

Grace Notes

December 7, 2025

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, December 7

Second Sunday in Advent

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:00 am Kids for Christ
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service (Children singing)
- No Youth Meetings

Monday, December 8

- 8:45 am Grace in Motion
- 10:00 am Senior Basketball
- 6:30 pm SPRC
- 7:00 pm Basketball (Peyton, Baker-Boney)

Tuesday, December 9

- 7:00 am Young Women Bible Study
- 9:00 am Bible Study
- 9:00 am Organist Rehearsal
- 9:30 am Knitwerks @ Panera
- 1:00 pm The Welcome Table
- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 7:00 pm Chorale Board

Wednesday, December 10

- 9:00 am DS clergy mtgs.
- 10:00 am Yoga
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 2:00 pm Organ Practice
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal (extended)

Thursday, December 11

- 5:00 pm Parent's Night out
- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 6:45 pm Basketball

Friday, December 12

- 8:45 am Grace in Motion
- 9:00 am Organ practice

Saturday, December 13

- 9:00 am Chamber Orchestra (call)
- 10:00 am Choir and Orchestra

Sunday, December 14

- 9:45 am Sunday School (check with leaders)
- 10:00 am Chancel Choir Warm-up
- 10:30 am Worship Service Cantata
- 4:30 pm Youth Meeting
- 5:00 pm Family Fun Day (offsite—Islands)

Poinsettia Mission Envelopes today

Today, December 7, the worship bulletin contains special envelopes for donations to the Poinsettia Mission Project. Please use these envelopes to name a person or persons you wish to honor or memorialize on December 21, when the altar will be decorated with beautiful poinsettias. A listing of all the names will be included in the bulletin that day. A donation of \$5.00 per name is suggested. After the Christmas Eve service, the plants will be delivered to Grace Members who are no longer able to attend church services. The deadline for submissions is **Monday, Dec. 15.**



Grace United Methodist Church Chancel Choir

What Sweeter Music:

Lessons and Carols

Composed by John Leavitt

Accompanied by Chamber Orchestra



Sunday, December 14
10:30 am, Sanctuary

In-person/Online Attendance & Offering

For 11/30/2025

In-person Worship Service

8:30 am 19
11:00 am 150
Online service 125

Operating Funds Received \$ 5,837
Average Receipts Needed Weekly \$ 17,671
Building Preservation Funds Received \$ 175

Apportionments Paid Through November

November Financial Report

YTD Building Preservation Receipts \$ 37,906
YTD Building Preservation Expenditures \$ 80,221
Balance \$ (42,315)

YTD Budget Receipts \$ 639,524
YTD Expenses (2025) \$ 761,904
Balance \$ (122,380)

Organ Fund (YTD balance) \$ 12,046

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity.

On-line Sunday Worship Services Continue

This is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAK2Z36cUQ1JzE6Ye7TzcGg>

Grace United Methodist Church

401 Grace Street
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401
Ph/910.763.5197
website: gracedowntown.church

Use the QR code at right.

Or text: MyGift2Grace to 73256
Gifts may also be mailed to the
address above.



Looking forward: Special Activities and Dates

Sunday, December 7, 11 am Today! Children sing in worship
with flute and piano

Monday, December 8 Angel Tree gifts deadline

Sunday, December 14 10:30 am *What Sweeter Music*
Cantata, Lessons & Carols

4:30 pm Youth Gift Packing

5:00 pm Children's Ministry-Family Fun Day and
Ornament Exchange (Islands)

Sunday, December 21 Poinsettias in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 24 - Communion services at
5 & 7 pm; Office closes at 12:00 noon

December 25 & 26- Christmas Day and office closure

December 25 Christmas meal (Warming Shelter friends)

December 29 Office closed

December 30 Normal office hours

December 31 New Year's Eve, office closes at 12:00 noon

January 1 & 2 New Year's Day holiday, office closed

Email Ginny at Ginny@gracedowntown.net to add your special Grace event.



The Welcome Table Serves Our Community

At the Thanksgiving-week Welcome Table luncheon, we served 77 neighbors a festive meal. This wonderful mission helps to nourish our community. If you wish to help with the upcoming Welcome Table dates, December 9th and 23rd, please go to our website to sign up at <https://gracedowntown.church/>. The links are also in the Friday Enews.



