

ANNOUNCEMENTS — FEBRUARY 16, 2020

**OFFERING TODAY: Benevolence Fund**

This fund gives the deacons of our church the opportunity to show our loving care and support of those in our church family and surrounding community who may be in need of assistance while facing a hardship.

**OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY: Christian Education Fund**

Your donation to this fund helps provide our church families with the assistance they may need to provide a Christ-centered education for their children when they otherwise would not be able to meet the cost on their own.

**Grace Community Church Window Fund:** The beautiful stained glass window at the front of the sanctuary is in need of structural repair. Those repairs will begin at the end of this month. A little over \$10,000 has been raised over the last few years in anticipation of the cost of repairs. That money has been used to cover the deposit needed to begin the work; approximately \$35,000 will be needed to cover the balance of the repair cost. Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to contribute toward this unique expense. Special envelopes were distributed last Sunday and extra envelopes are available on the tables at the back of the sanctuary for a donation for the window repair. You may place your donation in the offering basket or give it to a Council member.

**Upcoming Mission Trip:** *Larry & LeAnn Kooyenga* will be going back to Guatemala from Feb. 21-28 for a mission trip to the people in the jungles. We'll be with a group of 50 people to bring medical care, eye care, dentistry and most importantly the good news of our Savior. Please keep us in prayer and if you desire to support the mission financially, the money would be used to purchase much needed medicine for these people. We bring vitamins, antibiotics, and a wide variety of medications. Checks can be made to Maranatha Chapel. *Thank you!*



*Thank You!* **The GEMS Girls and Counselors would like to thank everyone who came out for the fundraiser dinner at our "LOVE CAFÉ" yesterday!** The GEMS and Counselors had a great evening and definitely feel "Loved" by you all! We hope you had an enjoyable evening with neighbors and friends as well.

**Book Club:** Join us for a discussion of "The River" by Peter Heller on **Monday, February 17 @7:00pm.** "...a headlong, heart-pounding tale of desperate wilderness survival."

**This month:** the Deacon's are featuring *Cross Roads Prison Ministries* on the *Serve More* bulletin board. Stop by the board and see poems and art work created by the inmates. Their work gives touching testimony to the power of Christ's work in their lives. Check it out!

Our **GEMS Girls Club** is hosting a **Scrapbooking Event, Friday, March 20 (6-10pm) and Saturday, March 21 (8am-6pm).** Pick up a registration form from the tables in the foyer and register today!

**LOST AND FOUND:** Tables with lost and found items will be available for everyone to check out starting next Sunday, Feb. 23. If you've been missing something that may have been left at the church, now is the time to find it! The tables will be out until March 8<sup>th</sup>. After that any items not claimed will be donated.

**Classis Chicago South** will meet on Sat., February 22 at Hessel Park CRC in Champaign, IL. Pastors Michael Kooy and Matt Mulder are our Pastor and Elder delegates and Trudy Kooy is our Deacon delegate. Classis focuses on shared ministry, mutual support and common concerns among the Christian Reformed Churches in our region. Pray that God's Spirit will guide all the delegates as they meet, discuss and pray.



—**OUR SYMPATHY TO Rich & Marilyn Vanden Bout and family** in the death of Rich's mom, Magdalene Vanden Bout. We pray for Christ's peace and comfort for the Vanden Bout family as they grieve and pray God's strength in the hope that is ours through our risen Lord Jesus.

—**Evelyn Luchtenburg** is receiving therapy at Lexington of Orland Park (14601 S. John Humphrey Drive 60462) following her hospitalization earlier this week. We pray for God's healing strength and vitality for Evelyn as she waits on the Lord.

—**Bill Weidenaar** had successful surgery to replace a pacemaker this past week.

—**Bonnie Mulder** also had a successful surgery this past week.

*We thank God for his special care and provision and pray for God's healing and recovery for Bonnie and Bill.*

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



**John Hoekwater, Many Peoples Church, Rogers Park.** Many People's Church was founded in 2001 as a church that sees its neighborhood as its mission field. Many Peoples partners with their neighbors in a variety of ways and shows compassion for people and a heart for justice. Pray for John and Ruth Hoekwater that God will continue to guide them as they build connections in their neighborhood and reflect God's light in word and deed.

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## Community News

**Back to God Ministries International: A Lenten Devotional from TODAY**—Lent is a season to focus on the hope of Jesus Christ. Receive a free TODAY devotional email series to help you refresh, refocus, and renew your faith during Lent. Or download the ebook! Subscribe at: [todaydevotional.com/lent](http://todaydevotional.com/lent).

**Roseland Youth Partnership Benefit:** You are invited to join us for the 4th Annual Youth Partnership Benefit on Sat., Feb. 22 from 3-6pm at Row 24 in Chicago, IL. All proceeds raised from this event help fund the youth programs at Roseland Christian Ministries (RCM) that enable kids to encounter God through the RCM community, pursue their God-given gifts, and call them to be change makers in their neighborhood. It is one way we can push back against the violence and make a difference in the lives of children and support a community seeking Shalom in Roseland.

**Oak Lawn Library News (9427 S. Raymond Ave.): Sunday with Friends Concert—A Jazzy Valentine:** Jazz vocalist Petra van Nuis returns with a beautiful collection of romantic standards to warm your heart and soul at **2pm on Sunday, Feb. 16**. For more information on these and other library programs, call 708-422-4990 or visit [www.olpl.org](http://www.olpl.org)

**Short-term Volunteer:** Are you 18-24 years old and interested in embarking on a short-term volunteer opportunity with life-long impact? World Renew's Global Volunteer Program provides opportunities to live, work, eat, and play in an international community while exploring how God wants to use your talents and skills for His purpose. For more information, contact Andrew at [globalvolunteer@worldrenew.net](mailto:globalvolunteer@worldrenew.net).

***In an effort to protect the privacy of our church, including 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.***