

belong · believe · become



Newsletter MARCH 2021



#### Lenten & Easter Season Schedule

Wed. Lenten Services: "Give It Up" Grace Kids Easter Eggstravaganza Palm Sunday Services Maundy Thursday Good Friday Easter Sunday 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/246:30 PMSaturday, March 2710:00 - 11:30 AMSunday, March 288:30 & 11:00 AMThursday, April 16:30 PMFriday, April 26:30 PMSunday, April 48:00, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

Join us for a special series of services and a family event for the seasons of Lent and Easter! All services will be in person in the sanctuary and also live streamed. Gatherings that historically have had a larger attendance will have limited seating requiring an RSVP through the online tool called "SignUpGenius" (recently used for the Christmas Eve services). For your convenience you can sign up for everything at once! After making your reservation(s) you can make any adjustments by revisiting "SignUpGenius". Just click on the link that is sent to the email address you provide. You can also call Cynthia Jackson in the church office at 817-274-1626 for help and/or to sign you up. <u>Click here</u> to sign up at <u>https://go.grace.lc/signup</u>. This link will also be in future emails from Grace.

Pick up a printed **Lenten Devotional**, written by Grace members, in the Narthex or download a digital copy. Just click the button near the top of the homepage at **grace.lc**.



## **Order Your Easter Hams and Sausage**

The Holy Smokers are ready to take orders for Easter hams and sausage.

#### THIS IS A YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISER!

To place your order, call Ernie Owens 817-247-0747 to get a confirmation number. Orders need to be pre-paid; hams are \$30.00 each and sausage (mild or spicy) is

\$7.00 per ring or 2 for \$12.00. Make checks out to "Grace Lutheran Church" – memo to "Holy Smokers".

The deadline to place your order for hams and sausage will be 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 30.

Hams and sausage will be ready for pickup on Saturday, April 3 at NOON. Anyone interested in joining the Holy Smokers please join us Saturday morning, April 3 around 08:00.

## A Breath of Fresh Prayer

Norwegian theologian Ole Hallesby described prayer as simply letting God into our lives. God "knocks," he said, "not only in the solemn hours of secret prayer" but "in the midst of your daily work, your daily struggles, your daily grind ... when you need him most." Thank Jou, Lord!

Prayer, added Hallesby, is as essential to life as air. "As impossible as it is for us to take a breath in the morning large enough to last us until noon, so impossible is it to pray in the morning in such a way as to last us until noon," he said. "Let your prayers ascend to [God] constantly, audibly or silently, as circumstances throughout the day permit."

Pastor Doug Widger Lead Shepherd

Pastor Steve Roth Community Care

Dr. Serena Pace DCE - Director of Ministries

Jennifer Chavez Director of Early Education

Rev. Dr. Russell Hildebrandt Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Dr. David Joeckel Pastor Emeritus

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#### Jim Runzheimer's Sunday Bible Study

We have just started a new study on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the Fireside Room on the book of Job. The study guide is entitled "God's Word for Today: Job" published by Concordia Publishing House. This guide will be provided to all participants. Everyone is welcome! Please come and join us.

# Choice Dollars = Free Money for Grace

Thrivent has a pot of money they are giving to churches and charities. All you have to do is tell Thrivent where you want them to send it. This money does not come from your funds.



All you need to do is - CALL THRIVENT (1-800-thrivent) OR - GO ON-LINE: thrivent.com This will take less than 10 minutes. If you want help, contact Chris Owens, 817-247-7122.

In 2020, \$5,064.00 of Thrivent choice money came to Grace.

PLEASE be a good steward and claim your share of this money for Grace. Let's not leave thousands on the table.

There is a deadline and this must be done in the next few weeks.

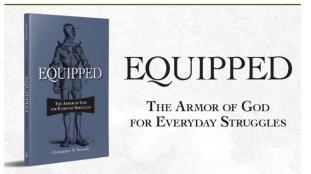
Live Generously!

*Chris Owens* ~ 817 247-7122

# **Pushpay Instructions**

- 1. Use your cell phone text messaging feature.
- 2. Type **77977** in the send to line.
- 3. Type **GRACELC** in the message line.
- 4. Press to send message.
- Almost immediately you will receive a message back thanking you for your generosity.
- 5. Click the link shown in the message.
- 6. This takes you to the page where you will see our church logo.
- 7. You have the option to make a gift to the church's ministries.
- 8. You can insert the dollar amount of the gift.
- 9. You can choose the frequency of the gift (one-time gift or reoccurring gifts).
- 10. Choose the fund type (tithes, etc.).
- 11. Click Next.
- 12. You will be able to confirm the details you just chose, then add your credit card or bank account information, and it can be stored for you or not, as you desire.
- 13. Check the box to authorize the transaction.
- 14. Press GIVE, and you are done.

# Equipped: The Armor of God for Everyday Struggles



Hello Grace Family!

Concordia Publishing House has announced the upcoming release of our son's (Pastor Christopher Kennedy) new book: *Equipped: The Armor of God for Everyday Struggles.* (<u>Click here</u> for a sample of the book.) **The special Grace Lutheran Church price is only \$10** and will be available for pick up after the release date of March 16. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex to take orders. You can also email me at:

DorothyLKennedy@gmail.com or call 817.805.1697.

