

# Grace Notes

March 12, 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, March 12

##### Daylight Savings Time Begins

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 12:15 Nurture Potluck
- 5:00 pm WAVES



#### Monday, March 13

- 9:00 am Grace In Motion Walkers (gym)
- 5:00 pm Lion Heart Basketball
- 6:30 pm Finance Committee

#### Tuesday, March 14

- 9:00 am Organist Practice
- 9:00 am Bible Book Club
- 5:30 pm Coastal BUDS Down to Cook
- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 6:30 pm SPRC Committee
- 7:00 pm Lion Heart Basketball

#### Wednesday, March 15

- 9:30 am UWF leadership team
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 11:15 am Yoga
- 4:00 pm Organist Practice
- 4:00 pm Lion Heart BB
- 6:00 pm Special Olympics
- 6:15 pm Grace Ringers
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

#### Thursday, March 16

- 5:30 pm Bootcamp
- 5:30 pm Coastal BUDS Down to Cook
- 6:30 pm Basketball

#### Friday, March 17

- 9:00 am Grace In Motion Walkers (gym)
- 9:00 am Organist practice

#### Saturday, March 18

- 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal

#### Sunday, March 19

- 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 3/05/2023

In-person Worship Service:	8:30 am	35
	11:00 am	161
Online Worship Service:		75
Operating Funds Given	\$	11,165
Budget receipts needed weekly	\$	13,912
Building Preservation Given	\$	495

Apportionments paid through Feb.

### 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).



### Easter Egg Hunt planned

Come and join us April 2nd 4-6pm for our Easter Event. Everyone is invited to join in on the fun as we have the egg hunt, games, music, pizza, and more! We will have separate rooms set up for egg hunting based on different age groups. The egg hunt will be for ages infancy- 11 years old!



We will have a basket for candy donation located in the welcome center and are thankful for any donations we may receive!

-Kelsey Keenan

### Sunday, March 26th is UMCOR Sunday!

Envelopes will be available for a special offering that Sunday.

**SPECIAL SUNDAY UMCOR SUNDAY**

In 1940, The Methodist Committee on Overseas Relief was founded as a "voice of conscience among Methodists to act in the relief of human suffering without distinction of race, color, or creed."

 Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.  
The people of The United Methodist Church®



### Upcoming Special Services Bring a friend and join us this Palm Sunday and Holy Week!

**Palm Sunday, April 2, 8:30 & 11:00 am** - Celebrating Jesus triumphant ride into Jerusalem

**Maundy Thursday Worship Service, April 6, 7pm**  
Including the Stripping of the Altar

**Good Friday Worship, April 7, 7 pm**

**Resurrection Sunday April 9, 8:30 & 11:00 am** - a triumphant celebration of our Risen Lord!  
Please bring long stem flowers to put in the wire cross at the front of the sanctuary before each service. It transforms the rugged cross into a beautiful representation of the new life that breaks forth at Easter through Jesus.

## Prayer Requests

Family of Carol Ballard	Beth Steelman
Dan Barnes	Aaron Swaney
Tammy Cauthorn-Burnette	Jack Thomas
Marilyn Cooper	Kim Thorburn
Sterling Foster	Donna Tripp
Julie Hamilton	Family of Don Wofford
Debbie Jones	
Frank Michaels	
Mary Neal	
Jason Powers	
Gary Rowe	

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).



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

**By Duckie Dawkins** (Editor's note, We're continuing this week with the conclusion of Duckie's experiences with the "poverty simulation" and how she spent her time during the weekend on the streets.)

"...You might sit on the ground, a low wall, or bench and eat your lunch outside. Your bottom hurts from sitting on hard surfaces like the ground and cement walls. First Fruit Ministries offers a day shelter twice a week. Vigilant Hope offers hot meals served inside on Monday mornings, Thursday evenings, and Saturday mornings. Living Hope offers hot lunches on Wednesdays outside with chairs available for resting, socializing, and eating. Mother Hubbard's Cupboard offers "no stove" bags with pop top canned foods, waters/juices, and snacks as well as (when available) a choice of sandwiches, deli meat, wings, chicken, fresh fruit, and dessert donated by local grocery stores on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Keep in mind, I may be wearing nice clothes and driving a nice car but living in the car because that's all I have. There are people who sleep in shelters, in tents, in their cars, on the beach, working and worshipping in churches with no one knowing they are in need.

Are we, members of Grace, comfortable sharing with each other if we "fall on hard times" and need help? Are we truly able to listen and help without judgment?

**(The End)**

Many thanks to Duckie for this experience and for her submission.

### Pipe Organ Repairs Complete

We are excited to be able to tell you that the long-awaited repairs to Grace's Moller pipe organ are now complete.

Almost two years ago, in June 2021, an assessment of Grace's Moller pipe organ was done.

That assessment revealed that the organ needed nearly \$40,000 in repairs. As of February 2023, the pouch boards in the pedal division have all been re-leathered. Grace sends many thanks to Mark Thompson, our organ technician and his company for scheduling the work in several stages enabling Grace continued use of the organ during the months of repair.

