

# Grace Notes

August 1, 2021

## 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, August 1

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service

#### Tuesday, August 3

8:30 am Organist in sanctuary  
9:00 am Online Service Recording/Sanctuary  
11:00 am Rotary Club/Grace Gym  
2:00 pm Organist in sanctuary  
5:30 pm Boot Camp

#### Wednesday, August 4

10:00 am Staff Meeting  
11:00 am Gentle Yoga Class/Gym  
2:00 pm Organist in sanctuary  
3:00 pm Organist in sanctuary  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, August 5

5:30 pm Boot Camp  
6:00 pm COVID Task Force Meeting  
6:30 pm Basketball

#### Friday, August 6

8:30 am Organist in sanctuary  
1:30 pm Organist in sanctuary

#### Sunday, August 8

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service  
5:45 pm Vacation Bible School

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### On-line Sunday Worship Services Continue

The service will be available Sunday morning starting at **8:00 am**.  
You may worship by going to either:

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/gumcwillmington>

YouTube:

**Link coming on Saturday**

Grace's website:

<https://gracedowntown.church/>

### Link to 2021 Altar Flower Chart



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAAA92DA5F5CF8-altar>

### New Local Mission Opportunity

Help our Northside kids kick off the new school year by donating a new pair of shoes to the Portia Hines Shoe Drive.

Shoes can be left in the Welcome Center (see signage by the elevator). All sizes are needed for boys and girls in grades K-12th.

Shoes will go to families in Grace's backyard...the neighborhoods of the Northside. This is an easy way to serve our community and put a smile on kids' faces.



### **HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS?**

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

#### **In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 7/25/2021**

In-person Worship Service: 8:30 am - 28  
11:00 am - 119

Online Worship Service: 38 views

Operating Funds Given 7/21-7/28 \$ 12,802

#### **June**

Operating Funds Given YTD \$ 302,576

Operating Expenses YTD \$ 337,261

Balance \$ (34,685)

2021 Operating Budget = \$ 754,879

#### **June**

Building Preservation Fund

Received 2021 YTD \$ 29,099

Building Preservation Fund

Spent 2021 YTD \$ 21,354

#### **Disaster Recovery** (Boiler)

Insurance Receipts \$ 62,048

Expenses to date \$ 80,963

Apportionments are paid through June.

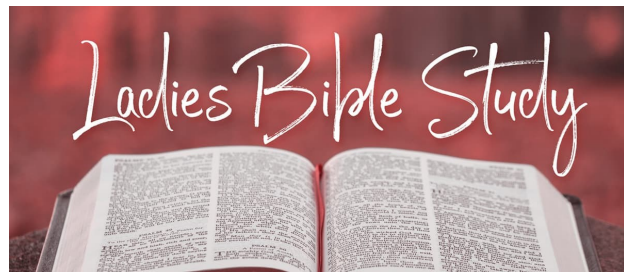
### **Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study Returning in September**

The ladies of Grace UMW begin another Thursday Morning Bible Study on September 9, with a 7-week study of Elijah by Priscilla Shirer. In this faith-building study, you'll discover how Elijah's obedience to God kept him anchored, sharpened his faith, broadened his impact, and invited heaven's fire to fall. God is also working in your life today to fashion a fiery, bold faith that will empower you to share the hope of Christ with your family, friends, co-workers, and community.

The group will meet in the Bible Class room on the second floor of Walsh Hall, beginning at 9:30 am and ending about 11:00 am. The class will meet September 9, 16, 23, 30, skip October 7 and continue October 14, 21, 28.

Please consider joining us as we get back together in person to study God's words from the story of Elijah.

Contact Linda Snider by August 9 at 910-620-3756 or email her at [snidersnc@gmail.com](mailto:snidersnc@gmail.com) to sign up for the class and order a study book (cost \$17.00).



### **Grace Name Tags**

Everyone is reminded to please wear your Grace name tags on Sunday mornings. The tags are hanging on the hooks outside the sanctuary.

If you don't have a name tag or need a new one, please call or email Marion in the church office.

[marion@gracedowntown.net](mailto:marion@gracedowntown.net)

## Prayer Requests

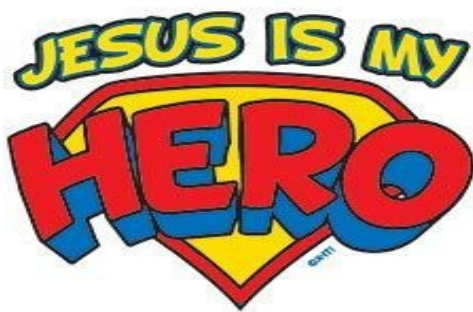
Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Stephanie Alford	Janet Lipton
Archer	Bobby M
Janie Buck	Louise McColl
Scott Carter	Cris Mowrey
Don Cole	Elsabet Nye
Matthew DiAnthony	Judy O'Neal
Tina Dixon	Todd Paxton
Elizabeth Downing	Carolyn Pope
Mitch Duncan	Wallace Riddle
Stephanie Ennis	Christian Riggs
Betsy Foreman	Sharon Sabo
Debra Garner	Sandee Murray Spradley
Leonard Garner	Stowe Spratt
Manaline Gibson	Cindee Stetson
Josie Godwin	Shar Streeter
Madeline Greenwood	Matt Sutton
Hank	Veteran Village
Heaven	Howard Walker
Dick Hull	Dee Ward
The Ipock Family	Velma Ware
Amy King	Stew Wolling
Maria King	

