

DECEMBER 2016

the Outlook

A NEWSLETTER OF ORLAND PARK CHURCH

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Don't forget to check out
our church website for more
news and information!

www.orlandchurch.com



2017
Christmas
SERVICES

DECEMBER 11 ~ 6:00 PM "CHRISTMAS PRESENCE" CHRISTMAS CANTATA ADULT CHOIR & KIDS KONNECTIONS	DECEMBER 25 ~ 10:00 AM CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE NO EVENING SERVICE
DECEMBER 18 ~ 6:00 PM LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICE	DECEMBER 31 ~ 4:30 PM END-OF-THE-YEAR COMMUNION SERVICE
DECEMBER 24 ~ 4:30 PM CANDLELIGHT SERVICE	JANUARY 1 ~ 10:00 AM NEW YEARS DAY SERVICE NO EVENING SERVICE

Deacons' Corner

DECEMBER OFFERING SCHEDULE

December 4: Roseland Christian Ministries | www.roselandchristianministires.org

RCM is dedicated to serving the Roseland community through service, work, worship, and fellowship. Ministries include the Food Pantry, God Reforming Our Women (G.R.O.W.) program, Thrift Store, Homes Renewal, and Roseland Christian Reformed Church. It is important and necessary to reach out to a community in need because it is what Jesus commanded. "Whatever you do for the least of these you do for me."

December 11: Providence Life Services | www.providenceliveservices.com

Answering the call to enhance the lives of those we serve in the name of Jesus Christ. Providence Life Services was founded from a desire to provide high quality affordable care for those in our community that are aging. They serve a wide spectrum of residents and patients and their services reflect the commitment to embracing totality of their clients' lives. Services include: Retirement Living, Townhome Living, Small Home living, In-Home Care, Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing, Memory Care, Respite Care, Hospice, and Rehabilitation Services.

December 18: Camp Roger | www.camproger.org

Camp Roger is a summer camp in Rockford, MI whose mission is to encounter and celebrate God's love for his children through relationship and experiences in creation. Campers are able to encounter God and grow in their faith as they meet new friends and experience God's wonder in creation.

December 24: Chicago Christian Counseling Center | www.chicagochristiancounseling.org

Chicago Christian Counseling Center provides Christ-centered professional counseling for people in emotional pain. They have locations in the Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana area. As the Chicago Christian Counseling Center reaches out to people who are in pain, they also make a commitment to try to help those who cannot completely pay the fee.

December 25: World Renew | www.worldrenew.net

World Renew envisions a world where people experience and extend Christ's compassion and live together in hope as God's community. World Renew's mission is to engage God's people in redeeming resources and developing gifts in collaborative activities of love, mercy, justice, and compassion. Serving worldwide as the development, disaster response, and justice arm of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, the aspects of World Renew's work are three-fold: Community Development, Disaster Response and Rehabilitation, and Advocacy.

Preschool News

THE PRESCHOOL CHILDREN CELEBRATE THANKSGIVING

-Ruth Baas, Preschool Director

The children at Orland Park Christian Preschool have had a great month learning what it means to be thankful! Here are the things we decided we are most thankful for this year:

T/TH 3-year-old class:

Connor ... Mommy & Daddy & God
Abigail.....my cousin Megan, my family, & Chewy
Riley.....my family, my fish Penny, & stuffed animals
Carson..... my family and God
Trevormy mom and dad and puppies
Reagan..... my whole family
Heidi...my headband and princesses
Ryan.....my Cubs hats
Olivia.....my grandma and Minnie Mouse
Leahmy family
Jack my family and my yellow ball
Logan.....my family, my dog "Lily" & Nana
Tommy my hauler and all my toys
Gabriella my dinosaur
Travis..... my Mommy and Daddy
Lillian Curious George
Dominic.....my mom & dad and my blue blanket
Jasmin.....my toys
Haleigh.....my American Girl doll "Grace" & my family
Maia.....my brother Max
Elizabeth ...my book from the movie "Evie"
Derek.....my Ty Toy "Slush"
Lily W animals, the earth, and fish
Hazel.....my sister Ava

M/W/F 4-year-old class:

