

# Grace Notes

December 12, 2021

## Mission Statement

To draw people to Christ,  
nourish their spirits, and  
prepare them for service to God,  
the Church, and the world.

### OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

#### Sunday, December 12

9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Service of Lesson & Carols

#### Monday, December 13

6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

#### Tuesday, December 14

9:00 am Organist in Sanctuary  
9:30 am KnitWerks@Grace  
11:00 am Rotary Club in gym  
5:30 pm Boot Camp  
6:00 pm SPRC

#### Wednesday, December 15

11:00 am Gentle Yoga Class  
2:00 pm UMW Leadership Team  
4:00 pm Organist in Sanctuary  
4:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting  
6:15 pm Grace Ringers  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

#### Thursday, December 16

5:30 pm Boot Camp  
6:30 pm Basketball

#### Friday, December 17

9:00 am Organist in Sanctuary

#### Sunday, December 19

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service

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### On-line Sunday Worship Services Continue

The service will be available Sunday starting at **4:00 pm**

This is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAK2Z36cUQ1JzE6Ye7TzcGg>

### LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP WITH THE OUTREACH OF GRACE?

We have ideas for outreach at Grace but they require many hands and feet to be successful! Would you like to be a part of expanding our prayer partner program, to help start a monthly fellowship and game night at Grace, to enable Grace to have a presence at parades and festivals, to conduct a Christmas fundraiser, or to restart the Welcome table? These opportunities, and more, will be a part of the new year!

There are exciting times ahead for Grace! If you would like to be a part of these events, please contact **Karen Evans**, at

[evans493@gmail.com](mailto:evans493@gmail.com) or 757-871-3763,

or **Sally Barnes**, at

[sallybarnes11754@yahoo.com](mailto:sallybarnes11754@yahoo.com) or

631-258-3182.

*"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."*

Romans 12:4-5 ESV



### HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS?

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

#### In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 12/5/2021

In-person Worship Service: 8:30 am - 42  
11:00 am - 156

Online Worship Service: 46

Operating Funds Given 11/24-12/1 18,861.00

#### November

Operating Funds Given YTD \$ 563,960.13

Operating Expenses YTD \$ 633,048.66

Balance \$ (69,088.53)

2021 Operating Budget = \$ 754,879

#### November

Building Preservation Fund

Received 2021 YTD \$ 47,947.28

Building Preservation Fund

Spent 2021 YTD \$ 48,225.95

#### Disaster Recovery (Boiler)

Insurance Receipts \$ 67,859

Expenses to date \$ 80,963

Apportionments are paid through November



## Poinsettias

The worship bulletin today contains a special envelope for donations to the Poinsettia Mission Project. Please use this envelope to name a person or persons you wish to honor or memorialize on **Sunday, December 19**, when the altar will be decorated with beautiful poinsettias. A list of all the names will be included in the bulletin that day.

A donation of \$5 or more per name is suggested. Funds raised will be given to, Stepping Stones. The poinsettias will remain on the altar for the Christmas Eve service and the service on Sunday, December 26. After that service, they will be delivered to Grace Church members who are no longer able to attend church services.

**The deadline for submissions is Monday, December 13, at 12:00 noon.** You can place it in the offering plates at the front and back entrances of the church or in a basket which will be placed in the Bullock Activity Center during fellowship time today. You can also call in names to the church office at 910-763-5197.

### NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Grace Family,

*Thank you so much for your very generous Christmas love gift. We are most appreciative of your thoughtfulness and kindness! The Grace staff continues to experience great joy in serving our Lord and the Grace church family. You continually demonstrate Christ's love through the many ways you support the staff and the church's ministries. May the peace and love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, be with you throughout these Advent and Christmas seasons!*

The Grace Staff

### Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers

Angie	Frank Pasquale's daughter,
Archer	Marielle
Tonna and Robbie Bowen	Susan Pasquale
John Calandro	Ann Payne
Vivian Carter	Joan Pence
Debbie Cole	Derek Phipps
Family of Francis Dail	Tom Powers
A. C. English	Sara Ragan
Wade Fox	Rosiland
Julie Godwin	Gary Rowe
Christians in Haiti	Tom Schraml
Family of Dick Hull	Mary Sloan
Laura	Shar Streeeter
Brian Little	Jim Teachey
NHRMC Nurses/Doctors/ Staff	Family of Laura Weaver Family of Joyce Witherington Stew Wolling

