

Grace Notes

April 26, 2020

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 Worship Service—April 26

The service will be available Sunday morning starting at 8:00 am. We will worship with music, prayer, Scripture, hymns, The Apostle's Creed, The Lord's Prayer and the sermon. You may worship by going to either:

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/gumcwillmington>

Youtube:

[Link coming on Saturday](#)

Grace's website:

<https://gracedowntown.church/>

Sunday School Class—10:30 am

We have a special guest joining us on April 26th for Sunday School at 10:30 on Zoom - Randy Frazee!

For those reading The Story, you are very familiar with Randy Frazee. Each week he has joined us via DVD to explain different aspects of the Bible story. He has co-written several books and Bible studies with Max Lucado, including The Story, the Story of Heaven, Making Room for Neighbors, and The Story of God. He also published Believe, Think Act Be Like Jesus, and Real Simplicity (with his wife Roxanne).

Randy was the senior minister at Oak Hills Church in San Antonio, Texas. He is a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary. An emerging leader and innovator in spiritual formation and biblical community, Randy is very busy, but after a chance email, he was happy to join us and encourage us in this hard place we are in. He can only join us for about 30 minutes, because he has to start his own services at church.

Please log in early (Kelley will be on at 10:15) so you don't miss hearing from him. The special log-in information is below.

Topic: Sunday School visit with Randy Frazee
Time: Apr 26, 2020 10:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/91357397342?](https://zoom.us/j/91357397342?pwd=a0tDUUt0Ymc5RDBJR2s5T1JVTUxEdz09)
[pwd=a0tDUUt0Ymc5RDBJR2s5T1JVTUxEdz09](https://zoom.us/j/91357397342?pwd=a0tDUUt0Ymc5RDBJR2s5T1JVTUxEdz09)

Meeting ID: 913 5739 7342

Password: grace

One tap mobile

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 913 5739 7342

Password: 870911

Sunday Evenings

Sunday, April 26

This week Mark Herbert is joining us for a **combined Blast**. He is the founder of The Broccoli Brothers Circus Band that plays at our Fall Festival. He is going to share music, puppets, and ways the kids can be creative while at home. The youth and children will be challenged to find a way to create a multimedia piece based on a Bible verse and share it the following week.

Please log onto Blast at 5:30 with the link:

[https://zoom.us/j/127448960?](https://zoom.us/j/127448960?pwd=aDVldERxMlhXdXVREdCb2k3ZVRxUT09)
[pwd=aDVldERxMlhXdXVREdCb2k3ZVRxUT09](https://zoom.us/j/127448960?pwd=aDVldERxMlhXdXVREdCb2k3ZVRxUT09)

HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS?

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

Online Attendance & Offering for 4/19/2020

Worship Service: 304 views

Operating Funds Given 4/15—4/22 \$ 13,912

March

Operating Funds Given YTD \$ 167,101

Operating Expenses YTD \$ 184,724

Cash Shortage \$ (17,623)

2020 Operating Budget = \$ 747,178

March

\$20 Fellowship Received 2020 YTD \$ 22,112

\$20 Fellowship Spent 2020 YTD \$ 8,787*

Apportionments are paid through February.

*includes funding and expenses related to hurricane repairs

During the Week

UMW Meeting [Next Meeting is May 5th](#)
1st Tuesday each month at 10:30 am

[https://zoom.us/j/649684497?](https://zoom.us/j/649684497?pwd=L2VoQXQ4TE0xTi9CeJczcjFoU1dKQT09)

[pwd=L2VoQXQ4TE0xTi9CeJczcjFoU1dKQT09](https://zoom.us/j/649684497?pwd=L2VoQXQ4TE0xTi9CeJczcjFoU1dKQT09)

Women's Bible Study

Thursdays at 10 am

Link:

[https://zoom.us/j/878886406?](https://zoom.us/j/878886406?pwd=ZEJhVjlrNkpzUFF2amVlbHBhY2tZQT09)

[pwd=ZEJhVjlrNkpzUFF2amVlbHBhY2tZQT09](https://zoom.us/j/878886406?pwd=ZEJhVjlrNkpzUFF2amVlbHBhY2tZQT09)

Gracelettes Check-in

Thursdays at 8 pm

[https://zoom.us/](https://zoom.us/j/646053838?pwd=UzF2aDBFaE8xdnFHN253b3VmOXlvUT09)

[j/646053838?pwd=UzF2aDBFaE8xdnFHN253b3VmOXlv](https://zoom.us/j/646053838?pwd=UzF2aDBFaE8xdnFHN253b3VmOXlvUT09)
[UT09](https://zoom.us/j/646053838?pwd=UzF2aDBFaE8xdnFHN253b3VmOXlvUT09)

Continuing Grace's Mission

Our giving enables Grace to continue to provide support for work within the congregation and for its missions in the world.

