

Grace Notes

May 11, 2025

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 11

Mother's Day

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Confirmation Class
- 10:00 am Kids for Christ
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 4:30 pm Youth

Monday, May 12

- 8:45 am Grace In Motion
- 10:00 am Senior Basketball
- 6:30 pm SPRC
- 6:45 pm Basketball –(Peyton)
- 7:00 pm Chorale rehearsal

Tuesday, May 13

- 9:00 am Organist rehearsal
- 9:00 am Bible Study with Pastor Benny
- 9:30 am Knitwerks at Panera
- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 7:00 pm Chorale Board

Wednesday, May 14

- 10:00 am Yoga
- 10:00 am Staff Mtg.
- 2:00 pm Organist Practice
- 5:00 pm Worship Committee
- 6:15 pm Grace Ringers
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 15

- 4:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal (Press/Biolosky)
- 5:00 pm Parent Night Out
- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 6:30 pm Basketball

Friday, May 16

- 9:00 am Grace in Motion Walkers
- 9:00 am Organist rehearsal
- 5:00 pm Wedding (Press/Biolosky)

Saturday, May 17

Sunday, May 18

Confirmation Sunday

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 9:45 am Confirmation Class
- 10:00 am Kids for Christ
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 4:30 pm Youth

In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 5/4/2025

In-person Worship Service:

8:30 am	33
11:00 am	142
Online service	93

Operating Funds Given	\$	17,867
Average receipts needed weekly	\$	17,671
Building Preservation Given	\$	135

Apportionments paid through April

April financial report

Building YTD Preserv. Fund Rcpts.	\$	25,176
Building YTD Preserv. Fund Exp.	\$	27,073
Balance	\$	(1,897)

Budget YTD Receipts	\$	257,285
Expenses YTD (2025)	\$	278,137
Balance	\$	(20,852)

Organ Fund	\$	10,074
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Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity

On-line Sunday Worship Services Continue

This is the link:

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

Grace United Methodist Church

401 Grace Street

Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

910.763.5197; Fax 910.763.4108

website: gracedowntown.church

Use the QR code at right.

Or text: MyGift2Grace to 73256

Checks may also be mailed to the address above.



Family Fun Day

Come and join us Sunday, May 18th at Halyburton Park Shelter #1 after Church service. We will provide pizza for lunch and ask those who attend to bring a side to share. We look forward to some fun in the sun as we wrap up this school year and get ready for summer!!! RSVP with Kelsey Keenan at (910) 599-5290 or kelsey@gracedowntown.net.

THE HYMNS WE SING—Good Shepherd Sunday, May 25

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The readings focus on Jesus as the Good Shepherd and how His followers are called to listen and follow Him. Dorothy A. Thrupp (1779-1847) was born in London. Dorothy wrote stories for children's magazines but, as she avoided personal publicity, was not fully credited for her works including her most famous hymn, and the focus on today's **THE HYMNS WE SING**, *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*. Though found in over 1000 hymnals there is little known about how this well-known and loved hymn of the Christian faith was written.

There is, however, an interesting story in connection with this hymn. Ira Sankey was the famous song leader for D.L. Moody, an American evangelist. This account is told by Sankey in his autobiography. The year was 1876, and Sankey was traveling on a steamboat up the Delaware River on Christmas Eve. A group of passengers were gathered on the deck looking out at the calm, starlit night. Realizing Sankey was aboard they begged for him to sing. He stood for a moment in prayer, deciding what to sing. He wanted to sing a Christmas song, but somehow the words of the Shepherd Song were what came to his heart. "Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care. In thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare." There was a deep stillness among the listeners. Every heart was moved. A gruff-looking man came forward and asked Sankey if he had served with the Union Army and was on picket duty on a bright moonlit night in 1862. Sankey responded, "yes." This man was serving in the Confederate Army, had raised his musket to take aim at him and at that moment Sankey had begun to sing "Savior, like a shepherd lead us..." Sankey continued "we are Thine, do Thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way..." He took his finger off the trigger and lowered his rifle. It was impossible for him to take aim, though Sankey stood in the bright moonlight, a perfect target.

