

Grace Notes



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

We have the time, so keep on keeping on



by Pastor Dave Wegner

I am a fan of various forms of science fiction literature, television, and movies. One important part of the genre is the science of time. Some franchises call it temporal mechanics, others a form of physics' string theory, while others just ignore scientific terminology completely and call it a day. Naming conventions aside, almost all science fiction understands that there are consequences that result from messing with time. The butterfly effect, temporal paradoxes, alternative realities, parallel universes, they are all generally considered dangerous and, as a result, the timeline is best regarded from a safe and hands-off distance.

But time, the string of individual moments that bring us to the present and will propel us into the future, is not a fictional construct on the page or screen. Time is a part of every aspect of our lives. Our bodies physically change over time. Cultures shift over time. Traditions are traditions because they stand the test of time. Change is sometimes difficult because we can remember a time when things were easier. We don't have enough time. We have too much time. I didn't get there in time. We find ourselves echoing something like Martha's plea in John 11:21 perhaps more often than we

We are gifted with continued opportunities to live into our baptismal calls to work for justice and peace.

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We have time...

care to admit: “If only you had been here...in time...things would be different.”

I was again reminded of the flow of time as I listened to Pastor Sherman Hicks’ presentation on racism during the Education Hour on Sunday, October 22. When speaking about the nefarious structures of culture and society that undergird systematic racism, he reminded listeners that we did not get to this point in a day and that it would take more than a day to undo. A salient point. Racism did not just pop into existence one day. Likewise, it will take more than a single rally or protest for social justice and equality to be the norm. So, what are we to do? What is anyone to do?

Keep on keeping on. Use time as an ally. Use time as an advantage. If the march of time is going to keep ticking by as it always has, then we are gifted with continued opportunities to live into our baptismal calls to work for justice and peace. We have the time to strive for unity and understanding even when brokenness and blame seem easier. We have the time to say to those elected to represent us that their jobs are to work for the best for all people under their care, not just the privileged few. We have the time to reach out to those who look different from us and remind one another of that which is the same between us—a shared humanity, a shared Creator. There is always time.

Protestants around the world have, are, and will continue to mark a point in time 500 years ago. What took Luther only a few seconds, nailing paper to a church door, has had lasting repercussions for the wider church—some positive and, indeed, some negative. The fact that we still celebrate and mark our specifically Lutheran heritage in this way reminds us that reformation is always a part of our lives. God is constantly reforming our hearts and minds, consistently reorienting us towards kingdom goals and away from worldly ones, lovingly shepherding us through the valleys of the shadows of death into the marvelous light of grace, truth, unity, and hope. Thanks be to God, there is always time for that, too.

The -isms of the world did not magically appear one day. They will take more than a day to disappear. But still we try. We fight the good fight—and fighting racism, sexism, ageism, ableism, and every other -ism is a good fight—secure in the sure and certain hope that time is on our side.

Isaac Watts wrote it well, “O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.”

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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, October 27, with the hope that it will arrive in your mailbox no later than November 3. Copies are also available at Grace.

Deadlines and submissions. The December issue of Grace Notes will be mailed on Friday, December 1. The deadline for copy is Wednesday, November 22; the issue covers events through the end of December. 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.

Thomanerchor choir of Leipzig sings music of Bach, Schütz and Mendelssohn at Grace on November 20



When Johann Sebastian Bach served as Cantor at the St. Thomas Church in Leipzig from 1723 until his death in 1750, his cantatas and motets were performed by the *Thomanerchor*, the boys choir whose history reaches back more than 800 years. That tradition comes to Grace in November, as the *Thomanerchor* sings a concert on Monday, November 20, at 7:30 p.m., part of the choir's 2017 tour of the U.S.

The program of sacred music includes three Bach motets: *Fürchte dich nicht* ("Fear not, I am with you," BWV 228), *Komm, Jesu, komm* ("Come, Jesus, come," BWV 229), and *Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf* ("The Spirit helps us," BWV 226). Other works on the program are by 17th century German Lutheran composers Heinrich Schütz and Johann Hermann Schein, and Felix Mendelssohn, who led the 19th-century revival of Bach's music.

Gotthold Schwarz, the 17th *Thomaskantor* after Johann Sebastian Bach, conducts the *Thomanerchor*. He is an acclaimed singer as well as conductor, specializing in Bach's vocal works.

