

Grace Notes

March 15, 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, March 15

- 8:30 am Worship Service **CANCELLED**
- 9:45 am Sunday School **CANCELLED**
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time **CANCELLED**
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir **CANCELLED**
- 11:00 am Worship Service **CANCELLED**
- 5:00 pm Family Worship **BLAST CANCELLED**

Monday, March 16

- 5:30 pm Boot Camp **WILL MEET**
- 6:30 pm Basketball **TBD**
- 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Meeting **WILL MEET**
- 7:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting **WILL MEET**
- 7:15 pm Cape Fear Chorale Rehearsal **TBD**

Tuesday, March 17

- 10:00 am Le Leche League **TBD**
- 6:30 pm Administrative Council Meeting **CANCELLED**
- 6:30 pm Basketball **TBD**

Wednesday, March 18

- 9:30 am UMW Leadership Team Meeting **CANCELLED**
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting **WILL MEET**
- 11:30 am Gentle Yoga Class **TBD**
- 5:30 pm Boot Camp **WILL MEET**
- 6:15 pm Grace Ringers **CANCELLED**
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal **CANCELLED**

Thursday, March 19

- 9:30 am Women's Bible Study **CANCELLED**
- 12:00 pm Welcome Table **TBD**
- 6:00 pm Gracelettes **CANCELLED**

Friday, March 20

- 11:00 am Empty Bowls **CANCELLED**

Sunday, March 22

- 8:30 am Worship Service **CANCELLED**
- 9:30 am Fellowship Time **CANCELLED**
- 9:45 am Sunday School **CANCELLED**
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time **CANCELLED**
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir **CANCELLED**
- 11:00 am Worship Service **CANCELLED**
- 12:15 pm Soup's On Lunch **CANCELLED**
- 5:00 pm Family Worship **BLAST CANCELLED**

Grace Church Calendar

It is expected that the Grace Church calendar of events will be very fluid over the next few weeks. Changes will be sent out via emails, Facebook posts, website updates and Instagram. Please check them often to stay informed.

Easter Sunday Worship at Grace

This year, Grace will be offering three worship services on Easter: 8 am, 9:30 am and 11 am. The purpose is to try and spread out the wonderful, large attendance we usually have at the 11:00 service. The hope is to have some members and their guests attend the 9:30 service. The Chancel Choir will serve the 9:30 and 11:00 services.

You are encouraged to be a presence in the Welcome Center, narthex and sanctuary to welcome Grace's guests. It might change a life....

Pastor Tal

Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Jean Ballard	Emily Mauldin
Bob Bauman	Joann McCloskey
Julie Best	Peter Morreale
Alan Biddle	Mike O'Brien
Brice Borowicz	Steve Pacello
Ruth Bowers	Evan Papaspyros
Jeanne Brothman	Frank Pasquale
Betty Brown	Jim Pasquarette
Bruce Celotto	Family of Muriel Pearson
George Collins	Larry Phipps
Ruth Conner	Sidney Potter
David Cooper	Alma Rivenbark
Mike Cupps	Noah Roberts
Zach DeForge	Barbara Robertson
Gail Gibbs	Brian Schmaltz
Pat DiGiuseppe	Fern Schussler
Mary Ginocchio	Jonathan Sloan
Catherine Leigh Gold	Cozette Southerland
Amanda Greek	Kathy Spitzner
Joan Greene	Vicki Stanfield-Switzer
Ron Hickmon	Roger Swilley
Dick Hull	John Thomasson
Natalie Humphrey	Donna Tripp
Janice	Pete Williams
Kathleen	Laura Witherington
Margaret Lane	Rich Van Gorder
Charlie Leighton	Caroline Vincent
Family of Carol Lowrey	

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

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.

Grace Notes Deadline

The weekly deadline for information to be included in *Grace Notes* is Wednesday, 12 noon. It is preferable to have the information sent electronically, but it must be in writing.

Thanks! Marion

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.**
 - Will attend the Soup Lunch on Sunday, March 22**

Name: _____ No. _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Gracelettes

Thursday, March 19, 6:00 pm

The group will meet at Grace and work for about an hour on getting Cinderella's Closet "shopping day ready." Afterwards we'll head downtown for dinner.

Cancelled

Soup's On Sunday

March 22, 12:00 noon

The Nurture Committee is sponsoring *Soup's On Sunday*. Various congregation members and groups are donating homemade soups and desserts. There will be salad and drinks provided by the Nurture Committee.

The Grace Sol- id Rock Singers and Edna Mory will be providing entertainment.

Cancelled

The whole congregation is encouraged to come after the service and enjoy great food and fellowship.

Please use the tear-off above to make your reservation or call the volunteer desk Monday-Friday, 9 am to

Toot Your Horn!

