

### **Flowers for the Easter Cross**

On Easter Sunday (Apr 17), we'll have the flower cross. 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.

### **Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Youth Easter Celebration**

On April 10th at 4:30 pm, there will be an Easter egg hunt! On Easter Sunday (April 17), we will have an Easter celebration during the Sunday school hour with snacks and games.

### **Good Friday, April 15, 7:30 pm A Tenebrae Service**

A Service of Tenebrae or "Darkness" is based on a twelfth-century late night/early morning service and is an extended meditation on the Passion of Christ. The Passion of Christ is the story of Jesus Christ's arrest, trial, and suffering. It ends with his execution by crucifixion.

Through liturgy, readings, hymns, and choir anthems, this service will help the worshippers experience the dramatic final days of Jesus' life in human form.

You are invited and encouraged to attend this meaningful service as you prepare to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior on Easter Sunday. Invite a friend.

### **Thank you new worship volunteers! Two still needed**

After our initial requests, we have had a few people step up to serve in new ways. Thank you to Mary and Jarvis Simmons for providing our communion bread and grape juice! Thank you to Vivian Carter and Judy Siebold who are co-chairing the Funeral and Memorial team and thank you as well to Rodney Lester for agreeing to be our Sound System coordinator. Still needed are: **Worship Vice-Chair & Greeter Coordinator**. If you're interested in learning more about these opportunities, please contact Catherine Beaman at [catbeaman@gmail.com](mailto:catbeaman@gmail.com) or call 910-233-4007.

### **Did You Know?**

On May 3, 1886, a resolution to purchase property at 4th and Mulberry Street was passed by the church members. Before February 1887, a debate among members was held and the name of the church was changed from First Methodist Episcopal Church, South to Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, South. On May 12, 1887, the corner stone was laid. The church was dedicated on Dec. 7, 1890. The city then honored the church by changing the name of Mulberry Street to Grace Street.

In 1947, a group of Boy Scouts approaching the church for their meeting smelled smoke. They quickly gave the alarm. As the sun rose the next morning, the extent of the fire was seen. The Sunday School building still stood but the SS auditorium, the chapel, and the Sanctuary lay in ashes. Once again members faced the challenge of rebuilding. On January 18, 1950, the laying of the cornerstone was held for our current sanctuary. Grace Methodist Church began a new era with a new name. The service marking the completion was held on December 24, 1950, on its 153rd anniversary. Grace will celebrate its 225th anniversary on Dec. 24, 2022.

### **Next Seniors Game Day This Week!**

Bring some friends and join the fun at our next Seniors Game Day Wednesday, April 13 from 1-3 pm with light refreshments available. Please sign up by calling: 910 763-5197 or email: [outreach@gracedowntown.net](mailto:outreach@gracedowntown.net)

### **Study On UM Stance on LGBTQ Matters**

The United Methodist Church is reviewing its stand on ordination of LGBTQ+ persons and performing marriages for same gender persons. We'll offer a study on this matter this spring, beginning late April.

This study, led by Tal, will explore the scriptures that speak overtly to this matter. We'll see why Christians read these passages in differing ways. The goal of this study is not to tell you what to think, but to give you tools to clarify your own thinking. Be advised that this class will deal with adult topics. We will also look at the leading proposal being brought before General Conference regarding these matters. What decisions will each church have to make? When will they have to make them?

This study will encompass five sessions, each about an hour in length. It will be offered both on Sunday evenings and Tuesday mornings.

Sunday evening sessions will be offered at 5:10 pm on April 24, May 1, May 15, May 22, and May 29 (skip May 8, Mother's Day). Childcare will be provided by the Children's Ministry.

Tuesday morning sessions will meet at 9:30 am on April 26, May 3, May 17, May 24, and May 31, (skip May 10). No childcare will be offered for the Tuesday sessions.

This cumulative series builds across the five sessions. The expectation is that participants will discuss these matters while respecting one another's viewpoints.

### **Memorials and Honorariums**

Giving a memorial or honorarium to the church is a special recognition. When giving a gift, we ask that you include information helpful to the committee. If your gift is in memory, please add a note with your name and address, the amount given, who the gift is in memory of, the name and address of a family member to receive an acknowledgment card, and where the gift is to be designated. If the gift is in honor, please add a note with your name and address, the amount given, who is being honored and their address so they may receive an acknowledgment and where the gift is to be designated. All donors receive a note of appreciation if the committee has the correct information. Gifts may be donated to a number of areas: memorial fund (to be used at the discretion of the committee), budget, music ministry, children and youth, preservation fund, memorial garden, missions, handyman ministry, etc. Thank you for your continued support of GUMC by remembering someone with special recognition.

