

# WORDS OF GRACE

A Publication of GracePoint Church

## Christ's Resurrection Mission

In Matthew 28:18-19 we read of Christ's response to his resurrection. *And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...."*

The bodily resurrection of Jesus radically transforms our understanding of God, of the future of humanity and earth, and of our present mission. The response of Christ to his resurrection was not to whisk his disciples off to heaven, but to give his followers a mission on earth. The resurrection of Christ, and the guarantee of our resurrection, gives us purpose in this present life.

Listen to how N. T. Wright states these truths in Surprised by Hope. *"That's the point, which all the Gospels actually make, in their own ways. Jesus is risen, therefore God's new world has begun. Jesus is risen, therefore Israel and the world have been redeemed. Jesus is risen, therefore his followers have a new job to do. And what is that new job? To bring the life of heaven to birth in actual, physical, earthly reality ... Jesus' resurrection is the beginning of God's new project, not to snatch people away from earth to heaven, but to colonize earth with the life of heaven. That, after all, is what the Lord's Prayer is about."*

When Christ arose, the power of resurrection started working backward and forward, reversing the

curse, reclaiming humanity and creation back under God's kingdom reign, overthrowing darkness, defeating death, and setting humans free from captivity to the evil one!

The Apostle Paul's conclusion to the ramifications of our future resurrection was not, "Ok, now forget all about this life and world, and sing songs about going to heaven." No, rather in 1 Corinthians 15:58 we read, *"Therefore, my beloved brothers (and sisters), be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."*

Paul insists that because we have a bodily Christ, and a bodily future on a physical earth, God affirms that He cares deeply about this earth, humanity, and all creation. Our mission is to reclaim creation and humanity right now for God's glory and kingdom. Our calling is to bring what is redeemable of present reality into the coming kingdom, and what is available of the coming kingdom into present reality. We labor in doing so knowing that not a single drop of grace and goodness will be in vain.

*Pastor Chris*



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Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm  
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### GLORIFYING GOD BY

CONNECTING  
people to God

LOVING  
God and each other

GROWING  
in grace and truth

SERVING  
Dubuque and the world

*Pastor Chris English*  
pastorchris@gracepointdbq.org

*Assoc. Pastor Dana Perreard*  
pastordana@gracepointdbq.org

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office@gracepointdbq.org

*Clerk of Session Pat Kohler*  
pkteada@yahoo.com

*Editor Karen Storlie*  
karen@storlie.net

## GracePoint Elders

### Equipping

Stephanie Lange  
Mary Hirschey

### Missional Outreach

Ken Godwin

### Fellowship

Ray Wlochall

### Prayer & Worship

Doug Storlie

### Stewardship

Tim Walsh  
Mary Burns  
Andy Baumann

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## GracePoint Deacons

Care  
Group Deacon

- 1 Sue Lemon
- 2 Robin Wlochall
- 3 Pauline Brimeyer
- 4 Shirley VanDuser
- 5 Janet Metelak
- 6 Barb Berg
- 7 Suz Birch
- 8 Sharon Baker
- 9 Carolyn Arnold

### Deacon Moderator

Pauline Brimeyer

## Understanding Our Part-Time Associate Pastor Position

As presented in our congregational meeting on December 16, 2012, we revised our associate pastor position to part-time as of March 1, 2013. The official position description is available to any GracePoint member, but here is a summary, and an explanation of the ramifications of this change. Our associate pastor will serve GracePoint in two very narrowly defined ministry areas.

**Worship:** The associate pastor will facilitate the worship music led by GracePoint's praise team in our Horizons venue, and assist in other services when available.

**Youth:** The associate pastor will facilitate GracePoint's middle and senior high youth gatherings.

**Pastoral Care:** The associate will provide pastoral care to the youth of GracePoint and GraceUnderground, and to their parents. Because of the limited hours, the associate will not be able to provide other adult pastoral care. Nor will he be able to provide pastoral coverage, such as visitation, when the senior pastor is unavailable. Our Elders and Deacons will provide this coverage in the absence of the senior pastor. Dana will be available for any extreme crisis care.

