

Grace Notes

February 26, 2023

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, February 26

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Kelsey's Baby Shower (SS room)
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 3:00 pm Service for Carol Ballard
- 4:00 pm Reception

Monday, February 27

- 9:00 am Grace In Motion Walkers (gym)
- 5:00 pm Lion Heart Basketball

Tuesday, February 28

- 9:00 am Organist Practice
- 9:00 am Bible Book Club
- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 7:00 pm Lion Heart Basketball

Wednesday, March 1

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:15 am Yoga
- 4:00 pm Organist Practice
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics
- 6:15 pm Grace Ringers
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 2

- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 5:30 pm Coastal BUDS Down to Cook
- 6:30 pm Basketball

Friday, March 3

- 9:00 am Grace In Motion Walkers (gym)
- 9:00 am Organist practice
- 11:00 am Service for Don Wofford

Saturday, March 4

Sunday, March 5

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 5:00 pm WAVES

Services of Death and Resurrection

Today, Sunday, February 26 there will be a service held in the Sanctuary of Grace for Carol Ballard at 3 pm with a reception in the Activity Center following the service.

Friday, March 3 there will be a service for Don Wofford in the Sanctuary of Grace with a reception in the Welcome Center afterward.

Thank you for your prayers for these families during these difficult times.

POTLUCK Lunch Invitation 3/12/23

You've heard of tough luck, blind luck, and beginner's luck but the Best luck of all is ... POT Luck!

Please Join Us for a Grace Potluck Luncheon

Sunday, March 12th, 12:15 PM in the Gym

Bring your favorite casserole, side, or salad to share!

Sign-up Sheet located in the Welcome Center

Questions? Contact Leigh Mabee: lhabee@yahoo.com, 910-465-5196

Sponsored by GUMC Nurture Committee

In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 2/19/2023

In-person Worship Service:

8:30 am 48
11:00 am 175

Online Worship Service: 100

Operating Funds Given	\$	6,964
Budget receipts needed weekly	\$	13,912
Building Preservation Given	\$	260

Apportionments are paid through January.

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>

Grace United Methodist Church

401 Grace Street
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

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

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).



Many Thanks!

"I would like to thank everyone for the wonderful baby gift basket Kanan received from Grace. It was truly appreciated. I am so thankful Kanan gets to grow up surrounded by the people of Grace. Thank you all for being so welcoming." —Jada Martinez.

Volunteer with Cinderella's Closet

Cinderella's Closet, a mission of Grace, will be holding two prom shopping events for girls in New Hanover County on Friday, March 31st and Saturday, April 1st and we need your help!



Turning Dresses into Dreams...

If you would like to help a girl find a dress, greet them at the door, or if you are able to make very minor alterations to formal wear we would love to have you sign up for a two hour volunteer time slot. Volunteer sign-ups will be going out shortly to the community so if you are interested, please contact Hope Inman at: CinderellasClosetILM@gmail.com as soon as possible.

For our events, we are asking for women volunteers only however on Thursday, March 30th we will need help from everyone in the church to set up for these events so guys, you can help too! Information on additional ways to serve will be forthcoming.

Prayer Requests

Family of Carol Ballard	Mary Neal
Dan Barnes	Jason Powers
Marilyn Cooper	Gary Rowe
Judith Crawford	Melissa Sesi
Michael Cupps	Sterling Smith
Sterling Foster	Jerry Smith
Julie Hamilton	Beth Steelman
Debbie Jones	Family of Beth Stuber
Megan Long	Aaron Swaney
Memphis Jack Long	David Ward
Frank Michaels	The family of Don Wofford

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

ETN1 Anthony Augustine, USN	Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC
LCpl. John Capwell, USMC	LCpl. Seth Mack, USMC
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, 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
SFC Letty Long, USA	Michael Tate, USA
SFC Woodrow Long, USA	E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC

If you have a prayer request, please contact Marilee Tremlett at mtrem3@icloud.com.



Want to go see "Moses?"

Interested in going on a bus trip to Lancaster, PA to see "Moses" at the Sight & Sound Theater? This would be a full day of travel on a Friday and returning on a Sunday. Right now, we are looking around April 28-30. If you are interested, please email gumctrustees1@gmail.com so we can start figuring out the logistics and move forward with the details.

Prayer Shawl Ministry needs more knitters

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has for many years provided knitted and crocheted shawls to comfort those who are ill or grieving the loss of a loved one, to celebrate friendship, marriage, anniversaries, personal achievements, or to welcome new babies into the world.



We blessed these during the service last Sunday. If you would like one for a friend, you can ask for one by going by the office any day it is open, pick one up and fill out a short form so that we know who received the shawl.

A small group of knitters meet the second Tuesday of every month at Panera Bread on Oleander Drive at 9:30 for breakfast, fellowship and knitting. We welcome you to our group whether you are a beginner or an experienced knitter.

