

Education hour at 9:45 a.m.

Stephen Ministry: Who, What, and How?

Seminar Room

Learn more about Stephen Ministry, what Stephen Ministers do, and the process of becoming a Stephen Minister.

Forward in Faith Cottage Meeting

Conference Room

Join the Forward in Faith School Endowment Committee for an hour of fellowship and inspiration. Hear updates from Grace School and learn about the Forward in Faith School Endowment Campaign.

Teen Talk meets in the Youth Room.

Eighth-grade confirmation students meet with their mentors in the school library on the second floor. **Seventh graders** join Pastor Lyle in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday School children in preschool and kindergarten meet in the church nursery, children in grades 1-6 meet in the third-floor school commons.


**Forward
IN FAITH**

GRACE MINISTRY FAIR

Sunday, November 21

Between services in the atrium

- Come and celebrate all that Grace members are doing to love, grow and serve together, working in God's kingdom.
- Discover new ways you can participate in the work of the church.

Also that morning

- Service project for all ages in the gym.
- The nuns from Fraternité Notre Dame will be at Grace selling their delicious baked goods.
- Coffee and hot chocolate outside the Bonnie Brae doors.



Next Sunday

Bach Cantata Vespers

November 21, 3:45 p.m.

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 61 (Now come, Savior of the nations)

In person and live-streamed on the Bach Cantata Vespers channel on YouTube.

Chad Fothergill, guest organist

Esther Menn, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, homilist

Cantata Preview Lecture at 3 p.m. with Mark Peters in the Seminar Room

“Advent Surprise” devotions written by members of Grace

Sunday, November 28, marks the first Sunday in Advent. Just as in Lent of 2021, Grace members have written devotions for the season, under the leadership of Julie Hinz.

The theme is Advent Surprise! God has been surprising humanity since Genesis. The devotions explore a variety of surprises throughout scripture, seeing how our generous and loving God has and continues to show up in surprising and unexpected ways.

Printed copies are available at the reception desk. Or read the devotions online at www.HabitsofGrace.blog. Scroll down to the bottom of the blog page and enter your email to receive a notification each day as the devotions are published. Links to the daily devotions will also be published on the Grace Lutheran Church and School Facebook page from November 28 through December 25.

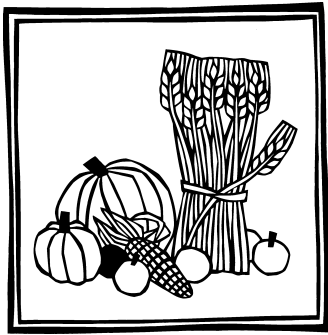
News

GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays

A “Surviving the Holidays” seminar on Saturday, November 20, 9-11 a.m., at Grace will offer practical, actionable strategies for making it through the holiday season. Grace’s GriefShare team is co-sponsoring the event with St. Giles Church. To register call the Grace reception desk at 708-366-6900. If you have questions about the program contact Linda Bernard (773-259-4720; lm_bernard@hotmail.com).

Holiday Food and Gift Basket program seeks sponsor families

The Community of Congregations Holiday Food & Gift Basket program serves members of our community who need assistance during the holiday season. You can help by becoming a sponsor family. This entails shopping for gifts for participants based on a list provided you, wrapping the gifts and dropping them off the week of December 5 at United Lutheran Church, 409 Greenfield in Oak Park. Email hfgbholidays@gmail.com or visit the Community of Congregations website at communityofcongregations.org/holiday-food-gift-basket to participate or make a donation.



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Thursday, November 25, 10 a.m.

Festival Liturgy composed by Richard Hillert
with organ, brass, and choir.

Stockings for The Night Ministry

The Social Ministry Committee is again filling stockings with necessities for clients of The Night Ministry. They're asking congregation members to "adopt a stocking" with a donation of \$20 and committee members will do the shopping. Look for more information in the atrium.

The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree in the Grace atrium during November holds tags with wish-list items for clients of New Moms, Oak-Leyden and Lutheran Child and Family Services. Take a tag from the tree, purchase the gift, and return it to Grace by December 5.

Heritage Chorale fall concert today at Grace

Heritage Chorale, led by Guillermo Muñoz Küster and accompanied by the ensemble Raíces del Ande, presents a program of South American music, including selections from the socially driven Chilean Nueva Canción (New Song) movement and Ariel Ramírez's Misa Criolla. This unique program will be sung in Spanish and accompanied by traditional Andean instruments. The concert will be held at 4:00 pm today at Grace. Tickets are available at www.heritagechorale.com or at the door. (COVID precautions at the concert: A photo ID, proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID test within 72 hours of the concert, and masking will be required of all attendees.)

Turkeys and pies for Fraternité community dinner

Once again, the sisters at Fraternité Notre Dame are making plans for their Annual Thanksgiving dinner for hundreds of our neighbors in the Austin area. They are in need of at least 100 turkeys and 50 pies. Please contact Sue Foran (susanforan4@gmail.com; 708-267-1620) to make arrangements for dropping off food. Checks made out to Sue Foran (so she can purchase turkeys) may be left at the Grace reception desk through November 21.

Fellowship

GriefShare

Tuesday evenings, 7 p.m. Church Library
Contact Linda Bernard (773-259-4720; lm_bernard_@hotmail.com).

Cornerstones

Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m., Church Library
Bible study for Grace seniors. On November 17, Bible study will be followed by worship at 11 a.m. and lunch. Cornerstones will not meet on November 24.

Religion in Literature

Friday, November 19, 7 p.m. on Zoom
The book is "An Interrupted Life" by Etty Hillesum. Pam Todd leads the discussion. Email jill.baumgaertner@wheaton.edu to be added to the group's email list. A copy of the book is available in the church library.

Theology on Tap

Resumes January 27, 2022
Monthly conversations about faith and life. Email Pastor Troy for more information (tmedlin@graceriverforest.org).

Moms of Littles

Thursday, November 18, 6:30 p.m. on Zoom
Mothers with children of all ages, infants through teens, meet twice a month, once in person and once virtually. Contact Ali Carris (312-720-9473 or beauvais.carris@gmail.com).

Dads of Grace

Monday, November 22, 7:30 p.m.
Join Pastor Lyle and other dads on for an evening of fellowship. Email Pastor Lyle for the particulars (dlyle@graceriverforest.org).

Men of Grace

Resumes Saturday, January 29, 2022, 9 a.m.
Email Pastor Troy for more information (tmedlin@graceriverforest.org).

Retired Leaders

December 14, 10 a.m., Fellowship Hall
This group of retired Christian men and women in former leadership positions in church or community meets monthly for presentations from guest speakers. The December meeting features a Christmas hymn sing with Pastor Costello on December 14.

Finding Hope

December 10, 10 a.m., Church Library
The support group for people with chronic illness meets on the 2nd Friday of the month. Chronic illness may include anything that you deal with on a day to day basis whether physical or psychological. Contact Judie McDonnell (judie.mcdonnell@att.net) if you have questions or need to arrange a ride.

Pastors' emergency phone

Call 708-689-3032 for emergency pastoral care evenings and weekends.