The Missions Committee has a new interactive bulletin board. The purpose? We'd love to see all of Grace's great works posted in one place. So if you as an individual, or a group here at Grace, are working on a mission project, we want everyone to know.



Please use the notecards and sharpies provided to add your particular mission or missions to the board.

We praise God for the many giving, caring and compassionate people at work through Grace.

Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt Hugh Macrae Park - 3 pm - April 5, 2020

The Family Ministry Program is hosting an afternoon Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday at Hugh Macrae Park. This will be a fun event for Grace church and also a chance to meet others and share all that Grace does.

There will be an egg exchange center where all the eggs collected by the children can be exchanged for various prizes and candy. **For this event we need the following items:**

- Candy bars (all sizes)**
- Small toys (like the ones found at the dollar store)**
- Various types of candy**
- Baked goods (cupcakes, cookies, etc)**
- Small bags of chips, cookies, and snacks**
- Small bottled water**

Please leave all items in the marked bin in the Welcome Center. Thank you for your help and save the date for a wonderful afternoon.



Help Needed with Sound System!

Grace needs people to help run the sound board during the Sunday worship services and for services. This is a vitally important part of the church's ministry—if people can't hear what is going on, the impact of the service is lost on them.

If you are willing to help with this ministry, please contact Debbie Cole (head of sound) 910-233-0429, or Tal Madison, pastor.

Thank You

Dear Grace Church Family,

Thank you for your prayers, phone calls, visits and food. David is improving each day.

Thank you for all your love and God's blessings.

Love,
Renate and David Cooper

Envelopes for Costa Rica

Grace's Mission Team to Costa Rica is still holding their fund raising *Envelopes for Costa Rica* campaign. Stop by the Welcome Center where you will find a table of envelopes with monetary amounts printed on them ranging from \$1-\$300.

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.

Good Friday

A SERVICE OF TENEBRAE
Friday, April 10, 7:00 pm

A Service of Tenebrae or "Darkness" is based on a twelfth-century late night/early morning service and is an extended meditation on the Passion of Christ. The Passion of Christ is the story of Jesus Christ's arrest, trial, and suffering. It ends with his execution by crucifixion.

Through liturgy, readings, hymns, and choir anthems, this service will help the worshippers experience the dramatic final days of Jesus' life in human form.

You are invited and encouraged to attend this meaningful service as you prepare to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior on Easter Sunday.

Invite a friend.

Gino's Café Returns!



Due to scheduling conflicts,
Gino's Café is

Postponed until 2021!

Watch for an announcement this fall
about the new date.

Beth Moore April Program

For those ladies who signed up to attend the April 24-25 Beth Moore Live Presentation, it is time to pay your \$65.00 fee. Please make your check payable to Grace UMC and put Beth Moore on the memo line. You may place it in the offering plate or bring it by the church office. **The deadline to pay the fee is Wednesday, April 1.**

If you did not preregister, it's not too late to get a ticket. Use the sign-up sheet in the Welcome Center.

If you have questions, contact:

Linda Snider - snidersnc@gmail.com or
Linda Russ - lindaruss@hotmail.com."

Cape Fear Chorale

WITH ORCHESTRA

Presents

Franz Joseph Haydn

Mass in D Minor

Te Deum in C

With special guests

E.A. Laney High School Choral Ensemble

Jerry Cribbs, Direction Libby Oldham, Accompanist

Sunday, April 19, 2020, 4 pm

UNCW Kenan Auditorium

Free Admission Donations Accepted

www.capefearchorale.org

New Ministry Possible

Someone has kindly offered to purchase cameras for the sanctuary to record Grace's worship services. The idea is then to make them available for broadcast online. This can be a fantastic form of outreach, as well as a great service to our homebound members who can no longer attend worship services.

Before we purchase the equipment, we need manpower to do the following:

1. Remotely run the camera (turn on/off, zoom in/out, pan, etc. (We are promised it's not as hard as it sounds.)
2. Edit the recording to get it ready to broadcast online.

If you can help with any of the above, let Tal know.

Community Relations Committee

The Community Relations Committee is looking for new members with experience in **graphics, press releases, and print advertising**. The committee meets once per month.

Contact Olivia Walsh, olivia@gracedowntown.net, if you interested in volunteering with this group.

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 bi-annual event will celebrate 10 events 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.

Cancelled

Tickets on sale now in the Grace Office or visit

Migrant Worker Kits

It is time for the United Methodist Women to make and assemble the Migrant Worker Kits. This ministry, which is an important phase of our outreach, provides bags to North Carolina migrant workers. These drawstring bags are made from 1 yard of heavy fabric and contain personal toiletries for the workers. Many of these workers arrive with nothing, so these toiletries are certainly appreciated. All of the migrants are in this country legally. No illegals are allowed to participate in the migrant program.

