

January 25, 2026 • Last Sunday's Attendance: 221

Today at Grace: January 25

Mentor Session: 11:15 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Congregation Meeting: 11:15 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

A light lunch will be provided.

Be the First to Know: Choose what emails you want to receive from Grace!

Hello! In addition to our weekly emails (Sunday is Coming and Today at Grace), we will be starting to send out specific emails that are tailored to your interests. Please scan the QR code, visit Grace Links, or click the link in Sunday is Coming to sign up for the emails that you are interested in receiving.



Grace's Library is Open

Did you know that the church library is open on Sundays? Stop by after worship to see what books are available. And if your child needs a break during worship, there are books just for them.

The current feature is our large coffee table books. More information will be shared in the next Grace Notes, but you can check out the books now in the Atrium case. To check out any book, please write your name on the card in the back of the book and leave it in the card holder on the table. Books are available for a four-week checkout.

Hat, Mittens, and Scarf Collection

Social Ministry Committee's collection of mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves for children has been extended through the end of January. Items can be placed in the black bin in the Atrium. Thank you!

Chili Cook Off and Winter Carnival



Friday, February 6

Chili Cook Off

5:00 - 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Chili prizes: Most original, Zestiest, and Best overall



Winter Carnival

6:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Gym

Carnival games for all ages, face painting, balloon artist, music, and more!

Cost: \$10 per adult and \$5 per child

This is a church and school event, so we hope you can make it!

Go to Grace Links to RSVP, volunteer to help, or bring chili. We appreciate your support!

What's Happening: January 26 - February 1

Ready to build deeper friendships and connections at Grace? Now is the perfect time to jump in! We have several groups meeting this week, and you're invited to stop by even if you've never attended before. All are welcome and no RSVP required. Come connect with your church family!

Dads of Grace: Monday at 7:30 p.m. (Youth Center)

You're invited to join in to connect with other dads in the church for encouragement, practical advice, and supportive friendship as we navigate the challenges and joys of fatherhood together. For more information, contact Pastor Dave Lyle (dlyle@graceriverforest.org).

Cornerstones: Wednesday at 10 a.m. (Church Library)

Join us for fellowship followed by a discussion about the upcoming Scripture readings.

Handbell Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. (Bell Room)

Parish Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. (Music Room)

Grace Notes Mailing Crew: Thursday at 9:30 a.m. (Church Library)

GriefShare: Thursday at 10 a.m. (Conference Room)

Session Topic: Your Grief Journey

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. The list of upcoming sessions can be found on Grace Links.

To register: go to 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. For further information, contact facilitator Linda Bernard at 773-259-4720 or at lmbernard5@gmail.com.

Yoga Class: Thursday at 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Bring a yoga mat, a yoga block if you have one, and a large towel or a blanket. Fee for the class is a free will offering which goes to the church. If you have questions about class or yoga in general, please call Ackli at 708-516-2701.

Bible Exploration Part II: Friday at 6 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Fifth and sixth graders are invited to participate with a parent. We will continue our Bible exploration in the New Testament this year. Join Pastor Troy and Julie Modrich for a night of games, trivia, and Bible exploration. Together, we will discover fun facts about the Bible and what its message has to do with our lives. Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP by contacting Julie Modrich (jmodrich@graceriverforest.org) or going to Grace Links.

Confirmation: Sunday at 9 a.m. (Youth Center)

Session Topic: Communion: Passover to Last Supper/ Taste and See

Sunday School: Sunday at 9 a.m. (Nursery and 3rd Floor Commons)

Session Topic: Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)

Scout Sunday and Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, February 1

During worship, Grace member Mike Carioscio will be presented with the Lamb Award – a national award of the National Lutheran Association on Scouting. It recognizes distinguished service of Lutheran adults in fostering the spiritual growth of youth through church and civic youth serving agency programs.

Following worship, come to Fellowship Hall to enjoy a delicious pancake breakfast hosted by the Scouts. Donations and silent auction support Troop programming and adventures. Come enjoy some food, connect with members of the Grace and scouting communities, and learn more about our Troop's rich 90 year history. Whether you're a longtime supporter, a curious newcomer, or simply hungry for some pancakes, everyone is welcome!

Upcoming Events

Lent Book Study: Starts February 22 at 9 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Join Pastor Lyle this Lent for a journey through *Giving to God: The Bible's Good News about Living a Generous Life* by Mark Powell. This study will be held on five consecutive Sundays during Lent. Copies of the book are available for free. You may pick up a book at the front desk when they are available. Please sign up using Grace Links to let us know you're coming.

Other Information

Looking for Charity Recommendations

Grace will have a rummage sale on June 5 & 6. In the past, leftover items have been given to various charities. These donations have helped the homeless, veterans, the elderly, children, etc. If you know of a charity which would be a good recipient of leftover items, please contact Rebecca Dahlstrom at centurywanderer1@hotmail.com. Thank you!

Lent Devotionals

This year Lent devotional is *Love Outpouring*. Copies are currently available at the front desk, by the Division Street door, and in the magazine racks in the Narthex.

Grace in Action

If you are interested in getting more involved this year, check out the updated Grace in Action document for information on the many ways to "plug into" life at Grace. Afterwards, fill out our interest form. We will then forward your information to the chair of the group(s) you are interested in joining. You can also reach out to Julie Modrich, Ministry Engagement Manager, at jmodrich@graceriverforest.org. Copies will be available at the congregation meeting, and the document and link to the form can be found on Grace Links.



Grace Links

