

Grace Notes

February 10, 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, February 10

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
3:30 pm Financial Peace University

Monday, February 11

5:30 pm Boot Camp
6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting
6:30 pm PAL Wrestling
7:00 pm Agape Circle
7:15 pm Cape Fear Chorale Rehearsal

Tuesday, February 12

9:30 am KnitWerks@Panera/Independence
3:00 pm CFCC Basketball Practice
4:00 pm Spartans Basketball
6:00 pm Basketball
6:00 pm Staff Parish Relations Committee

Wednesday, February 13

9:30 am Women's Bible Study
11:30 am Gentle Yoga Class
5:00 pm Family Dinner
5:45 pm Grace 3:16 Bible Study (gr. 6-12)
5:45 pm Sonbeams Bible Play (pre-K-gr. 2)
5:45 pm Sonshine Singers & Solid Rock Singers
6:00 pm Boot Camp
6:15 pm Grace Ringers
6:30 pm High School Hot Topics (gr. 9-12)
6:30 pm Kids for Christ Bible Study (gr. 3-5)
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 14 - Happy Valentine's Day

12:00 pm Welcome Meal
4:00 pm Spartans Basketball
6:00 pm PAL Wrestling

Sunday, February 17

Family Promise/Interfaith Week Starts

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
3:30 pm Financial Peace University

New Consecration Sunday

February 24, 2019

8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services

A Celebration Meal Following Each Service

Guest Preacher: Rev. Reggie Ponder

Among other appointments, Reggie was served as Superintendent of the New Bern District, Raleigh District and the Fairway District. He was the Executive Secretary of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Assembly (Lake Junaluska), and as President of the Methodist Retirement Homes in the NC Conference.

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. 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.

Betsy Adkins	David Keefe
Shelley Atwell	Patricia Kimmel
Family of Charles Baker, Jr.	Jimmy Lanier
Windi Boham	Barney Lewis
Barbara Brown	Jessica Martin
Janie Buck	Abby & Cooper Penney
Lynn Burney	Lily Phillips
Family of Keith Carter	Larry Phipps
Family of Joan Chason	Sara Ragan
Deborah Cutting	Family of John Ringle
Claude Davis	Sarah Rogers
Beth DiGiuseppe	Family of Gary Sebastian
A. C. English	Family of Frank Skillman
Mal Garrison	Don & Kathy Spitzner
Brittany Gifford	Cathy Stepman
Judy Heath	Elaine Vonhatten
Clyde Hillburn	James Edward Weekly
Beth Humphrey	Madison Williams
Carl Humphrey	Gary Wrenn
Family of Sarah Johnson	Dana Zigler
Walter B. Jones	

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

Maj. Jeffery Bernard, USA
Capt. Hanson Causbie, USA
Maj. 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

Calling all knitters.....

from beginners to advanced, join us for coffee, maybe lunch, and good conversation while working on prayer shawls.

KnitWerks@Panera
February 12, 9:30 am
(2nd Tuesday of every month)
Panera at Independence Mall



If you have questions, please contact Bettye Broadwater, 686-5520 or albetvol63@gmail.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.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Help Needed for WIHN/Family Promise

Grace's next week of hosting WIHN/Family Promise families will be Sunday, February 17– Sunday February 24. In this program, we give families who would otherwise be homeless a place to stay, food to eat, a place to shower and wash their clothes, and a place to feel the love of God from our congregation members.

If you would like to join in these efforts, please contact Jane Spicer at:
622-1211 (cell) or 392-1551 (house) or jdspicer@ec.rr.com .

If you have never done this before, orientation and training will happily be provided; we welcome new workers and you will probably receive more than you give!

The following slots are available for service:

Ambassadors (5-8pm) each day --- Sunday-Saturday

Dinner Preparers and Hosts (6-7pm) --- Sunday, Feb. 17
Wednesday, Feb. 20
Friday, Feb. 22
Saturday, Feb. 23

Overnight Hosts (7:45pm-6:30am on weekdays and 7:45pm-8:30am Friday night and 7:45-7:15am on Saturday night)--
Sunday, Feb. 17
Wednesday, Feb. 20
Friday, Feb. 22
Saturday, Feb. 23

Graceful Seniors' Thalian Outing

All those who signed up to see *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* on February 16, are reminded that their **payment is due TODAY**. The cost is \$33/ person.

If paying by cash, please put it in an envelope and put your name and "Thalian Outing" on the outside. If paying by check, make it payable to Grace UMC and write "Thalian Outing" on the memo line. Either form of payment may be placed in the offering plate or brought by the church office.

On February 16, everyone will meet in the lobby at 7:00 pm, where Carole Ellis will hand out the tickets.

February's ONE THING

Love and Laundry Detergent!

Let's share the love this month by helping homeless and displaced families do their laundry. The Switching Gears bicycle ministry allows use of their washers and dryers so families just need to provide their own detergent. Any detergent in any size will be helpful (from Dollar Tree brand to Tide pods).

Thank you for sharing the love of Christ ♥

Questions?
Contact Melissa Cline at melissacline78@gmail.com

District Superintendent Coming to Grace

The Harbor District Superintendent, Reverend. Edith Gleaves, will preach at Grace on Sunday, March 17, at both worship services.

As the Harbor DS, she oversees the ministry of Grace and 99 other United Methodist Churches in southeastern NC. You will enjoy listening to what she has to say.

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.

Agape Circle

Please join the women of UMW Agape Circle on **Monday, February 11, 7:00 pm**, as we discuss which missions and programs we will support in 2019. Previously contributions have gone to: Sister Isaac Center, Ashley Home for Bets, Sunset Park Elementary, UMCOR, Sierra Leone Hospital, Haitian Orphanage, Cinderella's Closet, Grace's Youth Program, and more.

