

# Grace Notes

Gather to Christ • Grow as Disciples • Go to Serve

A Communications Ministry of Grace United Methodist Church, Naperville

August 2019

## Introducing the Reid Room for Sensory Supports

By Nicole Zaccaria, Open Doors Ministry Coordinator

We all learn through our senses. Think for a moment about a scent that you love. I can close my eyes and recall the scent of my grandparents' house when I was growing up, and the feelings of happiness and love that I had in those days still overcome me. I can also remember the first time I visited my grandmother 6 months after my grandfather had passed away, and the sorrow I felt from the change in scent. Maybe you love the smell of coffee in the morning or cookies baking in the oven. For all of us, those scents are different. My mother loves the smell of gasoline, and it makes me nauseous. The same goes for sound. Do you like to put on soothing music after a long day? Do you prefer silence? Or, does the sound of a loud, lively home relax you? We all have our preferred sights and tastes. Is there anything that you just can't stand to eat? It may be the taste, or it may be the texture. We all make sense of our world through our senses. We all find comfort through some sensory input and become agitated and bothered by others. Most of us, however, are born with the ability to regulate our bodies. When we smell that scent we love, we know how to remain calm instead of becoming over-excited, and when we hear that music that is too harsh or stimulating, we know how to block it out. Individuals with sensory regulation disorders cannot do so.

Church is a place where all of our senses can be overloaded. There is the scent of the flowers in the Sanctuary, the perfumes that people are wearing in the nearby pews, the feedback from the microphone, the buzz of the lights

overhead, and the touches from hugs. There are many behaviors that a person with a sensory regulation disorder may display in response to discomfort. For example, they may start laughing unexpectedly, they may yell out to test the echo in the Sanctuary or activity center, or they may cover their ears and cry. In addition to being overstimulated, individuals can become under-stimulated. Sitting still in a pew, the early Sunday hour, the soothing music can all add to an individual being under-aroused. In response, they may start jumping up and down to awaken their body.

The Open Doors Ministry (ODM) has seen all of these behaviors and more. When this happens, we've moved into the hallway to assist in calming an individual, but this is not a very private place where our participants can calm with dignity. John and Sarah Reid established the Reid Family Open Doors Ministry Endowment in the Grace Foundation that provided the initial funding for the sensory room. It will continue to supply support for the future needs of ODM. Additional donations have been provided by Cathy Bozett, Megan Ginley, Barbara Hoch, Jill Ridder, and Ruth Wills. We are so blessed to have this space to offer support to our participants in the Open Doors Ministry and to help us to welcome individuals of all ability levels to worship at Grace.

In the fall of 2018, the sensory room was opened. It is a safe, calm place that has allowed ODM participants

### Dedication of the Sensory Room!

Join us on Sunday, August 18, from 9 a.m. -noon, as Open Doors Ministry celebrates the Official Opening of Grace's new Sensory Room (downstairs in room 151). There will be cake, refreshments, and a time of learning about sensory needs, seeing all of the tools that Grace has to offer to help us welcome individuals of all abilities.

a place to process their sensory experiences and regulate their bodies. Now that the construction project is complete, we welcome the congregation to come see this room, experience the calm that it brings, and learn more about sensory regulation. **It is with grateful hearts that on Sunday, August 18, we will officially dedicate the room as the Reid Room for Sensory Support (downstairs in room 151). Please join us anytime between 9 a.m. – noon for cake, celebration, and time to explore.**

If you think someone in your family could benefit from the sensory room, please contact Nicole Zaccaria, the coordinator of the Open Doors Ministry ([nicole.zaccaria@peopleofgrace.org](mailto:nicole.zaccaria@peopleofgrace.org)).

This is a place that is open to the congregation but is to be used with an adult that has been trained in the tools of the sensory room. Additional training sessions will be offered this fall, so watch for the release of these dates in Grace in Mission.

## BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18  
10:30 A.M.  
IN WORSHIP

### Save the Date! Two September United Methodist Women's Events!

**United Methodist Women General Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, September 3, in the Fellowship Hall at 9 a.m. The guest speaker will be Barb Kreski, a registered horticulture therapist. She is the former Director of Horticulture Therapy at the Chicago Botanic Garden. The title of her talk is "Nurturing Nature." She will discuss her profession, provide information on sacred references to plants, and share fascinating research studies with us. In addition, she will give us practical ideas and activities to help ourselves and others by engaging with nature. The Mary Circle of UMW will host a continental breakfast before the meeting. All are welcome to attend.

**Fireside Financial Chat** will be hosted by the United Methodist Women on Monday, September 23, featuring guest speaker, Charles Brown, at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Dessert and coffee will be served before the meeting.

Mr. Charles R.P. Brown III is the CEO and Portfolio Manager of CB3 Financial Group, Inc. His presentation is entitled, "The Markets and Your Money." He also will provide information about charitable giving. Mr. Brown has been trading commodities and stocks for thirty-plus years. He has written numerous financial articles and a book, Not Your Father's Retirement. An experienced lecturer, he has appeared on national TV with his economic opinions and news. He is known for his ability to "explain complex topics in his 'everyman' conversational style." Apart from the financial world, he is an accomplished musician and performed in Carnegie Hall at age 17. He currently is an active member and performs in the Moody Church Orchestra in Chicago.

Note that Mr. Brown's scheduled talk in February was canceled because of inclement weather. We are grateful to have him as our guest in September. All are welcome to attend. Contact Phyllis Pepiot ([ppepiot@gmail.com](mailto:ppepiot@gmail.com)) for more information about either of these events.

## Adult Faith Formation Opportunities at Grace!

### Disciple Fast Track 1 Class

Join us on Thursday, September 5, at 9:30 a.m. in room 254 as we begin Disciple Fast Track: Prophets of Israel. This 12-week study examines the connection between memory and identity as the people of God. Participants will find common themes, including calls to remember, calls to repent, calls for renewal and calls for community. Contact Pastor Doug Bowden (dbowden6@aol.com) for more information.

### Sisters Daytime Class

Do you know the real story behind the New Testament? We all share a fascination for discovering "the rest of the story." We enjoy learning the behind-the-scenes facts about seemingly familiar events.

In this eight-session video Bible study, well-known Bible scholars N.T. Wright and Michael F. Bird team up to take you on a tour of the story behind the explosive story of the New Testament. You will discover things you never knew about Jesus' baptism and journey into the wilderness, the meaning behind his parables and miracles, the significance of his death and resurrection, the incredible expansion of the early church into the Greco-Roman world, and how the transforming mission of Jesus can still turn the world upside down today.

Through reading the New Testament we continually discover that God indeed keeps his promises, but those promises don't always look like what people expected. Especially when it comes to Jesus. So, come join the journey on Monday, September 9, at 1 p.m. in room 254, with N.T. Wright and Michael Bird and they will help you understand the New Testament you never knew. Contact Pastor Cindy (cindy.marino@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.

### Progressive Christianity

Join us on Monday, September 9, at 7 p.m. in room 254 as we begin with an orientation to the eight-session study of ProFuture Faith with Michael Dowd. This DVD based study will be led by Rev. Dr. Carol Findon and Linda Rings. Contact Rev. Dr. Carol Findon (revdrcrf@aol.com) or Linda Rings (lrings@me.com) for more information.

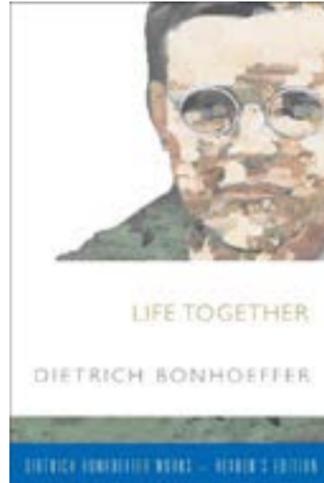
### Disciple Fast Track 2 Class

Join us on Monday, September 16, at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Room as we begin the Disciple Fast Track Study of Genesis and Exodus. This 12-week study will immerse you in the

books of Genesis and Exodus through which you will deepen your understanding of Scripture and make connections between what you already know and what you are reading. In every session, we will commit to how we can respond to Scripture in terms of ministry in our world today. Contact Sandy Bray (braysnap@aol.com) for more information and to sign up.

