

Grace Notes

September 15, 2019

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, September 15

- 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
- 12:00 pm Social Graces Kick-Off Lunch
- 5:00 pm Family Worship **BLAST**
- 5:15 pm Adult Bible Study/Marriage Tune-Up
- 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)

Monday, September 16

- 5:30 pm Boot Camp
- 5:30 pm Lay Leadership Committee
- 7:00 pm Board of Trustees
- 7:15 pm Cape Fear Chorale Rehearsal

Tuesday, September 17

- 10:00 am Le Leche League
- 10:00 am UMW Sewing Day
- 6:00 pm Basketball
- 6:30 pm Administrative Council Meeting
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, September 18

- 9:30 am UMW Leadership Team
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:30 am Gentle Yoga Class
- 5:30 pm Bootcamp

Thursday, September 19

- 9:30 am Beth Moore Bible Study
- 12:00 pm Welcome Table

Sunday, September 22

- 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**
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Answer This Question

Have you ever felt called to do mission work?

Join the conference team November 29 thru December 10, 2019, as we work to improve the lives of women and children in Rotifunk, Sierra Leone, a very rural and poor part of a poor country.

No medical expertise required. The all inclusive cost is \$2,500/person, with some scholarships available.

If you are interested in joining this effort or supporting a local missionary with a monetary donation, please contact Sam Spicer at 910.352.5771 or sspicer@ec.rr.com

Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Alexis	Family of Adrieana O'Shea
Alan Biddle	Nancy Pritchett
Gail Braun	Noah Roberts
George Braun	Pete Robinson
David Brose	Jack Ross, Jr.
Marilyn Brown	Tim Russell
Claudia Burnette	Carlson Rowe
Bruce Celeto	Uta Rowe
Jill Clark	Fritz Schafer Family
David Cooper	Mary Shipping
Dale Cromartie	Jonathan Sloan
Jim Cromartie	Mary Sloan
Jeff Cupps	Cozette Southerland
Zach DeForge	Kathy Spitzner
Lisa Eubank	Stephen Toth
Family of Tyrone Evans	Stephen Toth Sr.
Catherine Leigh Gold	Trav Ward & Family
Bob Henard	Dennis Troup
Rick Keup Family	Family of Esther Upchurch
Maria King	Caroline Vincent
Ryan Layton	Foy White-Chu
Jessica Martin	Janet Williams
Margaret Merritt	Judy Yupcavage
Ruth O'Dwyer	

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
LCDR Nicholas Madren, USN
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
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.

Family Ministries Night Moves to Sunday

Join us for: **BLAST**
(Believe-Learn-and Seek the Truth)

Sundays - 5:00 pm—6:30 pm
Starts TONIGHT!!!

See Schedule Above

Questions? Contact Kelley Ahlers:
Kelley@gracedowntown.net

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.**
- Plan to attend the Prospective Member Class on October 13, 9:30 am**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Hurricane Dorian Relief

The United Methodist Church is ready to send help to the Bahamas in the aftermath of hurricane Dorian. Any gifts given to this effort will be funneled through the United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR). Please know that **100%** of monies given go to help the affected areas; no administrative costs are taken.

You can help by making your check payable to Grace UMC and writing "Hurricane Dorian Relief" on the memo line.

Stepping Up: A Journey Through the Psalms of Ascent by Beth Moore

Ladies, join us for the fall Women's Bible Study

NEW DAY: Thursday

This 7-week study begins on September 19 and ends on October 31. It will meet in the Church Parlor, 9:30-11:30 am.

The cost will be approximately \$15.00 for the student book. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center. Please sign up so we'll know how many books to order. NOTE: This study was done several years ago, so you might already have this book at home. Please indicate on the sheet if you already have a book.

We all may want to stay after the study to have lunch at the Welcome Table in the Bullock Activity!

Come join us as we study Psalms 120 through 134.
Any questions: Call Linda Russ 910-520-3111
or Linda Snider 910-620-3756

Marriage Tune-Up

To go along with the new Sunday Night Family Ministries programs, Pastor Tal will hold a 3-session adult course called "Marriage Tune-Up".

The classes will start at 5:15 pm and last about an hour each. The dates are September 15, 22 and 29.

Among the topics covered will be:

- Moving from falling in love to being in love for the long haul
- How to argue well
- Staying connected during the busy years

Come take a look at what makes marriages strong. Childcare will be offered through the Children's Ministry programs.

Sunset Park Prayer Partners

Your first monthly card/note/letter for your prayer partner is due in the basket by Sunday, September 29.

Below are the dates (all Sundays) for the rest of the year when these will be due.

October 20	February 9
November 10	March 8
December 8	April 12
January 12, 2020	May 10

Plans are underway for other events and treats for the teachers and staff. Stay tuned for upcoming announcements.

UMW Sponsored Sewing Day

Another Sewing Day has been arranged for Tuesday, September 17, 10:00 am, in the Bullock Activity Center. Everyone is invited.

This will be a little different from our previous sewing days. You can bring your sewing machine and sew, pick out fabrics and trims, prepare kits for sewers to take home and sew, **or you can learn how to make our cute dresses.**

There will be a table showing the various steps on how to make our dresses with samples of each step. They are really quite easy to make and anyone can learn. Of course there are different ways to make them, this will be just one way and you can vary them however you please (this is the fun part). The dresses can be plain or fancy, the choice is yours. We have lots of donated fabric and trims, and we want to make good use of these resources.

If you are cleaning out your closets and come across some fabric and/or trims you do not need, we will be happy to turn them into dresses for these deserving girls. We hope to see you in the Bullock Center on September 17!

If you have any questions, call Dianna Florea 910-398-8790.



Cinderella's Closet Looking for Volunteers!