**Preaching Ministry:** When occasionally invited to preach in our adult worship venues, the associate pastor will receive our standard preaching honorarium to compensate for the added preparation time.

**Weekly Schedule:** The associate pastor will work a 20-hour workweek. There are no required office hours or meetings, as it will require all allotted hours for preparation and facilitation of our praise team worship and youth ministry.

The easiest way to understand how this change will affect most of you is to see GracePoint as returning to a one-pastor church in most areas. Please keep in mind that a solo pastor model served this congregation well for 118 years, and can continue to do so from now on.

Thank you for respecting the boundaries of our part-time associate as you interact with Pastor Dana. It will be necessary for Dana to focus solely on those matters that relate directly to our praise team worship and youth ministry. Pastor Chris, or an active Elder or Deacon, is available for all other church matters and pastoral care needs.

We foresee no significant loss of momentum or quality in any ministry area due to this adjustment. Our faithful God has abundantly blessed us with Pastor Dana continuing to serve us well in worship and youth ministries.

Sincerely in Christ, the Session of GracePoint

## Bridges Out of Poverty

Here at GracePoint we're experiencing a paradigm shift in how we view our role in the community. The change comes from something Jesus said at the start of his ministry: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor . . . [and] to set at liberty those who are oppressed." As followers of Jesus we are learning more about what it means to serve the poor in both spiritual and material ways.

For many years, GracePoint has given financial support to organizations that help the poor, and the church has sponsored an on-site food pantry. The congregation itself is a remarkable mixture of people from all economic classes who care deeply about one another. So when Jim Ott and Ermina Soler presented a Bridges Out of Poverty seminar at our church, we recognized that God was calling us to "proclaim good news to the poor" through an up close and personal alliance with our neighbors.

Since then we have launched a satellite program for "Getting Ahead" training. The church has committed financial support, and volunteers have stepped forward to put all the pieces together. After finishing our first course in December, we launched a second course in late January.

"Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin'-by World" is a curriculum designed to help local low-income families create more stable, secure lives by learning the hidden rules of middle class culture. The process utilizes a step-by-step, life-planning workbook that brings together Dr. Ruby Payne's work on hidden rules of class and the knowledge of participants living in poverty. The course is designed to give low-income families the tools needed to create a path for making a stable, secure life for their family.

Getting Ahead is presented as a discussion, a gathering of people with common goals: to study poverty, to develop a better understanding of how poverty impacts themselves and their community, and to create a self-directed plan to work their way out of poverty. With these goals in mind, the participants, called *investigators*, develop mental models to reinforce the materials reviewed in each session.

The goal is for investigators to meet once a week for two hours and to analyze the world around them. During this investigation into poverty, participants learn to identify and recognize the hidden rules of the middle class. When a class completes the 18-week Getting Ahead curriculum, we go all out to celebrate the achievement. The hard work and planning of Getting Ahead investigators is recognized during a formal Graduation Ceremony.

*(Continued on page 4.)*

*(Continued from page 3.)*

Currently, we are sponsoring a Getting Ahead class on Tuesday nights at the Marshallese Church (14<sup>th</sup> & Jackson). We begin with a fellowship dinner at 5:45pm, and we welcome any member of GracePoint to join us for this festive time of getting to know our neighbors as we eat together. In fact, God may be calling you to stand beside a neighbor struggling with poverty. When the course is over in May, we will try to match up the graduates with GracePoint members who are willing to share their experience and knowledge with brothers and sisters in need.

If you would like to know more about how you can support a family in their journey out of poverty, contact Alan Crandall (557-0327) for information and training opportunities.

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### Per Member Asking

The Per-Member Asking for 2013 remains the same as 2012—\$40 per member per year. This amount is split between The Rivers & Lakes Presbytery and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC). This is the primary means for funding the administrative budget for each of these entities. It helps pay for office operations for the various ministries: Office of the Stated Clerk, National Outreach, Student & College Ministries, Women's Ministries, and World Outreach Ministries. GracePoint is expected to pay \$40 per active member as of December 31, 2012, regardless of age, whether or not the members themselves donate using the Initial Offering envelope.

