

Grace Notes

June 14, 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 Worship Service — June 14, Youth Sunday

The service will be available Sunday morning starting at 8:00 am. The Grace Youth have put together a wonderful worship service with music, prayer, Scripture, hymns, The Apostle's Creed, The Lord's Prayer and a sermon.

You may worship by going to either:

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/gumcwillmington>

YouTube:

[Link coming on Saturday](#)

Grace's website:

<https://gracedowntown.church/>

Sunday School Class—10:30 am

Grace is holding a Zoom Sunday school for everyone. To log in to Sunday School:

[Link coming on Saturday](#)

Graduation Baskets

It is the custom at Grace to celebrate the graduation of our high school seniors with a gift basket of items to help them start their college life. This year we have two graduates.

Sally Bray Fisher is the daughter of Anna Fisher Ball. She will be attending Appalachian State University.

Brooke Stenerson is the daughter of Chris and Jen Stenerson and the granddaughter of Paul and Chris Sipson, who are frequent worshippers at Grace. She will be attending Cape Fear Community College to study nursing.

The Nurture Committee has placed baskets decorated with their school colors in the Welcome Center (just inside the portico doors) and are accessible weekdays between 9 am and 3 pm.

Both girls will be setting up independent living quarters. Some suggestions are items for the kitchen or bath and supplies for laundry, school work, etc. **Due to the constraints of shopping right now, gift cards would be a most welcome contribution (Walmart, Target, gas cards, etc.) and could be either brought or mailed to the church for inclusion in the baskets.**

Please have your contributions at the church by Wednesday, June 17.

Dresses/Shorts for Haiti

The UMW has made arrangements to ship the pillowcase dresses for girls and shorts for boys to Haiti again this summer.

If anyone has dresses or shorts at home, please complete them and deliver to the church by Monday, June 15. Someone is at the church between 9 and 3 Monday through Friday. If you ring the doorbell at the portico, you can get in to place them in the collection bin.

HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS? (Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

Online Attendance & Offering for 6/7/2020

Worship Service:	159 views on YouTube
Operating Funds Given 6/3—6/10	\$ 14,167
May	
Operating Funds Given YTD	\$ 354,863*
Operating Expenses YTD	\$ 312,623
Balance	\$ 42,240

2020 Operating Budget = \$ 747,178

May

\$20 Fellowship Received 2020 YTD	\$ 29,766
\$20 Fellowship Spent 2020 YTD	\$ 37,486*

Apportionments are paid through May.

*includes PPP Loan of \$62,500

**includes funding and expenses related to hurricane repairs

Continuing Grace's Mission

Our giving enables Grace to continue to provide support for work within the congregation and for its missions in the world.

Here are the ways to continue to give and support Grace with your tithes and offering:

- You can mail your check to Grace at the following address: Grace UMC, 401 Grace Street, Wilmington, NC 28401
- On-line banking (Many banks allow you to set up checks to pay) The address is (Grace Address)
- Auto draft. Grace can debit your account and can be set up with Debbie. You can determine the amount and frequency of the draft.
- Go to the Grace UMC website (gracedowntown.net) and select PayPal or Square (No Account needed) to make a payment.

Grace Basement Storage

A reminder: The Trustees will soon be assigning storage space in the basement. To do so well, they need to know what needs for storage there are. If your ministry area needs storage, let them know by **Monday June 15**.

Note: It is the Board of Trustees' job to assign building use. Therefore, they will assign storage space. Much as they would like to give everyone all the space they need, that may not be a possibility since it is not yet known what type storage space will be requested.

The more detailed your request is, the better the Trustees can do their job.

Email your request to tal@gracedowntown.net. Put 'Grace basement storage' in the subject line.

Pastor Tal

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: _____ No. _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Prayer Requests

Remember: Prayer Vigil daily at 12:00 noon

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Wayne Ashe	Charlie Leighton
William Bartlett	Steve Lindquist
Bob Bauman	Lea Mason
Alan Biddle	Phoebe Romine McLeod
Brice Borowicz	Pam Miller
Linda Bostick	Family of Mark Millock
James H. Brown	Randy Mills
Don Cole	Kirk Mitchell
Zach DeForge	Mike O'Brien
Pat DiGiuseppe	Michael Pasquale
Justin Glasgow	Tom Pasquale
Julie Godwin	Carolyn Pope
Catherine Leigh Gold	Tiffany Sabo
Linda Gorham	Nancy Skeele
Darcy Guthrie	Mary Sloan
Mildred Guthrie	Chris Smires
Jimmy Hauk	Roger Swilley
Ron Hickmon	Jim Teachey
Rick Holloway	John Thomasson
Jeanette Houston	Laura Upchurch
Ray Hughes	Martha Vann
Dick Hull	Ruby Williams
Larry	

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

Also, please pray for:

- The demise of the coronavirus pandemic
- All medical personnel
- All those working with the public
- 12 noon Prayer Explosion

If you have a prayer request, please contact **Sandy Smith** at sandysmithgrace@gmail.com or 910-233-0310.

Grace UMC Scholarships 2020

Applications for scholarships this year will be taken on line. You will be asked to fill out a Google form. The deadline for completion is June 21, 2020.

If you are interested in applying, please email:
scholarships@gracedowntown.net

Worship Committee Meeting

The Worship Committee will meet on Wednesday, June 17, 4:30 pm, on Zoom. The link will be sent to committee members and staff by email before the meeting.

If you have any questions, email Linda Pyle at
lhpyle45@icloud.com.

Automated Phone Calling System Coming

Grace will be implementing an automated "phone tree" service in the next few weeks. This will allow the staff to communicate important information to every Grace member in a simplified way. Some possibilities for it's use are:

- ◆ Emergencies (closings/cancellations due to hurricane's, snow storms, etc.)
- ◆ Notifications of someone passing or memorial service
- ◆ Special messages from the Pastor
- ◆ Direct communication to those without email or text
- ◆ Small group notifications (committees, choirs, groups, etc.)
- ◆ Special event reminders

Every family unit will receive a call or text (their choice) to one phone. Shortly, you will be receiving a survey (via email) asking you to choose which phone number in your household will receive these calls/texts. Please take a few minutes to answer the survey with your preferences.

Thank you in advance for your participation in the survey. This new system, especially during this time of separation, will further keep us connected to each other and to the ministries of Grace Church.

Grace Summer Sunday School

June 21—July 26 - Partners in Prayer

Despite God's promise of the power of prayer to change us and our world, many Christians never tap into it. It's as though God has prepared an incredible banquet for them, and they're sitting in the corner with a bologna sandwich. In Acts 2, 120 people prayed for ten days. Peter preached for ten minutes and 3,000 were saved.

Beginning on Sunday, June 21, Pastor Patricia will lead us as we take a close look at prayer—how other Christians pray, how Jesus prayed, and the results of praying alone and praying with a group. With the help of the Holy Spirit, who Jesus said would teach us, we will experience prayer in a deeper way and, in the process, come closer to Jesus and to each other and see results in our personal lives and in the life of our church.

With the book, "Partners in Prayer" by John Maxwell as a reference, topics will include:

- Unleashing the Potential of Prayer
- Getting to Know Your Father
- Developing Practical Prayer Skills
- Avoiding Personal Prayer Killers
- Expanding Your Prayer Focus
- Praying Your Church to Its Potential

Ask yourself these questions: What is the greatest "answered prayer" story you have ever heard or experienced?

How would you describe your current prayer life?

- (a) Eating a bologna sandwich,
- (b) checking out the menu,
- (c) feasting at the banquet

Join Pastor Patricia on Zoom, Sundays, June 21-July 26, 10:30 am, and explore how to enrich your prayer life.

August 2—August 30 - Encounters with Jesus

Each class will look at an interaction Jesus had with a person or a group as recorded in the gospels. Pastor Tal will walk you through some background for each passage. You'll each class with a deeper understanding of who Jesus is, what many of those he interacted with thought, and what it means to follow Jesus today. Questions pertinent to that week's passage will be posted ahead of time for you to ponder. There will be time to discuss the questions in each class session.

These are the passages that will be included in this series:

- Aug. 2: Luke 11:37-46 Clean the inside of the cup also
- Aug. 9: John 8:2-11 The woman caught in adultery
- Aug. 16: Luke 14:12-24 Unlikely dinner guests
- Aug. 23 Luke 14:25-33 The cost of following Jesus
- Aug. 30 Luke 18:9-14 You'll never guess who is right before God!

Join Pastor Tal on Zoom, Sundays, August 2—August 30, 10:30 am

The Work of WIHN/Family Promise Continues

Although Grace is not hosting families at this time, the program is still ongoing.

Many of you typically give of your time and energy to help out— which is greatly appreciated! If you are in a position to donate funds, even the cost of some meals, it would be greatly appreciated!

You can donate online at <http://familypromiselcf.org/> . Click on "help a family now" and you can use Pay Pal or your credit card to make a huge difference. If you prefer giving through Grace, please mail a check payable to Grace UMC to 401 Grace Street, Wilmington NC 28401, earmarked Family Promise LCF and that amount will be sent to them. Thank you!

If you have questions, please contact Jane at jdspicer@ec.rr.com or 910 622-1211.

Grace Church – You Are So Generous!

Each week, your donations go to the Cupboard and onto the diabetic shelves. They are being used and appreciated, as the number of folks coming in and the size of each family increases. Thank you for your continued sharing with your neighbors who need this food to survive and to thrive in these times!

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard specific food needs:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Boost or Ensure for diabetics | Corn Flakes |
| Brown Rice | Cheerios |
| Quaker Instant Oats | Canned chicken or tuna |

These are specific step by step instructions on how to make them at this link: <https://www.nhrmc.org/-/media/covid-19/adult-instructions-face-mask-creation.pdf?la=en>

All donations can be dropped off at Grace United Methodist Church Monday through Thursday between the hours of 9 am and 2 pm and someone will transport them to the hospital and Mother Hubbard's Cupboard. Simply ring the bell at the portico door and you will be buzzed in. Leave your donations at the volunteer desk.

What a wonderful (and safe!) way to share the love of Christ in a time when so many people need it.