



# Harbinger

www.graceevanston.org • churchoffice@graceevanston.org

October 2012

Grace Lutheran  
Church of Evanston  
1430 South Blvd.  
at Wesley  
847.475.2211

**Grace Is An Open  
And Affirming RIC  
Congregation**

**Rev. Daniel Ruen**  
Pastor  
pd@graceevanston.org

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**Mark Bowman**  
Music Director

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**Rev. Kaari Reiersen**  
Colleague in  
Ministry

•

**Chloe Martinez**  
Office Manager

•

**Steve Brunger**  
Sexton

## Vision

To Be God's  
Kingdom Bursting  
Open in the World.

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## Core Values We Value:

The Gospel of Jesus  
Christ

Putting Faith into  
Action Courageously

Diversity

Peace

Faith Development  
A Caring Community  
Experiencing God  
Weekly Worship

## Mark Bowman, Music Director



What a joy and blessing it is to be able to serve you in music ministry. Thanks to Pastor Daniel for his support and guidance in getting me started at Grace. And also thanks to many of you for the welcome and hospitality you have shown me. I look forward to getting to know all of you in the weeks and months to come.

I bring to you a variety of skills and experiences in music and worship.

My early training was in piano and organ but that has expanded over the years to include directing choirs and bands, arranging music for voice and instrumental ensembles, and leading community singing. My greatest passion these days is to empower communities of faith to lift their voices together in praise and prayer to God. I was attracted to Grace because you are a congregation that does sing. God has given every single one of us a voice—granted some may be more melodious than others. But every one of us has an important voice to add to the angelic band that praises God whenever we worship. We can grow together in magnifying the glorious voice of our community.

I am also intrigued with the amazing diversity of vibrant music that exists in the church today. We have inherited a rich tradition of sacred song that has inspired the generations before us and that has shaped our faith. And God is alive in musicians and communities here and around the world creating new music that can inspire and deepen our worship and our faith journeys. I look forward to sharing this music with each

other and learning how different musical forms can nurture our spirits.

God has given many of you musical gifts—in singing, in playing instruments and in other related art forms. I encourage you to let me know about your musical and artistic interests. The church is one of the few places in our society where we can use these gifts—offer them to the community as well as to God. We have many opportunities in worship and other settings at Grace to let our talents shine in familiar and perhaps some unexpected ways. Surely God has great things in store for us as we learn how we can offer our musical and artistic gifts in worship and other faith settings.

Mark Bowman

## Strategic Plan Outlines the Future

*The Strategic Planning Committee* unveiled a 2012-2015 plan for shaping activities at Grace. After surveying the congregation in various ways over the course of six months, five basic needs emerged: communication, administration, faith formation, outreach and renovation. The plan takes each need and breaks it down into goals and objectives for the next few years.

The plan outlines needs for communication both internally and externally. To achieve those goals,



a readily available calendar of events will be created and an up-to-date contact list will also be created and maintained. Social media has become a desirable way to reach out both within the congregation and to those seeking information about Grace. We will increase our presence in those areas.

Many people requested a more supportive administration to make Pastor Daniel's work easier and more efficient. Church council is already at work creating a new parish administrator position that

Continued on next page

## Strategic Plan, Continued

will provide administrative help for the pastor, church council, and the congregation.

Building an integrated faith formation plan was also on the “need list:” a clear set of goals for children; an expanded youth program for the many young people who soon will be out of Sunday School and moved into youth activities; adult education with a variety of offerings and times; multigenerational activities to build a sense of community with all ages at Grace.

Making Grace known in our neighborhood, in all of Evanston, and beyond was also a goal of many members. Evaluating our current

programs and studying new types of outreach will be instituted. Members suggested many types of outreach activities including having a parish nurse, a block party, hosting civic meetings, and new ELCA opportunities.

Finally, continuing the renovation of our physical facilities was seen as a goal. The Mission of Hospitality has already begun the task of creating a priority list of projects to update our church home. Ideas include lighting in the sanctuary, making the narthex more welcoming, and completing restroom updates.

The Strategic Planning Committee hopes that all Grace members will support this plan and actively work to accomplish the goals and objectives set out in the plan.

## Grace Church Council Minutes from 9/12/12

Members present: Pastor Daniel, Les Inch, Jon Flaherty, Nate Johnson, Danielle Keifert, Dorothy Nagelbach, Holly O'Connor, Laura Wally. Started at 7:00pm.