Please contribute all that you can to this fund, both to support these causes and to help defray the amount that GracePoint has to take from the general budget to cover the total.



Our Maundy Thursday gathering is in commemoration of the Last Supper of Jesus. We will be following the Stations of the Cross and participate in the Lord's Supper.

**March 28, 2013**

**7:00pm**

**GracePoint**

# GLOBAL MISSIONS

## SOUTH SUDAN EDUCATION MISSION (SSEM)

*“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Mt.25:40*

The South Sudan Education Mission is the name given to Paul Both’s new organization that has the express purpose of raising funds to help his Christian brothers and sisters in South Sudan. Funds are also being raised for the building of a more permanent structure for worship in Pinythor, South Sudan. The short term goal of SSEM is to collect medications such as acetaminophen and ibuprophen to help relieve the pain that people in Paul’s village in South Sudan experience. GracePoint played a part in this short-term goal last year, and will again this year, as we send more medications with Paul when he returns to his home in June.

The core of SSEM is to educate men, women, and children who cannot read and write due to the ongoing civil war that began with the independence of Sudan in 1956. It is SSEM’s vision to empower people of South Sudan and to increase their ability to be self-sufficient, independent, and productive citizens of the new nation of the Republic of South Sudan.

Besides education and medication collection, SSEM also lists the following top priority projects:

#1 Funds to build the church and school (\$5,000)

#2 A new well (\$7,000–\$10,000)

#3 Bibles and Nuer (the name of the South Sudan language) hymnals (\$200)

#4 Choir robes (\$250)

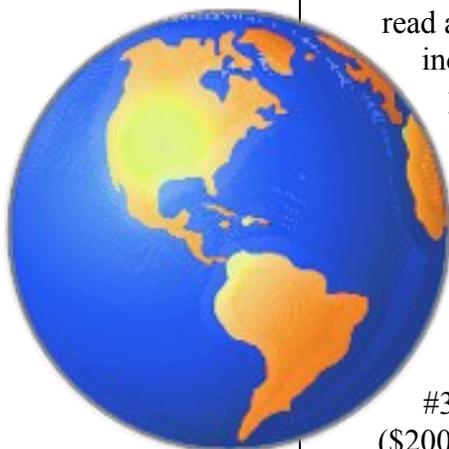
#5 Resources for evangelists to receive leadership training (\$600/yr)

#6 Permanent clinic where donations can be sent and distributed (\$6,000)

# 7 Board members to help the SSEM

During Lent, please donate medications by placing them in the collection tub in the lobby. The list of medications is available each Sunday in Lent in the service bulletins.

For the Global Mission Team,  
Scott Arnold



2013

2013



Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> 8:30a Traditions 9:30a Guys and Gals 9:30a Fellowship Time 10:00a GracePath Classes 11:15a Horizons  5:30p GraceUnderground	<b>4</b>  6:00p Food Pantry	<b>5</b>  6:30p NO Precepts	<b>6</b> 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 9:00a NO Precepts  5:30p Bell choir	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  11:15a DBQ Rescue Mission Lunch
<b>10</b> 7:45a Vocal Choir Practice 8:30a Traditions 9:30a Fellowship Time 10:00a GracePath Classes 11:15a Horizons  1:30p Bethany Home  5:30p GraceUnderground	<b>11</b>  6:00 Food Pantry	<b>12</b> 9:00a Missional Project Ladies  6:30p Precepts	<b>13</b> 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 9:00a Precepts  5:30p Bell Choir 7:00p Deacons Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  
<b>17</b> 8:30a Traditions 9:30a Fellowship Time 10:00a GracePath Classes 11:15a Horizons  5:30p GraceUnderground	<b>18</b>  6:00p Food Pantry	<b>19</b>  6:30p Precepts	<b>20</b> 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 9:00a Precepts  5:00p Golden Oldies 5:30p Bell Choir 7:00pm Elder Ministry	<b>21</b>  11:30a Red Hats	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24 Palm Sunday</b> 8:30a Traditions 9:30a Fellowship Time 10:00a GracePath Classes 11:15a Horizons  5:30p GraceUnderground	<b>25</b>  6:00p Food Pantry	<b>26</b>  6:30p Precepts	<b>27</b> 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 9:00a Precepts  5:30p Bell Choir 6:30p Session	<b>28</b>  7:00p Maundy Thursday	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31 Easter Sunday</b> 6:15a Sunrise Service 8:30a Traditions 9:30a Fellowship Time 11:15a Horizons						

