

Grace Notes



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH • 7300 W DIVISION • RIVER FOREST IL 60305 • 708-366-6900 • WWW.GRACERIVERFOREST.ORG

February 2018

Full days, full of grace

As we fund day-to-day ministry here at Grace Church

Have you noticed? Grace is a busy place! There's always something going on. Classrooms buzz with students learning, and Stephen Ministers gather to support one another. Holy Communion is prepared and celebrated while songs are lifted high. People dive into the Word together through planned Bible studies, while the Spirit draws them together in unexpected ways for mutual consolation and celebration. The list goes on and on, and these are just things that happen inside our building!

Every day is a full day at Grace, but that's only part of the story, because every full day at Grace is a day full of grace—God's grace. We are not busy for the sake of busy-ness. We are in a constant state of receiving and acting upon God's grace in our lives. There is much to do, but it is God who is driving our ministry and drawing us together here at Grace Church.

A few weeks ago, our Stewardship Committee launched Day Full of Grace, a campaign that invites you to think about the impact of your giving. I hope you've seen the display in the atrium. Even more, I hope you've taken a few minutes to place flags representing your support for ministry at Grace on calendar dates that are significant to you.

I want to focus on Day Full of Grace, but first I want to note what it isn't: it's not a pledge drive, a financial "ask," or a way to "sponsor"



Busy days, full of grace, at Grace Church: Confirmation mentors Neal Armstrong, Stewart Clarke, and Shawn Vogen volunteered alongside their mentees, packing meals at Feed My Starving Children in January. Olinda Fink and Margaret Kruse work in the church library and change the atrium display every month. Ellie Schnack discusses a Bible story with Vacation Bible School students last June.

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Day Full of Grace

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a day. The goal of Day Full of Grace is, first of all, to highlight the financial resources necessary to support these full days at Grace: \$9,500, each and every day of the year. Even more, however, the goal is to lift up the fact that we can and do fund day-to-day ministry here at Grace Church!

My hope is that in 2018 you would prayerfully consider how, why, and how much you support Grace financially:

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- **Priority:** Consider giving upfront, be it weekly, monthly, or annually. A “first fruits” approach to giving helps us give priority to God’s work.

- **Purpose:** Reflect on why you give — it’s probably not just to meet Grace’s budget. Giving is an act of thanksgiving and a confession of trust, that the One to whom you give will take care of you.

- **Proportion:** Pray about increasing your giving as a percentage of your income. It’s important for us as disciples of Jesus Christ to grow our giving.

Finally, a word of thanks. As we neared the end of 2017, my “impossible” goal, shared with you via email, was to minimize our deficit; I really didn’t even consider the possibility that we’d enter 2018 with a modest surplus. Thank you, and thanks be to the God who has given us everything in Jesus Christ. Imagine what we could do with such a spirit of generosity every day of the year!

May your full days be days full of grace, at Grace and beyond.

In Christ,

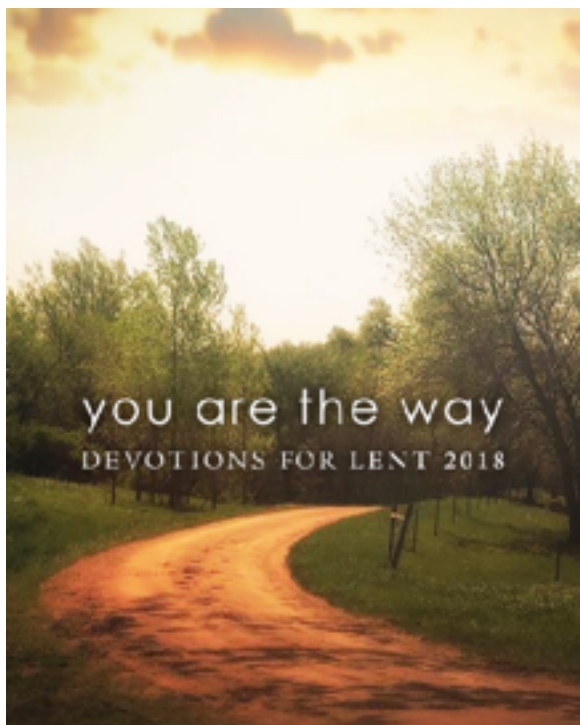
Sue Foran and Harriet Roberts (top) helped promote a Harmony Community Church fundraiser to Grace members in the atrium on a Sunday morning last fall. The Adult Ed audience (center) listened to a report on the Slovakia Mission Trip. Pastor Dave Lyle leads the Wednesday morning Cornerstones Bible study (bottom).



