

651-487-7752 • rosevillelutheran.org

THE TABLE

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE FRIENDS
AND MEMBERS OF ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER • 2021 • JANUARY • FEBRUARY • 2022



LOVE LIGHTS AND LUMINARIES

For 2021, the RLC Endowment Committee will be offering Love Lights and Luminaries to honor the memory of your loved ones during this coming Christmas Season. In previous years, either Love Lights or Luminaries have been available. This year, the Endowment Committee will be combining the Love Lights and Luminaries together.

A beautiful Luminary Bag will contain a battery operated votive candle to light in your home, and a family-friendly activity about honoring the legacy of those we love. The bag will also contain a Love Light Star in which you can write the name of a loved one that you want to honor at our Festival Christmas Concert on December 18th. Love Lights and Luminaries will be available online at www.rosevillelutheran.org/lovelights and after Sunday services through December 12 for a suggested donation of \$30. Contact Rebecca Bedner-Faris if you have questions at rbednerfaris@rosevillelutheran.org.

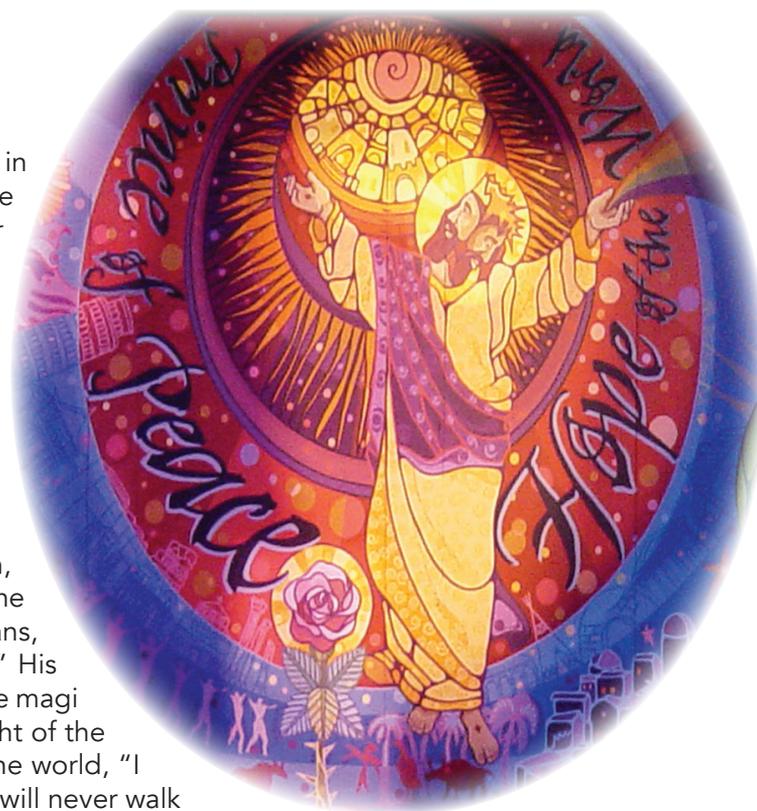
LIGHT FOR THE WORLD

Lauren J. Wrightsman, Senior Pastor

One of the things that I love about living in the northern hemisphere is the turning of the seasons and the change that is displayed over the course of the year in the contrast between light and dark. While I relish in the long days of summer, there is something about the long dark nights of winter that tugs at my soul. Maybe it is the warm fire in the evening, or the candles lit at dinner time, or the bonfires that bring neighbors together, like moths to a flame.

As we gather together this Advent and Christmas season at Roseville Lutheran Church, we will be gathering under the theme (and the promise!) *Light for the World*. We, as Christians, proclaim that Jesus is the "light of the world." His birth was born of light, as the shepherds and the magi made their way to greet him guided by the light of the star. Jesus declares himself to be the light of the world, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12).

This light of Christ is used in many ways in our Christian life and witness. The Christ candle is lit every Sunday as a reminder that Christ is present. At baptism we light a candle to remind all that not only is Christ present, but we are called to be "light bearers." Candles



LIGHT continues on Page 2...