Membership to Date	
Active	151
Inactive	9
Perm. Inactive	<u>3</u>
Total	163

## CLERK'S REPORT

At the January 23<sup>rd</sup> Session meeting, the following were appointed for 2013:

Clerk of Session	Pat Kohler
President of Corporation	Tim Walsh
Administrative Bookkeeper	Judy Adelman
Financial Secretary	Paulette Kress
Elders to Foundation	Andy Baumann – Mary Burns
Elder to Nominating	Stephanie Lange – 2 years
Pastor's Care Team	Andy Baumann – Ken Godwin

Maundy Thursday Service on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Easter Sunrise Service is on March 31<sup>st</sup> at the Grand River Center at 6:15am.

### ADMINISTRATIVE BOOKKEEPER'S REPORT:

General Fund Beginning Balance, January 1, 2013	\$12,022.61
Total General Fund Receipts	<u>25,776.36</u>
Subtotal Beginning Balance & Receipts	\$37,798.97
General Fund Disbursements	\$22,616.06
Allocations & Transfers	<u>1,558.34</u>
Subtotal Disbursements, Allocations & Transfers	\$24,174.40
General Fund Ending Balance, January 31, 2013	\$13,624.57

Pat Kohler, Clerk of Session

### UGANDAN ORPHANS CHOIR – SAVE THE DATE

At 7:00pm on July 7<sup>th</sup>, the Ugandan Orphans Choir, a group of 10 talented children ranging from ages 9–12, will be performing at our church. These exuberant children delight audiences with their African drumming, dancing, and singing as they perform traditional Ugandan songs and dances in order to raise awareness of the Power of Child Sponsorship.

Our church has promised to house the choir members and their chaperones on July 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. We have already been blessed with 3 families who have volunteered to host the 3 homes with children and chaperones. What we still need is one home to host a chaperone only. Please contact Pam De Meester if you can accommodate this need.

SEAL TEAM: Pam De Meester, Stephanie Lange, Elizabeth Smith

### GOLDEN OLDIES

Golden Oldies will meet on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm, at the Sunshine Family Restaurant on Central. Sign up in the lobby the Sunday before or call Bob Boelk, 557-9166.

**ALL SENIORS ARE  
WELCOME!**



### GUYS AND GALS

On the first Sunday of the month, after the service, a group of seniors meet for brunch at Chuck and Jo's Restaurant on Iowa Street. All seniors are invited to join us. If you have any questions, contact Betty Muellich at 582-3505.



**Saturday  
March 16**

## BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Gaye Grote
- 2 Martha Intveld
- 4 Robynn Schwarzmann
- 8 Jonathan Briden
- 8 Angela Godwin
- 8 Jim Hynes
- 11 Michael Vandenberg
- 12 Sandy Tilton
- 13 Jean Bruce
- 13 Mary Scherf
- 13 Emily Wiest
- 15 HongJoo Harknett
- 17 Jenna Bell
- 20 Betty Emerson
- 21 Mike Kelley
- 22 Mike Boland
- 25 Scott Arnold
- 26 Andrew Baumann
- 26 Deb Cullen
- 28 Vic Learn
- 28 Nickolis Pope
- 29 Diana Conrad
- 31 Janet Marshall



## ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 Gaye & Frank Grote
- 15 Diane & Pete Conrad
- 17 Dick & Juanita Cottrell

# Check Out the Library

We receive donations of new and used books and videos all the time. There is always something new in the library. The library is open Sundays from 8:30am–noon. If you have any new books or videos to donate to the library, contact Mable or Bob Boelk, 557-9166.



