

# Grace Notes

August 30, 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 — August 30

The service will be available Sunday morning starting at 8:00 am. 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

Grace is holding a Sunday School for everyone. Pastor Tal will continue his class series this week.

[Link coming on Saturday](#)



*The purpose of the \$20 Fellowship is to ensure that Grace Church's beautiful buildings and campus last for generations.*

We are renewing awareness for the \$20 Fellowship. Our messaging this fall will emphasize the significance of sustaining current monthly support and the importance of increasing membership in the \$20 Fellowship. The \$20 Fellowship can make a positive and powerful impact on the financial stability of Grace United Methodist Church both now and in the future.

To become a contributor, contact Debbie Ashe in the church office (763-5197).

The Fellowship needs You!

### New Members Received

Grace was blessed to receive the following new members on Tuesday, August 25. Their reception into membership is part of the August 30, On-line Worship Service.

Dick and Linda Raim moved to the area in June 2019, from Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. They live in Leland and found Grace UMC in searching for a Methodist Church close by. Dick enjoys fishing, woodworking, and watching sports on TV. Linda enjoys reading, keeping up with friends and Bible studies.

### 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](mailto:marion@gracedowntown.net)  
Thanks!

### HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS? (Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

#### Online Attendance & Offering for 8/23/2020

Worship Service: 171 views on YouTube

Operating Funds Given 8/19—8/26	\$ 5,597
<b>July</b>	
Operating Funds Given YTD	\$ 479,312*
Operating Expenses YTD	\$ 420,589
Balance	\$ 58,723

2020 Operating Budget = \$ 747,178

#### **July**

\$20 Fellowship Received 2020 YTD	\$ 35,757
\$20 Fellowship Spent 2020 YTD	\$ 37,486**

Apportionments are paid through July.

\*includes PPP Loan of \$62,500

\*\*includes funding and expenses related to hurricane repairs

### 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](http://gracedowntown.net)) and select PayPal or Square (No Account needed) to make a payment.

### Sewing Ministry Needs Your Help for Methodist Home for Children

Thanks to all who made face masks for the Methodist Home for Children. Please continue to make these, as many of the children will be starting school soon and the need for masks is great. You may continue to drop them off at the Welcome Center.

There is a second need for the pillowcase dresses and pants we've been sending to Haiti. Many times the children coming into the foster care system (Methodist Home for Children) leave home with only the clothes on their backs. So, when MHC came to pick up the completed masks, they were given several completed dresses to clothe these children.

A bin in the Welcome Center **contains kits for making more pillowcase dresses and pants**. Sue Michaels, who received a large donation of fabric, made 20 dresses and prepared around 40 kits for others to pick up. So if you are looking for a way to pass your time while staying close to home, come by the Welcome Center and pick up a kit or two. Just return the completed garments to Welcome Center.

## Prayer Requests

Remember: Prayer Vigil daily at 12:00 noon

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Corey & Rachel Alban	Phoebe Romine McLeod
Mayleigh Allen	Margaret Merritt
Chris Beahan	Heather Meyer
Louise Berry	Pam Miller
Gary Blauvelt	Brad Mischler
Joyce Blauvelt	Kirk Mitchell
Christine Boone	Ronnie Monroe
Robert Bowen	Carolyn Pope
Tommie Boyd	Jason Powers
Caleb	Jeffrey Powers
Celeste	Lillian Powers
Erin Cissel	Tim Powers
Steve Cleary	Jeff Price
Don Cole	Steve Ragan
Mary Cole	JC Riggs
Ray Cox	Mary Ellen Riggs
Becky Cummings	Family of Jean Rogers
Wendy Cupps	Joe Rogers
Betsy Foreman	Gary Rowe
Pat DiGiuseppe	Peggy Sawyer
Delayne Frye	Barbara Schlagowsky
Brittany Gifford	Valoree Shinn
Julie Godwin	Shawn, Kelsey & Skyler
Sid Goode	Solomon
Linda Gorham	Roger Swilley
Darcy Guthrie	Rebecca Taylor
Hank	Jim Teachey
Jimmy Hauk	Brian Tripp
Ron Hickmon	Darlene Tyndall
Steve Hooper	Laura Upchurch
Dick Hull	Michael Waddell
Jackson & Avery	Linda Wengerd & Family
Jerrel	Ruby Williams
Kaye	Carol Worth's mother
Maria King	Macon Worth
Lia Mason	Barry Zigler

Also, please pray for:

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

If you have a prayer request, please contact **Sandy Smith** at sandysmithgrace@gmail.com or 910-233-0310.

