**Upcoming at Grace Church**

**SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 16**
- 9 a.m. - Day of Conversion (FH)
- 5 p.m. - Sat. Eve Worship (AC)

**SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 17**
- 8:15, 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Worship (Sanc)
- 10 a.m. - Bible Sunday & Fair (Sanc/FH)
- 11 a.m. - Bible Sunday (Sanc)
- 9 a.m. - Fox Valley Genealogical Gathering (101)
- 9 a.m. - Parent’s Day Out (LL)
- 7:15 p.m. - Choir Tidbits (Sanc)
- 5:30 p.m. - Senior Choir (171)
- 4 p.m. - Choral Evensong (Sanc)
- 4:45 p.m. - Evensong Reception (Narthex)

**MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 18**
- 9 a.m. - Parent’s Day Out (LL)
- 12:15 p.m. - Prayer Ministry (160)
- 4 p.m. - Children’s Bells (160)
- 1:15 p.m. - Youth Bell Ensemble (160)

**TUESDAY • SEPTEMBER 19**
- 8:30 a.m. - Moms In Prayer (224)
- 9 a.m. - Parent’s Day Out (LL)
- 10 a.m. - Theological Study Group (FS)
- 11 a.m. - Parish Committe (AC)
- 12:15 p.m. - Prayer Ministry (232)
- 3 p.m. - Prayer Shawl Ministry (171)
- 5 p.m. - Portico Collective (234)
- 5 p.m. - Theological Study Group (FS)

**WEDNESDAY • SEPTEMBER 20**
- 9 a.m. - Parent’s Day Out (LL)
- 10 a.m. - Theological Study Group (FS)
- 1 p.m. - Treble Tidbits (154)
- 7:15 p.m. - Youth Bell Ensemble (160)

**THURSDAY • SEPTEMBER 21**
- 9 a.m. - Parent’s Day Out (LL)
- 10 a.m. - Theological Study Group (FS)
- 11 a.m. - Parish Committe (AC)

**FRIDAY • SEPTEMBER 22**
- 9 a.m. - Parent’s Day Out (LL)
- 10 a.m. - Theological Study Group (FS)
- 11 a.m. - Parish Committe (AC)

**SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 23**
- 9 a.m. - Fox Valley Genealogical Gathering (101, 155)
- 5 p.m. - Sat. Eve Worship (Sanc)

**SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 24**
- 8:15, 9:30 & 11 a.m. - Worship (Sanc)
- 9:30 a.m. - Bible Sunday & Fair (Sanc/FH)
- 11 a.m. - Bible Sunday (Sanc)

**Join a Sunday Class!**

**CHILDREN**
- Nursery Care: 8 a.m. - Noon
- 6 weeks to 2 Years - Rooms 130 & 131
- 9:30 a.m. Schedule

**Children (3 years - 5th Grade):**
- 9:30 a.m. - Gathering (133)
- 9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Classrooms
- 3 to 4 Year Olds - Room 123
- K - 1st Grades - Room 123
- 2nd - 3rd Grades - Room 152
- 4th - 5th Grades - Room 155

**11 a.m. Schedule**
- Pre-K to 3rd Grade gather in the Sanctuary and move to Room 231 for Children’s Church.

**YOUTH**
- 9:30 a.m.
- 6 - 7th Grades - Room 233
- Confirmation, Baptist - Room 231
- 9 - 12th Grades - Room 234

**ADULTS**
- 9:30 a.m.
- Forum - Fireside Room
- Hearts On Fire - Room 230
- New Connections - Room 226
- Questors - Room 254
- Young Adults - Room 224