### **Pastor's Report:**

- Attendance is up, 95 on average, even including summer
- Mark Bowman, our new music director, started on Sept 9.
- Committee Leadership issues discussed
- Safety Policy/Background checks: Costs seem high; will ask Y.O.U. for advice
- Hospitality: make interaction with visitors part of hosting coffee hour

### **Strategic Planning presentation- Accepting Courageous Caring**

- Congregational meeting on Sept. 23 to review plan

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Low on giving but due to bequest and stock sale there is money in the bank.
- What to do with bequest – General fund/benevolences/facility fund?
- Partners and Benevolences: ELCA, Uptown Ministries, Samaritan Center, and Interfaith Action Evanston. Have not been meeting our obligations
- Should we change our current commitments? Should we change our giving model?
- Give congregation greater explanation on partners – why we give, what they do, how the money is used
- Randy Lee Memorial – \$500 will be sent
- Capital Campaign: \$385,000 pledged, \$202,000 given
- Individual update on Pledge and yearly giving will be sent out
- Should we make a principle prepayment on loan to save interest expense? If we do, should we keep 18-24 months worth of payments as cushion?

### **Stewardship: Fall Theme – Giving with Grace**

- Sept. 16 Stewardship Kickoff,
- Nov. 11 Bishop speaking/Rededication of Space/Luncheon/Capital campaign video presentation
- Nov. 18 Pledge Sunday
- Dec. 9 Congregational Budget Meeting

### **Property**

- Courtyard flooding.
- Flat roof will need replacing
- Create a “Facilities Assessment” document for future
- Front steps are cracking
- Trees may need preemptive pruning
- For a fee, energy efficiency reports are available from I.F.F. Would it be cost effective to get report?

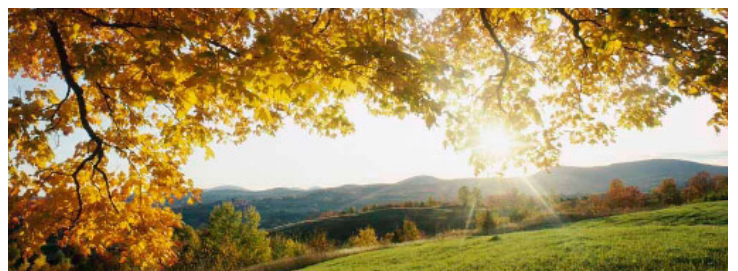
### **Finance**

- Should we reorganize some of the church funds, i.e. Mens Club, Courage Fund
- More counters needed
- Budget 2013 planning: pre-pledge budget will be presented to Council at Oct. meeting

### **Next meetings**

October 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 5 (to discuss 2013 budget before Dec. congregational budget meeting)

Ended at 10:00pm with prayer





## Sale of MayaWorks products at Grace

Rachel Stark Inch, Grace member and board member at MayaWorks, will be selling products at Grace on Sunday, December 2nd, after church. Here's an opportunity to do some Christmas shopping for yourself or others and do some good at the same time. For those of you unfamiliar with MayaWorks products you can check them out on their website, [MayaWorks.org](http://MayaWorks.org).

MayaWorks is a nonprofit social venture that empowers indigenous women of Guatemala to achieve economic security by providing markets for their handcrafted products, access to microcredit loans and expanded educational opportunities.

Come to the sale on Sunday, December 2nd.

## Christmas Wreath Sale Benefits the Chicago Uptown Ministry

It's time for Christmas wreaths in October again! Throughout the month, until Sunday, October 28, Grace members, friends and neighbors can place orders for a variety of freshly-harvested evergreen Christmas decorations.

Proceeds from Grace's sales turn into a year-end gift for the Chicago Uptown Ministry. Please take an order sheet home and ask a few friends to order and support this congregational fundraiser on behalf of "Uptown."

During October, full color brochures, order forms, and gift-shipping labels will be available on the table in the upper hallway and from DeeAnn Johnson, Helen Yarbrough and Ann Stevens.

Products include garlands, centerpieces, decorative pine cones and accessories, and 22" and 28" fir wreaths for your use; and boxed garlands, centerpieces, and wreaths to be shipped as gifts, an increasingly-popular option.

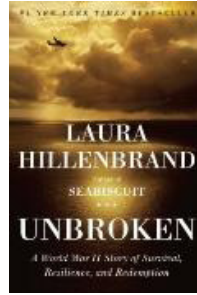
Sherwood Forest Farms is introducing a new decorating accessory kit this year, including a battery candle, florist piks, and lights.