The group normally meets in a member's home, but will meet in **the Bride's Room** on the second floor of Walsh Hall in February. Please call Cindee Stetson (256-617-2693) for more information.

All ladies are welcome! Come for fellowship and leave with lasting friendships!

New Website Address

Grace has a new website and new website address.

www.gracedowntown.church

Committees, groups, event coordinators, ministries, etc., are asked to look at the website and contact Olivia Walsh (Olivia@gracedowntown.net) with any changes and/or updates to your information.

This does not change the staff's email addresses.

Example: marion@gracedowntown.net Thanks!

Book of Revelation

- Some folks believe Revelation tells of things to come.
- Some folks believe Revelation tells of the early Christians and Rome.
- And some folks don't have a clue.

If you are one of those who wonders, join the Bible Fellowship Class **starting next Sunday, February 17, 9:45 am**, in Room W203 to begin a brief study of Revelation.

Mark Your Calendars!

Lenten Awakening Service

Guest Preacher: Bishop Hope Morgan Ward
(Bishop of the North Carolina Conference)

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

5:00 pm - Wednesday Catered Meal

6:00 pm - Bishop Ward will share what the actions taken at the Feb. 2019 General Conference will mean for Grace UMC.

7:15 pm - Lenten Awakening Service

This mid-Lent service will remind us to 'awaken' to the things we are called to do. We followers of Christ sometimes fall asleep. Come and be challenged and renewed.

All are invited to take part. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center bulletin board for the catered meal. The cut-off day is Friday, March 22.

Graceful Seniors

Smart Phone/Social Media Class

Do you want to know more about your smart phone and it's applications? How about Social Media? Kelley Ahlers and the Grace 3:16 youth group are here to help!

There will be 2 classes held as follows:

Wed. February 20, 6 pm - iPhone/Android Basics

Wed. February 27, 6 pm - Social Media Basics

Classes will be held at the church. Please sign up using the sheet on the Welcome Center bulletin board. *Space is limited.*

You will need to bring to class your phone, tablet or iPad; charger and cord; and your password(s).

Questions? Contact John Thompson at:
johniebrit1@gmail.com

Stephen Ministry

People are precious, and when they hurt or suffer, they deserve the best care and support we can offer. That's why our congregation has Stephen Ministers. These committed individuals are God's representatives who bring his love to those who are hurting.

Grace had **five** active Stephen Ministers during 2018. They spent **139 hours** visiting with and listening to seven different care receivers. They also spent over **fifty hours** in continuing education and group supervision.

The Stephen Minister's role is to bring God's love into the lives of people who are going through a difficult time or experiencing a crisis. They listen, care, support, encourage, and pray with and for a person who is hurting. And in the midst of this confidential, one-to-one, caring relationship, God's healing love comes pouring through.

If someone you know is facing a crisis—large or small—and could benefit from the caring presence of a Stephen Minister, talk to Brena Conley or Patricia DiGiuseppe, our Stephen Leaders.

Conversations

Please do not discuss issues before the upcoming General Conference within earshot of children and youth while at Grace UMC. This is to respect the right of parents to decide when and how such matters are brought to their children. Before discussing these matters anywhere at Grace, be sure there are no young ears present.

Thank you,
Tal Madison

General Conference Approaching

The United Methodist Church will have a special General Conference February 23-26, 2019. At this conference delegates from all around the globe will vote on matters put forward at the Council of Bishops request from the work of the Commission on a Way Forward. You may learn more about the Commission's work by going to umc.org and typing 'way forward' in the search engine.

If you would like to talk with Tal regarding the upcoming General Conference, feel free to call the church and set up an appointment with him. ***A packet of information regarding the General Conference has been prepared by Grace's Way Forward Communications Team. They are available in the Welcome Center.***

You can email your views on this to members of the NC Conference Delegation, who will be voting members of the General Conference. Thanks for expressing only your personal opinion. You can find the email address of the delegation at this link:

<https://nccumc.org/gc2016/delegation/>

Notes of Thanks

Thanks so much for the love and support that I have received from my Grace Family. My sister's sudden death was such a shock. Your beautiful cards, prayer shawl, visits, hugs and food, along with your powerful prayers, have helped me start to get through her death.

Thank you for your genuine concern and love. There is no other church family like Grace.

Darlene Tyndall

Dear Grace Church Family,

Thank you so much for all your prayers and concern, calls, cards, visits, and delicious food during my recuperation from knee replacement surgery. You made healing much easier.

Thanks especially to my sister, Janice, for being the best caregiver ever.

I missed being at church and am so happy to be with my church family again.

Love

Maxine LeFever

The family of Frank O'Brien would like to thank every one of you for the love, hugs, prayers, visits, cards, food, and support given to us over the last few months. We have been so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful congregation.

Sarah O'Brien

New Bible Study

Now Offered on Thursday Morning and Wednesday Night

New 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 and Thursday, February 21, 10:00 am**. Childcare will be provided for the Wednesday night session 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 on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center.

LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE

Sunday, February 17-Sunday, February 24 - ***Family Promise/Interfaith Hosting Week***

Wednesday, March 6 - ***Ash Wednesday***, 5:30-6:30 pm Pancake Supper; 7:00 pm Worship Service

Friday, March 22-Sunday, March 24 - ***Calming the Rough Waters Family Retreat***

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

Good Friday, April 19, 7:00 pm - ***The Seven Last Days, a Tenebrae Cantata***

Sunday, April 21 - ***Easter***

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