**11 a.m.**
- OHM - Room 232

*Welcome to Life at Grace United Methodist Church*

**Small Groups and Classes**

- **SUNDAYS**
  - The Forum Class meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room. For the next 5 weeks, the class will be studying Adam Hamilton’s book Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet led by Pastor Doug Bowden. Contact Elaine Pauls (630-865-6600) or Mark Fleming (markfleming@aal.org) for more information.
  - Hearts on Fire (HOF) meets at 9:30 a.m. in Room 250. The topic for September 17, is “Becoming Human” with Ariel from The Little Mermaid. Next week’s topic is “Sharing Gifts” with the superheros from The Incredibles. Contact Bob Pacionawski (bpacionawski@franklinisports.com) for more information.
  - New Connections meets at 9:30 a.m. in Room 226. The topic for September 17, is “Becoming Human” with Ariel from The Little Mermaid. Next week’s topic is “Sharing Gifts” with the superheros from The Incredibles. Contact Jeff Barbeau (jeff@jeffbarbeau.com) for more information.
  - The Questors Class meets at 9:30 a.m. in Room 254. The topic for September 17 is “Book Review of Evicted: Poverty & Profit in the American City by Matthew Desmond” presented by Jan Smucker. Next week’s topic is “Curriculum Committee.” Contact Roger Hendrickson (rhs1458@abcglobal.net) for more information.
  - Open Hearts and Minds (OHM) meets at 11 a.m. in Room 232. Join us this fall, as we study Unity of the Church and Human Sexuality, Toward a Faithful United Methodist Church. Contact Pastor Don Niswonger (don.niswonger@peopleofgrace.org) or Rev. Dr. Carol Findon (revdrcrf@aol.com) for more information.
  - Progressive Christianity meets on Monday nights at 7 p.m. in Room 254. Join us as we study Rev. Michael Dowd’s book Thank God for Evolution. Contact Pastor Don Niswonger (don.niswonger@peopleofgrace.org) or Rev. Dr. Carol Findon (revdrcrf@aol.com) for more information.
  - Portico Collective meets on Wednesday nights at 5 p.m. in Room 234. Contact Pastor Matthew Johnson (matthew.johnson@peopleofgrace.org) for more information. All women are invited to join.
  - Disciple Fast Track Bible Study will begin on Thursday, September 28, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 254. Contact Pastor Doug Bowden (dbowden@aal.org) for more information.
  - **WEEKDAYS**
    - Sisters Bible Study meets on Mondays at 1 p.m. in Room 254. We are currently studying Moses by Adam Hamilton. Books are available in the Church Office for $14. Contact Pastor Tammy Scott (tammy.scott@peopleofgrace.org) for more information. All women are invited to join.
    - **Upcoming at Grace Church**

**Music & a Movie (September 22)**

- Join us “Rain or Shine” on Friday, September 22, at 7 p.m. in the Lower Parking Lot for Pop, Rock, & Praise Music. Pixar’s The Good Dinosaur movie will show at dusk. Free popcorn! Drinks & snacks provided as a fundraiser for Open Doors Ministry. Bring a blanket or chair! All are welcome!!

**Bible Sunday & Celebrating Ministry (September 24)**

- Join us on Sunday, September 24, in the 9:30 a.m. worship service to celebrate Bible Sunday and the ministry of Renee Roscoe-Morrison. Kindergarten and 3rd Grade students will be presented a Bible in worship, followed by a Bible Fair and activity time in the Fellowship Hall. Please register your student(s). Contact Chamus Burnside-Savazzini (chamus@peopleofgrace.org) for more information or to register by Sunday, September 17.

- We will also be celebrating the sixteen-year ministry of Renee Roscoe-Morrison as the Director of the Angelus (K-1st) Choir. There will be a reception, hosted by the Children’s Music Ministry and Staff Parish Committee, in the Activity Center immediately following the 9:30 a.m. service.

- Join us TODAY (September 17), at 3:30 p.m. for a pre-service recital by Stephen Buzard of Magnificant/Nunc Dimittis in D, Dyson. The Choral Evensong service will start at 4 p.m. followed by a Tea Reception at 4:45 p.m. Contact Dan Wagner (dan.wagner@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.
Naperville CROP Hunger Walk 2017

Sunday, October 15, is the 35th Annual Naperville CROP Hunger Walk. The CROP Hunger Walk will step off at Grace United Methodist Church. Registration and rally begins at 1 p.m. with the walk stepping off at 1:30 p.m. There is a 5K or 1K route through the local neighborhood. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised go to Naperville Loaves & Fishes and the Northern Illinois Food Bank. The remainder of the money is used for projects, nationally and internationally, through Church World Services. The CROP Hunger Walk is a great opportunity to bring your family together in service to our community and the world. The CROP Hunger Walk will conclude with an “easy pack meal” event. Watch for walker sign-up information coming soon!

In honor of Phyllis Pepiot’s 35th walk, we suggest a gift which is a multiple of 35 i.e. $70 or $350. Our Grace UMC goal is to raise $7,000.

Fellowship of Christian Men

Join us on Friday, October 20, at 6 p.m. for dinner and 6:30 p.m. for special guest speakers Lucy and Rodney Westlake. They will share the story of their epic father-daughter adventure of faith, determination, survival, and extraordinary effort in climbing Denali Mountain in Alaska, a mountain where the forces of nature collide with the human spirit and strength. It is a place where every part of you is put to the ultimate test. High altitude, extreme weather, steep icy slopes, and glacier crevasses combine to make Denali one of the most difficult mountains in the world to climb.

Lucy Westlake, of Naperville, set the world record as the youngest female to climb the lower 48 US state high points (highest mountain in every state) on June 22, 2016, at the age of 12. On May 27, 2017, Lucy and her father set off on a 21-day journey to reach the top of North America and set a new world record as the youngest female and first father-daughter team to climb in all 50 states.

Anyone (ages 12 and older, please) are welcome to attend! Contact Bob Pacanowski (bpacanowski@franklinsports.com) for more information or to register. Please RSVP to Bob by October 6.