WORSHIP AT RLC

REGULAR SUNDAYS AT 9:00 & 10:30 AM

CHRISTMAS EVE AT 3:00, 4:30, AND 9:00 PM (w/Holy Communion)

CHRISTMAS DAY AT 10:00 AM (w/Holy Communion)

SUNDAY, DEC. 26 AT 9:00 AM

LOVE IS SOMETHING ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT

Chris Hagen, Interim Associate Pastor

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

– 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Tolerance is a virtue practiced and expressed to varying extent by affirming Christians.

Love is something altogether different

Roseville Lutheran Church has claimed its mission as Love God. Love your neighbor. Mission by definition means a call to action. RLC is called to act on its love for God and neighbor. This is done by public worship, nurture of faith in children, youth, adults and families, and deeds of service for the good of others beyond our beloved members. RLC is a remarkable church for the love it expresses and the care it gives.



The Holy Spirit now calls RLC to ramp up its love. No longer is it sufficient to believe we are welcoming and open to others. The city around us has changed. Welcoming in the past was easy because those welcomed were quite like us. Now our welcoming spirit is called to stretch and our love is called to include others who we might not at first be comfortable around.

The measure of love is to what degree the recipient experiences it. The quality of love is to what extent it achieves a just and equitable place for another. I have heard that RLC is a welcoming and open church, happy to include "new" people who look familiar. God is now asking RLC to go further.

The measure of RLC's welcome is the degree that the recovering addict without good income and poor manners is received as friend by a member the moment they enter the door. The measure of RLC's welcome is the active, public statement of the place and inclusion of a transgendered person among our inner circles. The quality of RLC's love is the extent that preferences and favored ways are willingly adjusted for the sake of a person from another culture.

Our nation has had enough of tolerance. God is calling us to ramp up and love in the way of Jesus.

Pastor Chris

LIGHT continued from Page 1

are lit as we gather to remember our loved ones, to remind us of God's promise to be with us always, to remind us that light has the power to conquer darkness.

Jesus, however, not only says, "I am the Light of the world," but says to us, "You are the light of the world."

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

– Matthew 5:14-16



This Advent and Christmas season, Christ asks us to not only see his light, but receive the blessing of being this same light. Just like a light reflects off of a surface, so too are we called to reflect Christ's light in the ways in which we love, serve and give. As a community together, united by Christ's light, we too can be light for the world.

May Christ's light shine in you and yours and may Christ's light shine in you for the world.

Blessings,

Lauren J. Wrightsman
Senior Pastor

TO EXPLORE...

Diane Sell, Director of Community Engagement and Care

Our theme this year is centered around Connect, Explore and Act.

I talked a bit about Connect in our fall Table article as we worked to connect through in person worship and our Octoberfest event. We had many more opportunities of course, but those were the two big things that come to mind for me.

I like how Webster breaks down the word "Explore" tangibly:

To Explore is: to look at something in a careful way to learn or study more about it.

Since we have entered back into community and church life at RLC we have done a lot of this. We have looked carefully at how we can do life together, safely. We know that we are living in a post covid world and it looks a little different for us now than before.

To Explore is: to talk or think about something in a thoughtful and detailed way.

My Mom passed away on October 19th. She was the last link to that generation ahead me in life. You can bet that as my brother Dave and I have been going through her things that I have been taking time to fully absorb the magnitude of this loss in a thoughtful and detailed way. In doing so, I have been doing a little exploring about how my life has benefited with her as my champion in life and now as a new season of life without her; figuring out how to carry that champion spirit of hers to the generations behind me.

To Explore is: to learn about (something) by trying it.

As we move forward into these next months you will have some of the tried and true things happening like our Children's Christmas program and our Festival Choir. But you will also see that we are bringing back our Drive Thru Nativity the first Friday in December called "Pathway to Christmas." As we continue our Confirmation and Youth Ministry we also are reaching out to our graduating Juniors and Seniors in high school and having them spend time with some college students in our community for a 24-hour retreat through our VIBE Ministry to talk about life and moving forward into adult life as Children of God.

Included in our local partners in ministry, Mission and Outreach is looking to Connect, Explore, and Act with Guatemala in 2022 and we covet your prayers as we do.

We continue to learn about life and our relationship to God by exploring our place in the world as a church and as people of God.



