

Grace Notes

September 19, 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, September 19

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 5:00 pm Children/Youth Programs

Monday, September 20

- 7:00 pm Board of Trustees
- 7:00 pm Cape Fear Chorale Rehearsal/Gym

Tuesday, September 21

- 9:00 pm Organist in Sanctuary
- 11:00 am Rotary Club/Grace Gym
- 5:30 pm Boot Camp
- 6:30 pm Administrative Council

Wednesday, September 22

- 11:00 am Gentle Yoga Class/Gym
- 4:00 pm Organist in Sanctuary
- 6:15 pm Grace Ringers/Gym
- 6:15 pm Bible Study/Pastor Tal
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir/Gym

Thursday, September 23

- 9:30 am Women's Bible Study
- 5:30 pm Boot Camp
- 6:00 pm Landscape Team Working
- 6:30 pm Basketball

Friday, September 24

- 9:00 am Organist in Sanctuary

Sunday, September 26

- 8:30 am Worship Service
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Chancel Choir
- 11:00 am Worship Service
- 5:00 pm Children/Youth Programs

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>

Link to 2021 Altar Flower Chart

<https://www.signupgenius.com/>



Prospective Members Class

Sunday, September 26, 9:30 am
Second floor office suite

Thinking about becoming a member of Grace UMC? Pastor Tal will offer a history of the United Methodist Church, basic United Methodist beliefs, what it means to be a Christian, and the commitments of membership—all in an hour!

So that we can prepare the right number of information packets, let us know you are coming by using the tear-off at the bottom of the last page and place it in the offering basket as you leave the sanctuary, or call the church office (763-5197). **Please respond by Wednesday, September 22.**

We look forward to seeing you!

HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS?

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 9/12/2021

In-person Worship Service: 8:30 am - 25
11:00 am - 83

Online Worship Service: 54 views

Operating Funds Given 9/8-9/15 \$ 9,721

August

Operating Funds Given YTD \$ 383,674

Operating Expenses YTD \$ 464,980

Balance \$ (81,306)

2021 Operating Budget = \$ 754,879

August

Building Preservation Fund

Received 2021 YTD \$ 37,413

Building Preservation Fund

Spent 2021 YTD \$ 21,354

Disaster Recovery (Boiler)

Insurance Receipts \$ 62,048

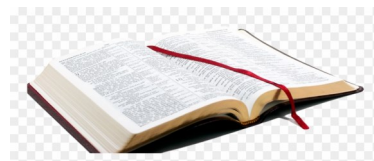
Expenses to date \$ 80,963

Apportionments are paid through August.

New Wednesday Evening Bible Study

Pastor Tal continues a 5-session study of 2 Peter on Wednesdays at 6:15 pm. The remaining dates are September 22, 29 and October 13, 20. The class will meet in the Bible Class room.

2 Peter was written to believers in Jesus who were facing very challenging times. They were living in a world that was becoming hostile to them; they lived among people who practiced other religions. In the midst of this the letter of 2 Peter encourages them to hold onto their faith in Christ. Let's see what this book might say to us today.



Annual Joint Worship Service

St. Stephen African Methodist Episcopal Church and Grace United Methodist Church will hold a joint service on Sunday, October 3, 4 pm. This year the service will be at St Stephen (corner of 5th Ave and Red Cross Streets). As this will be World Communion Sunday we will share in the Lord's Supper at this service. Pastor Tal will preach.

St. Stephen is following rigorous Covid safety measures. They use the individual serve communion kits (like ours), they require masks while inside the building, no congregational singing, and socially distanced seating.

Note: Grace will still hold worship services on that Sunday at 8:30am and 11am. We will offer communion at both services at Grace as well.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Afghanistan	Dick Hull
Amy	Jason
Archer	Maria King
Debbie & Wayne Ashe	James Merritt
Avery	Bobby Mitchell
Leigh Blalock	NHRMC Nurses/Doctors/ Staff
Don Bowers	Christi Nichols
Jackie Brown	Sarah O'Brien
Family of Forrest Brunnemer	Judy O'Neal
Bud	Annie Penney
Family of Tommy Burrell	Cooper Penney
Sue Caulder	Guy Piper
Erin Cissel	Carolyn Pope
Justin Cissel	John Rayle
Tim Collins	Christian Riggs
Don Cole	Ruth Ryland
College Students	David Russ
Danny	Tom Schrami
Matthew DiAnthony	Valoree Shinn
Amelia Gifford	Sandee Murray Spradley
Josie Godwin	Family of Stowe Spratt
Madeline Greenwood	Shar Streeter
Hank	Matt Sutton
Janie Hardison	Brenda Wessels
Heaven	Barbara White
Julie Madison	

