find rest. This would truly be the church of the future.

Plans for a new building were approved and Architect, Joseph Blais, was asked to complete his drawings. The Church Council and the congregation gave the committee their approval at various stages of plan development. On Sunday, December 14th 1975, ground was broken.

The Church reached its final completion in February, 1977. On the 20th of February, special services were held. The 10 am Service, held in the old Church, was a closing service for that building. The key to the door of the old Church was returned to the President of the Church Council to lock the building for the last time as a Church.

The flame was taken from the altar and entrusted to one of the councilmen to be carried to the new Church to light the candles in the chancel there. Other items, communionware, offering plates, and placed in the new Church. At 3 pm, that afternoon, a procession formed outside the new building and the key for the new Church was presented to Pastor Martin. Each area was dedicated with the final prayer and dedication blessing at the altar.

Participating in this service were: The Rev. Dr. Royall A. Yount, Bishop of Florida Synod, Lutheran Church in America; The Most Rev. Thomas J. Grady, Roman Catholic Bishop of Orlando; The Rev. Louis Dunleavy, Pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church, Daytona; The Rev. Michael Flynn, Pastor of St. Brendan's Roman Catholic Church, Ormond Beach; The Rev. Delmar J. Glock, Trinity Lutheran Church, Holly Hill; The Rev. Perry Griffith, Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, New Smyrna Beach, The Rev. Walter g. Marz, Pastor, Lutheran Church of Christ the King, Daytona; The Rev. Marcus Otterbein, Pastor, St. Mark By-the-Sea, Lutheran Church, Palm Coast; The Rev. Father George Papadeas, Pastor, St. Demetrious Greek Orthodox Church, Daytona Beach; The Rev. Ernest Pretsch, Pastor, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Orlando; The Rev. Dorsey G. Smith, Jr., Rector, St. James Episcopal Church, Ormond Beach and The Rev. Richard E. Martin, Pastor, Grace Lutheran Church.

Senior Pastor, Richard Martin, resigned as of December 31, 198 and the congregation unanimously voted to call Pastor Wittler to be the Senior Pastor. He served six years until his retirement on January 1, 1988.

Retired Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Havertown, PA, The Rev. Frederick Fritsch, served as Interim Pastor from January 1, 1988 to October 1, 1988, when the Search Committee was able to find a new leader. On October 1, 1988, The Rev. Dr. M. Thomas Sublett, having come from Trinity Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, Florida, began his ministry a Grace.



The Cornerstone of Grace

The contractor, Dunlop Construction, was chosen to begin work on the Church. Construction of the new building began in February of 1976, with number of bulldozers going to work. Construction progressed and on May 30, 1976 at 10 am, a Cornerstone Laying Service was held at the in-completed entryway of the Church. The items placed in the Cornerstone are as follows:

<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>PLACED BY:</u>	<u>EXPRESSIVE OF OUR FAITH IN:</u>
Crucifix	Alan Due, Chief Abbot-Acolytes	God's Son and his redemptive work for us. As St. Paul said "We preach Christ and Him crucified."
Hymnal	Oscar Hartz, Oldest Male Member Also, Charter Member	To show our faith in worship, our praise in hymns to our Father, our Redeemer, and our Sanctifier
History of Church & Picture	Marvin Brosz, Council-Veep	A most impressive history of a Church dedicated down through the years in the Advancement of God's Kingdom
Membership List	Joe Weber, Council Secretary	These are the people who literally have "hung on", who made this all possible, Whose concern is the ongoing Kingdom of God.
Soil from Jersusalem	Lawrence Mistelske, Pres.Social Club	Grace Church is our holy ground, in a similar sense, as Israel was the holy ground Ground of the Incarnate Word of God.
Constitution & By-laws	Fred Gruber, Council Pres.	These are the practical rules by which the Congregation operates.
Holy Bible	Elizabeth Bortree, Oldest Female Member	Printed on these pages is the faith we share and the hope we hold as a family together.
Picture-Choir		These are the people dedicated to singing Praises to God each Sunday and on special Occasions
Piece from Wall of Jericho	John Donovan, Pres. Of L.L.	We pass through the walls of this ancient city just as did Prophets, Saints, and Jesus Christ.

Need of the Month



HUM

HALIFAX • URBAN
MINISTRIES

Homeless Prevention & Intervention

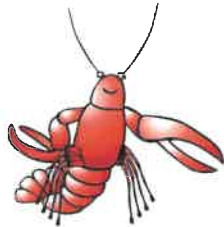


Please donate only non-perishable foods that are not out of date. Most needed are canned pasta, chili, beef stew, corn, green beans, pork n' beans, soup, tomato sauce, navy or pinto beans, plus peanut butter & boxed breakfast cereal, macaroni & cheese, pasta, and rice.

