



NOVEMBER 2019

THE **Outlook**



A NEWSLETTER OF ORLAND PARK CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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Preschoolers Investigate Signs of Fall

KIDS ENJOY A FIELD TRIP TO LAKE KATHERINE



Orland Park Christian Preschool's teaching plan is based on using a new theme for learning each week. The teachers plan and build learning activities in the curricular areas of math, science, language, Kindergarten readiness, gym, and literature. In October we chose "Signs of Fall" as one of our weekly themes. For three days at the beginning of the

Preschool News Continued on page 3



Orland Park
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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Nov 3: World Renew World Hunger | worldrenew.net/worldhunger

World Renew invites you to participate in this year's World Hunger Campaign... UZIMA. "He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together (Colossians 1:17)." In communities where poverty is prevalent, men, women, and children often struggle to grow enough food, lack access to clean water, fight to rebuild after a disaster, and experience injustice. Together with your congregation, World Renew can equip those in need with the skills and knowledge required to move beyond these barriers. By creating stability, those facing hunger and poverty can experience UZIMA – a sense of wholeness – for themselves, their family, and community.

Nov 10: Back to God Ministries International | backtogod.net

The deepest desire of Back to God Ministries International is to see the Gospel change the hearts and lives of people all around the globe. Using technology and media they take the word of God to people, right where they are so that they can reframe their lives in light of who God is and how much He loves them. For over 75 years, Back to God Ministries International has used media to fulfill Christ's Great Commission to preach the Gospel and disciple believers. As the media ministry of the Christian Reformed Church of North America, Back to God Ministries International partners with other churches in North America and around the world to announce God's good news.

Nov 17: Chaplaincy and Care Ministry | crcna.org/chaplaincy

Chaplains are usually pastors with specialized training who serve in institutional settings, such as prisons, hospitals, hospice, long-term care, counseling centers, industrial and workplace and military installations. As specially trained ministers of the gospel, they seek to encourage others in their relationship with Jesus Christ. They seek to minister to the whole person, addressing not only a person's spiritual needs, but also their physical and emotional needs. The Office of Chaplaincy and Care Ministry supports and develops chaplaincy.

Nov 24: OPCRC Food Pantry

The OPCRC Food Pantry believes God calls us to care for those who are hungry. They receive donations from generous donors such as Operation Blessing, Hank's Farmstand, and OPCRC church members. The food pantry's current needs are volunteers to pick up food from Operation Blessing on Wednesday mornings and extra funds to purchase special food items such as meat, milk, or eggs. Please keep the volunteers and the community members that visit our food pantry in your prayers. Pray for wisdom for the volunteers as they minister to everyone who comes through our doors. Pray that we would not only help meet the physical needs of the community members but also the spiritual needs as well. Pray that hearts would be open to the gospel and that lives would be transformed by the gospel.

Nov 28: Thanksgiving Offering

PRESCHOOL FIELD TRIP TO LAKE KATHERINE



Will it sink or float?



Petting the rabbit was a highlight of the day!

Story continued from page 1...

week, we stayed in the classroom to learn about trees changing colors and dropping their leaves and squirrels gathering nuts to prepare for winter. Then we ended the week by taking a field trip to the Lake Katherine Nature Preserve in Palos Heights. It was a great way to explore God's creation with hands-on learning.

We enjoyed a tour around the grounds which included a pond, a wooded trail, a waterfall, a butterfly garden, and an herb garden. It was interesting to see swans and fish in the lake, bugs underneath logs, and butterflies. In the herb garden we were invited to rub the leaves of herb plants with our fingers and then sniff our fingers to figure out what kind of plant we were touching. There were strong scents of lemon, mint, basil, lavender, and much more.

We were also able to spend some time indoors in the learning center doing activities in the program "I Spy Fall!" We made leaf rubbings, sorted seeds, picked corn kernels off the cob, measured many items gathered from the woods, and played a game of "sink or float" with items in a bucket of water. Our day ended in the area where live animals were housed. We were thrilled to observe turtles swimming, snakes in their tanks, a guinea pig, and a rabbit. Our tour guide said we were so well-behaved that she treated us to the opportunity to pet the rabbit while she held it. What a great day of exploring God's beautiful creation in the season of Fall!