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

Maj. Jeffery Bernard, USA	PFC Schuyler Marshall, USA
LCpl. John Capwell, USMC	SSg. Emily Olinger, USAF
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC	Pvt. Steven Patterson, USA
Maj. Tim Collins, USMC	Sgt. James Pritchett, USA
Col. John Delaney, USA	CDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
Ens. Elizabeth Downing, USN	Col. Amy Moore Russo, USAF
E3 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN	E6 Jack Andre Settele, USA
E6 William Chase Dubel, USA	Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF	AB Michael Sloan, USAF
E3 Taylor Folmar, USN	Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC	Michael Tate, USA
Maj. Jason T. Hill, USSF	E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC
Cpl. Chase Krieg, USMC	
SFC Letty Long, USA	
SFC Woodrow Long, USA	
Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC	
CDR Nicholas Madren, USN	

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

Mark Your Calendar!!!

Saturday, September 25, 5-7 pm

Youth Room Clean-Up Event

*Many hands make light work,
so come join us.
There are sure to be some laughs!!!*

Grace to Host Free Vaccine Clinic

GUMC is working with the New Hanover County Public Health Department to conduct a one-day vaccination event in the Bullock Activity Center on

September 29, 2021, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

Both the Johnson & Johnson (1-shot) and Pfizer (2-shot) vaccines will be available. Depending on availability and qualifications, some may be able to get a booster, however, this is still in the works.



This clinic is free and open to all GUMC, families, friends, and the community!"

Following the New Hanover County mask mandate, Grace UMC requires that masks be worn while inside the building. This applies to everyone 2 years and older.

We appreciate your compliance to keep everyone safe.

Sunday Night Programing

Grace's Youth and Children's programs will began on September 12. From 5-6 each Sunday evening PreK-12th grade students are invited to join us for Bible Study, music, and games.

Kingdom Kids

Ages PreK-2nd Grade - Miss Kelsey's Class
Meet in the Kingdom Kids room
Active play in the gym from 5-5:30
Bible Study and quiet play from 5:30-6

Ages 3rd-5th grade - Miss Nicole's Class
Meet in the Kids Choir room with Miss Amanda from 5-5:30
Bible Study and game time in the gym form 5:30-6

Grace 3-6 Teens

Youth will meet for Bible Study with Miss Kelley from 5-5:30
Youth Instrumental Choir with Miss Amanda from 5:30-6 in Youth Choir Room

SOLES FOR SOULS

**A Hands-Up Ministry
Of the
North Carolina Conference
United Methodist Women**

Deadline is October 3

The shoe collection (all sizes gently worn shoes for men, women and children) will support new fund-raising efforts to add a 20,000 square foot Community Education Center for Partners in Ministry located in East Laurinburg, NC. The collected shoes will go to 26 developing nations.

Partners in Ministry is the first and only National Mission Institute in North Carolina.

Please place your donations in the plastic bin located in the Welcome Center.

Online Service News

As of September 5, the 11 am worship service is being recorded from the balcony, edited, and used for our **Online Worship Service**. The service will be available on YouTube starting at **4:00 pm** on the same day. To access the service use this link **each week**:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAK2Z36cUQ1JzE6Ye7TzcGg>

This is Grace's YouTube channel. If you subscribe, you will receive notices of when the service is ready for viewing. It will not longer be necessary to send out a link by separate email.

This change is exciting news, as it means Grace's ministries are opening more fully. It alleviates the need for a mid-week recording of the service by staff and especially choir members, who have graciously volunteered their time to assist over the past 18+ months. The Chancel Choir will now be heard during the online service as well as the in-person service. Recording on Sunday will also give our viewers a greater sense of being present in the worship service. While there will be a few "bugs" to fix at first, it is hoped that this will provided a meaningful worship experience for those outside Grace's walls.

Do you feel fall in the air?

As every good gardener knows, the start of fall is the perfect weather for transplanting flowers or plants in your garden.

So, if you are thinning out your perennials or moving plants around, please donate a few to Grace. The Beauty of Grace Team would be happy to have them! If you are unable to dig them up, the team will come over and help you!



Contact Karen Evans at 757-871-3763.

Individual Adult Sunday School Classes

Inner Grace Class Returns - On September 19, this young adult class will be back and meeting upstairs in the Education Building at 9:45 am each Sunday. The first study will be a 4-week class led by Mary Brooks.

