

Grace Notes

January 3, 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 3, 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 3

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.



On January 3, 2021

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

Church Office Holiday Schedule

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

Happy New Year!!

HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS?

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

In-person & Online Attendance & Offering for 12/27/2020

In-person Worship Service: 25
Online Worship Service: 136 views on YouTube

Operating Funds Given 12/23—12/30	\$ 18,153
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.

United Methodist Women

Tuesday, January 5, 2021
10:30 am on Zoom

The speaker for January will be Melissa Radcliff of the
Children's Place. We'll be hearing about hats that the
mothers are making to sell.

Also, decisions will be made about UMW's mission
work for 2021.

Grace UMC is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meet-
ing.

Topic: UMW Meeting
Date: Tuesday Jan 5
Time: 10:30 am

Join Zoom Meeting
[https://zoom.us/j/91598494257?
pwd=eWNmb1pgeFpCQXcwK3dnWINNMWprQT09](https://zoom.us/j/91598494257?pwd=eWNmb1pgeFpCQXcwK3dnWINNMWprQT09)

Meeting ID: 915 9849 4257
Passcode: 920617

Prayer Requests

Remember: Prayer Vigil daily at 12:00 noon

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Linda Adams	Sid Goode	Linda Pyle
Betty Arnette	Janice Gurganus	Carlson Rowe
Blake Baker	Ken Gurganus	Jim & Pat Rudicil
Bob Barlow	Hank	Stephanie & Doug Smith
Chris Beahan	David Hash	The Stenerson Family
Susan Benton	Adam Horne	Joyce & Earl Stephens
Louise Berry	Dick Hull	Jim Teachey
Julie Bishop	Carol Jennings	Carolyn Vargas
Bob B.	Larry Jennings	Tommy Walker
Christine Boone	Jim, Veronica & Mayakla	Family of Phil Walls
Ann Booth	Debbie Jones	Kay Warren
Brice Borowicz	Eddie Jones	Joyce Witherington
Robert Bowen	Maria King	
Family of Marilyn Brown	Ann Lassiter	
Kitty Brunjes	Brian Long	
Liz & Glenn Carlson	Megan Long	
Misty Chidester	Joan Madren	
Matthew Cichoracki	Sarah Martin	
Erin Cissel	Troy McMahon	
Donna Cooper	Heather Meyer	
Clarke Cummings	Howard Mitchell	
Todd English	Helen Morgan	
Susie Knox Ford	Carolyn Pope	
Gretta Fredericks	Jeffrey Powers	
Kaye Gibbs		

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:

- 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.



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

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.

January Birthdays

1/1 Donald Gore	1/10 David Holden	1/16 Judy Siebold	1/24 Dan Walters
1/1 Brena Conley	1/10 Don Wofford	1/17 Dianne Glasgow	1/26 John Tripp
1/3 Dick Hull	1/10 Karen Reap	1/17 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-Switzer	1/31 Chris Stenerson
1/9 Austin Inman	1/15 Caroline Guthrie	1/21 Ruth O'Dwyer	
1/9 Darrell Davies	1/15 Mary Huppmann	1/22 Diane Steele	
	1/15 Cameron Dunmire		
	1/15 Larry Florea		

Your Missions Donations for 2020

Grace Church has received very generous donations toward missions this year, which are being distributed throughout the community and the world! We received a total of \$25,143.50! It has been sent to the following non-profits to use in their work as the hands and feet of Jesus.

These first 5 groups continue to operate during the pandemic and have increased costs plus lower income and volunteer assistance at this time! Their needs are immediate!

Family Promise of the Lower Cape Fear— \$4,500 (Providing case management and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence and emergency shelter to homeless families with children; while supplying them with the resources and skills vital to regaining and maintaining financial independence.)

Feast Congregation— \$4,500 (A missional congregation of our United Methodist Conference here in Wilmington which exists to create sacred space for people to explore their faith. The Liturgy consists of music, reflective prayer, a message, communion, and dinner.) This group serves many homeless in the area and has offered safely done holiday meals, warming shelters on cold nights.

Methodist Home for Children— \$4,500 (MHC provides safe, stable homes where children can thrive and live to their full, God-given potential.)

Mission of Hope: Rotifunk— \$4,500 (Seeking to substantially improve the health and save the lives of women and children in the Moyamba District of Sierra Leone.)

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard— \$4,500 (Serves those who are hungry in the Wilmington area through distribution of emergency food.)

The remaining funds will be saved for use of the Welcome Table at Grace, which serves a hot lunch on Thursdays to those who come. Due to COVID, it is not currently operating, but hopes to start as soon as possible in 2021.

Many thanks to those who donated to improve the world and the lives of many who struggle every day!

The Grace Missions Committee

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.