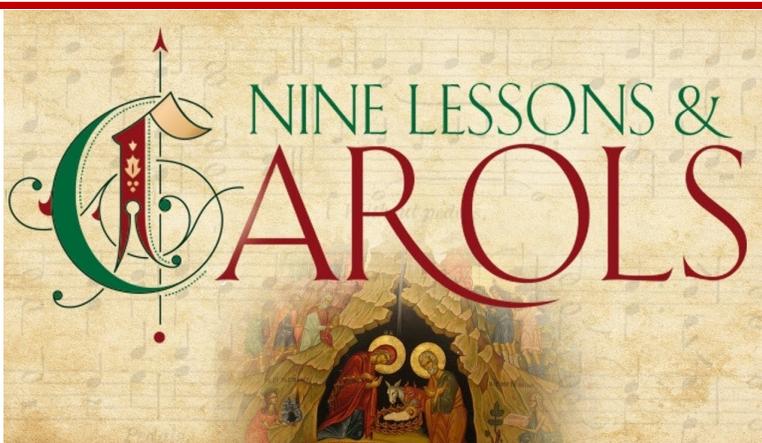
LCpl. John Capwell, USMC	Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC	CDR Nicholas Madren, USN
Maj. Tim Collins, USMC	PFC Schuyler Marshall, USA
Col. John Delaney, USA	SSg. Emily Olinger, USAF
Ens. Elizabeth Downing, USN	Pvt. Steven Patterson, USA
E3 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN	Sgt. James Pritchett, USA
E6 William Chase Dubel, USA	CDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF	Col. Amy Moore Russo, USAF
E3 Taylor Folmar, USN	E6 Jack Andre Settele, USA
Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC	Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
Maj. Jason T. Hill, USSF	AB Michael Sloan, USAF
Cpl. Chase Krieg, USMC	Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
SFC Letty Long, USA	Michael Tate, USA
SFC Woodrow Long, USA	E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC

If you have a prayer request, please contact Pastor Patricia at [patricia@gracedowntown.net](mailto:patricia@gracedowntown.net) or 910-470-6310

### UMW PRAYER REQUEST

A special prayer request from United Methodist Women (UMW):

Due to the great unrest in the Country of Haiti, we are very worried about our brothers and sisters in Christ who have been working with the orphanage in Croix de Bouquet. Therefore, we the Grace UMW unit asks that you each please pray for Daniel and Kenny and their sewing schools in Haiti whom we have supported through donations to Martha Worsley and for Rebecca, a bright young woman, whom Martha helps to support as she continues to go to school and learn English. For Paula and the orphanage and school Bright Beginnings in the village of Croix de Bouquet, Haiti. They have been the recipients of our pillowcase dresses over the past three years. Martha Worsley has been and is an officer in the Harbor District of United Methodist Women and is a mission worker who has gone to Haiti yearly for a number of years, working with the children at Bright Beginnings and teaching sewing. Last summer the Grace UMW ladies were able to send four sewing machines and many dresses through Martha to this group of workers and children. Please pray for their safety, for the protection of Christians in Haiti and for the county coming together and being able to create a safe place to live."



**YOU  
Are invited to attend  
Grace UMC's**

***A Festival of Nine  
Lessons and Carols*  
The Third Sunday of Advent,  
December 12 at 10:30 a.m**

**To be led by the Chancel Choir &  
District Superintendent, Tara Lain**

Come! Hear the story of the events leading up to Christ's birth as reflected through the spoken word of scripture and liturgy, the sung word of carols and anthems, and the expressive music of the organ.

*A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, created by E. W. Benson, was introduced to King's College on Christmas Eve 1918 to offer solace to people who were distressed, exhausted, injured and, in many cases, bereaved at the end of the First World War. During this COVID-19 pandemic many people are experiencing some of these same realities and feelings.*

It is hoped this worship service will provide each congregant a sense of peace and comfort during this season of the year.

**(Note there will be only one worship service with Sunday School commencing at 9:30 a.m.)**

### OFFICE STAFF CHANGES

With the retirement of Marion Little, Administrative Assistant, on October 29 and the upcoming retirement of Debbie Ashe, Director of Operations, at the end of December, the Staff Parish Relations Committee has taken this opportunity to restructure these two positions into one full-time position, the Administrative and Operational Director. This change will require the redistribution of certain tasks and more involvement of volunteers. A new job description has been written and approved by the church lay leadership.

If you or someone you know is interested in this position, **please send inquiries to:**

[debbie@gracedowntown.net](mailto:debbie@gracedowntown.net)



### Fellowship Time of Christmas Joy

Following the *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* worship service led by the Chancel Choir on December 12, the Nurture Committee will invite those present in the congregation to taste "Christmas Joy".

