

# Grace Notes

February 28, 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

**February 28, 2021**  
**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**New Consecration Sunday**

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

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.

#### **On-line Sunday Worship Service**

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 Sunday School**

→→→→ **NEW TIME Sunday, 11:30 am** ←←←←

See article below for topics

Join Zoom Meeting each week using this link:

[https://zoom.us/j/97395961423?](https://zoom.us/j/97395961423?pwd=ZmxRdk8rSndiN2RrWnJPaHJqT2pSdz09)

[pwd=ZmxRdk8rSndiN2RrWnJPaHJqT2pSdz09](https://zoom.us/j/97395961423?pwd=ZmxRdk8rSndiN2RrWnJPaHJqT2pSdz09)

#### **Family Ministries**

Facebook page:

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



#### **Link to 2021 Altar Flower Chart**

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

### **Caring for Caregivers Program**

You are invited to join with the Grace Stephen Ministers via Zoom for a two-part program on *Caring for the Caregiver*, to be held on this Monday, March 1 and Monday, March 15, 7:00 pm.

Learn about support and resources and hear from people who have walked in your moccasins.

Topic: Stephen Ministry - Caring for the Caregiver  
Time: Mar 1, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/95820640461?](https://zoom.us/j/95820640461?pwd=TG1sVUJRbXhZYzZvTGZDMFV6U3VGdz09)

[pwd=TG1sVUJRbXhZYzZvTGZDMFV6U3VGdz09](https://zoom.us/j/95820640461?pwd=TG1sVUJRbXhZYzZvTGZDMFV6U3VGdz09)

Meeting ID: 958 2064 0461

Passcode: 176579

If you have any questions, contact Brena Conley at [brenagibson@gmail.com](mailto:brenagibson@gmail.com).

### **Don't Keep It a Secret!**

If you have a change of address, phone number or email address, please share it with us! Send the changes to Marion Little - [marion@gracedowntown.net](mailto:marion@gracedowntown.net)  
Thanks!

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

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

#### **In-person & Online Attendance & Offering for 2/21/2021**

In-person Worship Service: 51

Online Worship Service: 138 views on YouTube

Operating Funds Given 2/17-2/24 \$ 6,902

#### **January**

Operating Funds Given YTD \$ 47,994

Operating Expenses YTD \$ 62,209

Balance \$ (14,215)

2021 Operating Budget = \$ 754,879

#### **January**

Building Preservation Fund Received 2021 YTD \$ 3,995

Building Preservation Fund Spent 2021 YTD \$ 0

Apportionments are paid through January

\*includes funding and expenses related to hurricane repairs

### **Continuing Grace's Mission**

Our giving enables Grace to continue to provide support for work within the congregation and for its missions 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, Wilmington, 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](http://gracedowntown.net)) and select PayPal or Square (No Account needed) to make a payment.

### **Online Family Sunday School Series**

The class will look at the life of those who lived in Jerusalem during the time of Jesus. From the language to the daily activities, you will step back in time to understand the world they knew. You will find many connections to our modern life and see how they lived through difficult times.

Using video and pictures, along with archaeological evidence, we will explore the places Jesus walked and see how they influence our life today. Please join us at 11 am on Sundays, January 31—March 7.

The course outline is below.

Week 5 - Sacred Spaces - Hilltops and fishing spots

Week 6 - Sacred Spaces - Synagogues and Temples

## Prayer Requests

Remember: Prayer Vigil daily at 12:00 noon

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Abel Autrey	Mildred Guthrie	Jason Powers
Bob B.	Hank	Jeffrey Powers
Blake Baker	Yesi & Matt Harden	Tammy Powers
Chris Beahan	David Hash	Chip Rivers
Ann Booth	Heather Hoefler	Noah Robertson
Robert Bowen	Dick Hull	Donna Robinson
Kitty Brunjes	Donna Hunter	Judy Siebold
Stephanie Christy	Larry Jennings	Vicki Stanfield-Switzer
Erin Cissel	Eddie Jones	Kent Stephens
Jim Conley	Ruby Justice	Roger Swilley
Laurie Cote	Doug Mays	Jim Teachey
Clarke Cummings	Ariel McCabe	Martha Vann
Marie Dubel	Linda McCabe	Veteran Village
Kelly Duke	Margaret Merritt	Bobby & Jana Waitman
Beth George	Esther Nance	Mary Williams
Paul George & Family	Carolyn Pope	
Kaye Gibbs	Sarah O'Brien	
Sid Goode	Todd Paxton	

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

Maj. Jeffery Bernard, USA  
LCpl. John Capwell, USMC  
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC  
Maj. Tim Collins, USMC  
Col. John Delaney, USA  
E3 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN  
E6 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:

### ***Our Country***

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.

## Holy Week and Easter Services

Our Lenten journey is drawing closer to the events of Holy Week and the jubilation of Easter morning. Grace plans the following worship services this year.

