

# Grace Notes

March 27, 2022

## 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, March 27

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service  
No Youth Meetings



#### Monday, March 28

7:15 pm Cape Fear Chorale Rehearsal gym

#### Tuesday, March 29

9:00 am Organist Practice  
11:00 am Rotary Club  
5:30 pm Boot Camp

#### Wednesday, March 30

(No Yoga today or next week)  
4:00 pm Organ Practice  
6:00 pm Special Olympics practice  
6:15 pm Grace Ringers  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, March 31

5:30 pm Bootcamp  
6:30 pm Basketball

#### Friday, April 1

9:00 am Organist Practice

#### Saturday, April 2

No events scheduled

#### Sunday, April 3

##### Family Promise Week 1

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service  
No Youth Meetings

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### MISSIONS COMMITTEE RESCHEDULED

The Grace UMC Missions Committee has been rescheduled. A new date will be announced soon.

### YOUTH NEWS

Youth and Children's night programs will not be held **March 27th** or **April 3rd** for New Hanover County Schools' spring break. On April 10th we will be having an Easter egg hunt at 4:30 pm, for this we will need individually wrapped candies (Peanut free preferred) a basket will be placed in the welcome Center for donations through April 8th. Easter Sunday we will be having a celebration during the Sunday school hour with snacks and games.

### MEETING SPACE COORDINATION

Need space in the building for your group's meetings and activities? Be sure to schedule the time and meeting space through Ginny Peterson, our Operations/Admin. Director.

With church meetings and activities cranking back up as Covid loosens its grip, this type of coordination is becoming more necessary. Don't assume everyone knows your group's meeting time and space. We want to avoid double-booking a space. —Tal

### FELLOWSHIP TIME--COOKIES STILL NEEDED

Members of the congregation are asked to continue to bring cookies to share with our church friends during Fellowship Time. To help, bring store-bought cookies to the kitchen and put them in the freezer. We thank you in advance and hope to see you there!

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

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

#### In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 3/20/2022

In-person Worship Service: 8:30 am - 24  
In-person Worship Service: 11:00 am - 161  
Online Worship Service: 60

Operating Funds Given 3/9 - 3/16 \$ 20,068  
Building Preservation Fund \$ 2,432

#### February

Operating Funds Given YTD \$ 91,984.20  
Operating Expenses YTD \$ 109,915.04  
Balance receipt vs. expenses \$ (17,930.84)

#### February

Building Preservation Fund  
2022 YTD \$ 6,961.00

Building Preservation Fund  
2022 Expenses \$ 14,064.09  
Balance \$ (7,103.09)  
Apportionments are paid through February

### 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>

### COMING SOON

The Walsh Hall stairway entrance to the sanctuary will undergo a renovation project over the next several weeks. New flooring and the new paint will significantly improve the aesthetics of this area. This will require that we remove everything from the walls and relocate all items from the space during the project.

There will be no disruption of Sunday services, however, access during the week will be restricted. We anticipate beginning this project shortly after Easter.

We apologize for any inconvenience!

Board of Trustees

### NEW MEMBER: REGINA MILIHRAM

Regina Milihram moved from Northern Virginia to Wilmington three years ago for the climate and the beaches. She is a neighbor of Karen Hull.

She has two grown sons, one in the US Navy. He and his wife will be departing soon for Japan.

Regina has attended Methodist churches for the past six years and is looking forward to being a member of Grace UMC. Karen Hull and Joan Cunningham are Regina's "Welcoming Friends."

### PUBLICATION DEADLINES

For inclusion in *Grace Notes* printed news and announcements, please send items no later than **Wednesday at noon** to [ginny@gracedowntown.net](mailto:ginny@gracedowntown.net). If you have information for the bulletin, such as volunteer updates or altar flower dedication wording, please send those to the same email, preferably by end of day Tuesday.

## Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Garland Atkins	Fred Merritt
Susan Atwell	Mike (Mary Tyndall's brother)
Anthony, Elizabeth & Caroline Elizabeth	Regina Milihrum
Augustine	Jeffrey Morefield
Bob (Pat Goodman's bro.)	Edna Mory
Russell Buskirk	NHRMC Nurses/Doctors/Staff
Mike Corleto	The family of Nikki Henninger (mother of daughter-in-law of Renate & David Cooper)
Dale Cromartie	Kathy and Barry Roberts
Sandy Cyphers	Sonya Rowe
Leslie Ego	Will Sibley
Larry Florea	Felix Thibodeau
Lori and Dennis Gaffney	Tanner
Patrick Gallagher	Tori Thornton and newborn son, Kaiser
Bonnie Gallagher	Donna Tripp
Jeanne Hadaway	Becky and John West
Hank	
Elaine Hubbard	
Billie Lyndon	
Megan Mabee	
Tom McCarthy & Judy	

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

LCpl. John Capwell, USMC	LCpl. Seth Mack, 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	Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC	AB Michael Sloan, USAF
Maj. Jason T. Hill, USSF	Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
Cpl. Chase Krieg, USMC	Michael Tate, USA
SFC Letty Long, USA	E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC
SFC Woodrow Long, USA	

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



### Immediate Opportunities for Worship Helpers

After two years of Covid precautions, we are thrilled to be returning to less restrictive worship services. With the loosening of restrictions comes the need for more volunteers to help with worship. We have immediate needs for the following:

- **Worship Vice Chair** – This person will attend the Worship Committee meetings, lead meetings in absence of the Chair, and assume the responsibilities of Chair in 2023.
- **Greeter Coordinator** – This person will recruit and schedule greeters for the 8:30 and 11:00 services and keep the office informed of the greeters' schedule.
- **Funeral Team Leader** – This person will recruit, train and schedule church members to serve at the church at the time of any funeral or memorial service. The team members will be available to answer any questions the family might have, let them in the door, and help them feel comfortable. Note: the funeral home takes care of the logistics, and the Nurture Committee handles any reception duties.
- **Bread Provider** – This person will provide loaves of bread for communion.
- **Grape Juice Provider** – This person will provide grape juice for communion.

If you're interested in learning more about these opportunities, please contact Catherine Beaman at [catbeaman@gmail.com](mailto:catbeaman@gmail.com) or call 910-233-4007.

### STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thanks to all who made a financial commitment to Grace UMC for 2022 by turning in an Estimate Of Giving Card. There is still time to turn one in if you haven't already done so. Cards are located at the Welcome Center.

To date, folks have committed **\$439,200** as reflected on the cards submitted. This is considerably above the \$289,000 that was committed to at this point in the campaign a year ago.

We are very grateful to all who financially support the ministry of Grace in any amount.

Note: Grace historically does fine when people during the stewardship campaign commit half of the Operating Budget. Due to your generosity, we are in that range.

**Thank you!**

### Study On UM Stance on LGBTQ Matters

The United Methodist Church is reviewing its stand on ordination of LGBTQ+ persons and performing marriages for same gender persons. We'll offer a study on this matter this spring, beginning late April.

This study, led by Tal, will explore the scriptures that speak overtly to this matter. We'll see why Christians read these passages in differing ways. The goal of this study is not to tell you what to think, but to give you tools to clarify your own thinking. Be advised that this class will deal with adult topics.

We will also look at the leading proposal being brought before General Conference regarding these matters. What decisions will each church have to make? When will they have to make them?

This study will encompass five sessions, each about an hour in length. It will be offered both on Sunday evenings and Tuesday mornings.

Sunday evening sessions will be offered at 5:10 pm on April 24, May 1, May 15, May 22, and May 29. (Note: we will skip May 8 for Mother's Day.) Childcare will be provided by the Children's Ministry as they meet on Sundays during this time.

Tuesday morning sessions will meet at 9:30 am on April 26, May 3, May 17, May 24, and May 31. (Note we skip May 10.) No childcare will be offered for the Tuesday sessions.

This cumulative series builds across the five sessions. The expectation is that participants will discuss these matters while respecting one another's viewpoints.



### EASTER LILIES TO RETURN

The Grace UMC bulletins will contain envelopes today, March 27, and Sunday, April 3. Those will be for donations to the Easter Lily Mission Project. Please fill out these envelopes to honor or memorialize a person during worship on Easter Sunday, April 17, when the altar will be decorated with beautiful lilies. A list of all the dedications will be included in the bulletin that day.

A donation of \$5 or more per name is suggested. After worship on Easter, the lilies will be delivered to Grace Church members who are no longer able to attend church services.

All donations and dedication information must be in the church office no later than Monday, April 11 so that the names can be printed.

### UNREFRIGERATED JUICE REQUESTED

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard needs family size bottles of juice. Through March 30th we will be collecting 64-ounce bottles of juice found on the juice aisle (not refrigerated), any flavor. Please put your donations on the shelf by the elevator door in the Welcome Center.

