

## FAITH & FILM

Sundays, 12:15 – 3 p.m.  
(Immediately following worship)

Meal provided by hosting teams, followed by film and discussion. Films are edited for length and content. Many are available for check-out from the Grace library.

### January 17: **COME TO THE STABLE (1949)**

After experiencing kindness during the war, two French nuns come to America with the faith that they can build a children's hospital in a town named Bethlehem. Through a humorous and touching journey, they go about fulfilling their mission.

### February 21: **WEAPONS OF THE SPIRIT (1987)**

As we begin Lent and think about resisting evil in the world, we hear this amazing story of a French village which resisted the evils of Nazi Germany during World War II. By God's grace many chose life over death.

### March 21: **MOTHER THERESA (2003)**

What does it mean to meet Christ in the people around us? This beautiful depiction of Mother Theresa's life and ministry reveal her own determination to see Christ in the outcast of India.

### April 18: **COTTON PATCH GOSPEL (1988)**

The life of Jesus is retold in a poignant and humorous musical set in Georgia. One of the last works of American folksinger Harry Chapin.

 Grace

Lutheran Church of LaGrange

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## ADULT EDUCATION

at Grace Lutheran Church

January - May, 2010

*"Your word is a  
lamp to my feet  
and a light to my path."*

Psalm 119:105

Beginning in January Grace will offer a host of opportunities for the word of God to be a lamp and a light for our lives. From Middle Eastern Bible Study perspective to Genesis and The Creation of the Universe, we will have many options for learning about the Word and experiencing Christian fellowship at the same time. Courses on the Bible will be taught by **Pastor Saïd Ailabouni**, **Pastor Soren Flessen**, **Dr. Charles Cosgrove**, and **Rev. Dr. Stephen Knapp**. Forums on current issues and topics of interest will be led by talented Grace Lutheran members, guest speakers and church committees.

Come and learn.  
Come and be refreshed,  
Come and be inspired.

All classes and forums are open to all people.  
Come by yourself or invite a friend.

## BIBLE STUDY

### SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

#### GENESIS AND THE CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE

February 14 & 21 and March 7, 14, 21, 28;  
10:00 a.m. in Room 204

Rev. Dr. Stephen Knapp, Scholar-in-Residence, will lead us in a discovery of modern cosmology and its relationship to the creation images of Genesis and the Mesopotamian creation stories that were used in other ancient Middle Eastern Cultures.

### WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY

#### JESUS THROUGH MIDDLE EASTERN EYES

Mondays at 7:00 p.m. and Wednesdays at  
10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Pastor Saïd Ailabouni will lead short courses in the Lord's Prayer and an introduction to the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. Participants will gain new perspectives from the Eastern Christian tradition that have rarely been considered outside the Arabic-speaking world. Text: *Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes* by Kenneth Bailey.

#### PAUL'S LETTERS FROM PRISON

Tuesdays, 6:45 a.m., Room 204

Pastor Soren Flessen leads an in-depth study of Ephesians, Colossians, Philippians and Philemon. These are letters of faith encouragement to early followers of Jesus and continue to bring encouragement to us. This study will be enhanced by the wonderful scholarship and faith perspectives of N. T. Wright and his commentary, *Paul for Everyone: The Prison Letters*.

## ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### YOUNG FAMILIES OF GRACE

Since its launch in September 2009, YFG has already become a living part of Grace. YFG "Mixers" take place on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Bernard Lounge. During this time, parents of young children can come together to make personal connections, have fun and find spiritual support for themselves and their families. Many of our church couples come from varied faith backgrounds. YFG is incredibly friendly, relaxed and welcomes everyone. Don't hesitate to join in — you'll be glad you did!

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WINTER/SPRING YFG MIXER CALENDAR:

February 21 & 28, and March 14 & 21, Pastor Saïd will lead a study of *The Lord's Prayer*.

Other topics will include: Finding Balance between Work and Family, Marital Longevity, Parenting and Financial Planning.

"Low-Key Mixers" will take place where there is facilitated small-group discussion and reflection, as well as, personal, family and spiritual support.

YFG volunteer/charity opportunities will be available at various times throughout the year.

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## SUNDAY FORUMS AND EVENTS

### A PILGRIMAGE FOR PEACE: REFLECTIONS FROM THE HOLY LAND

Sunday, January 3 at 10 a.m., Kensington Room

Grace members who recently traveled to the Holy Land with Pastor Saïd offer their faith experiences in connecting to Jesus and all the people who now live on this land.

### WORSHIP AND MUSIC IN THE EARLY CHURCH, PART 1

Sunday, January 10 at 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Dr. Charles Cosgrove, Scholar-in-Residence, leads us in an introduction to early Christian meeting places and worship practices.