Preschool News

PRESCHOOL FIRE SAFETY WEEK

Each year in October, the children at Orland Park Christian Preschool observe Fire Safety Week. This school year we were treated to some special visitors to help us learn ways of staying safe. A retired fire-fighter who is the grandfather of one of our students from the community came to our pre-school classroom with his gear and gave a presentation to the children about the important work of fire-fighters. It was interesting to see him put his gear on and to realize that even though he looked so different, we didn't need to be afraid of him because he was still a friend who was there to help us if we needed it. We learned that we should never hide in the house if there is a fire; instead we should "Get Out and Stay Out!"

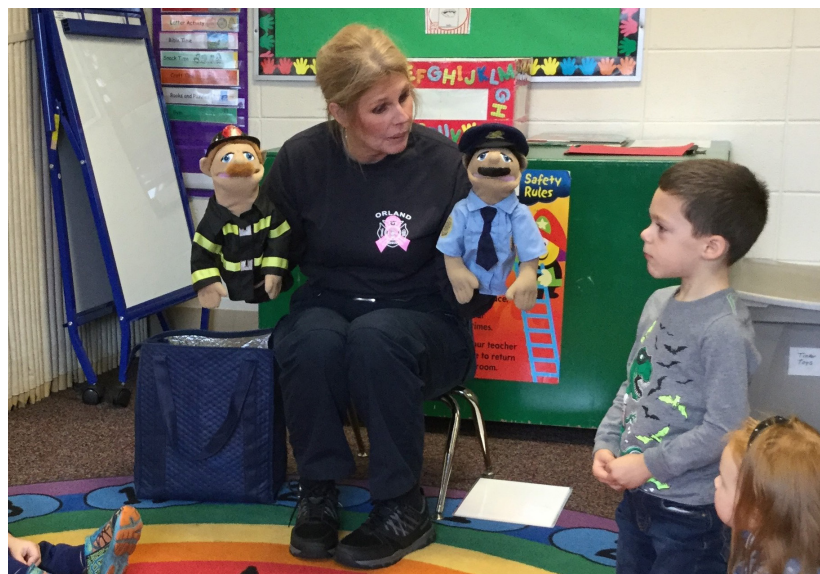
We also invited the Fire Safety Educator, Ms. Betsy, from the Orland Park Fire District to come and visit

us at school. The children listened intently as fire safety concepts were taught and demonstrated. Fire fighter and police officer puppets kept our interest as we learned about smoke detectors, the emergency number 9-1-1, and the safety tech-

niques of crawling down low to stay under the smoke, feeling a door with the back of the hand before opening it, and "Stop, Drop, and Roll" if your clothing catches on fire. The children were invited to practice by acting out these techniques right in the classroom.

The best part of the day was when

the fire-fighters from Orland Park drove up to our school parking lot in a big red fire truck! What a treat it was to climb up into the truck and sit in the driver's seat for a photo. We also enjoyed seeing the many tools and hoses that fire-fighters use to do their important work. Fire Safety Week is always a great week of learning!



Our Fire Safety Educator used puppets to make learning interesting.

Preschool News

PRESCHOOL FALL FAMILY FEST

Every year, Orland Park Christian Preschool hosts a party called Fall Family Fest for our students and their families. This year we held the event on Tuesday, October 15 in our church gym. The children were so happy to bring their parents, grandparents, and siblings to school at night so they could celebrate the season of Fall together!

We started with a performance of some favorite Fall songs. As proud family members listened in delight, the children sang about autumn leaves, apple trees, and silly acorns.

Then everyone was invited to go to three centers spread around the gym. They took turns making a harvest corn craft, an apple wreath, and hunting for candy treats in a pile of shredded paper. It was fun for the whole family! Many comments of appreciation were received from families who enjoyed the activities for their children and the fellowship of meeting the families of their children's classmates.

