

# Grace Notes

January 22, 2023

## 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, January 22

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service  
5:00 pm WAVES

#### Monday, January 23

1:30 pm Caregivers Support  
5:00 pm Lion Heart basketball

#### Tuesday, January 24

9:00 am Organist practice  
9:00 am Bible in a Year Book Club  
5:30 pm Bootcamp

#### Wednesday, January 25

10:00 am Staff Meeting  
11:15 am Yoga  
4:00 pm Organist Practice  
4:30 pm Worship Committee  
6:15 pm Grace Ringers  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

#### Thursday, January 26

2:00 pm Nurture Mtg.  
5:30 pm Coastal Buds "Down to Cook"  
5:30 pm Boot Camp  
6:30 pm Basketball

#### Friday, January 27

9:00 am Organist practice  
9:00 am Grace In Motion Walkers (gym)  
4:00 pm A Night To Shine shopping

#### Saturday, January 28

8:00 am A Night To Shine shopping

#### Sunday, January 29

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service  
5:00 pm WAVES

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### In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 1/15/2023

In-person Worship Service:	8:30	23
	11:00 am	138
Online Worship Service:		59
Operating Funds Given	\$	10,810
Building Preservation	\$	1,080

#### December

Operating Funds Given YTD	\$	631,261
Operating Expenses YTD	\$	688,655
Balance	\$	(57,394)

#### December

Annual Bld. Preserv. Receipts	\$	55,829
Annual Bld. Preserv. Fund Exp.	\$	31,253
Balance	\$	24,576

Apportionments are paid through December.

Thank you for your continuing gifts. Year end statements are in the mail. Call Ginny in the Church office if you have questions.

### On-line Sunday Worship Services Continue

The service will be available Sunday starting at **4:00 pm**

This is the link:

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

### **Grace United Methodist Church**

401 Grace Street  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401  
email: [ginny@gracedowntown.net](mailto:ginny@gracedowntown.net)  
910.763.5197; Fax 910.763.4108  
website: [gracedowntown.church](http://gracedowntown.church)

Give through Paypal at our website or Square by using this QR Code. (point your phone camera at the box and click on the link that appears).



### GRACE STAFF

Rev. Benton W. Oakes, III M.Div. - Senior Pastor  
Jerry Cribbs - Director of Music Ministries  
Leslie Bergbower - Organist  
Kelsey Keenan - Director of Children's Ministry  
Jada Martinez - Director of Youth Ministry  
Janet Keenan—Nursery Leader  
Rich McKeon—Custodian  
Ginny Peterson—Director of Operations and Admin.  
Charles Sanders - Accountant  
To contact any staff by email use this format:  
[firstname@gracedowntown.net](mailto:firstname@gracedowntown.net)

### **Donations for Habitat**

Grace United Methodist Church has surplus furniture in a classroom that will be donated to Habitat for Humanity. If there are other surplus furniture in our facility that you believe could be used by others less fortunate, please contact the Trustees at email: [gumctrustees1@gmail.com](mailto:gumctrustees1@gmail.com).

### **Beauty of Grace brick memorials continue**

Please consider honoring or memorializing a loved one with the purchase of an engraved brick. Your contributions will help continue the revitalization of the gardens around our beautiful church. For more information, pick up a brochure in the welcome center, or contact Karen Evans: [evans493@gmail.com](mailto:evans493@gmail.com) or Sally Barnes: [sallybarnes11754@yahoo.com](mailto:sallybarnes11754@yahoo.com).

### **Liturgists Needed**

The lay liturgist sets the tone for the Grace UMC worship services. He or she leads the congregation in reading responsively the Call to Worship, reciting together the Affirmation of Faith (usually the Apostles or Nicene creeds) and then reading aloud the day's Scripture lesson. The lay liturgist may also assist in serving Communion when requested by the Pastor. If you would like to serve, email Rick Zigler at [rzigler@aol.com](mailto:rzigler@aol.com) and specify 8:30 or 11:00 services or hopefully both.

### **Bishop Shelton coming to Wilmington**

As the new year begins and we enter a new season in the North Carolina Conference, Bishop Connie Mitchell Shelton will be holding gatherings in all eight districts. These events will provide an opportunity to get to know Bishop Shelton as she begins serving as our new episcopal leader. Our Harbor District meeting for the laity will be held at Wesley Memorial, Jan. 23 at 7 pm. A clergy meeting will also be held earlier in the day.

## Prayer Requests

Jim Alban	Megan Long
Dan Barnes	Gary Rowe
Margaret Batchelor	Melissa Sesi
Bryant Bilodeau	Mac Starke
Wayne Blalock	Sunset Park School Staff
Debbie Condi	Aaron Swaney
Larry Florea	Mark Tremlett
Martin Ginocchio	
Sam & Holly Going	

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

ETN1 Anthony Augustine, USN	Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC
LCpl. John Capwell, USMC	LCpl. Seth Mack, USMC
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC	PFC Schuyler Marshall, USA
Col. John Delaney, USA	SSg. Emily Olinger, USAF
Ens. Elizabeth Downing, USN	Pvt. Steven Patterson, USA
E3 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN	Sgt. James Pritchett, USA
E6 William Chase Dubel, USA	CDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF	Col. Amy Moore Russo, USAF
E3 Taylor Folmar, USN	Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC	AB Michael Sloan, USAF
Maj. Jason T. Hill, USSF	Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
SFC Letty Long, USA	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](mailto:mtrem3@icloud.com).



