

Grace Notes

May 22 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, May 22

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Confirmation Class
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 5:00 pm Youth Year End Party
- 5:10 pm Human Sexuality w Pastor Tal

Monday, May 23

- 9:00 am Walking group in gym

Tuesday, May 24

- 9:00 am Organ Practice
- 9:30 am Human Sexuality w Pastor Tal
- 5:30 pm Bootcamp

Wednesday, May 25

- 4:00 pm Organ Practice
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics BB practice
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir practice

Thursday, May 26

- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 6:30 pm Basketball

Friday, May 27

- 9:00 am Grace In Motion Walkers (gym)
- 9:00 am Organist in Sanctuary

Saturday, May 28

- 11:00 am Vann/Adkins Memorial Service

Sunday, May 29

- 8:30 am Worship Service/ Confirmation
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Confirmation
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 5:10 pm Human Sexuality w Pastor Tal

Office closed Mon. May 30 for Memorial Day

In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 5/15/2022

In-person Worship Service:	
8:30 am	45
11:00 am	183
Online Worship Service:	49 views
Operating Funds Given 5/11-5/17	\$ 12,586
Building Preservation	\$ 515

APRIL

Operating Funds Given YTD	\$ 201,884
Operating Expenses YTD	\$ 228,823
Balance	\$(26,939)

APRIL

Annual Bld. Preservation Receipts	\$ 16,130
Annual Bld. Preservation Fund Expenses	\$ 32,840
Balance	\$(16,709)

Apportionments are paid through April.

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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAK2Z36cUQ1JzE6Ye7TzcGg)

Farewell Baskets for Pastors Tal and Patricia

Congregation members are reminded to put your cards, and cash or check thank-yous in the baskets for Tal and Patricia. Tal's retirement reception will be held after the 11 am service on June 12 and a reception for Patricia's retirement will be held immediately after the 11 am service on June 26. The baskets we are filling will be given to Tal and Patricia at the two receptions.

Both of these individuals have added greatly to our worship here at Grace and they deserve a huge send off by our Grace UMC family. Please join us for both of these receptions in June and send them off in Grace's loving style.

Assistant Pastor to be hired

Applications for the position of assistant pastor at Grace United Methodist Church will be accepted beginning in July. Hiring is being delayed so that the incoming senior pastor, the Rev. Benny Oakes, may participate in the decision. The position will be for 20 hours per week. An exact job description will be posted later.

Wooden crosses donated for Acolyte use

The acolytes will be wearing new wooden crosses made from one of our old church pews. This handiwork was done by the wonderful woodworking skills of George Braun. We have been blessed by George's handyman skills for many years and thank him for his dedication and service to our gorgeous church. We hope you will us express our appreciation.

Scholarships now being accepted

Grace Scholarship applications for the 2022-2023 academic year are being accepted now through June 13. Applicants can apply by emailing: scholarship@gracedowntown.net to request a link to the application. Please contact Liz Moore at (910) 200-5641 if you have questions. Thanks!

VBS Adventure Coming July 10-14

Join us July 10th-14th from 5:30-7:45 pm, as we go off-road for a "Monumental Adventure" through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the Southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead. Rising Pre-K through 5th grades are invited to join us on this journey. Grades 6th-12th are encouraged to join our volunteer crew and help make our VBS the best one yet!

We are also in need of volunteers of all ages for many roles to help make this event a success! For those who cannot volunteer, we have a donation list that will be in the Welcome Center on Sundays and in the Children's Wing during the week; thanks in advance!