### New! Dietrich Bonhoeffer Study

What is a true Christian faith community? How is Jesus present among those who profess their faith together and celebrate oneness with the Lord? Join us for a study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's marvelous book Life Together in which he deals with the nature of the Christ-centered community, united in service to one another, united in prayer and confession and in the Lord's Supper.



The seven-week study will begin on Tuesdays, September 17, at 7 p.m. in room 254. On Tuesday evening, October 8, true to Bonhoeffer's call, we will volunteer in Grace Church's serving meal ministry at Hesed House, Aurora. The 2015 edition of Life Together (Fortress Press) can be ordered from Anderson's Book Store in Naperville or your other book order sources. Students are encouraged to read the short book in advance. Contact Pastor Doug Bowden (dbowden6@aol.com) or Larry Hartman (lehartman@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

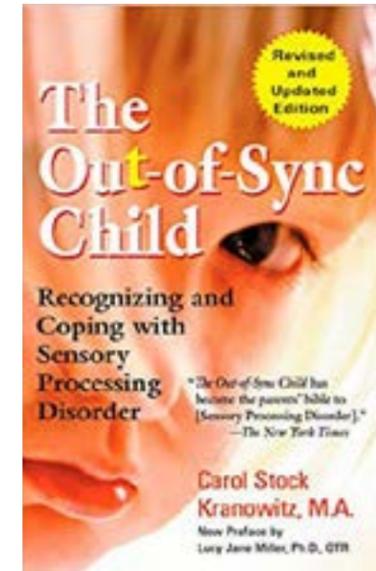
### New! Sisters Evening Class!

Join us on Wednesday, September 25, at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Our Fall study will be Not a Silent Night by Adam Hamilton. This 5-week course will look at Jesus from Mary's point of view --proud of her son, in awe of his gifts and mission, guided by love for him as a person and so much more. In this study, we will begin at the Crucifixion and Resurrection then travel back in time as Mary witnessed Jesus' life and ministry and ends at the beginning with the Christ Child. Come experience an early Advent and Christmas with Mary. Contact Sandy Bray (braysnap@aol.com) for more information and to sign up.

## Book Review on Sensory Books

By Jill Ridder

**What is Sensory Processing Disorder? Does your child have symptoms of Sensory Processing Disorder? How can I help my child?**



The book, The Out-of-Sync Child, Recognizing and Coping with Sensory Processing Disorder by Carol Stock

Kranowitz, is an easy to understand and helpful tool for parents and non-professionals about identifying and treating sensory processing disorder. This resource gives concrete information, checklists, and examples of typical indicators that may signal that a sensory processing disorder may be present. The book concludes with a list of exercises, activities, and resources that a parent or therapist can do with a child to help in becoming less bothered by the sensory issues.

Another helpful, easy-to-understand resource for parents, teachers, and therapists in the book, The Ultimate Guide to Sensory Processing Disorder, Easy Everyday Solutions to Sensory Challenges written by Roya Ostovar, Ph.D. This book also gives examples of children with a sensory processing disorder, the reasons behind the child's behavior, current research, practical advice, and step-by-step strategies to manage and accommodate children in all environments.

Our Church library maintains helpful resources on many topics available to check out any time. Come "check us out" in room 223 or at [peopleofgrace.org/library](http://peopleofgrace.org/library).

### Kitchen Clean-up!

We are excited to announce that Grace has received a generous donation given to renovate our Church kitchen. To begin this project, we need to clean out the kitchen in preparation for "Demo Day."

