

Weekly Announcements

February 22, 2026 • Last Sunday's Attendance: 203

Today at Grace: February 22

Bach Cantata Vespers: Sunday at 3:45 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Tue Rechnung! Donnerwort, BWV 168 (Settle the account! Word of thunder)

Based on the parable in Luke 16 about a dishonest manager, the dramatic music of the opening aria shows an all-powerful God who demands accountability from the people. The later movements of the cantata, however, bring resolution as text and music remind listeners that Jesus' sacrificial death has paid their debt. This marks the first performance of this cantata in our series at Grace.

Confirmation Mentor Session: Sunday at 11:15 a.m. (Youth Center)

Harmony Food Drive

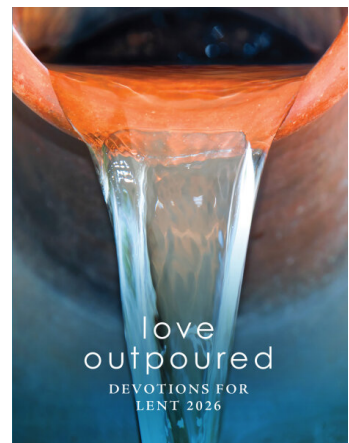
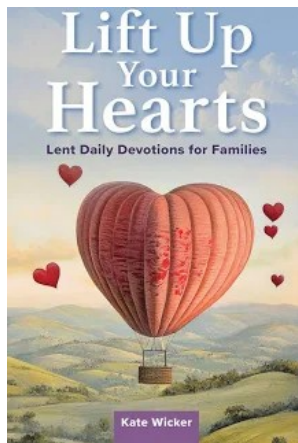
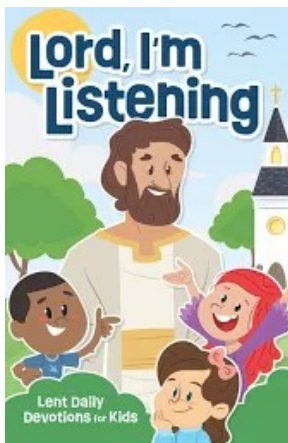
Starting next Sunday and continuing through the month of March, we will be collecting canned fruit. Please place unopened and unexpired items in the bin in the Atrium. Thank you for your generosity!

Grace's Library is Open

The current feature is our books for Lent. The book list can be found on Grace Links, and the books are on display in the Library and Atrium display 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.

Devotionals

Copies of all three are currently available at the front desk, by the Division Street door, and in the magazine racks in the Narthex.



What's Happening: February 23 - March 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, February 23, at 7:30 p.m. (Off-site)

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, including the location, contact Pastor Dave Lyle (dlyle@graceriverforest.org).

Cornerstones: Wednesday, February 25, at 10 a.m. (Church Library)

Join us for fellowship followed by a discussion about the upcoming Scripture readings. This week also includes Morning Prayer at 11:30 followed by lunch.

Handbell Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday, February 25, at 5:30 p.m. (Bell Room)

Lenten Supper: Wednesday, February 25, at 6 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

The Men of Grace and Dads of Grace will be hosting a pizza and salad dinner. There is no cost for the meal.

Evening Prayer: Wednesday, February 25, at 7 p.m. (Sanctuary and Online)

Parish Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday, February 25, at 7:45 p.m. (Music Room)

Grace Notes Mailing Crew: Thursday, February 26, at 9:30 a.m. (Church Library)

GriefShare: Thursday, February 26, at 10 a.m. (Conference Room)

Session Topic: Anger

For more information, including upcoming sessions, go to Grace Links.

Yoga Class: Thursday, February 26, 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.

Compline Prayer: Thursdays, February 26, at 9 p.m. ([Zoom](#))

This short liturgy (15-20 minutes) gives us words and space to entrust our waking and our sleeping into God's good care so we might rest well and be renewed for the days ahead. We will meet on Zoom, and the meeting ID is 833 7569 7350 and the passcode is 279091. If you have questions, let Pastor Troy know (tmedlin@graceriverforest.org).

Building Open: Friday, February 27, from 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

FEAST Kick-Off: Friday, February 27, at 6 p.m. (Church Library)

Theology on Tap: Friday, February 27, at 7:30 p.m. (One Lake Brewing, Oak Park)

You're invited to join Pastor Troy once a month for Theology on Tap. It is geared toward young adults but all people are welcome. Pastor Troy will bring a topic and some questions for discussion. Curiosity and different perspectives are always welcome.

Men of Grace: Saturday, February 28, at 9 a.m. (Youth Center)

Join the men of Grace for coffee and donuts, great conversation, and time for connection with each other. All are welcome!

Graceful Evening Pub Crawl: Saturday, February 28, at 6 p.m. (Off-site)

Join us for the 1st ever Graceful Evening Pub Crawl on Madison Street in Forest Park! The evening kicks off at Duffy's Tavern. We will "crawl" to about 4 bars total with a stop at Jimmy's Place for pizza! The event is open to anyone who wants to support Grace Lutheran School (21+). The cost is \$50 per person and includes a T-shirt and pizza at Jimmy's place. The rest is a donation to Graceful Evening. The link to purchase tickets can be found on Grace Links.

Confirmation: Sunday, March 1, at 9 a.m. (Youth Center)

Session: Ten Commandments Review

Sunday School: Sunday, March 1, at 9 a.m. (Nursery and 3rd Floor Commons)

Session: The Light of the World (John 3:14-21)

Book Study: Sunday, March 1, 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. If you have signed up to participate, we will let you know when the books arrive.

La Caccina Concert (Hildegard Redux) Sunday, March 1, at 3 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Hildegard von Bingen was one of the most important and prolific composers of the medieval period, and her poetic and compositional voice lives on to this day, inspiring musicians, playwrights, poets, and millions of music-lovers around the world. In this concert, La Caccina will perform the virtuosic music of von Bingen herself, as well as that of contemporary composers who have been influenced by her distinctive voice and innovative sensibilities. Visit lacaccina.org to purchase tickets (\$30 for general admission).

Other Information

Graceful Evening Whiskey Donations Needed

We're getting ready for Graceful Evening, and we're looking for a few more bottles to make our fundraiser a success! If you have a favorite whiskey (valued at \$50+) you'd like to donate, please give it to the front desk during building hours. During the event, guests will donate for the opportunity to randomly select one of these bottles to enjoy. Your contribution adds so much excitement to the night — thank you for your support!

For more information about Graceful Evening, including how to purchase tickets, visit Grace Links or check out the February issue of Grace Notes, which can be found under the "What's Happening" menu tab.

Grace Links