Tickets for the concert (\$12-\$45) are still available. Purchase them online at www.ticketor.com/grace or call Grace at 708-366-6900.



THOMANERCHOR
L E I P Z I G

“Wake, awake,” one of Bach’s best, at Cantata Vespers on November 19

The Bach Cantata Vespers service on Sunday, November 19, continues the season's focus on Lutheran chorales, with Cantata #140, based on the hymn *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*, best known in English as “Wake, awake, for night is flying.” The hymn and the cantata text are based on the parable of the wise virgins in Matthew 25. The fourth movement of the cantata is

one of Bach's most familiar works, with the chorale accompanied by a graceful orchestral tune.

The homilist for the service is the Rev. Amy Gillespie, who grew up at Grace Church and School and now serves as pastor at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Lombard. Pastor Michael D. Costello plays the organ prelude at 3:45 p.m.

A Jewish-Lutheran conversation about Israel and Palestine

Please join us at Grace, on Sunday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m. as we gather to discuss various positions and perspectives on the State of Israel. The evening will include conversation with Rabbi Max Weiss of Oak Park Temple and Pastor Dave Lyle, who recently traveled together to Israel and had the unique opportunity to view a variety of holy sites through one another's eyes. Pastor Lyle is very much looking forward to sharing stories from this Interfaith Partners for Peace experience.

Also, Grace member David Heim of *The Christian Century* will moderate a conversation between Rabbi Yehiel Poupko, Rabbinic Scholar, Jewish United Fund/ Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, and Dr. Peter Pettit, Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Penn. There will be opportunities to ask questions and engage in conversation with our presenters.

A reception will follow the presentation. All are welcome.



Pastor Dave Lyle visited Israel and Palestine in August with a group of pastors and rabbis, sponsored by Interfaith Partners for Peace, with the purpose of learning firsthand about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and engaging in conversations about racism. Hear more about his experience at 7 p.m. on Sunday, November 12, at Grace. Pastor Lyle is pictured here on the Mount of Olives overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem.

Harmony Community Church Anniversary Gala on November 10

Harmony Community Church will celebrate its 25th Anniversary with a gala dinner on Friday evening, November 10. It will be a great evening with a live band, silent and live auction and some inspiring preaching. Proceeds will be used to purchase new seating and flooring that will transform Harmony's worship space into a flexible room that can be used throughout the week, especially for tutoring and recreation programs for youth.

The suggested donation is \$75. If you are not able to attend, consider sponsoring a member of Harmony. Click on Donations at the top of the page at www.hcc1908.org, or mail your donation to Harmony Community Church, 1908 S. Millard, Chicago 60623.

If you have an item to donate to the auction, contact Sue Foran (sforan4@comcast.net or 708-267-1620).

Social Ministry projects for fall

With cold weather and the holiday season approaching, the Social Ministry Committee is asking for your support with the following projects:

Holiday Food Drive, through November 5. The school community joins Grace Church members in collecting food for local food pantries, including the Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry, the Forest Park Food Pantry, and food pantries at Fraternité Notre Dame and Harmony Community Church.

Winter Coat Drive, through November 5. We are collecting new or gently used adult and children's coats. The coats will be shared with clients of various local agencies including New Moms, Hephzibah Children's Association, North Austin Head Start, Harmony Church, and Safer Foundation.

Toiletry items for The Night Ministry, through November 5. Items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, wide-toothed combs, hand and foot warmers, warm socks (adult size), small sewing kits, pens and small note pads, and decks of cards will be placed into huge Christmas stockings and distributed to homeless teens who are clients of The Night Ministry in Chicago.

The **Christmas Giving Tree** will go up in November. Watch for this opportunity to provide Christmas gifts for clients of local social service agencies. Collection dates will be November 19 through December 3.

WORSHIP

November 5

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

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

Revelation 7:9-17, Psalm 34:1-10, 22, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12

November 12

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Amos 5:18-24, Psalm 70, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Matthew 25:1-13

November 19

24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-12, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, Matthew 25:14-30

November 23

THANKSGIVING DAY

Holy Communion at 10 a.m.

Deuteronomy 8:7-18, Psalm 65, 2 Corinthians 9:6-15, Luke 17:11-19

November 26

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

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

Isaiah 45:1-7, Psalm 96:1-13, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, Matthew 22:15-22

December 3

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

November 19, 3:45 p.m.

