

# Grace Notes

December 30, 2018

## 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 30

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, December 31

5:30 pm Boot Camp

#### Tuesday, January 1— Happy New Year Church Office Closed

#### Wednesday, January 2

10:00 am Staff Meeting  
6:15 pm Grace Ringers  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

#### Thursday, January 3

12:00 pm Welcome Meal

#### Sunday, January 6

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

### United Methodist Women

**Tuesday, January 8, 2019**  
10:30 am

Our meeting for January has been moved to the 2nd Tuesday since the 1st Tuesday is New Year's Day.

Program: Lauren from DREAMS of Wilmington

Hostesses: UMW Leadership Team

Lunch will be chili, cornbread and dessert....perfect for a January day!

All women are invited to come and enjoy good fellowship.

### From the Treasurer

Financial gifts to Grace UMC **must** be postmarked or hand-delivered to the church office by Tuesday, December 31, 2018, to be credited for 2018.

Gifts postmarked or hand-delivered after December 31, will be credited to 2019. This is to comply with IRS requirements. Thank you.

### Cinderella's Closet Throwback Prom

#### *Tickets on Sale*

Sundays, Jan. 13, Jan. 20 & Feb. 3, 2019

Grace Welcome Center

9:30-11:00 am

Tickets: \$65/person or \$85/couple



### 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.

Margaret Adams	Beth Humphrey
Tina Albrechtsen	Carl Humphrey
Shelley Atwell	Barney Lewis
Kristen Baker	George & Billie Lyndon
Louise Berry	Jessica Martin
Janice Bobbit	Family of Lt. Col. Gene McCarley
April Brose	Family of Frank O'Brien
Barbara Brown	Larry Phipps
Bethany	Kyna Rose & Family
Lynn Burney	Marilyn Schildt
Amy Burrous	Mary Sloan
Family of Ricky Clay	Don & Kathy Spitzner
Deborah Cutting	Family of Ken Warren
Claude Davis	Madison Williams
George Gardner	Dana Zigler
Jean Haskins	

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

Maj. Jeffery Bernard, USA  
Capt. Hanson Causbie, USA  
Capt. Tim Collins, USMC  
Col. John Delaney, USA  
E5 William Chase Dubel, USA  
LCDR Colleen Fagan, USN Reserve  
WO3 Jonathan Finch, USA Reserve  
E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF  
E3 Taylor Folmar, USN  
Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC  
Capt. Jason T. Hill, USAF  
SFC Letty Long, USA  
SFC Woodrow Long, USA  
Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC  
LCDR Nicholas Madren, USN  
SSg. Emily Olinger, USAF  
Pvt. Steven Patterson  
Maj. Brian Potts, USMC  
LCDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN  
Lt. Col. Amy Moore Russo, USAF  
Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC  
AB Michael Sloan, USAF

### Out of the Office

Pastor Tal will be out of town Tuesday, December 25 through Tuesday, January 1.

Many thanks to Pastor Patricia for bringing the message in both services today.

### 2019 Stewardship Campaign Coming in February!

Sunday, February 24, 2019 will be our New Consecration Sunday that marks the culmination of our 2019 Stewardship Campaign. Dr. Reggie Ponder will preach at both worship services that day. This will be a special day in the lives of the people of Grace Church. Mark your calendars!

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.**
- Will be attending the Prospective Member Class on Sun., January 27, 2019**

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

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

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

### Prospective Members Class

**Sunday, January 27, 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 the previous page and place it in the offering plate, or call the church office (763-5197). **Please respond by Sunday, January 20.**

We look forward to seeing you!

### Worship Service Help Needed in 2019

Grace UMC needs your help in the following areas for 2019:

Liturgists - Lead the first portion of the Grace worship experience at 8:30 or 11:00 am or both, To volunteer or for more information, contact Rick Zigler at (910) 341-5726.

Ushers - Several members of the ushering teams have lost members over the past months. Therefore, new volunteers are needed to fill these team for both the 8:30 and 11:00 am worship services. The ushers are a vital part of the worship services at Grace. If you would like to serve in this ministry, please contact Bob High at: rshcch@gmail.com. Thank you!

### Financial Peace University Coming in 2019

Financial Peace University will help you "take control of your money, plan for your future and transform your life". Financial stress is one of the leading challenges to the American home. This nine week DVD based course will help you get your financial house in order. Dave Ramsey is the teacher on the videos.

Russell Ipock will facilitate the classes on Sunday afternoons at Grace UMC. The classes will begin Sunday, February 10, 3:30 pm. The cost is \$69, which covers up to two person in the household taking the course and the needed materials, as well as access to Financial Peace University online materials for one month.

Two ways to sign up:

- 1) We have four student kits at the church. Make your check to Grace UMC for \$69, designate it "Financial Peace Class", and give it to Tal. He will give you your student kit (available to the first four who get the check to Tal).
- 2) Online at <https://fpu.com/1081807>. You can order your kit online (same price). This will sign you up for the class at Grace.

### 2019 Altar Flower Chart

The 2019 sign-up chart for altar flowers is in the Welcome Center. You may sign up for one or both sides for any available Sunday.