Thank you for your support!

Dorothy & Mike Kennedy

#### **About the Author**

Christopher M. Kennedy is the senior pastor at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, School, and Child Care in San Antonio, Texas. He is blessed beyond



measure to be married to Ashley and to have the four most wonderful children on the planet. He holds a master of divinity degree from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, and a doctor of ministry degree from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, Texas.





There will be a sign up sheet for Easter Lilies to honor/remember loved ones on the Narthex Information Board or email cjackson@grace.lc





# Senior Support Network & Zoom Book Club

**ELDERS &** 

THEIR ASSIGNED

**MEMBERS** 

Mike Kennedy I-L

A-B

C-E

F-H

M-O

P-R

S

Ernie Owens

Hank Jacobs

David Swille

Mike Curtis

Ernie Owens

Joe Masterson

Keith Mangels T-Z

**Head Elder:** 

Joe Masterson

We're not able to meet right now due to virusrelated restrictions. So you are all welcome to participate in the **Book Club** that meets the third Wednesday of each month from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. via Zoom.

- Sign up <u>here</u>
- Zoom link

Fiction and non-fiction books are discussed. We read one book per month. This month's meeting is Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, and we'll be discussing **The Indigo Girl** by Natasha Boyd.

We would love to have more people in our book club! Questions? please contact Ruth Brown (817-274-8600).

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Rath Brown
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# Announcing Our New Elder

David Swille has accepted the role of elder. He will be available to serve individuals if your last name begins with F-H. If there is any way we, as elders, can assist you with any spiritual needs or physical concerns do not hesitate to contact your elder. If you need contact information, please request it by calling the church at 817-274-1626 or emailing Cynthia Jackson at cjackson@grace.lc.

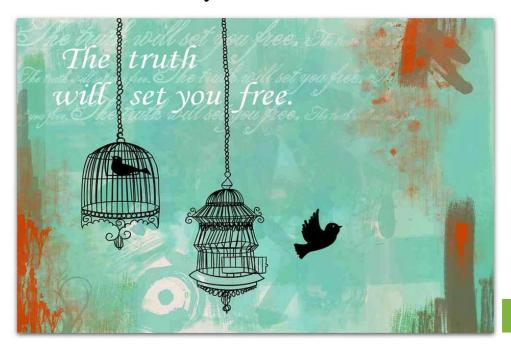
New to Grace? Reference the adjacent list. If your last name begins with "Q" for example, Ernie Owens would be your assigned elder.

# THANK YOU

To Grace Lutheran Church, Thank you for the beautiful basket received in December. I

so enjoyed finding all the treasures—such thoughtful gifts! I am so grateful for your thinking of me. I love the visits by Joe and Nancy.

# Blessings to All, Marcie Wright



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#### Call the church office or E-mail requests to cjackson@grace.lc if you want to:

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter edition of Portals of Prayer is in. Let Cynthia know what size(s) you would like to have mailed to your home (not mailed automatically, but when requested).
- Be added to the group email list that receives prayer requests.
- Submit updated address and contact information.
- Receive by email a current Church Directory (or have one mailed to your home) as an active Grace member.
- Submit a prayer request and/or update.
- Obtain your elder's contact information.
- Submit stories: good memories, testimonies, happy news (noting exactly whom we can share it with, for example, the Prayer Team, Ministry Team, Newsletter Recipients).

# FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

# **Sunday Morning**

We will keep all families informed about whether our Bible Studies will be in person or online.

**Preschool**—Resources will be sent home via email. If you are not receiving these and want them, please let us know! Email <u>space@grace.lc</u> and Serena will make sure you are included!

Grace Kids (Kindergarten—6th Grade)

**JR. High Youth** (Grades 7–8) DEEP END Confirmation meets at 9:50 AM.

**High School Bible Study** (Grades 9-12) Youth will receive a Sunday morning personal devotion to use on Sunday mornings from home.

**Breakfast Club Bible Study** (For parents, grandparents, & guardians of preschoolers through high school seniors) meets at 10 AM.



March 26 April 23 May 21

Contact Rachel Flores with questions at: rachel.flores@academy4.org



Mark your calendars now for VBS! JULY 26-30, 2021



A LENTEN-PRAYER EXPERIENCE COMING YOUR WAY! FOR GRACE KIDS FAMILIES



Contact Abbey for <u>ajarrett@grace.lc</u> info.

MISSION OF THE MONTH Parents can stay in touch through the **GroupMe App**.

# Let's meet the community!!! Saturday, March 27: 10—11:30 AM!!!

GSTRAVA

Meet Tony the Tree from City Kids USA and many other puppets for an engaging show on the side lawn!

Hunt for Easter eggs and receive a Gospel Goodie Bag! Social distancing and masks required.

## Bring your friends!!!

Speak with Serena to SERVE!

(We need help with set up/tear down, traffic/parking, egg hunt, stuffing eggs, stuffing/handing out treat bags, and community hosts.)

Please keep this event in prayer!

Candy, pretzels, gummies, stickers, bubbles, stampers, cute erasers, bendy bracelets, small party favor type toys, etc., NOW being accepted in Narthex.



Please try to avoid candy with nuts or sticks.