Clara.. my owl purse & my devotion book
Colin..... my family and my sister
Wyatt my house, money, & Marshall the dog
Jayde ... my parents & my baby sister
Nicholas ice cream
Cohen...my stuffed animal dinosaur
Evan.....bead art projects and my whole family
Kennedy my family
Judahmy whole family and my dog "Blue"
Jamestwist-flavored ice cream
Elisabeth all of my friends
Emily my unicorn and "Bullseye" from Toy Story
Evelyn.....my bear "Cupcake" & my doll "Big Baby"
Maggie..... my family & my pet frog "Hoppy"

Finneganmy "Grover" and my monkey blanket
Rydermy turtle "Crush" and my lizard
Gracelyn..... my whole family, my dog, & my house
Jayden..... my mom & dad, grandparents, Black Hawks, Bears, and my frog Dexter
Renelle..... my baby brother Miguel
Delaney Auntie Jenny, cousin Avery, & sister Kenley
Ainsley my baby brother Ben, my sister Lily, & my puppy Maisy
Skylar..... my mom and dad and grandparents
Zachary my mommy
Brooklyn my dog "Shawnee"
Faith..... my dog "Shay-Shay"
Maci..... my whole family and Rainbow Dash



Mrs. Janna teaches about Pilgrims.



The children loved making and wearing Pilgrim hats.

For our Thanksgiving celebration, we sang the songs we learned about the Pilgrims, Indians, and turkeys, as well as our songs that praise God for all

His blessings. Then we feasted on foods that reminded us of the first Thanksgiving – turkey, applesauce, popcorn, grapes, and cornucopia (ice cream sugar cone) treats! We were blessed by having so many of our extended family members and friends come to our programs to celebrate with us! We thank God for our school and for all we are learning there.

Preschool News: Planting in November?

-Ruth Baas, Preschool Director

Do you remember those nice, mild sunny days in November this year? The preschool children took the opportunity to do some outdoor planting!

Mr. Bob Deckinga, the OPCRC church administrator, provided the children with the opportunity to learn about planting bulbs in the Fall so that beautiful flowers will grow up out of the ground in the Spring. He dug holes in the ground that surrounds the playground fence and in some of the parking lot islands that are close to the preschool door. He then invited the children to join him outside and plant tulip bulbs in those holes. The children learned that the point of each bulb should face up. When they were given a bulb, they found the point to hold and then gently pushed the bulb into the dirt inside the holes. After that, they helped sprinkle red pepper in the holes to make sure small animals would leave the flower bulbs alone.

We look forward to seeing some beautiful “Candy Apple” and “Tequila Sunrise” tulips growing around our school after the winter months are gone. Thank you, Mr. Bob, for a great learning experience!!



Mr. Bob shows the children how to plant tulip bulbs.



Choir Notes

On Sunday, October 30, 2016, the OPCRC Choir once again took their ministry outside the walls of the church. After their rehearsal, a number of choir members drove to Providence Rehabilitation Center in Crestwood to continue singing with some members of our congregation who reside there. Our director, Carol Vroom, had song sheets available for us with the lyrics to many hymns

we had all sung many, many times. However, we had to supply the harmony. But after singing most of these songs from our youth, our memories supplied the notes. The ladies sang right along with us. Others stopped by to join in; music is a universal language. On this particular Sunday, our music was the backdrop for the giving and receiving of communion down the hallway. Carol read from Psalm 23 and asked any who were able to recite it with her. It was such a blessing

to see how many could still recite such precious promises. Several of the choir members know what it is like to be unable to attend worship

with God's people for a time or have family members in such a situation. That is why we take our ministry outside of the church building. If you know of anyone who would like to have us visit, please talk to Carol, or any of the choir members to arrange a visit.



Christmas Cantata

DECEMBER 11, 6:00 PM

-Carol Vroom, Choir Director

A cantata can be described as a 'musical sermon.' It is a sermon because the gospel story is at the heart of the cantata. It is musical because the songs – hymns, anthems, carols, and praise songs – tell the story. Our Christmas cantata, our musical re-telling of the Christmas story, will be presented during the 6pm service on Sunday, December 11, and will feature the OPCRC Choir, Kids Konnections, and Children's Church children.