We also need baby items like diapers, formula and wipes and hygiene products like deodorant, shampoo, toothbrushes, razors etc.



June "Lunch Bunch" Luncheon
Florida Seafood Company
(formerly Burntwood Tavern)
Trails Shopping Center
June 19th, 2026
12 noon
Sign-up in
Sign-up in the Narthex
All Are Welcome!!!



UPDATE:

Thank you Gail Atkinson

Our Bookkeeper, Gail Atkinson, has resigned her position as of June 1st. Gail has done a wonderful job and she will be missed. We wish her well.

Patricia Brown, is replacing Gail as the Church Bookkeeper. We look forward to welcoming Patricia to the Church Office team and are thankful to have her!

2026 Grace Lutheran Church—Time Capsule

We would like to share what life was like in 2026 with future generations and put together a Time Capsule. Think about what would be good items for our Time Capsule and the reason why we think these should be put in the Time Capsule. See Ellie in the Church Office if you are inter-

Rest in Peace Joyce!

Our dear friend and long-time congregation member, Joyce Northridge, passed away on April 29th after a two-year battle with cancer.

Despite the issues she was dealing with, she continued to serve our church. As we all know, Joyce was a perfectionist. She knew where everything was and always made sure that things were in perfect order. This helped to not only add beauty to our Church, but also made sure that things were done correctly and in a timely manner. She accomplished so much and always with class and love.

Joyce became a member of Grace in February 2004. It wasn't long after being received as a member, that the Church Council reached out to her to serve on multiple committees and even the Council. In 2005, she replaced the President of the Church Council and served as President for multiple terms over the years. There was never a time in her years at our Church, where Joyce wasn't actively involved in something. She worked on the Church Council, various committees, the Finance Committee, Liturgical Lay Leader and Altar Guild. She also chaired the last two Call Committees. All her hard work gave us a strong foundation on which to build. We will all miss Joyce. We were blessed to have her both as a leader and a friend. She now soars with the angels, with glitter on her wings, and will continue to guide us from above. Thank you Joyce for all you did for Grace Lutheran Church. You will certainly be missed.

A Celebration of Life was held on May 25, 2026 in the Church.



Pregnancy Crisis Center
Thanks You

Words cannot appropriately express
the extent of our gratitude for your
overwhelming generosity this
Mother's Day!

*On behalf of the moms, babies, & families we serve,
thank you, thank you, thank you.*

Birthdays



Anniver-

June Birthdays

- 03 Elizabeth Stevens
- 08 Mare Koehneke
- 13 Jonathan Eckert
- 14 Ivey Benson
- 16 Dave Bendorf
- 18 Mark Wagener
- 23 Richard Brown
- 24 Jordan Crabb

July Birthdays

- 13 Evan Bobak
- 15 Lu Gaw
- 26 Dan Lang
- 30 Sheryl Forbes
- 31 Roy Asmus
- 31 Catherine Miller

June Anniversaries

- 01 Paul & Becky Kinzer
- 08 Dave & Stephanie Walsh
- 17 Bud & Carolyn Gerard
- 19 Mark & Diane Wagener
- 22 Randy & Cathy Miller
- 28 Bill & Pam Wendel

July Anniversaries

- 07 Dave & Jackie Bendorf
- 12 Roy & Patti Asmus
- 15 Brad & Laurie Ardner
- 15 Pete & Mare Koehneke



The Power of a Quarter



GLC has really been successful with the “clink” of our **quarters**. We have paid for so many things that upgrade the church over the past years we have been collecting **quarters**. Please put a couple of quarters in your purse or pocket and place in the offering plates—many quarters make a difference!

Grace Quarterstone Project



Altar Flowers and Communion Elements



WHO: You!

WHAT: Altar Flowers and/or Communion Elements

COST: \$30.00 Flowers and \$30.00 Elements - weekly

WHERE: Dated sign up book in Lobby

WHY: To commemorate a loved one or an important event

HOW: See Ellie in the Church Office

Thank You very much

The Charter of Grace Lutheran Church – May 7, 1961

"We the undersigned, believing in the Lord Jesus Christ as Our Savior, and desiring to have a place in our community where we and our children may worship, hereby petition the Board of American Missions of the United Lutheran Church in America to permit us to organize ourselves into a congregation of that body and to support the congregation by means as they deem wise and advisable to foster its growth.