BACH CANTATA VESPERS

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 140

Awake, the voice calls to us

Organ prelude: Michael D. Costello

Homilist: Amy Gillespie, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Lombard, Ill.

Preview lecture at 3 p.m.: Mark Peters, Trinity Christian College

Organ recital marks the 50th anniversary of Berghaus Pipe Organ Builders

Berghaus Pipe Organ Builders celebrates its 50th anniversary with a concert at Grace on Sunday, November 12, at 4 p.m. A champagne and punch reception follows the concert in the Grace atrium.

The program includes performances by Michael D. Costello, Cantor at Grace; Mark Laubach, Choirmaster and Organist at St. Stephen's Pro Cathedral in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania; Derek E. Nickels, Director of Music at Church of the Holy Comforter in Kenilworth, Illinois, and Jonathan Oblander, Tonal Director at Berghaus and Director of Music at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Oak Park.

Grace member Len Berghaus started the company in 1967, working out of his basement and garage. As the company took on more projects, it moved to a building in Bellwood. The company has grown to be a leader in the design and construction of fine instruments built for performance and for leading worship. Len is now partially retired and his son Brian leads the company. Jonathan Oblander, former Cantor at Grace, serves as Tonal Director.

The Berghaus Pipe Organ Company rebuilt the Grace organ in 1986 and continues to maintain and tune the instrument. Len and his wife, Judy, sing in the Grace Senior Choir, and Len regularly tunes the small portable organ for Bach Cantata Vespers services.

All are welcome at the free concert.

How you can serve as a worship leader

The Board of Worship is seeking people to fill various roles in leading worship. These include:

- **Gift Bearers** who process during the offertory with the gifts of bread and wine and serve as chalice bearers during the distribution of communion.
- **Lectors** read the selected scripture passages and distribute the blood of Christ for those who drink from individual communion cups.
- **Assisting Ministers** assist the pastors and also compose and lead the prayers of the people.

- **Altar Guild** is the group of people who prepare the altar for Holy Communion prior to worship.
- **Greeters** share a "good morning" with worshipers at entrances to the church.

Contact Pastor Costello (mcostello@gracriverforest.org) or talk with one of the pastors if you are interested.

On Veterans Day, Alvin Hillmer is someone you should know

Alvin Hillmer, a member of Grace, was privileged to join “The Honor Flight Chicago” on August 9, 2017. The Honor Flight is a program that provides World War II and Korean War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. in honor of their courage and service.

Al replied to Parish Nurse Sue Ames’ questions, as he shared his experience with the congregation at Grace.

How did you get to go on the Honor Flight?

It was our former Parish Nurse, Kim Ramos, who told me about it and helped with the application back in February of 2016. She kept following up on it even after leaving Grace. It was our current nurse, Sue Ames, who picked me up at 3:30 a.m. and took me to Midway. Kim and her husband were at the airport baggage area to meet me and take me home. Got home at 10:15 p.m.

What was your armed service experience?

I was in the Army Engineers, had basic training plus a six-week electrician course at Fort Leonard, Missouri. Arrived at Okinawa after 22 days on a troop ship called the M M Patrick (the “Mickey Mouse”). My bunk was at the front of the ship next to the anchor; I was sick for 21 days.

Arrived at Camp Drake on a dinky train where we were told 90percent of you are going to Korea. Had our rifles issued to us and were scheduled to go to the firing range in the morning, but unusual snowfall delayed us. By the grace of God we were called out of formation and back to Yokohama I went. I worked in the office of Buildings and Grounds, inspecting homes of military dependents.

I was in the service from August 6, 1951, till July 14, 1953, and came back to the states from Yokohama on a ship called the Gaffey. I was on fire watch on return and saw the Aleutian Island lights. Set a record of six days to return to Seattle, then went to Denver to be discharged and went home.

What was the Honor Flight Day like? What did you see and do?

This was a most fantastic enjoyable day, to receive all the attention we received. We all had wheel chairs and an escort too. At the departure gate we were greeted with a band and girls singing.