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

### New Zoom Sunday School Class

*"Discover Your Spiritual Gifts, Personal Style, and God-Given Passion for Ministry"*

In his study book, What You Do Best in the Body of Christ, Bruce Bugbee helps you discover your God-given spiritual gifts, personal style, and ministry passion. He shows how these gifts point to your unique role and purpose in the body of Christ when they are expressed together. Across nine sessions you'll discover:

- How your God-given spiritual gifts indicate what you are equipped to do in ministry,
- How your God-given personal style indicates how you can serve with energy and genuineness, and
- How your God-given ministry passion indicates where you are motivated to serve

**The first session is Sunday, September 20, 10:30am.** All nine sessions will be on Zoom (the meeting link will be emailed each week). Tal will lead the class.

You'll need a copy of Bruce Bugbee's book What You Do Best in the Body of Christ. The books are \$10 each.

You can order it one of two ways:

1. You can place an order on Amazon and have it shipped to you, or
2. You can call the church office to place your order and either mail in your check or use PayPal on the Grace website. **The deadline to place an order is September 4.** Your book will be available to pick up in the Welcome Center prior to class start.

### Annual Joint Worship Service With St. Stephen AME

For the past several years, Grace UMC and St. Stephen AME have held a joint worship service on World Communion Sunday; the first Sunday in October. We will continue this tradition this year with a joint on-line Sunday morning service and drive-by by Holy Communion.

Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 4, 2020**. Details about this experience will be coming soon.

### Extra Pews Available

The Trustees are in the process of cleaning out Grace's chapel so that it can be repurposed for much needed storage. There are 17 surplus pews down there that need to be cleared from the space.

If any member is interested in having one of these pews, please contact Marvin Evans by Friday, September 18. Any remaining pews will be sold after that date.

Marvin Evans  
757-570-8965 or marvinevans295@gmail.com

## Catching Up on Missions at Grace

**Mother Hubbard's Cupboard** continues to serve food twice weekly. Many of their expenses are related to cleaning and masks for workers who are receiving, sorting and stocking food and then giving it out to people, who are served in their cars or as they stand on the sidewalk.

The average volunteer used to be 70-75 years, but that has changed! The Cupboard now seeks younger volunteers under the age of 55 who can work the hours of 11:30-3:30 on Saturdays. These folks pack and give out boxes of food to the families who come to the Cupboard. Masks and gloves are used for safety. Some training is needed and it helps if workers can consistently work each week or at least a few times a month! If you are interested in knowing more, contact Jane Radack at [booradack@gmail.com](mailto:booradack@gmail.com).

Grace members have faithfully donated items for diabetics who come for food and this need continues. The following items are requested: Boost or Ensure for diabetics, brown rice, unsweetened instant oats, unsweetened corn flakes, Cheerios, canned chicken or tuna. Thank you for your continued generosity!

**Family Promise/WIHN** continues to serve families. They are so grateful for the continued support of Grace Church! We are not yet able to house them in the church due to COVID restrictions. They are housed in separate apartments still. Many of the parents are essential workers since they are often in food service, custodial or childcare jobs, so their lives are busy as they strive toward financial independence.

There is a continuing need for meals for them that can be donated as gift cards, financial donations or the old fashioned way of bringing meals to them (the staff can do the distribution if need be). Financial donations can be mailed to Grace at 401 Grace Street, Wilmington, NC 28401, with checks made out to FPLCF. Gift cards can be left at the church office, labelled FPLCF. If you would like to personally cook a meal, please contact Jane Spicer to help out with arrangements at 910 622-1211.

If you have gently used furniture or linens, they can be used to help families starting out in their own housing. Please contact the office at 769-4730 about this type donation. Thank you!

**Methodist Home for Children** continues with its work with troubled children, youth and families during the pandemic. The staff have the added challenges of remote learning in the group homes. Some of the young adults are the essential workers at our fast food restaurants. Social distancing changes the ease of communicating, counselling and other important features of helping these kids and families.

Ordinarily, we would be gearing up for one of the major fund-raising events, the Epicurean Evening, held right here in Wilmington! It is typically an evening of good food, fellowship, exciting auction items. But due to COVID restrictions, the 2020 event was cancelled. Methodist Home is now asking that, instead of attending the evening, supporters consider financially donating this year. If you would like to support their amazing work with at risk children in our community, you can send a check to Grace at 401 Grace Street, Wilmington, NC 28401, made out to Methodist Home for Children. Your prayers are also gratefully received by both families and staff!

### **September Birthdays**

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