"Christmas Presence"

reminds us that with the
birth of our Savior,
Christ dwells with his people
here on earth.
What a profound blessing his
presence brings!

Our hearts overflow with rejoicing in his presence! "I hear the angels singing, Alleluia, let the earth receive her King." Do you hear them?

"Are you ready for the Babe of Bethlehem?"
Will you "Worship the King?"

Will you "Crown Him Lord of All?" Will you
sing "Gloria in excelsis Deo" with the angels?
Will you do it "All for the Glory of His Name?"

That is our goal – to do all this for the glory of His name! I am so excited that the children will be singing with the choir this year. I love the pure praise of children. I love the seasoned praise of the choir. I love the collective praise of many generations singing together. I love the universal praise of all of God's people singing together to magnify his name.

I am thankful that Samantha Kroese, Kate Huizenga, and I had this opportunity to work together to prepare this cantata. We are very much looking forward to this special, multi-generational celebration of Christmas. We pray that the message of Messiah will be sung and heard for the glory of God! Please come and celebrate with us!

Orland Park Church Family News



SYMPATHIES

We extend our Christian sympathy to:

Mike and Laura Stoub, who mourn the loss of Laura's father, Rev. Neal Punt, who passed away on October 18 in Grand Haven, Michigan, at the age of 87. He served as minister at First CRC of Evergreen Park for many years and was known by many in this congregation.

Bob and Blanche Staal, who mourn the loss of Blanche's sister, Marilyn Johanson, who passed away after suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

Ken and Clara Jager, Dave and Bev Hoitsma, and Jerry and Wilma Jager and their families in the passing of their mother, **Frances Jager**, who passed away on November 8 at the age of 90.

Ken and Clara Jager, who mourn the sudden loss of their son-in-law, Chris Hanzlin, who passed away November 9. We extend our deepest sympathy also to Chris's wife, Tracy, and their children.

Harold and Elsie Van Drie, who mourn the loss of Elsie's brother, Bob Schoonveld, who passed away on November 9.

Hil Muhlena, as he mourns the loss of his wife, Evelyn, who passed away on November 11.

Mel and Dawn Borgman, who mourn the loss of their granddaughter, Lily Isabel Borgman, "born sleeping" on November 11. Pray for their son, Randy, and daughter-in-law, Ashley, during this difficult time.

Jack and Amy Strong, who mourn the loss of Amy's father, Donley "Doc" Broekhuis, who passed away on November 12 in Sioux Falls.

The family of **Jennie Aardsma**, who passed away on November 24 at the age of 95.

Happy Anniversary

Ray & Lee Dekker
December 2
50 years

Earl & Ruth Engh
December 4
61 years

Jeff & Rachel Weidenaar
December 27
20 years

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember these people in prayer who are recovering from recent hospitalizations, who are shut-ins, or who are dealing with other health problems.

Jim Boerema	Bill Kamp	Betty Loerop	Al Siegers	Pearl Vis
John Boss	Donna Kloosterman	Bill Loerop	Barb Siegers	Katie Vree
Dorothy Bruinius	Marty Kuiken	Ken Mels	Art Sluis	Ruth Waterlander
Phyllis DeVries	Clair Laning	Irene Muller	Mark Smith	Kay Wiersum
Fred Huizinga	Bev Leerar	George Schaaf	Cindy Speelman	Jacob Wishnew
Ruth Jacobsma	Lois Lindemulder	Karen Schultz	Courtney Van Ryn	

To request prayer or give thanks for answered prayers, please send your request by email to prayer@opcrc.org or contact the church office at (708) 532-4900.

Orland Park Church Family News



THANK YOU OPCRC!

The family of Ada Dekker expresses their sincere thanks and deep appreciation for the many cards, notes and best wishes that Ada received on her recent 100th birthday. Your continued thoughts and prayers are coveted as she continues life's journey. Thank you,

-Betsy Kluck

Thank you to the pastors and congregation for the many prayers, cards, and well wishes after my recent hospitalization and recovery. It means so much to be part of such a caring church. We truly serve a Great God.

