

Grace Notes

December 1, 2024

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 1

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



Monday, December 2

1:30 pm Caregiver's Support
7:00 pm Chorale practice

Tuesday, December 3

9:00 am Organist Practice
9:00 am Bible Study
10:30 am UWF (Choir Room)
5:30 pm Bootcamp

Wednesday, December 4

10:00 am Yoga (youth area)
6:15 pm Grace Ringers
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 5

10:00 am Basketball (Seniors)
2:00 pm Organist Practice
5:30 pm Bootcamp
6:45 pm Basketball (Moore)

Friday, December 6

9:00 am Organist Practice

Saturday, December 7

9:15 am Bus Trip to Myrtle Beach
Christmas Show

Sunday, December 8

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

About the special Advent wreath special music

The special music in your bulletin today and the next few weeks during the Advent wreath candle liturgy is composed by K. Neale who is Marilee Tremlett's very talented niece.

Kristine "Kiki" Neale and her husband, Andrew, moved to Hickory from Charlotte in 2021 to retire from teaching (over her 38-year career, Kiki taught chorus, French, and Spanish). Music has always played a vital role in her life. She has been a lifelong choral singer, a Big Band Vocalist, a wedding singer, and she even earned her rent in college as a singer in a local restaurant lounge! She started accompanying her high school's choir in 8th grade and never looked back -- vocal majors at her university, church choirs, school choirs, honors choirs, musicals, community choirs, and professional reading sessions with various composers have all been a source of great lifelong joy for her to collaborate with on the piano. As a high school chorus teacher and long-time church choir director (she is currently serving as director of Sanctuary Music at First Presbyterian in Hickory, NC), Kiki has been writing songs for her choirs to sing as long as she can remember. **Let It Be, Lord** is a plea for God to send His hope, love, joy, and peace through the birth of Christ.

Many thanks to Kiki for sharing her composition with us!

UWF REMINDER

Our next United Women of Faith meeting will be Tuesday, December 3rd. We will meet in the Bullock Center. Snacks will be provided by Joann Hamilton and Darlene Tyndall. The "Harmony Belles" will be entertaining us with holiday songs. They are retiring, so this will be their last performance for us.

Our mission for this month is to Sister Isaac's Center for children's toys, any age range that will go in boxes for local distribution. Our meeting begins at 10:30, and will be held in the Choir Room this time. Please try to come early and attend this festive meeting. I hope to see you there! Dianna Florea

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Z. Franklin Pritchett by Nancy Pritchett and family. They are also given in honor of Carol Gardner for her birthday by her daughter, Susan.

VOLUNTEERS TODAY

LITURGISTS: 8:30 Mary Tyndall
11:00 Judy Siebold

USHERS: 8:30 Faye Rubinson
11:00 Cindy Henry, Jarvis Simmons
Mary Trout, Gary Rowe, Abigail Bickham

GREETERS: Don Bowers and Nancy Pritchett

TRUSTEES ON DUTY: April Lester, Jen Stenerson

ALTAR: Bettye Broadwater, Ginny McCarthy
Judy Siebold

SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS:

8:30 Debbie Cole
11:00 Tom Guthrie

In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 11/24/2024

In-person Worship Service:

8:30 am 21
11:00 am 174

Online service: 60

Operating Funds Given \$ 12, 870
Average receipts needed weekly \$ 15,362
Building Preservation Given \$ 160

Apportionments paid through November

On-line Sunday Worship Services Continue

This is the link:

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

Grace United Methodist Church

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910.763.5197; Fax 910.763.4108
website: gracedowntown.church

Grace United Methodist Church Chancel Choir and Grace Ringers

present

Sing Noel! A Musical Celebration

including

Choir anthems, a 4-hands on piano
duet, an organ/piano duet, and
handbell selections



401 Grace Street - Wilmington
gracedowntown.church
[facebook.com/gumcwilmington](https://www.facebook.com/gumcwilmington)

Sunday
December 15
4:00 pm

Children's Christmas Party

Join us to celebrate this Advent season at Islands Fresh Mex Grill in Ogden (6838 Market St) at 5 pm on Sunday, December 8th. We will provide kids meals for the children in attendance. We will also have an ornament exchange so bring a wrapped ornament if you would like to participate.

