



We joyfully greet our members and visitors on this first day of the new year! We have come to praise the living God who makes all things new. Paul reminds us that it is God who enables us to “walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:4). Let us glorify God with that reality in mind.

Join us for refreshments after the service, in our fellowship hall.

January 1, 2012

OFFERING TODAY— General Fund

Next Sunday — Mission Fund

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS—NO classes today. We'll see you next week!

THE COUNCIL would like to thank the congregation for its faithful support through another year. Your giving allows us to support the various ministries of Grace CRC and to carry on God's kingdom work in this place. However, as we end another calendar year, we find ourselves running on a deficit. The council would ask that you prayerfully consider your own local congregation here at Grace in any giving you may be planning.

W.O.W.—On January 4, WOW will consider, “God's story and my story.” As our lives have unfolded in our walk with Christ, God has woven his story into our life story. He uses events, people, and particular circumstances to shape us as his servants. We will look at ways to see God weaving his story into our life story as we follow Jesus. Coffee and dessert begin at 6:30pm, the discussion group starts at 7:00pm.

EACH OF THE MISSION COMMITTEE AND THE CARE COMMITTEE IS IN NEED OF MORE MEMBERS. The Mission Committee reviews the mission activities of our local congregation. The Care Committee meets every other month to arrange for visits to those of our members who, because of illness or other reasons, are unable to attend church functions with regularity. If you are interested in serving on the Mission Committee, contact Sue Weidenaar. If you are interested in serving on the Care Committee, contact Bill Weidenaar.



The GEMS Girls are continuing to sell assorted World's Finest chocolate bars for \$1 each! Thank you for your continued support!

Mission News

Evy Smith leaves today, January 1, to return to Mali, West Africa. Please pray for her as she leaves her family and friends behind and resumes her mission of telling others about God's immeasurable love and the gift of salvation in Christ Jesus, our risen Lord.

PRAYER PARTNER UPDATE—Our Prayer Partners have been supporting the children of our congregation, as well as those who attend REACH and GEMS, with prayers and encouragement over the past year. We are very grateful for your participation in this vital ministry. It is now time to update our lists for the next year. If you are currently a Prayer Partner, you don't need to do a thing. We will assign you a new child and let you know as soon as our lists are complete (sometime after the first of the year). If you would like to keep the child you have, or if for some reason you are not able to continue in this ministry, please let Tom Huisenga know as soon as possible. If you are not currently a Prayer Partner, but would like to participate in this ministry, contact Tom Huisenga at 708-499-3538 or at huisengatd@comcast.net. *Thank you for holding up our young people in your prayers!*



—**Theresa Ter Maat** is receiving therapy at Alden Rehabilitation & Health Care, 16450 S. 97th Ave., Orland Park, 60467. We pray that God will strengthen Theresa and give encouragement and hope for her and John as they wait on the Lord.

—**Clara Knol**, a resident of Providence South, has grown considerably weaker as her heart has been failing. Pray for God’s peace and grace for Clara and her family as they face this trying time.

WE REMEMBER those who are serving in the military, that the Lord may watch over them: Stephen & Dan Brucken, Elizabeth Boldt, Ernest Soderlund, and Thomas Tate.

WE ALSO REMEMBER those who are in continuing care or homebound, including: Jennie Beenes, Florence DeWit, Clara Knol, Grace Ozinga, Nell Ridderhoff, Theresa Ter Maat, Tina Stovall, Jeanette Veen, Jacob (Bud) Stoit, Elsie Sluis, Lorraine Bakker, Evelyn Vloedman, Julius Sias, Harold & Janet Wierenga, Millie DeVries, Bill Van Wyk, Marian Weidenaar, Jeannette Fischer, and Rose Pels.

The Revitalization Team will be meeting Tuesday evening, January 3, at 7:00pm.

ART CONNECT—Each month, different artists and craft leaders put on a short workshop for students on the first Saturday of the month. We have had an enjoyable time together, learning about different media or crafts and getting to know each other. This Saturday, January 7, from 1-2:00pm, Dave and Joyce Phillips will be helping us make a model train car and paint a porcelain penguin. We pray that through this connection, we may strengthen relationships with people in our community.



Serving with a Glad Heart...

GREETERS TODAY:

(No. entrance)
Andy & Mert Schutt
(Sanctuary)
John & Jean Rosier

USHERS TODAY:

Carol Den Besten
Phyllis Johnson
Pete Deckinga

INFANT-TODDLER NURSERY TODAY:

Darlene & Anna Huisenga

PROJECTION TODAY:

Sarah Huisenga

SOUND TODAY:

Bill Kamp

REFRESHMENTS TODAY:

Warren & Ruth Kuipers
Helen Noort

LIBRARY TODAY:

Elaine Kamp—Evelyn Van Dellen

SHARE-A-MEAL:

Dorothy Beezhold (636-8232)



Start the New Year with God

The Week Ahead...