Below you will find a list of items that are needed to put in the bags. There will be a container in the Welcome Center for you to place your items. There will be a list of items needed on the easel by the bin. We hope to have some bags made in the bin, so if you would like to fill a bag, please take one. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, we will be happy to do the shopping for you. If you have any questions, contact Dianna Florea at 398-8790.

In addition, we will be collecting buttoned, long-sleeved shirts this year. They don't have to be new, so it is a great time to clean out your closets.

Thank you in advance for your help and contributions to this worth mission.

- Single package toothbrushes with container
- Toothpaste
- Dental floss
- Soap and plastic soap container with lid
- New bath towel
- New washcloth
- Disposable razors
- Hand (body lotion)
- Shampoo
- Comb and hair brush
- Safety pins
- Band-aids (reg. Size strips)
- Metal nail file
- Deodorant

Inner Grace Event

Join Grace families for camping and fellowship Friday, April 17– Sunday, April 19, at Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park in Tabor City. Tent sites and "Call of the Wild" cabins are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so call (877) 668-8586 to make your reservation and be sure to tell them you're with Grace UMC. Both of these sites sleep 8 people.

The cost of your site includes admission to putt-putt, fishing, splash pad, pools, and character visits from Yogi Bear himself! There are other fun activities and crafts that will happen throughout the weekend for small additional charges. Please visit their website for more information and camping rates.

www.taborcityjellystone.com

Please contact Jess Phillips once your reservation has been made so she can keep track of all families attending. (Jessphillipscatawba@yahoo.com).



A New Ministry at Grace

The "God Squad" would like to hear from you! Our volunteers assist others by driving them to doctors appointments, to church, or other sporadic events. It only takes a little time, but means a great deal to our brothers and sisters who need a little help from time to time.

If you can help by occasionally driving, please contact Marvin Evans, at marvinevans295@gmail.com.

If you need an occasional ride to a medical appointment or church, please contact Dan Barnes, at dibarnes11754@yahoo.com.

Don't Keep It a Secret!

If you have a change of address, phone number or email address, please share it with us! Send the changes to Marion Little - marion@gracedowntown.net
Thanks!

ONE THING FOR MARCH

Water and orange trees sound like an oasis. This is what you can help provide for the city of Rotifunk in Sierra Leone. This poverty-stricken country is recovering from 11 years of civil war followed by an Ebola epidemic. To purchase an orange tree to add to an existing orchard is about \$5.00, and a case of water is roughly \$3.00. Your donations can be put in the *ONE THING* drop box in the Welcome Center or labeled Sierra Leone Missions and put in the offering plate.

Read Sam Spicer's words below to learn more details about the conditions in Sierra Leone and what is being done to improve the quality of life there.

West African countries experience about 8 months of dry season and 4 months of rainy season each year. There is no plumbing, so houses lack running water and toilets. Superficial wells tend to become easily contaminated from the lack of toilets. The only deep well in town is on the hospital grounds, which provides clean drinking water for the hospital (this well had to be re-dug in the most recent dry season, as it had dried up!). Local people purchase water in plastic pouches, shipped into town, for drinking. If they need water for cooking or washing, water from the contaminated wells or from the contaminated river must first be boiled in order to be usable. Funds for water will go toward another deep well for the people of the city and the hospital.

Rotary International is providing much of the funding for an orchard in Rotifunk. A well is being dug for irrigation of the orchard. It will eventually include orange, lime, coconut, guava and plum trees, over 4,000! It is estimated that the income from the fruit can bring in about \$50,000 per year, half of which will go to education in the area and half to the hospital care for people in the region. In addition, the presence of the orchard means that 20 full time jobs, plus 100 part-time and seasonal jobs will be created, which is a huge bonus in an area where most are subsistence farmers and wages are low or non-existent. The orchard is also being interplanted with vegetable crops to cover the cost of the orchard after the grant is used up. Funds for orange trees will buy trees for the orchard, whose costs are not totally covered by the Rotary grants.

If you would like to help with funding projects in Sierra Leone, please put a check in the offering, clearly earmarking it for Mission of Hope. You could also hand a check to Sam Spicer of our congregation, who serves on the board of Mission of Hope. MOH is working with the people of Rotifunk and the Norwegian UMC to improve their health and their lives. Sam is happy to answer any questions you might have. 910 352-5771

LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE

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, 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am - ***Three Easter Sunday Worship Services***

Sunday, May 10-Sunday, May 24 - ***Interfaith/Family Promise***

Sunday, June 21—Thursday, June 25 - ***Vacation Bible School 2020 -
Corey & Dave's Excellent Adventure: Missionary Bootcamp***

July 8-14, 2020 - ***San Isidro, Costa Rica Mission Trip***

Saturday, September 12, 8:30 am—2:45 pm - ***Annual Chancel Choir Retreat***