

# Weekly Announcements

August 4, 2024

## *Enjoy a treat and fellowship after worship this morning*

The coffee hour this morning is hosted by the Benevolence Committee. Take this opportunity to talk with a member of this committee to find out more about about how Grace uses member contributions to help organizations aligned with our mission to spread the gospel and to help people, both near and far, who are in need.

## *School supply drive through August 11*

Grace's Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring the Evie Tiemann Memorial School Supply Drive 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.

## *PicnicFest, Sunday, September 8, 11:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.*

Come and celebrate PicnicFest with us! We have combined our annual Church/School Picnic with our Oktoberfest celebration this year. Our usual church-school picnic fare will be supplemented with brats and a beer tent and possibly some other surprises! The festivities begin after the worship service on September 8. Food will be available until 2 p.m. Activities will continue until 3 p.m. Find the link to RSVP and volunteer at [GraceRF.org](http://GraceRF.org). Click on [Grace Links](#) at the top of the page.

***Last Sunday's Attendance: 215***

## *Refugee ministry update*

As we look ahead to the Democratic National Convention here in Chicago in August, there is a possibility we may have another influx of migrants at that same time. In order to be prepared to meet this need we are asking for donations of adult summer clothing (T-shirts and shorts, mostly size medium, in gender-neutral colors and styles).

Thanks to previous generous donations, the only current need is the clothing. Donations of summer T-shirts and shorts may be dropped in the basket under the Refugee ministry bulletin board in the atrium before August 17. Blessings on your generous hearts!

## *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](http://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 Gick Schmidt leads a hymn sing. For more information email Esther Armstrong ([earmstrong@gracriverforest.org](mailto:earmstrong@gracriverforest.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](mailto: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. 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.

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## 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 aide (part-time) and boys volleyball coach**

Detailed job descriptions are available under Employment at [GraceSchoolRF.org](http://GraceSchoolRF.org). Or contact Assistant Principal Kristi Underhill at [kunderhill@graceriverforest.org](mailto: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](http://GraceRiverForest.org), or contact Pastor Lyle ([dlyle@graceriverforest.org](mailto:dlyle@graceriverforest.org)).

