

## **MARCH 1, 2020** **NOTE FROM PASTOR JOEL**

Why are we doing this?

I love the decision that week two of Grace Olmsted is GO (Global Outreach) week. As we bring two church families together there are so many important things to do and to talk about. How do we help people integrate, what are the structures needed, what is the best way to recruit needed ministry team volunteers, how much coffee should we make (ok not all the questions are of equal importance).

All of these questions need to be asked and will enable Grace Olmsted (GO) to accomplish the mission God has entrusted us with. However, the question of greatest importance is why? Why are we here and why did we decide to join our two church families to become one church in two locations?

Even though the “why” question is the most important question, it is the easiest one to ignore. That is why we stop every March and take one whole week and remind ourselves why we are here and realign ourselves individually and as a Church family to God’s mission.

Why are we here? We are part of the redemptive story God is writing. This is how Paul says it:

“God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.”  
2 Corinthians 5:19-20

Here we GO...

Pastor Joel

## **UPCOMING**

**New Sunday School Class Starts TODAY!  
The Life of Paul - Lee Arnold  
11 AM | Olmsted Campus | Room 108**

How did Paul go from being a persecutor of Christians to a prisoner for Christ, and more importantly, how can his example help us to live life with passion and purpose? This class will review the life of Paul in chronological order, from his early years in Tarsus, through his conversion, his missionary journeys, and his final years in a Roman prison. As Paul authored many of the letters in the New Testament, this study will also help to put them into the context of his life’s story.

**New Wednesday Night Study Starts March 11  
The Bible and the Future - Pastor Tom Sefik  
6:30 PM | Olmsted Campus | Room 108**

This class will survey what the Bible teaches about physical death, the final judgment, the nature of heavenly rewards, our resurrection bodies, the joys of life in Heaven, the horrors of life in Hell, and how these awesome realities should impact our lives today. This class will zero in on our personal experience of the afterlife and how this knowledge enriches our spiritual lives here and now.

**Short-Term Trip Info Meeting: West Virginia  
TODAY @ Noon | Middleburg Campus | Rm 8**  
Join us to find out about this July short-term mission trip to West Virginia. This popular trip fills up quickly so learn more about this trip and how to apply. ✉ pat.senkar@gracecma.org

**Short-Term Trip Info Meeting: Philippines  
TODAY @ 1:15 PM | Middleburg Campus | Room 202**  
Join team leader Bitsy Cash to learn about how you can partner with Envision and serve on this team in the Philippines in October. Questions: bitsycash@att.net

**Bringing America Back to Life: March 6-7  
at the Embassy Suites in Independence**  
This event will feature local, national, and international speakers addressing challenges and opportunities for the Right-to-Life movement. For more information: ☎ (440) 529-4836  
✉ info@BringingAmericaBackToLife.org

**Forever Young (50+): “A Heart For The Unborn”:** March 14  
**5-8 PM | Middleburg Campus | Venue**  
The Cleveland Pregnancy Center has met the needs of women facing unplanned pregnancies since 1984. CPC director Bob Hershey, will be here to share about one of the biggest issues of our day and how we might help. Bring a generous main dish, side or salad. Dessert provided.

## **CHILDREN**

**Grace Kids (Birth-5th grade)**  
**We offer classes during all Sunday services and Wednesday night classes.**  
Our gifted teachers are privileged to partner with you as you invest in your children!  
Learn more: gracecma.org/grace-kids

## **STUDENTS**

**Middle School Youth Group meets at  
Middleburg Campus for Go Week  
March 4 | 7 PM | Worship Center**  
Come ready to hear from Missionaries Dr. David Thompson and Dr Keir Thelander at the Middleburg Heights campus.

**High School Trip: Envision Twin Cities  
June 21-30. Registration Deadline March 8**  
Hey Teenagers! Join us for an amazing Experience and Missions Trip to Minneapolis/ St. Paul MN this summer! We’ll be working with Envision Twin Cities in this surprisingly multi-cultural city to serve the immigrant communities who have made the Twin Cities their home. Please talk to Pastor Josiah for more information. You can also pick up a flier on the Student Ministries bulletin board.  
✉ josiah.stumbo@gracecma.org

**Middle School (Grades 6-8)  
Sundays @ 11:15 AM  
Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM in Activity Center**  
Attention Middle Schoolers! Join us each week to make friends, play games, eat snacks and grow in your faith—all in one place! And as always, feel free to bring your friends.  
✉ josiah.stumbo@gracecma.org

**High School (Grades 9-12)  
Sundays @ 6-8 PM in Activity Center**  
All High Schoolers are welcome! We play creative group games, laugh, learn about Jesus, and we’re discovering the way to contagious abundant life together. You’re always welcome to bring friends along with you!  
✉ josiah.stumbo@gracecma.org

## **WOMEN**

**The Gathering Missions Brunch: March 5  
@ 10 AM | Olmsted Campus | Activity Center**  
Women gather for a potluck brunch in the Activity Center; coffee/morning beverages provided. Featured speaker: Joanna Thelander

