

# Grace Notes

August 25, 2019

## 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, August 25

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:30 am Fellowship Time  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Fellowship Time  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service

#### Monday, August 26

5:30 pm Boot Camp  
6:00 pm Stewardship Committee Meeting  
7:15 pm Cape Fear Chorale Rehearsal

#### Tuesday, August 27

10:00 am Retired Teachers Lunch/gym (outside group)  
9:30 am Movie Morning  
6:00 pm Basketball

#### Wednesday, August 28

11:30 am Gentle Yoga Class  
5:30 pm Bootcamp  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, August 29

10:30 am UMW Visitation Team Meeting  
12:00 pm Welcome Table

#### Sunday, September 1

8:30 am Worship Service/Holy Communion  
9:30 am Fellowship Time  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Fellowship Time  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service/Holy Communion

### New Member

Grace is blessed to receive the following new member today at the 8:30 am worship service.

Debbie Earley is a retired high school math teacher whose been in Wilmington since April 2018. She has a son and daughter and three grandsons. Debbie loves any activity on the water, reading, and watching old movies. She works part time at Hampton Inn and has two miniature dachshunds that keep her company at home.

### **ATTENTION!!**



Students, Teachers, Aides,  
Administrators, Office Staff,  
Cafeteria Workers, Bus Drivers



Please be present at either worship service on **TODAY**, as we shower you with blessings and prayers for the new school year.

Bring your backpack, schoolbag, briefcase or just yourself, so we may acknowledge your work. All that you do to serve our community shows your love and willingness to follow Christ example. We want to recognize that and give you a reminder that God always has your back and so does your family at Grace.

### Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

If you have a prayer request, please contact Pastor Patricia at [patricia@gracedowntown.net](mailto:patricia@gracedowntown.net). In order to keep the prayer list current, names will be kept on the list for 4 weeks and then removed, unless you instruct us otherwise.

Alan Biddle	Nancy Pritchett
Gail Braun	Noah Roberts
Claudia Burnette	Jack Ross, Jr.
Bruce Celeteo	Carlson Rowe
Dale Cromartie	Uta Rowe
Jim Cromartie	Mary Shuppig
Danielle Cupps	Joe Skobel
Jeff Cupps	Cozette Southerland
Zach DeForge	Kathy Spitzner
Lisa Eubank	Ed Threlkeld
Catherine Leigh Gold	Dennis Troup
Family of James Hickmon	Esther Upchurch
Maria King	Caroline Vincent
Ryan Layton	Foy White-Chu
Jessica Martin	Janet Williams
Jeffrey Morefield	

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  
LCDR Nicholas Madren, USN  
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  
E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC

### Final Movie Morning

The one remaining Movie Mornings is listed below. Everyone who is interested, men or women, are invited to come.

Tuesday, August 27, 9:30 am  
Ilanot—the trees of Israel

### Stewardship Committee Meeting

The Committee will meet on Monday, August 26, 6 pm. The team will continue work on the 2020 New Consecration Stewardship Campaign for February.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Back to School Skate Party!**  
**Sunday, September 8**  
**5:30-7pm**  
**Scooters Skating Rink**  
 (341 Shipyard Blvd.)

*Join us as we kick off our Fall programs!*  
*Regular skate rental - Free*  
*Roller Blades and Scooterz Scooters - \$3*

We will have pizza and drinks as well as some special treats! Come and skate (bring your own scooter or skates or grab some here). This will be a chance to have fun and learn about our winter events.

Bring a friend, invite a neighbor, and let's kick off our school year together!

**Marriage Tune-Up**

To go along with the new Sunday Night Family Ministries programs, Pastor Tal will hold a 3-session adult course called "Marriage Tune-Up".

The classes will start at 5:20 pm and last about an hour each. The dates are September 15, 22 and 29.

Among the topics covered will be:

- Moving from falling in love to being in love for the long haul
- How to argue well
- Staying connected during the busy years

Come take a look at what makes marriages strong. Childcare will be offered through the Children's Ministry programs.

**Grace's Chancel Choir Prepares**

Grace's Chancel Choir members will participate in the 16th Annual Choir Retreat on Saturday, September 7, 8:30 am - 2:45 pm. The day will commence with a brief worship service at which guest pastor Tara Lain, from Trinity UMC, will share a homily. Throughout the day the members will take part in choir family building activities and music preparation.

The main focus for the day will be rehearsing anthems that will be sung for regular Sunday morning worship services as well as special worship services, such as World Communion Sunday (a combined service with St. Stephen AME Church), All Saints Sunday, Christ the King Sunday, and the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

Please pray for a successful and meaningful retreat for the choir as they prepare to help lead worship services through music.

**Stepping Up:  
 A Journey Through the Psalms of Ascent  
 by Beth Moore**

Ladies, join us for the fall Women's Bible Study

**NEW DAY: Thursday**

This 7-week study begins on September 19 and ends on October 31. It will meet in the Church Parlor, 9:30-11:30 am.