If this request is granted, we pledge the mission board that we will faithfully and diligently prepare ourselves for membership in the congregation and will become confirmed members on the day that it is formally constituted and organized. As members of the congregation we pledge to support its efforts and do all within our ability to advance its growth. We will also support the greater work of the church and the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ through the benevolence program of the Church at large."

Mrs. Martha Elliott	Henry Bohn	Linda Alley
Mrs. Olivia A. Kleinman	Rolet A. Busse	Pam Sims
Mrs. George E. Becker	Dorothy M. Busse	Ruth L. Brown
Ginny Olsen	Clark C. Shut	Horace B. Brown
Mrs. James Von Holten	Milford A. Smith	Kathie R. Brown
Mrs. Gertrude B. Willock	Shirley LeBlanc	Randy Wolf
Sheldon I. Potteiger	Hansel H. Lektan	Mabel R. Roeper
Mrs. Bernice M. Potteiger	John F. Schmidt	Albert W. Roeper
George E. Becker	Kate D. Schmidt	Loretha G. Squires
Charles F. Frey	Mrs. Richard H. Gray	Regina Hagspeil
Mrs. Charles F. Frey	Eleanor M. Madsen	Marie Scharinger
Mr. Jack C. Dowd	Hannah Mayell	Marilyn Ayers
Mrs. Jack C. Dowd	Mrs. Hulda E. Hartz	George R. Ayers
Mrs. Walter C. Sorensen	J. Oscar Hartz	Sven Futtrup
Walter C. Sorenson	Emma C. McMahon	Elizabeth Futtrup
Mrs. Wm. M. Evans	Paul J. McMahon	J.D. Souder
Mr. J.N. Willock	Wayne M. Shaw	Alice G. Souder
Miss Joyce Elliott	Mrs. Wayne M. Shaw	Harry A. Doll III
Mrs. Elsie Scheil	Marion Sharp	Mr. & Mrs. Carl Anderson
Mrs. Loraine Smith	A.C. Hostuller	Pat Hostuller
Harvey A. Benner	Mrs. Margaret B. Hostuller	James Wolf
Henry A. Masden	G.F. Wolf	James E. Von Holten
Martha Mae Johnsen	Mabeth R. Wolf	
Raynor T. Johnsen	Denney Wolf	
G. Gurke	Frederic Due	
L.W. Gurke	Val K. Scheurich, Jr.	
Mrs. Alice Skogen	Rubys D. Scheurich	
Billie K. Steele	Mrs. Eveyln MacMillan	
Harry A. Doll, Jr.	Patricia Evelyn MacMillan	
Doris A. Doll	Arthur W. MacMillan	

