

Grace Notes

July 4, 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

Sunday, July 4

8:30 am Worship Service
11:00 am Worship Service

Monday, July 5

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, July 6

8:30 am Organist Practice
9:00 am Online Service Recording/Sanctuary
11:00 am Rotary Club/Grace Gym
2:00 pm Organist Practice
5:30 pm Boot Camp

Wednesday, July 7

8:30 am Organist Practice
10:30 am Staff Meeting
11:00 am Gentle Yoga Class/Gym
2:00 pm Organist Practice

Thursday, July 8

5:30 pm Boot Camp

Friday, July 9

8:30 am Organist Practice
1:30 pm Martha Organ

Sunday, July 11

8:30 am Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

On-line Sunday Worship Services Continue

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/>



Link to 2021 Altar Flower Chart

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

Sunday School Returns!

Sunday School returned for everyone on Sunday, June 20, **9:45 am**.

The children meet in their regular classrooms. All adults assemble in the gym in one class. Leadership of the class rotates among the teachers of the different adult classes.

Here is a schedule of the adult class leadership.

July 4	No classes/July 4th holiday
July 11	Begin rotation among leaders

Make plans now to resume attending Sunday School.

HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS?

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 6/27/2021

In-person Worship Service: 8:30 am - 28
11:00 am - 110

Online Worship Service: 82 views

Operating Funds Given 6/23-6/30 \$ 12,426

May

Operating Funds Given YTD	\$ 293,725
Operating Expenses YTD	\$ 337,261
Balance	\$ (43,536)

2021 Operating Budget = \$ 754,879

May

Building Preservation Fund Received 2021 YTD	\$ 28,019
Building Preservation Fund Spent 2021 YTD	\$ 21,354

Disaster Recovery (Boiler)

Insurance Receipts	\$ 62,048
Expenses to date	\$ 80,963

Apportionments are paid through June.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Saturday, July 10
2-6 PM

Church members are invited to join the Youth as we prepare dinner for the Feast Gathering!

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church 12 N 6th St, Wilmington, NC 28401

The Feast Gathering is an UMC group that provides dinner, worship, and so much more to downtown friends in need. This July, Grace has been invited to help prepare the meal and join the gathering on Saturday, July 10. There are many ways you can help!

- Help us cook! Be on site at St Paul's from 2-5 as we help prepare the dinner trays.
- Send a dessert. We will set up a dessert table filled with choices. You can leave a dessert item in the kitchen at Grace before 2 on that Saturday.
- Donate Tide Pods. Part of The Gathering is the chance for those who join to wash clothes.
- Donate all sizes of Men's and Women's under wear. Our UMC Conference Shower trailer will be onsite and often the people needing showers can use new underwear. Items can be left in the baskets in the Welcome Center.

Contact Kelley to let her know of your participation.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Archie
Scott Carter
Debbie Cole & Family
Don Cole
David Cooper
Patricia DiGiuseppe
Mitch Duncan
Linda Garrett
Manaline Gibson
Hank
Theresa Harrell

David Hash
Family of Helen Hawley
Dick Hull
Family of Beth Humphrey
Maria King
Janet Lipton
Cris Mowrey
Todd Paxton
Carolyn Pope
Sharon Sabo
Brooke Santos

Mary Sloan
Sandee Murray Spradley
Stowe Spratt
Shar Streeter
Matt Sutton
Jim Teachey
Louise Thompson
Veteran Village
Dee Ward
Stew Wolling

If you have a prayer request, please contact **Sandy Smith** at sandysmithgrace@gmail.com or 910-233-0310.



Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

Maj. Jeffery Bernard, USA
LCpl. John Capwell, USMC
Sgt. Tim Coughlin, 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, USA
Sgt. James Pritchett, USA
CDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
Col. Amy Moore Russo, USAF
E6 Jack Andre Settele, USA
Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
AB Michael Sloan, USAF
Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
Michael Tate, USA
E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC



VBS
August 8-12, 2021
5:45-6:00

**Coming this August!!!!
Superhero Camp
August 8-12 from 5:45-7:00 pm**

Join us for Superhero Camp as we learn about the Armor of God! We will make sure you have the superpowers needed to get through life.

