ROSELLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



CONNECTIONS

PRAYER • FAITH • NEIGHBORS • ACTION • SERVING • TRUST • LOVE

Roselle UMC

206 S RUSH ST ROSELLE, IL 60172 630-529-1309

www.roselleumc.org

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS IN-PERSON

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Virtual Office Hours Remote

Wednesday 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM Friday 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

RoselleUMC Community Food Pantry hours

Saturday 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Rev. Hyo Sun Oh

Senior Pastor hyosun_oh@yahoo.com 630-529-1309 - Ext. I

Christine Wachna

Office Administrator chris@roselleumc.org

Vicki Johnson

Director,
RoselleUMC Community
Food Pantry
vicki.johnson@roselleumcpantry.org

Prayer Requests

To submit or receive prayer requests sign up at office@roselleumc.org

E-News

Roselle UMC e-news is published every week.
Please sign up to receive the e-news at www.roselleumc.org/publications



Dear Family Members of Roselle UMC,

Grace and peace to you as we embark on a journey of reflection, meditation, worship, and service over the course of Lent, the forty days of our spiritual journey to Easter!

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. The ashes symbolize both death and repentance. This year on March 2nd, we will distribute ashes via drive-thru from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Come join us for a traditional in-person Ash Wednesday service at 7:30 PM with imposition of ashes. This service also will be available via live streaming. Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

During the forty days of Lent, Christians show repentance and mourning for their sins. While our Advent celebrations are filled with joy as we remember the birth of our King, Lent is when we focus on the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Traditionally, many believers choose to participate in some sort of fasting during this time—people have been known to fast from various foods as well as television, social media, cell phone, and Internet usage. Even though I'm a fan of technology, it seems like there's no escaping it, even if you want to.

In our modern, digital world, it's easy to work around the clock: our

Connections Deadlines:

April issue deadline for articles: Wednesday, March 23 May issue deadline for articles: Thursday, April 21 cell phones are always on and everyone expects their text messages and emails to be answered instantaneously. You might even crawl into bed with your phone, checking out your Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter updates or play a video game throughout the night. It's safe to say that, for most of us, our work and our technology can consume our days and nights. Of course, people of the ancient world saw no such conveniences. They entertained themselves in groups: true face-to-face fellowship at its finest.

In observance of Lent you may decide to study the Bible more closely or experience a time of solitude. Perhaps you will commit to attending one or more of our three Lenten Bible Studies:

• Hallelujah: Handel's Messiah • Renegade Gospel • Who Is this Man? Or, you may offer a Lenten gift card donation for the needy, or donate shelf stable food to the RoselleUMC Community Food Pantry or PADS. Perhaps you may opt to donate your time to making PLARN mats for the homeless, or spend more time in prayer from now until the glory of Easter Sunday.

Whatever your personal preference, Lent can be the time when you decide to let go of old habits and develop a more joyful, Christ-filled way of living. God wants our attention. God wants to be He who consumes your thoughts every day and every night.

Dear brothers and sisters, the Lenten season invites us to turn to God in prayer, meditation on scripture, and listening to Him more closely. It is true that the more our thoughts return to God and His ways, the better we become more like Him and do godly things. I pray that God may bless you during these forty days of Lent with tremendous spiritual growth and renewal as you dedicate more time to Him through quiet times of prayer, meditation and reflection.

In Christ, Pastor Hyo Sun Oh



Mike and Sherrie Magnini share these photos of their grandchildren building a snowman this winter, and one of the granddaughters following the teacher's instruction to, "...read in different locations, read under something." She is under a blanket reading with the aid of a flashlight.

Happy 100th Birthday Margaret Thank You

Margaret Clayton celebrated her 100th Birthday on February 4, 2022. Upper left: Margaret is holding her Certificate of Mission Recognition from the United Methodist Women. Center: Margaret with her birthday cake. Lower left: Margaret enjoys reading her many cards.

Margaret is living in Friendship Village, and some of her family and friends were able to visit her for this special occasion while others attended the party on Zoom.

My 100th Birthday celebration was great!

Thank you very much for all your birthday
greetings and warm wishes. It was a very Happy
Birthday indeed. God has blessed me with so much
and He continues to shower my life with blessings of family and friends.

7 got so many cards, notes, phone calls and prayers from all of you and from those who joined

me on Zoom.

My heart will be forever grateful. Thank you for always putting a smile on my face!

Your kindness is like a piece of heaven, and I can never thank you enough.

Thank you so very much,

May God Bless you.

