

# Grace Notes

December 29, 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, December 29

9:30 am Chancel Choir  
10:00 am Worship Service

#### Monday, December 30

5:30 pm Boot Camp  
6:30 pm Basketball

#### Wednesday, January 1

**Church Office Closed**

#### Thursday, January 2

12:00 pm Welcome Table  
6:15 pm Grace Ringers  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

#### Sunday, January 5

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  
5:00 pm Family Worship **BLAST**  
5:00 pm Turning Anxiety into Passion  
5:15 pm Mustard Seed Nursery Time (ages 2-3)  
Powerful Play (PreK-grade 2)  
Sonshine Singers (grades 3-5)  
Compassion Bible Study, Grace 3:16 (grades 10-12)  
Compassion Bible Study, (grades 6-9)  
5:45 pm Compassion Bible Study (age 3-grade 5)  
Solid Rock Singers (grades 6-9)  
Youth Hot Topics (grades 10-12)

### Turning Anxiety into Passion

Winter Bible Studies  
Starting Sunday, January 5, 5:00 pm

There will be a series of short bible studies on anxiety, fear, and understanding yourself better. Each month we will have a new discussion that will lead to a deeper understanding of ourselves, our friends and family, and the gifts God gave us.

The first two-part study is on January 5th and 12th from 5:00-6:30 pm. The study looks at how we approach life, process information, make decisions, and what energizes us. In understanding the way God created each of us, we learn what triggers anxiety and how to calm our fears. Childcare is provided for all ages. Kelley Ahlers, Director of Family Ministries, will lead this series.

*Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9*

### Pastoral Care Coverage

Pastor Tal will be out of town December 25—January 2. He will be back in the office on Friday, January 3.

Pastor Patricia will fill in from December 25-December 29. She will have knee replacement surgery on Monday, December 30, and be unavailable for 4-6 weeks.

Kelley Ahlers will cover for both pastors Monday, December 30—Thursday, January 2. Her email address is [Kelley@gracedowntown.net](mailto:Kelley@gracedowntown.net)

### Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Alan Biddle	George Lyndon
Brice Borowicz	Jessica Martin
George Braun	Jeffrey Morefield
Bruce Celeto	Mike O'Brien
Lynn Childers	Ms. P
Doug Cox	Jim Pasquarette
Jim & Dale Cromartie	Tom Pasquale
Zach DeForge	Joan Pence
Mary Ginocchio	Noah Roberts
Catherine Leigh Gold	Barbara Robertson
Donald Gore	Jack Ross, Jr.
Courtney Hayden	Carlson & Uta Rowe
Ron Hickmon	Jonathan Sloan
Izzy	Cozette Southerland
Melia Jefferies	Kevin Stott
Eddie Jones	Stephen Toth
Maria King	Pete Williams
Charlie Leighton	Caroline Vincent

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  
PFC Nathan Watson, USA  
E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC

**Starting December 30, while Pastor Patricia is on medical leave, please direct prayer requests to Sandy Smith at: [sandysmithgrace@gmail.com](mailto:sandysmithgrace@gmail.com)** 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.

### Graceful Seniors for January

Tuesday, January 14, 10:00 am  
Bullock Activity Center

The speaker at the January meeting will be Sonia Viergge Kennedy, who is a registered Dietitian and owner of Nutrition In Motion based in Wilmington. Sonia was recommended as a speaker by the New Hanover Hospital. The topics covered will include those essential elements needed to adopt a healthy lifestyle in 2020.

Check out the web site for more info at:  
[nutritioninmotion.com](http://nutritioninmotion.com)

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.**
- Plan to attend the Prospective Member Class on January 19, 9:30 am**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Operating Budget Need**

Grace needs your help to meet expenses from our operation budget between now and the end of the year (Dec. 31).

Your giving 1) honors Jesus Christ and 2) helps the many life giving ministries of Grace happen. If all our pledges that were made to the operating budget are made good, we will be right on top of where we need to be.

Please check to see where you are in meeting your pledge. Behind in your pledge? Thanks for doing all you can to help catch up. Current with your pledge? Please consider doing a bit more. We pray you are blessed in your generosity.

*Bring the full tithes (one tenth) into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.*

Malachi 3:10

**Armor of God Youth Retreat  
January 17- 19, 2020**

When you have to face the hard parts of life, make sure you are dressed appropriately. We will spend the weekend looking at Ephesians 6:10-18 and learning how we can face any battle when we have the right outfit on. Through scavenger hunts, costume design contests, pillow jousting and more we will find out how God arms us head to toe.

The group will be staying at Hampton Inn at Broadway at the Beach, so there will be free time to play putt-putt, shop, and more. Friday night we will visit Dave and Busters for dinner and games, Saturday night will be dinner at Medieval Times Dinner Theater. Sunday morning we will have a special worship service and head back to Wilmington.

Cost per person - \$95.00 Price includes hotel, van, Medieval Times, dinner and breakfast each day. Tweens/teens will need money for lunches and any shopping money. We have a few full and partial scholarships available to cover cost if you have more than 1 child going. Ages 11 and up may attend without parent. Younger children may attend if parents are chaperoning.