Grace Notes is published monthly by Grace Lutheran Church and School, 7300 Division St., River Forest, Ill. It is mailed to Grace members, parents of students at Grace School, and friends of the congregation. The newsletter is online at www.graceriverforest.org. This issue was mailed via U.S. Postal Service Bulk Mail on Friday, February 2, with the hope that it will arrive in your mailbox no later than February 9. Copies are also available at Grace.

Deadlines and submissions. The February issue of Grace Notes will be mailed on Friday, March 2. The deadline for copy is Wednesday, February 21; the issue covers events through early March. Send news to ggotsch@graceriverforest.org. Please limit your submissions to news relating to Grace Lutheran Church and School, its mission, ministries, and the benevolences the congregation supports. Articles should be no longer than 500 words. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity, and relevance.

“I am the way, the truth, and the life,” says Jesus.



In the gospel of John, Jesus describes himself with a series of “I am” statements and images:

I am the gate, the good shepherd.

I am the light of the world.

I am the true vine.

I am he, the Son of Man.

I am the bread of life.

Our Lenten mid-week worship services will focus on these “I am” texts, as we follow Jesus, who is the way, through the days of Lent and Holy Week, to the cross, and, at Easter, the empty tomb.

You can spend more time with these words of Jesus by picking up a copy of “You Are the Way: Devotions for Lent 2018,” available for free at Grace, beginning February 4. Each daily devotion in the booklet offers an evocative color image, a reading from John, a quotation to ponder, a reflection and a prayer. Large-print copies are available.

Lenten Wednesday worship services



Ash Wednesday

Holy Communion

February 14

8:30 a.m. with the school children

11:30 a.m. followed by
Cornerstones luncheon

7:00 p.m.

There is *no* Lenten supper
on Ash Wednesday.

Lenten Mid-Week Worship Wednesdays

February 21–March 21

11:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

7 p.m. Evening Prayer

Supper is served in Fellowship Hall at 6 p.m.

Prepare for Lent at a Family Sunday on February 11

Children in Sunday School and Pre-Confirmation classes and their families will be getting ready for Lent at a Family Sunday in Fellowship Hall on February 11.

It will be a morning of practicing love and learning about God's love for us in the sacrificial gift of Jesus Christ. Children and families will make hearts to give away to those who need a special reminder of God's love. Families will also create a hands-on devotion to take home and use together every day throughout the season of Lent.

WORSHIP

Sunday, February 4

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Holy Communion at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Isaiah 40:21-31, Psalm 147:1-11, 20c, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23, Mark 1:29-39

Sunday, February 11

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Holy Communion at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

2 Kings 2:1-12, Psalm 50:1-6, 2 Corinthians 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9

Wednesday, February 14

ASH WEDNESDAY

Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 7 p.m.

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17, 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Sunday, February 18

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Holy Communion at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Genesis 9:8-17, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15

Sunday, February 25

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Holy Communion at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:23-31, Romans 4:13-25, Mark 8:31-38

Sunday, March 4

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Holy Communion at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19:1-14, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, John 2:13-22

LENTEN MID-WEEK WORSHIP

Wednesdays, February 21 and 28

Morning Prayer at 11:30 a.m.

