

## *Vaccine clinic today!*

Grace is hosting a vaccine clinic today, Sunday, September 24 from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the gym. Vaccines for COVID-19, the seasonal flu, Pneumonia, RSV, Shingles and Tdap (Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis) will be available. You can sign up before Sunday on the Osco online scheduling site (also found at [graceriverforest.org](http://graceriverforest.org)>grace links>vaccine clinic signup). Walk-ins will also be accepted. Reach out to Joanna Schubkegel with questions at [jschubkegel@graceriverforest.org](mailto:jschubkegel@graceriverforest.org).



## *2023-24 Bach Cantata Vespers*

**Bringet dem Herrn Ehre seines Namens, BWV 148  
Bring to the Lord the honor due his name**

The new season of Bach Cantata Vespers opens with a festive cantata celebrating the joys of the sabbath.

Pastor Stephen Bouman is the homilist. The prelude at 3:45 p.m. features renowned concert organist Nicole Keller playing Poulenc's Organ Concerto in G Minor. The preview lecture with Mark Peters begins at 3:00 p.m. in the Seminar Room.

## *Adult Education kicks off today with "Pilgrimages"*

The new season of Adult Ed begins this morning at 9:00 a.m. in the Seminar Room. Sharenda Barlar, Spanish professor at Wheaton College, will describe her fascinating experiences leading students on the Camino de Santiago. Barlar speaks internationally and writes widely on the life-changing idea of recreating pilgrimages. The rest of the fall Adult Ed schedule can be found on the

***Last Sunday's Attendance: 210***



## **Sunday, October 1, 4-7 p.m.**

Enjoy homemade German food, beer and wine, an oompah band, a traditional Laterne parade and more at this annual event in Grace's gym. All are welcome at Oktoberfest!

Purchase your tickets this

morning in the atrium before and after worship for the best price. Advance price tickets are also available online at the Grace Links page on the Grace website through Saturday, Sept. 30, at 10pm. Beer provided by Kinslahger and Around the Bend Breweries. To RSVP and sign up to volunteer use the QR code.



### **Bible Study**

Join us for Bible Study every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room. This fall, we will be working our way through "God's Law is Love," a Bible study from Augsburg Fortress. Books are available in class and at the front desk. A detailed fall schedule is available on the Grace Links page of the website for future reference. We would love to have you join us!

### **New Member Class**

If you are interested in becoming a Grace Lutheran Church member or simply learning more about this community of faith, we have the perfect opportunity. New member classes begin October 15. We will meet at 11:15 a.m. each Sunday to talk about what it means to be Lutheran and get to know one another. If you are interested or have questions, contact Julie Hinz at [jhinz@graceriverforest.org](mailto:jhinz@graceriverforest.org).

### **Social Ministry Coat Drive**

Grace's Social Ministry Committee will hold a winter coat drive from October 1 through October 15. We are looking for gently used or new winter coats for children, teens and adults. Coats collected must be clean and have working buttons, snaps and zippers. Please place them in the bin in the atrium. The coats will be given to Harmony Food Pantry and the New Neighbors Program at Harmony, which serves migrants coming from Mexico, Central America and South America. If you need more information, please contact [stephwilkening@gmail.com](mailto:stephwilkening@gmail.com).

### **Advent Devotions**

As we prepare for Grace's Advent Devotion Series, we want to open the door and invite anyone who might be interested in writing to join the team. We are looking for 23 writers, one for each day of Advent. If you are at all interested and willing, whether you have written before or not, please talk to Pastor Lyle or Julie Hinz to get your name on the list. We will get you readings and instructions as soon as we have everything available. ([dlyle@graceriverforest.org](mailto:dlyle@graceriverforest.org) or [jhinz@graceriverforest.org](mailto:jhinz@graceriverforest.org)).

### **Tutors Needed at Harmony on Tuesday nights**

Do you have any interest in tutoring the sweetest kids in the world? We've had a huge influx of new students in our tutoring program at Harmony and really could use some more tutors. We meet every Tuesday night at Harmony Church 1908 S Millard, Chicago, from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. It is so much fun and the kids are great. The kids range in age from kindergarten to high school. Our goal is to pair the kids one-to-one with a tutor so they get the attention they deserve and need. If you have interest and time, please call Sue Foran at 708-267-1620 or email [susanforan4@gmail.com](mailto:susanforan4@gmail.com). Thanks so much!

