

Enjoy a treat and fellowship after worship this morning

The coffee hour this morning is hosted by the Church Library Committee. Take this opportunity to talk with a member of the Library Committee to find out more about about the many books and resources available for loan in the Grace Church Library.

Tonight at 6 p.m! Grace School sponsors concert in Scoville Park

Enjoy classic jazz at a free concert in Scoville Park, Lake Street and Oak Park Avenue, on Sunday evening, July 28, at 6 p.m. Grace School is sponsoring the program which is part of the Park District of Oak Park's series of free summer concerts. The Chicago-based group Second City Jazz provides the music. Bring a blanket or a lawn chair, enjoy the music — and help to spread the good news about Grace School.

School supply drive

Grace's Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring the Evie Tiemann Memorial School Supply Drive from July 28 through August 11. Please drop off backpacks, crayons, markers, colored pencils, folders, glue sticks, scissors, pencils, erasers, notebooks, spirals, wide-ruled looseleaf paper, tissues, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes in the bin in the atrium.

The drive is named after Evie, a beloved committee member and passionate educator. Items collected will be distributed to area schools by Chicagoland Lutheran Educational Foundation and given to students in the Harmony Community Cares Tutoring Program in Chicago's North Lawndale community. We thank you for your generosity.

Last Sunday's Attendance: 188

Grace Principal Search Update

Over the past few weeks, the search firm Grace has partnered with to select a new Principal for Grace School has completed numerous focus groups and one-on-one meetings to learn what is most important to our community for the next Grace School Principal. Stakeholder groups for this phase included Grace teachers and other staff, parents/families, church members, search committee members, and pastors. The result of this process was the development of a Leadership Profile for the Principal role, which will be used throughout the interview process as a guide to evaluate prospective candidates. Thank you to all who participated in one of these sessions. Your involvement and input is appreciated.

Potential candidates are currently being vetted by the search firm and it is our hope to begin the first round of candidate interviews next week. We will continue to share updates throughout the process. The timeline was designed with the goal of identifying a new principal by the beginning of the new school year. However, we will not settle on a candidate just to meet this timeline. If the first slate of potential candidates does not meet the standards we've set, we will continue the process by interviewing new candidates. If you have any questions about the process, please contact the Elementary Education Committee at eec@gracerf.org, and they will connect you with the Principal Search Committee.

FEAST is coming Back

Watch for sign up information coming soon. The purpose of FEAST is to gather us together to connect to God by creating deeper relationships within the community of Grace. After you sign up you will be assigned a group. Groups meet regularly to learn and grow together. All are invited, children and teens included. You will want to be a part of this!

Recycling Challenge

We are joining Temple Har Zion and Pilgrim Church to collect 1,000 pounds of plastic bags and other flexible plastic and keep it out of landfills. The plastic will be recycled by Trex into a bench to donate to a local not-for-profit. Look for the collection box in the atrium along with a flyer listing the specific types of plastic we are collecting.

Dinner celebration for Pastor F. Dean Lueking

Grace's Pastor Emeritus, F. Dean Lueking, is celebrating the 70th anniversary of his ordination in 2024. A dinner in his honor will take place in Grace's Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 29, at 6:00 p.m. following the Bach Cantata Vespers and reception that afternoon. Tickets for the dinner may be purchased at GraceRiverForest.org > Grace Links, or by calling Grace at 708-366-6900. Ticket cost is \$50 per person and \$450 for a table of ten. Please purchase your tickets by September 15.

Fellowship Groups

Cornerstones Bible Study

Cornerstones Summer Fellowship meets Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the church library. This week's theme is Reading Biblical Literature with a focus on Psalms. For questions email Esther Armstrong (earmstrong@graceriverforest.org).

Knitting Group

The next meeting is August 20, 1:00–2:30 p.m. in the church library. Beginners are welcome! Email Karen Eckstein (ecksteinkaren2@gmail.com) with questions.

Theology on Tap

Conversations about faith and life. Email Pastor Troy (tmedlin@graceriverforest.org) to be added to the email list about monthly get-togethers in the fall.

Moms of High School Teens and Young Adults

Fellowship for women whose children are growing up into adulthood. Please 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. The next meeting is August 26. Email Pastor Dave Lyle for more information (dlyle@graceriverforest.org).

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 and 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 Saturday, July 27, the next meeting is August 24. 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 August 9. Contact Judie McDonnell (judie.mcdonnell@att.net) for more information or if you need to arrange a ride.

Faith Forum (formerly known as Retired Leaders)

The Retired Leaders group returns in September with a new name and a goal of reaching out to all in the Grace community and beyond who want to engage with issues of concern to contemporary Christians. Grace member John Bouman, public interest lawyer and director of Legal Action Chicago, is the featured speaker on Tuesday, September 10, at 11 a.m. Email Gwen Gotsch at gwengotsch@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

Religion in Literature

The Religion in Literature group is currently on summer break. The next meeting is September 20, a discussion of James Baldwin's *Go Tell It On the Mountain*. David Helm is the discussion leader. Contact jill.baumgaertner@wheaton.edu to be added to the mailing list.

Job openings at Grace Church and School

There are several staff openings at Grace Church and School. Our members' networks are a great source of applicants. Do you know anyone who might be interested in one of these jobs?

- **Special education coordinator.** Full-time position in Grace School. Review and implement IEPs/ISPs; provide push-in and pull-out support, collaborate with teachers and parents to support student success, coordinate with local school districts.
- **Math teacher, part-time.** Teach 7th-grade algebra and 8th-grade geometry to classes of 8-10 students.
- **School counselor / social worker, part-time.** The role provides regular consultation to teachers and parents in matters pertaining to the social-emotional needs of students. The candidate should be licensed to work in school counseling or in social work.
- **Also needed: Preschool Teacher Aid (part-time) and Boys volleyball coach**

Detailed job descriptions are available under Employment at GraceSchoolRF.org. Or contact Assistant Principal Kristi Underhill at kunderhill@graceriverforest.org.

Parish Nurse

Grace Church continues to seek applicants for the position of Parish Nurse. The job description is available at GraceRiverForest.org, or contact Pastor Lyle (dlyle@graceriverforest.org).