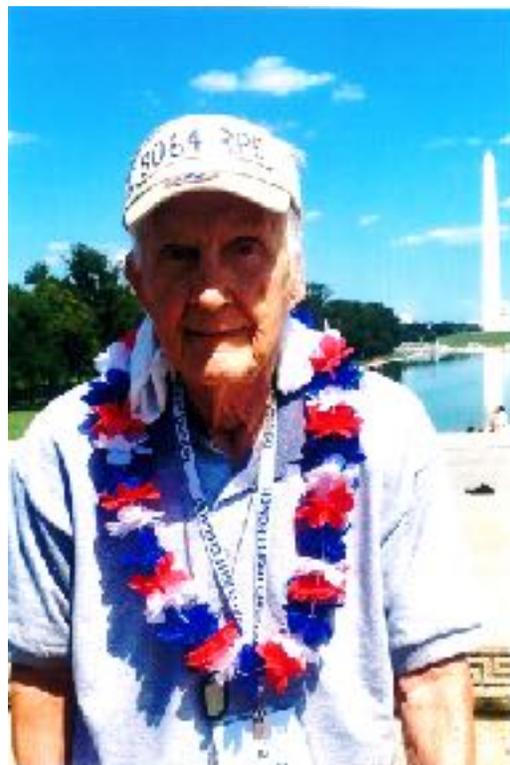
There were 103 Korean veterans, four World War II vets, and ten nurses and doctors on our chartered flight, plus a camera crew.

We arrived at Dulles Airport and were assigned our guardians for the day. Mine was a woman who had served in Vietnam. She took many pictures and sent them to me later.

[In Washington, the group saw the Marine Corps War Memorial, the Air Force Memorial, the World War II Memorial, the Korean War Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial, and were greeted by military drill teams and color guards at many of these places.]

On the plane back to Chicago we had mail call. Each of us received a package of mail, some from children, others from adults, thanking us for our service. Must have been 50 letters in the envelope.

Arrived back at Midway and the reception was unbelievable. I must have shook hands with 500 people thanking me for my service. I was surprised to see the man who drives a van that takes me to the V.A. hospital for appointments.



What was your most memorable part of the Honor Flight Day?

I believe seeing what the action was in Korea, shown on the marble wall and [the statues of] the soldiers in the field was most memorable. It was a fantastic memorable experience from the time I went to the airport till the time I got home. It was unbelievable the attention and care we were given, how we were treated for the entire day

How did your military service affect your life and faith in God?

[It helped me] believe that God will always protect me.

How long have you been coming to Grace Church?

I joined Grace Church in 1973-74. It was Pastor Leuking who showed me around. I sat in the pew to the right of the pulpit, where I still sit today.



ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education classes meet at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings at Grace. Classes in the Faithful Learning track focus on theology, scripture, church history, and other topics. Faithful Living topics include social justice issues, spirituality, family life, and vocation. On most Sundays classes are offered in both tracks. Many classes are part of multi-week series, but feel free to move from one track to another from week to week. Living Faithfully classes meet in the 7th grade/German classroom on the first floor of the older part of the school. Learning Faithfully classes meet in the Seminar Room.

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).

November 5

Music and the Reformation

Carl Schalk

Luther's ideas continued to influence church musicians in the centuries following the Reformation—from Johann Walter, the first Lutheran cantor, to J. S. Bach.

Living Faithfully: Beer and the Reformation

Erika Lyle

Guests at the Lutherhaus, the home of Martin and Katarina, were served home-brewed beer. Erika Lyle introduces us to this master brewer.

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.

November 12

Women of the Reformation

Jennifer McNutt, Associate Professor of Theology and History of Christianity, Wheaton College

A popular Adult Ed speaker and editor of the essay collection “The People's Book: The Reformation and the Bible” offers another perspective on Reformation history.

Living Faithfully: Parenting Children with Disabilities

Andy and Sara Chizzo, Chrissy and Michael Nelson

Caring and advocating for a child with disabilities brings significant challenges to family life. How do parents cope and grow from the experience?

November 19

Legal Aid Foundation

Maja Eaton, Co-President of the LAF Board

Miguel Keberlein, Director of the LAF Immigrant and Workers' Rights Practice Group

Hear how this nonprofit organization makes use of the law to protect the rights of the poor in a time of crisis and challenge.

Shop and Share with Women@Grace in November

Come to Alioto's Gifts in Oak Park on Friday, November 17

Women@Grace are hosting a Shop and Share event on Friday, November 17, 10 a.m.–7 p.m., at Alioto's Gifts, 1118 Chicago Ave. in Oak Park. There will be refreshments, including wine and cheese in the afternoon. A special Grace Church ornament will be on sale, and many items in the store will be 20 percent off.