The Kitchen Renovation Team is asking all members to please go down and pick up any personal items left in the kitchen by Thursday, August 15. Any items remaining in the kitchen after this date will be disposed of by our team.

## Over 50 Fellowship!

Enjoy friendship, a delicious lunch, and a unique learning opportunity at the meeting of Over 50 Fellowship on Thursday, September 12, 2019. Our speaker will be Joe Jackson, the current Director of Administration, Finance, and Human Resources at Hesed House in Aurora. Working for Hesed House has been one of the most rewarding experiences of his life. His desire, along with what he describes as divine intervention, took him from the corporate world to Hesed House.



Sign up at the Welcome Desk by Monday, September 9, at noon. We will have lunch at noon and the program at 1 p.m. Lunch will cost \$10 in cash, payable at the door. If you sign up, we will prepare a meal for you. If you cannot attend, please make arrangements to pay and pick up your food at the Church kitchen. Contact Martha Sanders (bmarzink@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

## Grace Community Builders Groups

Grace Community Builders Groups (GCB) are an exciting way to get to know people at Grace better and form a stronger community of faith. Each group is comprised of six people. These groups of six meet with a different person from their group



each week over a period of five weeks. The purpose is to get to know one another better and to strengthen our church community. GCB Groups will begin meeting the week of September 15. After the five weeks, there will be a potluck dinner which includes your spouse, significant other or a friend.

Deadline to sign up is Monday, September 2. You do not need to be a member of Grace to participate. Curious? Contact Bill Fronk (wcfrok1@gmail.com) for more information or to sign up.

# Top 10 Reasons Your Child Needs To Be In Choir

By Lynn Leitzen, Director of Children's Music Ministry

Grace's Children's Music Ministry will start a new season with a grand Kick-Off on Wednesday, August 21.

- Children's Handbell Choir, 4<sup>th</sup> grade and up, directed by Debbie Johns meets at 4 p.m.
- Graded Vocal Children's Choirs meet at 5 p.m. with the Cherub Choir (K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade) directed by Sue Riedinger & Shelly Drescher and Junior Singers (4<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> grades) directed by Lynn Leitzen.

The choir season closely mirrors the school year, meeting late August through mid-May, but seasonal participation is also welcomed. So, if fall soccer is also a passion of your child's, join us when the season concludes, or when it rains! Choirs rehearse on Wednesday afternoons and sing in worship approximately once a month. There are two musical offerings, one during the Christmas season and the other on Mother's Day weekend, as well as other special services throughout the year. You need not be a member of our Church to participate in our choir program. And children are encouraged to bring friends from the community or from other churches that may not have a choir program. Our Open Doors Ministry provides support to individuals with special needs so that all persons can worship and fully participate in the life of the church.

So, here are Five of the Top 10 your Child Needs To Be In Choir. You'll want to visit [peopleofgrace.org/childrens-music](http://peopleofgrace.org/childrens-music) to see a sample of the 2018-2019 Children's Music Ministry Worship/Activities calendar. The 2019-2020 calendar will be posted on our website soon!

1. **It's a lot of FUN!** *Because we want your child to love the experience, we incorporate learning games and movement into our rehearsals. We also host social events outside of Wednesday rehearsals for even more fun! (Think hayride, caroling, and lock-in!)*
2. **Kids who get involved, stay INVOLVED.** *Kids who get involved in choir at a young age get used to being in church regularly. They form friendships and are then more inclined to participate in our youth program, our mission opportunities, and Confirmation. And it doesn't stop there. While we're all familiar with the statistics about how young adults are no longer attending church, statistics also show that young people who HAVE had a meaningful connection to the church in childhood are far more likely to stay involved or return to the church once they are adults with families of their own.*
3. **They learn what it means to SERVE others.** *When the choirs lead worship through song, they are serving God and their church. They also learn what it means to serve others outside of the church through mission projects like our Noisy Offering and our year-long commitment to Feed My Starving Children's Feed the Need Mobile Pack.*
4. **Worship participation develops a child's SELF-ESTEEM and CONFIDENCE.** *The regular experience of standing on the Sanctuary steps, facing the on-looking gaze of the audience, and then confidently sharing in a creative community goes a long way toward developing confidence and self-esteem. And the children's musicals offer an even greater opportunity to build on those skills.*
5. **Children's choir gives VALUE to children as worshipers.** *These days, it's more and more tempting to leave this to the "professionals." Many adults have bought into "church as a spectator sport." When we celebrate the contributions of children leading in worship we show them that their voices count – that they count – in building up the Kingdom of God.*