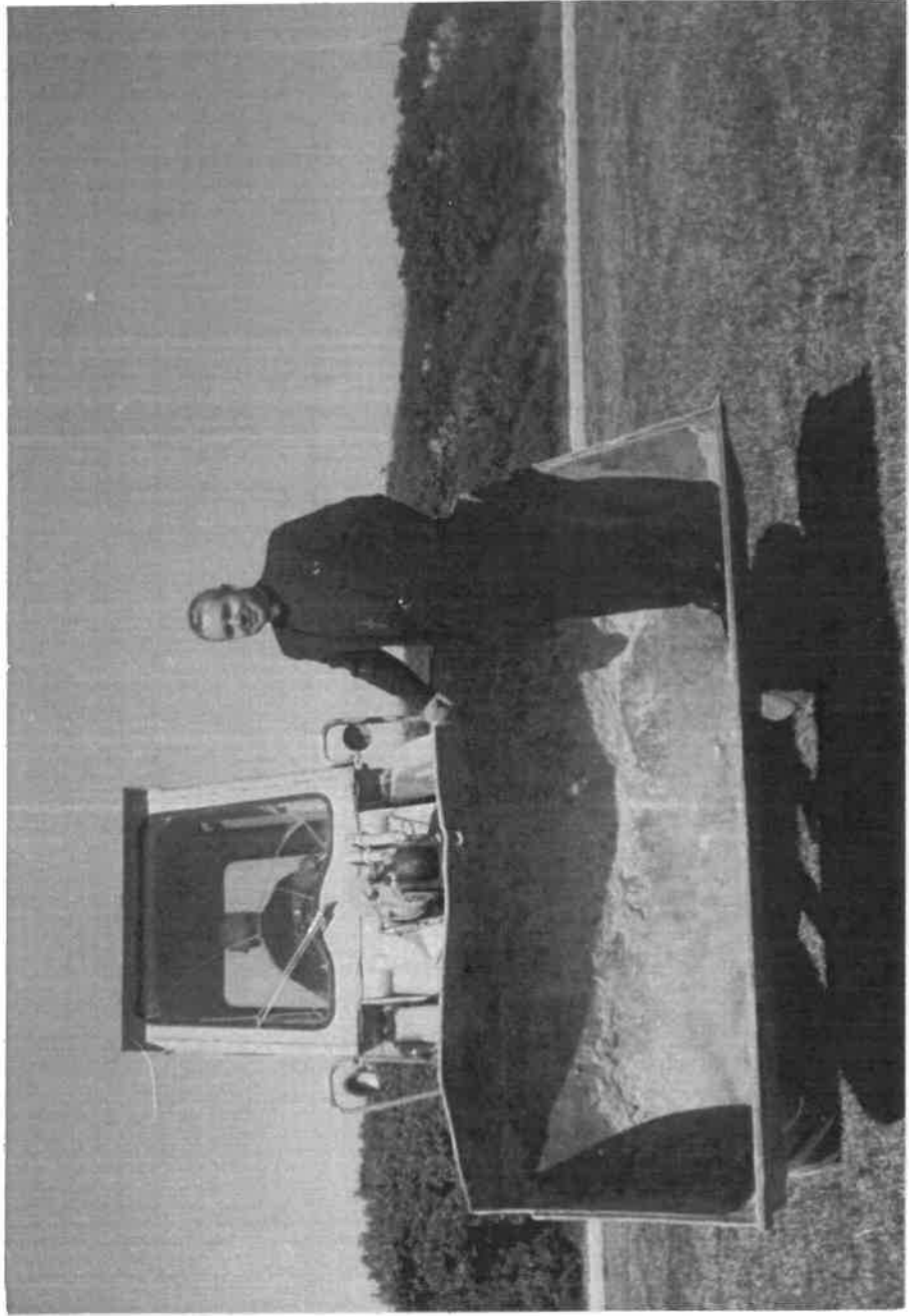
BAPTIZED CHILDREN: Katherine Ann Steele, Pamela Steele, Marilyn L. Doll, Harry A. Doll, III, Kathleen Busse, Martin Busse, George E. Becker, Jr., Donna Lee Becker, Rhonda Lee Becker, Scott Michael Pottiger, Billie Joan Pottiger, Deborah Lynn LeBlanc, Cheryl Beth LeBlanc, Carol Ann Shaw, Doyle Nolan Shaw, Pat Hostuller, Jan Scheurich, Barbara Lynn Skogen, Richard C. Squires, Marilyn A. Squires, John A. Squires, Paul B. Futtrup, Christine Futtrup, Ricky Wolfe, Stuart Olsen

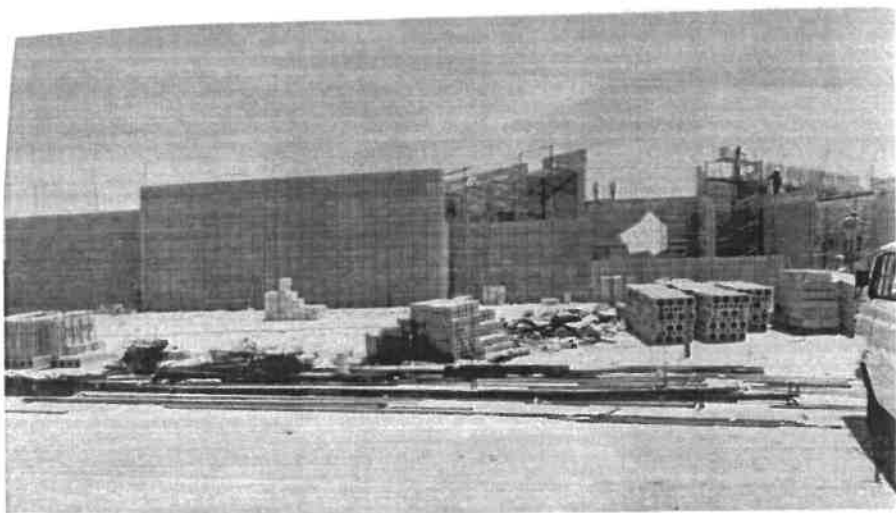
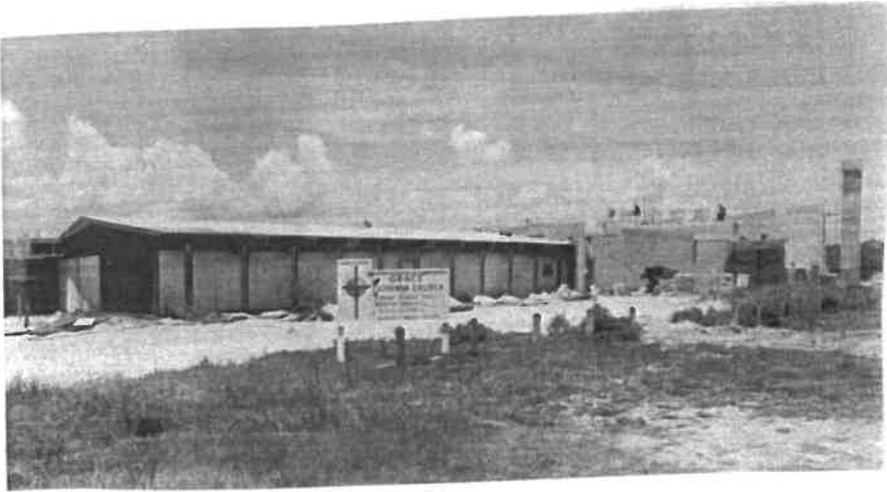
HND