Margaret

Prepare Your Way to Easter

Do you want to observe Lent, but you're uncertain where to begin? Consider some of these simple ways to get started. Not all of us grew up observing Lent. But for ALL Christians observing Lent is a way to prepare for the events of Holy Week. Jesus prepared for his ministry by fasting in the desert for 40 days, and denying all the temptations of Satan. Jesus' 40 Days of Temptation are our 40 Days of Lent, 40 days to prepare for Easter. If you want to begin observing Lent, then consider some of these simple ways to get started.



ATTEND OUR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Roselle UMC offers an Ash Wednesday service with the imposition of ashes. This year Imposition of Ashes will be offered on Ash Wednesday morning in the parking lot and/or sanctuary between 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM. The Ash Wednesday Worship service will be held at 7:30 PM, with imposition of ashes. As Pastor Oh blesses you and places the ashes on your forehead, this is a time for meditation and reflection on the sacrifice that Jesus made for

us. Symbolic, the ashes are derived from the burnt Palm branches of the previous year's Lenten observance.

In one week's time, Jesus went from popularity and his victorious entry into Jerusalem with shouts of "Hosanna," to false accusations that resulted in His brutal death on the cross. This is the time for us to ask forgiveness for our sins, and reflect with gratitude for Christ's sacrifice that conquered death and sin.

READ ONE OF THE GOSPELS MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE OR JOHN

Read one of the Gospels: Matthew has 28 chapters, Mark has 16 chapters, Luke has 24 chapters and John has 21 chapters. Reading for just a brief period each day, you will easily be able to read one of the Gospels during the 40 days of Lent. Mark is concise and the cross plays a prominent role in this Gospel.

A New way of Fasting: Fast from Frivolous/Unnecessary Purchases and Donate the Money to Charity

We all spend a lot of money on unnecessary purchases. Try to cut back on dinners or lunches out, or expensive cups of coffee. If you're in the habit of going out for pizza, stopping at a drive through for lunch or breakfast, or getting a fancy latte coffee every morning, stop for a minute, and add up the money you're spending in 40 days. Tally those daily or weekly costs and you'll be surprised at how much money you're spending. Think how much good that money could do if you donated it to your favorite charity, Roselle UMC, PADS, or RoselleUMC Community Food Pantry. Forgoing just one \$4.00 to \$5.00 cup of coffee, and donating its cost to the Roselle UMC Community Food Pantry could purchase food worth \$32.00 to \$40.00 for their clients, or buy a fast-food meal for a homeless PADS client, or help with ongoing repairs in our church building. Our indulgent extravagance could help so many, and do so much.

VOLUNTEER

There are thousands of ways you can provide volunteer service with many different organizations, or right here at Roselle UMC. Our church always has little odd jobs to keep the building in good repair. We need volunteers in our music ministry programs, volunteers to assist with the Power Point and sound board, and to lead small groups/Bible studies. Volunteers staff the Food Pantry by accepting deliveries, sorting food, pulling orders for clients, and registering new clients. Volunteers help in the church office, serve refreshments at fellowship in the parlor after worship services, and in endless other ways. Get certified through the United Methodist Church's Safe Gatherings Training, and you can be a volunteer in the Child Care Room, Vacation Bible School, Sunday School or Youth Activities.

USE A LENTEN CALENDAR

Our Roselle United Methodist Women prepare and distribute a Lenten Calendar every year. It is called, "A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial." Each day you can read the scripture verse, and then follow the suggested activity. You are asked to set aside a small donation each day. At the end of Lent, these donations are collected and sent to the NIC of United Methodist Women. Every year there is a theme, and 100% of all donations received through the Lenten Calendar will be used to support the work of United Methodist Deaconesses and Home Missioners around the world. The Lenten Calendar, A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial, will be available at the sign-in desk on Sunday mornings.

GET RID OF A BAD HABIT/START A GOOD HABIT

Maybe you tried to give up a bad habit as your New Year's Resolution, and maybe now is the best time to try to conquer that bad habit and get rid of it once and for all. If you're spending too much time on social media, watching too much TV, or video gaming, try limiting your time on these activities and substitute a workout time, take a daily walk, eat healthy, or read a book.

READ A DAILY LENT DEVOTIONAL

There are numerous Daily Lent Devotional books available. Just ask some of the Roselle UMC members if they would be able to recommend one to you, or just go online and search for one. Your local library may even have suggestions.

