

# Weekly Announcements

February 25, 2018

## *Today at Grace*

### ***Benevolence***

In our prayers this morning, we remember Walther Christian Academy's upper school. The Walther choir will sing at the 8:30 a.m. service.

### ***Education hour at 9:45 a.m.***

**Sunday School** and **Pre-Confirmation** classes meet in their usual classrooms. **Confirmation students** meet with their mentors (7th grade in Fellowship Hall, 8th grade in the school Learning Center). **Teen Talk** meets in the Youth Room.

### ***Color and Gender in the Early Church, with Dr. George Kalantzis, Wheaton College.***

In this two-week sequence (last Sunday and today) we 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.

### ***Living Faithfully, Dying Faithfully, with Pastor Dave Lyle and 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. In the 7th grade/German classroom.

The **Sunday morning Bible Study** group meets this morning in the conference room.

## ***In the atrium***

**The Benevolence Committee** welcomes representatives from Walther Christian Academy this morning. Stop by the table in the atrium to learn more about the school. The Walther Choir is singing at the 8:30 a.m. worship service this morning.

**Tickets for A Graceful Evening** on Saturday, March 17, are available in the atrium this morning (\$100 each, \$950 for a table of 10). The annual dinner-auction supports the operating budget of Grace School. Proceeds from this year's Fund-A-Need campaign will support a school-wide technology upgrade.

# ***Bach Cantata Vespers this afternoon***

*Gott soll allein mein Herze haben*, BWV 169

God alone shall have my heart

Organ prelude at 3 p.m.

This afternoon's Bach Cantata Vespers service includes a beautiful solo cantata about loving God and neighbor. Angela Young Smucker is the soloist, and Steven Wentz of Concordia University Chicago plays the organ obbligato in the cantata as well as the prelude to the service

The homilist is Mark A. Noll of Wheaton College. Mark Bangert previews the cantata in the Seminar Room at 3 p.m.

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## ***"You Are the Way"— Lent 2018***

### **Lenten Wednesday Worship**

In the gospel of John, Jesus describes himself with a series of "I am" statements and images.

They will be the focus of our Wednesday worship services during Lent as we follow Jesus, the Way, to the cross, and empty tomb.

**Morning Prayer at 11:30 a.m.**

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

<b>February 28</b>	<b>I am the light of the world.</b>
<b>March 7</b>	<b>I am the true vine.</b>
<b>March 14</b>	<b>I am he, the Son of Man.</b>
<b>March 21</b>	<b>I am the bread of life.</b>

### **Daily Devotions for Lent**

Copies of "You Are the Way," a booklet of daily devotions for Lent, are available in the atrium, in Fellowship Hall, and in the rack by the Division Street door. Each daily devotion offers an evocative color image, a reading, a quotation to ponder, a reflection and a prayer. Large-print copies are also available.

## ***Grace News***

### **New member class**

The new member class meets between services, at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings. A new session began last Sunday and continues through April 15. It's not too late to join the group. If you would like more information, talk with a pastor, or email Karen Christopher (kchristopher@gracriverforest.org).

### **Cornerstones fellowship and Bible study**

Cornerstones meets on Wednesday, February 28, with treats and fellowship at 10 a.m. and Bible study at 10:30. Morning Prayer for Lent is at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch.

### **Scrip gift card orders due March 20**

Great Lakes Scrip Center offers gift cards from over 600 retailers, who donate a percentage of the price back to Grace School. Look for a list of participating retailers and order forms in the rack by the school office or at [gracriverforest.org](http://gracriverforest.org) (School > Parent Resources > Forms). Submit your Scrip order to the school office by 9 a.m. on Tuesday, March 20. Email Eileen Maggio (office@gracriverforest.org) for more information.

### **Women @ Grace Save the Date**

Save the date for fellowship and fun with Women@Grace at Kinslahger Brewing Company in Oak Park on Monday evening, April 16.

### **Volunteer with next fall's Oktoberfest**

The Oktoberfest Committee is seeking two or three volunteers to help acquire donations for the upcoming September 23, 2018, Grace Oktoberfest. If you are interested, please contact co-chairman Don Heimburger at [don@heimburgerhouse.com](mailto:don@heimburgerhouse.com) or call evenings 708-771-2468.

### **Communion instruction retreat for 4th grade students and parents**

All fourth graders and their parent(s) are encouraged to attend the Communion Instruction Retreat on Friday evening, March 9, 5:30–9 p.m., and Saturday morning, March 10, 9 a.m.–noon. Dinner is included on Friday evening. Click on the link at [GraceRiverForest.org](http://GraceRiverForest.org) to register.

### **Chili Cook-Off**

The annual Chili Cook-Off sponsored by Grace's Children and Family Ministry and Grace School's Parent Organization (GPO) is on Friday, March 23, 6–9 p.m. Go to [GraceRiverForest.org/grace-school/calendar](http://GraceRiverForest.org/grace-school/calendar) to sign up for the event and tell the organizers what you'll be bringing.

Save the date for VBS!  
**Shipwrecked—Rescued by Jesus**  
June 11-15, 8:30-12 p.m.

*Tickets and information in the atrium this morning.*

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

**A Graceful Evening** raises funds for the operating budget of Grace School.

The evening includes a cocktail hour, sit-down dinner, the presentation of the Distinguished Alumni Award, and an informal after-party with music.

**Tickets** are \$100/person, \$950/table of 10. Click on the link at [GraceRiverForest.org](http://GraceRiverForest.org) to purchase tickets, learn about sponsorships, or make a donation to the Fund-A-Need auction.

**For information about program ads and silent auction donations,** contact the event chairs at [agracefulevening@gmail.com](mailto:agracefulevening@gmail.com).