Ten percent of all sales will be donated to The Night Ministry which serves vulnerable youth and adults in the city of Chicago through street outreach, youth shelter and supportive services.

Start your Christmas shopping, support the Night Ministry, and enjoy the company of Grace friends at this elegant Oak Park shop, which features home decor, dinnerware, fine china, glassware, jewelry, and more. Preview the store online at aliosgiftshop.com.

Women@Grace host a kitchen project information session

Would you like to know more about the kitchen remodeling currently underway at Grace? Come to a wine and cheese gathering on Tuesday, November 7, at 7 p.m. in the Seminar Room, hosted by Women@Grace. Jeff Cribbs, a member of the kitchen planning committee, will share the new kitchen plans.

Are you receiving Grace's e-newsletter "Sunday Is Coming"?

Are you receiving Grace's e-newsletter Sunday Is Coming, emailed funeral notices, and other important messages?

Sunday Is Coming is sent to Grace members every Thursday afternoon, but we know that not everyone who would like to read these emails finds them and opens them. If you are not seeing the Thursday e-newsletter in your inbox, it's likely that your Grace emails are ending up in your junk or spam folder. Gmail may be directing them to the Promotions tab.

There are ways that you can let your software know that you want to see emails from Grace in your inbox. Try adding Grace's address (gracechurch@gracriverforest.org) to your email contacts or online address book. Or go to your email site or application and click on the help button. Search for instructions on managing spam or moving a junk email to your inbox. Some email services allow you to designate Grace as a "safe sender." Setting up a filter that directs all emails from Grace to a folder is another option.

Please let us know if your email address changes. To check that Grace has your correct email address, contact Karen Christopher (kchristopher@gracriverforest.org, 708-366-6900 ext 207).

Support Hope for Grieving Children at the Wine-Tasting Benefit

The annual Wine-Tasting Benefit for Hope for Grieving Children Africa is an important source of support for the organization, which trains caregivers to help orphaned children and youth in Africa cope with unresolved grief. This year's event is on Saturday, November 4, at the Oak Park Country Club. The evening includes a delicious array of hors d'oeuvres, excellent wine, world-class music, raffle, auction and a brief informative video and Q & A session with CEO Jeff Johnson and trainer Danette Johnson.

To register or for more information please call Ellie Schnack or Paula and Tony Stephens. Or register online at hopeforgrievingchildren.org.

West Cook YMCA benefit

West Cook YMCA invites Grace members to its annual Gala on Saturday, November 18, at the Hyatt Lodge in Oak Brook. The Gala raises vital scholarship support to improve the well-being and health literacy of children, adults, and seniors who otherwise would not be able to participate in Y programming. To learn more about West Cook YMCA, talk with Grace members Paul Koester, Tom Ewert, and Mike Carioscio, who serve on the Board, or CEO Phillip Jimenez. Contact Tara Lenardi for tickets to the gala (tlenardi@westcookymca.org; 708-434-0211).

Reformation books and more, new in the library

There's always something new in the church library. The Library Committee welcomes book suggestions, especially books on topics currently of interest to our church community, published since the year 2000. Stop by on Sunday mornings or e-mail churchlibrary@gracriverforest.org. Here are some titles recently added to the collection:

A Reformation Source Book: Documents from an Age of Debate, ed. Michael W. Bruening. University of Toronto Press, 2017. Formal and informal debates of the Reformation era. [270.6]

Katharina von Bora: A Reformation Life, by Rudolf K. Markwald and Marilynn Morris Markwald. Concordia, 2002. In this historical biography, the authors reveal an extraordinary woman whose courage and faith held steadfast to Christ in great adversity and need. [284.1 MAR]

In the Sanctuary of Outcasts: A Memoir, by Neil White. Harper Perennial, 2010. The author reflects on the years he spent incarcerated for bank fraud in a Louisiana prison that also doubled as a colony for leprosy patients, and discusses events in his personal and professional life before and after his sentence. [360 WHI]

Everlasting Is the Past: A Memoir, by Walter Wangerin, Jr. Rabbit Room Press, 2015. This well-known author takes readers on a journey of his experiences, including his loss of faith as a young seminarian, his struggle to find a place for his chosen vocation amid a storm of doubts, and his eventual renewal in a small inner city church called Grace. [813 WAN]

