



**CHRIST
CHURCH**
WINNETKA

**SAINT
LEONARD'S
MINISTRIES**

Since 2016, Nancy Bourke, Cindy Campbell, Hilary Dawson, Suzie Peregrine, Charlotte Robertson, Debby Ross, Mary Walther and Carmen Wilcox have served as mentors to the residents of Grace House.

Our mentors provide friendship and support to their mentees. Some of our programs have included “Planting Day” – mentors, parishioners and the residents planted several gardens on the Grace House property. It was an all-out successful and fun learning adventure, and the women selected the plants and harvested the crops. Charlotte Robertson worked with the residents to keep vegetables and herbs watered and weeded. The women were very proud of their accomplishment.

Valentine’s Day is a special day for the ladies. The theme is “LOVE”. We let the women know we love and care about them, our Sunday School children create beautiful cards, each one personally addressed, and we gift them with flowers and candy. We share a nice brunch and it is a lovely morning.

Nutrition Classes were organized and led by Cindy Campbell and her friend Anne Milling. The residents learned about healthy eating and preparing meals.

In August of 2019, parishioners underwrote a docent led tour of the exhibit at The Holocaust Museum entitled “Purchased Lives: The American Slave Trade From 1805 – 1865. The women were very enthusiastic and inquired about future museum trips.

They are eager to go to the DuSable Museum of African American History. Many of the residents have never been to a museum, so this is a wonderful day to introduce them to what museums offer. Once we are all able to be out and enjoy museums again we will plan a trip!

A long-standing tradition has been a “Back to School” program. We have filled back packs with school supplies and presented them to the residents to give to their children and grandchildren.

Last August, Megan Miller worked with the confirmation students to continue this program. The confirmation group filled back packs with supplies and a generous parishioner, Laura Zung, made it possible for every backpack to contain a laptop!! It is a very proud moment for the women to gift these back packs to their children and grandchildren.

Mentors are always needed – if you have the desire, please contact me: Carmen Wilcox, carmenwilcoxconciierge@gmail.com. I would be happy to discuss the mentoring process, expectations and answer any questions you might have.

Grace House also needs volunteers for many programs they have ongoing. I can also guide you to a volunteer opportunity.