Our night ended with warm apple cider, coffee, juice, and a variety of delicious cookies and treats (thanks to our 4-year-old class's parents.) We appreciate the help and support received from the following people for this event: our elder representative Bryan Boersma, board member Kellie Damstra, and custodian Matt Kamp. The staff at Orland Park Christian Preschool also appreciates the support and prayers of our whole church family as we serve the Lord by teaching His precious children.



Apple Wreath Craft



Candy Hunt

THANKSGIVING

Join us for our combined Thanksgiving Day worship service at our church at 10:00 am on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28!

OPEN HOUSES AT CHICAGO CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Chicago Christian High School will hold several open houses and special-focus shadow days for prospective students and their families:

Monday, November 11:
STEM Shadow Day*

Thursday, November 14:
Open House at 6:45 pm

Friday, November 15:
Fine Arts Shadow Day*

For additional information, please call 708-388-7656 or email admissions@swchristian.org.

*Registration required for some of the events.

Remembering Rehoboth

-Betty Kerkstra

It's time again to share what we know about Rehoboth! To put it briefly, Rehoboth Christian School is committed to building students up, not only intellectually, but also spiritually and emotionally, helping them grow into mature Christians. Take time to look at the website: rcsnm.org for information and pictures. We encourage a few ways to get involved:

Sponsor a student: help a low-income Native American student with tuition assistance.

Travel to New Mexico and help out on campus for a few days or a few weeks. Assistance is always welcome in the classroom, in the kitchen, with maintenance inside or outside. Volunteering is very rewarding.

If you're travelling west - or east - on Interstate 40, be sure to stop and visit (Exit 26!) Deanna or another staff member will take you on a tour of campus.

Dave Sytsma, Rehoboth representative in the Midwest, will be at OPCRC on November 10 at the evening service. He'll be available to answer your questions and have brochures about sponsorship and volunteering. Our congregation recently had the opportunity to give to RCS. Thank you for your support!

Advance notice: Rehoboth High School choir is planning their next spring tour to Illinois and Michigan. Watch for info about a local concert and be sure to attend!

Gifts of Hope

-Dori Summers & Becky Vande Kamp

During the Christmas season many follow the tradition of gift giving. Gifts are given for many reasons. One reason is to give HOPE to those who are in need or in a difficult season of their lives. Whether you are new to OPCRC or a longtime member, we would like to invite you to participate in the Gifts of Hope ministry. This ministry has been active for many years, providing Christmas gifts to people in several different circumstances.

Starting on **November 10**, look in the lobby for trees filled with gift tags. The tags will have a few gift ideas listed on it. We ask that you purchase one gift item for around \$30. The gifts need to be back by December 1.



The **RED** tags will have the names of Bethshan residents who have little or no family contact.

The **GREEN** tags will have the name of students who attend Friendship Class. Gifts will be distributed during the annual Friendship Christmas party.

The **BLUE** tags will have the names of individuals who have a family member who is an inmate in Cook County Jail. Names are provided by Chicagoland Prison Outreach.

The **ORANGE** tags will represent children being cared for by Lydia Home, local children in need through the Safe Families ministry and Roseland Christian Ministries.

The **PURPLE** tags will have the name of individuals connected with Christ Cares, Scott Reese's ministry that reaches out to the homeless in the Chicago area.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to share Christ's love with others and to give hope to someone in need this Christmas.

Book Review: "No God but One"

AUTHORED BY NABEEL QURESHI

A book review by Grace Kamp

In his book, *No God but One: Allah or Jesus?*, Nabeel Qureshi, a former Muslim, investigates the evidence for Islam and Christianity.

There are two main questions that Qureshi addresses in the book. Question 1: What are the differences between Islam and Christianity? Question 2: Can we know whether Islam or Christianity is true? To a Muslim, Allah refers to God who is not triune. To a Christian, God is three persons in one.

