

# Weekly Announcements

January 29, 2023

## *Graceful Evening*

The Grace Church community is invited to attend Grace School's annual Graceful Evening fundraiser on Saturday, March 11, 5:30 p.m. at the Nineteenth Century Club, in Oak Park. To buy your tickets or find opportunities to give, visit [graceful2023.givesmart.com](https://graceful2023.givesmart.com) or scan the QR code below.



## *Congregational meeting*

The annual meeting of the congregation is today, January 29, after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We will be electing officers and reviewing financial reports. Lunch will be provided. Please come!

## *Today is Faith Promise Sunday*

The Stewardship Committee invites you to make a Faith Promise for the 2023 calendar year. Our offerings are an expression of faith and a response to all that God has given. Through faithful giving of our time, our talents and our treasure, we become partners in changing lives here in our community and around the world.

Please consider making a pledge to help sustain our church, our vision and our benevolences. You may place your pledge card in the offering plate, mail it to the business office, or complete the online form at <https://bit.ly/3WB0k8I>. Pledge cards are also available from the ushers this morning.

## **Adult Education**

This morning, join us for the first part of the session titled “End of Life Planning” with Parish Nurse Joanna Schubkegel and Melissa DeVries in the seminar room at 9:45 a.m.

You can find the winter Adult Ed schedule at [gracriverforest.org](http://gracriverforest.org). Look for Faith Formation > Adult Ed. Join Adult Ed on Zoom: meeting ID: 528 427 6033. Passcode: C9Y0qs

## **Refugee Ministry**

Our newest family needs a mobile phone. As we all know, life today cannot run smoothly without one. Due to the latest 5G systems, the phone must be an iPhone 8 or newer. Please ask friends and neighbors, older kids and co-workers if they have a phone they would be willing to donate. We will take care of wiping the phone and purchasing a new sim card. Contact Linda Street at [kentuckystreets53@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckystreets53@gmail.com) if you are able to help. Thank you!

## **GriefShare Seminar Series**

The sessions happen from Friday, January 20 to April 14. We will meet from 9:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. All sessions will be in the Church Library. Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. You will find encouragement, comfort, and help in grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandchild, other family member, or friend. No matter what the cause of your loved one’s death, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. The course also includes online information and a workbook. Go to [GriefShare.org](http://GriefShare.org) and click on Find a Group. Use the River Forest zip code (60305) to locate the group and to register. For further questions contact Barbara Hofmaier at [bjhofmaier@comcast.net](mailto:bjhofmaier@comcast.net) or Linda Bernard at 773-259-4720. This event is open to the community. You can join at any point!

- 1/20/23 - Is this Normal?
- 1/27/23 - Challenges of Grief
- 2/03/23 - The Journey of Grief, Part 1
- 2/10/23 - The Journey of Grief, Part 2
- 2/17/23 - Grief and Your Relationships
- 2/24/23 - Why?
- 3/02/23 - Guilt and Anger
- 3/09/23 - Complication Factors
- 3/16/23 - Stuck
- 3/23/23 - Lesson of Grief, Part 1
- 3/30/20 - Lessons of Grief, Part 2
- 4/07/23 - Heaven
- 4/14/23 - What Do I Live for Now?

## ***Fellowship Groups***

### **Yoga at Grace**

Join Yoga with Ackli on Thursday evenings, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m, in Fellowship Hall. Bring a yoga mat, a towel, and a yoga block, if you have one. The next class is on February 2. Classes are free with a goodwill offering to Grace. Previous experience with yoga is not a requirement! Everyone is welcome.

### **Religion in Literature**

The Religion in Literature group meets February 17, 7:30 p.m., in the home of Chrissy and Mike Nelson, 639 S. Lombard Ave., Oak Park. That evening we will discuss *Kristin Lavransdatter, Park III: The Cross*, led by Amy Claud. This tale of a woman living in medieval Norway was written by Nobel prize winner Sigrid Undset. Even if you haven't read parts I and II, you will find this book mesmerizing. All are welcome. For more information and to be added to the email list, please contact [jill.baumgaertner@wheaton.edu](mailto:jill.baumgaertner@wheaton.edu).

### **Cornerstones**

This group for seniors meets Wednesday mornings for fellowship at 9:30 a.m. and Bible study with the pastors at 10:00 a.m. in the Church Library. The next meeting is February 1, and the next worship with lunch is on Ash Wednesday, February 22. Contact [earmstrong@gracriverforest.org](mailto:earmstrong@gracriverforest.org) for more information.

### **Knitting Group**

The knitting group meets on the third Tuesday of every month in the Church Library. The next meeting is on February 21, 1:00–2:30 p.m. Beginners are welcome! Contact Karen Eckstein ([ecksteinkaren2@gmail.com](mailto:ecksteinkaren2@gmail.com)) with questions.

### **Theology on Tap**

Come for community and monthly conversations about faith and life. The next meeting is Friday, February 24. Email Pastor Troy ([tmedlin@gracriverforest.org](mailto:tmedlin@gracriverforest.org)) for details.

### **Moms of Little**

Mothers of children age infants through teens meet in person on the first and third Thursdays of the month, 6:30 p.m. Contact Sabrina Maggio ([sabrina.maggio713@gmail.com](mailto:sabrina.maggio713@gmail.com)) to be added to the email list or learn more about the group's updated meeting schedule.

### **Moms of High School Teens and Young Adults**

This new fellowship group fosters community among women whose children are growing up into adulthood. Contact Jessica Bullock ([jesbullock23@gmail.com](mailto:jesbullock23@gmail.com)) to be added to the group email list.

### **Dads of Grace**

Pastor Lyle and other dads gather for evenings of fellowship once a month. The next gathering is Monday, February 27. Email Pastor Lyle for more information ([dlyle@gracriverforest.org](mailto:dlyle@gracriverforest.org)).

**Men of Grace**

The Men of Grace group meets on the fourth Saturday of the month at 9 a.m., in the Youth Center. The next meeting is Saturday, February 25. Email Pastor Troy for more information (tmedlin@graceriverforest.org).

**Retired Leaders**

This group of retired Christian men and women in former leadership positions in the church or community meets on Wednesday, February 15, at 10 a.m. in the lower level Conference Room and on Zoom. Ken Trainor, Wednesday Journal chief columnist, will talk about the present and future of community journalism.

**Finding Hope**

The support group for people with chronic illness meets on the second Friday of the month at 10 a.m. The next meeting is February 10. Contact Judie McDonnell (judie.mcdonnell@att.net) for more information or if you need to arrange a ride.

**Last Sunday's  
attendance:**

8:00 a.m.: 92  
11:00 a.m.: 143

**Reminder: the deadline for announcement submissions is 10:00 p.m. each Wednesday. Requests submitted after the deadline will be added to the next week's announcements. Send submissions to [bklaus@graceriverforest.org](mailto:bklaus@graceriverforest.org)**