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

Maj. Jeffery Bernard, USA	PFC Schuyler Marshall, USA
LCpl. John Capwell, USMC	SSg. Emily Olinger, USAF
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC	Pvt. Steven Patterson, USA
Maj. Tim Collins, USMC	Sgt. James Pritchett, USA
Col. John Delaney, USA	CDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
Ens. Elizabeth Downing, USN	Col. Amy Moore Russo, USAF
E3 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN	E6 Jack Andre Settele, USA
E6 William Chase Dubel, USA	Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF	AB Michael Sloan, USAF
E3 Taylor Folmar, USN	Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC	Michael Tate, USA
Maj. Jason T. Hill, USSF	E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC
Cpl. Chase Krieg, USMC	
SFC Letty Long, USA	
SFC Woodrow Long, USA	
Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC	
CDR Nicholas Madren, USN	

If you have a prayer request, please contact **Sandy Smith** at sandysmithgrace@gmail.com or 910-233-0310.



### VBS Needs List

This year we are making packed snack bags for those attending VBS.

The following items are needed for the bags. All items, except fruit, must be individually packaged. All items can be left in the kitchen on the table or in the freezer.

- Apples and oranges (small size for both, like tangerines and cuties)
- Cracker packs—peanut butter, cream cheese, etc.
- Bagged chips-variety packs
- Dessert packages—cookies, muffins, fruit gummies,
- Small bottles of water
- Popsicles, single kind, fruit flavors but not fudge.

**Starting Next Sunday  
VBS Superhero Camp  
August 8-12 from 5:45-7:00 pm**

**Ages 3-12 years old are invited!**

Join us for Superhero Camp as we learn about the Amor of God! We will make sure you have the superpowers needed to get through life.

- Join Miss Janet in the Costume Creation Factory,
- Test your skills in the Superpower Training Facility,
- Learn about the different ways God empowers us to be His heroes.

Superhero Training Camp VBS registration is now open to Grace members and the community. There are 40 spots available this year for ages 3-12. Make sure to secure your spot!

**Campers Registration:**

<https://go.kidcheck.com/webformseventregistration.aspx?even-tid=20838&valid=88a2ae0abd8b20c4ebd29757ec1b65c1&customerid=10607>

**Youth who want to volunteer need to register on this volunteers link:**

<https://go.kidcheck.com/webformseventregistration.aspx?even-tid=20838&valid=88a2ae0abd8b20c4ebd29757ec1b65c1&customerid=10607>

### The Bible Sunday School Class

Starting Sunday, August 29, 9:45-10:30 am, the class will once again meet. Come one, come all!!!

The class is going to look a little different. The first 15 minutes each week will be the "History of Grace UMC." The remaining 30 minutes will be Bible study.

The first study will be the Book of James, so get your Bibles out and start reading now.

Remember.....we begin right at 9:45!



### From the Trustees - Pews

We have a number of surplus, solid wood pews available to Grace members or anyone who may give them a good home, or use the old oak wood for other projects.

These pews range from 10 ft to 14 ft long, some have upholstered seats, but nearly all of them are in various stages of needing repair.

If you are interested in one of the pews, please contact Marvin Evans, at gumctrustees1@gmail.com. We will try to find a home for the pews for 2 weeks. After that, we will have to dispose of them in other manners.

## Stephen Ministers: The After People



People often ask, "What exactly is a Stephen Minister?" One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.

Stephen Ministers are there:

- \* after the phone call you hoped you'd never get
- \* after the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you
- \* after the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life
- \* after the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do"
- \* after the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home"
- \* after the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty
- \* after the gavel comes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away
- \* after the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible
- \* after you find a pink slip with your final paycheck
- \* after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the After People. They are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long as needed.

Training for new Stephen Ministers will begin in September. Please pray about whether you might be called to this ministry and contact Patricia DiGiuseppe (910-470-6310) or Brena Conley (301-802-5408) if you would like more information.

### Beauty of Grace Team Update

The Beauty of Grace team will be doing weekly yard work at Grace each Thursday, at 6:00 pm.

The team now has a riding mower, self-propelled mower, gas trimmer and edger, and all the hand tools you could need! With an energetic group, all tasks can be wrapped up in about an hour and a half.

If you can spare some time to help beautify our Lord's House and grounds, can operate any of the equipment or can just help weed and rake, come and join us!

If you are coming to help, email Karen Evans at [gumtrustees1@gmail.com](mailto:gumtrustees1@gmail.com), so we can let you know if there are any last minute changes!