GIFT CARDS FOR THOSE IN NEED

Mission & Outreach is requesting gift cards for those in need. Often, when someone is in need they look to Jesus' church to help them. Just as Jesus ministered to the poor, we still need to follow His example today. In these difficult times, after two years of pandemic, there are still many people trying to make ends meet. During Lent, Mission & Outreach will be collecting gift cards from gas stations, grocery stores and fast-food franchise restaurants. When there is an urgent need, these gift cards can be given to someone immediately. You can purchase gift cards, and drop them in the offering plate, or mail them to the church office or write a check to Roselle UMC and write 'Mission Lenten Project' on the memo line of the check, and the Mission & Outreach Committee will purchase gift cards with your donations.

40 Days of Lent = 40 Days of Doing Unexpected Acts of Kindness

Unexpected acts of kindness show we care about those around us. Send a card to someone in assisted living care, send notes of encouragement to someone facing difficulties, and pray for your family, friends and neighbors. Phone a friend you haven't talked to in a long time. Offer to pick up groceries or run errands for a an elder person or a shut-in. Remember, the easiest act of kindness is to share a smile with others.

JOIN OUR BIBLE STUDIES OR DISCUSSION GROUPS

Roselle UMC will offer a number of opportunities to study and learn during Lent. Consider the following list of studies to help you grow in your faith, and face the challenges of life.

Hallelujah—A study of the *Messiah*, an oratorio by George Frederic Handel

Renegade Gospel: The Rebel Jesus—study author, Mike Slaughter

Who Is This Man?—study author, John Ortberg

Beyond the Broken Heart—study author, Julie Yarbrough— an eight-week support and ministry program for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

BECOME A DISCIPLE OF JESUS

You can combine several of these suggestions for doing good things, studying and learning during Lent. The benefit to you will be a renewed attitude, and it will prepare your heart and your mind for the gift Jesus gave you—through His sacrifice He gave you eternal life. This is your time to reflect on His teachings, repent of your sins, and follow in His footsteps to become one of His disciples.

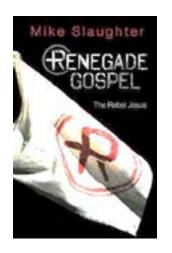
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SMALL GROUPS - GATHERING AND STUDYING TOGETHER

Lent is the season of spiritual preparation before Easter.

During Lent, many Christians observe a period of fasting, self-denial, prayer and spiritual discipline. This is an opportunity to reflect on Jesus and consider His ministry, teachings, suffering, death and resurrection. Lent is the perfect time to be a part of a small group.



Renegade Gospel: The Rebel Jesus by Mike Slaughter

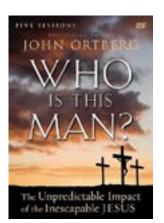
Sunday mornings – 9:00 AM – March 6 to April 10 In-person, Church Library

Discussion will be led by Susan DalPorto

Central to the Christian faith is a man who denies all our preconceived notions about what God should look like. Joining His movement will mean coming to terms with the real Jesus, the rebel Jesus.

Jesus didn't come to start a religion. Jesus came with a renegade gospel to start a revolution and He invites you and me to be part of that revolution. In this

study, we will discover Jesus all over again by examining His challenging teachings, to see how His life and message apply to us today.



Who is this MAN? The Unpredictable Impact of the Inescapable JESUS by John Ortberg

Monday mornings – 10:00 AM – March 7 to April 11 In-person, Church Library

Discussion will be led by Mike McKee

Jesus is history's most familiar figure. His impact on the world is immense and non-accidental. He is the man who won't go away. In this study, we will learn and discuss how Jesus' influence has swept over history, bringing his inspira-

tion to the evolution of art, science, government, medicine, and education. We will examine how His vision for us to lead lives of dignity, compassion, forgiveness, and hope continues to inspire and challenge humanity today.





Hallelujah!
A Lenten study of Handel's Messiah

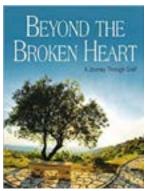
Sunday evenings - 6:45 PM - March 6 to April 10 In-person, Church Library and on Zoom

Discussion will be led by Chris Dawson and Carol Thorsen

Messiah, an oratorio by George Frederic Handel is one of the most beloved and well-known pieces of music in the world. Messiah was composed in 1741 and nearly 300 years later, the music still inspires us. Charles Jennens, a devout Biblical student, amateur musician and Anglican church member wrote the libretto—the words of Messiah, based entirely on texts from the Old and New Testaments, from Prophecy to Reality.

