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, July 3
8:30 Worship Service/Holy Communion
9:30 Fellowship Time/Welcome Center
9:45 Sunday School
10:30 Fellowship Time/Welcome Center
10:30 Chancel Choir
11:00 Worship Service/Holy Communion
12:15 Patriotic Picnic

Monday, July 4 - Independence Day
Church Office Closed
5:30 Boot Camp

Tuesday, July 5
6:00 Outreach Committee

Wednesday, July 6
10:00 Staff Meeting
5:30 Boot Camp
7:00 Chancel Choir

Friday, July 8
5:00 Wedding Rehearsal/Sanctuary
Youth Lock-In

Saturday, July 9
9:00 Vacation Bible School Work Day
6:00 Wedding/Sanctuary

Sunday, July 10
8:30 Worship Service
9:30 Fellowship Time/Welcome Center
9:45 Sunday School
10:30 Fellowship Time/Welcome Center
10:30 Chancel Choir
11:00 Worship Service
5:30 Vacation Bible School

The text for today’s 11:00 offertory anthem Battle Hymn of the Republic, was authored by Julia Ward Howe.

Mope eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword:
His truth is marching on.

Refrain
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on!

I have seen Him in the watchfires
Of a hundred circling camps;
They have builded Him an altar
In the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence
In the dim and flaring lamps,
His day is marching on!
Refrain

In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom
That transfigures you and me:
As He died to make men holy,
Let us live to make men free,
While God is marching on.
Refrain

The text for today’s 8:30 am offertory, Let There Be Peace on Earth, was authored by the composers.

Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator,
Children all are we.
Let us walk with each other
In perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me;
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment
In peace eternally.

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Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.

Please keep the following military persons in your prayers:
- Gen. Gwyn Armfield, USAF
- Maj. Jeffery Bernard, USA
- Maj. Michael Collins, USMC
- Capt. Tim Collins, USMC
- Col. John Delaney, USA
- E3 Caylen Folmar, USAF
- E3 Taylor Folmar, USN
- Capt. Jason T. Hill, USAF
- Capt. Benjamin Mabee, USMC
- Capt. Brian Potts, USMC
- Lt. Kevin Ringelstein, USN
- Lt. Col. Amy Moore Russo, USAF
- Capt. Brandon Showers, USMC
- AB Michael Sloan, USAF
- WO2 Shaun D. Woods, USA

If you have a prayer request, please contact Pastor Patricia at patricia@gracedowntown.net.

Please pray for comfort and healing for the following people:
- Benjamin James Alban
- Susan Atwell
- Robbie & Tonna Bowen
- Greg Bunting
- Tom Cerjak
- Ricky Clay
- Joann Conrad
- Susan Crawford
- Tom D’Albenzio
- Cheryl Parker
- Patricia, Sabo Family friend
- Sara, Sabo Family friend
- Tom D’Albenzio
- Joanne Nickel & Family
- Linda Pfister’s stepfather
- Jim Teachey
- Marsealla Teachey
- Penny White
- Gary & Karen Wrenn

Prayer Requests

Dear friend,

I am delighted to send you these notes. Please let me know if you need any assistance or if there is anything I can do for you.

Sincerely,

Pastor Patricia

The Mansfield Family
Reggie Moore
Moyer Family
Joanne Nickel & Family
Patricia, Sabo Family friend
Linda Pfister’s stepfather
Jim Teachey
Marsealla Teachey
Penny White
Gary & Karen Wrenn

Billie Little
Babs Shaw
Beverly Smith
Ruth Smith
Linda Snider
Laurie Tavatolo
Jim Teachey
Marsella Teachey
Penny White
Gary & Karen Wrenn

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Refrain

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I/we would like to join Grace United Methodist Church.
I/we need Grace UMC name tag(s).
□ Change of address, phone number, or email.
I/we want to attend the Sunday, July 17th Prospective Member Class

Name: ___________________________ No. Attending ___________
Address: _______________________________________________________
Phone: __________________________ Email: _________________________

□ Call All Deep Sea Explorers!
Vacation Bible School
Sunday, July 10 - Thursday, July 14
5:30—8:30 pm

Deep Sea Discovery
God Is With Me Wherever I Go!
and we need you!

Our ship is filling up with volunteers but we still need a few more! We need people willing to lead the children between centers. These leaders should have a good helping of patience, enthusiasm, and a desire to have some fun!

We have a list of items that we could really use on our Deep Sea Discovery. The list is posted on a board in the Welcome Center. If you can pick up one or two on your shopping adventures, we would appreciate it! Just leave a note on the board indicating what you donated and drop them in the big blue tub below the sign!

One last work day is scheduled for July 9th. If you can come and help us set up for this underwater adventure, we would be thrilled! Meet at 9:30 am at Grace.

And if you have a child between the ages of 3 and 5th grade, there is still time to register him or her in our VBS adventure! Visit the website to sign up!

If you are feeling called to help with this amazing children's ministry opportunity, contact Liz by email (Liz@gracedowntown.net), sign up on the children's ministry board, or call her office (763-5197).

We look forward to Diving into God’s love with you!

□ Prospective Member Class
Sunday, July 17, 12:00 - 1:15 pm
Grace Gym
Lunch will be served.

Thinking about becoming a member of Grace UMC? 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 and 15 minutes! You will also be given a tour of the church.

So that we can prepare the right number of meals and information packets, let us know you are coming by using the tear-off above and placing it in the offering plate, or call the church office (763-5197). Please respond by noon on Sunday, July 10, so that we will know how to prepare.

We'll look forward to seeing you!