WE NEED YOU TO HELP US REACH OUR POTENTIAL

Joe Zeigler, Congregational President

We are fortunate to have a committed, creative and energetic staff who cultivate a diversity of programs, activities and experiences here at RLC. But when you look at the numbers—there are roughly 60 RLC members to every 1 staff person—the real potential of this congregation lies within you, our members.

Our mission and vision cannot be realized without engagement from every member.

Each of you has been blessed with a unique blend of skills, expertise, and perspective. I invite you to share your blessings with the community through RLC ministries. Prayerfully consider where God may be calling you to get involved.

If Christian teaching and celebration are your passions, devote some time to assisting our children's, youth and family, or adult education programs; or join the worship team as an usher, reader or musician.

If you are moved to help those less fortunate, engage in RLC outreach efforts, and help support our service partners, like Bridging, Feed My Starving Children, Keystone Community Services, Meals on Wheels, or Project Home.

If you are compelled by the RLC mission and vision, your guidance is needed to help manage the resources God has granted us. Consider an elected



lay leadership role on Council, or the Finance, Endowment or Nominating committees.

We are called to love our neighbor but surrounded by challenges that threaten division. Imagine the impact we can have, working together to build a community united by grace.

This is your congregation. Get involved. Help grow and unite this community.

Not sure where to best direct your talents? Reach out to any Council member, or contact Community Engagement Director Diane Sell (dsell@rosevillelutheran.org) for some inspiration.

PIZZA FUNDRAISER FOR RLC PRESCHOOL

Parkway Pizza is partnering with RLC Preschool to bring you an amazing fundraiser, *Dine Out for Schools*. 5% of total sales for the day goes directly to Roseville Lutheran Preschool. No code, no need to mention that you are with RLC...5% of total sales for the day are donated to RLC Preschool. This is truly the best way to support two local businesses! And you get to eat pizza too!

The fundraiser is on the **4th Monday of the month**, from now until June. Just think you have one day a month you don't need to cook dinner or think about lunch for that matter. Parkway Pizza has amazing sandwiches and salads too! Order online, take out, eat in, drive up anytime on the 4th Monday of the Month! (**Nov. 22, Dec. 27, Jan. 24, Feb. 28, March 28**).

Parkway Pizza is located at 1909 Lexington Avenue North, Roseville 55113, www.parkwaypizzamn.com/menu or call (651) 493-4360.

RLC Lay Leaders and Staff

Pastors

Lauren Wrightsman, Senior Pastor
Chris Hagen, Interim Associate Pastor
Rolf Olson, Visitation Pastor

Music Ministry

John Helgen, Director
Martha Mutch, Organist
Lori Haaland, Handbell Choirs
Lucas Byl, Worship Leader

Children's Ministry

Julie Hanson, Director of Children's Ministry
Tammy Heiple, PMO, Nursery Coordinator

Student Ministry

Audrey Dontje Lindell, Director of Youth Ministry
Abby Matter, Deacon, Director of Faith Formation

Ministry Support Staff

Dave Booms, Church Administrator
Laurel Hofeldt, Director of Finance and Data
Diane Sell, Director of Community Engagement
Rebecca Bedner-Faris, Director of Development
Daniel Pederson, Communications Manager
Kelly Birkmaier, Financial Assistant
Tammy Swanson, Financial Assistant

RLC Preschool

Sher Noot, Director
Lori Kristiansen, Preschool Teacher
Debbie Strobeck, Preschool Asst. Teacher
Rachel Lawson, Preschool Asst. Teacher
Shana Pearson, Preschool Teacher
Katie Gerhz, Preschool Asst. Teacher
Renee Olson, Preschool Asst. Teacher
Laurie Miller, Childcare Teacher

Child Care House

Sher Noot, Director
Shyama Dahal, Childcare Teacher
Laurie Miller-Hedeen, Childcare Teacher
Melissa Kidd, Childcare Teacher
Krystina Eliason, Childcare Teacher

Hospitality Ministry

Connie Marchio, Hospitality Manager

Facilities Ministry

Ian Agner, Campus Manager
Arlen Rystrom, Building Engineer
Shelton Ingram, Custodian
Greg Saiko, Custodian

