

Grace Notes

December 27, 2020

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

December 27, 2020
1st Sunday after Christmas

In-person Sunday Worship Service
10:00 am, Bullock Activity Center

Nursery and Worship Service Child Care 10-11:00 am
(crib through age 5)

Those who reserved a seat are asked
to arrive early and wear a mask.
Enter by the lower lobby off the parking lot to be
screened before you are seated.

Link to 2021 Altar Flower Chart
[https://www.signupgenius.com/
go/10C0D4EAAA92DA5F5CF8-altar](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAAA92DA5F5CF8-altar)

On-line Sunday Worship Service — December 27

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

Facebook:

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

YouTube:

Link coming on Saturday

Grace's website:

<https://gracedowntown.church/>

Family Ministries

Facebook page:

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

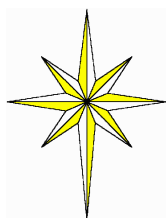
Altar Flower Chart for 2021

Due to Covid19 restrictions, signups are being done
online with the same program we use for in-person
service signups. The link is in the box above.

If you wish to reserve one side, click sign-up box for one
slot. If you want both sides, you will need to sign-up
twice; one for each side.

You may also call Marion in the church office to reserve
a date.

The cost is still \$45 per side. Checks should be made
payable to Grace UMC, with "altar flowers" written on the
memo line. If you are attending
an in-person service, place your
check in the offering plate, or the
check may be mailed to the of-
fice. Marion Little will contact you
about the dedication the week
prior to your selected date.



Luke 2:15-16

*When the angels had left them
and gone into heaven, the shep-
herds said to one another, "Let
us go now to Bethlehem and see
this thing that has taken place, which the Lord
has made known to us." So they went with
haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the
child lying in the manger.*

HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS?

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

In-person & Online Attendance & Offering for 12/20/2020

In-person Worship Service: 57
Online Worship Service: 121 views on YouTube

Operating Funds Given 12/16—12/23	\$ 7,080
November	
Operating Funds Given YTD	\$ 616,464
Operating Expenses YTD	\$ 688,832
Balance	\$ (72,367)

2020 Operating Budget = \$ 747,178

November

Building Preservation Fund Received 2020 YTD	\$ 54,540
Building Preservation Fund Spent 2020 YTD	\$ 38,217*

Apportionments are paid through December.

*includes funding and expenses related to
hurricane repairs

Continuing Grace's Mission

Our giving enables Grace to continue to provide sup-
port for work within the congregation and for its mis-
sions in the world.

Here are the ways to continue to give and support
Grace with your tithes and offering:

- You can mail your check to Grace at the following
address: Grace UMC, 401 Grace Street, Wilming-
ton, NC 28401
- On-line banking (Many banks allow you to set up
checks to pay) The address is (Grace Address)
- Auto draft. Grace can debit your account and can
be set up with Debbie. You can determine the
amount and frequency of the draft.
- Go to the Grace UMC website
(gracedowntown.net) and select PayPal or Square
(No Account needed) to make a payment.

Out of the Office

Pastor Tal will be away on vacation Friday, December
25, through Sunday, January 3.

Pastor Patricia will preach, both online and in person,
on December 27.

Director of Family Ministries and pastoral candidate,
Kelley Ahlers, will preach both online and in person on
January 3.

Church Office Holiday Schedule

The Grace Church office will be closed on Thursday,
December 24; Friday, December 25; and Monday,
December 28. It will re-open on Tuesday, December
29, 8:30 am.

It will also be closed on Friday, January 1, and re-open
on Monday, January 4, 8:30 am.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!

Prayer Requests

Remember: Prayer Vigil daily at 12:00 noon

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Linda Adams	Dick Hull
Family of Bob Amos	Carol Jennings
Betty Arnette	Larry Jennings
Bob Barlow	Debbie Jones
Chris Beahan	Eddie Jones
Louise Berry	Maria King
Julie Bishop	Ann Lassiter
Bob B.	Rebecca Lee
Christine Boone	Brian Long
Ann Booth	Megan Long
Brice Borowicz	Joan Madren
Robert Bowen	Sarah Martin
Marilyn Brown	Troy McMahon
Kitty Brunjes	Heather Meyer
Misty Chidester	Howard Mitchell
Matthew Cichoracki	Helen Morgan
Erin Cissel	Carolyn Pope
Donna Cooper	Jeffrey Powers
Clarke Cummings	Linda Pyle
Susie Knox Ford	Carlson Rowe
Gretta Fredericks	Jim Teachey
Kaye Gibbs	Carolyn Vargas
Sid Goode	Tommy Walker
Janice Gurganus	Family of Phil Walls
Ken Gurganus	Kay Warren
Hank	Joyce Witherington
David Hash	