## Register Now!

Register your child(ren) at [peopleofgrace.org/registration](http://peopleofgrace.org/registration). Adult volunteers are always needed! Adults should register at [peopleofgrace.org/registration](http://peopleofgrace.org/registration).

If you have any questions about the children's choir program, please contact Lynn Leitzen ([lynn.leitzen@peopleofgrace.org](mailto:lynn.leitzen@peopleofgrace.org)) or (630-355-1748, ext. 3249).

## Treble Tikes- Pre-K Music Class!

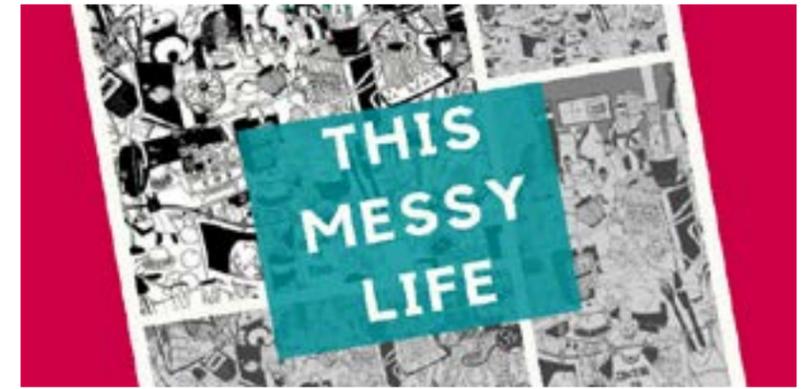
Registration Now Open at [peopleofgrace.org/registration](http://peopleofgrace.org/registration)

This forty minutes of fantastic, frolicking, and FREE fun is specifically designed for Pre-Ks with a parent or care-giver (nannies and grandparents welcome) and begins the week of September 12. Classes fill up quickly and class size is limited. The current class offering is on Thursdays at 1 pm, but a 2nd class will open if we exceed class size (ideally, that's 8). Contact Lynn Leitzen ([lynn.leitzen@peopleofgrace.org](mailto:lynn.leitzen@peopleofgrace.org)) for more information.

# Upcoming Sermon Series: This Messy Life

It seems we often find ourselves scattered during the week amongst the various pieces of our lives, doing our best to make progress, while finding balance, cohesion, and direction.

Our August sermon series takes a look at the current nature of life and the church, where the "gathered" worship is separate from our "scattered" lives outside the church. We'll unpack a few ideas that might help us connect the two worlds in ways that engage us in whole-life worship and a worshipful everyday life.



## Choir Season Kick-off: Game Night!

On Thursday, August 22, at 7 p.m. all members, friends, significant others, and prospective members are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall for a night of games, fellowship and learning more about the Chancel Choir. There will be card games, board games, video games, and lots of snacks! Everyone is welcome! **Regular Chancel Choir Rehearsals resume on Thursday, August 29, at 7:30 p.m.** Contact Dan Wagner ([dan.wagner@peopleofgrace.org](mailto:dan.wagner@peopleofgrace.org)) if you plan to attend or for more information.

## Adult & Youth Music Ministry Opportunities!

*Consider one of our great choral music ministries this fall!*

\* Chancel Choir (Rehearses on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., and sings on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.)

\* Evensong Singers (by audition from church and community) (Rehearses Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., and sings about quarterly.)