If you have questions, contact Kelley Ahlers:  
Kelley@gracedowntown.net

**2020 Operating Budget Approved**

The Administrative Council has approved the Operating Budget for Grace for 2020. The Operating Budget supports the staff salaries, the day-to-day operating of the church, and the Grace's many ministries. The Operating Budget for 2020 is \$747,178. This is \$495 less than the 2019 budget.

**Sanctuary Rededication Service**

Sunday, January 26, 8:30 & 11:00 am

This will be a special day as we formally rejoice in the restoration of Grace's beautiful sanctuary and rededicate it to the Glory of God!

**Grace Lay Leadership for 2020**

Grace's Charge Conference was held on Tuesday, November 19, and the slate of lay leaders for 2020 was submitted and approved.

**If you received a phone call in the last couple of months and agreed to serve on a committee or team for 2020, you have officially been elected to that position.** Your tenure will start January 1, 2020, unless otherwise discussed.

**January Birthdays**

1/1 Donald Gore	1/11 Joan Madren	1/20 Debbie Jones	1/29 Claire Marella
Brena Conley	Kyna Rose	Greg Stanley	1/30 Alan Smith
1/3 Dick Hull	1/13 Sam Spicer	Steve Stanfield-Switzer	1/31 Chris Stenerson
1/4 Trayce Rogers	1/14 Catherine Beaman	Archie Stoops	
1/5 Ken Wolf	1/15 Caroline Guthrie	1/21 Ruth O'Dwyer	
Nario Coronel	Mary Huppmann	1/22 Diane Steele	
1/9 Austin Inman	Cameron Dunmire	1/26 John Tripp	
Darrell Davies	Larry Florea	1/27 Tonna Bowen	
1/10 David Holden	1/16 Judy Siebold	Sandy Smith	
Don Wofford	1/17 Dianne Glasgow	1/28 Sarah Grace Guthrie	
Woody Long	Laura Dunmire	Holden Fuller	
Karen Reap			

### Stewardship for 2020

February will be Stewardship Emphasis Month for our 2020 Operating Budget, culminating in New Consecration Sunday on February 23. On this day, you will be invited to turn in your 2020 pledges for Grace's Operating Budget. You'll be given your Estimate Of Giving Card during worship on that day. There will be a special fellowship meal after both the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services.

Our guest preacher for that day will be Rev Jim Bell. Jim is the Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church in Rocky Mount.

As this campaign draws near, we ask you to prayerfully consider what God is asking you to give to support His work through Grace UMC.

### Meal for Pastor Patricia

Pastor Patricia will be going in the hospital for a knee replacement on December 30. If she has no complications, she will return home the next day. Her sister will be with her the first week to help her.

Patricia has given us a list of foods they enjoy eating. Darlene Tyndall is going to try to coordinate these meals. We will be taking breakfast, lunch, and dinner items for about 3-4 weeks while Patricia is recovering.

If you would like to help provide these meals, please call Darlene at (910) 343-9581 (home) or cell at (910) 617-4011 or email her at [dtyndall@bellsouth.net](mailto:dtyndall@bellsouth.net).

Grace is full of wonderful cooks, so dust off your cook-books and let's spoil Pastor Patricia and Pat. I feel certain she will not need any company the first week, and we will arrange to take the food when someone is there to let us in.

### Prospective Members Class

**Sunday, January 19, 9:30 am**  
Second floor office suite  
Light Refreshments

Thinking about becoming a member of Grace UMC? Pastor Tal will offer a history of the United Methodist Church, basic United Methodist beliefs, what it means to be a Christian, and the commitments of membership—all in an hour!

So that we can prepare the right number of information packets, let us know you are coming by using the tear-off at the top of page two and place it in the offering plate, or call the church office (763-5197). **Please respond by Sunday, January 12.**

We look forward to seeing you!

### Gracelettes Getaway 2020

The Gracelettes (young adult women) will be going on their annual retreat January 24-26, 2020. This year they will be headed to North Myrtle Beach.

The total cost for lodging is \$70 for two nights. Payment is due by Sunday, January 20, and can be given to Jennifer Rasmussen or placed in the offering plate on Sunday. Please make checks payable to Grace UMC in the amount of \$70 and note "Gracelettes Getaway" in the memo line.

If you would like to attend or have any questions please contact Jennifer Rasmussen at 910-538-9997 or [jennifer.rasmussen123@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.rasmussen123@gmail.com).

### United Methodist Women

Tuesday, January 7, 2020  
10:30 am  
Bullock Activity Center

The Leadership Team will be providing chili and cornbread for lunch. Yum! The program is still being developed.

Everyone is invited to join us as we start the new year.

### **LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE**

Tuesday, January 28, 2020 - **UMW Sewing Day**

Sunday, February 2, 2020 - **Souper Bowl Sunday!**

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

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

July 8-14, 2020 - **San Isidro, Costa Rica Mission Trip** - Watch coming Grace Notes for more details

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