The evergreen products are supplied by Sherwood Forest from their surrounding forests in Washington State. The evergreens are shipped in late November, arrive just after Thanksgiving, and you will be able to pick up your packages at Grace the first weekend of December.

Please review the brochures for all your choices. You may pay when you order, checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church Fund 54, or when you receive your items. And please ask neighbors and friends to order, for the benefit of the Uptown Ministry! You also may order an item to be donated to the Ministry for their Christmas store. This October's campaign is Grace's 26th wreath sale for the Chicago Uptown Ministry.



# GRACE NEWS & EVENTS



## Grace Book Group on Sunday, November 18

Grace's next book group will meet on Sunday, November 18th, from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the home of Bill & Jan Blackburn, 1321 Monroe, Evanston, 847/475-8022. We will discuss **Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience & Redemption** by Laura Hillenbrand. All are welcome to join us for conversation and delicious food provided by our hostess, Jan.

Our next meeting will be held in January 2013 at an exact date and place to be determined on November 18th. One possible book for that date is **The Art of Fielding** by Chad Harbach.



## Key Survey and Roundup

Holders of keys to the GRACE building are asked to email Jan Blackburn at [blackburn.b.j@att.net](mailto:blackburn.b.j@att.net) or call the church office, 847/475-2211. Keys not needed may be returned to Jan or Chloe or left in the church office. Please identify which doors they open, if possible.

Thanks. Jan B.

## Future Harbinger deadlines:

Nov. issue: October 21

Dec. issue: November 14



## October Birthdays

- 10/02 Thorsten Ericksen
- 10/03 Lonny Miner  
Lionel Walder
- 10/04 Ann Stevens  
David Thacker Jr
- 10/07 William Thacker
- 10/08 Fred Nagelbach
- 10/09 Alexander Schiffer
- 10/10 Barbara Carqueville
- 10/14 Les Inch  
Jon Flaherty
- 10/16 Keith Ericksen
- 10/17 Russ Kohnken  
Kelly Boon
- 10/24 Diana Mayne

## Welcome for Mark Bowman

The congregation is invited to an Open House, Saturday October 13, 2012 to welcome Grace's new Music Director, Mark Bowman. Please join us, beginning at 6:30 PM at the home of Rachel Stark Inch and Les Inch, 5837 N. Talman Avenue, Chicago 60659; they will be serving appetizers and desserts. An RSVP is requested so they know how many to plan for. You can RSVP by telephone [773-728-6768] or email Rachel [[starkinch@aol.com](mailto:starkinch@aol.com)] or Les [[linch679@gmail.com](mailto:linch679@gmail.com)].



# OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

## Oct 7

<b>Preaching</b> .....	David Weasley
<b>Assisting Minister</b> .....	Rachel Stark Inch
<b>Lector</b> .....	Marilyn Mason
<b>Acolyte</b> .....	David Thacker
<b>Ushers</b> .....	Sydell Reeves and Ann Stevens
<b>Coffee Hour</b> .....	Bob and Gail Lamont
<b>Altar Care</b> .....	Kara Sokol and Janet Wright
<b>Nursery</b> .....	Deb Mitchell
<b>Flowers</b> .....	DeeAnn Johnson

## Oct 14

<b>Preaching</b> .....	Pastor Daniel Ruen
<b>Assisting Minister</b> .....	Ron Graef
<b>Lector</b> .....	Christine Collins
<b>Acolyte</b> .....	Cecilia Galicia
<b>Ushers</b> .....	Larry Yarbrough and Jon Flaherty
<b>Coffee Hour</b> .....	Nancy Schubert and Cecilia Galicia
<b>Altar Care</b> .....	Kara Sokol and Janet Wright
<b>Nursery</b> .....	DeeAnn Johnson
<b>Flowers</b> .....	Jan Blackburn

## Oct 21

<b>Preaching</b> .....	Pastor Daniel Ruen
<b>Assisting Minister</b> .....	Carolyn Utech
<b>Lector</b> .....	Sue Graef
<b>Acolyte</b> .....	Julia Shoaf
<b>Ushers</b> .....	Larry Yarbrough and Jon Flaherty
<b>Coffee Hour</b> .....	Ron and Sue Graef
<b>Altar Care</b> .....	Nell Ferguson and Pat Brunger
<b>Nursery</b> .....	Ann Stevens
<b>Flowers</b> .....	Jill Flaherty