For further information you can contact Marie Allison at alli7173@hotmail.com to participate in our ministry or visit www.shawlministry.com.

T-shirt fundraiser

The Youth are kicking off their T-shirt fundraiser. The shirts cost \$20 and will be sold as pre-orders. If interested in purchasing one, please fill out your information at the Youth table located in the Welcome Center. The sale will continue until the end of March. Please contact Jada Martinez at Jada@gracedowntown.net if you have any questions.

Thanks from United Women in Faith!

Thank you to everyone that contributed diapers. We were able to send 1,594 diapers to the Diaper Bank. Great job!



25 Years of Cape Fear Chorale

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023

4:00 PM KENAN AUDITORIUM

ADMISSION: FREE

Aaron Peisner
Artistic Director

Betsy Curtis
Pianist

www.capefearchorale.org 301(c)(3)

Free Cape Fear Chorale Concert, April 22

Join the Cape Fear Chorale, led by artistic director Aaron Peisner, for a celebration of the ensemble's twenty-fifth season. Musical selections will include favorites from past concerts, including works by Mozart, Brahms, Rachmaninoff, Undine S. Moore, and many more. Former director Jerry Cribbs will be honored with the title of Conductor Emeritus, and the winner of the newly established Jerry Cribbs Scholarship for vocal musicians and music educators will be announced.

Reflections On My Snapshot of Poverty, Fall 2022

By Duckie Dawkins (Editor's note, we will continue Duckie's story over the next few weeks. We're continuing this week with Duckie's experiences with the "poverty simulation.")

...Waking up you finally see sunlight. You're hungry but have no money. You go somewhere with a public restroom to wash your face, brush your teeth, and use a toilet with paper. People pass by but avoid eye contact. You are told to move away from the doorway you are sitting near because you stink, and you make people feel uneasy. You hear this over and over either directly to your face or whispered by groups of people that pass, not thinking or caring that you can hear them. When you hear this often you feel embarrassed and uncomfortable and begin to avoid eye contact and speak only when spoken to. You feel an unspoken division: "us" and "them".

First Fruit Ministries offers showers at their day shelter twice a week. Vigilant Hope offers showers in a shower trailer four days a week: at Lake Forest Baptist Church two mornings and Mt. Zion AME Church two afternoons. The Feast Gathering also offers a shower trailer. Recently, instead of a sermon, Rev. Jamie Thompson at the Anchor UMC divided us into groups and gave us simple discussion questions. From my table I could see all the groups. My heart was warmed as I watched some of my friends who sleep on the streets (and normally leave after they eat) actively participating in discussion groups. And they have continued to stay for worship since that day. (to be continued...)

Grace to Remain in the UMC

After nearly a month of meetings, prayerful discernment, and congregational input, the Administrative Council confirmed on Thursday, February 23rd, that Grace will remain in the United Methodist Church, and will cease its disaffiliation inquiry process. The majority decision came after we: studied the Scriptures, gathered a wealth of information, debated within a small, diverse subcommittee of the Admin Council, polled our congregation, and held a meeting with Rev. David Goehring, representing United Methodism (as required by the North Carolina Conference of the UMC's disaffiliation inquiry process). This decision allows us to now refocus on our primary mission: to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

As we concentrate fully on our mission to follow Jesus and make disciples of Christ here at Grace, I am excited to let you know we recently discerned a vision for the immediate future, with goals to explore in six key areas: children/youth development, hospitality, local mission in Wilmington, every disciple movement, worship/music ministry, and evangelism.

In this Lenten season, as we spiritually follow our Lord Jesus Christ to his suffering, death and resurrection, I hope you will recommit yourself in following Jesus here at Grace by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness. I am convinced that it is not by coincidence that we are sharing this life together for such a time and place as this. It is by the grace of God that we are Grace Church, "... justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." (Romans 3:24)

Grace... this is who we are, and I am humbled and honored to serve as your pastor.

In Christ's love,
Benny+

Social Graces

It's time again to sign up for the Spring/Summer dinner groups. This is a great opportunity to get to know other members at Grace. These groups are for couples or singles.

We will have our kick-off lunch on Sunday, March 26, after the 11 am service in the Grace Gym. Please bring your favorite potluck dish to share. Drinks will be provided. At this meal you will be in a group of about eight people, and have a good time getting to know each other and planning four additional get-togethers (for April, May, June and July).

In addition to the groups that meet in the evenings, we will also offer a daytime option of meeting after the 11 am worship. The groups can decide if they want to meet at a restaurant or at the home of a group member.

Please place your sign-up reservation below in the offering plate by **Sunday, March 12**.
Call Mary Miller if you have questions: 910-789-0666.



Please detach and place in the offering plate.

I/we want to participate in *Social Graces 2023* Spring Season

Name: _____

No. of Adults _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I am **only** interested in meetings after the 11am service

