

Seminex Panel Discussion and Lunch

In honor of the 50th anniversary of Seminex, join us today, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall for a panel featuring a 20-minute presentation by The Rev. Dr. Kurt Hendel, the Bernard, Fischer, Westberg Distinguished Ministry Professor Emeritus of Reformation History at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. The panel will be followed by a discussion featuring Dr. Hendel, The Rev. Bruce Modahl, The Rev. Karl Reko, and Ruth Reko. All four of these people were directly a part of the events surrounding Seminex. Join us for this conversation and a light lunch. There will also be a time for Q and A.

Hymn Festival

Join us for a hymn festival on Wednesday, April 17, at 7:30 p.m. at Grace. The hymn festival will feature the Grace Choir and a program developed with commentary assembled and written by Martin Seltz. Musical leadership will include Robert Buckley Farlee, Grace Cantor Michael D. Costello, Anne Krentz Organ, and Daniel Schwandt. For more information about other events that week at The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago please select “Hymn Festival” on Grace Links.

Social Ministry Drive

Grace's Social Ministry Committee is collecting toilet paper, diapers for babies and feminine hygiene products — today is the last day to donate! Items will go to New Moms and the Harmony Community Food Pantry. Toilet paper rolls must be individually wrapped. New Moms is in particular need of diapers in sizes 4 and up. Please drop items in the bin in the atrium. Thank you. Any questions, please contact stephwilkening@gmail.com.

Last Sunday's Attendance: 190

Heritage Chorale Concert at Grace: Today at 4:00 p.m.

Heritage Chorale, led by artistic director Wen Chin Liu-Young, presents its spring concert, "Sing a Joyful Song: A 40th Anniversary Celebration." The program features Ralph Vaughan Williams's Five Mystical Songs (for baritone and choir with organ), together with Benjamin Britten's Festival Te Deum and Jubilate Deo in C. The choir is honored to have Douglas Anderson as baritone soloist in Five Mystical Songs. The program also includes pieces by Heinrich Schütz, Stephen Paulus, and David Dickau, and an anthem by Harriet Ziegenhals, artistic director of Heritage in our second decade. Tickets are available at heritagechorale.com and at the door. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$20.

New Members Class

New Members Class began last Sunday, but you can still join us if you missed the first session. Classes take place in Pastor Lyle's office each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Join us as we discuss what we at Grace believe, how we worship, and how we can help you grow in your faith. All are welcome. Contact Esther Armstrong at earmstrong@graceriverforest.org or call 708-366-6900 to sign up — or just come!

Sponsor Altar Flowers

Now that Lent is over, we once again enjoy weekly altar flowers. Consider sponsoring flowers to celebrate a special occasion or to honor the memory of a loved one. Contact the front desk for details and to sign up.

Migrant Need - Grocery Fund

The migrants who came to Oak Park and are now being resettled in more permanent housing. This time, their main need is money for groceries. Many of these new neighbors are in the process of receiving SNAP and other benefits but need grocery money to hold them over. You can drop off cash donations at the front desk at Grace or make an online donation through the Oak Park-River Forest Community of Congregations (linked on Grace Links). Click on "donate" at the top of the page, then click on "donate with credit or debit card, then on the next page where it says "add special instructions..." select "groceries." Thank you!

Harmony Community Cares 2024 Virtual Gala

Harmony Community Cares (HCC) will host its fourth Annual Virtual Gala on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. and you're invited! The Gala features amazing raffle prizes, inspirational stories from Pastor James Brooks and others, and many ways you can support the essential work they do. Money raised at the Gala will be used to increase capacity and reach of Harmony's Food Pantry, and programming. Countless Grace members have joined Harmony in their mission by volunteering at the HCC. To register for the Gala, donate, offer a sponsorship, or buy raffle tickets, visit <http://bidpal.net/hcc2024gala>. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Foran at susanforan4@gmail.com.

Grace Lutheran Church and School, 7300 Division, River Forest, IL 60305 708-366-6900 www.graceriverforest.org
Call 708-689-3032 for emergency pastoral care evenings and weekends.

Grace Hosts CCE Benefit

Celebrate Grace Church's ministry with the Center for Christian Education on Sunday, April 28. Come to Fellowship Hall at 4:30 p.m. and meet CCE co-founders Bohdan Hrobon and Adrian Kacian. Enjoy a cash bar, hearty appetizers, and conversation. Dessert and coffee follow, along with an update on CCE's programs and progress. Now in its 27th year, CCE has been a mission partner with Grace Church since 2007. Tickets: \$40/person, \$320/table of 8. Buy yours in the atrium today or go online to Grace Links.

Fellowship Groups

Cornerstones Bible Study

Bible study for seniors on Wednesdays. On April 17, join us Bible study at 10:00, Morning Worship at 11:30, and lunch following the service in Fellowship hall. Contact Esther Armstrong at earmstrong@graceriverforest.org for more information.

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. After May 9, the group will take a break through the end of summer.

Theology on Tap

Come for community and monthly conversations about faith and life. The next meeting is Friday, April 26. Email Pastor Troy (tmedlin@graceriverforest.org) for details or to be added to the email list.

Moms of High School Teens and Young Adults

This fellowship group fosters community among women whose children are growing up into adulthood. Contact Beth Reynolds (beth.reynolds@insight.com) to be added to the group email list.

Dads of Grace

The Dads of Grace gather offsite for evenings of fellowship on the fourth Monday of every month. This group will meet on April 22, at 7:30 p.m. Email Pastor Dave Lyle for more information (dlyle@graceriverforest.org).

Knitting Group

This month, the group will meet on April 16, 1:00–2:30 p.m. in the church library. Beginners are welcome! Email Karen Eckstein (ecksteinkaren2@gmail.com) with questions.

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) 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. The group will meet again on April 27. 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. The next meeting is May 10, at 10:00 a.m. in the church library. Contact Judie McDonnell (judie.mcdonnell@att.net) for more information or if you need to arrange a ride.

Religion in Literature

The Religion in Literature group will meet on Friday, April 19, at 7:30 p.m. to discuss Steven Peck's *A Short Stay in Hell*, a novella which envisions hell as a vast library which one can escape only by finding the book that contains the story of one's life. Liz Hanson will lead the discussion which will meet in the home of Jeff and Claudia Wood, 1027 Thatcher Ave., River Forest. All are welcome. To be added to the email list please contact jill.baumgaertner@wheaton.edu

Retired Leaders

The Retired Leaders group meets monthly on Tuesdays in the church library to discuss a wide breadth of topics. The next meeting is May 14. For more information or to be added to the email list, contact John Halvorson at johnlhalvorson@yahoo.com. All are welcome!



Church Library

The theme in the church library this month is "Springtime, Nature and Creation." Find books in the Atrium case and in the library. A complete list is also available on Grace Links.