## Oct 28

<b>Preaching</b> .....	Pastor Daniel Ruen
<b>Assisting Minister</b> .....	Amy Gillespie
<b>Lector</b> .....	Les Inch
<b>Acolyte</b> .....	Faloside Tawio
<b>Ushers</b> .....	Russ Kohnken, Nate Brown and Jan Blackburn
<b>Coffee Hour</b> .....	Martha Fry and Bob Shoaf
<b>Altar Care</b> .....	Nell Ferguson and Pat Brunger
<b>Nursery</b> .....	Nancy Schubert and Cecilia Galicia
<b>Flowers</b> .....	DeeAnn Johnson

## October Worship Notes

This upcoming month we continue with the Sundays after Pentecost, leading up to Reformation Sunday on October 28th. There will be a total of 25 Sundays after Pentecost before we come to the end of the liturgical year on November 25th, the Feast of Christ the King. We move into our second month with new Director of Music, Mark Bowman. Mark has already proved his passion for 'the congregation's voice.' One of the most powerful theological lessons of singing together as a people, Mark says, is that it is a time to be completely unified—unified in praise, lament, proclamation and celebration. He has already gathered together several people, some entirely new to music ministry at Grace, to serve as Cantors, percussionists and musicians. I hope you will join with us at the Open House for Mark at the home of Les and Rachel Stark-Inch on Saturday, October 13th.

A new worship committee consisting of Bonnie Gunzenhauser, Sue Graef, Pastor Daniel (who all served on the interview team for music director) and one more Grace member will meet this month to brainstorm different models for how this group can support and enhance our weekly and seasonal worship. New relationships like the one we are building with brother Mark are the crucible of transformation for our shared life together. Please continue to sing with joy and intention, giving thanks for the ways we are called to nurture God's call to live anew.

**Pastor Daniel**



## CROP Walk 2012!

### Be a Walker\* and Join the Grace Team

- Donate to a walker! Be a sponsor! Donate packaged healthful snacks!
- Walk on the Web – donate on-line: [www.cropwalk.org](http://www.cropwalk.org) North Shore CROP Hunger Walk
- Volunteer: crossing assistants, registration table, refreshments & rest stop, publicity...
- Join the CROP Walk Planning Committee
- Contact Grace's CROP Walk workers to walk, donate, or volunteer: Jarrod Gaither; Lisa and Dave Kosnik; Helen Yarbrough, yrbr@att.net, 847-869-9104

*\*Walkers are asked to obtain donations in any amount. A minimum suggested goal is \$150 per walker. Donations are due on Walk Day, Sunday, October 14, 2012. Please make checks payable to CWS/ CROP, or donate on-line. Thank you for Taking Steps to End Hunger!*

# JOIN THE GRACE TEAM FOR CROP WALK 2012!



**NORTH SHORE  
5K Walk Against Hunger  
Sunday, October 14th, 2012**

**Walk!  
Donate!  
Volunteer!**

## Walk Starting Point

Second Baptist Church  
1717 Benson, Evanston

Recruiters Sign-in: 1:30 PM

Step-off: 2:00 PM

Refreshment stops along the way

## WALK ON THE WEB

[www.cropwalk.org](http://www.cropwalk.org)

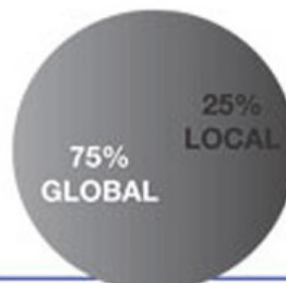
**Community Interfaith Response to Hunger**

*Contact Grace's CROP Walk workers to walk,  
donate, or volunteer:*

*Jarrod Gaither; Lisa and Dave Kosnik;*

*Helen Yarbrough, yrbr@att.net, 847-869-9104*

## Who benefits?



75% of funds raised from CROP Walks go to CWS for global hunger relief; 25% of funds raised remain in the local community. The North Shore CROP Hunger Walk divides its 25% equally between 5 local agencies that fight hunger.