Here are the ways to continue to give and support Grace with your tithes and offering:

- You can mail your check to Grace at the following address: Grace UMC, 401 Grace Street, Wilmington, NC 28401
- On-line banking (Many banks allow you to set up checks to pay) The address is (Grace Address)
- Auto draft. Grace can debit your account and can be set up with Debbie. You can determine the amount and frequency of the draft.
- Go to the Grace UMC website (gracedowntown.net) and select PayPal or Square (No Account needed) to make a payment.

Grace Notes Deadline

The weekly deadline for information to be included in *Grace Notes* is Wednesday, 12 noon. It is preferable to have the information sent electronically, but it must be in writing.

Thanks! Marion

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

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

Name: _____ No. _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Prayer Requests

Remember: Prayer Vigil daily at 12:00 noon

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Shad Adams Family of Peggy Ames William Bartlett Bob Bauman Alan Biddle Ashley Borowicz Brice Borowicz Dr. Mark Borowicz Linda Bostick Jean Bullock & Family Laura Church Mike & Celeste Conforti Jim Conley Ruth Conner Becky Cummings Claude Davis Zach DeForge Pat DiGiuseppe Susan Gardner's sister & brother-in-law Michelle Ginocchio Justin Glasgow Julie Godwin Catherine Leigh Gold The Greene Family Dr. Palmer Greene Darcy Guthrie The Hamilton Family Ron Hickmon Steve Hooper Andy Hudson Chris Hudson & Family Dick Hull Joe Huppmann Jeremy Johnson Tim Jones Tom Kramer	Charlie Leighton Mary Greene Lind Capt. Ben Mabee & Family Mike & Lisa Maroules Drew & Kirsten McLeod Phoebe Romine McLeod Jen & James Merritt Randy Mills Altagracia Moran Randy & Carol Musselwhite Esther Nance Bobby Nefzger & Family Ola Jocelyn Osorio Evan Paspaspyros Frank Pasquale, Jr. Family of Alma Rivenbark Noah Roberts Anthony Rosario Joe & Mena Sabatini Joseph Sabatini Brian Schmaltz Steve & Sharon Sabo's daughter and family Jerrel Solomon Diane Steele Roger Swilley Amy Taylor Debbie Tew John Thomasson Donna Tripp Martha Vann Beth & Sam Wells Shedera West Ruby Williams Laura Witherington Jerry, Lisa & Devon Young
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Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

Maj. Jeffery Bernard, USA
 LCpl. John Capwell, USMC
 Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC
 Maj. Tim Collins, USMC
 Col. John Delaney, USA
 E2 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN
 E5 William Chase Dubel, USA
 WO3 Jonathan Finch, USA Reserve
 E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF
 E3 Taylor Folmar, USN
 Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC
 Capt. Jason T. Hill, USAF
 Cpl. Chase Krieg, USMC
 SFC Letty Long, USA
 SFC Woodrow Long, USA
 Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC
 CDR Nicholas Madren, USN
 PFC Schuyler Marshall, USA
 SSg. Emily Olinger, USAF
 Pvt. Steven Patterson
 LCDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
 Lt. Col. Amy Moore Russo, USAF
 Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
 AB Michael Sloan, USAF
 Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
 Michael Tate, USA
 E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC

Also, please pray for:

- The demise of the coronavirus pandemic
- All medical personnel
- All those still working with the public
- 12 noon Prayer Explosion

If you have a prayer request, please contact **Sandy Smith** at sandysmithgrace@gmail.com,

May Birthdays

5/1	Chuck McCarthy Gary Atwell Frank Henry	5/11	Bob Hardyman Brooke Baldrige Jan Allen	5/17	Linda Russ Elizabeth Hyde Laurie Burrous	5/29	Valoree Shinn Sam Stephens
5/2	Ben Skillman	5/12	Debbie Cole	5/18	Frances Walters	5/30	Jamie High
5/4	Emma Walsh	5/13	Sally Barnes	5/19	Laura Patterson		
5/5	Debbie Snider	5/16	Vicki Alexander	5/24	Ernie Allen		
5/7	April Lester		Marion Little	5/25	James Ross		
5/8	Wayne Blalock David Miller		Barry Hartzell John Thompson	5/27	Gene Patton Darlene Troup		

**Grace's Music Ministries continue ---
some highlights of what's going on with Grace's music program ---**

Hopefully, you experienced via YouTube/Facebook/website worship services for **Palm Sunday, Good Friday** and **Easter**. It is our prayer that you found them meaningful and worshipful.

As you have heard and will continue to hear, **several voices assist in leading the hymns** for the recorded worship services. Much gratitude to those singers who give of their time for this musical segment.

A few of Grace's choir members (listed below) are providing **special music** during the Offertory portion of the worship services. Thank you for sharing your time and talent!

Apr. 12, Easter, Amanda Allred, vocal solo, *Glorious Morning*
Apr. 19, Susan Gardner, flute solo, *Interlude*
Apr. 26, Jennifer Lewis, vocal solo, *I Know that My Redeemer Liveth*
May 3, Belinda Mayhew, vocal solo, *Rise Up, My Heart with Gladness*
May 10, Rebekah Vaughan, vocal solo, *O Rest in the Lord*
more to come...

