

ANNOUNCEMENTS — MARCH 1, 2020—1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

OFFERING TODAY: General Operating Fund

Your donation to this fund allows Grace Community Church to make connections with our church family and our neighbors through our many ministry opportunities. It also provides us with the means to maintain our church property and compensate staff.

OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY: Mission Fund

Your donation will help support 5 missionaries around the world and here in the U.S. that our church has chosen to sponsor: John Hoekwater-Church Planting, Rogers Park, IL; Jerry An-BTGMI, Chinese Broadcasting; Sergei Sosedkin-BTGMI, Russian Broadcasting; Steve Michmerhuizen, CR World Missions, Romania; and Evy Smith-CR World Missions, Mali, Africa.

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.

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. As we enter a season reflecting on Christ's suffering in anticipation of our celebration of his resurrection on Easter, we thank God for Christ's death and resurrection which gives us hope and life. As we come to receive the elements and as we partake together of the bread and cup, we remember Jesus "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." All who trust in Jesus as their savior from their sin and who desire to follow Jesus are welcome to share with us at his table.

Council Communique: A summary of the Council's February meeting is in this month's *Reflections of Grace* newsletter, which has been distributed for today.

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!*

The Council will meet on Monday, March 2 @ 6:00pm. Please pray for God's wisdom and his Spirit's guidance for our Council.

Mission Trip: *Larry & LeAnn Kooyenga* have completed their week of work on a medical mission trip in Guatemala. We pray for God's blessing on their efforts there.

FREE Lunch & Art Connect! Art Connect will meet on Sat., March 14, 1-2:30pm. Join artist Barb Thompson to make an Easter Resurrection garden. Art Connect is a great way to learn a craft or skill while visiting with friends and neighbors. **Come join us for lunch before Art Connect at 12 noon! Everyone is welcome!**

Adult Serve Mission Trip: Grace Church is once again partnering 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 in Mississippi. Our group will leave this Saturday, March 7 and includes: Jim Wassenaar, Dan Brucken, Jake Brucken, Harry Beezhold, Jim Kamper and Dave Phillips. Please keep these men in your prayers as they travel and work to build God's kingdom through their witness and skilled labor.

LENTEN PRAYER breakfast  **Tuesday Coffee Break invites all women** to our **Lenten Prayer Breakfast** on **March 10** from **9:15-11am**. Pastor Matt Mulder will lead us in a Lenten prayer and meditation. We will have a breakfast potluck, so please bring a dish to share. *And invite your friends!*



—**We extend our sympathy to Clareen Sluis** in the death of her brother Fred Schaaf. We pray that the presence of our risen Lord Jesus will continue to uphold and strengthen Clareen and her family.

—**Evelyn Luchtenburg** remains in Lexington of Orland for a further week of therapy. Lord willing, she will be returning home early this week. We pray for God's continued strength for Evelyn as she walks with him.

—**Rosalie Spender** underwent surgery at Adventist LaGrange Hospital to stabilize her hip after a fall. We pray for God's healing and renewed strength as she heals and undergoes therapy.

—**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.

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!

What's New in in the Library?: Stop in and check out the 'New Books' shelf for these fiction titles—*Tending Roses*, *Good Hope Road* and *the Language of Sycamores* by Lisa Wingate, *The Sinners' Garden* by William Sirls, *No Less Days* by Amanda G. Stevens, *Shades of Light* by Sharon Garlough Brown and *Overcomer* (from the creator of *War Room*) by Chris Fabry. The Book cart in the foyer has the book *Glory Days* by Max Lucado.

Grace Community Church Window Fund: The beautiful stained glass window at the front of the sanctuary is in need of structural repair. Those repairs are tentatively set to begin this week. A deposit has been paid to begin the work; and an additional (approximately) \$35,000 will be needed to cover the balance of the repair cost. Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to contribute toward this unique expense. Special envelopes were distributed last Sunday and extra envelopes are available on the tables at the back of the sanctuary for a donation for the window repair. You may place your donation in the offering basket or give it to a Council member.



LOST AND FOUND: A table with lost and found items is available for everyone to check out. If you've been missing something that may have been left at the church, now is the time to find it! The table will be out until March 8th. After that any items not claimed will be donated.

Community News

Back to God Ministries International: A Lenten Devotional from TODAY—Lent is a season to focus on the hope of Jesus Christ. Receive a free TODAY devotional email series to help you refresh, refocus, and renew your faith during Lent. Or download the ebook! Subscribe at: todaydevotional.com/lent.

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.