The cost will be approximately \$15.00 for the student book. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center. Please sign up so we'll know how many books to order. NOTE: This study was done several years ago, so you might already have this book at home. Please indicate on the sheet if you already have a book.

We all may want to stay after the study to have lunch at the Welcome Table in the Bullock Activity!

Come join us as we study Psalms 120 through 134. Any questions: Call Linda Russ 910-520-3111 or Linda Snider 910-620-3756

**Don't Keep It a Secret!**

If you have a change of address, phone number or email address, please share it with us! Send the changes to Marion Little - marion@gracedowntown.net Thanks!

**From the Grace Treasurer**

If you are donating stock to Grace, please **do not** use the Wells Fargo brokerage. That account has been closed.

Please contact Debbie Ashe in the church office for new instructions for stock donations. Thanks.



*Save the Date!*

*Cinderella's Closet Fundraiser*

*A Masquerade Ball*

Saturday, February 8, 2020  
 Brooklyn Arts Center



## Merry Christmas!

Members of Grace again have a chance to send a box of Christmas gifts to children in Armenia through our North Carolina Conference's AGAPE mission. A landlocked mountainous country in Eurasia, Armenia is bordered by Turkey, Georgia, Iran, and Azerbaijan. The children in this poverty-stricken country are not remembered through any other mission entities. Nara Melkonyan, an Armenian missionary supported by our conference, oversees distribution of these gifts to the local children at Christmas. To read more about this project, please go to

<https://nccumc.org/outreach/project-agape>

### **Supplies will be available in the Welcome Center starting Sunday, September 1!**

Here's what you do:

- Pick up a small (6-quart) plastic box with lid from the table in the Welcome Center. You may buy your own, but they should be 6-quart, hard plastic with lids that fit, secured with two rubber bands.
- Pick up a list from beside the boxes with suggestions as to what to put into the boxes. Check off what you add to the box. You may add other age-appropriate items and list them in the "other" designation. Please enclose the list in your box.
- Place in the top of the box \$5 in cash or a check (made out to NC Conference UMC, earmarked Agape Christmas Boxes) to cover the cost of shipping for your box. Members of the Missions Committee will take the boxes to our drop off location where they will be transported to Goldsboro for shipment to Armenia!
- Completed boxes need to be returned to the Welcome Center **by Sunday, September 23!**

If you have questions, please contact Marie Allison at [alli7173@hotmail.com](mailto:alli7173@hotmail.com) or 910-675-0612. Thanks in advance!

## UMW New Program Year Starts

The first UMW meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 3, 10:30**, in the Bullock Activity Center. Martha Worsley will be our speaker and she will update us on MATCH —Mothers and Their Children. MATCH is a ministry at the NC Correctional Institution for Women and Their Children. Martha will also report on her recent trip to Haiti and how the dresses that we made were received. Your hostesses for this meeting will be the Leadership Team and the theme will be *End of Summer Picnic*. We will be serving hot dogs, baked beans, slaw, chips, desserts, Deviled eggs, tea and coffee.

The group will discuss sponsorship of the Christmas boxes (see the article above. If you don't want to put together a box by yourself, get a partner and fill a box together. We will have to move quickly on this as the deadline is **Monday, September 23**.

The plan is to have a new UMW Directory ready for distribution at the meeting. With that in mind, if you have a new address since last September or you are new to the group, please send your address information to Marie Allison at: [alli7173@hotmail.com](mailto:alli7173@hotmail.com)

Lastly, we will be sending the information to the District for the Candle Burning Ceremony shortly. Candles from each district in the conference are burned for a specific number of minutes in honor of those that the Units in the District specify. The Leadership Team voted to send \$72.00 for 2 minutes of time in honor of Barbara Lyons, Margaret Payne, Marion Still, Betty Singletary, and Jean Mayhew. If any of you have someone you want to honor, please call Linda Snider (910-620-3756). The list will be sent on August 31.

This very active group of Christian ladies invites any women in the church to join them. Come and enjoy great fellowship!

## In Gratitude

Grace was home to two families last week and many people were generous with their time and talents to show God's love to them! The following jobs were done by the people listed below. Many thanks to them!!!!

Ambassadors: Renate and David Cooper, Cindy Henry, Marilee Tremlett, Catherine Beaman, Bettye & Alan Broadwater, Connie and Rod Caulder.

Drivers: Bill Booth (who coordinated their efforts!), Ron Moore

Dinner Hosts: Leigh & Mike Mabee, Carolee Doty, Brena & Jim Conley, Liz Thigpen & Margaret Batchelor

Overnight Hosts: Tom Jones, Judy & Darrell Davies, Jane Spicer

Linens: Janice Fladd, Maxine LeFever, Pat Thomas

There are also those who volunteered but were not needed this time: Valoree Shinn, Jane and Larry Phipps, Helen Monk, Dan Barnes, David Walsh.

