

Grace Notes

December 15, 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 15

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 4:00 pm *Sing Noel!*
- 6:00 pm Youth Christmas party at Oakes



Monday, December 16

- 9:00 am Grace in Motion Walkers
- 1:30 pm Caregivers Support

Tuesday, December 17

- 9:00 am Organist Practice
- 9:00 am Bible Study
- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 7:00 pm Basketball (Peyton Earey)

Wednesday, December 18

- 10:00 am UWF leadership
- 10:00 am Yoga
- 6:15 pm Grace Ringers
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 5:00 pm Lion Heart

Thursday, December 19

- 2:00 pm Organist Practice
- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 6:45 pm Basketball (Moore)

Friday, December 20

- 9:00 am Grace in Motion Walkers
- 9:00 am Organist Practice

Saturday, December 21

No scheduled meetings

Sunday, December 22

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
(no Youth meeting)

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ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers today are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Marilyn Brown by her daughter Jennifer Lewis and son-in-law Brian Lewis. You will be forever in our hearts. Also in loving memory of Mary Trout's brother, Dale W. Basham who passed away earlier this week.

In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 12/8/2024

In-person Worship Service:	8:30 am	36
	11:00 am	180
Online service:		63
Operating Funds Given	\$	12,954
Average receipts needed weekly	\$	15,362
Building Preservation Given	\$	2,265

Apportionments paid through November

November financial report

Building YTD Preserv. Fund Rcpts.	\$	43,421
Building YTD Preserv. Fund Exp.	\$	32,285
Balance	\$	11,136
Budget YTD Receipts	\$	572,655
Expenses YTD (2024)	\$	692,195
		(\$119,539)

Thank you for your gifts and faithfulness

On-line Sunday Worship Services Continue

This is the link:

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

VOLUNTEERS TODAY

LITURGISTS: 8:30 Rob Akerhielm
11:00 Rick Zigler

ADVENT READERS: 8:30- Rasmussen Family
11:00- Kitt Starnes

USHERS: 8:30 Tom and Linda Snider
11:00 Bob High, leader
Henry Cichoracki, Braden Lester, Beth Stuber
Rich Reichardt

TRUSTEES ON DUTY: April Lester & Jen Stenerson

GREETERS: Dianne and Waylon Lynch

ALTAR: Bettye Broadwater and Judy McCarthy

SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS:
8:30 Rodney Lester
11:00 Tom Guthrie
4:00 Debbie Cole

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



TODAY!

Sunday
December 15
4:00 pm

Overflow parking in the Wells Fargo main
lot facing Grace on 4th Street until 5:30p

401 Grace Street - Wilmington
gracedowntown.church
facebook.com/gumcwilmington

Childcare available!

Poinsettia Mission Project

Today's bulletin contains special envelopes for donations to the Poinsettia Mission Project. Please use these envelopes to name those you wish to honor or memorialize on *December 22nd*, when the altar will be adorned with beautiful poinsettias.



The names will be included as an insert to the bulletin. A donation of \$5 or more per name is suggested. The deadline for submissions is **Monday, December 16.**

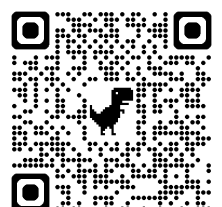
Grace United Methodist Church

401 Grace Street
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401
email: ginny@gracedowntown.net
910.763.5197; Fax 910.763.4108
website: gracedowntown.church

Use the QR code at right

Or text MyGift2Grace to 73256

Checks may also be mailed to
the address above.



Prayer Requests

Jeanne Bartron	Linda Raim
Family of Dale W. Basham	Luke Russo
Kitty Eure	Dan Walters
Margaret Falls	Dean & Sue Windgassen
Christine Garvin	Caregivers everywhere
Family of Manaline Gibson	Unspoken, in our hearts
Lorelei Hauptmann	Those whose lives are affected by storms and floods
Dennis Ihnat	War-torn countries
Mike King	
Family of Brian Little	
Bill Perks	

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	Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF	Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
E3 Taylor Folmar, USN	Michael Tate, USA
Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC	E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC
SFC Woodrow Long, USA	



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

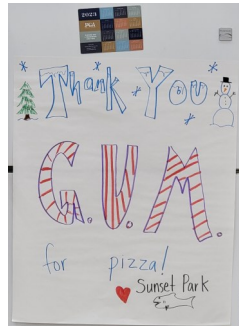
Notes from the Nurture Committee

We look forward to seeing everyone on December 22nd. Committee members (as well as others!) will be bringing in some of their favorite holiday treats to share with the congregation between 9:30 and 11 that morning. If you want to contribute to this event, please sign up by 12/15 on the sheets on the desk in the Welcome Center OR drop an email to Faye Rubinson at jfrfwd@gmail.com.

Parents / Reading Night at Sunset Park was a huge success!

Grace UMC provided and served 35 pizzas, thanks to the funds from the Traveler's SS Class.

Grace volunteers also worked the book fair where parents purchased books and items. Over 300 parents, students and staff were in attendance.



Be on the lookout for ways to help with the next Parent Night, probably in February.

MHC lends a helping hand! 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.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Please consider serving with our worship services.

Greeters are needed! Nancy Pritchett needs your help to secure greeters for the next few months. This is one of the easiest volunteer positions and yet critical to help us be a warm, nurturing and friendly congregation! It also allows you to become familiar with other members you might not encounter regularly. You just need to be at the service 30 minutes early and greet folks as they arrive with a smile and friendly salutation!

Starting in January...

Communion Helpers—Steve Stanfield-Switzer
ssanfieldswitzer@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.

GRACE STAFF

Rev. Benton W. Oakes, III M.Div. - Senior Pastor
 Rev. Jamie Thompson - Associate Pastor
 and Minister of Community Engagement
 Rev. Dr. Jack Jones - Pastor of Congregational Care

Jerry Cribbs - Director of Music Ministries
 Leslie Bergbower - Organist
 Kelsey Keenan - Director of Children's Ministry
 Janet Keenan—Nursery Leader
 Rich McKeon—Custodian
 Ginny Peterson - Director of Operations & Admin.
 Charles Sanders - Accountant

To contact any staff by email use this format:
firstname@gracedowntown.net

Bus Trip!

On Saturday, Dec 7th, the "Young At Heart" group traveled to Blueberry Grill and the Christmas show at Alabama Theatre in Myrtle Beach. We also squeezed in time for a little shopping. The van was at capacity with one person driving separately. A great time was had by all, valuing the opportunity to develop connections with fellow church members. Thank you to Jarvis Simmons who was our driver. Be on the lookout for our next trip in March!

Karen Wrenn



Looking ahead at Special Dates!

Dec. 15 — Sing Noel! A Musical Celebration, 4 pm
 Youth Christmas Party at the Oakes house. 6 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
 Office Closes at noon

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