

What's Happening: March 1 - 8

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!

Cornerstones: Wednesday, March 4, 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.

Handbell Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday, March 4, at 5:30 p.m. (Bell Room)

Lenten Supper: Wednesday, March 4, at 6 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

The Slovakia Mission Team will be hosting a baked ham, sides, and salad dinner. There is no cost for the meal.

Evening Prayer: Wednesday, March 4, at 7 p.m. (Sanctuary and Online)

Students from 5th-8th grade choir and Strike Team (handbells) will be joining us for worship.

Parish Choir Rehearsal: Wednesday, March 4, at 7:45 p.m. (Music Room)

GriefShare: Thursday, March 5, at 10 a.m. (Conference Room)

Session Topic: Regrets

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

Yoga Class: Thursday, March 5, 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.

Moms of Littles: Thursday, March 5, at 6:30 p.m. (Youth Center)

If you are in need of child care, please let Elyssa know by the Monday before each meeting (elyssa.salinas@gmail.com).

Compline Prayer: Thursday, March 5, 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).

Grace's Quilting Group: Saturday, March 7, at 9:30 a.m. (Quilting Room)

Grace's Quilting Group is also looking for donations of supplies, equipment, or funds to support their effort. A "Master List of Welcome Supplies" can be found on Grace Links. Donated Supplies can be placed in the Quilt Project Bin in the Coat Closet off the Atrium. Contact Christa Krout, 708.557.9574 or christakrout@comcast.net with any questions.

St. Patrick's Day Parade: Saturday, March 7, at 1 p.m. (Off-site)

Grace Lutheran Church is invited to join the school in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. If you are interested in participating, please let Amanda Smith (asmith@graceriverforest.org) know.

Sunday School: Sunday, March 8, at 9 a.m. (3rd Floor Commons)

Session: Women at the Well (John 4:5-42)

Book Study: Sunday, March 8, at 9 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Join Pastor Lyle for a journey through *Giving to God: The Bible's Good News about Living a Generous Life* by Mark Allan Powell.

Adult Education: Sunday, March 8, at 11:15 a.m. (Seminar Room)

Megan Wells, Asst. Professor of Theater at Concordia University, will present a dramatic interpretation of the biblical story "The Woman at the Well."

Join us in March

Faith Forum: Tuesday, March 10, at 10 a.m. (Church Library and Zoom)

Hymns for Lent and Holy Week

Grace Cantor Michael D. Costello will present a program on hymns for Lent and Holy Week. We'll hear chorale preludes composed by Costello and then join in on singing them.

Our apologies for the typo in Grace Notes in the upcoming events section. Faith Forum will meet at the date and time listed above.

Know Your Rights Training: Tuesday, March 10, at 7 p.m. (Seminar Room)

Oak Park River Forest Rapid Response is offering Know Your Rights trainings throughout the area at local congregations in preparation for increased ICE/CBP presence this spring. The goal of these trainings is to give community members an overview of their rights as it pertains to interactions with immigration agents. There will also be a discussion on personal risk evaluation, as well as both formal and informal ways to get involved in supporting the community and protecting our neighbors and ourselves. This training is free and open to the community. The sign up for this event is on Grace Links. You will find our event at the bottom of the sign up.

Operation Deluge: Sunday, March 15, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. (Atrium)

Stop by to enjoy a treat, sign a card, and send a word of prayer or encouragement to a Grace member.

Knitting Group: Tuesday, March 17, at 1 p.m. (Church Library)

Bring your current project and enjoy some relaxed crafting time and good conversation. We will also show you how to contribute to our prayer shawl ministry.

Grace Notes Mailing Crew: Thursday, March 19, at 9:30 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Moms of Littles: Thursday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m. (Youth Center)

We are group for moms of children ages infant - 8th grade. Our intention is to build and maintain a faith-based community that supports each other as we navigate the journey of parenthood. All moms are welcome in this group regardless of church or school affiliation. If you are in need of child care, please let Elyssa know by the Monday before each meeting.

Finding Hope: Friday, March 20, at 10 a.m. (Church Library)

You are invited to an informal monthly gathering of support and encouragement for those who experience a chronic health concern.

Religion in Literature: Friday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Jeff and Claudia Woods' home (1027 Thatcher, River Forest)

Easter by August Strindberg

Craig Mindrum will lead the discussion of the Swedish drama that is infused with Christian symbolism, traveling from the suffering of Good Friday to the forgiveness of Easter Sunday. All are welcome! We'd love to see you.

Our apologies for the typo in Grace Notes in the upcoming events section. Religion in Literature will meet at the date and time listed above.

Consonance: Fri., March 20, at 7:30 p.m. and Sun., March 22, at 3 p.m. (Sanctuary)

In this powerful multimedia symphony, Jocelyn Hagen honors the voices and stories of women from across time and culture. This exciting work features choir and orchestra conducted by Michael D. Costello, and striking portraiture projected live. *Here I Am* celebrates the centennial of the 19th Amendment – the culmination of the women's suffrage movement – and the ongoing fight for equality. We are joined by Grammy-nominated soprano Laura Strickling and Spirito Singers conducted by Carling FitzSimmons. Tickets are \$45 (adult) and \$35 (Senior, 65+). The link to purchase tickets can be found on [Grace Links](#).

Dads of Grace: Monday, March 23, at 7:30 p.m. (Off-site)

You're invited to stop by and connect with other dads in the church for encouragement, practical advice, and supportive friendship as we navigate the challenges and joys of fatherhood together.

Theology on Tap: Friday, March 27, at 7 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, March 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!

White Garment Conversations: Sunday, March 29, at 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Fourth grade students will present garments which display symbols of their lives and faith. They will then participate in Holy Communion for the first time during worship. All are welcome to attend.

Bach Cantata Vespers: Sunday, March 29, at 3:45 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt, BWV 68 (God so loved the world)

Although this cantata was composed for the Second Day of Pentecost in 1725, its rich and buoyant setting of John 3:16 makes it appropriate for the Sunday of the Passion. This cantata is quite unusual in its structure, drawing on sources from an earlier cantata and concluding with a double fugue rich with imagery about the relationship between faith and the gift of eternal life. Renowned organist, composer, and conductor David Cherwien plays the prelude at 3:45 p.m. and leads the congregational singing from the organ during the Vespers service.

Kontras Quartet: Tuesday, March 31, at 7 p.m. (Sanctuary)

A complete performance of Haydn's monumental "The Seven Last Words of Christ" featuring accompanying reflections.

This concert is free to attend.

Grace Links

