

# Grace Notes

November 21, 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, November 21

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

#### Tuesday, November 23

9:00 am Organist in Sanctuary  
11:00 am Rotary Club in gym  
5:30 pm Boot Camp  
6:15 pm Grace Ringers  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

#### Wednesday, November 24

11:00 am Gentle Yoga Class  
4:00 pm Organist in Sanctuary

#### Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving Day—Office Closed

#### Friday, November 26

Thanksgiving Holiday—Office Closed

#### Sunday, November 28

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:45 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Chancel Choir  
11:00 am Worship Service

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### 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>

### LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP WITH THE OUTREACH OF GRACE?

We have ideas for outreach at Grace but they require many hands and feet to be successful! Would you like to be a part of expanding our prayer partner program, to help start a monthly fellowship and game night at Grace, to enable Grace to have a presence at parades and festivals, to conduct a Christmas fundraiser, or to restart the Welcome table? These opportunities, and more, will be a part of the new year!

There are exciting times ahead for Grace! If you would like to be a part of these events, please contact **Karen Evans**, at

[evans493@gmail.com](mailto:evans493@gmail.com) or 757-871-3763,

or **Sally Barnes**, at

[sallybarnes11754@yahoo.com](mailto:sallybarnes11754@yahoo.com) or

631-258-3182.

*"For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."*

Romans 12:4-5 ESV



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

(Prayers, Presence, Gifts, and Service)

#### In-person/Online Attendance & Offering for 11/14/2021

In-person Worship Service: 8:30 am - 38  
11:00 am - 166  
Online Worship Service: 43 views

Operating Funds Given 11/3-11/10 22,716.00

#### October

Operating Funds Given YTD	\$	488,018
Operating Expenses YTD	\$	575,850
Balance	\$	(87,832)

2021 Operating Budget = \$ 754,879

#### October

Building Preservation Fund Received 2021 YTD	\$	43,557
Building Preservation Fund Spent 2021 YTD	\$	48,225

#### Disaster Recovery (Boiler)

Insurance Receipts	\$	67,859
Expenses to date	\$	80,963

Apportionments are paid through October.

### Become a Grace Friend

Grace is starting a new program to help new members become connected to our church family.

As new members join, they will be paired with a current member called a Grace Friend. This relationship will last about three months. The Grace Friend responsibilities are:

- Be present when the new member joins
- Get to know the new member
- Take them on a tour of Grace
- Explain the function of different committees, missions, volunteer opportunities, etc.
- Call them several times over the three months

Grace members are known for their warmth and welcoming ways. Please let Pastor Patricia know if you see yourself as a Grace Friend.

### ATTENTION SEWERS

THE U.M.W. is planning a donation of jumper type dresses for the Methodist children's home. We need at least a yard or more of lightweight warmer fabrics. Flannels, heavy cotton, knits and very light weight corduroy. We will have a cutting day to put kits together. They will be made by the same pattern as our "pillowcase dresses".

We will put a cotton, long sleeved tee shirt with each dress, sizes 2-10. Thank you for helping in any way!



### *Happy Thanksgiving*

The church office will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday on **Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26, 2021.**

*May you and your loved ones have a blessed Thanksgiving Holiday!*



### Prayer Requests

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers

Amy  
Archer  
Karen Aune  
Kristen Baker  
Family of Louise Berry  
Kitty Eure  
Katie Haldeman  
Lauren Haldeman  
Family of Rich Holcomb  
Gage Housholder  
Family of Dick Hull  
Jamie Lassiter  
Scott Lassiter  
Lydia  
Evelyn Madison  
Julie Madison

Mike's Family  
Aden Moody  
NHRMC Nurses/Doctors/  
Staff  
Pam and Kadie  
Joan Pence  
Tom Schrami  
Mary Sloan  
Shar Streeter  
Jim Teachey  
Pat Thomas  
Lindsay Thompson  
Susie Wells  
Barbara Wiley and Family  
Joyce Witherington  
Stew Wolling

LCpl. John Capwell, USMC  
Sgt. Tim Cobaugh, USMC  
Maj. Tim Collins, USMC  
Col. John Delaney, USA  
Ens. 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  
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  
Sgt. James Pritchett, USA  
CDR 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  
E2 Cassie Wenz, USMC

If you have a prayer request, please contact Pastor Patricia at [patricia@gracedowntown.net](mailto:patricia@gracedowntown.net) or 910-470-6310

### New Members Being Received

Grace is blessed to receive the following new members at the 11:00 am worship service today:

#### **ANNE DALE**

Anne is a graduate of The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where she eventually became Director of Annual Giving. In 1980, she joined her father in Wrightsville Beach to take a short break from work (she thought) but soon realized her strong desire to serve others, so she became a "professional volunteer." She served as a Patient Advocate at Cape Fear Memorial Hospital, a tutor at Sunset Park Elementary, and National President of Sigma Kappa Sorority, where she was overseer of sorority house construction for her chapter at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Anne has been an active member of Wrightsville United Methodist Church. She was led to Grace at the start of the pandemic when Grace member, Shirley Dail, faithfully sent her the link to Grace's online service. When Grace reopened for in-person worship, Anne started attending, with a friend, Carolyn McAleese, who is also joining as a member of Grace today. Sandy Smith is looking forward to being the Welcoming Friend for Anne.