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

Maj. Jeffery Bernard, USA
 LCpl. John Capwell, USMC
 Sgt. Tim Cobough, USMC
 Maj. Tim Collins, USMC
 Col. John Delaney, USA
 E2 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN
 E5 William Chase Dubel, USA
 E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF
 E3 Taylor Folmar, USN
 Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC
 Maj. Jason T. Hill, USAF
 Cpl. Chase Krieg, USMC
 SFC Letty Long, USA
 SFC Woodrow Long, USA
 Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC
 CDR Nicholas Madren, USN
 PFC Schuyler Marshall, USA
 SSg. Emily Olinger, USAF
 Pvt. Steven Patterson
 SPC James F. Pritchett, USA
 LCDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
 Col. Amy Moore Russo, USAF
 Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
 AB Michael Sloan, USAF
 Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
 Michael Tate, USA
 E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC

Also, please pray for:

- The demise of the coronavirus pandemic
- All medical personnel
- All those working with the public
- 12 noon Prayer Explosion

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

New Name

In the seven years since inception, the **\$20.00 Fellowship** has allowed Grace UMC to pay off a mortgage, make emergency and ongoing repairs, and offset hurricane related expenses not covered by insurance.

Grace is 're-branding' the \$20.00 Fellowship to ensure better understanding of the fund's purpose. Going forward, it will be the **Building Preservation Fund**. More information will be published in the coming weeks about this change and looking to the future.



From the Grace Treasurer

If you are donating stock to Grace, please **do not** use the Wells Fargo brokerage. That account has been closed.

Please contact Debbie Ashe in the church office for new instructions for stock donations. Thanks.

Family Promise Needs

Grace's next opportunity to feed the families will be the week of Valentine's Day, February 14-21. So grab your Valentine and sign up to bring some happiness to these families who find themselves homeless! You will feel so good and they will really appreciate it!

Contact Jane Spicer to reserve a date and for more information. jdspicer@ec.rr.com or 910-622-1211

January Birthdays

1/1 Donald Gore	1/10 David Holden	1/16 Judy Siebold	1/24 Dan Walters
1/3 Brena Conley	1/11 Don Wofford	1/17 Dianne Glasgow	1/26 John Tripp
1/3 Dick Hull	1/11 Karen Reap	1/18 Laura Dunmire	1/27 Tonna Bowen
1/4 Trayce Rogers	1/11 Joan Madren	1/18 Eli Sanborn	Sandy Smith
1/5 Nario Coronel	1/11 Kyna Rose	1/20 Debbie Jones	1/28 Sarah Grace Guthrie
1/5 Ken Wolf	1/13 Sam Spicer	1/20 Greg Stanley	Holden Fuller
1/7 Conny Keator	1/14 Catherine Beaman	1/20 Steve Stanfield-	1/31 Chris Stenerson
1/9 Austin Inman	1/15 Caroline Guthrie	1/20 Switzer	
1/9 Darrell Davies	1/15 Mary Huppmann	1/21 Ruth O'Dwyer	
	1/15 Cameron Dunmire	1/22 Diane Steele	
	1/15 Larry Florea		

Catching Up on Missions at Grace

From Mother Hubbard's Cupboard: To Members of Grace United Methodist Church:

We offer profound thanks for your generous ongoing gifts of donations for diabetics. We are especially appreciative of this during this pandemic! It will help us to continue to provide food for low-income families in the Wilmington area. We are serving over 250 families each week! With Sincere Appreciation, Marie Cooke, Board Member

So how can you help? So happy you asked! Our partners are providing some great stuff, but we are unable to buy in bulk due to COVID restrictions at the stores. So there are some items always in need. Marie Cooke (marievcooke@gmail.com) has committed to being at the Cupboard on the 4th Fridays of every month from 11 am - 1 pm for donation drop offs at the 4th street door. If you can buy some of the seemingly always almost out items below or organize a food drive with people who are able to help - we will be sure the food makes it to those of our neighbors who continue to struggle to put healthy food on their tables.

- . brown rice
- . regular oatmeal
- . juice boxes
- . water
- . mac and cheese/rice-a-roni
- . toilet tissue
- . whole grain cereals
- . canned legume beans (navy, kidney, black)
- . healthy low sodium soups
- . bar soap

ALSO.....

- Please spread the word and send interested, healthy under 55 volunteers to our website:
motherhubbardsnc.org
- Those who prefer may drop donations off at Grace UMC where they will also be picked up weekly.
- **Needed:** Paper bags with handles (grocery store type) in good condition. Plastic bags are not being used to hand out food at present.