Evening Prayer at 7 p.m. (Supper is served in Fellowship Hall at 6 p.m.)

BACH CANTATA VESPERS

Sunday, February 25. Prelude begins at 3:45 p.m.

Gott soll allein mein Herze haben, BWV 169

God alone shall have my heart

Angela Young-Smucker, mezzo-soprano

Organ prelude: Steven Wenthe, Concordia University Chicago

Homilist: Mark A. Noll, Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill.

Preview lecture: Mark P. Bangert, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Solo cantata on February 25 includes an organ sinfonia

The text for the February cantata, *Gott soll allein mein Herze haben* (God alone shall have my heart), BWV 169, is based on the Great Commandment in the gospel of Matthew:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

Bach composed this cantata for an alto soloist in 1726, with the chorus singing only the final chorale. The cantata opens with a brilliant instrumental sinfonia for organ soloist, strings and oboes.

Angela Young-Smucker, mezzo-soprano, is the soloist for the cantata. Steve Wenthe of Concordia University is the organ soloist.

Loaves of ordinary bread

Beginning in February, we will celebrate the Eucharist each Sunday using loaves of bread.

As Jesus used the ordinary stuff of life when he first instituted the Last Supper, we seek to do the same in our celebration of this meal gifted to us. In using real bread and wine, we are invited to taste the fullness of both earthly elements in a way that draws us closely to the fullness of Christ. (Gluten-free wafers will continue to be available at communion for those who must avoid wheat products.)

We give thanks for our Altar Guild and their continued ministry in preparing the table at which Jesus Christ hosts us all.

Pastor Lauren Wegner





ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education classes meet at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings at Grace.

Classes in the Faithful Learning track meet in the Seminar Room on the lower level.

Classes in the Faithful Living track meet in the 7th grade/German classroom. Go through the Lamb Door next to the elevator, up half a flight of stairs, and turn left into the junior high classroom area.

If you have ideas or suggestions for Adult Ed programming, please contact Ted Anton, chair of the Adult Education Committee (tanton@depaul.edu) or Pastor Dave Wegner (dwegner@graceriverforest.org).

FAITHFUL LEARNING

February 4 and 11

Old Testament Theology from an Ethnic Minority Perspective

Dr. M. Daniel Carroll R. (Rodas) Blanchard Professor of Old Testament, Wheaton College Graduate School

The course is divided into two parts. The first will look at how the Old Testament has been used in negative ways in regards to ethnic minority populations in this country and around the world. The second will explore some recent positive uses of the Old Testament that have arisen from ethnic minority voices.

February 18 and 25

Color and Gender in the Early Church

Dr. George Kalantzis, Professor of Theology and Director of the Wheaton Center for Early Christian Studies, Wheaton College

In his famous proclamation on the identity of the Christian community, Paul exclaimed that in Christ there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one. Yet, even though contemporary Christians may rejoice in the hearing of Paul's words, in the the world of the vast Roman empire, the world into which Christianity was birthed, questions of race and gender were different than ours. Ethnic and cultural identities as well as procreative and domestic relationships demarcated social distinctions in ways that may be foreign to us. In this two-week sequence we will explore the concepts of color, race, and gender in the world of the earliest Christians to understand more fully Christianity's revolutionary social claims in the slowly transitioning world of Late Antiquity.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Led by Bob Jandeska the Bible study group meets every Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. in the Conference Room on the lower level.

FAITHFUL LIVING

February 4

The Hands, the Brain and God

Jim Kerns

We will explore the symbolic value of hands in religion, art, philosophy and science – and thus, their key role in our society and cultural life. The profound interconnections of the human hand and brain act as a mirror of the soul with respect to our body language (gestures), mood, and expression of empathy.

