



**Adult Education
Grace Lutheran Church
Fall 2015
Sunday mornings
9:45–10:45 am**

**September 20
Fellowship Hall**

Meet Grace's New Senior Pastor!

Please join us for an informal session with our new Senior Pastor, David R. Lyle.

**September 27
Seminar Room
On Sabbatical**

Our Cantor, Pastor Michael D. Costello, will report on his three-month sabbatical, which included studies at the Bach Archive in Leipzig, Germany, and four weeks as chaplain at Lutheran Summer Music. Learn how he will apply what he has learned to his ministry at Grace.

**October 4
Installation Sunday**

There are no Adult Ed classes on this day because of the Installation Service at 10 a.m.



Adult Education Programs Lecture Series

Fall 2015
Seminar Room

Graceful Conversations: God's People and Sexuality **October 11**

Last June's Supreme Court ruling that same-sex couples should be allowed to marry raises new questions, as does the 2009 ELCA Social Statement "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust." In the coming year, the Faith Perspectives Committee hopes to open a conversation about God's people and sexuality. We will listen to the faith journeys of lesbian and gay individuals in our midst and share our convictions and questions. How can we work together to ensure that these conversations are indeed "graceful"? (*A second Adult Ed session on this topic is scheduled for November 22.*)

Liturgy **October 18, 25, November 1**

Oct. 18 What is liturgy and how does it work?

Oct. 25 What is the liturgical shape of the chief Lutheran service of word and meal?

Nov. 1 How does the church year inform the content of the liturgy?

Presented by Dr. Frank Senn, retired ELCA pastor, professor, author and past president of the North American Academy of Liturgy and The Liturgical Conference.

What is Distinctive About Lutheran Theology? **November 8, 15**

Two sessions in which to explore the Lutheran doctrine of justification and Luther's vision of the Christian life. *Presented by* Dr. Kurt K Hendel, Bernard, Fischer, Westberg Distinguished Ministry Professor of Reformation History Emeritus at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

Graceful Conversations: God's People and Sexuality **November 22**

A continuation of discussions from October 11. *Faith Perspectives Committee*

Laughing at God: Cartoons, Religion and Free Speech **November 29**

Presented by Marc Stopeck, Oak Park resident, artist, cartoonist and playwright.

Suicide **December 6, 13**

Dec. 6 Seeking to understand. *Presented by* Darlene R. Erickson, LCSW, and Kira Fieldstrom, MSW

Dec. 13 Living beyond a suicide. What helps, what doesn't. *Presented by* Galen Gockel and Jackie Jungemann, Grace members.



Adult Education Programs Growing Points Series

Fall 2015
Gymnasium

- How Does Sunday Morning Happen?** **October 11**
Come behind the scene and learn who and what it takes to create a meaningful worship service every Sunday. *Susie Calhoun, Chair, Board of Elders*
- Contemplative Ministries** **October 18**
Understand and reflect on Lectio Divina, anointment and Taize prayer ministries. *MaryBeth Buschmann, Spiritual Director*
- Grace School in Action** **October 25**
Hear from Principal Bill Koehne about students, teachers, curriculum, sports, special projects, new resources and everything else that goes on at this special place. *Bill Koehne, Principal, Grace School*
- Associate Pastor Call Committee Report** **November 1**
Come for an update on the plans and progress of the search for an Associate Pastor. *Kathy Lucht, Chair, Associate Pastor Call Committee*
- Marketing our Ministry at Grace** **November 8**
Discover the web tools used to communicate our ministry at Grace and to the community at large. *Gwen Gotsch, Communication Coordinator*
- Meet Lars Bostrom** **November 15**
Gain an insight into his many responsibilities dealing with finances, property and personnel. *Lars Bostrom, Director of Administration and Finance*
- New Member Class Curriculum** **November 22**
Learn about the class and how to help new members assimilate into the Grace community. *Katie Wasson and Paulette Reddel, New Member Committee*
- Preparing for Advent, History of Cross Tradition** **November 29**
Pastor David Kluge, Grace member; Gwen Gotsch, Grace member
- Grace Library – A Gift to Members** **December 6**
Enjoy a morning learning of all the offerings in the library. Get some good Christmas gift ideas! *Olinda Fink, Chair, Library Committee*
- Hand Bells 101** **December 13**
Come with Lisa to the Bell Loft. Learn the history of bells and enjoy some hands-on experience in what it takes to play the bells. *Lisa Wolfanger, Bell Choir Director*



What is the Growing Points Series?

The Adult Education Committee is offering two different series of programs on Sunday mornings this fall. One is the traditional “Lecture Series” with Grace members and guests leading sessions on topics in liturgy, theology and social issues. New to the course schedule is a track called the “Growing Points Series,” which this fall will feature informal discussions with volunteers and Grace staff members about our ministry. As you learn more about everything going on at Grace Church, we hope you will discover new ways to serve and grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ.



“The Sounds of Christmas in Handbells”

*Annual Christmas
Handbell Concert*

**December 20
Fellowship Hall – 9:45 a.m.**

Handbell ensembles of Grace Church and School
Lisa Wolfanger, Director

GRACE
LU⁺HERAN
CHURCH
& SCHOOL

7300 Division Street
River Forest, Illinois 60305
708-366-6900
www.graceriverforest.org