The members of the Chancel Choir (and on occasion the Grace Ringers) continue to **meet each Wednesday at 7 p.m. via ZOOM**. This allows the group to remain connected to the church and to the choir family. It also allows them to support one another during this unique situation and time.

The first ZOOM meeting was Wednesday, Apr. 1. We enjoyed **seeing** one another, chatting and catching up after not being together since Wed., Mar. 11.

The second ZOOM meeting, Wed., Apr. 8 was much like the first except the group **TRIED to sing together**. Not so very successful via ZOOM. But still fun seeing one another and visiting.

The third ZOOM meeting, Wed., Apr. 15, we were honored by the presence and participation of invited guest, composer, conductor, and humorist, Pepper Choplin. The choir has sung many of Pepper's anthems over the years. He joined us for a visit sharing a song and composer insight.

The fourth ZOOM meeting was this past Wed., Apr. 22. The Chancel Choir and Grace Ringers had a wonderful experience as yet another invited **VERY SPECIAL GUEST** participated. **Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, Bishop of the NC UMC Conference**, shared a devotion and comments with the members.

As you have seen during the Sun. worship services, the music program continues to minister to our members as well as those who tune in via the www. Much appreciation to those who are participating while observing "social distance."

Soli Deo Gloria!
Jerry Cribbs, Director of Music Ministries

**Are you looking for a safe way to help?
The Missions Committee of Grace brings you two amazing options!**

First: Mother Hubbard's Cupboard is in dire need of food for Diabetics and/or monetary donations to purchase food. Their supplies have been depleted and they are almost out of items to serve Diabetics. The food they specifically need is:

- -Shelf stable proteins like Canned Tuna
- and Canned Chicken
- -Brown Rice
- -Quaker Oats
- -Cheerios
- -Cornflakes
- -Ensure or Boost specific to Diabetes

YOU could fill their food needs in a completely non-contact way! Simply place a grocery pick up or delivery order for any of the items on the list and then drop off your order at Grace United Methodist Church Monday through Thursday between the hours of 9 am and 2 pm. Leave it in Welcome Center Missions Board OR simply drop them off outside under the portico (parking lot side of the church) near the door to the Welcome Center. Grace will transport your items to Mother Hubbard's Cupboard for you!

If you would prefer to make a monetary donation for the purchase of food, you may drop off or mail in a check made payable to Grace United Methodist Church and specify Mother Hubbard's Cupboard in the memo line.

Second: New Hanover Regional Medical Center is in need of cloth face masks for support personnel. If you are a sewer you can make them! There are specific step by step instructions on how to make them at this link: <https://www.nhrmc.org/-/media/covid-19/adult-instructions-face-mask-creation.pdf?a=en>

These can also be dropped off at Grace United Methodist Church Monday through Thursday between the hours of 9 am and 2 pm and someone will transport them to the hospital for you. They may be taken into the Welcome Center Missions Board or left outside under the portico for later collection.

What a wonderful (and safe!) way to share the love of Christ in a time when so many people need it.

The Work of WIHN/Family Promise Continues

Although Grace is not hosting families at this time, the program is still ongoing. Grace was scheduled to host for 2 weeks, May 10-24. Due to the age of most volunteers, that is unsafe for us at this time!

There are currently 3 families in the program, who have now been moved to separate apartments for quarantine reasons (typically the 3 families would share the three-bedroom apartment, now they each have their own). Food is being provided for them, as well as cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, and other things to help keep them safe. Since they are using 2 additional apartments, the program is losing money they counted on for rent. Utility costs have increased, since everybody is staying at home. A conservative estimate of unexpected loss of funds is \$2,000 per month.

In addition, there are people who have "graduated" who now rent from the program. Some of them have lost their jobs and the program must absorb that loss of rent (Family Promise has to pay the mortgage on the 12 apartments they own).

During this time of crisis, more families have found themselves homeless and there is an increase in domestic violence victims who are also seeking safe shelter and food (housing domestic violence victims is another component of this program). So that need has also increased.

The program director has applied for a government grant which should help cover salaries for the 3 employees who are making all of this work, but other costs and overages are sapping their on-hand funds. Some government grants are already in place, but they only pay the program back after the money is spent.

Many of you typically give of your time and energy to help out—which is greatly appreciated! If you are in a position to donate funds, even the cost of some meals, it would be greatly appreciated!

You can donate online at <http://familypromiselcf.org/>. Click on "help a family now" and you can use Pay Pal or your credit card to make a huge difference. If you prefer giving through Grace, please mail a check payable to Grace UMC to 401 Grace Street, Wilmington NC 28401, earmarked Family Promise LCF and that amount will be sent to them. Thank you!

If you have questions, please contact Jane at jdspicer@ec.rr.com or 910 622-1211.

LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE

Sunday, June 21—Thursday, June 25 - ***Vacation Bible School 2020 -***

Corey & Dave's Excellent Adventure: Missionary Bootcamp

July 8-14, 2020 - ***San Isidro, Costa Rica Mission Trip*** **POSTPONED UNTIL 2021**

Saturday, September 12, 8:30 am—2:45 pm - ***Annual Chancel Choir Retreat***