Register to participate or volunteer at vbspro.events/p/growinggrace. Kelsey Keenan (kelsey@gracedowntown.net) will be available to answer questions and assist in the registration process after the service in the Welcome Center.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Garland Atkins	Susan Long
Joe Beaman	Maggie (friend of Pastor Tal's mom)
Merlyn Crawford	Tom McCarthy & Judy
Mac Cunningham	Charlie McCarthy
Mark Farmer and his wife Terry	Susan Michaels
Joan Florea and Joe Florea	Mike (Mary Tyndall's brother)
The family of Lori Gaffney	Rev. Benny Oakes and his family
Patrick and Bonnie Gallagher	Steven Powers
Justin George	Amy Roth
Linda Hoover	Kathy Sherwalt
Izzy & family (Brena Conley's granddaughter)	

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 or 910-470-6310

Cinderella's Closet Update

After a two-year hiatus, Cinderella's Closet finally opened its doors to the community again for the 2022 prom season. This year, we held private appointments for 20 young ladies from New Hanover County and are happy to report that all left with a dress, accessories, and makeup for prom. It was such a blessing to see their smiling faces again! Thank you to everyone at Grace and the Wilmington community at large for your continued support during these past few years.

For the 2022-2023 prom season, we plan to hold our spring shopping event for the community and the Cinderella's Closet committee looks forward to working with our volunteers. To kick the season off, we will begin accepting dress donations in August and we welcome any assistance with sorting and racking donations in our two storage rooms.

If you have any questions about Cinderella's Closet or wish to volunteer, please contact Hope Inman at cinderellasclosetilm@gmail.com.

Big Thanks!

Thank you for your remembrance of us on Staff/Teacher Appreciation Week. The bag of chips with the attached info and bookmark were enjoyed. We appreciate ALL you do to support our school! It means so much!

Thank you!

Claire McFall, MSW
School Social Worker
FIT Team Chair
Sunset Park Elementary School

Study On UM Stance on LGBTQ Matters

Reminder, Tal's class continues on Sunday evenings and Tuesday mornings. The class and discussions have been well received and attended.

Remaining Sunday evening sessions are at 5:10 pm May 22, and May 29. Childcare will be provided by the Children's Ministry as they meet on Sundays during this time.

Tuesday morning sessions meet at 9:30 am on May 24, and May 31. No childcare will be offered for the Tuesday sessions.

The expectation continues to be that participants will discuss these matters while respecting one another's viewpoints.

Sign up for Fellowship Time! Please and Thank you!

The Nurture Committee is asking congregation members to sign up for Fellowship Time beginning June 5 and for every Sunday going forward through August 28. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center. If no one signs up for a Sunday, there will be no Fellowship Time for that Sunday. If you have any questions on what and when to do this, see Carole Ellis or Darlene Tyndall. Thank you in advance for your help!

Would you like to learn something new?

Handbell Beginner/Technique Class is now being held on Wednesdays at 6:15 in the Handbell Room. Contact Debbie Jones for more information, or just show up. This is not a long term commitment, just an opportunity for those who are interested in learning more about handbells.

LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE

Sunday, May 29— **Confirmation Sunday**

Sunday, June 5— **Pentecost, Holy Communion Sunday**
Recognition of Graduates @ 11 am worship service

Sunday, June 12— **Tal's retirement reception** held in Bullock Activity Center (gym) after the 11 a.m. service

Sunday, June 19— **Tal's last Sunday in the Pulpit**

Sunday, June 26— **Patricia's retirement reception after the 11 am service and last Sunday in the Pulpit**

June 26—July 2— **Youth Mission Trip**

Sunday, July 10— **The Rev. Benny Oakes first Sunday in the pulpit**
July 10-14 **Vacation Bible School 5:30—7:45 pm**

Sunday, July 17— **Church Picnic in the Bullock Activity Center**

Attention all Graduates and Parents of Graduates!
 Grace United Methodist Church plans to recognize our 2021-2022 graduates at the 11 am service on Sunday, June 5. We need your help with the collection of the names and schools of graduates and we invite all to be present in worship that Sunday. If you are a graduate, parent or caregiver of a graduate or graduates, during the 2021-2022 school year (December or June) with a HS diploma, a two- or four-year degree, or higher, please reply to Ginny@Gracedowntown.net to let us know!