February 11 and 18

Why We Feed the Hungry, Welcome the Stranger, and Care for the Sick and the Poor

Ryan Cummings, ELCA Hunger Education, and Franklin Ishida, ELCA Global Mission

In this two-week series, participants will learn about the breadth of projects supported by gifts to ELCA World Hunger, the emphasis on accompaniment that shapes the ELCA's work, and the profound impact of this ministry. Rev. Franklin Ishida and Dr. Ryan Cumming will share stories from projects the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) supports in Asia, the Pacific region, and North America and discuss the why and how of ministry through ELCA World Hunger. As the ELCA's director for Asia and the Pacific, Rev. Ishida works closely with companion churches and partners overseas as they address hunger, poverty, and disaster in their communities. Dr. Cumming, ELCA World Hunger's program director for hunger education, develops resources congregations can use to learn more about hunger, poverty and how our faith calls us to respond to both..

February 25 and March 4

Living Faithfully, Dying Faithfully

Pastor Dave Lyle; Sue Ames, Parish Nurse

Faithful living includes being prepared financially, legally and spiritually for the end of life. These two sessions offer a guide to thinking about important issues and questions, with love and feeling, well ahead of time.

Grace Church Hosts Second Annual CCE Fundraiser

A lively crowd gathered January 27 in Fellowship Hall—for the first time since the space closed last fall for renovation—to celebrate the work of the Center for Christian Education (CCE) in Martin, Slovakia. Founded in 1998, CCE brings the gospel to post-communist Slovakia through educational programs and outreach. It is one of Grace Church's standing benevolences.

Seventy-two people enjoyed an authentic Slovak dinner. There was a cash bar, a sale of Slovak needlework, and a raffle of exciting items, with proceeds going directly to CCE. So far, this year's event has raised more than \$13,000 for the ministry.

Special guests included CCE co-founders Bohdan Hrobon and Adrian Kacian as well as Jozef Sopoliga, headmaster of CCE's Lutheran Academy. The three presented 2017 highlights of CCE's ministry. More than 700 students attend the Lutheran Academy, which provides bilingual Christian education from preschool through five-year high school and is widely considered the top school in Martin, a city of 55,000.

"On behalf of the planning committee," says Pastor Dave Lyle, "I want to thank everyone for attending the dinner and celebrating our mission partnership with the CCE. This partnership has been in place for more than a decade, and the



funds raised through the dinner will help the CCE thrive in their work on behalf of the gospel of Jesus Christ. A special word of thanks to those who have made cash contributions; this is money well invested."

It's not too late to make a gift to CCE. Make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church, with "CCE donation" in the memo line.

Sunday visits from Grace benevolences

On Sunday, February 11, representatives from Cabrini Green Legal Aid (CGLA) will be in the atrium between services to talk with Grace members about the organization, which we support through our benevolence budget. CGLA's mission is "to answer God's call to seek justice and mercy for those living in poverty by providing legal services that strengthen lives, families and communities." Clients, social workers, and lawyers work together to overcome the legal barriers to clients' overarching goals.



Grace's Benevolence Committee will be hosting representatives of various groups on Sunday mornings throughout the year. These one-at-a-time visits from representatives of benevolences take the place of the annual Benevolence Fair.

Visitors from another of benevolence, Walther Christian Academy's high school will be here on Sunday, February 25. The school will be represented by its choir, which will sing at the 8:30 worship service.

Grace Lutheran Church General Fund

Church budgeted contributions

July 1–Jan. 31, 2018 \$ 1,178,000
(\$38,000 per week)

Church actual contributions

July 1–Jan. 31, 2018 \$ 1,179,000
(Last year at this time, \$1,027,000)

Church giving is now \$1,000 above budget and \$152,000 ahead of last year at this time.

Help Women @ Grace stock the new kitchen

Women @ Grace are hosting a reception in our newly renovated Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 4, between church services. Please join us for coffee, tea and assorted pastries to celebrate the re-opening of this space for congregational use.