Our presence with them is very important to these young families! Thanks for all who welcomed them to Grace! If you want to help on our next rotation, please check your calendar for the week of December 1-8 and let me know how you would like to participate. Newcomers welcome and trained!

Gratefully, Jane Spicer 910 622-1211 [jdspicer@ec.rr.com](mailto:jdspicer@ec.rr.com)

## September Birthdays

9/1	Tom Powers	9/14	Dianna Florea	9/19	Joe Huppmann	9/25	Everett Bruce Moore
9/5	Emily Booth	9/15	Marie Allison	9/20	Mac Cunningham		Frank Steele
9/7	Nancy Bullock		June Knox		Julie Godwin	9/28	Bob High
	Margaret Merritt		Vicki Hutnick	9/22	Marsella Teachey	9/29	Renate Cooper
9/9	Emery Rassmussen	9/16	Cindy Henry		Katie Stenerson		Rick Zigler
	Jake Rassmussen	9/17	Ann Ipock	9/23	Ernie Mayhew	9/30	Brian Stetson
9/10	Brian Lewis		Fred Merritt		Evelyn Stanley		Bill Somers
9/11	George Patterson	9/18	Joyce Witherington	9/24	Beth Steelman		Nancy Pritchett

### **The Story Begins Sunday, September 15**

The "Greatest Story Ever Told" is more than just a cliché. God goes to great lengths to rescue lost and hurting people. That is what *The Story* is all about—the story of the Bible—God's great love affair with humanity.

Condensed into 31 accessible chapters, *The Story* sweeps you into the unfolding progression of Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation. Using the clear, accessible text of the NIV Bible, it allows the stories, poems, and teachings of the Bible to read like a novel. And like any good story, *The Story* is filled with intrigue, drama, conflict, romance, and redemption—and it's all true!

Everyone is invited to join in this journey. Classes are available for ages 3-93. Classes will start on September 15th, and cover one chapter each week. Books are \$10 and come in Pre-k, children's, youth, adult and large print adult versions. Adult classes participating in this study are Inner Grace and Travelers. If you wish to do this study on your own, you are also welcome to pick up a book. It is our hope that, as we all read through *The Story*, the events that unfold will become topics of discussion throughout the year at home, at church, and with friends.

If you have questions or need additional information, contact Kelley Ahlers: [Kelley@gracedowntown.net](mailto:Kelley@gracedowntown.net)

### **Family Ministries Night Moves to Sundays**

Join us for: **BLAST** (Believe-Learn-and Seek the Truth)

Sundays - 5:00 pm—6:30 pm

Starting September 15!

Opening: Family mini-worship service, followed by:

Adult Bible Study/Social Time

Mustard Seeds Nursery Time

Powerful Play for PreK-2nd grade

Compassion Bible Study (groups for 3-5 grade, middle school, high school)

Sonshine Singers (grades 3-5)

Solid Rock Singers (grades 6-9)

Questions? Contact Kelley Ahlers: [Kelley@gracedowntown.net](mailto:Kelley@gracedowntown.net)

### **UMW Visitation Team**

This ministry was started several years ago to remain connected to UMW members who could no longer attend Grace. Today, our visitation team visits not just UMW members, but all women from Grace church. Our mission: Visit once per month, encourage conversation, and keep a connection to Grace.

Members are paired in teams of two and follow a schedule of who to connect with each month. It is a one-afternoon commitment per month. Visitors call ahead to schedule a date and time for the visit. Beautiful handmade cards and Upper Room devotional magazines are available to take on the visits. These are distributed each month at the daytime UMW meeting, or placed in the visitation box in the church office for pickup.

For many reasons, some of our faithful members have had to leave the team. **We are in need of some new members!**

Please prayerfully consider joining our group for this chance to bring your personality and gifts of service to these dear ladies who are often home bound or in a nursing facility. The Team will hold its fall organizational on Thursday, August 29, 10:30 am, in the church parlor. Please contact me or any of the UMW leadership team, for further information.

Blessings and thanks to all our team and new members!

Pat Thomas: 910-7912908 [clementine\\_17@yahoo.com](mailto:clementine_17@yahoo.com) or Text to 910-512-0683

### **LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE**

Saturday, September 7, 8:30 am-2:30 pm - **Annual Chancel Choir Retreat**

Sunday, September 8, 9:45 am - **New Sunday School Year Starts**

Sunday, September 8 - **Back-to-School Skate Party** at Scooter's Skating Rink

Sunday, September 15, 5:00-6:30 pm - **Children, Youth & Family Night Program Year Kick-Off**

Sunday, October 6, 4:00 pm - **Joint Worship with St. Stephen AME Church** at Grace

Sunday, October 20 - **Youth and Children's Sunday**

Sunday, October 27 - **Grace Annual Fall Festival**

Sunday, December 1-Sunday, December 8 - **Host Family Promise/WIHN**

Saturday, February 8, 2020 - **Cinderella's Closet Fundraiser - A Masquerade Ball** at the Brooklyn Arts Center