Prayer Requests

Family of Betty Arnette
Dot Ballard
Joyce Blauvelt
Lindsey Brown
Joan Camarigg
(Susan DiAnthony)
Audra Florea
Eric Holloway
(Jennifer Rasmussen's father)
Joseph Huppmann
Kerri Hyatt-Springs
Pastor Jack Jones
Sherry Layton
Delaine Lester
Brian Lewis
Frank Licari

Billie Jean Millard
Jamie Pittman (Lisa Dawkins)
Paul Sipson
Louise Thompson
Judah Traylor
Dan Walters
Debra Walters
Family of Dean Windgassen

Grace staff and volunteers
Those whose lives are affected by
war and natural disasters



If you have a prayer request, please contact
Marilee Tremlett at mtrem3@icloud.com.

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

ETNC Anthony Augustine, USN	Maj. Jason T. Hill, USSF
PO1 Sean Baker, USN	SFC Letty Long, USA
Cpl. Matthew Brin, USA	Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC
LCpl. John Capwell, USMC	SSgt. Emily Olinger, USAF
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC	Pvt. Steven Patterson, USA
Ltjg. Elizabeth Downing, USN	SSgt. James Pritchett, USA
E3 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN	CDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
E6 William Chase Dubel, USA	SSgt. Andrew Ross, USMC
E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF	Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
E3 Taylor Folmar, USN	Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC	Michael Tate, USA
SFC Woodrow Long, USA	E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC

Dear Grace Church Family,
Thank you for all of your
cards, phone calls, visits and
most of all, your prayers. I
had no idea I would live this
long, but I have throughly
enjoyed celebrating my big
birthday with you all. You
really know how to make a lady feel special. (The choir
singing Happy Birthday was a beautiful treat!)



I really miss spending time with all of you, at Sunday
School, in Church or at our UWF meetings. Please know
that I miss you all and pray for you often.
I hope that God will continue to bless Grace Church. It has
been a big part of my life and I treasure my many memo-
ries I've made with you all. Please continue to pray for me
and if you can, call me or come by for a visit. (Call Claudia
912-656-7921 to set up a time.)

With love and gratitude to our loving God,
Louise Davis Thompson

Support Partners for Sunset Park School

We are blessed to have fifteen school staff interested in having
a support partner at Grace Church! This ministry has been a
long time focus of our outreach in our community and has
recently seen growth. As a partner, you will paired up with a staff
member to support them and their students with notes, small gift
tokens or cards of encouragement several times this school
year. You will drop your cards at the Welcome Center and they
will delivered to the school.

Consider this great opportunity to witness to the impact of gift of
support to school staff at our local elementary school. You will
be one of fifteen volunteers who give time and prayer to some
great people in a concrete way. Contact Steve Stanfield-Switzer
at 828-577-3321 (call or text) or email:
ssanfieldswitzer@gmail.com.

Parent's Night Out
Date: December 11th/ Time: 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Take a break and get your holiday shopping done while we
take care of the kids! Drop off your children for a night of
pizza, crafts, and fun activities. This is a great opportunity
for parents to enjoy a little free time, knowing their kids are
having a blast in a safe and welcoming environment. RSVP:
Please let us know if you're planning to attend. Contact
Kelsey Keenan at 910-599-5290 or via email at
kelsey@gracedowntown.net to RSVP and for more
information.

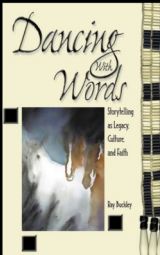
Family Fun Day Christmas Party & Ornament Exchange
Date: December 14th / Time: 5:00 PM
Location: Islands Tacos (off Gordon Road)

Celebrate the season with us!
Join us for a festive
Christmas Party and
Ornament Exchange at
Islands Tacos. Bring your
family, your favorite holiday
cheer, and an ornament to
exchange. It's sure to be a
fun evening filled with food,
laughter, and holiday spirit!
RSVP: Please RSVP by
contacting Kelsey Keenan at
910-599-5290 or kelsey@gracedowntown.net. For any
questions, feel free to reach out to Kelsey!



Dancing with
Words

Meets continuing education
requirements for LSM
certifications.



Dancing with Words with Mel Pitts

The Harbor district Lay Servant Ministries team presents
Dancing with Words with Mel Pitts...

January 24, 2026 @ 9:00 am – 5:30 pm
Wrightsville UMC

4 Live Oak Drive
Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina 28480
\$25 (includes lunch)

Register by January 8 at:

<https://nccumc.org/laity/event/dancing-with-words/>

Participants in the course will:

- Learn what constitutes a good story;
- Discover storytelling styles;
- Learn the techniques of effective storytelling;
- Practice creating stories from their experiences.

For questions about the course, please contact
Harbor Lay Servant Ministries district director Sandy
Core (score@nccumc.org)