□ Small Group Book Study for July
The book selection for July is Love Wins by Rob Bell.
The group will meet on Thursday, July 28, 6:00 pm, at the home of Scott & Jessica Wilson, 132 Grainger Point Rd, Wilmington. Childcare will be provided at the home.
RSVP to Jessica by email: jlailwilson82@gmail.com

□ Name Tags
Let me encourage you to wear your name tag during worship services at Grace. The very fact that we wear name tags sends a message to those new to Grace. It says, “we want to get to know you and we want you to get to know us.”

Those of us who already feel at home at Grace don’t need the name tags. Those new to Grace need us to wear them for the message it sends.

Need a name tag? Use the tear-off at the top of the second page, fill it out and drop it in the offering plate. Your name tag will appear on the table just before you enter the sanctuary from the Welcome Center within a couple of Sundays…...free of charge!

□ New Member
Grace is blessed to receive the following new member today at the 11 am worship service.

Joe Huppmann is joining his wife, Mary, in membership at Grace after singing with her in the Chancel Choir for the past three years. Joe retired from the US Navy after 27 years of service as a Hospital Corpsman, a Navy Flight Surgeon and Navy dermatologist. He and Mary moved to Wilmington in 2003. He is now retired after ten years of private practice in dermatology. They have a son, daughter, granddaughter, and another grandchild due next month. Joe says his hobby is “tying up years of loose ends!”

□ Praise through Song and Word
Sunday, July 17
8:30 am & 11:00 am

Come! Praise the Lord through song and word during these special worship services at Grace. Members of the congregation will have the opportunity to request their favorite hymns to be sung.

Invite a guest to one of these “old fashioned” worship services and “make a joyful noise!”
A Debt-Free Future for Grace

The $20 Fellowship puzzles placed in the Welcome Center several weeks ago called for Teamwork, to complete a puzzle. Everyone working together, with patience and time, can reach a common goal.

That is what makes the $20 Fellowship so powerful -- everyone at Grace, working together, to pay off the mortgage and to build a reserve fund that will insure that this beautiful sanctuary and that the surrounding buildings remain to the Glory of God for generations.

But, as Dr. Seuss writes in The Cat in the Hat, “but that is not all.” Once the mortgage is zero, and the reserve fund is strong, and the $20 Fellowship continues, we invite you to imagine how we could, as children of God, as members of Grace, impact the community.

From the returned “Imagine a Debt Free Grace” cards, I learned that you imagine to:

- Build a community garden
- send money to an orphanage
- establish a weekly walk-in breakfast for the homeless and low-income families in the neighborhood
- work very closely with the Youth Enrichment Zone to eradicate youth crime
- sponsor a service dog for a veteran
- sponsor a hospital chaplain at New Hanover Regional……….and more.

To all of you who are now members of the $20 Fellowship, thank you for paying it down and paying it forward. It doesn't matter whether you are giving $20 a week, $1 a week, or maybe $500 a month. Every gift is an investment in God's house and His work here at Grace.

For those of you who are not currently in the Fellowship, all I want to tell you today is “The $20 Fellowship needs You.” There are commitment cards in the foyer to the Welcome Center and in the Narthex, if you choose to fill one out.

Fellowship members. This card is not for you. When you signed to become a member of the $20 Fellowship, that was a commitment that you made for as long as you are able.

Again, thank you very much to our current members and to those of you who will become the new members of the $20 Fellowship. God bless you all.

A Note from Pastor Tal

Invite an Unchurched Friend to Grace

The many up-coming, special events at Grace are all wonderful opportunities for the unchurched to enter the fellowship of Grace in a way that feels “safe” to them. As great as you are in making guests feel welcome, sometimes it's hard to get them into the building to experience your warmth and acceptance. Entering a large downtown church could be a little intimidating to some.

Invite your unchurched friend to a Grace event….offer to give them a ride…..introduce them to your church family……it might just change a life.

Consider the following events and others listed in Grace Notes.

- Today, Make a Joyful Noise Picnic
- July 3, Annual Patriotic Picnic
- July 10-14, Vacation Bible School

Conservations w/ the Pastor Task Force

The next meeting of the Task Force will be Tuesday, July 12, 7:00 pm, in the Bible Class room. Though this is during VBS, the Task Force wants to keep the momentum they have moving forward.

The team is hard at work distilling the information that was gathered and formulating a plan of action for the ministry that will take place at Grace in the years to come.

Summer Lunch Buddies

Here's an opportunity to help children read this summer by signing up to be a “lunch buddy” through Communitys In Schools of Cape Fear. Volunteer lunch buddies spend time and read with students participating in the New Hanover County Summer Food Service Program.

Locations include: Maidaes Park, Creekwood South, Union Missionary Baptist Church, Warner Temple Church, Vesta Village, Houston Moore, Hillcrest, Village at Greenfield, MLK Center, St. Paul's Methodist Church (Carolina Beach), and Royal Palms.

Volunteers are needed Monday-Friday, 11:30 am—12:30 am. For more information or to sign-up, contact CIS of Cape Fear Executive Director, Louise Hicks, at louise@ciscapefear.org

CIS is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to “surround its students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.”

Looking Ahead at Grace

Sunday, July 17, Praise through Song and Word, special worship services, 8:30 am & 11:00 am.

Sunday, July 17, Grace Youth Mission Trip, to Copperhill, TN to serve in rural, impoverished Appalachia.

Saturday, July 23, Inner Grace Evening at the Beach, watch for details in Grace Notes!

Friday, July 29, Fun, Fun, Fun Family Movie Night - 6:00 pm in the Grace gym. Look for details in next week’s Grace Notes!

Thursday, September 8, Wilmington's Epicurean Evening, to benefit Methodist Home for Children

Saturday, October 1 - Rummage Sale - Special Events Team fundraiser for the building fund.

Sunday, October 16 - 2nd Annual Antique Appraisal Fair - UMW fundraiser for missions.