

# Grace Notes

February 9, 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, February 9

- 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
- 5:00 pm Kid's Prom

#### Monday, February 10

- 5:30 pm Boot Camp
- 6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting
- 7:00 pm Agape Circle
- 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Meeting
- 7:15 pm Cape Fear Chorale Rehearsal

#### Tuesday, February 11

- 9:30 am KnitWerks@Panera/Independence Mall
- 10:00 am Adult Bible Study - I John
- 6:00 pm Staff Parish Relations Committee

#### Wednesday, February 12

- 9:30 am Coastal Horizons Workshop/Bible Class Room
- 11:30 am Gentle Yoga Class
- 4:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting
- 5:30 pm Boot Camp
- 6:15 pm Grace Ringers
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, February 13

- 9:30 am Women's Bible Study
- 12:00 pm Welcome Table
- 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study - I John

#### Sunday, February 16

- 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
- 5:00 pm Family Worship BLAST
- 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)

### Kid's Prom

TODAY, 5:00-6:30  
Children ages 3 and 11

The Grace 3-16 Youth are hosting a Kid's Prom to thank and support our Cinderella's Closet Team. So many of our friends and classmates have been able to make their Prom Dreams come true because of this program.

Join us in the Grace gym for music, food, and fun. Wear your nicest outfit and dancing shoes. There is no ticket cost but donations to Cinderella's Closet will be accepted at the door.

Parents are invited to attend or check your kid's in and out at the entry table.

Mark your calendars now because this is going to be an evening to remember!



### Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

- |                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Maria Agrillo                       | Family of George Lyndon      |
| Alex                                | Jessica Martin               |
| Jean Ballard                        | Chuck McCarthy               |
| Bob Bauman                          | Joann McCloskey              |
| Julie Best                          | Raelyne Michel               |
| Alan Biddle                         | Family of Spc. Antonio Moore |
| Brice Borowicz                      | Mike O'Brien                 |
| Betty Brown                         | Steve Pacello                |
| Child in Christmas Eve accident     | Jim Pasquarette              |
| Bruce Celeto                        | Muriel Pearson               |
| George Collins                      | Larry Phipps                 |
| Ruth Conner                         | Noah Roberts                 |
| Doug Cox                            | Barbara Robertson            |
| Zach DeForge                        | Ryan's Family                |
| Patricia DiGiuseppe                 | Fern Schussler               |
| Mary Ginocchio                      | Priscilla Shirer             |
| Catherine Leigh Gold                | Jonathan Sloan               |
| Joan Greene                         | Cozette Southerland          |
| Family & Friends of Jennifer Harter | Kathy Spitzner               |
| Ron Hickmon                         | Roger Swilley                |
| Dick Hull                           | Donna Tripp                  |
| Natalie Humphrey                    | Pete Williams                |
| Janice                              | Rich Van Gorder              |
| Eddie Jones                         | Will Vereen                  |
| Charlie Leighton                    | Caroline Vincent             |
| Will Lindsey                        |                              |

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

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.

### Agape Circle

Monday, February 10, 7 pm  
The Brides Room  
(2nd Floor, Walsh Hall)

Discussions and plans will be made for missions and projects throughout the year. All women are invited to join this friendly group of ladies.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

### New Consecration Program

February will be Stewardship Emphasis Month for Grace's 2020 Operating Budget, culminating in **New Consecration Sunday on February 23**. On this day, you will be invited to turn in your pledge for 2020.

You will be given your Estimate Of Giving Card during worship on that day. The cards ask that we share our intended giving calculated weekly. However, you are free to indicate on the card if you prefer to give monthly, quarterly, etc. Please be prepared to indicate this clearly on the card.

There will be a special fellowship meal after each worship service. You don't have to bring anything. Just come and enjoy fellowship with your Grace Family.

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.

Sunday, March 1, 3:00 pm

### **Grace: Dementia Friendly Worship**

This special worship service will include many, old familiar hymns, a short message, and familiar Scripture readings. The purpose of this service is to minister to those with Alzheimer and other forms of dementia, their caregivers and families. Everyone is invited to participate.

Please invite friends and family that you think would enjoy this service. Notices are being sent to the District Office and other churches in the area.

### **Empty Bowls Returns on March 20, 2020!**

11 am – 1:30 pm

First Baptist Church Activities Center  
1939 Independence Blvd, Wilmington, NC  
(Overflow parking and shuttle will be available in the Independence Mall parking lot.)