Our mission focus will be collecting children's books for a local group to give to those in need. If your family plans on attending or you have any questions please reach out to Kelsey Keenan.
Kelsey@gracedowntown.net

Prayer Requests

Jeanne Bartron	Dan Walters
Tammy Burnette	Family and friends of Becky Whisnant
Kitty Eure	Sue & Dean Windgassen
Margaret Falls	Barry Zigler
Christine Garvin	Caregivers everywhere
Manaline Gibson	Unspoken, in our hearts
Lorelei Hauptmann	Those whose lives are affected
Dennis Ihnat	by storms and floods
Famly of Brian Little	War-torn countries
Bill Perks	
Luke Russo	

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	PFC Schuyler Marshall, USA
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC	SSgt. Emily Olinger, USAF
Ltjg. Elizabeth Downing, USN	Pvt. Steven Patterson, USA
E3 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN	SSgt. James Pritchett, USA
E6 William Chase Dubel, USA	CDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
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



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

Christmas Love Offering Deadline

The Staff Parish Relations Committee would like to recognize the staff's extraordinary efforts with a little something extra during the holidays. If you would like to contribute to this effort, you may place donations in the offering plate or by mail to the church office with Love Offering in the memo line or marked on the collection envelope. You may also make a donation through Paypal with a notation in the memo field. **Donations will be accepted at church through Sunday, December 1.** Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this endeavor.

Staff Parish Relations Committee, Ron Moore, Chair

Ushers, liturgists and sound operators needed!

Please consider giving some time to help with the 8:30 am Sunday morning worship. This service has lost several volunteers lately. If you would like to serve, or temporarily fill in during the busy Thanksgiving and Advent Season, we would love to have your help!

Ushers—Contact Bob High or Darrell Davies (rshcch@gmail.com) (darrellcdavies@yahoo.com)

Liturgists—Contact Rick Zigler (rzigler@aol.com)

Sound Operators—Debbie Cole (cole_25663@msn.com)

Starting in January...

Communion Helpers—Steve Stanfield-Switzer (sstanfieldswitzer@gmail.com)
This would be setting up the communion elements prior to the 8:30 service and cleaning up at the end of that service.

Anyone interested in joining our Grace Security team? - See April Lester or Jen Stenerson.

Sunset Park Elementary 2024/2025 book drive

It's time to once again begin collecting books for the students at Sunset Park Elementary. We want to provide each child with a book at the end of the school year. You can help make reading fun!

As you begin to shop for Christmas, please keep these students in mind. You can shop for inexpensive K-5th grade books at secondhand stores, Walmart, etc. We need everyone helping to make this goal a reality. Remember, if many do a little, much can be done!
Thank you,
—Jane Carrico

MHC lends a helping hand!

Nov. 16th	246 families served
Nov. 20th	310 families
Nov. 23rd	219 families

Needed:

- ◆ Travel size personal hygiene items (soap/body wash, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors,
- ◆ Feminine hygiene products (all sizes)
- ◆ Grocery size paper bags with handles
- ◆ Plastic grocery bags
- ◆ Reusable durable grocery bags

Thank you to Grace UMC members! Your donations continue to make a difference each week especially when our supplies become very low.

COME RIDE THE BUS!

Grace is planning a trip to Myrtle Beach, SC on Saturday, December 7, to see the amazing Alabama Theater Christmas Show. Go to www.Alabama-theatre.com for a preview of this year's show. We have a few more tickets left, so call Karen Wrenn if you are interested, kwrenn2151@att.net or by calling Karen at 410-615-4768

The show will be the 1:30 matinee and lunch on your own at the Blueberry Grill before the show. Arrive at 9:15 so we may depart by 9:30 am. Depending on the final number of confirmed tickets, the show will be around \$50 per-person (again, this doesn't include lunch nearby at Barefoot Landing). Questions? Call Karen.

Looking ahead at Special Dates!

Today —Angel Tree Gifts are due

December 8 — Poinsettia envelopes printed
—Children's Christmas Party at Islands Fresh Mex Grill in Ogden (6838 Market Street), 5 pm

Dec. 15 — Sing Noel! A Musical Celebration, 4 pm

Dec. 24 — **Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Services, 5 pm and 7 pm;** Office closes at noon

December 25-26 — Office closed

December 29 — One service at 11 am, **no 8:30 am service**

December 31 — **Last day for Year-End Contributions 2024**

January 1— New Year's Day (office closed)



December Birthdays

12/1	Reagan Phillips	12/11	Monica Oakes	12/22	Debbie Earley	12/28	Nancy Zigler
12/3	Vic McKoy		Jean Starke		Helen Dillon		Braden Lester
	Linda Gorham	12/12	Bev Holcomb	12/23	Jean Ballard		Michele Jones
12/5	Lennie Collins	12/15	Nolan Layton	12/24	Manaline Gibson	12/31	Meg Guthrie
	Carol Gardner		Jan Kinney	12/25	Jim Conley		Judy Smith
	Cindee Stetson	12/16	Rob Ross		Judy Heath		
	Gary Miller	12/18	Joan Cunningham	12/26	Avery Phillips		
12/8	Jennifer Rasmussen		Tommy Dail	12/27	Jane Phipps		
12/9	Kim Olinger	12/20	Debbie Hartzell		Sam Gorham		