Laptop Ministry at Peoples Church of Chicago

Make: ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯ **Model:** ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯ **Recip#:** ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯

Capabilities Assessment Checklist

- ☐ Can play YouTube videos at ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯ quality.

- ☐ Can run ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯ apps at once.

- ☐ Has built-in webcam ☐ or can work with external webcam ☐.

- ☐ Ideal for office, email, and book-keeping.

- ☐ Ideal for processor-intensive applications.

- ☐ Ideal for GPU games and video (i.e., GPU power).

- ☐ Has optical drive.

- ☐ Has SD card reader.

- ☐ Has ⎯⎯⎯ USB ports at ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯ version.

- ☐ Has SSD ☐ or HDD ☐ storage.

- ☐ Working CMOS battery. (If not working, the date and time would need to be set per boot)

- ☐ Working laptop battery. (Ask for Battery Sheet if you need help)

- ☐ Keyboard works ☐ or external keyboard ☐.

- ☐ Screen works ☐ or external screen only ☐.

- ☐ Has ethernet port.

- ☐ Has fax modem.

- ☐ Bootup time is ⎯⎯⎯ and loading Chrome is ⎯⎯⎯ seconds.

- ☐ Shutdown time is ⎯⎯⎯ and closing Chrome is ⎯⎯⎯ seconds.

- ☐ WiFi supported.

- ☐ Bluetooth supported.

- ☐ Video out is ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯ format.

- ☐ Expansion is ⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯⎯.

Username: home
Password: password
(change password in "Users and Groups")

Dear Valued Recipient,

On behalf of The Peoples Church of Chicago, I am grateful to provide you with this laptop. Our community's efforts to reduce e-waste make this ministry possible. We hope this Linux Mint laptop meets your needs.

Getting Started

Upon powering up your refurbished Linux Mint laptop, it should log in automatically. System changes (e.g., settings, installing applications) require credentials. To change the password or add users:

- Left Click: Menu (bottom left icon)
- Type: "Users and Groups"
- Press: Enter

- Select: home (edit name if desired)
- Click: Password field
- Enter new password and confirm

Why Choose Linux?

Linux (e.g., Linux Mint, Pop!OS) outperforms proprietary systems like Windows or macOS, which may slow down over time and require antivirus software due to virus vulnerabilities. Linux revives older laptops, offers robust security without extra software, and ensures a clean, efficient experience.

Open Source Benefits

Linux's open-source model delivers free applications, avoiding subscription fees and the invasive privacy violations and censorship often seen in proprietary platforms, which also promote planned obsolescence. The supportive Linux community provides extensive online resources for all users.

Better User Experience

Linux offers a familiar interface, free of intrusive ads and forced updates, fostering a productive, stress-free workflow.

Our Values

- Openness
- Inclusivity
- Community Engagement
- Environmental Responsibility

- Social Justice
- Religious Freedom
- Privacy and Security
- Accessibility

Your Linux laptop supports these principles.

Join the Linux Community

Explore your Linux laptop's potential. Join the "Linux: Intro to Expert" Facebook group or the Windy City Linux Users Group (WCLUG) at wclug.chicago.il.us (in-person or remote). We're here to help with any questions. Also visit video.laptopministry.org for a future of video tutorials on what you can do with your laptop with Linux.

Best regards,
Jason Page
laptopministry.org || peopleschurchchicago.org

Laptop Ministry Battery Information

2025

Currently our laptop ministry provides laptops that may or may not come with functioning batteries. If you received a laptop with a bad battery, here are some tips if your laptop stops powering on:

- Remove the battery to fix the laptop from not starting: typically caused by a deteriorating battery short-circuiting.

- Look online with the make and model of laptop you received. Often there is a sticker on the bottom of the laptop with the model. You may need a magnifier to see it well or use a smartphone to take a photo and zoom in.

- Purchase from any online retailer for OEM (more expensive) or aftermarket productions of the battery with the same specs.

Here are some explanations and resources for battery issues and replacements:

1. **Battery Short Circuit**: A bad battery may develop an internal short circuit, causing it to draw excessive power or fail to provide any power. This can prevent the laptop from turning on, even when plugged in.

2. **Original vs. Aftermarket Batteries**: OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) batteries are recommended, but if they are unavailable, high-quality aftermarket batteries can be a good alternative. Ensure the aftermarket battery comes from a reputable manufacturer with good reviews.

3. **Installation Process**: Some laptops have user-replaceable batteries, while others require disassembling the laptop to replace the battery. Ensure you have the right tools and follow a guide specific to your laptop model if disassembly is needed. If you have the tools, YouTube can be your crash course lesson in replacing batteries yourself. Otherwise, you can have it replaced at any repair shop, such as phone repair shops that also service laptops.

4. **Online Retailers**: Websites like Amazon, Newegg, and eBay often have a wide range of replacement batteries, including both OEM and aftermarket options.

The Laptop Ministry moving forward will provide laptops without the batteries if the batteries are tested as unusable.

OSS Software	Description	Proprietary Counterpart
Krita	A professional digital painting and illustration tool with advanced brush engines and layer management.	Adobe Photoshop
Inkscape	A vector graphics editor for creating scalable illustrations and designs.	Adobe Illustrator
LibreOffice	A full-featured office suite for word processing, spreadsheets, and presentations.	Microsoft Office
Firefox	A privacy-focused web browser with customizable features and extensions.	Google Chrome
VLC	A versatile media player supporting a wide range of audio and video formats.	Windows Media Player
OBS Studio	A streaming and recording software for live broadcasts and screencasts.	XSplit Broadcaster
Audacity	An audio editing and recording tool for multitrack mixing and sound processing.	Adobe Audition
Thunderbird	An email client with calendar and task management features.	Microsoft Outlook
Kdenlive	A non-linear video editor for creating professional-grade video projects.	Adobe Premiere Pro
Xiphos	A Bible study tool with commentaries, dictionaries, and cross-references.	Logos Bible Software
Zotero	A reference management tool for organizing research and citations.	EndNote
Ardour	A digital audio workstation for professional music production and recording.	Pro Tools

Table 1: Popular Open Source Software for Linux with Descriptions and Proprietary Counterparts compiled by the Laptop Ministry. laptopministry.org