This biannual event will celebrate 10 events in 20 years in 2020~can you believe it!?

We hope you'll join us for this wonderful day to support the work of Mother Hubbard's Cupboard and Good Shepherd Center. Tickets will be \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door.

Tickets on sale now – visit [EmptyBowlsILM.org](http://EmptyBowlsILM.org)

### **Attention Grace Bakers!!**

Cake Sunday for 2020 has begun. Tickets are sold the second Sunday of each month for a chance to win a yummy, home-baked cake. All proceeds go to the Grace's \$20 Fellowship/Building Maintenance Fund. The Nurture Committee would love for those wonderful bakers in the congregation to contribute a special cake one month this year.

There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center bulletin board. Please include your email or a phone number. You will be contacted at the beginning of your chosen month with a few instructions.



Please help make 2020 Cake Sundays great!

### **Graceful Seniors for February**

Tuesday, February 18, 10:00 am  
Bullock Activity Center

The speaker will be Susan Heaton, CEO of Canines for Service. The mission of this organization is to empower people with disabilities to achieve greater independence and enhanced quality of life through the services of specially trained assistance dogs. These dogs assist our Veterans.

Opportunities for volunteering will be covered and one of the assistance dogs will be present.

Please join us to learn about these amazing animals.



### **Expanding Your Prayer Life**

Grace is blessed to have a 54-member group of people who pray daily for those who request prayer. The requests are sent out by email. The members pray in the privacy of their homes at a time that works for them. If you are interested in becoming a member of Grace's Prayer Team, please email Sandy Smith at: [sandysmith-grace@gmail.com](mailto:sandysmith-grace@gmail.com)

### **Have you ever wanted to be a "roadie"?**

#### **Grace's Handbell Choir has an opportunity for you!**

You are invited to join the new Handbell Equipment Roadie Team. The team is needed once/month, September-May, to move, set up, and strike handbell equipment. This generally falls around the last Sunday of the month. Team training will be scheduled and conducted by the director of Grace Ringers, Jerry Cribbs.

Please ponder serving in this way and becoming part of the music ministry at Grace. For more information or to volunteer your services, please contact Jerry as soon as possible via email ([jerry@gracedowntown.net](mailto:jerry@gracedowntown.net)) or call/text 910-233-2423.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

## Information Sessions Regarding:

### **World General Conference - May, 2020**

There is a lot of misinformation floating around the media and elsewhere regarding the process ahead for the United Methodist Church. Pastor Tal will be holding 4 sessions to offer solid information about this subject. You are invited to come to the one that best suits your schedule.

- All sessions will be held in the Bible Class Room.
- Please use the **sign-up sheets** on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center. This will help us plan for childcare and also make sure there is adequate seating available.
- Parking for the daytime sessions is available in the church parking lot, the grassy lot, and 2-hour timed parking along 4th Street.
- It would be helpful for the evening sessions if those of you who are able would park in the bank parking lot or along 4th Street. This will keep our parking lot spaces available for those with walking difficulties .

The dates/times are as follows:

Monday, February 24, 6:30 pm (childcare provided)  
Tuesday, February 25, 10:00 am  
Monday, March 2, 6:30 pm (childcare provided)  
Tuesday, March 3, 1:15 pm

These are the parameters for all sessions.

- The goal will be to offer sound information regarding the process ahead and possible outcomes.
- Please refrain from copying information from the internet or drafting positions papers to hand out. That will only serve to divide.
- There will be no speeches putting forward one position or another. Again, that will only divide.
- At Grace, we will stay focused on one goal: pointing people to the cross of Jesus. To accomplish this, we will continue to welcome all who come in our doors.

### Thank You

Dear Grace Church Family,

During George's long illness, when we couldn't attend church services, we still always felt surrounded by your love and concern. Every card, visit, call, or prayers made life a little easier for us. Now, with George's homegoing to God, I feel your love even more strongly.

Thank you so very much for the beautiful memorial service, the beautiful reception, and for every hug and every prayer. What a special family—I love and cherish each and every one of you!

Blessings,  
Billie Lyndon

### Lenten Awakening Event 2020

Saturday, March 14, 9:00 am  
Bullock Activity Center

#### ***A Conversation with Dusty Casteen***

The Awakening Event will be different this year. Dusty Casteen, a member of Anchor UMC and the leader of their Switching Gears ministry, has had a life of twists and turns.

Dusty's life has included a period of drug addiction and time in prison. Along the way, he was captured by the grace of Jesus Christ. It turned his life around.

