



GPS FAITH NEWSLETTER

Join us for worship every Sunday at 9:30 am

What's New

March is a month of transitions and is the month that we find ourselves fully in the season of Lent. Throughout the month we will be going through the BeAtitudes at GPS and spending time deepening our faith. We also look forward to Holy Week and Easter celebration (April 5). We are also excited to celebrate 20 years of worshipping together as a faith community on March 8. It was 20 years ago this month that a group from Grace Lutheran church in Loves Park gathered for their first worship service at the Movie theatre in Machesney Park. We invite you to wear your GPS t-shirt that Sunday and enjoy some cake and fellowship after service. It truly is a joy to worship, serve and live life together here at GPS Faith.

Pastors Message

GPS Family (God's People Serving),

We are part of the way through Lent and I wonder how the journey has been for you so far? Are there any practices that you have tried, things you have let go of or insights that have come your way? Lent gives us a chance to move at a different pace and rhythm than we are used to. I wonder if you have taken the chance to do just that? It really does push back against the norm when we slow down and even stop to reflect/meditate/go deeper in our faith. The wonderful thing that happens is that our faith's root system expands and we make room for the expansive nature of God's love in our lives for our sake and the whole world's. So I wonder as we are part of the way through if you could take a moment today and pause to reflect allowing God's love do what only God's love can. We need these moments in a time such as this when the world seems uncertain and our hearts are troubled by what we see. My hope is that this season can fill you up and that can help to flourish your faith as we move forward one foot in front of the other.

In God's generous Love,

Pastor Brandon Nelson

"Let your roots grow down into him
and
let your lives be built on him"

(Colossians 2:7)

Ways to Serve



OUR COMMUNITY

Senior Center: The Senior Center at GPS meets every week on Tuesday's. They would love for you to join them for some games and time together. It is a great way to connect with others and have some fun. They meet every Tuesday from 10 am -2 pm.

Serving Our Neighbors: The neighborhood bordering GPS is in need of some yard/house work. From time to time we will get small jobs that need doing like weed pulling, house painting, small handy jobs and more. If available and/or interested please email info@gpsfaith.com or fill out the online form [HERE](#)

Prayer Chain: Would you like to receive the prayer requests at GPS and pray for them? Consider joining a monthly prayer email called the prayer chain. If interested send an email to info@gpsfaith.com.

OUR CHURCH

BeAttitudes Devotional: Join us through Lent and follow along each week as we explore the Beatitudes and find how our Attitudes can reflect Jesus. The Devotional will correspond with each week in worship. There are physical copies but you can also find a digital version [HERE](#).

Apparel: Are you looking for a new shirt or sweatshirt? We are opening our GPS apparel shop for a season again. This is a great way to wear your faith as you go. You can follow the link [HERE](#) to get to the shop.

Easter Flowers: Would you like to help bring some beauty to our Easter Worship? We are looking for monetary donations to help offset the cost of our Easter flowers. Mark your gift 'Easter flowers' and mail/bring or give online to help.

New Members Class: Have you been visiting at GPS for a while and would like to know more about us or interested in joining? If you are interested please email Pastor Brandon at pastorbrandon@gpsfaith.com.

Giving

January GIVING NUMBERS

Expenses: \$21,147 Giving: \$14,145

Ways to Connect

SMALL GROUPS & BOOK STUDY GROUPS

(HERE ARE OUR GROUPS THAT ARE CURRENTLY MEETING)

Wednesday Morning: Are you interested in digging deeper into the Sunday reading before we get to Sunday? This group meets weekly at 10:00 am on Wednesday to go through the readings for Sunday spending time digging deeper into God's word. If interested send an email to pastorbrandon@gpsfaith.com

Faithful Readers Book Club: Interested in joining? email info@gpsfaith.com

Water Walkers: Currently meeting at GPS after Sunday service. Interested email info@gpsfaith.com

Second Sunday: Are you interested in studying a book together after service? We will be starting a new book study that will meet every second Sunday after service. Interested email info@gpsfaith.com. We begin with our first meetup on February 8. We are finishing up our current book and looking to start a new one next month.

GPS Families: Are you a family here at GPS or know of a family that is longing for connection? We have a group of families where they take time connecting through a meal, having fun with each other and activities. Children are welcome. Interested? Please email Pastor Brandon at pastorbrandon@gpsfaith.com

How to contact us...

GPS STAFF and LEADERSHIP:

Brandon Nelson, Pastor,

pastorbrandon@gpsfaith.com

Aaron Hill, Worship Leader,

aaron@gpsfaith.com

Grace Hahn-Varona, Media/ Tech

media@gpsfaith.com

Financial Secretary: info@gpsfaith.com

Prayer: In need of prayer please email us at prayer@gpsfaith.com or call us at the church office and leave a message at (779) 221-8491

Hospitalized: If you are in the hospital and would like to be on our prayer chain or have a pastoral visit, please call the church office at (779) 221-8491. Also, please notify the hospital of your affiliation with GPS Faith Community when you check in.

**Worship Every Sunday
Online and In-Person at 9:30 am.**

Church Email: info@gpsfaith.com

Visit us on the web: www.GPSFaith.com

Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/gpsfaith

GPS FAITH YOUTH & KIDS

Coming Up

We are having a great Sunday school and youth year so far and we are enjoying the new year also. Growing in our faith together is one of our favorite things about life at GPS.

Sunday School (Pre-K-5th grade)

It has been such a fun winter with the youth in Sunday School. We are really excited as we get closer to Easter to share the story leading up to Easter. On Easter we will not have Sunday School but a fun worship and Easter egg scavenger hunt to follow worship for all youth. We would love to see you there.

Pathwayz (6th grade-8th grade)

Confirmation is a 3 year program of faith formation at GPS. We meet directly after service on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month. If your student is entering 6th grade next school year check in about the upcoming year.

Compass (High School) Youth

At GPS we love growing in our faith together. This is a lifelong process and is important at every age. We will gather on the Last Sunday of every month directly after worship.

Upcoming dates

- No Sunday School
Easter Sunday April 5th
- Join us for Easter and
Egg Scavenger Hunt
April 5th

Upcoming dates

- March 22

Upcoming dates

Upcoming Events



We are so excited to celebrate 20 years of worshipping together on Sunday March 8. GPS Faith started as a satellite church of Grace Lutheran in March 2006 in the movie theater. In 2010 GPS Faith was established as an elca church. In 2011 we moved into our 1st building on North 2nd and in 2021 we purchased our current building calling our permanent home on Forest Hills Rd. Throughout the years we have lived into our namesake of God's People Serving and we'd love to have you celebrate with us and wear a GPS shirt.

Holy Week

PALM
SUNDAY

March 29th
In-person &
Online at 9:30am

MAUNDY
THURSDAY

April 2nd
Online ONLY at 6pm

GOOD
FRIDAY

April 3rd
In-Person &
Online at 6pm

We would love to have you join us throughout Holy Week beginning on Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday is a powerful celebration that leads us into a formative week of worship.

LET'S CELEBRATE

Easter

TOGETHER AT GPS FAITH

April 5th worship at 9:30am & Egg Hunt to follow



We would love to have you join us for Easter Sunday on April 5th. We will have a powerful worship service that will have moments for everyone to celebrate the resurrection; it will be perfect for the whole family. This is a great opportunity to invite family, friends, neighbors. Following worship we will have yummy treats and coffee while the youth enjoy a egg scavenger hunt. All are welcome to join us for this great day of worship together.