Endowment Committee

Mike Dolan
Judy Ekern
Kevin Peterson
Audra Engebretson
Carrie Hefte-Hanton

Nominating Committee

Randi Lundell, Chair
Dave Werner
Randy DeJong
Rich Straumann

Congregation Council

Joe Zeigler, President
Rebecca Field, President Elect
Val Velde, Vice President
Mary Peterson
Kevin Hanson
Heidi Larson
Linda Hanson
Kris Olsen
Bill Metzger

Ministry Team Chairs

Sharon Swiglo, Adult Ed
Gena Mickley, Children's Ministry Advisory Board
Dave Tetzlaff, Mission & Outreach
Lilian Wassell, Youth & Family

CELEBRATING VISION SLOVAKIA

Sunday, January 16 During Worship
and at Luncheon/Program at 11:30 am

Thank you RLC Builders, Teachers, Individual Donors and RLC Mission and Outreach for Supporting Vision Slovakia for the Past 18 Years. (There is a photo of church)

Yes, it has been a Vision for this partnership to see a school move from the Vision of one man, to a preschool through high school and affiliation with Žilina University.

Yes. Now called the Center for Christian Education, this largest Lutheran school in Slovakia is flourishing.

Yes, In 2003, Pastor George Weinman, & RLC members Bud Helmen and Don Severson were instrumental in setting up a partnership between the Bible School in Martin Slovakia and Roseville Lutheran Church. Each year since then builders, teachers and RLC youth have traveled to Martin to work at the school.

Yes, RLC has financially supported scholarships for students in the elementary school and in the Bible School as well as supporting an intern, hosting summer high school students and the salary for CCE staff person Janka Mineková.

Yes, Leaders from the school have come to Roseville, and we have had interns and high school students come for the summers.

Yes, those of us who have taken part have been transformed by the experience.

Yes, those in Slovakia who have taken part have been transformed.

Yes, RLC will no longer be supporting the school. The goals of seeing the school move from an infant to a thriving part of society have come to fruition.

Yes, it is time to come together and celebrate these years and to thank God for the blessings of this partnership. Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022, during the 9:00 and 10:30 am worship services, we will recognize our partners. At 11:30 am, after the worship services, there will be a program and a luncheon to thank those who have donated time, talent & treasure to Vision Slovakia.



RLC ASSOCIATE PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 2021

- Call Committee (CC) approved by church council meeting

NOVEMBER 2021

- Present MSP to congregation (early November)
- Seek potential candidate names from RLC members
- Receive candidate names from St. Paul Area Synod

JANUARY 2022

- Second interviews with candidates
- CC discernment & identification of RLC Assoc. Pastor candidate
- Present final candidate to Church council

connect • explore • act



- CC meets with Bishop Lull
- CC introduced at Sunday worship
- Completion of Ministry Site Profile (MSP) and Assoc. Pastor job description

OCTOBER 2021

- 1st round of interviews
- (Note: Call Committee members are not able to share any information about candidates)

DECEMBER 2021

- Special Congregational meeting to call candidate

FEBRUARY 2022

RLC ASSOCIATE PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE

Greetings from the Associate Pastor Call Committee (CC). Serving on the RLC CC are Jim Boyce, Nancy Brown, Jenna Giles, Linda Eldred, Addie Hansen, Kevin Miller, Mary Peterson, and Jen Souvignier; along with Pastor Lauren as our ex-officio member. We are excited to share the progress we have made since we began meeting in early October.

With the help of the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) content team, we finalized the MSP and presented it to the congregation as well as Bishop Lull on November 7. The MSP provides prospective candidates with some information about who we were (RLC history), who we are (current demographics/ministry teams) and who we want to be (our hopes and dreams).

Through our shared ministry we value love, humility, and faithfulness. RLC is a congregation of varied theological perspectives, with grace, acceptance, inclusion, and care being predominant among us. We strive to 1) serve generously, 2) see God's grace in all who regard his creation with love, charity, dignity and respect, 3) celebrate without exception the diversity in our community, 4) embrace honesty and invite candid discussion and 5) strive to be good stewards of the resources God has granted.

