

Grace Notes

March 14, 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

March 14, 2021
Third Sunday in Lent

In-person Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am, Bullock Activity Center

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.

On-line Sunday Worship Service

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 Sunday School

→→→→ **NEW TIME Sunday, 11:30 am** ←←←←

See article below for topics

Join Zoom Meeting each week using this link:

[https://zoom.us/j/97395961423?](https://zoom.us/j/97395961423?pwd=ZmxRdk8rSndiN2RrWnJPaHJqT2pSdz09)

[pwd=ZmxRdk8rSndiN2RrWnJPaHJqT2pSdz09](https://zoom.us/j/97395961423?pwd=ZmxRdk8rSndiN2RrWnJPaHJqT2pSdz09)

Family Ministries

Youth & Children's Sunday Programming Resumes!!

Sunday, March 14, 4-5 pm
Long Leaf Park, Picnic Shelter #5

See details below



Facebook page:

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



Link to 2021 Altar Flower Chart

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

Youth & Children's Sunday Programming Is Back!

Grace's Sunday afternoon music and Bible study is back. We will be meeting at Long Leaf Park at Picnic Shelter 5 from 4-5 pm. All ages are invited but children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult.

Mask must be worn by children 4 and up. Please make sure everyone has appropriate clothes and shoes to run and play outdoors.

Please bring a clearly marked water bottle or drink. If there is light rain we will meet under the shelter. In extreme weather conditions, please check Facebook, email and text notifications.

Miss Amanda is going to teach us about church music throughout history and around the world. We will play games as we learn about God's beautiful world and grow in grace. See you at the park!

HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS?

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

In-person & Online Attendance & Offering for 3/7/2021

In-person Worship Service: 61

Online Worship Service: 103 views on YouTube

Operating Funds Given 3/3-3/10 \$ 10,211

February

Operating Funds Given YTD \$ 78,736

Operating Expenses YTD \$ 114,687

Balance \$ (35,951)

2021 Operating Budget = \$ 754,879

February

Building Preservation Fund Received 2021 YTD \$ 5,970

Building Preservation Fund Spent 2021 YTD \$ 0

Apportionments are paid through January

*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.

Online Family Sunday School Series

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, January 31—March 7.

The course outline is below.

Week 7— Question and Answer Session

Starting March 21, Zoom Family Sunday School will take a break until after Easter.

Prayer Requests

Remember: Prayer Vigil daily at 12:00 noon

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Abel Autrey	Heather Hoefer	Jason Powers
Blake Baker	Dick Hull	Jeffrey Powers
Chris Beahan	Donna Hunter	Tammy Powers
Kitty Brunjes	Larry Jennings	Chip Rivers
Don Cole	Eddie Jones	Noah Robertson
Laurie Cote	Kelsey Keenan	Donna Robinson
Clarke Cummings	Walter Knopp	Jack Andre Settele
Darcy	June Knox	Judy Siebold
Pat DiGiuseppe	Doug Mays	Vicki Stanfield-Switzer
Marie Dubel	Ariel McCabe	Kent Stephens
Kelly Duke	Linda McCabe	Harry Studstill
Beth George	Family of Margaret Merritt	Roger Swilley
Sid Goode	Wally Meyers	Jim Teachey
Mildred Guthrie	Millie Padgett	Veteran Village
Hank	Todd Paxton	Mary Williams
David Hash	Carolyn Pope	

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
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
SPC James F. Pritchett, USA
LCDR 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

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.

Holy Week and Easter Services

Our Lenten journey is drawing closer to the events of Holy Week and the jubilation of Easter morning. Grace plans the following worship services this year.

Palm Sunday, March 28

- ◆ Online worship service
- ◆ 8:00 am - In-person worship service
- ◆ 11:00 am - In-person worship service

Good Friday, April 2

- ◆ Online worship service

Easter Sunday, April 4

- ◆ Online worship service
- ◆ 6:45 am - In-person sunrise worship service
- ◆ 11:00 am - In-person worship service
- ◆ 4:00 pm - In-person worship service

Reservations for these services will be required. There will be separate reservation links for each service. The general public will be invited to attend these services. Grace members will be given access to register earlier than the general public, per this schedule:

Palm Sunday

Member reservations open Monday, March 22, 10 am
Public reservations open Wednesday, March 24, 10 am
Reservations close Thursday, March 25, 12 noon

Easter Sunday

Member reservations open Monday, March 29, 10 am
Public reservations open Wednesday, March 31, 10 am
Reservations close Thursday, April 1, 12 noon

Since it will be held outside, no reservations are required for the 6:45 am sunrise service on Easter.

It is suggested that you make your reservations when they open to make sure you have a seat.

These worship experiences are a vital part of understanding and celebrating the gift of our salvation through Jesus' sacrifice.

Estimate of Giving Cards

Be sure to turn in your completed Estimate of Giving Cards to the church office as soon as possible. If you have misplaced your card, please call the church office. One can be sent to you or they are available in the office.

Thank you for your continued support of the Lord's work through Grace Church.

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**.

Building Preservation Fund

Grace United Methodist Church

Equal Exchange Coffee

The Missions Committee invites you to check out the Equal Exchange sales table in the Welcome Center, which displays coffee, tea and chocolate products. These items are available on a continuing basis.

Equal Exchange is a US co-op that provides small-scale farmer co-ops in many countries with fair trade prices for their products sold in the US. It also donates a portion of sales back to faith partners, such as the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

Missions

Family Promise Grace's next opportunity to serve Family Promise families is the two-week period of April 25-May 9. Please mark your calendar and be ready to serve! You may cook, order food or give gift cards, all are appreciated!

Contact Jane Spicer for more information at jdspicer@ec.rr.com or 910-622-1211.

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard is still serving clients on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The number of people served has increased by 17% in the past year! More than 1500 new households have sought food and the average size of a households served has increased.

At this point, there is a ***desperate need for cereal***, since it is not being offered in the government food this quarter and the Cupboard cannot buy in bulk due to restrictions on purchases at grocery stores. So it would be very helpful to have donations of boxes of cereal! If you would like to donate some cereal, you can leave it in a labelled bag in the Welcome Center at Grace and it will be delivered! Other donations are still welcome, but this is a current item VERY needed!

The Cupboard is very grateful to Grace and many other local churches who have been faithful supporters during this pandemic. Our neighbors are eating thanks to your generosity! God Bless them and you!

The items below are always welcome as the Cupboard continues to help those of our neighbors who 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.....

- **Needed:** Paper bags with handles (grocery store type) in good condition. Plastic bags are not being used to hand out food at present.