Shalom,
Leslie Bergbower, Organist

Dot Ballard
 Bill (friend of Phipps)
 Joyce Blauvelt
 Mary Brooks
 Nathan Burnette, Shelby, and family
 Family of Richard Casson
 Audra Florea
 Jimmy
 Maria King
 Frank Licari
 Billie Lyndon
 James and Cathy Merritt

Millie
 Bill Perks
 Sally Rasmussen
 Debra Rowland
 Rya
 Paul Sipson
 Marianne Sorace
 Louise Thompson
 Dan Walters
 Dean & Sue Windgassen
 Grace UMC staff and volunteers
 Those whose lives are affected by war and natural disasters

Prayer Requests

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

ETNC Anthony Augustine, USN	Maj. Jason T. Hill, USSF
PO1 Sean Baker, USN	SFC Letty Long, USA
Cpl. Matthew Brin, USA	Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC
LCpl. John Capwell, USMC	SSgt. Emily Olinger, USAF
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC	Pvt. Steven Patterson, USA
Ltjg. Elizabeth Downing, USN	SSgt. James Pritchett, USA
E3 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN	CDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
E6 William Chase Dubel, USA	Sgt. Andrew Ross, USMC
E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF	Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
E3 Taylor Folmar, USN	Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC	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.



Scholarship applications now being accepted

Grace scholarship applications for the 2025-2026 academic year are being accepted now through **June 3**. If you have been an active Grace youth or adult and are attending college this summer or fall, please apply at this link:

<https://forms.gle/C7WmYXmSpYycGgTNA>

Questions? Please contact Liz Moore or Mary Tyndall at scholarships@gracedowntown.net.

Calling all Graduates!

If you or your children are graduating or have recently graduated, please let the office know. This includes graduates of high school, community college or university.

Ginny can be reached at Ginny@gracedowntown.net. Include course of study, parents or guardians, and plans if they are known. Each year we celebrate our graduates at a special service in June.

Divine Grace Women's Group May Social:

When: Thursday, May 22nd, 6:00 pm

Where: La Costa Mexican Restaurant
 5622 Oleander Drive
 Wilmington, NC 28403

Please RSVP to mary@gracedowntown.net by May 20th to secure an accurate headcount for the restaurant. See you then!

Gracie Williamson is our new part-time Youth Director!

Gracie writes, "I am originally from Highlands NC where my family was born and raised. My mom answered her call to ministry in 2012 where she served as Associate Pastor in Highlands until 2018. My junior year of high school we moved to Hickory, NC where I finished high school.



After high school, I moved to Wilmington, went to paramedic school, and met my amazing husband and his beautiful daughter. After graduating school and doing that for a brief period of time I left the field to work at The Good Shepherd Center. In August we welcomed our little boy into the world. At the end of March we decided it would be best for our family to find something that allowed me to be home with the kids more. And.....here we are and I couldn't be more excited!"

Gracie's email is Gracie@gracedowntown.net.

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard update

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard distributes emergency food at 315 Red Cross Street from 12 to 3 pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays. 381 households received food during the week of April 27th. A canned fruit was included in each box/bag. Small pop-top cans are given to people without shelter. Standard sized cans are given to households with shelter.

Thank you for your donations of canned vegetables in April. For the month of May, please consider making a family donation of a **canned fruit**. Place your donation in the grocery cart near the elevator in the Welcome Center. Volunteers take donations to MHC on Wednesdays and/or Saturdays.

Maximizing Your Retirement Experience: Health and Wealth

THE THIRD ACT

Subject experts will present on the following topics:

Health (9:30 - 10:40)

- Maximizing and Maintaining Independence/Home Safety
- How to Get Help When Needed (Transportation, Caregiver Support, Care Management)
- Hospice Care

Wealth (10:50 - 12:00)

- The Home: Organizing/Downsizing and Buy/Sell Strategies
- Medicare Options
- Taxes: Introducing IRMAA
- Planning for the Future (Long Term Care, Wills and Trusts, and Funeral Planning)

Please feel free to attend one or both sections of the presentation

Thursday, June 19th, 2025
9:30 AM-12:00 PM
Grace United Methodist Church
401 Grace St.
Wilmington, NC

RSVP to thethirdactnc@gmail.com
 Refreshments will be provided

North Brunswick HS FCA Fields of Faith event needs sponsors

Grace member, Avery Phillips, is organizing a Fellowship of Christian Athletes Fields of Faith worship event for Brunswick County with motivational speakers and authors, **Chad Porter**, and **Matt Treppel**.

This will be an event for the community to come together, share a meal, worship and hear the good news.

For sponsorship information and more, contact Avery at: Avephill9@gmail.com 910-945-9655. There is a flyer on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center.



FIELDS OF FAITH