

# Grace Notes

March 1, 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 1

##### Interfaith/Family Promise Families Departs

- 8:30 am Worship Service/Holy Communion
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 3:00 pm Dementia Friendly Worship Service

#### Monday, March 2

- 5:30 pm Boot Camp
- 6:30 pm Basketball
- 6:30 pm General Conference Information Session
- 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Meeting
- 7:15 pm Cape Fear Chorale Rehearsal

#### Tuesday, March 3

- 10:30 am United Methodist Women
- 1:15 pm General Conference Information Session
- 3:00 pm Nurture Committee Meeting
- 6:30 pm Basketball

#### Wednesday, March 4

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:30 am Gentle Yoga Class
- 5:30 pm Boot Camp
- 6:15 pm Grace Ringers
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, March 5

- 9:30 am Women's Bible Study
- 12:00 pm Welcome Table
- 5:30 pm Security Team Meeting

#### Saturday, March 7

- 11:00 am Memorial Service (Anchor Church)

#### Sunday, March 8

- 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**
- 5:00 pm Reducing Stress Adult Class
- 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)

Today, 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.

### **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](mailto:olivia@gracedowntown.net), if you interested in volunteering with this group.

### Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Jean Ballard	Joann McCloskey
Bob Bauman	Peter Moreale
Julie Best	Steve Pacello
Alan Biddle	Evan Pappaspyros
Brice Borowicz	Frank Pasquale
Ruth Bowers	Jim Pasquarette
Jeanne Brothman	Muriel Pearson
Betty Brown	Larry Phipps
Bruce Celeto	Alma Rivenbark
George Collins	Noah Roberts
Ruth Conner	Barbara Robertson
David Cooper	Fern Schussler
Mike Cupps	Priscilla Shirer
Zach DeForge	Jonathan Sloan
Gail Gibbs	Cozette Southerland
Mary Ginocchio	Kathy Spitzner
Catherine Leigh Gold	Vicki Stanfield-Switzer
Joan Greene	Roger Swilley
Ron Hickmon	Donna Tripp
Dick Hull	Pete Williams
Natalie Humphrey	Laura Witherington
Janice	Rich Van Gorder
Kathleen	Will Vereen
Margaret Lane	Caroline Vincent
Charlie Leighton	

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](mailto: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.

### **Sunset Park Prayer Partners**

Prayer Partners are reminded that their notes/cards for March are due next Sunday, March 8. They will be delivered the following week. Thanks!

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: \_\_\_\_\_

**United Methodist Women**

Tuesday, March 3,  
Meet & Greet - 10:30 am  
Meeting begins at 10:45 am

Speaker: Valoree Shinn - THE BIBLE

Hostesses: Renate Cooper & Mary Trout

All women of Grace Church are invited to come.  
Bring a friend!

**Graceful Seniors**

Tuesday, March 10, 10:00 am

The speaker will be Reva Gornbein, who is a veteran of World War II. She has a Masters Degree and was trained in Cryptology. During the War she decoded German secret messages for the benefit of the Allies. She was stationed in Berlin and was given the task to travel to Munich to retrieve Hitler's former secretary who was a POW at the time.

This will be a fascinating insight into a world we know so little about. Bring a friend!

**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 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 in the Grace Office or visit EmptyBowlsILM.org

**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 Solid Rock Singers and Edna Mory will be providing entertainment.

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 4 pm. The deadline to sign-up is March 18.

**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 (donations accepted). **Please sign-up in the Welcome Center** so we'll know how much to prepare and who might need childcare.

**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.

### Reducing Stress Series

Sunday March 8, 5-6:30 pm

The second part of the Reducing Stress series looks at how we serve. Over this 2-week study, we will learn practical tips on how our service to God can help change our stress levels.

The first evening we have a wonderful guest, Meg Stuart from Hope Recuperative Care. HRC is a home-like environment for those experiencing homelessness to recuperate from an illness, injury, surgery or chemotherapy after being discharged from the hospital. She will share how her service has changed her and how she helps others in stressful situations.

### Thank You Note

Dear Grace Church Family,

I would like to thank all those that included me in their prayers, sent me get well cards, and called me. All the many cards that were sent and the prayers, have been a major part in my healing process. Jane and I are truly blessed to be a part of such a caring and loving church family at Grace.

Thank you,

Larry and Jane Phipps

### 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

### 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, 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

Our dear Grace family,

We are full of thankfulness and praise to God for the amazing way He works out difficulties in our lives. We are grateful to our wonderful Grace family, who show the love of God in their actions every day; especially in times of need. You have covered us with your prayers and with so much compassion and kindness.

We had some anxiety before knee replacement surgery, wondering how we would manage at home afterward, with Pat in a wheelchair and Patricia with a damaged leg. But the Lord sent in His army from Grace Church, bringing us wonderful food, flowers, and cards with encouraging words and Scripture, and filling in at church. He sent Patricia's sister for a week and a friend to help with household needs. Patricia is recovering well from surgery.

We ask for your continued prayers, for the blood clots to be dissolved, and also for healing of Pat's health issues. We love you!  
Patricia and Pat

## **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 bins in the children's area. Thank you for your help and save the date for a wonderful afternoon.

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

We are a little over a month away from our 2020 Cinderella's Closet Prom Shopping Event. This is our fourth year holding events for girls in New Hanover County, and the Cinderella's Closet committee has always appreciated the wonderful support and encouragement that the members of Grace have given to us and the young ladies that come to our event.

This year we will be holding our events on one weekend to allow girls that work or have other responsibilities on Saturdays to benefit. The dates are Friday, March 27, 3pm-9pm and Saturday, March 28, 9am-5pm. We would like to open the volunteer sign-up to only the women of Grace Church through Saturday, February 29, before opening it up to our community supporter list. You can go to the following link to sign up for this year's event:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090444acad22a5ff2-2020>

We are in need of Fairy Godmothers, greeters, and seamstresses. If you have any type of sewing ability, we would love to have you in our seamstress room - we guarantee only very minor alterations for our princesses; such as hems, straps and small repairs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Hope Inman at 646-202-3520 or [cinderellasclosetilm@gmail.com](mailto:cinderellasclosetilm@gmail.com).



## **LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE**

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, **8:00, 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**

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**