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TWENTY **WAYS** TO GROW IN FAITH

FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE, EDUCATION, MUSIC, and WORSHIP

This fall, challenge yourself to take advantage of one of the many opportunities for spiritual growth, fellowship, and service at Grace!

[01] Retiree Rendezvous Potluck

Bring your favorite food, hot or cold, appetizer, or dessert on the **THIRD Thursday of every month** in Brown Hall. We share our food at noon and then open our ears to listen. Coming this fall: Pastor Matt; Niveen Sarras (Palestinian seminary student currently on internship at Advent Lutheran in Morgan Hill); and the recent travelers to El Salvador: Elizabeth Hood, Tim Getz, and David Vroom.

[02] Women's Breakfast and Conversation

Enjoy good food and conversation on the **second Saturday of every month** beginning at 8:30 am in the Fireside Room. We take turns supplying breakfast so just bring yourself and your appetite.

[03] Women's Circles

Miriam Circle welcomes all! We meet monthly from October through June, on the **first Tuesday of the month** from 7:30-9:00 pm in the Fireside Room. We have social time with dessert and refreshments at 7:30, and a leader for Bible study, or books in our library, or what's going on with music from our hymnals or the greater ELCA, or a book review—from guests who come each month. Join us for our October potluck at 6:30 pm in the Fireside room, or Christmas party in December, and again, a potluck in June at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you starting in October! If you have any questions please contact Miriam Teeter at 650-494-1175

[04] Young Adults

Anyone who is finished with school or continuing school, married or single—all are welcome as we meet once a month or more for social activities. Everything from Beer Brewing Classes, potluck lunches, movie day, wine tasting to after church brunch. The goal is to provide fellowship opportunities, as well as a place to have relevant conversations about faith.

[05] Exercise Group

A group meets in Brown Hall three times a week for exercise—**Monday, Wednesday & Friday** from 8:30 - 9:30 am. The video used can be approached at varying levels of intensity - perfect for any level of fitness. All are welcome!

06 **Wednesday Work Crew** The Wednesday Work Crew meets the **second and fourth Wednesdays** of the month at the church from 8:30 am to 11:00 am. We perform minor repairs such as: check and replace burned-out light bulbs, painting, tree trimming, carpentry, electrical, and plumbing. If you would like to join our crew, please contact Steve Madsen (s8madsen@yahoo.com). If you would like to help, but at a different time, contact Steve Madsen.

11 **Sunday Adult Forum** Read more about this weekly opportunity for spiritual growth on pages 4 and 5..

12 **Middle School Mentors** This program pairs an adult member of the congregation with one of our middle school students. They all gather **once a month on Sundays** for group game time and one-on-one conversations. This program is such a blessing and a way for us all to share our faith.

Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 pm, and will begin on September 2. The choir sings a wide variety of music and sings most Sundays, September through May. We welcome singers of any experience level, from beginners to the most experienced.

17 **Handbell Choir** Rehearse **Thursday afternoons** from 4:30-5:45 pm, beginning September 17. The bell choir rings in church about one Sunday each month. We're always looking for a few good ringers. No prior experience with bell ringing is necessary, although some basic music-reading ability is helpful. We'll teach you all the rest!

18 **Worship Leaders** Assisting Ministers, Lectors, Communion Assistants, Ushers, Greeters, Congregation. So many ways to be an integral part of the worship experience!

19 **Altar Guild** helps prepare for worship each week by setting up for communion and cleaning up afterwards. The time commitment is minimal, about two out of every ten weeks, but the rewards are worth it. It may look like we're just preparing a meal, washing dishes, and doing laundry, but our service gives us the chance to be in a quiet sanctuary with a perfect opportunity for a little reflection and prayer.

07 **Men's Breakfast**

Every Tuesday at 7 am at the Palo Alto Breakfast House in Midtown. Come when you can for breakfast, fellowship and mutual support. See you there!

08 **Quilters & Crafts** Grace's quilters meet on **Wednesday mornings** from 10 - 11:30 in Brown Hall. We are a busy, involved, talkative group, and often bring our own "show and tell" projects to share with each other. We have made blankets for Project Linus, book bags for Lutheran World Relief, twin-sized quilts for adolescents aging out of foster care, pillowcase dresses for Africa, and various and sundry large quilts for special benefits (such as Bright Stars of Bethlehem) and special people. We use donated fabrics and purchase batting. Quilts for our students graduating from high school have been an ongoing project since the 1990's. We cut squares and design quilts and blankets at church, and cut more squares and sew at home. Please do stop by on a Wednesday morning. We'd love to have you! Never done this before? We'll happily show you how.

09 **Tuesday Meal Preparation** Two crews of Grace members prepare and serve the Breaking Bread meal for the hungry on Tuesday afternoons at Grace. Rotation is once every five weeks. Contact Linda Pomeroy or Pastor Matt if you can help!

10 **Thrivent Builds** 40 Habitat offices in over 25 cities across the nation will be participating in a national event called "A Brush with Kindness", painting 150 homes for qualified and needy families. Habitat East Bay/Silicon Valley has selected **Saturday 9/26** to partner with Menlo Park Presbyterian Church who is funding this day along with Wells Fargo. 5-10 spaces are open to Grace members who would like to participate. Contact Bruce FitzGerald:

13 **Open Bible Study** (Sunday texts). Every **Thursday morning** in the library Pr. Matt leads a conversation on the texts for the coming Sunday. Drop in any time, as each session is stand alone. No experience is necessary . . . all are welcome!

14 **Tuesday Meal Clean-up**

As Christians worshipping in prosperous Silicon Valley, Grace members have ample opportunity to put their talents (time) to work in the service of others. One such opportunity happens every Tuesday, late afternoon, as Grace hosts a weekly dinner for the homeless. Some of our fellow members arrive at 3:30 pm to prepare and serve dinner to the homeless (third Tuesday only). Other members arrive at 5:15 pm to do dishes and clean up the kitchen. Neither activity requires great skill, only the willingness to serve others. At present, Grace needs additional volunteers for both activities. Please consider volunteering one Tuesday a month. For more information and to sign up, contact Sue Koepfgen (skoepfgen@gmail.com) or Fran Harris (frharris5@aol.com).

15 **Library Open every Sunday morning**, most Wednesday mornings, and other times by contacting the office, the Grace library is a well-curated collection of books, periodicals, media, and reference materials relating to faith and religion. Stop in and check something out!

16 **Chancel Choir** Open to any singer of high school age and up. Rehearses on

20 **Labyrinth** Open and available 24/7 labyrinths are currently being used worldwide as a way to quiet the mind, recover a balance in life, encourage meditation, insight, self-reflection, stress reduction, and to discover innovation and celebration. There is no right way or wrong way to walk a labyrinth. Use the labyrinth in any way that meets what you need while being respectful of others. ■