-Donna Kloosterman

Words cannot express my thankfulness for all the cards, phone calls, visits, meals, and prayers that Raymond and I have received during this journey of healing. Five weeks of non weight bearing cast and now four more weeks with this boot. (This broken leg was not on my fall schedule!!) OPCRC is truly a caring congregation. I am so thankful for God's healing touch on my broken leg. Praise His Name!

-Beverly Leerar

I want to thank our caring family here at OPCRC for the many calls and visits by our pastors Dan and Derek. Also the many many cards and prayers offered for Evelyn during her illness and her passing into the arms of Jesus. The cards and prayers were all appreciated. Thank you all so very much. Sincerely,

-Hil Muhlena and Family

Thank you to Pastor Dan, Pastor Derek, and Elder Mike Otte for their visits and phone calls during Janet Siegers' long battle with cancer and recent passing to Glory. Thank you to all who brought meals, sent cards, and lifted Janet and our family up in prayer over the past several months. We are blessed to be part of a loving and caring extended family of God at the Orland Park Church.

-Al Siegers, Sr., Ken and Barb Siegers, Bruce and Joanne Harnew

THANK YOU SO MUCH to everyone who signed Christmas cards with encouraging notes to prisoners. Crossroad Bible Institute will distribute the cards during the holiday season with Bible Study lessons that are sent to individual prisoners so that they will be able to enjoy a holiday greeting in the name of Christ. May each card be a blessing to the person who receives it.

Happy Birthday

Bernice Schaver

December 7

82 years

Helena Grimberg

December 9

101 years

Mel Dokter

December 9

84 years

Louis Ouwerkerk

December 11

85 years

Marv Hooker

December 13

86 years

Raymond Leerar

December 14

80 years

Blanche Staal

December 16

80 years

John DeBoer

December 20

97 years

Mavis Wasil

December 21

81 years

DECEMBER 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div> <p>Submissions for the January issue of the <i>Outlook</i> are due on Sunday, December 11. Please send to Denise Vander Plaats at denise@opcrc.org or drop off in the office.</p> </div>				1	2	3 Deacons' Christmas Luncheon 12:00 pm
4 Kids Konnections, Choir, Adult Ed 9:40 am Moms Prayer Group 9:40 am Missions 4:30 pm Small Group Leader Training 2:00 pm YG Christmas Party 7:00 pm	5 Men's BSF 6:45 pm	6 Congregational Meeting 7:00 pm Council Meeting 7:30 pm Deacons Meeting 9:00 pm	7 Men's Prayer Breakfast – 6:30 am Coffee Break 9:45 am GEMS/Cadets 6:30 pm Adult Serve 7:30 pm	8 Women's BSF 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Car Ministry 7:00 pm	9	10 Cantata Rehearsal 9:00 am Kids Konnections Christmas Party 10:30 am
11 Adult Ed Kids Konnections 9:40 am Moms Prayer Group 9:40 am Orphan Task Force 4:00 pm <div>Christmas Cantata 6:00 pm</div> GP Christmas Party 7:00 pm	12 Men's BSF 6:45 pm	13 Prayer Time in Sanctuary 7:00 pm	14 Men's Prayer Breakfast – 6:30 am Cadets Christmas Party 6:30 pm Nicaragua Trip Meeting 7:00 pm	15 Women's BSF 9:00 am	16	17 Christmas Basket Assembly 8:00 am
18 Moms Prayer Group 9:40 am Adult Ed 9:40 am Small Group Leader Training 2:00 pm Lessons & Carols Service 6:00 pm	19 Men's BSF 6:45 pm	20 Prayer Time in Sanctuary 7:00 pm	21 Men's Prayer Breakfast – 6:30 am Preschool Christmas Program 10:00 am GEMS Christmas Party 6:30 pm	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 4:30 pm
25 CHRISTMAS Service 10:00 a.m. ONE Morning Service NO Evening Service	26	27 Prayer Time in Sanctuary 7:00 pm	28 Men's Prayer Breakfast – 6:30 am Coffee & Comfort 1:00 pm	29	30	31 End-of-Year Communion Service 4:30 pm