#### **CAROLYN McALEESE**

Carolyn was born and raised in Miami, Fla. She was very active in an Episcopal Church there, where she volunteered for 13 years in the soup kitchen. Over those years, she witnessed the Lord's provision for many people. She really loves to cook and a Grace member who ate a meal in her home can attest that her key lime pie is truly "the real thing." When her husband of 35 years died, Carolyn moved to Wilmington to be near her daughter. Carolyn is a retired Obstetrical nurse, whose compassion for others is obvious. In retirement, she is doing some geriatric nursing. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, with her beautiful cat, Shitake, by her side, and babysitting her daughter's Yorkshire Terrier, Lillie, when her daughter is working as a physical therapist. She has a wonderful sense of humor. Carolyn comes to us from St. Andrews by the Sound Episcopal Church in Wilmington. Danny and Sally Barnes are looking forward to being Carolyn's Welcoming Friend.

#### **JOANNE HAMILTON**

Joanne moved to Wilmington from Basking Ridge, New Jersey about three months ago. She is a retired nurse and recently has been very helpful to Karen and Dick Hull. She would like to continue some in-home nursing, but she said her main job now is to bring her grandson, Braeden DeRose (age 10) to church, like her grandmother did for her. They have both become very active in Grace already—Braeden with the youth and Joanne with United Methodist Women, Thursday Bible Study, the Bible Sunday School class, and activities for youth. Joanne was very active in the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church and especially enjoyed mission trips. She has been to Ecuador 8 times, helping build homes for the homeless. She was a deacon and, over 20 years, has served on probably every committee in that church. In retirement, she is enjoying golf, sewing, playing piano (at home) and gardening. She hopes to join the local garden club. Janice Fladd and Maxine LeFever are looking forward to being the Welcoming Friends for Joanne.

#### **JOHN AND JEANNE THOMASSON**

John and Jeanne both grew up as Methodists in Martinsville, Virginia. They have recently retired from Hanes Brands in Winston-Salem. They moved to Wilmington two years ago to support their son during chemo treatments. They are thankful that his condition has improved. John and Jeanne attended College Park Baptist Church in Winston-Salem. After moving to Wilmington, they saw our services online and decided to visit Grace. They enjoy Pastor Tal's sermons. John enjoys reading, surf casting and fishing. He is a car buff and a movie buff. Jeanne enjoys sewing and has made masks for Methodist Children's Home and pillowcase dresses for children in need. John and Jeanne are neighbors of Patricia. Larry and Dianna Florea are excited about being Welcoming Friends for John and Jeanne.

### Reminder: Christmas Love Offering for Grace Staff

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is collecting a Love Offering to recognize the Grace staff members at Christmas. If you would like to contribute to this effort, your donation can be made by:

- write a check payable to Grace UMC with Love Offering on the memo line
- pay with cash placed in an envelope with Love Offering on the front

make an online donation through PayPal or Bill Pay from your own bank with notation that it is for the Love Offering

Check or cash contributions can be made by placing them in the offering plate if you are attending our in person services or by simply mailing them to the church office. **Donations will be accepted through Sunday, November 14, 2021.** Thank you for your consideration of this endeavor.

Staff Parish Relations Committee

## FAMILY MINISTRIES EVENTS

### December 5th

The Family Council will have a 2022 planning meeting during the Sunday School hour. This will include focusing on the direction the program will take next year. All families are invited to attend and share their hopes and dreams for the future of the program.

### December 12th

The youth have chosen a white elephant party for their last evening event of the year. This will include all ages. Each person is invited to bring one wrapped gift under \$10.

### Christmas Break December 12-January 8

Since the school system is updating its vacation period and varies from county to county, evening Bible programs will resume on January 9, but this may change. Please read Grace Notes for any updates.

**There will be no Sunday School for children and youth on December 12, December 26, and January 2.** Instead prior to the service we will have a gathering in the gym for fellowship. These are the Sundays where we will have one service. Infant and toddler child care will be available.

## Office Staff Changes

With the retirement of Marion Little, Administrative Assistant, on October 29 and the upcoming retirement of Debbie Ashe, Director of Operations, at the end of December, the Staff Parish Relations Committee has taken this opportunity to restructure these two positions into one full-time position, the **Administrative and Operational Director**. This change will require the redistribution of certain tasks and more involvement of volunteers. A new job description has been written and approved by the church lay leadership. If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please send inquiries to:

debbie@gracedowntown.net



## GAME DAY AT GRACE!

January 12, 2022

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Bullock Center

Want to get together for an afternoon of fellowship and games?

Just contact either:

**Sally Barnes**, at 631-258-3182 (text or call) or email at [sallymbarnes11754@yahoo.com](mailto:sallymbarnes11754@yahoo.com), or

**Karen Evans**, at 757-871-3763 (text or call) or email at [evans493@gmail.com](mailto:evans493@gmail.com)

**Please let us know by January 8, 2022 so we can set up enough tables.**

Refreshments will be available.



## NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Grace Church Family,  
You have completely overwhelmed me with your cards, notes, generous gifts and words of love and support as I retire.

It has been my pleasure to serve this congregation as the Administrative Assistant for the past 13 years. Being offered the job was such a blessing to us. Your willingness to be flexible with my work hours, and your understanding of other demands on my time, allowed me to do my best for Grace. Thank you.

Brian and I look forward to being a part of this church family for many years to come.

In Christ,  
Marion

*As New Hanover County has lifted its indoor mask mandate as of 11/12/21, Grace UMC has changed its Covid safety measures in the following ways:*

- *Masks are optional for fully vaccinated adults at the 11am worship service, Sunday School, and all mid-week activities. (Fully vaccinated = two weeks after your final dose of the vaccine.)*
- *Masked expected for all, regardless of vaccination status, at the 8:30am service.*
- *Children and youth follow the guidelines of the New Hanover School System.*

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.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_