Cinderella's Closet is about to begin working on our 2020 prom event season, with our first meeting to be held in October. We are always looking for volunteers that want to help us sort through dresses, shoes, accessories, and help us with our big fundraising event in February, *Cinderella's Masquerade Ball*.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the committee, no matter how much or little time you have to participate, please contact Hope Inman at hopekathryninman@gmail.com or 646-202-3520 and we will add you to our committee!

Merry Christmas!

Members of Grace again have a chance to send a box of Christmas gifts to children in Armenia through our North Carolina Conference's AGAPE mission. A landlocked mountainous country in Eurasia, Armenia is bordered by Turkey, Georgia, Iran, and Azerbaijan. The children in this poverty-stricken country are not remembered through any other mission entities. Nara Melkonyan, an Armenian missionary supported by our conference, oversees distribution of these gifts to the local children at Christmas. To read more about this project, please go to

<https://nccumc.org/outreach/project-agape>

Supplies are available in the Welcome Center!

Here's what you do:

- Pick up a small (6-quart) plastic box with lid from the table in the Welcome Center. You may buy your own, but they should be 6-quart, hard plastic with lids that fit, secured with two rubber bands.
- Pick up a list from beside the boxes with suggestions as to what to put into the boxes. Check off what you add to the box. You may add other age-appropriate items and list them in the "other" designation. Please enclose the list in your box.
- Place in the top of the box \$5 in cash or a check (made out to NC Conference UMC, earmarked Agape Christmas Boxes) to cover the cost of shipping for your box. Members of the Missions Committee will take the boxes to our drop off location where they will be transported to Goldsboro for shipment to Armenia!
- Completed boxes need to be returned to the Welcome Center **by Sunday, September 23!**

If you have questions, please contact Marie Allison at alli7173@hotmail.com or 910-675-0612. Thanks in advance!

The Story Begins Sunday, September 15

The "Greatest Story Ever Told" is more than just a cliché. God goes to great lengths to rescue lost and hurting people. That is what *The Story* is all about—the story of the Bible—God's great love affair with humanity.

Condensed into 31 accessible chapters, *The Story* sweeps you into the unfolding progression of Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation. Using the clear, accessible text of the NIV Bible, it allows the stories, poems, and teachings of the Bible to read like a novel. And like any good story, *The Story* is filled with intrigue, drama, conflict, romance, and redemption—and it's all true!

Everyone is invited to join in this journey. Classes are available for ages 3-93. Classes will start on September 15th, and cover one chapter each week. Books are \$10 and come in Pre-k, children's, youth, adult and large print adult versions. Adult classes participating in this study are Inner Grace and Travelers. If you wish to do this study on your own, you are also welcome to pick up a book. It is our hope that, as we all read through *The Story*, the events that unfold will become topics of discussion throughout the year at home, at church, and with friends.

If you have questions or need additional information, contact Kelley Ahlers: Kelley@gracedowntown.net

Joint Worship Service

With

St. Stephen African Methodist Episcopal Church
Grace UMC Sanctuary

World Communion Sunday, October 6, 4 pm

Message by: Pastor Thomas Nixon, St. Stephen AME

Both Grace's Chancel Choir and St. Stephen's Choir will sing during the service and Holy Communion will be celebrated.

The Nurture Committee will provide a light supper after the worship service. This will provide a wonderful opportunity for the members of both congregation to get to know one another over a meal.

At one point in their history, Grace and St. Stephen were one church. In 1865, over 600 people pulled out of Grace to form St. Stephen. It is a joyful and fitting occasion for us to worship together each year.

Grace will hold its regular 8:30 and 11:00 am services that day. Mark your calendars and take part in this special worship opportunity.

New Member Received

Grace was blessed to receive a new member at the 11 am worship service on September 8.

Mary Trout and her husband moved to Wilmington two and one-half years ago from California to be near their daughter. Sadly, Mary's husband passed away earlier this year. She was drawn to join Grace because of Pastor Tal, our warm, friendly congregation, and the music during worship. She has 4 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren and enjoys reading, knitting and gardening.

Prospective Members Class

Sunday, October 13, 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 2 and place it in the offering plate, or call the church office (763-5197). **Please respond by Sunday, October 6.**

We look forward to seeing you!

Gentle Yoga Still in Session

A reminder that our Gentle Yoga class is still meeting Wednesday's at 11:30 am in the gym. Everyone is invited to come join the class. Beginners welcome! The cost is \$5 per class.

Gracelettes

Thursday, September 19, 6:00 pm
Dinner at Olympia Restaurant
5629 Oleander Drive

Please bring socks to donate to the
NHRMC Social Work Department
for their
Socks for the Homeless Drive

Questions? Contact Katie Voulgaris
katieipock@hotmail.com

Photographs Needed!

- With the cell phones we all carry, everyone has a camera with them all the time! We'd like you to share the selfies and group photos you take at all the Grace events.
- Our Social Media Manager, Olivia Walsh, would like to use some of your photos on the website and social media to illustrate life at Grace Church. Your photos may not be used immediately, but would give her a gallery of photos from which to choose.
- Please send your photos to:
olivia@gracedowntown.net

Thank you!

LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE

Saturday, September 28, 8:30 am—2:45 pm - ***Rescheduled Chancel Choir Retreat***

Sunday, October 6, 4:00 pm - ***Joint Worship with St. Stephen AME Church*** at Grace

Sunday, October 20 - ***Youth and Children's Sunday***

Sunday, October 27 - ***Grace Annual Fall Festival***

Sunday, December 1-Sunday, December 8 - ***Host Family Promise/WIHN***

Sunday, December 15, 11:00 am - ***A Service of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace*** led by the Chancel Choir

Saturday, February 8, 2020 - ***Cinderella's Closet Fundraiser - A Masquerade Ball*** at the Brooklyn Arts Center