Sometimes after a batch of Microsoft Windows updates, Church Windows will not open and you will get an error that reads “Object reference not set to an instance of an object”. This indicates that the SQL server for Church Windows was stopped and did not restart.

Here is how to check/restart the service:

1. In the ‘Search the Web and Windows’ box, type Services (do not press enter)

2. Look in the list for Services (Desktop App) and click on it.
3. Once the list of services opens, scroll down to **SQL Server (CHURCHWINDOWS)**

4. The status line is probably blank (meaning the service is stopped).

5. Select to highlight the service and click on the **Start** button.

The service should start – once it is running, Church Windows should open properly.