**MUMs (Moms Uplifting Moms): March 12  
@ 9:30 AM | Middleburg | Activity Center**  
Moms of all ages, please join us for a time of fellowship, brunch and more (\$4 cover charge). We will hear an inspiring message from Michelle Dubik. Childcare is available for children of all ages.  
✉ Carol Atkins - catkins9299@hotmail.com

**Ladies Latté... Connect Over Coffee: March 9  
@ 7 PM | Middleburg Campus | Activity Center**  
Invite a friend and join us for Mary Schaeffer’s message, “When Life Seems Unfair.” Enjoy sweet fellowship over coffee, dessert, and roundtable discussion (\$4 at the door).  
Childcare: elizabethrenee.wu@gmail.com  
✉ joyce.meekins@gracecma.org

## **MEN**

**Men’s Missions Breakfast March 7  
@ 7:30 AM | Olmsted Campus | Activity Center**  
Breakfast is free/free-will donation. Featured speaker: Dr Keir Thelander and Jacques Ebhele

**Strongsville Men’s Church League Softball  
Signups: March 8**  
Season is scheduled from early May through mid-August. Cost is \$65 per player. Limited spots available.  
☎ Steve - (216) 798-0681  
✉ scatkins@yahoo.com

## **SUPPORT GROUPS**

**Dementia Care Giver Support Group: March 8  
@ Noon | Middleburg Campus | Room 211**  
If you are caring for someone with any type of memory loss, join us for prayer & encouragement.

**National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)  
March 3 @ 7 PM at St. Joseph Church  
in Strongsville**  
NAMI is the nation’s largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. Do you or someone you love struggle with mental illness? You are not alone! Join us for education, encouragement and support. Karen Jarr ☎ (440) 239-9423

## **WAYS TO SERVE**

**We Need Your Help!**  
We are in need of help in many areas of ministry. Please consider serving on a team even if it is for a short term during our launch period. Who knows, you might like it! If you would like to know more about serving opportunities, contact Pastor Neil ✉ olmsted.falls@gracecma.org

**Easter Choir Now Forming | Olmsted Campus**  
Open to all who want to join together to bring praises and glory to our Lord Jesus for Easter services. Contact Kathy Nichols for more details.  
✉ kathy.nichols@gracecma.org

**Olmsted Falls Food Pantry**  
There is an immediate need for Canned/Boxed Pasta Meals, Canned Vegetables, and Peanut Butter. Donations of any non-perishable food items are appreciated. If you are able to contribute, please leave your donations in the barrels at the entrances of the church. We can also reuse your plastic store bags for food distribution. Thank you for feeding His hungry.

**Weekly Prayer Meeting: Thursdays  
@ 7-8 PM | Olmsted Campus | Room 108**  
All are welcome to join as we pray for our church, community, and for our world.

## **WELCOME TO GRACE!** **SUNDAYS 9:15 AM • 11 AM**

**New to Grace Church?**  
**Visting Grace Church for the first time? Welcome!** Please stop by the Welcome desk in the lobby. We want to say hello and we have a small gift for you.

***We hope that you have a personal encounter with Jesus today through worship and the Word!***

Our worship is comprised of different musical styles: classic hymns and new songs from churches around the world. Some weeks we introduce creative elements like art or dance in our services to help you experience God in a fresh way.

**EXPLORE OUR MINISTRIES**  
Ministries for children, students, young adults, men and women, senior adults, and more are gathering each week. Visit gracecma.org to see where you can connect and grow with others!

**COFFEE AND PASTRIES**  
Please enjoy coffee and pastries in the Atrium between services.

**CHURCH CENTER APP**  
This app is a great way to view events for our church, join groups, give, and check-in your children to their classes. If you previously were signed in under Hope, log out and then search Grace Church Olmsted Falls.

**DO YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?**  
If you’d like to be included on the prayer letter distribution list, have prayer requests, praise reports, or active military family member we need to pray for, email  
✉ olmsted.falls@gracecma.org

**LOOKING FOR A SMALL GROUP?**  
Many current groups have openings. Check them out! gracecma.org/groups



# WORSHIP BAND AUDITIONS

**MARCH 10**

Do you have a heart for worship and playing an instrument? The Worship Ministry is having adult band auditions!

Schedule your audition in advance:  
[robin.walters@gracecma.org](mailto:robin.walters@gracecma.org)



# GO WEEK FEAST OF THE NATIONS

**MARCH 2 @ 6 PM - MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS CAMPUS**

**MARCH 3 @ 6 PM - OLMSTED FALLS CAMPUS**

Join us for the Feast of Nations! Tickets are \$6/person (cash/check only), children under 3 are free.

Available while supplies last.

Call the office for ticket availability: (440) 427-4635



# SMALL GROUPS

**NEW GROUPS OPEN!**

Small Groups are a great way to connect and grow with others! New groups have begun, and here are a few with openings: Daytime Group (35+): [janettenieves@hotmail.com](mailto:janettenieves@hotmail.com)

Bible Reading/Study Group: [ib4joy@gmail.com](mailto:ib4joy@gmail.com)

Writers Group: [dgruber13@yahoo.com](mailto:dgruber13@yahoo.com)

Check out the new groups! [gracecma.org/groups](http://gracecma.org/groups)