And while you're in Fellowship Hall, take a peek at the new kitchen. All that's left is to stock those shiny new cabinets with some new cooking tools and equipment. Women @ Grace has worked with the Grace Kitchen Committee to develop a list of specific items the kitchen still needs.

You can contribute! Here's how:

- Purchase a gift item from the Pampered Chef collection on display in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 4 or in the atrium on Sunday, February 11. Anything you order will be delivered directly to Grace.
- Make a cash donation toward professional-quality items like large stockpots, sheet pans, steam trays, a commercial stand mixer and so on. Women @ Grace will accept cash donations on February 4 and 11.
- Select an item from the Grace Lutheran Church gift registry at Bed Bath & Beyond. If you order online, enter registry number 545475973. If you shop in person, be sure to mention Grace Lutheran Church as the account name during checkout. You can drop off your gift labeled "Women of Grace Kitchen Shower" at the Grace front desk.



Diana Sicuro and Cathy Ruggeri were part of a crew that worked together on January 31 to unpack, wash and put away the dishes and kitchen equipment that were in storage during the renovation.

Tax planning information for 2018 IRA distributions

If you have an IRA and are required to take a minimum annual distribution (RMD) from your account, because you are age 70 ½ or older, you may be interested to know that there are tax advantages to taking your distribution as a direct contribution to a charitable organization such as Grace.

If the distribution is made directly from your IRA to Grace, then you enjoy two tax benefits: 1) the distribution *does not* count as taxable income and 2) the distribution *does* count toward satisfying your RMD. The gift, called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), must go directly from your IRA to the organization, and your total gifts cannot exceed \$100,000 per year. Since the gifts are made through checks payable to the charitable organizations, it is easy to comply with the tax rules.

You may wish to consult a tax advisor for advice. Also, remember that gifts to Grace of appreciated securities held outside your IRA account also have tax advantages.

Jim McClanahan
Director of Administration and Finance

Leadership retreat on Saturday, February 24

All current members of Grace's various boards and committees are invited to the annual leadership retreat on Saturday, February 24, 8:30-11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Come for breakfast and to spend time in prayer, in the Word and in conversation with other Grace members. Led by Pastor Dave Lyle, participants will be looking at Grace's overall mission focus in 2018. There will also be conversation about the Ad Hoc Committee's report and how it can shape our ministry in the year ahead.

Resources for the Lenten journey

In late January Pastor Dave Wegner led Adult Ed sessions on “The Spirituality of Lent.” In February the Lenten journey begins. Here are some resources for learning and reflection in the church library. These titles and more are available for checkout in the library and from the case in the atrium.

The library is open and staffed on Sunday mornings. Stop by, have a cookie, and browse the collection. The library is also open for self-service during the week. All are welcome to check out books.

On Being a Theologian of the Cross: Reflections on Luther’s Heidelberg Disputation, 1518, by Gerhard O. Forde. W. B. Eerdmans, 1997. [230 FOR]

Making Sense of the Cross, by David Lose. Augsburg, 2011. [230 LOS]

Cross Examinations: Readings on the Meaning of the Cross Today, ed. Mark Trelstad. Augsburg Fortress, 2006. [232.9 CRO]

A Violent Grace, by Michael Card. Multnomah Press, 2000. Essays and poems, focusing on the cross as both the scene of the violent execution of Jesus and as the source of God’s limitless grace. [232.96 CAR]

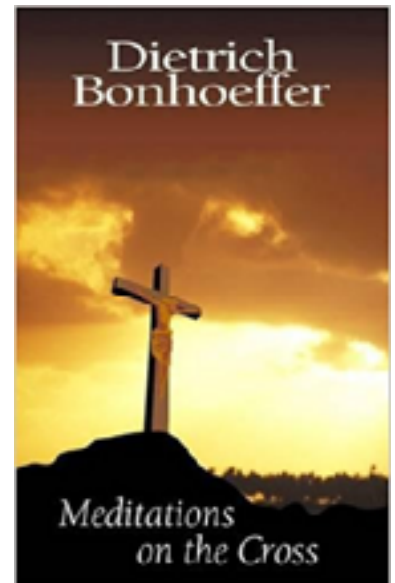
Meditations on the Cross, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Westminster John Knox Press, 1998. [232.96 BON]