Driving Miss Norma: One Family's Journey of Saying "Yes" to Living, by Tim Bauerschmidt and Ramie Liddle. Harper One, 2017. A 90-year-old woman's decision, following a cancer diagnosis, to "hit the road" reminds us that life is beautiful and precious, and that family, fun, and self-discovery can happen at any age. [913 BAU]

A Gathering in Hope, by Philip Gulley. Center Street Press, 2016. This best-selling author offers humorous, small-town storytelling as he follows the foibles and follies of Pr. Sam Gardner, Quaker minister, and his congregation. [FIC GUL]

Volunteers staff the library on Sunday mornings, and the library is also open for self-service during the week. All are welcome to check out books. Look for a link to the church library catalog online at GraceRiverForest.org. Click on Welcome > Learn.

Using and disposing of medicines safely

by Sue Ames, Parish Nurse

Medication safety is relevant to all of us whether taking regular prescribed medications, vitamin supplements or over-the-counter remedies for colds, stomach upset, and pain. Here are some safety tips you should keep in mind.

1. Educate yourself on what medicines you are taking: indication, dose, frequency, side effects, benefits, cost, generic or brand name, expiration date.
2. Keep a list of your medications and bring it to all doctor appointments. Update the list with changes including the date the change was made or the new medication added.
3. Use one regular pharmacy for local prescriptions, and check with the pharmacist when taking over-the-counter medications to make sure they are compatible with any prescribed medication you are on. This includes supplements.
4. If a change is made in dose frequency, make sure your doctor notifies your pharmacy of the changes made.
5. Not all medications can be split in half or crushed, so ask your pharmacist before crushing or splitting any medication.
6. It is important that you take medications as they are prescribed: do not skip, stop, or change the dose of medicines without talking with your doctor. A doctor who is unaware of changes you have made on your own may not be able to correctly assess and manage symptoms of disease.

Disposing of medications properly

Dispose of unused medications at designated drop-off sites. Remove or scratch out personal information from prescription bottles before disposal. Here are some designated medication drop-off sites in the area. (Before traveling to a collection site,

call to verify operating hours and type of collection. Not all sites collect all meds.)

River Forest Public Safety Building, 400 Park Ave.,
River Forest. Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Phone: 708-366-7125.

Forest Park Police Department, 517 DesPlaines Ave.,
Forest Park. Daily, 24 hours. Phone: 708-366-2425.

4th Municipal Court House, Maywood (dropbox),
1500 Maybrook Drive, Maywood, Monday–Friday,
9:30 a.m.–3 p.m. Phone: 708-865-6029.

Oak Park Police Department (dropbox), 123 Madison St.,
Oak Park. Daily, 24 hours. Phone: 708-383-6400.

References

U. S. Food and Drug Administration, Safe Disposal of Medicines
www.fda.gov/drugs/resourcesforyou/consumers/buyingusingmedicinesafely/ensuringsafeuseofmedicine/safedisposalofmedicines/default.htm

Cook County – Unused Medication Dropoff
<https://cookcountymeds.org>



“Healthy Brain, Healthy Memory”

Join memory expert Linda Sasser, PhD, for an educational, entertaining presentation on Tuesday, November 7, 1–2:30 p.m. in the church library. You'll hear about how memory works, age-related brain changes, and about maintaining and even improving brain function. Leave with easy-to-use strategies for remembering names, information and tasks. Seating is limited. Please sign up at the reception desk in the atrium, or contact Sue Ames, Parish Nurse (708-366-6900 ext 219; sames@graceriverforest.org). Invite a friend!

“My Choice, My Voice”

Preparing for the future, instructions for your survivors

Come to a “Lunch and Learn” on Wednesday, November 29, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., in the church library. Bring your own brown bag lunch and join Sue Ames, Parish Nurse, who will explain issues and answer questions related to end-of-life planning, including information prepared especially for Grace attendees.

Medical equipment closet

Medical equipment needs and donations are now being handled through Oak Park Township's Equipment Loan Closet, located at 105 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park. Call 708-383-8005. Hours are Monday–Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Much thanks to the Burkes and the Rekos who delivered the equipment from Grace!

GRACE NEWS

SANDWICH-MAKING AT FRATERNITÉ. Grace members will be packing lunches at Fraternité Notre Dame, 502 N. Central, on Monday, November 20, at 7 p.m. Contact Kate Hogenson to arrange a ride.