New Year's Day 2012

Sun-Jan 1	10:00 am	Worship Service — Divine Purposes Philippians 1:1-26 Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall after the service <i>Jestine Ivy & Marilyn Brucken</i> will be available, between the services, in the Prayer Room (located in the hall by the mailboxes), to have a time of prayer or reflection with anyone who wishes to join them.
Mon-Jan 2	9:15 am	JAZZercise
Tue-Jan 3	9:30 am 1:00 pm 7:00 pm	Ruth Fellowship Knit/Crochet Group Revitalization Team meeting
Wed-Jan 4	9:15 am 9:30 am 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	JAZZercise Coffee Break Coffee/Dessert before W.O.W. W.O.W.
Thu-Jan 5	7:00 pm	Friendship Club Praise Team rehearsal
Fri-Jan 6	9:15 am 7:00 pm	JAZZercise GEMS GIRLS' CLUB
Sat-Jan 7	1-2:30 pm 4-6:00 pm	ART CONNECT for all ages! Unfinished Worship — <i>"Following the Star"</i>
Sun-Jan 8	9:00 am	Worship Service (new sermon series begins)—Abraham: Faith Walking Genesis 11:27-12:9 Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall between the services <i>Pastor Mike & Rich Kooyenga</i> will be available, after the service, in the Prayer Room (located in the hall by the mailboxes), to have a time of prayer or reflection with anyone who wishes to join them.
	10:20 am	Adult Sunday School class
	10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service
	12 noon	2nd Sunday Luncheon



SUNDAY SERMONS ARE AVAILABLE IN AN AUDIO VERSION ON OUR WEBSITE at www.gccrc.org!
Go to the 'weekly bulletins/audio sermons' page to check it out!

Community News

SOUTHWEST CHGO. CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS' PARENTS CLUB WILL BE SPONSORING A SCRAPBOOKING EVENT on Sat., Feb. 25, from 9am-8pm at the Oak Lawn campus (101st & Central). If you are interested in attending, you can pick up a registration form at the Oak Lawn campus, print one online at the Oak Lawn News webpage, or contact Debbie at caliwal@aol.com and a form will be emailed to you.

Acclaimed singer/songwriter **MARK SCHULTZ WILL PERFORM IN CONCERT AT TRINITY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE** at 7:00pm, Friday, March 2, 2012. Tickets for reserved seating are \$15, general admission; \$30 for VIP (includes a meet-and-greet with the artist). Visit www.itickets.com/events/276401.html to order tickets online (non-refundable service fee applies). To charge by phone: 800-965-9324. For more information, visit www.trnty.edu.

Southwest Chgo. Christian Schools has begun planning for the 2012/2013 school year! The following informational meetings will be held: Thursday, January 19, 7 pm—Oak Lawn campus (101st & Central)
Prospective kindergarteners and their parents
Thursday, January 19, 7 pm—Tinley Park campus (17171—84th Ave.)
Prospective kindergarten parents

If you have a child who will be 5 on or before September 1, 2012, we invite you to attend. Application materials will be available that evening or by calling the Association Office at (708) 388-7656.

Please join us for the **10TH SEMI-ANNUAL SCRAPBOOK AND CARD MAKING EVENT AT TRINITY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE** on Friday, Jan. 20 and Saturday, Jan. 21. The Women's Guild is excited to have all of you come for a wonderful time of Christian fellowship while reminiscing about the "good old days" even if you are working on pictures from last week. Please download the application off of the Trinity College website, under "Student Life" and then "The Women's Guild", or contact the school at 708-597-3000 for an application to be mailed. We look forward to seeing you! Trinity Christian College is located at 6601 College Drive in Palos Heights, IL.

SUFFERING FROM THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE? Little Company of Mary Hospital, Evergreen Park, offers two support programs for those grieving the loss of a loved one through death. For adults: "Living: When a Loved One has Died" will be held on six consecutive Wednesdays, beginning Feb. 29, 2012, from 7:30-9:30pm. Support groups formed specific to loss and age of participant. Registration is required. For children: "The Heart Connection" will be held on 8 consecutive Mondays, beginning, March 12, 2012, from 6-7:30pm. The program is for children ages 5-18 years old who have lost a loved one through death. Early registration is required. For further information or registration, please call the Pastoral Care Department, 708-229-5484, Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm.