

Grace Notes

June 7, 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 7, Trinity Sunday

The service will be available Sunday morning starting at 8:00 am. We will worship with music, prayer, Scripture, hymns, The Apostle's Creed, The Lord's Prayer and the sermon. You may worship by going to either:

Facebook:

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

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](#)

Drive-By Holy Communion—11 am - 12:30 pm

See the article on page two for details.

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.

Grace Basement Storage

The Trustees are going to be assessing what is stored in the basement and look at what other storage needs might be accommodated there.

If your group or ministry is interested in having a storage area in the basement, please send an email stating your groups needs to tal@gracedowntown.net. The deadline for your request is Friday, June 15th.

HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS?

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

Online Attendance & Offering for 5/31/2020

Worship Service: 233 views on YouTube

Operating Funds Given 5/27—6/3 \$ 5,325

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 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

Dresses/Shorts for Haiti

The UMW has made arrangements to ship the pillow-case 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.

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	Jeanette Houston
William Bartlett	Ray Hughes
Bob Bauman	Dick Hull
Alan Biddle	Jeremy Johnson
Brice Borowicz	Family of Johnny Johnson
Linda Bostick	Charlie Leighton
Brandon	Steve Lindquist
James H. Brown	Phoebe Romine McLeod
Laura Church	Pam Miller
Don Cole	Family of Mark Millock
Jim Conley	Randy Mills
Family of Ruth Conner	Kirk Mitchell
Zach DeForge	Ola
Pat DiGiuseppe	Michael Pasquale
Family & Friends of Bill & Vince Donohue	Tom Pasquale
Tom & Angie Durrence	Carolyn Pope
Justin Glasgow	Tiffany Sabo
Julie Godwin	Family of Bob Skeele
Catherine Leigh Gold	Chris Smires
Linda Gorham	Roger Swilley
Darcy Guthrie	Jim Teachey
Family of Jerry Harrelson	John Thomasson
Jimmy Hauk	Martha Vann
Ron Hickmon	Shedera West
	Ruby Williams

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.

Holy Communion Being Offered at Grace

Holy Communion is one of the principle sacraments of the United Methodist Church and of Grace UMC. It is a ritual sorely missed by many in our congregation.

Today, June 7, from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm, Pastor Tal, Pastor Patricia and two others will be giving Communion via the "drive-by" method. Two communion stations are planned:

- on 4th Street at the end of the sidewalk leading to the Welcome Center doors, and
- under the Welcome Center Portico off the Grace parking lot.

The Wilmington Police Department and New Hanover County Public Health Department have both been consulted to aid us in keeping everyone safe. Members of Grace will serve as traffic directors to help things flow smoothly.

Pre-packaged wafers and grape juice will be used, per the guidance of the Health Department. Sometimes those packets can be difficult to open, so it is suggested that you receive the blessings of the pastors and then take the elements home to partake. As soon as you receive the blessing and your packet, we ask that you drive on so as to alleviate any bottlenecks from forming.

We sincerely hope that many people will participate in this Celebration of Holy Communion so we can continue to offer it while we are worshipping outside our normal routines.

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!

Though April alone, we received monetary donations of \$5,603 towards our various mission efforts. We have delivered over 30 bags and boxes of food to Mother Hubbard's cupboard and also delivered numerous bags of homemade masks to NHRMC!

More is still needed in these wonderful mission opportunities. Please continue to support the giving of food and financial contributions to Mother Hubbards Cupboard and Family Promise, as well as the making of masks for NHRMC.

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.