

ANNOUNCEMENTS — MAY 5, 2019

OFFERING TODAY: General Operating Fund

Your donation today provides our church with the opportunity to show our love and care for those in our membership and surrounding community through the funding of our many ministry programs. This fund also gives us the means to maintain our church property and compensate staff.

OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY: Mission Fund

Your donation will help support 6 missionaries around the world and here in the U.S. that our church has chosen to sponsor: Alan Breems-Evangelist Training Program, Moreno Valley, CA; John Hoekwater-Church Planting, Rogers Park, IL; Jerry An-BTGMI, Chinese Broadcasting; Sergei Sosedkin-BTGMI, Russian Broadcasting; Steve Michmerhuizen, CR World Missions, Romania; and Evy Smith-CR World Missions, Mali, Africa.

Coffee Fellowship: As you go into the fellowship hall today, you may notice something different: coffee pots on the tables! You can pick up your cookies (and juice if you prefer) and go directly to your table. The MAST team is trying out something new this month, for a couple of reasons. We'd like to make the process of getting your coffee easier and we'd like to cut down on Styrofoam cup usage: it's harmful to the environment, doesn't biodegrade and is very costly to recycle. If you'd like to bring your own coffee cups, that would help even more. The MAST Team (Darlene Huisenga, Michael Kooy, Eleanor Lamsma, and Marilyn VandenBout) will be trying this for a month and we'd like to hear your reactions.

Join us on Sunday, May 12: In worship, we connect with God through scripture and prayer. The songs we sing in worship are a part of those prayers; ways of expressing our praise, thanksgiving, confession, dedication and hope to God. We express those from the heart through music. Which is why we want to give thanks to God for the gift of music that **Catherine Solle** has given for our worship. Next Sunday, we will acknowledge Catherine's service on the organ, as she retires after helping lead worship for the past 74 years. Catherine has chosen a few meaningful, well-loved hymns for our worship next Sunday. After worship, we will celebrate with cake and refreshments and you may personally express your thanks to Catherine for her service.

Communion—June 2: Our next Lord's Supper celebration will be on June 2. Normally, we celebrate the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of each month, however, in light of our Easter communion celebration last week, we will celebrate our next Lord's Supper in June.

Art Connect: Saturday, May 18, 1-2:30pm: Everyone is invited to this last meeting of the season. Art Connect is a FREE program that provides time to learn a new craft or join in an art project with friends from our neighborhood.



Our fleece blanket supply is getting depleted again—which is a wonderful thing! These blankets are a blessing to so many people. Plan now to join the Tuesday Coffee Break group in making more blankets on Tuesday, May 21 from 9:30-11:30am. Fleece donations are always gladly accepted. For more information, talk to Diane Ritzema, Eleanor Lamsma or Ruth Kuipers. Thanks for your help!

Book Club: Join us for discussion on May 13 @ 7pm. We'll be talking about the book, "Educated" by Tara Westover. This unforgettable memoir is about a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and eventually goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University.

Directory Change: Please change the phone number for Tena Vander Muil to: 708-308-3414.

Council Meeting—Monday, May 6 @7pm: Elders and Deacons will meet at 6pm. Pray for the Council, for God's wisdom as they meet and discuss issues related to the life and ministry of Grace Community CRC.



Steve & Jan Michmerhuizen, Targu Mares, Romania. One of the ministries Steve & Jan are connected to is Lidia Home. Lidia Home welcomes needy kids, from young children to teens, and provides a home for them to live in as they go to school in the city. Many come from homes where there are no parents or parents are absent. The staff (including some from Resonate) minister by showing the gospel in word (teaching) and in service (providing food, a home, and friendship). Pray for those who work and volunteer at Lidia Home as they reach these young lives with God's word and God's love.

Are you Spring cleaning in your closets? The Visual Arts storage closet is in need of more pants hangers to hang up our fabric. Please leave them by Diane Ritzema's office. Thanks in advance!

Graduation time is fast approaching... if you have children, or other family members graduating, why not include them in our June newsletter on a special graduation page? We would need their name, relationship to you, grade and school/degree information. And you can include a picture! Information can be placed in the newsletter mailbox outside the church office.



—**BEN DYKSTRA** was at Franciscan Health Dyer in Dyer, IN for testing and treatment of heart symptoms. We pray for God's wisdom for his care team and for God's strength for Ben.

—**Helen Noort** will undergo knee replacement surgery on Monday, May 6. We pray for God's protection and comfort for Helen and for God's guidance for her surgeons and care team.

—**WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR** those serving in the military & their families, and those in continuing care or homebound, including: Carol Breems, Dorothy Brink-Schutt, Helena Creaney, Marv DeVries, Jay Dorn, Ben Dykstra, Connie Dykstra, Rich Knudsen, Char Kros, John Langeland, Pauline Meekma, Mason Patterson, Ray Peterson Jr., John Roos, and Jeannette Veen.

Do you have a spare room? An email was received in the church office recently from a medical student. Here is what it says:

"Hello, I'm a rising 4th year medical student from Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine. I have a pediatric rotation at Christ Medical Center from July 1-July 26, but have no place to stay. I'm reaching out to local churches in the hopes that someone would be willing to let me stay in their home. I would graciously pay any amount asked. Thanks in advance, Andrea Nicholson."

If you're able to help Andrea out, contact the church office for her email address.



Community News

Sign up TODAY for the 9th Annual Elim Eagles' Wings 5K! This year's totally tubular 1980's-style event takes place on Sat., May 11 at 9:00am. Run, Walk or roll in the traditional 5K or the 1-mile short loop. Participants will enjoy music, refreshments, raffle drawings, and a free event T-shirt. Free pre-race obstacle course for kids! Or sign up to be a virtual participant and we'll send you a T-shirt! All proceeds go to purchase much-needed equipment, technology, and other resources that directly benefit children and adults with disabilities. Visit elimcs.org to register today! Questions? Call Laura at 708-293-6509.

You are invited to participate in the **Roseland Christian Ministries 2nd Annual Van Zanten Golf Outing** on **Sat., June 1** at Harborside International Golf Club. You're welcome to form a team of up to 4 to join you for a super fun morning to raise funds for the Women & Children's Shelter at RCM. Your support helps provide a place of safety and belonging. For more information and to purchase tickets, please go to: www.roselandchristianministries.com.

Pregnancy Aid South Suburbs (PASS) would like to invite you to "save the date" of **Sat., June 8** for their annual **Hike4Life** fundraising event! As in previous years, the event will be held on the grounds of Peace Community Church in Frankfort, IL from 7am-1pm. We'll have an untimed 5K "Candy Fun Run" at 8am and a Hike at 9am. Run or hike with your family! There will be many activities for kids and youth! For more information, please go to our website: www.helppass.org or contact Allison Alons, Advancement Manager at PASS (708-614-9777 x121).

The **Self-Help Jobs Program** exists to help unemployed and underemployed people of all ages and skill sets to learn to navigate through the maze of current job search methods to find job leads and successfully become employed. We also assist business owners to find qualified people, entrepreneurs needing advice, and students needing internships and summer jobs. To get started, **call 708-633-6580 for an appointment.** Office hours are on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

In an effort to protect the privacy of our church information and church member information, the weekly announcements and newsletters posted on our website do not contain any personal information of our members and friends and do not include any financial information of the church.