KNITTING/CROCHETING GROUP will not meet in November and December.

LECTIO DIVINA meets on Monday, November 27, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the church library. Contact MaryBeth Buschmann.

RETIRED LEADERS AND OTHERS meet on Tuesday, November 14, 10 a.m., in the church library, for a presentation from Ingrid Christiansen on “Who Are The Worst of the Worst in the Criminal Justice System? Why Should We Care?” Guests are welcome.

GRACE NOTES MAILING CREW will be at work on the December newsletter on Thursday, November 30, at 9:30 a.m. They welcome more help!

CORNERSTONES BIBLE STUDY. Come for treats and conversation at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays, followed by Bible study at 10:30. On November 15, there is Morning Prayer at 11:30, followed by lunch in the church library. The group will not meet on Wednesday, Nov. 22. Because of the kitchen remodeling, the cooks have adjusted the lunch schedule for December: lunch will be served in the church library on December 13, but not on December 6 (as previously scheduled).

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

RELIGION IN LITERATURE. The book discussion group meets on Friday, November 17, 8 p.m., to discuss “Silence” by Shusaku Endo. Pastor Lyle leads the discussion. Hosts are Bryan and Linda Bernard, 1840 N. New England Ave., Chicago. Copies of the book are available in the church library.

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.

Drivers needed

The Elders have received several requests by parishioners who need assistance getting to church on Sundays. To accommodate the requests, we are asking for people to volunteer to provide transportation.

The requests come from Oak Park, Bellwood, and Elmhurst. Most are for the 11 a.m. service. They are from individuals and couples.

If you are able and willing to provide transportation, please call Grace and let Verna or Barb at the reception desk know of your willingness to assist.

Thank you.

Al Swanson for the Board of Elders.

PRAYERS

WE PRAY for friends and family who mourn the death of Grace member Margaret Smith;

WE PRAY for Bill Brown, his family, and all who mourn the death of Grace member Marion Brown.

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.

PRAYER CHAIN. Contact Kathy Lucht (kathy.lucht@gmail.com) or Kathy Garness (708-366-7584; KMGfinearts@comcast.net) with confidential prayer chain requests.

IN CELEBRATION

We celebrate with Mica Roskam and Jacob Just, to be married on November 11.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sign up at the reception desk to donate flowers to remember a loved one or commemorate a special birthday or anniversary. Flower donations from late July through September:

November 5 - In memory of Kris Grahnke from Gwen Gotsch.

November 12 - From Carole and David Hoyem in honor of their 40th wedding anniversary.

November 19 - In memory of James Hickey from Audrey Hickey, and in honor of Evelyn Grams' 90th birthday from her daughters, Sandy Grams and Susan Bentz.

November 26 - In memory of Alvin and Evelyn Haase from the Haase family.

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.

News from Grace School



After chapel on October 11, the 8th graders presented Peggy O'Connor, a representative of the Chicago chapter of the ALS Association with a check for \$2000 and 25 "boxes of sunshine" that will be delivered to ALS patients and their care partners. The donation represents a tithe of the \$20,000 raised by Grace School students for Walk With Grace on October 6 and was given in memory of Grace School alum Kris Grahnke. The Walk With Grace fundraiser supports the operating budget of Grace School. Kids whose families raised \$100 or more were entered into a drawing; five winners got to dump ice buckets on five brave teachers and staff members, including Principal Bill Koehne (below).



Cross-country news. For the third year in a row, the Grace girls cross-country team qualified for the national championships in Mequon, Wisconsin, with a 5th place finish at the state championship in Bloomington, Illinois, on October 14. Seventh grader Owen Augustine also qualified for the national meet, with a 2nd place finish at the state meet. Sixth grader Alyse Ryniewicz raced her way to Elementary Lutheran All-American honors at the national meet on October 21!

Family Fun Friday November 17, 6–8 p.m.

Join families with kids from kindergarten through sixth grade for an evening of fun and fellowship here at Grace.

Open gym, crafts, and games, plus a pizza supper.

Click on the link at www.GraceRiverForest.org to register by midnight on Thursday, November 16.

Thanksgiving Festival Worship

Thursday, November 23
10 a.m.



7300 Division St.
River Forest, IL 60305

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