## Local agencies sharing in 2012 funds:

THE ARK (Rhea Segal Food Pantry)

SECOND BAPTIST TUESDAY SOUP KITCHEN

SOUP AT SIX EVENING MEAL

INTERFAITH ACTION HOSPITALITY CENTER

A JUST HARVEST

## 2012 WALK NOW IN EVANSTON

North Shore CROP Hunger 5K Walk  
Downtown Evanston - Oct. 14th, 2 PM



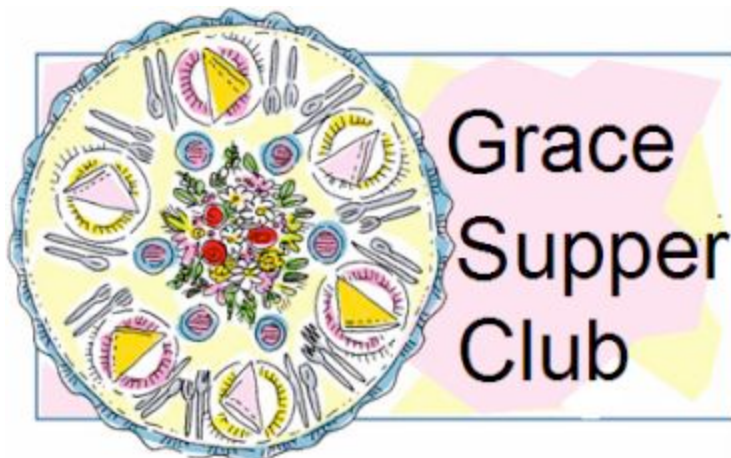
email

north shore  
**CROP**  
hunger walk

For more information:

[info@northshorecropwalk.org](mailto:info@northshorecropwalk.org)

[www.northshorecropwalk.org](http://www.northshorecropwalk.org)



## The Supper Club starts its 9th Season - Please join us!

We will start this season with a supper club gathering at the church in our new fellowship hall on Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM for food, fellowship and to plan and select dates and hosts for our upcoming dinners. Current members will receive food assignments in a couple of weeks. E-mail me only if you cannot attend. If you haven't attended before, contact me and I will add you to the list and assign you an item. It's a wonderful

way for people to get acquainted, and to learn about their interests and talents. For long-time members, it was an opportunity to get to know each other better. We have heard wonderful stories and had many laughs.

This is how it works.

There will be four suppers, December, February, April, May or June.

Who can join? Everyone, and you don't need to be a good cook or have a large house. You don't need to host a dinner to join, Rides can be arranged for people who don't drive..

Let's assume 32 people have signed up, some couples, some seniors, some singles, young and old. This is how it works:

On a selected Saturday (also flexible, could be Friday night or brunch on Sunday) of each of the months above, at 6:00 p.m., there would be three or four dinners: 2 Examples:

**Dinner #1** –hosted by Mr. & Mrs. Martin Luther, a senior couple

Dinner is set in their formal dining room, best china and crystal, main dish, Beef Wellington.

Their guests each bring one of the following: Au gratin potatoes, Asparagus, French Bread, Pear and gorgonzola salad, Chocolate mousse Red wine and Sparkling Water.

**Dinner #2** – hosted by a young newlywed couple at their apartment – dinner is in the living room, around the coffee table, seated on one couch, on the floor, and folding chairs borrowed from church, main dish, Chili.

Their guests bring one of the following: Cornbread, Tossed Salad, Fresh Fruit, Beer and Iced Tea

**The host/hostess selects the main dish, it can be a family favorite or have an ethnic theme, Italian, Greek, Chinese etc. They would also provide coffee and tea. The schedule would appear as:**

### **NOVEMBER - Host/hostess- main dish –Martin and Katy Luther**

Vegetable	Mary Smith	Salad	Ethel & Joe Rogers
Potato/rice/noodle	Jim & Alice Johnson	Desert	Fred Jones
Beverage/wine	Susan Beaumont	Bread/Rolls	Jane Edwards

A week before the dinner, you would receive a call from your host/hostess to tell you the main dish.

If you are responsible for the vegetable, you would then plan to bring something that would be complementary.

It would be nice for hosts to invite a friend to attend also, who might be someone they would like to invite to Grace. It is a good way for that friend to get to know people, so that when that person attended worship or a special function, he/she would already be acquainted with some of our members, or they might invite another member of Grace whom they think would enjoy the evening.

**Bon Appetit!**

Any questions?