Blessing of the Pets

Join us on Sunday, October 8, at 2 p.m. in the Lower Parking Lot or Activity Center (if raining) for a time of fellowship and blessing. Bring your dogs, cats, birds, turtles, and any other animal that serves as your faithful companion in this journey of life. All pets must be leashed or caged.

Master Plan: Creating Space

Let’s give Grace a fresh, new face to offer the love of Christ! Input from many at Grace led to the creation of a “Master Plan” to revitalize the Grace building to serve as a partner in the mission to bring people into relationship with Christ. Renderings of proposed changes are in the Narthex for review.

The design brings out the best in the people of Grace: devoting themselves to welcoming newcomers and connecting people in service and friendship. It features seamless technology and spaces to linger in conversation. New windows open the dark hallways to a flood of natural light and a stunning view of the beautiful grounds. A secure check-in and brightly refurbished children’s area will offer comfort to growing numbers of families with young children.

The plan requires some bold thinking and hope for the future. It requires the people of Grace to live into the changes that we are already experiencing in the world and step out in faith based on the love of God, who is always faithful.

The next informational meeting will be Sunday, October 8, at 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. A church conference will be scheduled, in the months following the October 8 meeting, to allow Grace UMC members to vote on the plan and financial considerations.

Russian Initiative Update: Volgograd

Coffee Shop Needs

It is extremely difficult for the Methodist churches in Volgograd to have any outreach program because the state prohibits any type of religious outreach beyond the church. The Hope and Transfiguration UMC churches have decided to open a secular coffee shop as a means of having some contact with non-believers. Below is a list of items that they desire to complete their coffee shop needs:

• equipment for hot and cold water production (cost: $200),
• coffee machine (cost: $450),
• coffee pairs (cup-saucer) 100 pairs  (cost: $300),
• teaspoons 100 pieces (cost: $50),
• tablecloths 8 pieces (cost: $150),
• trays of 10 pieces (cost: $40).

They would be happy to receive any help from Grace UMC and accept it as a gift from the Lord! If you would like to contribute to these needed items, please, mark your gift “Russian Coffee Shop.” To learn more about the Russian Initiative and the situation in Russia, visit (www.peoplofgrace.org/russian-initiative) or contact Harold Workman (hworkman@wowway.com) for more information.

In Brief

UMW Priscilla Circle — Join us on Tuesday, September 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room for a Potluck Dinner. Contact Joyce Payne (630-717-8169) or (jopyay46@yahoo.com) for more information.

UMW Ruth Circle — Join us on Wednesday, September 20, at 9 a.m. in the home of Pat Smith. This month’s topic is the “Woman’s Walk in D.C.,” presented by Katie Smith. Contact Val Dudley (valjm@wowway.com) or (630-357-1266) for more information.

Interested in the Russian Initiative? — Come join us as we Skype with the two Russian pastors at 11 a.m. on Sunday, September 24, in Room 254. Bring your questions or just listen to hear about happenings in Russia. Check out the Grace-Russia web page (www.peoplofgrace.org/russian-initiative) to learn more.

UMW Book Discussion Group — Join us on Wednesday, September 27, at 12:45 p.m. in the Fireside Room. This month’s book is All the Stars in the Heavens by Adriana Trigiani. Contact Mary Abe (630-355-1039) for more information.

Hands on Worship Training — Have you ever wondered how the ushers know which row to pass the offering plate? Do you enjoy greeting those who come to worship? Are you eager to learn how the slides show up on the screen in worship? Ever wondered how the sound system works in the sanctuary? We have people to teach us the answers to those questions and more!

All youth (and their parents) are invited to attend a Hands-on-Worship training session with our Grace experts on Sunday, October 1, from 12 - 1:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We will have a time for hands-on training and a time to ask questions. Hope to see you there! Contact Gaye Lynn Loufek (gayeyloufek@peopleofgrace.org) for more information and/or to register.

Heartland Blood Drive — Raising Spirits and Saving Lives! Please consider donating blood at Grace on Monday, October 2, from 3:30 - 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. It is fast, easy, and it will not cost you a penny! Contact Barb McCarthy (b-bmccarthy@bcbglobal.net) for more information.

Custodial Job Opening — Grace UMC is accepting applications for a part-time Custodian position. This position will be mostly nights and weekends (16 hours per week) with duties including, but not limited to, general cleaning, setup/tear down for events and organization and upkeep of the kitchen. Applications are available in the Church Office. Contact Ashley Pierce (ashley.pierce@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.

Contributions and Worship Attendance

Thank you for your commitment to support Grace Church with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness!

CONTRIBUTIONS
(through July 31)
Year to Date Receipts: $767,132
Year to Date Expenses: $878,589
Variance: ($111,457)

ATTENDANCE
August 19/20 - 313
August 26/27 - 356
September 2/3 - 364
September 9/10 - 499