

Grace Notes

January 17, 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

January 17, 2021
Epiphany Sunday

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 — January 17

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/>

Family Ministries

Facebook page:

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

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
Thanks!

HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS? (Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

In-person & Online Attendance & Offering for 1/10/2021

In-person Worship Service: 57
Online Worship Service: 137 views on YouTube

Operating Funds Given 1/6-1/13 \$ 6,699

December
Operating Funds Given YTD \$ 697,290
Operating Expenses YTD \$ 743,234
Balance \$ (45,944)

2020 Operating Budget = \$ 747,178

December
Building Preservation Fund Received 2020 YTD \$ 59,770
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.

NEW Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

The UMW is pleased to announce a new winter Bible study starting in February. This study is entitled *INTO THE LIGHT* by Mary Demuth. "An untold story never heals. We all experience hurt and trauma, but how do we respond when someone tells us her story of pain? How do we heal from our own pasts in order to help with the healing of others? How do we locate and build safe spaces?"

This 7-session study "traces biblical truths of healing through stories of real women in Scripture. Learn how to come alongside others in restoration, becoming good shepherds and good Samaritans. Deepen your discipleship and grow in Christ while discovering that we heal better together."

You will receive the link to watch the DVD sessions online and then everyone will come together on Zoom to have discussions.

If you are interested in joining this study, please contact Linda Snider at snider-snc@gmail.com no later than January 18, 2021. Once the study books have arrived, arrangements will be made to collect the \$15.99 for the study book and a firm start date will be set; hopefully February 4 or 11.

Thanks.
Linda Snider



Prayer Requests

Remember: Prayer Vigil daily at 12:00 noon

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Linda Adams	Gretta Fredericks
Betty Arnette	Kaye Gibbs
Blake Baker	Sid Goode
Bob Barlow	Janice Gurganus
Dan Barnes	Hank
Lisa, Rick & Todd Baxley	David Hash
Chris Beahan	Adam Horne
Susan Benton	Dick Hull
Julie Bishop	Larry Jennings
Bob B.	Jim, Veronica & Mayakla
Family of Christine Boone	Eddie Jones
Ann Booth	Maria King
Brice Borowicz	Ann Lassiter
Robert Bowen	Josh Lee
Kitty Brunjes	Brian Long
Liz & Glenn Carlson	Megan Long
Misty Chidester	Joan Madren
Matthew Cichoraci	Debbie McDonald
Erin Cissel	Heather Meyer
Donna Cooper	Family of Howard Mitchell
Gary & Evie Danielson	Esther Nance
Eloise & Mike	Family of Ruth O'Dwyer
Todd English	Carolyn Pope
Jonathan & Sarah Finch	Jason Powers

Jeffrey Powers
Jerry Powers
Linda Pyle
Frank Renales
Family of Kitty Richardson
Family of Carlson Rowe
Jim & Pat Rudicil
Ruth Ryland & Family
The Stenerson Family
Joyce & Earl Stephens
Kent Stephens
Jim Teachey
Family of Carolyn Vargas
Family of Phil Walls
Kay Warren
Joyce Witherington
Gary Wrenn

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
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:

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.

Watch Over One Another in Love

As the number of coronavirus cases continue to increase, thank you for being vigilant in keeping Grace's safety protocols for in-person worship. These include:

- wearing a mask that covers both mouth and nose when in the building.
- social distancing -- keeping a minimum of 6 feet between yourself and others at all times (you need to keep enough distance that you are beyond arm's reach)
- use the hand sanitizing station when entering for worship
- greet one another in a 'no touch' fashion (no hugging, handshaking, fist/elbow bumps).

These protocols are in place to help us keep each other safe and well. John Wesley instructed the earliest Methodist gatherings to "watch over one another in love." These safety protocols are part of our effort to do that during these days.

Additionally, continue to put your safety first when you make the decision whether or not to come to in-person worship. If coming to in-person worship at Grace causes you concern for your safety and the safety of those around you, give yourself permission to watch our services online from home. We understand.

Also, if you are feeling bad, recently had a fever or have been around anyone who has tested positive for Covid-19 -- use that as a good reason to stay home and watch Grace's service online.

We love your presence at in-person worship at Grace. But more than that, we want you to be safe. Thank you for taking measures in these uncommon days to help keep yourself and the rest of the Grace Family safe.

In Christ,
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Methodist Home for Children Event

Methodist Home for Children has consolidated all of its 2021 fundraising into one virtual event and you are invited to come! Registration and preview of raffle and auction items is at www.DreamBig.fun. Date of the **Dream Big** event is January 30, 2021 and the time is 7pm. Please mark your calendar and join us then! Dress is whatever you want it to be....pearls to jeans!

The special guest at this event is Bob Goff who is a best-selling author and beloved authority on love, hope and dreaming BIG! Bob and the kids from Methodist Home for Children will inspire and delight you!

Live auction items include: time in a beach house which sleeps 40 (post-pandemic family reunion!!), a hot air balloon ride and a sailing trip on an America's Cup sailboat! Hundreds of silent auction items will be online the week before the event for viewing.

Please note that the program used by the event does NOT support Internet Explorer, so if that is your browser, go to the site ahead of time for directions on finding another usable browser---don't wait until the last minute!

The mission statement of Methodist Home for Children is: *in service to God, to build upon the social, physical, emotional, and spiritual strengths of children, youth, and families, and to affirm their worth.* They serve a large number of families in Wilmington and the surrounding area.

If you are unable to join us virtually but would like to offer financial or other support, you could send it to Methodist Home for Children, c/o Jennifer Cooper, 1041 Washington Street, Raleigh NC 27605 -1259. If you have questions or need more information, please contact board member Jane Spicer at jdspicer@ec.rr.com or 622-1211.

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.