Never Said a Mumbly
Word: Lenten
Meditations on the Spirituals, by Mark Francisco Bozzuti-Jones. Augsburg, 2002. [242.34 BOZ]

In the Shadow of the Cross: The Deeper Meaning of Calvary, by Ray Pritchard. Broadman and Holman, 2001. [232.96 PRI]

St. Matthew Passion. Bach Cantata Vespers and Orchestra. GLCS, 2013. [CD 781.71 BAC]

The ComPASSION of the Christ: The Big Picture. Word Among Us Productions. A historian looks at the Passion of Christ and the events that surround it. Lutheran Church Charities, 2004. [DVD 232.96 WOR]



You’re invited to “The Shack”

If you have ever been angry with God or severely troubled by the sin and pain that is so much a part of life, you might be interested in viewing the movie “The Shack.” The story centers on Mackenzie (“Mack”) who suffers a deep personal loss and becomes angry with God.

As one commentator said, “The shack is a metaphor for the hurt in our lives.... [The book] deals with life under the cross and is not afraid to venture into the deep mysteries of faith.”

Released in 2017 and based upon the book of the same title by William Paul Young, the movie will be shown in the church library on Sunday, February 11, 2 p.m. The run time is 2 hours and 15 minutes. A brief discussion period will follow the showing. Feel free to bring a guest.

Questions may be addressed to Dave Kluge at fatherdtk@comcast.net.



New Stephen Ministers complete training

Four new Stephen Ministers will be commissioned at Grace during worship services on Sunday, February 11. They are part of a training class that met regularly from September to January. The class included members of First Baptist Church of Oak Park and First Presbyterian of River Forest. There were trainers from all three churches as well, including Kathrine Leis from Grace.

The new Stephen Ministers are Laura Becker, Tom Kay, Ruth Rehwaldt, and Diana Sicuro. Meet them at a reception in the atrium between services on February 11.

GRACE NEWS

SANDWICH-MAKING AT FRATERNITÉ. Grace members will be packing lunches at Fraternité Notre Dame, 502 N. Central, on Monday, February 19, at 7 p.m. Contact Kate Hogenson (708-445-9687; hogenson@msn.com) to arrange a ride.

KNITTING/CROCHETING GROUP meets on Tuesday, February 20, at 1 p.m. in the church library.

LECTIO DIVINA meets on Monday, February 26, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the church library. Contact MaryBeth Buschmann for more information (marybeth1942@sbcglobal.net).

RETIRED LEADERS AND OTHERS meet on Tuesday, February 13, 10 a.m., in the church library. Said Ailabouni, speaks on “My Journey as a Palestinian Israeli ELCA Pastor.” Guests are welcome.

GRACE NOTES MAILING CREW will be at work on the February newsletter on Thursday, March 1, at 9:30 a.m. They welcome more helpers.

CORNERSTONES BIBLE STUDY. Come for treats and conversation at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays, followed by Bible study at 10:30. There is a service of Holy Communion on Ash Wednesday at 11:30, followed by lunch, and Morning Prayer on February 21 and 28, with lunch again on February 28.

FINDING HOPE, the chronic illness support group, meets at Grace at 7:15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 6.

RELIGION IN LITERATURE. The book discussion group meets on Friday, February 23, at 8 p.m. Jill Baumgaertner leads a discussion of Shakespeare’s “The Merchant of Venice.” Chrissy and Mike Nelson are the hosts (639 S. Lombard, Oak Park).

YOGA, led by Ackli Howell, meets at Grace on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m.. Bring a yoga mat and a blanket or beach towel to sit on. Dress comfortably for movement.

