

## *No Adult Education on March 19.*

Meetings resume on March 26. You can find the winter Adult Ed schedule at [graceriverforest.org](http://graceriverforest.org). Look for Faith Formation > Adult Ed.

Join Adult Ed on Zoom: meeting ID: 528 427 6033. Passcode: C9Y0qs

## *Bach's St. Matthew Passion*

The Bach Cantata Vespers Chorus and Orchestra in collaboration with Chicago Choral Artists will present Bach's St. Matthew Passion at Grace next Saturday, March 25, at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 26, at 4:00 p.m. The Sunday performance will be live-streamed. Admission is free with a suggested donation of \$25.

For more information, visit [www.bachvespers.org/march](http://www.bachvespers.org/march).

## *Directory picture day*

As part of the family of Grace, we want your face in the family portrait! Please schedule a time to get your photo taken by professional photographers from ColorCraft. Pictures will be taken in Fellowship Hall Friday, June 2, from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please sign up on the link or QR code by March 30. <https://bit.ly/3kJPeS4>



## *Mental health workshop for Grace School parents*

All Grace School parents are welcome to join other local parents for a night of in-person workshops designed to provide information and tools that will help you support the mental wellness of your tweens and teens.

Register online at <https://bit.ly/3JHCeF5>

Wednesday, April 19, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., at Oak Park and River Forest High School, 201 North Scoville Ave.

You will be able to choose the sessions that most interest you.

Questions? Contact Ginger Bencola at [gbencola@oprflhs.org](mailto:gbencola@oprflhs.org).

### **Benevolence Committee**

Benevolence giving financially supports ministries and programs that further the mission of Grace and the broader mission of the Christian church. Each year, 10% of the congregation's giving is set aside and distributed to benevolence partners to be used by those organizations. This impacts the lives of real people – the majority of whom we may never meet. In sharing the gifts God has first given us, we quickly discover that it is not only other lives that are changed, but, in generous giving, ours as well.

The Benevolence Committee prayerfully discerns partnerships and disbursement levels based on congregational ministry emphases. Committee members assist with the review and oversight of Benevolence funds. If you are interested in participating or learning more, please reach out to Scott Street at [kentuckystreets@msn.com](mailto:kentuckystreets@msn.com).

### **Faith Promise Pledge**

It's not too late to submit your Faith Promise forms to help support the mission and ministry here at Grace. Through our Faith Promise we offer our time, talents, and treasures to help build up our Grace community for this and future generations. Through faithful giving of gifts, we become partners in changing lives here in our community and around the world. You can pick up a form at the front desk or access the form online at <https://bit.ly/3xKEeGX>. Thank you for your generosity. Your gifts to Grace will help sustain our ministry, expand our vision for the future, and support our benevolence partners.

### **GriefShare Seminar Series**

The sessions will be held on Fridays, from January 20 to April 21. We will meet from 9:00 to 10:45 a.m. 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 information, 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!

3/24/23 - Stuck

4/14/23 - Heaven

3/31/20 - Lessons of Grief, Part 1

4/21/23 - What Do I Live for Now?

4/07/23 - Lessons of Grief, Part 2

## *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 March 23. Classes are free with a goodwill offering to Grace. Previous experience with yoga is not a requirement! Everyone is welcome.

### **Religion in Literature**

After the March 17 meeting in the home of Bill and Karen Clapp, 5845 W. Ohio St., Chicago, the April 21 meeting of Religion in Literature will focus on Marilynne Robinson's novel, *Jack*, led by Amy Merrick. This is the story of the courtship of an interracial couple in post-World War II St. Louis. Meeting place to be determined. For more information and to be added to the email list, please contact [jill.baumgaertner@wheaton.edu](mailto:jill.baumgaertner@wheaton.edu).

### **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.

### **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 fellowship and Bible study is on March 22. Lunch will follow. Contact [earmstrong@gracriverforest.org](mailto:earmstrong@gracriverforest.org) for more information.

### **Retired Leaders**

The Retired Leaders group meets on Tuesday, April 11, 10 a.m. in the church library.

### **Knitting Group**

The knitting group meets on the third Tuesday of every month in the Church Library. The next meeting is on March 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, March 24. Email Pastor Troy ([tmedlin@gracriverforest.org](mailto:tmedlin@gracriverforest.org)) for details.

### **Moms of Littles**

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.

**Dads of Grace**

Pastor Lyle and other dads gather offsite for evenings of fellowship once a month. The next gathering is Monday, March 27. Email Pastor Lyle for more information (dlyle@graceriverforest.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, March 25. We are currently reading and discussing *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr. Email Pastor Troy for more information (tmedlin@graceriverforest.org.)

**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 April 14. Contact Judie McDonnell (judie.mcdonnell@att.net) for more information or if you need to arrange a ride.

**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**

**Last Sunday's****Attendance:**

8:30 a.m.: 60

11:00 a.m.:122