

Grace Notes

February 24, 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 24 - New Consecration Sunday

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:30 am Consecration Sunday Meal
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 12:00 pm Consecration Sunday Meal
- 3:30 pm Financial Peace University

Monday, February 25

- 5:30 pm Boot Camp
- 6:30 pm PAL Wrestling
- 7:15 pm Cape Fear Chorale Rehearsal

Tuesday, February 26

- 6:00 pm Basketball

Wednesday, February 27

- 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 Adult Bible Study
- 6:00 pm Boot Camp
- 6:00 pm Graceful Seniors Tech Class
- 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 28

- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 12:00 pm Welcome Meal
- 6:00 pm PAL Wrestling

Sunday, March 3

- 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
- 3:30 pm Financial Peace University

Today's Guest Preacher

Our thanks to today's guest preacher, Reverend Reggie Ponder. Among other appointments, Reggie has 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.

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

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	Jimmy Lanier
Shelley Atwell	Jessica Martin
Family of Keith Carter	Ernie Mayhew
Family of Joan Chason	Abby & Cooper Penney
A. C. English	Lily Phillips
Evi	Larry Phipps
George Gardner	Sara Ragan
Mal Garrison	Family of John Ringle
Brittany Gifford	Family of Gary Sebastian
Family of Tazi Hardyman	Family of Frank Skillman
Judy Heath	Kathy Spitzner
Clyde Hillburn	Cathy Shipman
Beth Humphrey	Family of James E. Weekly
Family of Sarah Johnson	Madison Williams
David Keefe	Gary Wrenn
Patricia Kimmel	Dana Zigler

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

- Maj. Jeffery Bernard, USA
- Capt. Hanson Causbie, USA
- Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC
- Maj. Tim Collins, USMC
- Col. John Delaney, USA
- 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
- 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

Fourth Street Closure

Fourth Street will be closed between Grace Street and Red Cross Street **Monday, February 25 - Friday, March 1, 7 am to 5 pm.**

The intersection at Walnut and Fourth Street will be closed starting **Monday afternoon and continuing all day Tuesday.** It should be open the remainder of the week.

These closures are occurring due to the Brick Rehabilitation project being done by the city of Wilmington.

You will be able to access the church parking lot by coming up Walnut Street from Fifth Avenue.

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: _____

Prayer Requests

Prayer is an important part of the life of Grace Church. Your prayers make a difference in the lives of this congregation and its extended family, friends and community. The volume of prayer requests received is increasing, which is good. We want to support everyone in need of our prayers.

To keep up with the volume of these requests, Sandy Smith, a faithful member of the Grace Prayer Team since its start, has agreed to help Pastor Patricia with the distribution of requests to the Prayer Team, to Marion Little (for publication in the weekly *Grace Notes*), as well as keeping a record of all requests. Sandy understands the confidentiality of this information and is pleased to serve the congregation in this role.

Pastor Patricia will still see all requests, contact the people involved, pray with everyone, and make announcements as needed on Sunday mornings.

To ensure all requests are disseminated correctly and in a timely manner, we ask that you submit requests in the following ways:

- By email to both Pastor Patricia (patricia@gracedowntown.net) and Sandy Smith (sandysmithgrace@gmail.com). This is an email address Sandy has set up just for prayer requests.
- By filling out a prayer request form and dropping it in the locked prayer request box that will be located just inside the gym. Pastor Patricia and/or Sandy Smith will check the box after each worship service.
- If there is an urgent prayer need on Sunday morning, please fill out a prayer request form and hand it to Pastor Patricia. This will ensure that the information is passed on correctly.
- In an emergency, you will still be able to contact Pastor Patricia by phone.

For all prayer requests, please indicate whether the request is to be shared just with the Prayer Team or can be put in the *Grace Notes*.

We think these changes will make the process of receiving and distributing prayer requests run more smoothly. Thank you all for your faithful prayers and loving support.

Throwback Prom a HUGE Success!

The Cinderella's Closet Throwback Prom was a HUGE success! Thank you to those of you who came out to support our mission.....you all brought your dancing shoes!

The event exceeded our expectations and we hope to be able to hold this event again in the future. Because of all your support and the community's support, we were able to raise around \$8,000 to further expand this ministry of Grace Church.

Sign-up Now!

Graceful Seniors Lunch
Tuesday, March 19, 2019
12:00 noon

Larry Phipps and Kelley Ahlers will review the work carried out in the community by GUMC as a consequence of Hurricane Florence. They will also highlight the continuing needs.

Additionally, Kelley will review her work as Director of Family Ministries.

A catered lunch will be provided at a suggested minimum donation of \$8. Sign-up sheets will be on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center. The cut-off date for signing up is Friday, March 15.

ALL seniors are welcome to join the group.