HELP PACK LUNCHES FOR HOUSING FORWARD. Grace's Social Ministry Committee will be making more than 60 brown bag lunches for Housing Forward, which operates area overnight homeless shelters. We invite you to join us from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, February 17, at Grace. For more information, contact Stephanie Wilkening at (708-870-9054 or stephwillkening@gmail.com).

New member class begins on February 18

Grace Church’s new member class is led by the pastors and is intended for all those interested in becoming part of our ministry and in deepening their understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Classes meet between services, at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings in Pastor Lyle’s office. A new session of classes begins on February 18 and runs through April 15. If you would like more information, please email Karen Christopher (kchristopher@graceriverforest.org).

PRAYERS

WE PRAY for those who mourn the deaths of Grace members Eleanor Schmider, Sue Berg, and Harold Rohlfing.

WE PRAY for John and Marge Sanger, whose son, John, died in January

PRAYER LIST. The weekly Prayer List can be found in the worship bulletin on Sunday. Contact Karen Christopher (kchristopher@graceriverforest.org; 708-366-6900 ext 207) to be included on the published prayer list.

CELEBRATION

WE CELEBRATE with Fiona Rae Carris, daughter of Ali and Nathan Carris, baptized on February 4.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sign up at the reception desk to donate flowers to remember a loved one or commemorate a special birthday or anniversary. (There are no flowers in the chancel during Lent.)

Flower donations in February:

February 4 — In honor of World Wide Scout Sunday from Pack 66 Cub Scouts and Troop 66 Boy Scouts; and from the Rohlfing Family in memory of Harold Rohlfing

PASTORAL CARE

Call 708-689-3032 for emergency pastoral care on weekends, or when the Grace building is closed. Please include a return phone number if you leave a message or send a text. (Consider storing this number in the contacts on your cell phone.)

BUILDING CLOSED

Grace will be closed on Monday, February 19, for the Presidents’ Day holiday.

A Graceful Evening

**MARCH 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.
OAK PARK COUNTRY CLUB**



Support Grace School at A Graceful Evening

A Graceful Evening is the biggest fundraiser of the year for Grace School. Last year the event raised over \$85,000, which supported the school's operating budget and paid for the purchase of new choir robes, instruments and other fine-arts-related materials for classes from preschool through junior high.

The Fund-A-Need auction at this year's event will focus on technology and help support the purchase of new laptops for Grace School classrooms.

The evening includes a cocktail hour, sit-down dinner, the presentation of the Distinguished Alumni Award, and an informal after-party, with music and more food. The Dessert Dash (left), a big hit at last year's event, will return, and there will be a few surprises as well.

Support the event with an ad in the program book, a sponsorship or the donation of an auction item. Click on the link at graciverforest.org to purchase tickets or sponsorships or make a donation to the Fund-A-Need.



Sharing music at Housing Forward

The 5-8th grade choir from Grace School sang for clients of Housing Forward during dinner on Friday, January 26, led by director Janel Dennen. "They were awesome servers and singers!" said Sue Foran, another Grace member volunteering at Housing Forward that evening. Watch the video on Facebook (facebook.com/GraceSchoolRiverForest).

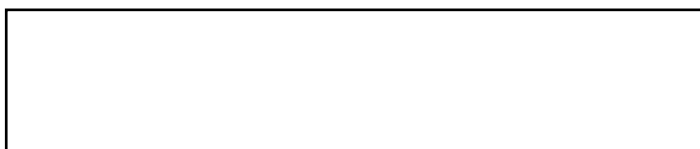




Come to the **Mardi Gras**
celebration for Grace folks of all ages!

Tuesday, February 13, 5:30–7:30 p.m.

- Enjoy a **family-friendly supper**
- Make a **mask**
- **Fun and fellowship** for all ages
- Click on the link at
GraceRiverForest.org to register.



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