Just why was this work so important? Leather is used as a pouch membrane for pneumatic valve actions. When a key is pressed, the leather pouch membrane collapses and uncovers the hole on which a pipe is seated, allowing pressurized air to enter the pipe, causing it to speak/play. Aging leather becomes brittle, causing air to leak. The leathers of the organ are considered its lungs. Your gracious and generous giving has truly "breathed" new life into this wonderful instrument.

In preparation for the future, an organ fund has been established to prepare for the anticipated replacement of the console. May we continue to praise God with the joy of music!

### Social Graces is back

Inserted into today's bulletin, you will find a sign-up form to fill out and either put in the collection plate or return to the office. We hope you will join us for the Spring Social Graces kick-off potluck luncheon and participate in the dinners that will consist of groups of about eight persons.

It is a great way to get to know other members of our congregation! **The kickoff potluck is Sunday, March 26.** We hope you sign up today.

### Free Cape Fear Chorale Concert, April 2 at 4pm

Join the Cape Fear Chorale at Kenan Auditorium, on April 2nd at 4 pm, led by artistic director Aaron Peisner, for a celebration of the ensemble's twenty-fifth season. Musical selections will include favorites from past concerts, including works by Mozart, Brahms, Rachmaninoff, Undine S. Moore, and many more. Former director Jerry Cribbs will be honored with the title of Conductor Emeritus, and the winner of the newly established Jerry Cribbs Scholarship for vocal musicians and music educators will be announced.

### Volunteer with Cinderella's Closet

Cinderella's Closet, a mission of Grace, will be holding two prom shopping events for girls in New Hanover County on Friday, March 31st (4—8 pm) and Saturday, April 1st (8 am—4 pm) and we need your help!

We would love to have you sign up for a two-hour volunteer time slot. If you are interested, please contact Hope Inman at: [CinderellasClosetILM@gmail.com](mailto:CinderellasClosetILM@gmail.com) as soon as possible. For our shopping events, we are asking for women volunteers only; however, on Thursday, March 30th we will need everyone to help to set up for these events so guys, you can help too! Information on additional ways to serve will be forthcoming.

### Ushers needed

Grace needs two additional ushers to form a team for the 8:30 services starting April 16. If you are interested, please contact Bob High, [rshcch@gmail.com](mailto:rshcch@gmail.com) to hear the details.



**“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” 2 Corinthians 9:7-8**

Many of you are aware, we’ve reached the time of year when we typically hold our Annual Giving campaign, so allow us to share our approach for the coming year. We have taken advantage of consulting services offered through The Duke Endowment to help us refresh our vision for Grace while reaffirming our gifts are used to share His glory. At the end of January, we took the first step by assembling a group of nearly 20 members to share the joy Grace gives us and how we would like to share that joy across our ministries. It proved to be a very powerful gathering and we are now using these collective comments to outline and better shape Grace’s path and future giving programs. More to come, so please stay tuned!

In the interim, we deeply appreciate and ask for your continued financial support. Join us in celebrating and giving thanks for a special gift recently received! This gift along with our continued generosity will ensure we constantly transform Grace both inside and outside our beautiful grounds, remaining a beacon of God’s glory.

We would also like to close by thanking each of you for being a part of Grace, and for all you have done to share God’s blessings. We look forward to seeing how God’s plan unfolds for us, as we continue to grow in our own discipleship.

Grace and Peace,

**Benny Oakes**  
Pastor

**Tom Guthrie**  
Stewardship Chair

**Easter Lily Dedications**

The Grace UMC bulletins will contain envelopes the next two Sundays, March 19 and March 26. Those will be for donations to missions. Please fill out these envelopes to honor or memorialize a person during worship on Resurrection Sunday, April 9, when the altar will be decorated with beautiful lilies. A list of all the dedications will be included in the bulletin that day. A donation of \$5-\$10 per name is suggested.



After worship that Sunday, the lilies will be delivered to Grace Church members who are no longer able to attend church services. All donations and dedication information must be in the church office no later than Monday, March 27 so that the names can be printed in the Easter Bulletin.

**Publication Deadlines**

For inclusion into *Grace Notes* printed news and announcements, please send items no later than **Wednesday at noon** to: [ginny@gracedowntown.net](mailto:ginny@gracedowntown.net). If you have information for the bulletin, such as volunteer updates or altar flower dedication wording, please send those preferably by end of day Tuesday.

If you pass the print publications’ deadlines, there is a little more “grace” for the *Friday Enews*, as it is a digital publication. Please send those by Thursday at 5 p.m. Disclosure, deadlines could get moved up if Ginny needs to be out of the office. Unless it is an emergency, her absence will be advertised in advance.

Please check the appropriate box or boxes and place in the offering basket.

- Would like to join Grace United Methodist Church.**
  - Need Grace UMC name tag(s).**
  - Change of address, phone number, or email.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_