## Holy Week Activities

Maundy Thursday Service — March 28, 7:00pm, at GracePoint

Resurrection Sunrise Service — March 31, 6:15am, at the Grand River Center, in the River Room

Traditions Venue — 8:30 to 9:30am

Cupcakes in the Fellowship Center — 9:30 to 10:45am

Horizons Venue — 11:15am to 12:15pm

## CONCERT OF PRAYER !

The Fourth Annual Concert of Prayer is coming to the Shalom Center on Saturday morning, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Additional information will be coming soon.

Please **save this date** and plan to attend this uplifting event sponsored by your Prayer & Worship Ministry Team.



GraceUnderground brings Biblical encouragement and direction to Junior and Senior High students in an atmosphere of fun and acceptance.

*Connecting people to God / Loving God and each other / Growing in grace and truth / Serving Dubuque and the world*

What are we trying to do at GraceUnderground? We want to mentor, teach, challenge, and encourage Middle and High School students to wholeheartedly follow Christ in Christian community, bringing the Bible to students in a clear and winsome way, playing games and having fun, singing songs to God, kicking back and having a snack—all in an atmosphere that says “you belong.”

What are our core values?

- Jesus is seeking his “lost sheep.” Heaven celebrates when a confused and angry teen softens his/her heart to the good news of Christ.
- God is near to the brokenhearted. God seeks the wandering and the wounded.
- Youth need caring adult friendships. Christ-centered adult mentoring will lead people closer to Christ.
- Only God can bring transformation. We seek to create an environment that makes the Bible’s teaching clear and relevant, and demonstrates God’s earnest desire that people be reconciled to Him.

What are our activities? A typical night includes some casual time in the youth room playing air hockey, ping-pong, foosball, or appropriate video games. Then we play a high-energy game in the church or on the church grounds, followed by singing and a Bible lesson. We raise funds for mission, and find other simple ways to serve Dubuque and the world.



This event features fundraising for World Vision to feed impoverished people around the world, and an overnight at the church. The students fast for 30 hours and gain pledges for their fasting. While at the church they have beautiful worship moments and hours of teaching about poverty and hunger around the world—all in light of the Bible’s clear teaching about how to respond to the suffering of others. April 19–20.

*TRI-STATE WORK CAMP:* Dozens of youth from multiple churches spending two nights at Camp Albrecht Acres. Service, worship, food, fun. Please pray for this event. March 7–9

*BIG DAY OF SERVING:* One day of hundreds of teens from a dozen or more churches all over Dubuque. May 5<sup>th</sup>.



Pastor Dana



## Middle School & High School Youth

5:30–6:00pm  
Food—all ages

6:00–7:00pm  
Middle School games  
Senior High worship  
and teaching/equipping

7:00–8:00pm  
Senior High games  
Middle School worship  
and teaching/equipping

Connecting,  
Loving, Growing,  
Serving

**PRAYER CHAIN**

To start a prayer, call Pat Kohler or Lois Trausch-Wolfe.

**Daytime Prayer Chain**

- Pat Kohler  
583-8978
- Gerry Vandenberg  
583-5338
- Ramona Hennings  
583-8739
- Edie Ege  
583-1974
- Wilma Sanders  
582-7346
- Mable Boelk  
557-9166
- Sue Lemon  
583-4454
- Lois Trausch-Wolfe  
583-0534

**(Lois starts the evening chain.)**

**Evening Prayer Chain**

- Sharon Baker  
588-2115
- Glenda Temple  
582-0464
- Pam Hillary  
556-5846
- Karen Storlie  
556-7548
- Kim or Jerry Bell  
582-4956

