

ANNOUNCEMENTS — MARCH 15, 2020—3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

Covid:19—Corona Virus: We've all been hearing reports on the progression of the Corona Virus Pandemic around the world and in the U.S. Because of the spread, various agencies of government and religious organizations have been considering what preventive measures can be implemented, and long term strategies for large gatherings of people. With the safety of all in mind informational sheets have been placed on the tables in the foyer. A letter from our own church council and executive team has also been placed on the tables and in mailboxes. Please keep our nation and the world in your prayers as we fight this disease and pray for those who are infected, that they might recover.

OFFERING TODAY: Benevolence Fund

This fund gives the deacons of our church the opportunity to show our loving care and support of those in our church family and surrounding community who may be in need of assistance while facing a hardship.

OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY: Christian Education Fund

Your donation to this fund helps provide our church families with the assistance they may need to provide a Christ-centered education for their children when they otherwise would not be able to meet the cost on their own.

Lent Sermon Series: *Who Is Jesus?*—Throughout the gospel of Mark, people wonder who Jesus is. Over the next 7 Sundays, Pastors Michael and Matt will be preaching on this question from the gospel of Mark. We will see how the key to answering that question is the cross whose shadow lingers over Jesus' entire ministry. This brief series in Mark will help us see Jesus' true identity, which shapes and influences our Christian life every day.

Calling All Instrumentalists! The instrumental group will be accompanying the Maundy Thursday worship service on April 9 @6pm. If you play a string or wind instrument and would like to participate in this group, please let Diane Ritzema know as soon as possible, so she can prepare your music. Contact Diane at: 708-636-2848 or diane.ritzema@sbcglobal.net. *Thanks in advance!*

Pastors Class: Beginning Wednesday, March 25, at 7:00pm, Pastor Kooy will offer a class for anyone wishing to learn more about the core beliefs and practices of Grace Community CRC. This class is designed for those who would like to learn more about Grace Community Church and for those who might like to consider membership at Grace. The class will meet for 4 sessions: March 25, and April 1, 15 and 22. If you would like more information or would like to consider attending, please contact Pastor Kooy at 708-663-4364.

Adult Serve Mission Trip: Grace Church once again partnered with the Orland Park CRC and World Renew Disaster Relief Services in building a new home for a family that fell victim to a natural disaster. Our group from Grace Church left March 7 and returned this past Friday: Jim Wassenaar, Dan Brucken, Jake Brucken, Harry Beezhold, Jim Kamper and Dave Phillips. Thank you for your prayers of support as they traveled and worked in Mississippi. And thank you to these men for helping to build God's kingdom through their witness and work.

Grace Community Church Window Fund: Work has completed on the stained glass window at the front of the sanctuary. Repairs included structural repairs and new supports, cleaning and repairing glass, painting the exterior woodwork and installing a new protective window covering on the outside. You can get a close up view of the repair from the outside. Thanks for contributions totaling \$14,442.00 that have been received to help offset the cost of the work. A portion of this amount was used to pay the deposit to begin the work. Total cost of repairs: \$44,652.00. Which means an additional \$30,210.00 is needed to offset cost. This is an expense that is outside our normal budget. Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to contribute toward this unique expense. Special envelopes are available on the tables at the back of the sanctuary for your donation. You may also make a donation using a weekly budget envelope. Place donations in the offering basket or give to a Council member.



—**WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR** those serving in the military & their families, and those in continuing care or homebound, including: Dorothy Brink-Schutt, Helena Creaney, Henry DeVries, Marv DeVries, Jay Dorn, Ben Dykstra, Rich Knudsen, Char Kros, John Langeland, Mason Patterson, Ray Peterson Jr., John Roos, and Jeannette Veen.

Library News: When taking a book from the library or the cart in the foyer **PLEASE** fill out the card on the inside front cover and place it in the basket on the desk in the library.

New book on the cart in the Foyer: "What They Meant For Evil" by Rebecca Deng.



Steve Michmerhuizen, Resonate Global Ministries, Romania. Steve and Resonate Romania are partners with *Fara Limite*, a youth ministry that uses climbing as a way to build relationships and teach skills in witness to the love and life of Jesus. Situated in southern Romania, *Fara Limite* wants to see kids growing into their potential and advancing life skills and develop character in the context of safe and healthy educational activities, glorifying God in all they do. Pray for ministries like *Fara Limite* as they seek to bring Christ's healing and hope to youth in Romania.

Book Club: Join us for a discussion of "The Rent Collector" by Camron Wright on **Monday, March 16 @7:00pm**. This is a story of hope, of one woman's journey to save her son and another woman's chance at redemption.

Our **GEMS Girls Club** is hosting a **Scrapbooking Event, Friday, March 20 (6-10pm) and Saturday, March 21 (8am-6pm)**. Pick up a registration form from the tables in the foyer and register today!

Community News

Back to God Ministries Int'l, Groundwork: I Believe in God, the Father Almighty—What does it mean for us to believe in God? Join Groundwork as we study Ephesians 1:18-21 and Romans 8:15-17, the scriptures that inform what we believe about God's nature and identity as we profess it in the opening statement of the Apostles' Creed. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Have you heard? The baby boutique at *Elevate* (a subsidiary of Southside Pregnancy Center) has BBB!! What's that, you ask? BBB=Bare Baby Bottoms! Oh no! Yes, we have an urgent need for diapers sizes 4,5 & 6. Can you help? Drop off at 3759 W. 95th St., Evergreen Park. Mon., Wed. from 9am-5pm, or Tues., Thurs. from 9am-7pm. Southside Pregnancy Center, *Elevate* and BBB's Thank You!

In an effort to protect the privacy of our church, including church member information, the weekly announcements and newsletters posted on our website do not contain any personal information of our members and friends and do not include any financial information of the church.