\* New Life Singers (Rehearses Wednesdays, at 7:15 p.m. and sings on Sundays at 8 a.m. twice a month) Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, August 21.

Visit [peopleofgrace.org/music](http://peopleofgrace.org/music) for more information about each choir and contact information for the choir directors.

### Youth Choir (Grades 8 - 12)!

\* Discipleship and connection through music! Sundays at 11:45 a.m. (after the 10:30 a.m. service.) More information to come about the start date!

## NEW! Adult Faith Formation Conversations!

What's the difference between Catholics and Protestants? Do we Methodists share anything in common with our Catholic sisters and brothers? How did Methodism become a global movement, and what are the blessings and challenges of this tradition? Join us to explore these questions in the next installment of our new Adult Faith Formation Conversations. On September 1, Bill Bryan will lead us in an exploration of the Protestant Reformation, considering how this historic event continues to shape Protestant and Catholic communities today. Then, on September 8, Dr. Jeffrey Barbeau will share with us his new book *The Spirit of Methodism*, focusing on the global reach of the Methodist movement. Both conversations will begin at 9:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome!

## Interested in learning how to ring handbells?

Children and teens grade 4 and up who would like to learn how to ring are welcome to join either the Children's Bell Ensemble or Youth Bell Ensemble. Prior musical experience is not necessary, though it is helpful.

**Children's Bell Ensemble** is the perfect group for both beginning and intermediate ringers. Rehearsals are every Wednesday, from 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. Beginning and intermediate ringers, grade 4 to 6, contact Debbie John ([debbie.john@peopleofgrace.org](mailto:debbie.john@peopleofgrace.org)) for more information about the Children's Bell Ensemble.

**Youth Bell Ensemble** is the perfect group for advanced ringers. Rehearsals are every Sunday, from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Advanced ringers, grade 7 and up, contact Cheryl Ameiss ([cheryl.ameiss@peopleofgrace.org](mailto:cheryl.ameiss@peopleofgrace.org)) for more information about the Youth Bell Ensemble.

## Youth Summer Missions, Remembered and Wrapped...

Sioux Falls, SD, and DuPage, Kane, and Will Counties in Illinois received a grand dose of hope this summer.

Ninety-two people participated, cumulatively, in Side x Side and Hope @ Home. Add to that the number of people who prayed for, donated to, baked for, and/or supported fundraising efforts for youth summer missions, and you'll begin to "feel" the love of Christ that resonates in Grace Church.

While it is often said (and even alluded to in the ministry title) that Side x Side and Hope @ Home are "for the youth," what you may not realize is how passionate the adults are who travel with us.

Our Side x Side adult team was comprised of "legit adults" (those over 30—for driving purposes) who have traveled with us for 10-plus years, 3 young adults who have been attending since eligibility, two young, newly-married couples who started as Grace youth, and 10 college students.

Our Hope @ Home team evolves each year as our junior high students come into youth ministry. Each year we are blessed by new adult members who partner with their children. We are also fortunate to have a few adults who no longer have youth within our programming but set aside the three days of Hope @ Home each year to lead and mentor.

This year our adult mentors (and college students) graciously committed approximately 13-15 hours of "prep" time. Based on our Safe Sanctuary commitment at Grace and the requests of the organizations we served, each adult member (this includes our college students) completed several pieces of training and testing in a commitment to keeping our youth safe.

While the trips are definitely "for the youth," the youth would not be able to experience Side x Side or Hope @ Home without the willing adults who travel with us. We are grateful for each and every one of them, and for their servant hearts and commitment to Grace.

All who participated in Side x Side spent all week talking about discipleship and how God calls us not only to "be" disciples, but to "go make" disciples, exploring how we want to be "remembered," and how God remembers us always. Evidence of God's call rang loud and clear as we built three garages, framed three basements, painted three homes, and witnessed to multiple neighborhoods in Sioux Falls, SD, through our words and our actions.