# SERVANTS OF THE LORD

## March

### Traditions Worship Venue 8:30am

<b>Communion Preparers</b> (Mar 3)	Suz Birch, Sharon Baker		
<b>Communion Servers</b> (Mar 3)	Pam Hillary, Pauline Brimeyer Doug & Karen Storlie		
	Ushers	Greeters	
<b>March 3</b>	Ray & Robin Wlochal		
<b>March 10</b>	Ray & Robin Wlochal		
<b>March 17</b>	Ray & Robin Wlochal		
<b>March 24</b>	Ray & Robin Wlochal		
<b>March 31</b>	Ray & Robin Wlochal		

### Prayers of the People Prayer Ministry Team

March 3	Doug Storlie	Doug & Karen
March 10	Doug Storlie	Doug & Karen
March 17	Kevin Hirschey	Kevin & Mary Hirschey
March 24	Mary Hirschey	Kevin & Mary Hirschey
March 31	Doug Storlie	Doug & Karen Storlie

### Horizons Worship Venue 11:15am

<b>Communion Servers</b> (Mar 3)	Pam De Meester, Stephanie Lange		
	Ushers	Greeters	Child Care
<b>Mar 3</b>	Bob & Jennie Burns	Doug & Karen Storlie	Alex Wiest Verna Davis
<b>Mar 10</b>	Bob & Jennie Burns	Doug & Karen Storlie	Judy and Ben Godwin
<b>Mar 17</b>	Bob & Jennie Burns	Doug & Karen Storlie	Sue and Steve Lemon
<b>Mar 24</b>	Bob & Jennie Burns	Doug & Karen Storlie	Beverly VanderZyl
<b>Mar 31</b>	Bob & Jennie Burns	Doug & Karen Storlie	Dan and Pauline Brimeyer

## SERVING THE LORD AT GRACEPOINT

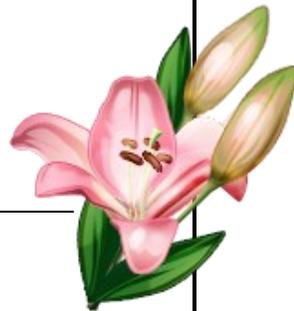
GracePoint is in desperate need of people to serve their Lord in these weekly capacities.

We need Prayer Warriors who can say a short prayer at the first service, and pray for those whose needs are crying out for prayer as submitted on the prayer slips turned in during the giving of our tithes and offerings—the **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**. Prayer Warriors are also needed (usually two per Sunday) to pray for those who feel the need to be prayed for/with after the service—the **PRAYER MINISTRY**. GracePoint has always been a praying church, but it seems that the number of people who are willing to pray for our congregation in this way has dwindled to only a handful of people. PLEASE consider being a Prayer Warrior and serving your church and your Lord in this manner.

Two **USHERS** are also needed for each service. GracePoint is our church and needs all of us to make a commitment to be an usher during either the first or the second service, whichever you attend regularly or prefer. If everyone who is able would volunteer three or four times a year, this need would be covered, rather than a few people having to do this so many times.

Please prayerfully consider helping GracePoint's services in any or all of these areas and let me know **as soon as possible** so I can finalize this information for the annual Handbook for GracePoint's congregation. You can call and leave a message on my home phone (556-7548) or send me an e-mail at [doug@storlie.net](mailto:doug@storlie.net) to let me know what Sundays and which areas work for you.

In His service,  
Doug Storlie, Elder Prayer & Worship Ministry Team



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## SPECIAL OFFERING

The special offering for Resurrection Sunday will go to  
GracePoint's Community Outreach Fund.

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3100 Windsor Avenue  
Dubuque IA 52001-8154

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Return Service Requested

**GLORIFYING GOD BY**

**CONNECTING** people to God

**LOVING** God and each other

**GROWING** in grace and truth

**SERVING** Dubuque and the world



**RESURRECTION SUNRISE SERVICE**

March 31, 2013, 6:15am  
Grand River Center—in the River Room

This is a joint service with First Baptist Church,  
First Presbyterian Church, UD Seminary and GracePoint.

All are welcome.