Call, Nancy Schubert (847) 733-0473 [schubertn@comcast.net](mailto:schubertn@comcast.net)



## Ministry in Context Students

### *Hello people of Grace!*

My name is Amy Gillespie and I will be a Ministry in Context student with you all this year. I am very excited to learn all sorts of things from everyone and get to know you all as we worship together throughout the year. I come to you originally from a Western suburb, Forest Park Illinois. I am blessed to have my family close by in the Chicagoland area and I am the youngest of three girls in my family, for all those interested in birth order and how it influences personality. I have my BS in Psychology and a minor in Theology from Loyola University Chicago. I had the incredible privilege of living in Rome, Italy for 6 months during my junior year at Loyola and since then, I'm apt to jump in anyone's suitcase for another travel adventure!

After graduation I worked as a Program Coordinator at a local nonprofit agency called Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly. I worked there for about two and a half years and soaked up a lot of stories and experiences from the older generation. While working with the elderly, I became a member at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Albany Park and got to know the Pastor and the congregation. The Pastor encouraged me to consider seminary as I was discerning my educational and vocational goals. I felt called to continue my work with the elderly in some capacity and deepen my understanding of issues that face older adults today. I encountered God in my conversations with my older friends and felt that I could do some amazing ministry if I could somehow combine my desire to learn the skills of a social worker while studying and experiencing ministries at seminary. Thankfully I found a way to do both. Currently, I am enrolled in a dual degree program with both University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration (SSA) and the Lutheran School of Theology. I am in my third year of a five-year program that combines both class time and field experience at both schools. I am pursuing a specialization in Older Adults at SSA and would love to chat with any of the social workers in the congregation to compare notes. It is a challenging path and I continue to discern this two-fold call to ministry and social work.

A few other things to know about me: I'm an avid volleyball player and I'm learning to coach a little this fall. I live with one roommate in Hyde Park and we recently acquired a nine-year-old corgi/Pomeranian mixed dog named Buster. I enjoy all types of music and food but I love anything with crabmeat in it.

I am overjoyed to have the opportunity to be with you and I'm looking forward to it all. While I am here at Grace, I hope to hear lots of stories and have some fun! I am excited to learn more about your youth ministries and participate in social justice endeavors. I am glad for the chance to assist in worship and to stretch my preaching muscles when the time is right. I am grateful that Megan and I get to learn from such a vivacious pastor as PD as well. Thanks for your warm welcome to Grace! See you soon at church!



**Amy Gillespie and Megan Sawyer**

### *Megan Sawyer*

Thank you all so much for the warm welcome to Grace! I'm excited to be able to do ministry together for the coming year!

I'm originally from Michigan; I grew up in a very small town northwest of Detroit. My family lived down the street from an apple orchard that I worked at while I was in high school, and at this time of year I still crave that apple cider. I have a twin sister who teaches high school Spanish and a younger brother who is studying computer science at Michigan State. My family is very close; every Sunday the aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents gather for family dinner after church. Whether or not I'll make it to family dinner is the leading question whenever I visit home. Needless to say, all those dinners means that I come from a family of fabulous cooks, and I love cooking for other people.

Before coming to seminary, I was at the University of Michigan where I received my BFA in art and design. I concentrated mostly in painting, but also worked quite a bit with ceramics and bronze casting as well as holding a work study job in the theater department's scene shop (pneumatic staple guns are a delight!). Art is one of my passions, and I'm hoping that within the year I'll be able to explore ways that art and faith can intersect in church. I'm part of a newly formed group of clergy (and clergy-to-be) artists in Chicago, and am excited to see where that journey goes.

Art school to seminary might seem like an unexpected leap, but what really propelled me to seminary was working in outdoor ministries. I worked at camp Michi-lu-ca in northern Michigan for four summers, and it had a profound impact on my sense of call. Working with kids in the middle of the woods was wonderful, but what kept drawing me back each summer was the strong Christian community, and that it was a safe space to talk about faith and how to carry that faith out into the world that really aches for Good News. I can't imagine my life without sharing that good news and walking with people on their faith journeys.

That's a snapshot of my life, and I look forward to getting to know all of you at Grace, and walking with your faith journeys during the coming year!

# October Calendar

Every Sunday 10:45 Worship followed by coffee hour

Sunday School During Worship

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Threads of Grace 10/03

Mark Bowman Open House 10/13

CRS Annual

Membership Assembly 10/13

CROP Walk 10/14

Soup Kitchen 10/21



Find us at [GraceEvanston.org](http://GraceEvanston.org)



## Grace Church Council

Les Inch, Chair,

Jon Flaherty, Nathan Johnson, Danielle Keifert,  
Dorothy Nagelbach, Holly O'Connor, Laura Wally

# Grace

Grace Lutheran Church of Evanston

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