### **Easter Lily Missions Project**

Speaking of recognition, Easter Lily envelopes are available in the Welcome Center. The information must be received by Monday, April 11. Leave in the collection plate, or put in Ginny's mailbox in the office. Thank you!

### **Thank You!**

Thank you to all who provided linens and furniture to help Philip Chryst, and the Anchor Church, set up bedrooms in their most recent apartment at the Abbey on the corner of Church and 4th Streets, providing affordable housing to our Wilmington neighbors. You also helped provide bath and bedroom linens for a new resident in one of their existing properties. They still need a tall dorm size refrigerator. Contact Duckie at 919-741-3037 to donate.

### **Mission and Outreach Committee to meet**

The Grace UMC Missions Committee will meet Monday, April 11 at 2 pm in the Bible Study Room.

# Grace Notes

April 10, 2022

## 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, April 10**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**Spring Family Promise Week**

8:30 am Worship Service

9:45 am Sunday School

10:30 am Chancel Choir

11:00 am Worship Service

4:30 pm Easter Egg Hunt

**Monday, April 11**

2:00 pm Missions and Outreach

6:30 pm Finance Committee

**Tuesday, April 12**

9:00 am Organist Practice

9:30 am Knitwerks @ Panera Bread

11:00 am Rotary Club

5:30 pm Boot Camp

6:00 pm Staff Parish Relations

**Wednesday, April 13**

1:00 pm Senior Games Day

4:00 pm Organ Practice

6:00 pm Special Olympics practice

6:15 pm Grace Ringers

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, April 14**

5:30 pm Bootcamp

6:30 pm Basketball

**Friday, April 15**

9:00 am Organist Practice

6:30 pm CC rehearsal and warm-up

7:30 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service

**Sunday, April 17**

**EASTER**

8:30 am Worship Service

9:45 am Sunday School

9:45 am Youth Easter Celebration Gym

10:30 am Chancel Choir

11:00 am Worship Service

### **HOW ARE WE DOING ON OUR MEMBERSHIP VOWS?**

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

#### **In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 4/03/2022**

In-person Worship Service:

8:30 am 30

11:00 am 149

Online Worship Service: 60 views

Operating Funds Given 3/30-4/5 \$ 9,392

Building Preservation \$ 920

#### **March**

Operating Funds Given YTD \$ 153,850

Operating Expenses YTD \$ 171,718

\$ (17,868)

#### **March**

Annual Bld. Preservation Receipts \$ 12,818

Annual Bld. Preservation Fund Expenses \$ 32,840

Balance \$ (20,021)

Apportionments are paid through March

### **Spring Family Promise Week 2 and Giving Day!**

Grace's Service to Family Promise is now, through April 16. Due to the pandemic, the families continue to be housed at the Day Center off of Covil Ave, where we deliver meals to them. No transportation or overnight hosting is going on. If you can find a night during that time that you might be able to take a meal, order a meal or provide costs for a meal, please contact Jane Spicer for more details at [jdspicer@ec.rr.com](mailto:jdspicer@ec.rr.com) or 910 622-1211.

Family Promise has scheduled an upcoming Giving Day for Family Promise on April 28th. This is a campaign to raise awareness and support for families battling homelessness. They are asking supporters to give an hour, whether an hour of time volunteering, an hour's salary, or an hour raising awareness about the crisis of family homelessness! To volunteer, call the office at 910 769-4730, to donate go to their website, or mail funds to: Family Promise of the Lower Cape Fear, 20 N. 4th Street, Suite 440, Wilmington, NC 28401. Thanks for your support of these families! —Jane

### **Prayer Requests**

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Susan Atwell Jeffrey Morefield  
Russell Buskirk Steven Powers  
Mike Corleto Mary Ridgeway  
Dale Cromartie Sonya Rowe  
Leslie Ego Melissa Sesi  
Larry Florea Will Sibley  
Justin George Nicolas Smith  
Tanner  
Jeanne Hadaway Tori Thornton and new-born son, Kaiser  
Elaine Hubbard Becky West and Family  
Megan Mabee  
Tom McCarthy & Judy  
Mike (Mary Tyndall's brother)

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:

LCpl. John Capwell, USMC LCpl. Seth Mack, USMC  
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC CDR Nicholas Madren, USN  
Maj. Tim Collins, 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  
Michael Tate, USA

If you have a prayer request, please contact Pastor Patricia at [patricia@gracedowntown.net](mailto:patricia@gracedowntown.net)