Graceful Seniors

Social Media Class

Do you want to know more about Social Media? Kelley Ahlers and the Grace 3:16 youth group are here to help!

Wed. February 27, 6 pm - Social Media Basics

Class will be held in the Wesleyan Class Room. 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

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.

Early Bread Ministry

Early Bread is a cooperative effort with Grace UMC, Wesley Memorial UMC, and several other county churches. Each Sunday volunteers go to Church of St. Peter the Fisherman to cook, serve, minister, and clean. The Early Bread ministry started in May of 1999, and has fed more than 25,000 people since then. We "feed the soul and spirit" of an average of 120-150 people each Sunday. Approximately 90 percent of those served are men; many are veterans. Our van and those of our partner churches, pickup from Grace, Good Shepherd, Mercy House, the downtown library, and other locations.

Each Sunday morning at around 6:30 volunteer drivers from Grace use our van to pick up 7 to 10 people from our church and other locations and drive them to St Peters for breakfast. After breakfast they are returned to their pick-up location.

Grace is in need of additional drivers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Robert High at 910-395-2430 or rshcch@gmail.com.

For more information on Early Bread's mission, visit: http://www.cecwilmington.com/Church/Early_Bread.html

Angels Among Us

Angels from the Bible Sunday School class performed an act of mercy recently under the leadership of Janice Fladd. They cleaned and organized the room used to store supplies for the WIHN/Family Promise program. The room had been used as a catch-all space for years, so it was not an easy task! There was an amazing transformation and this space is now wonderful to behold and use!!

Many, many thanks go to Joan Cunningham, Janice Fladd, Sandra Miller, Rich and Heddy Reichhardt, Marsella Teachey, Liz Thigpen and Darlene Tyndall for their cheerful countenances and hard work!

A Note of Thanks

Grace Church Family,

My family and I appreciate so much all you've done for us...food, cards, calls, visits, etc. Thank you for showing the love of Christ in such wonderful, tangible ways!

May God bless you all,
Virginia Skillman

District Gatherings

Please join one of the District Gatherings on Sunday, March 3, following the called General Conference on February 22-24. Each gathering will last no more than one hour, and anyone is welcome to attend.

Members of the NC Conference delegation will be at each location to review what happened at General Conference and discuss the impact on the NC Conference.

3 pm

- Capital at Garner UMC
- **Harbor at Lake Waccamaw UMC***
- Heritage at Wake Forest UMC
- Sound at Centenary UMC (New Bern)

6 pm

- Beacon at Edenton UMC
- Corridor at Duke Memorial UMC (Durham)
- Fairway at Fuquay-Varina UMC
- Gateway at Salem UMC (Eastover)

* Closest to Grace

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.

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!

Welcome Meal

We are currently offering the Welcome Meal **every** Thursday through the end of March. Folks come from all walks of life. Folks come who have no home. The meal is given away: no one is charged a dime. It's a great opportunity to build bridges and to share Jesus Christ with others.

Grace partners with the Hope Center in offering this meal. You are welcome to come take part: be a table server or be one who sits at the table and eats with whoever shows up.

The meal starts at noon. Come be a part of this.

An Invitation from Stephen Ministry

In April and May, Grace's Stephen Ministers are going to have a four-session program on end-of-life issues as part of their ongoing continuing education. **We would like to invite any interested Grace members** to join us for this informative series.

The sessions will be held at Grace during our regular meeting time at 6:30 pm on Monday, April 1, April 15, May 6 and May 20. Speakers will include a lawyer, someone from hospice, someone from a funeral home, and our own Pastor Tal. Watch the Grace Notes for further details.

Contact one of our Stephen Leaders (Patricia DiGiuseppe or Brena Conley) if you would like more information about our Stephen Ministry program.

March Birthdays

3/1	David Vaughan Scott Fiddler Helen Monk	3/7	George Gardner Jennifer Fiddler Karen Bullock Katie Mintz	3/14	Ed Hickmon Deborah Kelly	3/20	Jamie Cline Mike Mabee Meredith Ross
3/3	Jane Spicer			3/15	Judy Holden Milton Kreger	3/22	Jen Stenerson
3/5	Grace Anne Dunmire Amanda Ladd Barbara Jackson	3/10	Heddy Reichardt	3/16	Martha Wofford Patty Rowe	3/23	Rosie Coronel
3/6	Sue Flora Sarah Voulgaris	3/11	Anne Lewis	3/17	Pat Thomas Lillian Edwards	3/26	Gary Godwin William Lindsey
		3/13	George Lyndon Ross Inman Laura Witherington Kelley Ahlers Bobby Hamilton	3/18	Betty Singleary	3/28	Ryan Gibbs Henry Cichoracki
						3/29	Preston Olinger Sarah Layton

LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE

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**