Bible Class - The first 15 minutes of class will be on the history of Grace. The remaining 30 minutes will start a study of the book of James. So, read the first chapter of James and bring your Bibles and a pen to class. Remember: we start right at 9:45 am. Leader: Valoree Shinn Meeting Room: W202

Travelers Class - The Travelers continue a study on a book by Adam Hamilton titled "Words of Life". This book examines the Ten Commandments from both a historical and a modern perspective. Come join the discussion. Weekly emails will tell you that week's assignment. Rick Zigler leads this class. Meeting Room: The Parlor

Friendship Class - They will continue their study of faith with the teachings of Paul. This is a study of Hebrews 11, but will take us many places in the Bible and will cover who knows how many Sundays. You may know, I don't get in any hurry with the Word of God. We may trail off into another subject along the way....God will lead us. This is an open class, discussion is greatly appreciated at any time.

As always emails will be sent as to the next week's agenda. Together in Christ "The Word is the Way", Larry Florea
Meeting Room: E201

All of these classes issue an open invitation to anyone (especially former members of the Wesleyan Class) to join them on Sunday mornings. Visit the different classes and find the one that feels like "home" to you.

Holy Communion

Grace will offer Holy Communion at both worship services on October 3, World Communion Sunday.



Disaster Relief

Are you concerned about all the people affected by the many recent disasters?
Would you like to help them out in a way that best uses your funds?

Please consider making donations to United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the service branch of our denomination. They are often on the scene early, they work with local people to make best use of their funds and, as one person put it, they are there until the last nail is hammered in! UMCOR and Global Missions are two of the most beautiful aspects of our church.

To find out more, you can google UMCOR and read about their work. If you choose to give through the Advance (designated areas of giving), 100% of your donation goes to the project, since administration is already in place.

If you would like to give, you can

- go to <https://umcmmission.org/give/> or
- send a check by mail. Make your check payable to Advance GCFA, write the name of the missionary or project and the Advance number on the memo line of the check and mail it to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068. Please indicate the name of our church (Grace UMC in Wilmington) with your donation.

The advance number for disasters in the US is #901670. The advance number for international disasters is #982450. You may find other advance numbers online.

If you need help in finding the area you want to donate, please call Jane Spicer at 392-1551. And thanks "in advance" for helping!

Online Gathering to Greet New Bishop

On Sunday, September 19, 4:00 pm, there will be an online gathering of lay people and clergy to welcome the new North Carolina Conference interim bishop. Bishop Leonard Fairley will be introduced and a welcome service held. This will be a wonderful way to learn about our new conference leader.

Use the link below to join the gathering. Additional information is available on the conference website (nccumc.org).

<https://nccumc.org/bishop/welcome-service-for-bishop-fairley/>

Thank You

To Our Grace Family-

During the past several months, I have had some medical problems that were difficult.

Mary and I received numerous texts, letters, emails, cards, telephone calls, prayer shawl and meals! These happy things seemed to come when we were at a low point. It is not possible to relate how much these efforts boosted our morale! Thank you for your effort- it really helped!!!

As a result of your prayers, I began to improve. I am feeling better now, and I owe it to your support and prayers. Thank you!!

Don Cole

Board of Trustees Update to the Congregation

The Trustees report the following projects have been, or soon will be, completed at Grace:

1. Stopped the deterioration of the sanctuary basement wall with the installation of a weep/drain system to remove moisture in the foundation.
2. Installed the sump pump in the boiler room to evacuate the boiler discharge.
3. Completed the installation of heat/fire/CO2 sensors in the boiler room and sanctuary.
4. Contracted for the upgrade of all sanctuary lighting to LED for a significant reduction in electricity consumption and dramatic increase in lighting. Scheduled for completion by 9/17/21.

Additionally, we are pleased to report that a very generous donation has been received for the express purpose of purchasing a 15-passenger walk-on bus. This bus will replace the old van that we recently donated to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. The donation covered over 75% of the purchase price.

The new bus has been ordered from Carolina Thomas in Greensboro, who specializes in church buses. They have very graciously waived all payments, including deposit, until they deliver the bus! The donation has been deposited and the Administrative Council has approved the remaining \$17,000. Several Grace members have offered contributions to help cover the remaining funds and we are hopeful others, too, will contribute!

The bus will be used for mission work, field trips, outreach, youth activities, and assisting our seniors and those with limited transportation to participate in worship and church activities. If you would like to contribute, contact trustee Marvin Evans, at gumctrustees1@gmail.com.

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.**
- Would like to attend Prospective Member Class on September 26**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____