AWAY

WE

GO!





Grace Lutheran Dedication Draws 600

The ecumenical movement took a giant step forward recently when Grace Lutheran's impressive ocean front church and adjoining Garden of Resurrection were dedicated at A1A and Neptune, Ormond Beach.

The Most Rev. Thomas J. Grady, Roman Catholic Bishop for the Orlando Diocese, joined with Florida's Lutheran Church in America Bishop Royal A. Yount in formally dedicating the new facilities.

Symbolism is used throughout the church, tracing the life of Christ from birth and baptism through death and resurrection.

Each step along the way was dedicated by clergy from other area churches of many denominations.

More than 600 people were on hand for the two hour afternoon service of dedication and the reception that followed.

Special music for the day was provided by the 85-voice Newberry College Choir from Columbia, S.C.

Pastor of the church is the Rev. Richard E. Martin.

Architect for the half million dollar construction project was Joseph Blais Jr. and Jack Dunlop, builder.

The complete list of officiating clergy, in addition to Pastor Martin, includes the Rev. Dorsey G. Smith, Jr., rector, St. James Episcopal Church, Ormond Beach; the Rev. Michael Flynn, pastor, St. Brendan's Catholic Church, Ormond Beach; the Rev. Delmar J. Glock, pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Holly Hill; the Rev. Walter G. Marz, pastor, Lutheran Church of Christ the King, Daytona Beach; the Rev. Louis Dunleavy, pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes, Daytona Beach; the Rev. Marcus F. Otterbein, pastor, St. Mark By-The-Sea, Palm Coast; the Rev. Perry B. Griffith, Trinity Lutheran Church, New Smyrna Beach; the Rev. George Papadeas, pastor, St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, Daytona Beach; and the Rev. Ernest Pretsch, pastor, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Orlando.



