

# Grace Notes

March 22, 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 22

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 23

5:30 pm Boot Camp **WILL MEET**

#### Tuesday, March 24

#### Wednesday, March 25

10:00 am Staff Meeting **WILL MEET**  
5:30 pm Boot Camp **WILL MEET**  
6:15 pm Grace Ringers **CANCELLED**  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal **CANCELLED**

#### Thursday, March 26

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

#### Friday, March 27

#### Sunday, March 29

Schedule has yet to be determined. Watch your emails,  
Facebook and the Grace website for updates.

### 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

### 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.

### 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 Paspaspyros
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	Family of 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
Tim Jones	Laura Witherington
Kathleen	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](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.

### 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 Prospective Member Class, April 26, 9:30 am**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### 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

### 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.

### 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.

### Storage in Basement

The Trustees are beginning the process of assigning storage space in the church basement. If your committee/ministry wants storage space there, please submit your request in writing to Debbie Ashe (debbie@gracedowntown.net). by the next Trustees meeting (Mon Apr 20). State the name of your committee, and what you hope the store. The more detail you can offer the better. Send your requests

Please understand that, given limited space, it won't be possible to give all groups all the space they want.

### Prospective Members Class

**Sunday, April 26, 9:30 am**  
Second floor office suite  
Light Refreshments

Thinking about becoming a member of Grace UMC? Pastor Tal will offer a history of the United Methodist Church, basic United Methodist beliefs, what it means to be a Christian, and the commitments of membership—all in an hour!

So that we can prepare the right number of information packets, let us know you are coming by using the tear-off at the top of page two and place it in the offering plate, or call the church office (763-5197). **Please respond by Sunday, April 19.**

We look forward to seeing you!

### 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**

**Cancelled**

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.



### Consecration Campaign Results

These are the results of the campaign for 2020.

- A total of 148 giving units pledged \$526,222.
- Based on last year's giving, we can expect to receive \$191,956 in 2020 from people who have consistent giving patterns but from whom we did not receive a pledge card.
- Based on the last three years, we can expect to receive \$9,705 in loose offerings in 2020.
- Church income from non-donor sources such as interest, rentals, and fees estimated at \$2,525.
- This gives us a total of \$730,408 anticipated income for the next twelve months.

### 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](http://www.taborcityjellystone.com)

Please contact Jess Phillips once your reservation has been made so she can keep track of all families attend-



### 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](mailto:snidersnc@gmail.com) or  
Linda Russ - [lindapruss@hotmail.com](mailto:lindapruss@hotmail.com)."

### 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.

### 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](mailto:marvinevans295@gmail.com).

**If you need an occasional ride** to a medical appointment or church, please contact Dan Barnes, at [dibarnes11754@yahoo.com](mailto:dibarnes11754@yahoo.com).

### 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.

### **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