In the midst of the work, strong relationships were built within our own Side x Side team through sharing meals, small groups, prayer partner groups, morning watch devotionals, worship, and silly games.

During Hope@Home, we experienced how we are always "wrapped" in God's love. That love was observed through opportunities to feed the hungry, provide affordable housing—complete with landscaping, visiting and listening to "pillars" of Grace share their faith stories, and sharing in devotionals and times of fellowship.

Scriptures from Matthew 25:35-40 (Side x Side) and Isaiah 29:11 (Hope @ Home) guided these trips that not only changed the communities in which we served but also all who participated. Our hope is that the folks of Sioux Falls will remember us as people who cared for them and brought a bit of God's love and hope. Equally, we hope the people of DuPage, Will, and Kane Counties know they have been wrapped in the kind of love that only God can provide.

When have you seen God hungry, thirsty, naked, or imprisoned and stepped out of your comfort zone to offer a hand? Know that God has a plan to prosper you in ALL things—not to harm you—especially when you agree to be His hands and feet.

Side x Side and Hope @ Home 2020 are in the planning stages. Plan now to join us!

### Junior High & Senior High Sunday School Teachers Needed!

As we begin our new worship schedule, we also look forward to a new year of Sunday School for our junior high and senior high youth.

Sunday Faith Formation is not possible without caring adults to lead. Please prayerfully consider joining our "rotation style" teaching team.

Curriculum and leader mentoring are provided. All you have to do is be prepared to share your authentic faith with these energetic, inquisitive, eager young people. Our fall calendaring meeting for our teaching teams will be held in mid-August. Contact Gaye Lynn Loufek (gayelynn.loufek@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.

### College Bon Voyage

All who are leaving for college for the first time or the last time, please join us for a Bon Voyage gathering on Sunday, August 4, from 6:30-8:30 in Room 234. Dinner will be provided! Contact Gaye Lynn Loufek (gayelynn.loufek@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.

## 2019-2020 One-Stop Registration is Now Open!!

By Chamus Burnside-Savazzini, Director of Children's Faith Formation

Greetings Grace Families! I am so thankful for all of you! I hope you are having a great summer and ready for the fall activities. The One-Stop registration link has been updated and we need every child to be registered for the 2019-2020 activity year which kicks off on Sunday, August 18, with Blessing of the Backpacks during the 10:30 a.m. service!

Register at [peopleofgrace.org/registration](https://peopleofgrace.org/registration)

We will be adjusting our faith formation strategy this year, investing in more hands-on activities and using less packaged curriculum material in response to leader feedback from prior years. We have been doing this throughout our summer months and this has worked out great. You can also expect your child(ren) to have dialogue regarding the scripture/topic that you hear in the service because we will be connecting our 9:15 a.m. children's faith formation up with the worship schedule. This is going to be so exciting and I look forward to seeing what God will do!

We are happy to have our electronic check-in system up and running and I would like to ask ALL parents to ensure that they match up to their tags and check out with an adult leader each time we meet. To assist with this, we will have one check-out door and a leader will call your child(ren) to come and meet you at the door, so that we can streamline this process.

I am also looking for additional support for our children's programming on Sunday morning. It would be extremely helpful if we establish a rotating team so that each person can serve once a month or less if possible. Serving more is also welcome! **Adult volunteers should register at [peopleofgrace.org/registration](https://peopleofgrace.org/registration) and complete the Safe Gatherings Training and background check process.**

I am sending many prayers for you and your family as you spend time together and enjoy the end of summer. Please take time to pray for each other, as we have others that need our prayers and support at this time. If you have specific prayer requests, please let me know. It would be my honor to pray for you! Contact Chamus Burnside-Savazzini, Director of Children's Faith Formation, (chamus@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.

### Wednesday G.Y.M.

All who are in 6th-12th grade are welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings, from 7 p.m. -8:30 p.m. beginning September 11 in Room 234. Come enjoy fellowship, Bible study (in the form of life application), snacks and more! Contact Gaye Lynn Loufek (gayelynn.loufek@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.