You are invited to come hear his story of God's *Amazing Grace*. How he went from being so far down, to being named by the *Star News* as one of the 40 People Under 40 to watch in Wilmington.

A light breakfast will be served. Please sign-up in the Welcome Center so we'll know how much to prepare.

### Welcome Meal

Grace offers the Welcome Meal **every** Thursday at noon. 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.

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.

### **Cinderella's Closet Prom Shopping Event Dates** **Friday, March 27 and Saturday, March 28**



Cinderella's Closet will host their fourth annual prom shopping event for high school girls in New Hanover county on Friday, March 27, 3-9pm and Saturday, March 28, 9-5pm. As you may notice, this is a change from the two Saturday events of previous years. Our hope is that by hosting the event on one full weekend, it will allow for more girls and volunteers to participate that aren't able to make it on Saturdays.

We are looking for women over the age of 18 to help at the events. Volunteers are needed for Fairy Godmothers, greeters, seamstresses (for very minor alterations!), and other helpers to make this event a success.

**Attention Men!** Your help is needed, too, for set up and clean up.

If you would like to volunteer and are not already on our mailing list as a volunteer, please contact Hope Inman at [hopewalters@hotmail.com](mailto:hopewalters@hotmail.com).

This event is not exclusive to Grace members, so if you know of anyone in the Wilmington community that would like to volunteer, please give them our information!



### **Ash Wednesday Worship**

February 23, 7:00 pm

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Christian season of Lent. This is the time in the church year that we prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter.

There will be a traditional worship service with the imposition of ashes on the forehead in the form of a cross, an old practice in the Christian Church. The words and music in the service speak to a cleansing and renewal of spirit during the 40 days of Lent.

Childcare will be available for children 3 and under.

### **Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper!**

Bring your family, friends and anyone who loves syrup for Grace's Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper, **Wednesday, February 26.**

Supper will start at 5:30 pm and pancakes will be served until 6:30 pm.

Recommended donations are \$6 for adults, \$3 for children, and under age 3 eat for free. All monies raised will go toward the Youth Costa Rica Mission Trip this July and provide building materials for the orphanage where we will serve. As we go into the season of Lent, join us for fellowship and a delicious dinner!

### **Envelopes for Costa Rica**

Grace's Mission Team to Costa Rica is starting their fund raising *Envelopes for Costa Rica* campaign this Sunday. Stop by the Welcome Center where you will find a table of envelopes with monetary amounts printed on them ranging from \$1-\$300. These donations will help with travel expenses, but most of the money is for the materials that will be used to build extra rooms and repair parts of our Methodist Orphanage in San Isidro (Grace's team will provide the free labor).

To support this trip, simply choose one of the envelopes and place the amount requested, or more, in the envelope and write your name or group's name on the front. Then place the envelope in the offering plate or in the box on the table.

Inside each envelope you will find a thank you note from one of our missionaries that has pictures on it of the children they will be serving. You are asked to pray for that team member.

Individuals, families, Sunday school classes and other groups may choose an envelope to collect together. Our hope is to have each envelope filled by the end of March.

Please take the time to prayerfully consider what you can give. If you would like a receipt, please write that on the back of the envelope. Thank you for your support and prayers as the Mission Team prepares for this July trip.

### **Calling all knitters.....**

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

**KnitWerks@Panera**  
**February 11, 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

### **Devotionals On-Line**

Thanks to the work of Olivia Walsh, Graces Social Media Manager, weekly video devotionals by Pastor Tal are posted to Grace's Facebook mid-day on Tuesday.

These videos are 1-2 minutes in length and designed to turn our thoughts towards God in the middle of our busy lives.

Check them out at:  
[facebook.com/gumcwilmington](https://www.facebook.com/gumcwilmington)

### **LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE**

Sunday, February 23-Sunday, March 1 - **Host Interfaith/Family Promise**

Wednesday, February 26, 7:00 pm - **Ash Wednesday Worship Service**

Friday, March 20, 11 am-1:30 p, - **Empty Bowls 2020** - See article for details.

Friday, March 27 & Saturday, March 28 - **Cinderella's Closet Prom Dress Shopping Event**

Sunday, April 5, 8:30 & 11:00 am - **Palm Sunday Worship Services**

Friday, April 10, 7:00 pm - **Good Friday Worship Service**

Sunday, April 12, 8:30 & 11:00 am - **Easter Sunday Worship Services**

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**