### HOPE RECUPERATIVE CARE SURPLUS

Hope Recuperative Care has an extra hospital bed, a knee scooter and numerous walkers they do not need. If you know of someone or someplace that can use them please contact Darlene DiTonno, director of HRC, at 910-399-4925.

### A "SOUPER" WAY TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

The Nurture Committee is asking for help to fill the freezer with soup to share with church members with special needs. Any recipe that is your favorite will be appreciated. Due to Covid our freezer is empty now!! We ask that you write the name of your soup and also the date. Thanking you for your contribution to this special service. -Diane Woodbury, Nurture Committee

### UMW TO ASSIST WITH HOUSING SUPPLIES

Philip Chryst spoke at the UMW March meeting about the efforts of Anchor Church to provide affordable housing to our neighbors here in Wilmington. UMW will be collecting supplies to help with this effort. If you would like to donate, contact Duckie at 919-741-3037.

### WORSHIP SERVICES THROUGH EASTER

You are invited to attend morning worship each Sunday at 8:30 am or 11:00 am, as well as the following special services throughout Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. **A nursery will be available for all services.**



**Palm Sunday:** This year's Palm Sunday services, April 10, at 8:30 and 11:00, begin in a traditional fashion with the reminder of the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, as the crowds hail him King and wave palms in adoration. The 11:00 a.m. service will include the presentation of a cantata, **The Seven Last Days**, as shared by the Chancel Choir, a narrator, and an instrumental ensemble.

**Good Friday:** You are invited to attend the Good Friday Tenebrae service on Friday, April 15, 7:30 p.m. The Tenebrae (meaning "darkness") Service is an ancient Christian service that depicts the events of the last week of Christ's life on Earth from the triumphant Palm Sunday entry through his burial.



**Easter Sunday:** Please join us for worship on Easter Sunday morning, April 17, at 8:30 or 11:00 and rejoice in the glorious message of the risen Christ through the Word and music.

### NEED A NEW NAMETAG?

As we approach Palm Sunday and Easter, and an increase in visitors to Grace, it would be thoughtful and helpful for all Grace regulars to wear their name badges.

Although many of us have known each other for years, a name tag lessens the embarrassment of those who are meeting us for the first time, or may need a reminder. It is an easy, welcoming way we can grow in fellowship.

**If you need a new name tag for any reason**, please fill out the form at the bottom of the page. Special thanks to Catherine Beaman who volunteers her time for this effort. Let's project a friendly, welcoming atmosphere so all can GROW IN GRACE!

### MIGRANT WORKER KITS

It is again time for the United Methodist Women to make and assemble the Migrant Worker Kits. This ministry, which is an important phase of our outreach, provides bags to North Carolina migrant workers.

These drawstring bags are made from one yard of heavy fabric and contain personal toiletries for the workers. Many of these workers arrive with nothing, so these toiletries are certainly appreciated. All of the migrants are in this country legally. No illegals are allowed to participate in the migrant program. These are the people who pick our fruits and vegetables.

Below you will find a list of items that are needed to fill the bags. There will be a bin in the Welcome Center to place your items. There will be a list of items needed on the easel by the bin. We hope to have some bags made and placed there, so if you would like to fill a bag, please take one. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, we will be happy to do the shopping for you, make checks out to UMW. If you have any questions, contact Dianna Florea at 910 398-8790.

### IN ADDITION:

We will be collecting buttoned, long-sleeved shirts this year. They can be used shirts so it is a great time to clean out your closets.

Thank you in advance for your help and contributions to this worthy mission. Items needed are:

- Single package toothbrushes with container
- Toothpaste
- Dental floss
- Soap and plastic soap container with lid
- New bath towel
- New washcloth
- Disposable razors
- Hand (body lotion)
- Shampoo
- Comb and hair brush
- Safety pins
- Band-aids (reg. Size strips)
- Metal nail file
- Deodorant

### Soup Kitchen Opportunity

Grace UMC has a mission opportunity for you! We would like 3-4 willing participants to create a team to serve soup once a month with Pastor Philip at the Holy Ghost Deliverance Tabernacle of Prayer at 425 So. 4th Street. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve our community in a meaningful way. If interested, send an email to: outreach@gracedowntown.net.

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: \_\_\_\_\_