Join us to deepen our understanding of this masterwork, as we listen and learn more about Handel and his music. We will also examine and discuss *Messiah's* Biblical texts as a way to deepen our understanding of the foretelling of a Messiah in the Old Testament, and Christ's suffering, death and resurrection in the New Testament.

Grief Support Group - New Dates



Beyond the Broken Heart Grief Support Group

Support and Ministry Program

NEW DATES: Please note that this group will not meet every Wednesday. Specific dates are listed here:

Wednesday mornings: 10:00 AM - March 2, 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 13, 27

In-Person, Church Library

Discussion led by Pastor Hyo Sun Oh

How does the heart understand grief when it is broken by the death of a loved one? To survive and live forward, those who grieve must find answers. *Beyond the Broken Heart* is an eight-week support and ministry program for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Author Julie Yarbrough chronicles her personal experience combined with a deep love of scripture and years of leading grief support groups to create an authentic and deeply personal exploration of the grief journey.

Participant Workbook \$5.99 (new reduced cost)

Mission and Oulreach



These mission projects are linked to scripture. Jesus' blessings during his Sermon on the Mount as recounted in Matthew 5, known as the beatitudes. The projects and ministries described in Mission Links are matched with one or more beatitudes that allow the church to 'advance' the cause of Christ and work for the public good. The projects are organized to allow local churches to make a commitment to support local, regional, and international mission projects. When giving to Mission Links, you can fill in the amount on your giving envelope, or you can write a separate check and write 'Mission Links' on the memo line of the check.

Love your neighbor ... help your neighbor Lenten Mission Project Starting March 1 and ending April 17

As we journey into Lent, we focus on Jesus' withdrawal into the desert for 40 days. Like Jesus, it becomes a time of personal reflection and sacrifice. This can lead us in many directions, such as fasting, prayer, and generosity. This year during Lent, the Mission & Outreach committee at Roselle UMC wants to focus on generosity to our neighbors in need.

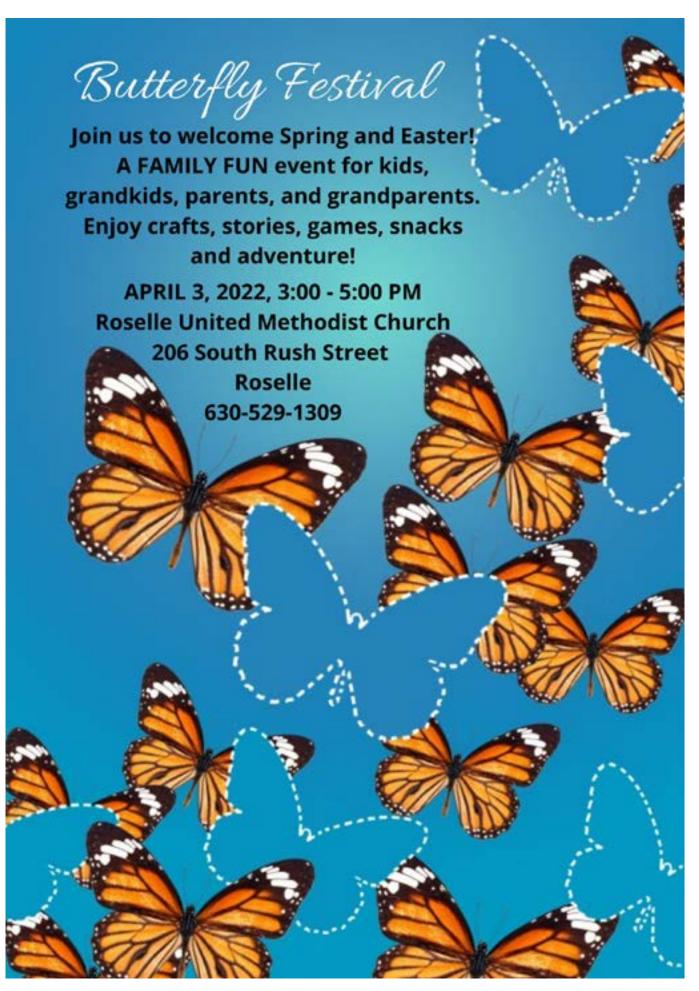
Roselle UMC has long had a fund that our pastor has used to help people who are facing financial crisis. As examples, this fund has often been used to help people who may be facing large utility bills they can't afford, or perhaps a series of large medical bills that have them on the brink of financial ruin. Members and friends of Roselle UMC have always given generously to this fund, enabling this ministry to continue.