Please include each student's name, email, school and program of study, and graduation date. We ask that you send us this information **as soon as possible**, but no later than noon on Tuesday, May 31. Thank you for making this a special day in the life of the church.

Beauty of Grace Brick Opportunity
 As Memorial Day approaches, The Beauty of Grace committee has an opportunity for you to memorialize your loved ones. Please consider an engraved memorial brick to be placed in the garden under the portico. This will help beautify Grace for the glory of our Lord and honor a loved one at the same time. Please consider placing your order soon. Our permit with the city requires the first brick installment to begin before the end of July.

Please visit:
<https://polarengraving.com/graceunitedmethodistchurch>
 or please contact: Karen Evans at her email address: outreach@gracedowntown.net

Grace United Methodist Church
 401 Grace Street
 Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

GRACE STAFF

Tal Madison - Senior Pastor
 Patricia Cox DiGiuseppe - Minister of Visitation
 Jerry Cribbs - Director of Music Ministries
 Leslie Bergbower - Organist
 Kelsey Keenan - Director of Children's Ministry
 Jada Martinez - Director of Youth Ministry
 Ginny Peterson - Director of Operations
 Charles Sanders - Accountant

To contact any staff by email use this format:
firstname@gracedowntown.net

email: graceumc@gracedowntown.net
 910.763.5197; Fax 910.763.4108
 website: gracedowntown.church

Facebook: facebook.com/gumcwilmington
 YouTube: Grace UMC Downtown Wilmington
 Instagram: [graceumcdowntown](https://www.instagram.com/graceumcdowntown)

Give through Paypal at our website or Square by using this QR Code (point your phone camera at the box and click on the link that appears).



Altar Flowers
 Please consider signing up to give flowers in memory or honor of someone. There is a flower chart in the Welcome Center to sign up. You may also call or email Ginny in the church office to reserve a date.

The cost is \$45 per side. Checks should be made payable to Grace UMC, with "altar flowers" written on the memo line. If you are attending an in-person service, place your check in the offering plate, or the check may be mailed to the office. You will be contacted about the dedication the week prior to your selected date if you haven't already indicated for whom it is dedicated. Thank you!

Landscaping Continues!
 Weekly Landscaping has resumed on Thursdays at 6 pm. We will be cutting grass, edging, trimming, weeding, blowing etc.

All are welcome! Tools and equipment will be provided.—Marvin Evans

Volunteer Opportunities at MHC
 Mother Hubbard's Cupboard continues to be a consistent, compassionate resource for hungry people in the greater Wilmington area, but the Cupboard needs some reinforcements. Many of our volunteers have been working almost every week since April of 2020. **We could really use you!**

Below are available volunteer opportunities, most of which do not require volunteers to interface with clients, but are necessary for us to continue to serve the individuals who come by during Wednesdays and Saturdays—35,000 last year! To help, please reach out to one of the MHC persons leading up the particular opportunity that appeals to you most. Training is available. And, your help is greatly appreciated!

Group of 5+ needed to cover one Monday each month (9:00 - 11:00) pre-packing TEFAP, No Stove and Diabetic Bags: Sue Cause @ sbcause@hotmail.com

Group of 5+ needed to cover one Friday each month (9:00 - 11:00) pre-packing TEFAP, No Stove and Diabetic Bags: Jane Harshbarger - jane.harshbarger@gmail.com

Many individuals needed to pick up boxes from local liquor stores or egg containers from local Harris Teeters and drop off at the cupboard when convenient for you! Steve Bucci - sfbucci@gmail.com

Group of 3+ to cover one Monday from 11-1 pm, handing out pre-packed boxes of non-perishables. Margaret Isaac - isaacgmjp@gmail.com

2+ individuals to write donation thank you notes. Marie Cooke - marievcooke@gmail.com.

Thank you for your consideration!

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: _____