### WORSHIP AND MUSIC IN THE EARLY CHURCH, PART 2

Sunday, January 17 at 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Dr. Charles Cosgrove, Scholar-in-Residence, teaches us this week about early Christian hymnody, surviving hymns and controversies over hymns in the early church.

### WORSHIP AND MUSIC IN THE EARLY CHURCH, PART 3

Sunday, January 24 at 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Dr. Charles Cosgrove, Scholar-in-Residence, reveals one of the most extraordinary documents of the early church—the earliest Christian hymn with musical notation. This fragment, written on a scrap of papyrus and preserved for centuries in the sands of Egypt, comes to life in words and sounds.

### 2010 CHURCH BUDGET UPDATE

Sunday, January 24 at 10:00 a.m., Room 204

### ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 31 at 9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

### A SAFE CHURCH: INTRODUCING A NEW APPROACH

Sunday, February 7 at 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Sharon Deavens (Church Council) & Kerrie Folisi (Youth and Family Ministry) introduce new steps Grace Lutheran is taking to keep children and volunteers safe.

### CARING FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

Sunday, February 14 at 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Kurt and Karen Nelson, Grace Members and marriage ministry leaders, encourage us on this Valentine's Day to renew our commitment to the steadfast love of God in marriage.

### WHERE IS GOD TAKING ME?

Sunday, February 21 at 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Jane Klingberg, Grace Member and Triton College Director of Career Services, invites us to a new understanding of our career paths and purpose from a faith perspective.

### LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF ILLINOIS – MINISTRY PARTNER

Sunday, February 28 at 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Rev. Denver Bitner, Chief Executive Officer of LSSI, tells us of the joys and challenges of ministry in this church's primary Social Service agency.

### LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS: TRAVELS TO MEXICO

Sunday, March 7 at 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Grace Intern Pastor Dara Schuller-Hanson reflects on her travels to Mexico last summer with Youth in Mission, learning to love neighbors in new and challenging ways.

### TALKING WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Sunday, March 14 at 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Barb Barrett, Grace Member and Instructor at Robert Crown Health Center, will help junior and senior high school parents find ways to help their children make good choices.

### DIGGING FOR THE TRUTH – ARCHAEOLOGY IN ISRAEL

Sunday, March 21 at 10 a.m., Kensington Room

Matt Holmes, a Senior at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and Grace Scholarship recipient, talks of his recent experience in a dig and how he is making connections between Modern Archaeology and a Biblical Faith.

### PURITAN ROOTS OF AMERICAN RELIGIOUS LIFE

Sunday, March 28 at 10:00 a.m. Kensington Room

Marcy McKay, Grace Member and student of Puritan history, leads us in understanding the Puritans and how their beliefs have shaped life in this country.

### EASTER MORNING CELEBRATION BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 4 from 8:30 – 11 a.m., Fellowship Hall

We celebrate our Lord's resurrection with feasting and fellowship.

### THE SALVATION STORY REVEALED IN WINDOWS

Sunday, April 11 at 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Pastor Soren Flessen leads us in a close examination of the images, symbols and Biblical references found in the Grace stained glass windows which tell the story of our salvation.

### FAITH AND MONEY

Sunday, April 18 at 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Randy Hackbarth and Mary Ann Mestemaker of the Grace Social Ministry Committee lead us in a discussion of the ELCA Social Statement on Economic Life and the faith expressed through our use of money.

### DIVINE GENEROSITY IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Sunday, April 25, 10:00 a.m., Room 204

Dr. Raymond Pickett of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago leads us in discovering Luke's wonderful emphasis on God's generosity that changes everything.

### FIRST COMMUNION RECEPTION

Sunday, April 25 at 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

### TELLING THE GOOD NEWS: EVANGELISM REDISCOVERED – PART 1: PRAYER

Sunday, May 2 on 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

The Evangelism/Fellowship Committee leads us in discovering the Scriptural basis and every-day calling from Jesus to pray.

### MOTHER'S DAY RECEPTION

Sunday, May 9, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

With music and stories, we thank God for everyone who has mothered us in our life and faith.

### MAKING HEALTH CARE CHOICES

Sunday, May 16, 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Ann Gornik, Grace Parish Nurse and Certified Advanced Care Planning Facilitator will lead us in understanding, reflecting and communicating future medical treatment preferences, especially when you cannot speak for yourself. Those who attend this forum may choose to work with Ann Gornik to create a plan for future healthcare decisions.

### TELLING THE GOOD NEWS: EVANGELISM REDISCOVERED – PART 2: HOSPITALITY

Sunday, May 23 on 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

The Evangelism/Fellowship Committee leads us in discovering the Scriptural basis and every-day calling from Jesus to be hospitable.