Recently, the church has been visited more than once by homeless individuals looking to us for help. Clearly, writing a check to pay an overdue bill isn't the answer in this case. During Lent we are asking you to purchase and donate gift cards that the pastor can use at her discretion when a homeless individual stops at Roselle UMC looking for some type of financial help. We hope to collect a variety of gift cards including gas stations, fast food restaurants, grocery stores, or general merchandise stores such as Target or Walmart. This way, after talking to an individual, the pastor can use her discretion and offer the type of card that best meets the individual's needs. As an example, in the past, people have come to the church in need of gas for their cars. The pastor would be able to supply such the individuals with gas cards.

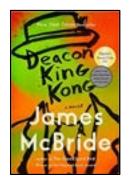
We ask that the cards be from the types of businesses identified above. We also ask that they be anywhere from \$10 to \$25 each. We request that you either attach a receipt identifying the value of the card or write the value on the card in permanent marker.

Finally, we offer three options to make these donations. First, you can purchase gift cards and simply place them in the offering plate on a Sunday morning during Lent. Second, you can purchase the cards and mail them to the church office. And third, you can just write a check to the church and write "Mission Lenten Project" and the Mission & Outreach committee will do your shopping for you!

The Mission & Outreach committee thanks you for your support of this mission.



Book Discussion Group

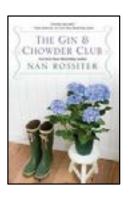


Monday, March 7 at 7:00 рм (March Discussion will be on Zoom.) Deacon King Kong

by James McBride

Contact Susan Wadkins for the Zoom link - susan.wadkins@sbcglobal.net

Set in 1960s Brooklyn, *Deacon King Kong* examines the aftermath of a church deacon named "Sportcoat's" attempted murder of a young drug dealer in a housing project. The reasons for this desperate burst of violence and consequences that spring from it lie at the heart of *Deacon King Kong*. McBride brings to vivid life the people affected by the shooting: the victim, the African American and Latinx residents who witnessed it, the white neighbors, the local cops assigned to investigate, the members of the Five Ends Baptist Church where Sportcoat was deacon, the neighborhood's Italian mobsters and Sportcoat himself. As the story deepens, it becomes clear that the lives of the characters caught in the tumultuous swirl of 1960s New York overlap in unexpected ways. When the truth does emerge, McBride shows us that not all secrets are meant to be hidden, that the best way to grow is to face change without fear, and the seeds of love lie in hope and compassion.



Monday, April 4 at 7:00 рм The Gin & Chowder Club by Nan Rossiter

Set against the beautiful backdrop of Cape Cod, *The Gin & Chowder Club* is an eloquent, tender story of friendship, longing, and the enduring power of love.

The friendship between the Coleman and Shepherd families is as old and comfortable as the neighboring houses they occupy each summer on Cape Cod. Samuel and Sarah Coleman love those warm months by the water; the evenings spent on their porch, enjoying gin and tonics, good conversation and homemade clam chowder. Here they've watched their sons, Isaac and Asa, grow into fine young men, and watched, too, as Nate Shepherd, aching with grief at the loss of his first wife, finally found love again with the much younger Noelle.

But beyond the surface of these idyllic gatherings, the growing attraction between Noelle and handsome, college-bound Asa threatens to upend everything. In spite of her guilt and misgivings, Noelle is drawn into a reckless secret affair with far-reaching consequences. And over the course of one bittersweet, unforgettable summer, Asa will learn more than he ever expected about love—the joys and heartache it awakens in us, the lengths we'll go to keep it, and the countless ways it can change our lives forever.

Correction to an item in the February issue of *Connections*.

The Lunar New Year which started on February 1, 2022 is the Year of the Tiger, not the Year of the Dragon.



Roselle UMC - Changing Lives

Benevolence Fund

Our church Benevolence Fund is used to account for all restricted contributions given to specific causes such as the RoselleUMC Community Food Pantry, Family Assistance, PADS, and United Methodist causes such as Mission Links and Special Sunday Offerings. From July 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022 our congregation has contributed \$11,711.00 to the Benevolence Fund. Following is a summary of how those contributions were used and the impact we've made on our community.

