



Grace Notes

August 24, 2025

Mission Statement

To draw people to Christ,
nourish their spirits, and
prepare them for service to God,
the Church, and the world.

All Sundays in August One 10:30 a.m. worship service

Join us for coffee & conversation 9:15 and 10:15 a.m.
Sunday morning small groups 9:15 a.m.
(Verify time with your leader)
Chancel Choir 10:00 a.m.

OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Sunday, August 24

Blessing of the Backpacks

9:15 am Sunday School
10:00 am Kids for Christ
10:00 am Chancel Choir
10:30 am Worship Service

Monday, August 25

8:45 am Grace Walkers
10:00 am Senior Basketball
1:30 pm Caregivers Support
5:00 pm Trustees Mtg.
7:15 pm Chorale practice

Tuesday, August 26

9:00 am Organist Practice
9:00 am Bible Study with Pastor Benny
10:00 am NHHS retirees reunion in gym
5:30 pm Bootcamp

Wednesday, August 27

10:00 am Yoga
10:00 am Staff Meeting
2:00 pm Organist Rehearsal
7:00 pm Music introduction reading session
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 28

5:30 pm Bootcamp
6:00 pm Divine Grace (offsite)
6:45 pm Basketball

Friday, August 29

9:00 am Organist Practice (Martha)
9:00 am Grace Walkers

Saturday, August 30

9:00 am Grace Ringers retreat

Sunday, August 31 (Backpack Blessing)

9:15 am Sunday School
10:00 am Kids for Christ
10:00 am Chancel Choir
10:30 am Worship Service

Divine Grace will meet Thursday, August 28th

The Divine Grace Women's group enjoyed dinner and fellowship at Henry's Restaurant this past June. This welcoming group will meet again on Thursday, August 28th at 6 pm at Olympia Restaurant (5629 Oleander Dr. Wilmington, NC 28403). RSVP to Mary Tyndall mary@gracedowntown.net
*Please RSVP by Tuesday, August 26th

Epicurean Evening to benefit Methodist Home for Children (MHC) EPIC Evening for an EPIC Cause! Last Chance to sign up!

The Methodist Home for Children's Epicurean Evening fundraiser is coming up! It will be at the Burney Center at UNCW on Thursday, September 4, 2025. There will be a silent auction, tasting, and drinks at 5:30 pm followed by a program at 7 pm. The best chefs in Wilmington donate their time and their best dishes! The cost per ticket is \$200 per person. You may register and pay online or make a donation at WilmingtonEE.com or write a check to the Methodist Home for Children, 1041 Washington St, Raleigh, NC 27605-1259. Please register and pay by August 25. Contact Cindy Henry at chenry@atmc.net or Regina Hawse rhawse@mhfc.org for additional information.

In-person/Online Attendance & Offering For 8/17/2025

In-person Worship Service		
	10:30 am	163
	Online service	53
Operating Funds Received	\$	48,754
Average Receipts Needed Weekly	\$	17,671
Building Preservation Funds Received	\$	240

Apportionments Paid Through July

July financial report

YTD Building Preservation Receipts	\$	31,021
YTD Building Preservation Expenditures	\$	41,402
Balance	\$	(10,381)
YTD Budget Receipts	\$	403,617
YTD Expenses (2025)	\$	499,528
Balance	\$	(95,911)

Organ Fund (YTD balance) \$ 11,199

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity.

On-line Sunday Worship Services Continue

This is the link:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAK2Z36cUQ1JzE6Ye7TzcGg)
[UCAK2Z36cUQ1JzE6Ye7TzcGg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAK2Z36cUQ1JzE6Ye7TzcGg)

Grace United Methodist Church

401 Grace Street
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401
Ph/910.763.5197
website: gracedowntown.church

Use the QR code at right.

Or text: MyGift2Grace to 73256
Gifts may also be mailed to the
address above.



THE HYMNS WE SING - The message of the hymn we look at today is that every experience, good or bad, can draw us nearer to God who gives us comfort and strength. *Nearer, My God, to Thee* acknowledges the possibility of suffering but does not allow it to have the last word.

Sarah Adams (1805-1848) wrote hundreds of hymns, but this is the only one remembered and cherished around the globe. Sarah had a great interest in the stage and wanted to be an actress; however, her frail health kept her from fulfilling that dream, and she turned to her literary talents. Among her writings were hymns of praise to the Lord. Her sister, Eliza, a gifted musician, often wrote the music for her hymns. On a visit from their pastor one day, he mentioned that he was frustrated not being able to find a hymn to go along with the next Sunday's message, which was from the story of Jacob at Bethel (Genesis 28:20-22). Sarah offered to write a hymn based on those verses. Visualizing Jacob's sleeping with a stone for his pillow as he dreamed of a ladder reaching to heaven, the following Sunday South Place Unitarian Church, London, sang *Nearer, My God, to Thee* (1840).