The cost is \$45 per side. Checks should be made payable to Grace UMC, with "altar flowers" written on the memo line, and may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the office. Marion Little will contact you about the dedication wording for the bulletin the week prior to your selected date.

### Thank You

A big thank you for all of the prayers, cards, visits, cookies, and phone calls while I am in rehab. It's going slowly but improvement is being made. I'm so lucky to have such a caring church family.

Thank you,  
George Gardner

### Spreading Christmas to Those in Need

Over the last month, Grace Church family and friends have collected gifts, clothes, and donations for 123 different "Angels". Working with the Wilmington Fire Department, another 15 children received bikes on Christmas. For some families who lost everything in Florence, we were even able to provide a Christmas tree, lights, and ornaments.

Through your generosity, we were able to provide a little Christmas where there was none. Thank you Grace Family and Friends for giving people hope and happiness!

### New Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study

Study the book of James with us this fall. We'll meet for five sessions starting **Wednesday, February 20, 2019** at 6:00 pm. Childcare will be provided by the Children's Ministry that will be going on during that time. Leader: Tal Madison. Among the things we'll explore are:

- Who do scholars say wrote the book of James? When was it written, and why?
- What do we make of James' stronger emphasis on good works than we find in the writings of Paul?
- How does James help direct our following Jesus today?

Sign-up will start soon.

**Sign-up Now!**

**Graceful Seniors Lunch  
Tuesday, January 22, 2019  
12:00 noon**

Our guest speaker will be Jane Jones, Director, Area Agency on Aging, Cape Fear Council of Governments. She will talk to us about the relevant subject of *Elder Fraud and Scam Prevention*.

There will be a catered lunch available for \$8/person.

The Graceful Seniors Leadership Team will be updating the group on other planned activities for 2019.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center. The cut-off date for the lunch is Wednesday, January 16. If you have questions, contact John Thompson at johniebrit1@gmail.com

ALL seniors are welcome to join the group.

**Save the Date  
All Ladies—All Ages**

**Gracelettes**  
Thursday, January 17, 6-7:30 pm  
Grace UMC

**Dance Class Before the Prom**

Come join us as a professional dancer teaches us the latest moves and refreshes our memories on some throwback, older moves.



There will also be a prom dress shop where you will be able to try on and rent a dress for the big night—Cinderella's Closet Throwback Prom!

The class is free! Come join the fun.

**Praying Our Way Forward - We Are One in Christ**

A prayer vigil is being led by the Bishops of the United Methodist Church around the world, seeking unity in our church families as we move toward the special session of the General Conference on February 23-26, 2019. At this Conference, the church will determine requirements for people entering the clergy of the United Methodist Church or being joined in marriage, specifically as it relates to those of the LGBTQ community.

All United Methodists are invited to:

1. Engage in a weekly 24-hour fast, at the same time John Wesley, founder of Methodism did-- from Thursday after dinner to Friday mid-afternoon. Those with health issues that prevent them from fasting might consider fasting from social media, TV or emails.
2. Pause and pray for our church's mission and way forward daily for 4 minutes, from 2:23 through 2:26 am or pm, because the Conference will be held 2/23 through 2/26. You might want to set a daily alarm.
3. Pray using the weekly prayer calendar on the UMCPrays.org website through the end of February 2019. The calendar will give a prayer theme and list names of bishops and delegates to the Conference, and others involved in decision making, so that we can pray for them by name.

Prayer is the most significant and positive spiritual thing we can do at this important moment in the history of the United Methodist Church. Thank you for participating in this worldwide prayer initiative.

**Lay Leadership for 2019**

**If you agreed to serve on a committee when called, congratulations!** The Lay Leadership Roster for 2019 has been approved. You will begin serving on January 1, 2019. We thank you for your willingness to serve Grace Church and our Lord in this way.

A complete list of the Lay Leadership for 2019 will be available soon.

\*\*\*\*\*

Do you have any questions regarding the General Conference of the Methodist Church to be held in February 2019 that will address the Way Forward? Feel free to call the Grace Church office to set up a time to talk with Tal.

**State of the Church Report**

Have you ever wondered about all the ministries, projects, missions, and accomplishments of your church? Find all of this information compiled in the Grace State of the Church Report. This document reviews and explains everything that is happening and everything that has been completed at Grace in 2018. You will be proud of Grace's work and outreach in the community.

Much appreciation goes to all those members who contributed to the writing of this report and to Pat Goodman and the Staff Parish Relations Committee for editing and compiling the final document. Copies are available in the Welcome Center.

### January Birthdays

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

### LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE

Tuesday, January 8, 10:30 am - **United Methodist Women**

Tuesday, January 22, 2019, 12 noon - **Graceful Seniors Luncheon and Program**

Saturday, February 9, 2019 - **Cinderella's Closet Throwback Prom**, 7-11 pm at the Brooklyn Arts Center

Wednesday, March 6 - **Ash Wednesday**

Sunday, March 17, 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services - **Guest Preacher, District Superintendent, Edith Gleaves**

Wednesday, March 27, 7:00 pm - **Awakening Service**, guest preacher will be Bishop Hope Morgan Ward,  
Bishop of the NC Conference of UMC

Sunday, April 21 - **Easter**

Sunday, June 23—Thursday, June 27 - **2019 Vacation Bible School**