Qureshi goes on to compare Islam and Christianity in five different parts of his book:

Part 1: Sharia or the Gospel? Two different solutions. According to Islam, the way to paradise is Sharia, meaning, "the way," a code of laws to follow that will earn Allah's favor. Islam is the teaching of Muhammad, a prophet who has claimed to receive revelations from Allah. A prophet means a divinely appointed leader. Islam means submission. Muslims are required to proclaim the shahada, that is, "There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his messenger." Christianity is also explained in part 1.

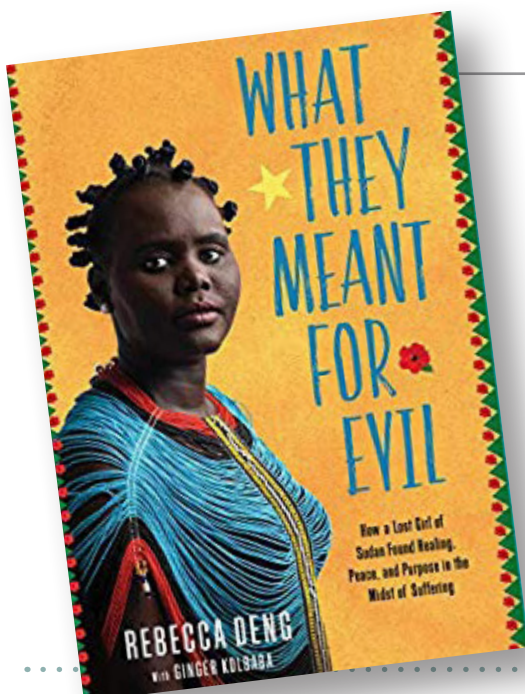
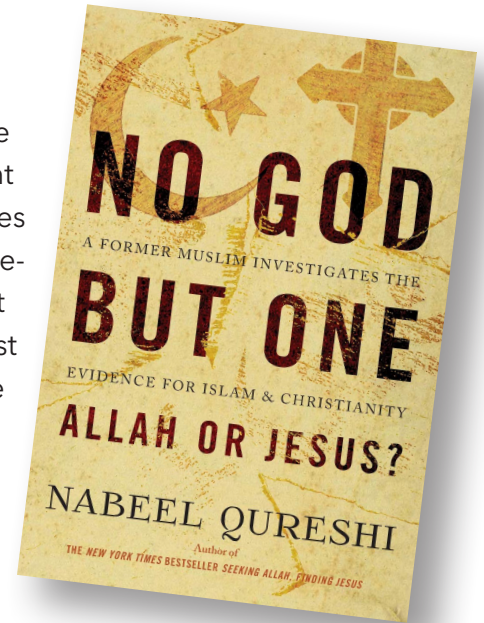
Part 2: Tawhid or the Trinity? Two different gods. Tawhid teaches that Allah is absolutely one, so he cannot have attributes. Most Muslims believe the Quran is eternal, despite the problem this creates for Tawhid. Islam's God is removed and non-relational.

Part 3: Muhammad or Jesus? Two different founders.

Part 4: The Quran or the Bible? Two different scriptures.

Part 5: Jihad or the Crusades? Two different holy wars.

**Note: If you enjoy reading and would like to write a short book review of a selection from our library, please let the library staff know or email Judy Kamp at judy@opcrc.org.*



BOOK TOUR EVENT: REBECCA DENG-ROEDA

You are invited to a book tour event with Rebecca Deng-Roeda, Pastor Dan's daughter-in-law, at church on Friday, November 8, 6:30-8:00 pm.

Hear Rebecca share the account of her life as a "lost girl of Sudan" and her unforgettable journey to the United States, a story she shares in her new book, *What They Meant for Evil*. Please RSVP to Kara Marcus at vantilk@hotmail.com with the number of individuals attending by November 1.

Orland Park Church Family News



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Anica (Pausma) and Dylan Gooch** who were united in marriage on October 5 at our church.

Congratulations to **Lauren (Kuipers) and Nathan Voss** who were united in marriage on October 12 at our church.