The influence of this hymn is attested to in part by the fact that it was sung at the funerals of Presidents James Garfield, William McKinley, (where it was played at every stop of his funeral train), Gerald Ford and John F. Kennedy. Additionally, it is reported, though not verified, that the band aboard the Titanic bravely played and travelers faithfully sang *Nearer, My God, to Thee* as the ship sank to its watery grave.

Leslie Bergbower, Organist

Amy (Brena Conley's niece)
Betty Arnette
Dot Ballard
Joyce Blauvelt
Lindsey Brown
Allison Cockerell
Janice Fladd
Audra Florea
Family of Lily Jack
Jimmy
Tim Jones
Maria King
Sherry Layton
Delaine Lester
Frank Licari
Millie

Dick Raim
Rod Roberts
Gary Rowe
Rya
Paul Sipson
Eric Smallwood
Marianne Sorace
Jen Stenerson
Dan Walters

Grace UMC staff and volunteers
Grace UMC children and youth

*If you have a prayer request, please contact
Marilee Tremlett at mtrem3@icloud.com.*

Prayer Requests



Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

ETNC Anthony Augustine, USN	Maj. Jason T. Hill, USSF
PO1 Sean Baker, USN	SFC Letty Long, USA
Cpl. Matthew Brin, USA	Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC
LCpl. John Capwell, USMC	SSgt. Emily Olinger, USAF
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC	Pvt. Steven Patterson, USA
Ltjg. Elizabeth Downing, USN	SSgt. James Pritchett, USA
E3 Hadden Scott Dubel, USN	CDR Kevin Ringelstein, USN
E6 William Chase Dubel, USA	SSgt. Andrew Ross, USMC
E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF	Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
E3 Taylor Folmar, USN	Capt. Robert Stockman, USMC
Sgt. Alex Gifford, USMC	Michael Tate, USA
SFC Woodrow Long, USA	E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC

Registration is now at the Welcome Center
for the Men’s Breakfast!

9:00 am - 10:00 am

September 20, 2025

Bullock Activity Center

Questions? Contact Pastor Jack at
jack@gracedowntown.net,
or give him a call at the church.
(910) 763-5197.

Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard update

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard distributes emergency food,
rain or shine, on Wednesday afternoons and Saturday
mornings. Last week more than 400 were served.

For the month of August we are collecting **JUICE
BOXES** (such as Capri Suns,
Kool-Aid Jammers and Juicy Juice). These are put in the
bags for people who are walking.

Thank you for your continued support.

Go to motherhubbardsnc.com for directions on how to
volunteer and how to make monetary donations to help
purchase fresh food.

UWF starts back on the first Tuesday of the month.

Our first meeting will be Tuesday, September 2, 2025. Our
speaker will be Lynda Barrow from Elderhaus, an adult day
center. Also, Jane Carrico will be speaking about a mission for
the Good Shepherd Center that needs help. AGAPE Boxes will
soon be available for pickup. Instructions will be inside if you
wish to participate in this Christmas Mission Project to Arme-
nia. These will need to be turned in by September 29th to
ensure their delivery by Christmas to children that will not
otherwise be receiving any other presents. Please plan to
attend to hear about some of our plans for this next year. Also,
we would love for you to give us some of your ideas. Hope to
see you there! —**Dianna Florea** 937 307-3556

UWF, already having an active year!

Following is a United Women of Faith mid-year report;

- Agape boxes for children of Armenia (churchwide event)
- Ran a game for the Fall Festival
- Supplied treats for the Fall Festival
- Sunset Park Elementary
 - donations for items in Valentine Bags to teachers
 - Blankets for children in need
 - \$589 for principal's use to help teachers
 - Side dishes for Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
- Warming shelter - \$285
- Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard - \$161. + food and paper products
- Homemade cards and gift bags for our homebound ladies
- Nourish N.C. - \$260
- Western Carolina - \$243
- Youth Program - \$200
- Girl Scouts - \$206
- Migrant Bags
- Rotifunk Hospital - \$250. In memory of Sam Spicer
- Additional donation of \$500
- Methodist Home for Children - \$500
 - Dresses and shorts + purchased long sleeved T-shirts
 - Hats
- Purchased new books for UWF Library
- Canines for Service - \$275
- Toys for Sister Isaac's Christmas baskets
- Yarn donated to Coastal Horizons Children's Place
- Eden Village - \$233 + paper products

And we aren't done yet!



T-shirts for
sale!

\$18 PER SHIRT

**\$36 pays for your shirt and one for a
neighbor in homelessness**

Checks payable to
“The Anchor UMC”
Venmo:
[@anchorwilmington](https://www.venmo.com/anchorwilmington)

Contact Pastor Jamie
jamie@gracedowntown.net
252-521-5248

Fall Event scheduling, planning is in full swing!

If your committee has additional or changed meeting times and
calendar items for the fall season, please make sure to connect
with Ginny Peterson in the office, ASAP so they can be put on
the main calendar and to prevent scheduling conflicts.