### Thank You

Grace had the opportunity to serve meals for the families in the Family Promise program this past week. This particular week, those served included 8 children and two mothers, who are working their way out of homelessness!

Many thanks to the following generous chefs who shared their time, talent, and effort to make this happen: Leigh Mabee, Katie and MaryClaire Mintz, Connie and Rod Caulder, Susan and Carol Gardner, and Marilee Tremlett.

We will provide meals again during the week of October 10-17. If you would like to sign up or to know more about the work of Family Promise, please contact Jane Spicer at [jdspicer@ec.rr.com](mailto:jdspicer@ec.rr.com) or 622-1211.

### Holy Communion Offered TODAY

Grace will offer Holy Communion at both worship services today.



**HOLY  
COMMUNION**

### Parking at Grace UMC

Due to Grace's downtown location, we have very few paved, off-street parking spaces on our grounds compared to the number of people who take part in the life at Grace. This is true both on Sunday mornings and many evenings during the week.

Recently, management of the bank building and parking lot across 4th Street has changed. As a result, and effective immediately, **we are only permitted to park in the bank parking lots on Sundays between 10 am—2 pm**. Please remove your vehicle from the bank lot before 2 pm or you will be ticketed. Move your car to the church lot if you plan to have lunch or conduct other business near Grace.

The following parking is available as indicated:

- In the grassy lot across Walnut Street from our paved parking lot, available on weekends and after 5 pm M-F
- In Grace's paved parking lot, available anytime
- In Grace's grassy lot off our paved lot, available anytime.
- On-street parking is available anytime on 5th Street
- On-street parking is available on 4th Street on the weekends with no limit, **but** is restricted to 2 hours only during the week until after 6 pm.
- On-street parking is available on Grace and Walnut Streets between 4th and 5th, 5th and 6th, etc.

### Calling all knitters.....

KnitWerks is coming back! From beginners to advanced knitters, come join us as we work on prayer shawls to be given to those who need comfort.

**KnitWerks@Grace  
August 10, 9:30 am**

We'll meet in the Bible Class room. Please call Marie Allison, 910-675-0612, to make a reservation so the meeting place can be set up.



***Come Join in the Fellowship!***

## Admin Council New Covid19 Measures - 6/15/21

Upon recommendation of the Covid19 Task Force, the Administrative Council of Grace UMC voted into effect the Covid19 measures listed below. Unless otherwise noted, these measures may be enacted immediately.

### Worship Matters

- That we resume bringing children to the chancel area during worship for the Children's Moment on the second Sunday in August.
- That children continue to wear masks; fully vaccinated youth can go without masks if they so choose.
- Masks required at 8:30 service. Masks optional at 11:00 service for those fully vaccinated. Masks required for others.

### Sunday School Matters

- Sunday School resumed on June 20, 9:45 am. The children gather in their rooms; adults gather in one group in the gym. There will be a rotating system of teachers.
- We recommend that Adult Classes return to their own classrooms on Sunday, August 29.

### Contact Sports In The Gym (specifically basketball)

- Trustees have approved for basketball to resume in the gym. Extra cleaning will still be needed after all sports.

### Serving Food

- That serving of food and drink be allowed so long as there is no self service. This would avoid a common point of contact with people reaching into the same dish or using the same serving utensils.
- That we give permission to Nurture to resume serving of food and/or drink on Sunday mornings under the guidelines above whenever the leadership of that group is prepared to do so.
- That we give permission to the Welcome Table to resume serving food and drink on Thursdays under the

## August Birthdays

8/1	Mary Shuping Leslie Winggi Stewart Wolling	8/5	Mary Zickel Dawn Hale	8/15	Kathy Huffman	8/22	Kelsey Keenan Tristan Sanborn
8/2	Ann Eilert Bruce Littlejohn	8/7	Steve Sabo	8/17	Ethan Crow Vicki Stanfield-Switzer	8/24	Cam Phillips
8/3	Cheryl Cribbs Joe Dunmire Peggy Wardell	8/8	Garrett Kelly Jim Ballard	8/19	Shirley Dail Connie Caulder Stella Rose Lindsey	8/26	Louise McColl
8/4	Mary Tyndall Joyce Wentz Carolee Doty	8/9	Scott Wilson			8/27	Carolyn Parker Belinda Mayhew
		8/10	Danny Barnes	8/20	JoLynn Rae Gibbs Tom Jones	8/28	Sherry Layton
		8/11	Mary Cole		Liz Moore	8/30	Jean Bullock Barry Roberts
		8/12	Meredith Littlejohn	8/21	Brian Steele Billie Lyndon	8/31	Mark Rasmussen
		8/13	Lindsay Thompson				
		8/14	Waylon Lynch				

## **LOOKING AHEAD AT GRACE**

August 8 thru 12, 5:45-7:00 pm - **Grace UMC Vacation Bible School**

Sunday, August 15 - **VBS Sunday**

Saturday, September 11 - **Annual Chancel Choir Retreat**

Sunday, October 3, - **World Communion Sunday/Joint Worship Service with St. Stephen AME**