- ◆ Join Miss Janet in the Costume Creation Factory,
- ◆ Test your skills in the Superpower Training Facility,
- ◆ Learn about the different ways God empowers us to be His heroes.

Ages 3-12 years old are invited to this year's Vacation Bible School at Grace!



Additions Being Held



Cape Fear Chorale will hold auditions for its Fall Concert Season throughout the day on, Monday, July 26, 2021.

Singers, who desire to be part of a quality choral organization with a 22-year history in the Cape Fear region, are encouraged to register at

www.capefearchorale.org/auditions

Rehearsals are each Monday at Grace UMC, 7:00 - 9:15 pm. All fees are being waived for this first post-pandemic season.

CFC's fall concert, "Sing Together, Always!", is planned for Saturday, November 13, 2021 at Kenan Auditorium, on the UNCW campus.

New Office Hours

Pastor Kelley Ahlers has established new office hours. She will be in her office each week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9 am—2 pm.

Sound Assistance Devices

Now that worship services have returned to the sanctuary, personal, sound assistance devices are again available from the ushers. If you want to use one of these devices, please tell an usher when you arrive.

Grace Name Tags

Everyone is reminded to please wear your Grace name tags on Sunday mornings. The tags are hanging on the hooks outside the sanctuary.

If you don't have a name tag or need a new one, please call or email Marion in the church office.

marion@gracedowntown.net



Congregational Singing Resumes Sunday, July 18!



It is with great joy that we announce that after 15 months without congregational singing, we will resume singing hymns and congregational responses at both services on **Sunday, July 18**.

In order to continue to keep everyone healthy and safe, we will follow the same Administrative Council approved COVID-19 safety protocols that we are currently following at the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services.

We invite you to be ready to "make a joyful noise" by singing as encouraged by John Wesley, "lustily and with good courage" on **July 18!**

**Soli Deo Gloria!
To God alone be the glory!**

Beauty of Grace Team Update

Thanks to the tremendous generosity of church members, GUMC has received an edger, trimmer, and blower needed for our landscaping volunteers to maintain our lawns and gardens! Others donated plants, shrubs, flowers, topsoil, and their time to mow, weed, and plant! Substantial financial contributions were received that will allow us to acquire a riding lawn mower and the opportunity to have all existing flower beds re-mulched!

With the summer heat, additional planting will wait until fall but the maintenance goes on! Volunteers to help with the mowing, trimming, and blowing are always needed.

If you have plants or want to make a donation toward plants and shrubs in the fall, or to volunteer your time, please contact Karen Evans at evans493@gmail.com. Any financial donation should be made out to the church with "Beauty of Grace" in the memo line.

Thank you for all your support.
The Beauty of Grace Team

Psalm 100 4-5: *Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever. His faithfulness continues through all the generations*



Admin Council New Covid19 Measures - 6/15/21

Upon recommendation of the Covid19 Task Force, the Administrative Council of Grace UMC voted into effect the Covid19 measures listed below. Unless otherwise noted, these measures may be enacted immediately.

Worship Matters

- That we resume bringing children to the chancel area during worship for the Children's Moment on the second Sunday in August.
- That children continue to wear masks; fully vaccinated youth can go without masks if they so choose.

Sunday School Matters

- Sunday School resumed on June 20, 9:45 am. The children gather in their rooms; adults gather in one group in the gym. There will be a rotating system of teachers.
- We recommend that Adult Classes return to their own classrooms on Sunday, August 29.

Contact Sports In The Gym (specifically basketball)

- That it be allowed to resume pending approval by the Trustees. Pending approval by the Trustees is recommended to give them time to explore matters related to renting the gym to outside groups and cleaning matters.

Serving Food

- That serving of food and drink be allowed so long as there is no self service. This would avoid a common point of contact with people reaching into the same dish or using the same serving utensils.
- That we give permission to Nurture to resume serving of food and/or drink on Sunday mornings under the guidelines above whenever the leadership of that group is prepared to do so.
- That we give permission to the Welcome Table to resume serving food and drink on Thursdays under the guidelines above whenever the leadership of that group is prepared to do so.