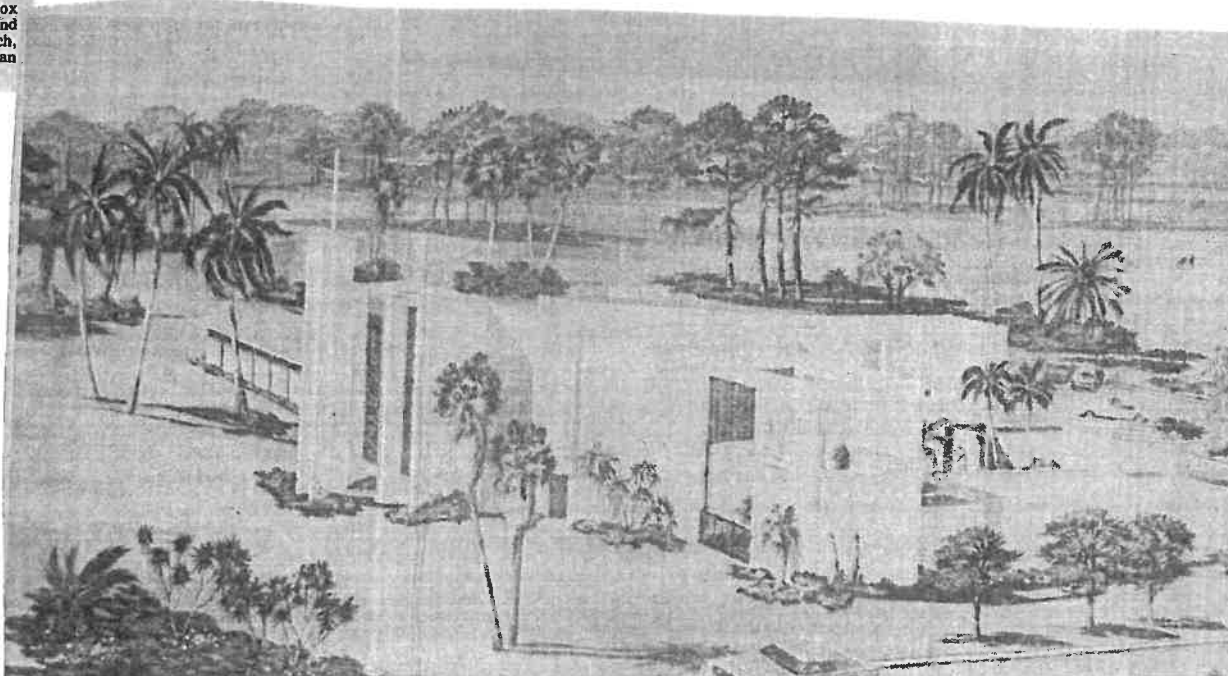
Church leaders at the entrance of the new Grace Lutheran Church during the recent dedication are (from left) Marian Moerschler, the Rev. George Papadeas, Bob Martin (top of his head), Marvin Brosz, the Rev. Marcus F. Otterbein, Joe Blais, the Rev. Walter G. Marz, the Rev. Delmar Glock, the Most Rev. Thomas J. Grady, the Rev. Richard E. Martin and Diane Johnson.



The 85-voice Newberry College Choir, from Columbia, S.C. provided music for Grace Lutheran's dedication. The choir is shown here in the sanctuary.



The new Grace Lutheran Church is an imposing sight along A1A at Neptune, Ormond Beach.



50th Anniversary Celebration

The 50th Anniversary was a great success, and the attendance at the Banquet was wonderful. Our own Glenda Cunard surprised everyone with her non-stop cocktail music. Her "hidden" talents in this area surprised and pleased everyone. Benno Kernekin was a "masterful" Master of Ceremonies and put us in the mood for our grand evening. After dinner we were entertained by Bobb Robinson and Robert Tudor, who performed a Cabaret act with Glenda accompanying them. They were fantastic, and we were truly blessed to have them perform for us.

Sunday morning we held a magnificent worship service, celebrating the past, present, and future of Grace. Pastor Tom Sublett represented the past, Pastor Charles Wallick the present, and Pastor Dennis Koch the future. We sang the same songs sung during the dedication of the first building, and the subsequent dedication of the current sanctuary. We honored our only active Charter Member, Loretha Squires, and dedicated the 50th Anniversary book to her. We also honored Barbara McCormick for her "many" years of service to Grace. After the church service, we went into the fellowship hall where the committee had decorated the tables, including candle centerpieces, donated by Jim & Joyce Moore, for a very nice reception. All of the bulletin boards were decorated in accordance with stages in the "life" of Grace, and the pictures brought back many memories, lots of stories, and quite a few laughs. Thanks to the Noah's Ark teachers & Robin Woodward for their artistic talents. We also had the worship service recorded, and it will become part of the CD, created by Jerry Orzell, which is included in the 50th Anniversary booklet. Thanks go to Bobb Robinson, Robert Tudor, and all 3 of the Pastor's wives who sang in the choir, the handbell players, and Glenda and Pastor Dennis for a beautiful service.

Scott Burdick designed a beautiful cover, Ellie Kryzkowski, booklet writer and editor, put everything together, along with past writings, to create a very informative and commemorative booklet, and Tim Roberts wrote a very moving poem in honor of the 50th.

A very special thank you to members of the 50th Anniversary Committee who worked so hard to make it a memorable weekend, Scott Burdick, Nancy Condo, Glenda Cunard, Larry Fischer, Bud Gerard, Carolyn Gerard, Sandra Hostettler, Ellie Krzykowski, Jim Moore, Joyce Moore, Joe Mote, Roxanna Mote, Sue Underwood, Kristen Yates, and Rachel Yount.

"Let those who came before us look down upon us with 'a smile' and let those who come after us thank us for our 'vision'".