## ***Fellowship Groups***

### **Yoga at Grace**

Yoga with Ackli meets on Thursday evenings, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome. Bring a yoga mat, a towel, and a yoga block if you have one. Classes are free with a goodwill offering to Grace. Previous experience with yoga is not a requirement! There will be no class on September 28.

### **Cornerstones**

This group for seniors meets Wednesday mornings for fellowship at 10:00 a.m. and Bible study at 10:30 a.m. in the Church Library. Contact Esther Armstrong with any questions at [earmstrong@gracriverforest.org](mailto:earmstrong@gracriverforest.org).

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

Moms of High School Teens and Young Adults This new fellowship group fosters community among women whose children are growing up into adulthood. Contact Beth Reynolds ([beth.reynolds@insight.com](mailto:beth.reynolds@insight.com)) to be added to the group email list.

### **Retired Leaders**

The Retired Leaders group meets monthly for presentations on a variety of topics. The next meeting is on October 10, 10:00 a.m. in the church library. All are welcome!

### **Knitting Group**

The knitting group meets on the third Tuesday of every month in the Church Library. The next meeting is on October 17, 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. After Friday, September 22, the next meeting is October 27, at 7:00 p.m. at One Lake Brewing Company. Email Pastor Troy ([tmedlin@gracriverforest.org](mailto:tmedlin@gracriverforest.org)) for details or to be added to the email list.

### **Dads of Grace**

The dads of Grace gather offsite for evenings of fellowship once a month. Email Pastor Dave Lyle for more information ([dlyle@gracriverforest.org](mailto:dlyle@gracriverforest.org)).

## **Religion in Literature**

The Religion in Literature group will meet at 7:30, October 20, to discuss Graham Greene's *The Power and the Glory*, the story of a hunted priest in Mexico at a time when the church is outlawed there. Pastor Lyle will lead the discussion. The meeting will be held in the home of Martin and Jill Baumgaertner, 841 W. Monroe St., #5PH, Chicago. For parking information and to be added to the email list, please contact [jill.baumgaertner@wheaton.edu](mailto:jill.baumgaertner@wheaton.edu). All are welcome!

## **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.

## **Men of Grace**

The Men of Grace group meets on the fourth Saturday of the month at 9 a.m., in the youth center. After September 23, the next meeting will be Saturday, October 28. Email Pastor Troy for more information ([tmedlin@graceriverforest.org](mailto:tmedlin@graceriverforest.org).)

## **Finding Hope**

The support group for people with chronic illness meets on the second Friday of the month. The next meeting is October 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the church library. Contact Judie McDonnell ([judie.mcdonnell@att.net](mailto:judie.mcdonnell@att.net)) for more information or if you need to arrange a ride.

## **GriefShare Seminar Series**

Our current GriefShare seminar series is being held on Thursdays from September 21 to December 28, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the church library. Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. Whether you are grieving the loss of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandchild, other family member, or a friend, and no matter what the cause of your loved one's death, you will find encouragement, comfort, and help by being with others who understand what you are feeling. To register, go to [GriefShare.org](http://GriefShare.org), click on Find a Group, and use the River Forest zip code (60305) to locate our group; call 708-366-6900; or email [gracechurch@graceriverforest.org](mailto:gracechurch@graceriverforest.org). All are welcome. See the GriefShare schedule below.

- September 28: Your Grief Journey (meeting in the conference room)
- October 5: Loneliness & Sadness
- October 12: Self-Care
- October 19: Fearful & Overwhelmed
- October 26: Anger (meeting in the conference room)
- November 2: Regrets
- November 9: Grief & Your Household
- November 16: Grief & Your Friendships
- November 23: no meeting (Thanksgiving)
- November 30: Questions for God
- December 7: Stuck in Grief
- December 14: Hope & Resilience
- December 21 *or* December 28 (TBD): What Do I Live For Now?