### **Palm Sunday, March 28**

- ◆ Online worship service
- ◆ 8:00 am - In-person worship service
- ◆ 11:00 am - In-person worship service

### **Good Friday, April 2**

- ◆ Online worship service

### **Easter, Sunday, April 4**

- ◆ Online worship service
- ◆ 6:45 am - In-person sunrise worship service
- ◆ 11:00 am - In-person worship service
- ◆ 4:00 pm - In-person worship service

Details about each of these services will be published in the coming weeks. These worship experiences are a vital part of understanding and celebrating the gift of our salvation through Jesus' sacrifice.

## Notes of Thanks

Dearest Grace Friends,

Your many expressions of love on my 90th birthday leave me not only speechless, but full of thankfulness for you and God's love. I loved all the cards, calls, emails, etc.

Although I want to thank each of you personally, I might not be able to remember everything I should! I do want YOU to remember that I love you and am grateful beyond words!

May God bless you ALL!  
Virginia Skillman

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Dear Grace Family,

Prayers are working. I am making progress after my surgery; thanks be to God.

I so appreciate all your cards, gifts, prayers and that awesome parade!!!! So many memories. You all are so wonderful and truly loved by me. God bless you.

Love,  
Judy Siebold

## United Methodist Women

Tuesday, March 2, 10:30 am, via Zoom

The speaker for our March UMW meeting will be Gary Lauffer of the Hope House Recovery Center. According to their website, this center has greatly expanded since we heard from them about two years ago.

Come see your friends on Zoom and hear of the good work being done at the Hope House Recovery Center.

Join Zoom Meeting  
[https://zoom.us/j/96223311860?](https://zoom.us/j/96223311860?pwd=OEZEEdE5hc0ZhNkxhV3p2cUkrTXIzZz09)  
[pwd=OEZEEdE5hc0ZhNkxhV3p2cUkrTXIzZz09](https://zoom.us/j/96223311860?pwd=OEZEEdE5hc0ZhNkxhV3p2cUkrTXIzZz09)

Meeting ID: 962 2331 1860  
Passcode: 621906

## Equal Exchange Coffee

The Missions Committee invites you to check out the Equal Exchange sales table in the Welcome Center, which displays coffee, tea and chocolate products. These items are available on a continuing basis.

Equal Exchange is a US co-op that provides small-scale farmer co-ops in many countries with fair trade prices for their products sold in the US. It also donates a portion of sales back to faith partners, such as the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

## Thank You GUMC Volunteers!

Grace members provided meals for 2 Family Promise families this past week at the Day Center! These are 2 single mothers, with their 9 children, who have entered the program because they are homeless. Families are given assistance with housing, financial and other counseling, and dinners provided by local churches. The mothers are either working or seeking a job.

Please thank the following generous chefs from Grace who donated their time and talents to this effort:

Beka Vaughan and family  
 Leigh and Mike Mabee,  
 Dianne and John Glasgow  
 Catherine and Joe Beaman  
 Judy and Darrell Davies  
 Jessica Wilson and family.

In this time of pandemic, these folks provided 2 separate meals, since the families now eat in their own apartments for safety reasons. The hard-working mothers and their small children were very grateful!

Grace's next opportunity to serve Family Promise families is the two-week period of April 25-May 9. Please mark your calendar and be ready to serve! You may cook, order food or give gift cards, all are appreciated!

Contact Jane Spicer for more information at [jdspicer@ec.rr.com](mailto:jdspicer@ec.rr.com) or 910-622-1211.

## Missions

**Mother Hubbard's Cupboard** is still serving clients on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The number of people served has increased by 17% in the past year! More than 1500 new households have sought food and the average size of a households served has increased.

At this point, there is a **desperate need for cereal**, since it is not being offered in the government food this quarter and the Cupboard cannot buy in bulk due to restrictions on purchases at grocery stores. So it would be very helpful to have donations of boxes of cereal! If you would like to donate some cereal, you can leave it in a labelled bag in the Welcome Center at Grace and it will be delivered! Other donations are still welcome, but this is a current item VERY needed!

The Cupboard is very grateful to Grace and many other local churches who have been faithful supporters during this pandemic. Our neighbors are eating thanks to your generosity! God Bless them and you!

The items below are always welcome as the Cupboard continues to help those of our neighbors who 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**.....

- **Needed:** Paper bags with handles (grocery store type) in good condition. Plastic bags are not being used to hand out food at present.

## **March Birthdays**

3/1	David Vaughan Helen Monk	3/10	Heddy Reichardt	3/17	Pat Thomas Lillian Edwards	3/28	Ryan Gibbs Henry Cichoracki
3/3	Jane Spicer	3/11	Anne Lewis	3/18	Wallace Riddle	3/29	Preston Olinger Sarah Layton
3/5	Grace Anne Dunmire Amanda Ladd Barbara Jackson	3/13	Ross Inman Laura Witherington Kelley Ahlers	3/20	Jamie Cline Mike Mabee Meredith Ross		
3/6	Sue Flora Sarah Voulgaris	3/14	Ed Hickmon Deborah Kelly	3/22	Jen Stenerson		
3/7	Karen Bullock Katie Mintz Jill Chidester	3/15	Judy Holden Milton Kreger	3/24	Bev McDow		
		3/16	Martha Wofford Patty Rowe	3/26	Gary Godwin Will Lindsey		