

# Grace Notes

March 3, 2024

## 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 3**

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service  
4:00—6:00 pm WAVES  
7:00 pm Mission Team Worship

#### **Monday, March 4**

9:00 am Grace In Motion  
10:00 am Basketball (seniors)  
6:00 pm Basketball (youth)  
7:15 pm Chorale practice

#### **Tuesday, March 5**

9:00 am Organist Practice  
9:00 am Bible Study  
10:30 am UWF meeting  
5:30 pm Bootcamp  
6:45 pm Basketball (youth)

#### **Wednesday, March 6**

10:00 am Yoga  
4:00 pm Basketball  
6:00 pm Special Olympics  
6:15 pm Grace Ringers  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### **Thursday, March 7**

10:00 am Basketball (seniors)  
5:30 pm Bootcamp  
6:30 pm Basketball (Moore)

#### **Friday, March 8**

9:00 am Organist practice  
9:00 am Grace in Motion

#### **Saturday, March 9**

College mission group leaves

#### **Sunday, March 10**

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service  
4:00—6:00 pm WAVES

### In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 2/25/2024

In-person Worship Service:

8:30 am	33
11:00 am	168
online	59

Operating Funds Given	\$	11,942
Budget receipts needed weekly	\$	15,634
Building Preservation Given	\$	186

Apportionments paid through January

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#### **January financial report**

Building YTD Preservation Fund Receipts	\$	15,035
Building YTD Preservation Fund Expenses	\$	
Balance	\$	15,035

Budget YTD Receipts (Jan.)	\$	105,301
Expenses YTD (2024)	\$	64,805
Balance Receipts vs Expenses	\$	40,495

### On-line Sunday Worship Services Continue

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).



Checks may also be mailed to the address above.

### **Roaring 20s Gala, a big success!**

The team at Cinderella's Closet is thrilled to announce that thanks to the amazing donations and sponsorships we received, and countless hours spent by our volunteers, we were able to have an incredibly successful event on February 23rd. In total, we raised over \$14,000 for Cinderella's Closet. This will help us with putting on two shopping events this season (to include surrounding counties), purchasing more dresses and shapewear, racks for those dresses and a new laptop. We could not have done this without the support of our home, Grace United Methodist Church, and the amazing members that helped us from start to finish.

If you are interested in volunteering for one or both of our shopping events, please use the links in the Enews or at the Facebook page to sign up, or reach out to Hope Inman for more information.

### **Welcome Virginia Tech Wesleyan Mission Team!**

Wesley at Virginia Tech (our United Methodist Campus Ministry) is coming to visit on their Spring Break to do mission work with Wilmington Area Rebuilding Ministry -WARM. 26 students are taking their Spring Break to be the hands and feet of Christ in the community of Wilmington. Wesley at Virginia Tech is an affirming, grace-filled community that develops and sends out disciples rooted in faith. This student-led ministry seeks to live out their mission of "Love Out Loud" to the campus of Virginia Tech, in their community, and throughout the world. They have led Spring Break mission trips for 16 years to places like Ft. Meyers, FL; Brooklyn, NY; Tuskegee, AL; Plymouth, NC and more.

We would like to thank Grace UMC for their incredible hospitality hosting us for the week! This is a beautiful representation of our Connectional nature and living as the Body of Christ in ministry together.

**Note from Ginny:** This group will be sharing our space in the gym and might need occasional access during day- and evening-time activities. Apologies in advance for any necessary interruptions.

### **BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS ARE CHANGING**

Please note that the Admin Council has approved the change of our staff office hours on Wednesday through Friday. The new schedule going into effect on Monday, March 11 is: **Mon. & Tues. 8-5, Wed, Thurs & Fri. 9-2**

This will allow staff to have focused planning and project time. Thank you for your understanding and patience while we make this transition.



With Orchestra  
and  
Soloists

Jennifer Mueske,  
Soprano  
Alex Gallo,  
Tenor  
Benjamin Horrell,  
Baritone

**Grace United Methodist Church  
Chancel Choir**  
presents

**The Seven Last Words of Christ**  
composed by Théodore Dubois

**Good Friday, March 29, 7:00PM**

Leslie Bergbower, Organist  
Jerry S. Cribbs, Director

401 Grace Street - Wilmington  
[www.gracedowntown.church](http://www.gracedowntown.church)  
910-763-5197

Prayer Requests

Dan Barnes

Lindsey Brown

Family of Sterling Foster

Shelby Godwin

Maxine LeFever

Kristi Midgett

Barbara Oldroyd

Family of Joan Pence

Bill Perks

Tom Powers

Mac Starke

Carolyn Stokley

Patricia Thomas

Brian Ullrich

Becky Whisnant

Jeff Wilson

Dean Windgassen

Caregivers everywhere

Unspoken, in our hearts

War-torn Countries

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

ETN1 Anthony Augustine, USN

Cpl. Matthew Brin, USA

LCpl. John Capwell, USMC

Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC

Col. John Delaney, USA

Ltjg. Elizabeth Downing, USN

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, USSF

Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC

PFC Schuyler Marshall, USA

SSgt. Emily Olinger, USAF

Pvt. Steven Patterson, USA

SSgt. James Pritchett, USA

CDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN

Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC

Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC

Michael Tate, USA

E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC

If you have a prayer request, please contact  
Marilee Tremlett at [mtrem3@icloud.com](mailto:mtrem3@icloud.com).



