

Grace Notes

January 24, 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 24, 2021
3rd Sunday after Epiphany

In-person Sunday Worship Service
has been paused for four Sundays
(1/24, 1/31, 2/7 & 2/14)
due to rising COVID-19 numbers.

On-line Sunday Worship Service — January 24

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

Facebook:

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

YouTube:

Link coming on Saturday

Grace's website:

<https://gracedowntown.church/>

Family Sunday School is Back!

Starting January 31, 11:00 am
See article below

Join Zoom Meeting:

[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](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAAA92DA5F5CF8-altar)

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

In-person & Online Attendance & Offering for 1/17/2021

In-person Worship Service: 45

Online Worship Service: 137 views on YouTube

Operating Funds Given 1/13-1/20 \$ 14,285

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 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) and select PayPal or Square (No Account needed) to make a payment.

NEW Online Family Sunday School Series Starting!

On Sunday, January 31, 11:00 am, Kelley Ahlers will begin a six-week Sunday School class entitled, **A Walk in Jerusalem**. 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 mornings. The course outline is below.

Week 1 - The People Jesus Knew -Jews, Romans and Greeks

Week 2 - A day in the life - Nazareth

Week 3 - A Day in the Life - Bethlehem

Week 4 - A Day in the Life - Healing the sick - mind, body and spirit

Week 5 - Sacred Spaces - Hilltops and fishing spots

Week 6 - Sacred Spaces - Synagogues and Temples

Use this link each week:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97395961423?pwd=ZmxRdk8rSndiN2RrWnJPaHJqT2pSdz09>

Meeting ID: 973 9596 1423

Passcode: grace

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
Chris Beahan	David Hash
Susan Benton	Adam Horne
Bob B.	Dick Hull
Family of Christine Boone	Larry Jennings
Ann Booth	Jim, Veronica & Mayakla
Brice Borowicz	Eddie Jones
Robert Bowen	Ruby Justice
Kitty Brunjes	Maria King
Liz & Glenn Carlson	Ann Lassiter
Misty Chidester	Josh Lee
Matthew Cichoraci	Brian Long
Erin Cissel	Joan Madren
Jim Conley	Family of Debbie McDonald
Donna Cooper	Heather Meyer
Clarke Cummings	Esther Nance
Gary & Evie Danielson	Family of Ruth O'Dwyer
Eloise & Mike	Carolyn Pope
Jonathan & Sarah Finch	

Jason Powers
Jeffrey Powers
Jerry Powers
Family of Frank Renales
Family of Kitty Richardson
Jim & Pat Rudicil
Ruth Ryland & Family
Family of Patricia Simpson
Joyce & Earl Stephens
Kent Stephens
Jim Teachey
Kay Warren
Joyce Witherington
Family of 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.

Harbor District Offering Two Zoom Mission Studies

The first study, **FINDING PEACE IN AN ANXIOUS WORLD**, taught by Claire Cox-Woodlief, will be held on Saturday, February 27, 10:00 am to 3:30 pm, with a break for lunch from around 12:00 noon until 12:30 pm. The deadline for registration is February 13. FINDING PEACE IN AN ANXIOUS WORLD, the 2020 Spiritual Growth Study by staff of the Urban Village Church in Chicago, uses the book of Proverbs and "The Serenity Prayer" as a guide to help Christians find their way through anxiety, worry and fear, and move towards God's peace that surpasses all understanding.

The second study, **WOMEN UNITED FOR CHANGE: 150 YEARS IN MISSION**, taught by Lynn Clewis, will be held on Saturday, March 20, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm with the same time for a lunch break. The deadline for registration is March 3. WOMEN UNITED FOR CHANGE by Ellen Blue is a study commemorating United Methodist Women's 150th anniversary in 2019. It provides a historical survey of United Methodist Women and its predecessor organizations and amplifies the voices that shaped the work through an overarching story of United Methodist Women changing the fact of mission! The study is about women who established vibrant societies to support mission.

The great thing about Mission Studies on ZOOM is that you will be studying from home as a part of the group. Once you register, you will be sent a link to the study or studies that you choose. There is no registration fee, but donations will be accepted to help cover the cost of the study leaders' training.

Both of the study books are available for Kindle from Amazon for \$5.95 each. They may be ordered in book form from the national United Methodist Women website e-store for \$10.00 each. It is recommended that each study participant read the book in advance in order to gain the most benefit and understanding from the study.

If you are interested in registering, let Grace member Marie Allison - alli7173@hotmail.com - know and she will send you the registration form.

Caring for Caregivers

Are you a caregiver for a spouse, parent, or other relative? Whether you have been a caregiver for a few weeks, for months, or for many years, the journey can be exhausting, confusing, frustrating and lonely. You may wonder, "Who is taking care of me?"

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 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.

Send an email to Brena Conley at brenagibson@gmail.com to receive the Zoom link.

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.