We plan to have real good goodies and joyful fellowship among and between congregation members to celebrate the season in the Bullock Center. Please join us!

### CHRISTMAS EVE AT GRACE

Please join us for Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Services on  
December 24, 2021. Two services will  
be offered at  
5:00pm and 7:00pm.



## GAME DAY AT GRACE!

January 12, 2022

1:00 - 3:00 pm in the Bullock Center

Want to get together for an afternoon of fellowship and games?

Just contact either:

**Sally Barnes**, at 631-258-3182 (text or call) or email at [sallymbarnes11754@yahoo.com](mailto:sallymbarnes11754@yahoo.com), or

**Karen Evans**, at 757-871-3763 (text or call) or email at [evans493@gmail.com](mailto:evans493@gmail.com)

Please let us know by **January 8, 2022** so we can set up enough tables.

Refreshments will be available.



## PRAYER REQUESTS / PRAYER TEAM



Our 64 prayer team members and our church family have been on our knees a lot recently. It's wonderful to receive so many requests for prayer and it is encouraging to share the answers. Our prayer team are faithful in prayer and God is faithful in answering.

I wish we could follow up on every request, but time and staff are limited; therefore, we will be listing the name on Grace Notes for 3 weeks (if you want it there) and then remove it. If the person needs to be back on the list, just tell us and we will be happy to add them back. This will keep our list up to date.

If you would like to be on the Prayer Team, send me an email ([patricia@gracedowntown.net](mailto:patricia@gracedowntown.net)) and I will include you on the email list to receive prayer requests. It's a great way to get to know our church family, as we share in praying for each other and for others in need outside of our church. Also, please be sure to send me an email if you or someone you know has a prayer need.

"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." Jeremiah 33:3.

Pastor Patricia

## FAMILY MINISTRIES EVENTS

### December 12th

The youth have chosen a white elephant party for their last evening event of the year. This will include all ages. Each person is invited to bring one wrapped gift under \$10.

### Christmas Break December 12-January 8

Since the school system is updating its vacation period and varies from county to county, evening Bible programs will resume on January 9, but this may change. Please read Grace Notes for any updates.

### There will be no Sunday School for children and youth on December 12, December 26, and January 2.

Instead prior to the service we will have a gathering in the gym for fellowship. These are the Sundays where we will have one service. Infant and toddler child care will be available.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is pleased to announce the new Social Media Coordinator for Grace UMC is one of our own long-standing members, Mary Jay Tyndall. Mary impressed the hiring committee with her ideas and preparedness to make improvements to the website, Facebook page and other media outreach. She began her new position on November 22 and already has great ideas to move Grace into the future.

Please welcome Mary Jay Tyndall as the new Social Media Coordinator.



## UMW MORNING MOVIE

Beginning on Thursday, **January 13**, Pat Goodman with the UMW will be showing **The Chosen** - Season One on a weekly basis for a total of five weeks. This is a highly acclaimed movie depicting the life of Jesus.

### Movie/Meeting Dates:

January 13, 20, 27, February 10, 17  
9:30-11:30am in the Bible Study Room  
(**January 6 and February 3** are both UMW Meeting Days.)

Come join the UMW Morning Movie.  
Open to all!

## FAREWELL RECEPTION

Our long term executive assistant **Debbie Ashe** is retiring the end of December.

The Nurture Committee is placing a basket in the office where church members may wish to place cards, gift cards, or a monetary gift to thank Debbie for her many years of service to the congregation. On **January 16** after the church service we will have a reception for Debbie and at that time we will present her with the thank you basket.

*On Nov 16 the Administrative Council, on recommendation of the Covid19 Task Force, altered Grace's Covid19 safety measures in the following ways:*

- *Masks optional for full vaccinated folks at the 11am service, Sunday School, and all mid-week gatherings.*
- *Masks expected for all at the 8:30am service regardless of vaccination status.*
- *Youth in grades 6 and above who are fully vaccinated can treat masks as optional everywhere but the 8:30am service.*
- *Youth and children in grades 5 and below are expected to wear masks regardless of vaccination status.*
- *Children ages 2 yrs and younger should not wear masks.*
- *Food and drink can now be served self service.*

Please check the appropriate box or boxes and place in the offering basket.

- Would like to join Grace United Methodist Church.**  
 **Need Grace UMC name tag(s).**  
 **Change of address, phone number, or email.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_