### Volunteers Needed for Shine Shop Event

Cinderella's Closet is partnering with Lifepoint Church to host their annual Shine Shop event the weekend of January 27th and we need some volunteers! The Shine Shop supports "A Night to Shine" a nationwide ministry of the Tim Tebow Foundation that provides an unforgettable prom experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs ages 14 and older. This event is hosted locally by Lifepoint and the Shine Shop and provides an opportunity for young ladies and men to shop for their prom attire ahead of the event.

As a volunteer you can help check people in at the front desk, act as a guide in the shop on the second floor, or serve as a general greeter on behalf of Grace. Volunteers will be asked to serve in 2-hour blocks during the shop which runs from 4pm to 8pm on Friday, January 27th and 8am to 5pm on Saturday, January 28th.

Please contact either Hope Inman at [cinderellasclosetilm@gmail.com](mailto:cinderellasclosetilm@gmail.com) or Tiffany Earle at [tiffanyearle@email.com](mailto:tiffanyearle@email.com) by Sunday, January 22nd if you would like to volunteer.



### Are you a hostess with the mostest?

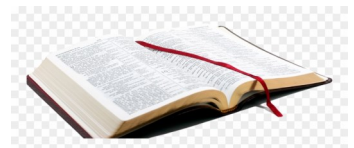
Fellowship Time is a wonderful time for our church to have coffee or tea and meet and talk to others between church services. It is one of many great ways we connect with each other here at Grace. Your help is truly needed with this easy way to show our hospitality, and the place to sign up is in the Welcome Center. Sign up is on the bulletin board near the Bullock Activity Center (gym). If you have never hosted, no worries, you will be paired up with someone who knows the ropes. Basically it is making coffee and putting out some treats, then putting things away. Contact Joanne Hamilton, [jhamilton14@msn.com](mailto:jhamilton14@msn.com), for more information, or sign up and you will be contacted.

### Are you interested in joining or learning more about Grace?

Please join Pastor Benny for a New Member Group, scheduled for February 5, 12 and 19, 2023 during the Sunday School hour, from 9:45 - 10:25 am, location is to be determined. The purpose of the group's three sessions is UMC education, Grace UMC education, and connecting to the life and ministries of Grace UMC/Wilmington community. To sign up or if you have questions, please call or text Anne Dale 252-933-2875, or email her at email address: [annewestdale@aol.com](mailto:annewestdale@aol.com).

### Bible in A Year Book study: This week's Scriptures & Videos...

- Jan 22** - Psalm 22; Exodus 16-18; watch OT Overviews: Exodus 1-18 The Covenant at Mount Sinai
- Jan 23** - Psalm 23; Exodus 19-21; watch OT Overviews: Exodus 19-40
- Jan 24** - Psalm 24; Exodus 22-24; watch Torah Series: Exodus 19-40
- Jan 25** - Psalm 25; Exodus 25-27; watch Royal Priests of Eden
- Jan 26** - Psalm 26; Exodus 28-29; no video
- Jan 27** - Psalm 27; Exodus 30-31; no video
- Jan 28** - Psalm 28; Exodus 32-34; watch Visual Commentary: Exodus 34:6-7



Find the whole plan and additional links at [Bibleproject.com](http://Bibleproject.com)

### Reflections On My Snapshot of Poverty, Fall 2022

**By Duckie Dawkins** (*Editor's note, we will continue Duckie's story over the next few weeks. We'll start with some background*)

I had the opportunity to participate in a poverty simulation for two nights and one and a half days. When I say this, most people immediately respond, "WHY?!"

It started in 2000 when a friend invited me to hear a group of missionaries from Africa. She didn't want to go alone. I thought they had been missionaries in Africa. Instead, they were from Africa and were missionaries in the United States. I had wanted to go on a mission trip for several years but didn't realize until that night that I was living in a mission field. A few weeks later, again not wanting to go alone, my friend invited me to lunch with a woman who had been a missionary in Jamaica. The woman was Susan Miller who was director of the first shelter for women who struggle with alcohol and substance abuse. Other women's shelters at that time also housed children, so you had to be substance free to stay in them. She became my friend and mentor. She opened my eyes to the people living in poverty around me that I had never noticed before.

I ate lunch with women who were former prostitutes. I helped serve dinner from the back of a truck on the streets in downtown Wilmington to men and women living in plain sight but rarely noticed. Mother Hubbard's Cupboard was housed at Grace at that time. My students and I stocked their shelves and bagged groceries once a week when the Cupboard was closed.

*(to be continued...)*