Roselle UMC Benevolence Fund									
		Family		Program					
	Food Pantry	Assistance	PADS	UM Causes	Expenses	Total			
June 30, 2021 Balance	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,043.00	\$ 4,613.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,673.00	\$ 10,056.00			
Contributions	\$ 6,247.00	\$ 1,231.00	\$ 1,460.00	\$ 2,773.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 11,711.00			
Disbursements	\$ 5,967.00	\$ 1,019.00	\$ 913.00	\$ 2,438.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 8,664.00			
January 31, 2022 Balance	e \$ 280.00	\$ 5,255.00	\$ 5,160.00	\$ 735.00	\$ 1,673.00	\$13,103.00			

Family Assistance

To those who are having financial difficulties at this time, perhaps your Church can help you through the adversity.

Do you need financial help? If so, please speak with Pastor Oh. Our church has a Family Assistance account with monies that are available to our church family and to those recommended by our church family. In the past these monies have been used in many ways including rent and car repair assistance. All requests for financial assistance are kept confidential.

For those who would like to help their church family, you can contribute to this account. Please indicate "Family Assistance" on your check or giving envelope.

Learne McRill, Chair, Finance Committee

Financially Speaking ...

Roselle United Methodist Church General Operating Fund July 2021 to January 2022

Actual		Budget		Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget	
\$ 146,203.21	\$	149,767.33	\$	(3,564.12)	98%	
\$ 49,941.65	\$	51,582.43	\$	(1,641.78)	97%	
\$ 1,015.88	\$	772.92	\$	242.96	131%	
\$ 16,998.75	\$	16,657.08	\$	341.67	102%	
\$ 27,658.68	\$	27,693.75	\$	(35.07)	100%	
\$ 49,521.53	\$	47,772.08	\$	1,749.45	104%	
\$ 145,135.50	\$	144,478.27	\$	657.23	100%	
\$ 1,067.71	\$	5,289.07	\$	(4,221.35)	20%	
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Roselle United Methodist Church Cash and Investment Account Balances as of January 31,2022

Operating (General) Fund	\$ 39,330.05
Benevolence Fund	\$ 13,103.56
Building Fund	\$ 35,492.70
Financial Gifts Fund	\$ 30,467.05
Total Cash in Banks	\$ 118,393.36
Financial Gifts Fund Investments	\$ 77,506.80
Total Cash and Investments	\$ 195,900.16

Faithful Giving

Roselle UMC is blessed to have faithful giving families and individuals. Because of this, Roselle UMC has reached a big, successful milestone. Last week, it was announced in church that all the necessary equipment has been purchased for our online ministry. The cost of all this equipment has been PAID IN FULL by generous donations from our membership. Several large gifts and memorials made this possible. Thank you to those who helped to fund this new ministry.

11



PADS clients still are housed in what was the Red Roof Inn motel. While they have shelter, their financial situation requires assistance with food and basic necessities. They need easy to prepare food items (they do have microwaves in their rooms), personal hygiene items, laundry products, and a few cleaning products. Please refer to this list of urgently needed items.

Non-perishable, microwave meals:

Campbell's, Hormel 60 second meals, Easy Mac, Instant Rice

Pop-top canned meals:

Ravioli, spaghetti, soup

Beverages:

Single serve juice boxes, tea bags, ground coffee



206 South Rush Street Roselle, IL 60172

Snack foods and other:

Chips, fruit cups, ramen noodle packets, crackers, jerky, canned chicken and tuna/salad kits, bread, peanut butter, jelly/jam, popcorn, pre-packaged cheese & cracker packets, pretzels

Disposable Paper Goods:

Paper plates, cups and bowls; plastic knives, forks and spoons; napkins, paper towels, food storage bags

Cleaning Products:

Laundry detergent pods, dish soap, Lysol

Toiletries

Towels and wash cloths, bar soap, toilet paper, facial tissue, deodorant, full size bottles of shampoo and body wash, bug spray, sunscreen, women's sanitary products, toothbrushes, toothpaste, Neosporin, alcohol-free mouthwash, hand sanitizer, chap-stick

New Clothing - Men:

Boxer shorts, t-shirts, sweatpants, sweatshirts, socks, baseball-style caps Sizes: Medium to XX Large

New Clothing - Women:

Underwear, sweatpants, t-shirts, sweatshirts, socks, baseball-style caps Sizes: Small to XX Large

Clothing/Supplies - Infants:

Diapers, pull-up disposables for toddlers, onesies, t-shirts, bibs, small baby toys, rattles, baby food. All sizes of diapers and onesies

Children's Activities:

Backpacks, coloring books, puzzle books, crayons, markers, colored pencils,

Cindy Sheely will make arrangements to have these items delivered to the PADS headquarters.