### Call for Acolytes: Children 7 to 14

Grace Church invites all children 7 to 14 to serve as acolytes during the new 10:30 a.m. service (formerly 9:30). Acolytes will light the candles near the Communion Table at the start of worship and lead the pastors out of the Sanctuary at the end. The program is set to begin on Sunday, August 18. Contact Jennifer Hoover (gumcacyte@peopleofgrace.org) for more information or to sign up.

### Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Dates:

**August 18:** Blessing of the Backpacks at 10:30 a.m. in worship  
**August 18:** Sensory Room Dedication from 9 a.m. - Noon  
**September 8:** Friends & Family Tailgate Party  
**September 12:** Treble Tikes Kick-off (Pre-K Music Class)  
**September 22:** Bible Sunday & Children's Choir Dedication at 10:30 a.m. in worship

### Confirmation Kick-off!

Are you in 8th grade? We invite you to join us in an exploration of what it means to become an adult Christian and what it means to be a United Methodist through our Confirmation class.

Confirmation will begin on Sunday, August 25, with parents and confirmands gathering in room 231. Register at [peopleofgrace.org/registration](https://peopleofgrace.org/registration). (Registration due no later than August 1.)

Wednesday, August 28, from 7-9 p.m., parents will gather in Fellowship Hall and Confirmands will gather in room 234 for an "all you need to know about Confirmation" and a time of fellowship.

Contact Pastor Daniel Cochran (daniel.cochran@peopleofgrace.org) or Gaye Lynn Loufek (gayelynn.loufek@peopleofgrace.org) for more information.

# Calendar of Events

## August -December 2019

August 18: Blessing of the Backpacks at 10:30 a.m.

August 18: Sensory Room Dedication from 9 a.m. - Noon

August 19: Parent's Day Out Classes Begin, Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

August 21: Children's Bells Kick-off at 4 p.m.

August 21: Children's Choir Kick-off at 5 p.m.

August 21: Grace Bell Ensemble Kick-off at 7 p.m.

August 21: New Life Singers Kick-off at 7:15 p.m.

August 22: Choir Season Kickoff Game Night at 7 p.m.

August 25: Confirmation, Youth Choir & Youth Bells Kick-off

August 29: Chancel Choir First Rehearsal at 7 p.m.

September 1: All Church Adult Faith Formation Opportunity

September 8: All Church Adult Faith Formation Opportunity

September 11: Youth G.Y.M Kick-off

September 12: Treble Tikes (Pre-K Music Class) Kick-off

September 15: Friends & Family Tailgate Party

September 22: Bible Sunday & Children's Choir Dedication

September 22: Fall Choral Evensong

October 6: Blessing of the Pets

October 9: Harvest Home Dinner (more details to come on ticket sales)

October 20: Half Marathon & CROP Walk

October 27: Children's Sabbath

October 27: Fall Festival

November 3: All Saints Sunday

November 3: All Church Adult Faith Formation Opportunity

November 9: Mistletoe Marketplace

November 15: Confirmation Lock-up  
November 17: Confirmation Led Worship  
November 17: Thanksgiving Choral Evensong  
November 24: Children's Choir Noisy Offering  
November 24: Advent Wreath Making Event  
November 24: Remembrance Service  
December 4: Celebrate the Season  
December 6: Kid's Night Out  
December 7: Lakeside Singers Concert (more details to come on ticket sales)  
December 8: Children's Music Ministry Musical "Room for Christmas"  
December 15: Children's Christmas Event (at 9:15 a.m.)  
December 15: Gift of Love Concert (more details to come on ticket sales)  
December 21: Longest Night Service  
December 24: Christmas Eve Services (more details to come)

For more information about these and other events at Grace Church throughout the year visit us at [peopleofgrace.org/get-connected](http://peopleofgrace.org/get-connected) or follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/gracenaperville](https://facebook.com/gracenaperville)