Congratulations to **Jim and Jennifer Boie**, who welcomed a baby girl, **Paetyn Elizabeth**, born on Saturday, October 19. Praise God for this wonderful gift of new life!

SYMPATHY... WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO:

Margaret and Andy Buikema as they mourn the loss of Margaret's sister, Alice Post, who passed away on September 22.

Gerry Hooker, Gary and Kim Hooker, and the rest of their family as they mourn the loss of their husband, father, and grandfather, **Marv Hooker**, who passed away on October 7.

May the Lord grant his loving comfort.

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Jim Boerema | Karen Heersema | Bill Schaafsma |
| Marilyn Bosma | Bob Hofstra | Karen Schultz |
| Bruno Brouwer | Arlene Hoekstra | Laura Smith |
| Joanna De Ruiter | Bob Hoekstra | Carol Van Kuiken |
| Jan Deckinga | Joyce Ipema | Bob Van Lonkhuyzen |
| Asheley Derouin | Ken Ipema | Terry Vander Laan |
| Rudy Disabato | Betty Loerop | Jim Venhuizen |
| Len Donofrio | Donna Rosendale | Marv Vis |
| Doris Doorn | Edna Rynberk | Louetta Voss |
| Rich Dykstra | George Schaaf | |

To request prayer or give thanks for answered prayers, please send your request by email to prayer@opcrc.org or contact the church office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Andrew Buikema
98 years
November 2

Marilyn Wiltjer
83 years
November 8

Andy Bosma
82 years
November 11

Judy Bronsema
80 years
November 12

Harold Van Drie
91 years
November 15

Ruth Engh
83 years
November 20

Etta Haan
81 years
November 22

Thelma Workman
80 years
November 23

Gerald De Horn
85 years
November 28

Chester Piersma
82 years
November 28



THANK YOU, OPCRC!

We want to thank OPCRC church for the cards and prayers for Bill during his recent hospital stay. Thanks to Pastor Dan for his concerns and phone calls. Continue to pray for strength for Bill. We belong to a living and caring church.

-Bill and Pat Schaafsma

Dear members of OPCRC, Thank you for praying and remembering our son, Brad, during this difficult time. He is doing well and getting stronger every day since his brain surgery two weeks ago. Please continue to pray for him, his wife, Lindsey, and their daughters, Grace and Sadie, as they decide on what course of treatment Brad will be having. Thank you also for the prayer shawl. Grace and Sadie opened up the package when it arrived and were so excited that Grandpa and Grandma had one now too! God bless all!

-Jim and Debi Holwerda

We would like to say thank you to everyone for your thoughts and wishes for our anniversary as we thanked God for all He has done for us these past 50 years. The ultimate act of love is to sacrifice for another. We look forward to the years to come in all that God has planned for us. We remember our vows because those words remain true today. For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part. We Not Me - You Before Me.

-Adrienne and Ziggy Urbanski

Thank you for all the prayers, cards, and phone calls we received during Rudy's illness and the passing of his brother. Thank you to Pastor Dan for the calls and for staying in touch. It is wonderful to have such a loving, caring church family.

-Rudy and Evie Disabato

We often stand in amazement as we open the mail each day and witness the Lord's faithfulness through the financial gifts entrusted to the Luke Society. It's selfless people like the members of Orland Park Christian Reformed Church who help us fulfill our ministry's calling to bring the Gospel message through the means of health to the ends of the earth. Thank you for your continued support and for committing yourselves to furthering Christ's kingdom here on earth.

-The Luke Society

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Dean & Debbie Kiers

November 11

30 years

Pete & Dorothy Greendyke

November 18

59 years

George & Lois Lindemulder

November 21

57 years

Louis & Erling Ouwerkerk

November 21

57 years

Rudy & Evelyn Disabato

November 26

64 years

Steve & Dori Summers

November 26

25 years

OUTLOOK SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for the December issue of the Outlook are due on

Sunday, November 17.

Please send to Denise Vander Plaats at denise@opcrc.org or drop off in the church office.