Thank you for the books!

The book collection for Sunset Park Elementary has been a big success. Thank you to all who have contributed! Our goal was to have at least one book for each child at the school and we believe we have more than achieved that.

Interested in making Stock Transfers?

If you are considering a stock transfer to Grace, thank you for your generosity! PLEASE contact the office first to get instructions for our current brokerage account. During the past year, the instructions and DTC number has changed. Thank you for your patience while we have been making this transition. Talk to your tax advisor or broker about the possible advantages of transfer gifts from your IRA to a qualified charitable deduction.

Spring Festival & Easter Egg Hunt  
March 24th 4-6pm

Everyone is invited to come and join us for an afternoon of Easter activities to celebrate the season! We will have 5 separate indoor egg hunts by age groups. During the event we will be serving pizza starting at 4pm until we run out. In addition to egg hunts and food, we will have games, face painting and crafts for all to enjoy. We hope to see you there and please invite family and friends to join you!



We need volunteers for this event to help make it possible. We will need greeters, those willing to serve food, and assistance with crafts and games! If you feel called to volunteer, please contact Kelsey Keenan at (910) 599-5290 or [Kelsey@gracedowntown.net](mailto:Kelsey@gracedowntown.net)

Any candy, plastic eggs, and small toy donations are appreciated and there will be a basket in the Welcome Center!

“Seven Last Words of Christ”

...A weekly meditation

See, O woman! Here behold thy Son beloved.  
John 19:26ff

On Good Friday, March 29, the Grace UMC Chancel Choir, accompanied by other musicians, will lead us in worship as they perform Seven Last Words, composed by Théodore Dubois. The seven last words – or sayings of Jesus – come from the Gospel accounts of Jesus on the cross. Each week throughout the season of Lent we will reflect on each of the seven words.

This week’s word is **relationship**.

Even before we knew we were in it, before we had the language to articulate it, we were in relationship. This relationship begins with God saying, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness (Gen. 1:26).” From then on, throughout human history, humans have joined together in this relationship.

Through Jesus, this relationship becomes more intimate, as we learn we are children of God (Rom. 8:14), and if we are children, we are brothers and sisters; we are family, in relationship with God and each other. Elsewhere, Jesus looks at his disciples and calls them his brothers and his mother, even as his mother Mary and siblings are outside the door (Mark 3:34). This relationship God makes with us is closer and more cherished than we can imagine. Jesus is willing to give his life to make it even closer.

In what must have been sheer physical agony, Jesus lovingly looks from the cross at his mother Mary and the beloved disciple and reminds them of who they are as family. “‘Woman, here is your son.’ Then he said to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother’ (John 19:26-27).” Dying on the cross, Jesus forever reminds us we have been claimed by God who desires a deep, close relationship with us, and we are to extend that connection to each other.

Where is God inviting you in this Lenten season into relationship, to grow deeper with God and connect with others, who are God’s children?

In Christ’s love,  
+Benny

March Birthdays

3/1	David Vaughan	3/9	Jamie Thompson	3/17	Pat Thomas	3/28	Ryan Gibbs
	Helen Monk		Jill Kwasniewski		Lillian Edwards		Henry Cichoracki
3/3	Jane Spicer	3/10	Heddy Reichardt	3/18	Wallace Riddle		Benny Oakes
3/5	Grace Anne Dunmire	3/10	Joan Telmanik	3/20	Jamie Cline	3/29	Preston Olinger
	Amanda Ladd	3/11	Anne Lewis		Mike Mabee		Sarah Layton
	Barbara Jackson	3/12	Hailey Oakes		Meredith Ross		David Brogan
	Jeanne Thomasson	3/13	Ross Inman	3/22	Jen Stenerson	3/30	Neil Stuber
3/6	Sue Flora		Laura Witherington	3/23	Charlie Carrico	3/31	Susan Murphy
	Sarah Voulgaris	3/14	Ed Hickmon	3/24	Bev McDow		
3/7	Karen Bullock	3/15	Judy Holden	3/26	Gary Godwin		
	Katie Mintz		Milton Kreger		Will Lindsey		
	Jill Chidester	3/16	Martha Wofford	3/27	Abby Oakes		
	Jane Carrico		Patty Rowe				