We recognize RLC is in a time of transition and exploration. We are building on a strong foundation to dream differently. The next few years will be one of navigating social and ministry changes as we continue to live out our mission and vision in new and exciting ways. This year (2021-2022) the focus of our ministries is to "Connect" with one another, "Explore" new ways to be a community united, and "Act" with the power of the Holy Spirit to look beyond our own needs to the needs of our neighbor. We look forward to our new Associate Pastor being able to help us further our mission and vision.

In December and January, we will be moving into the interview phase of the call process. This will be a quieter phase of the process as we need to respect the need for candidate confidentiality. Even though you may not hear details of our progress, please know we will be hard at work. During this time, we ask for your prayers and support as we discern who will be called to become our next Associate Pastor.

LEARN MORE. ASK QUESTIONS.

If you do have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Call Committee co-chairs, Linda Eldred lindabeldred@gmail.com or Mary Peterson mppeter30@gmail.com. You can read our Ministry Site Profile and see updates on the call process at www.rosevillelutheran.org/call-committee.

ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A COMMUNITY
UNITED BY GRACE

HOLIDAY SEASON AT RLC

Rebecca Bedner-Faris,
Director of Development



It was wonderful to connect with so many of you at our Rally Day and Oktoberfest events, and to be together as a community united by grace! I am looking forward to our upcoming Holiday Season here at RLC. I have heard a lot about the Thanksgiving Eve service as well as the pie. I have also heard great things about our Christmas services, the Christmas Festival concert, and New Year's Eve concert. I am excited to experience my first Holiday Season here with you all.

We recently wrapped up the Annual Appeal. Thank you for your participation! Your gifts help us maintain our day-to-day ministries and assist us in planning for the future. If you were not able to participate, you may still do so. Contact me for more information.

I am working with the RLC Endowment Committee, and we will be offering Love Lights and Luminaries to honor the memory of your loved ones during this coming Christmas Season. In previous years, either Love Lights or Luminaries have been available. This year, the Endowment Committee will be combining the Love Lights and Luminaries together. A beautiful Luminary Bag will contain a battery operated votive candle to light in your home, and a family-friendly activity about honoring the legacy of those we love. The bag will also contain a Love Light Star in which you can write the name of a loved one that you want to honor at our Festival Christmas Concert on December 18th. Love Lights and Luminaries will be available online and after Sunday services starting right after Thanksgiving through December 12th for a suggested donation of \$30.

Finally, as 2021 comes to a close, there are a few simple tax smart gifting strategies* I would like to share:

- **ABOVE THE LINE DEDUCTION:** If you currently use the standard deduction for taxes, you can claim an additional deduction up to \$300 (couples can claim up to \$600) for cash donations to charities like RLC in 2021.
- **100% DEDUCTION LIMIT:** If you itemize your deductions, you can elect to use the CARES Act 100% of AGI (Adjusted Gross Income) deduction limit for cash donations to public charities. This incentive ends on December 31, 2021, when the deduction limit for cash donations goes back to 60% of AGI in 2022.

LOVE GOD • LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

PARENTS MORNING OUT

Parents Morning Out is a playgroup located at RLC. Children ages 1-5 build social skills through play, stories, crafts and have a snack; while parents have time to run errands, work, schedule an appointment or meet a friend.

Parents Morning Out is resuming on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning November 9. Hours are 9:00 am to noon. We are accepting reservations for each weekday and will open additional days as needed. Also accepting applications for childcare staff and substitutes. If you have any questions or want to sign up, please contact Tammy at theiple@rosevillemethodist.org or go to www.rosevillemethodist.org/pmo.

The cost is \$20 per session. Registration is for the same morning(s) each week for the school year.



- **BUNDLING DONATIONS:** If your total deductions in 2021 amount to slightly less than the standard deduction, you can consider accelerating or bundling charitable donations this year. This strategy will enable you to exceed the standard deduction and realize greater tax savings while also optimizing your charitable impact.

You can bundle donations with the use of both cash donations and gifts of appreciated non-cash assets like publicly traded stock held for more than a year. Aside from generating an income tax deduction, gifts of long-term appreciated assets can also result in capital gains tax savings. The combination of income and capital gains tax savings can significantly increase the efficiency of your charitable giving. Another way to bundle donations is by setting up a Donor Advised Fund.

- **CHARITABLE IRA ROLLOVER:** If you are 70½ or older and have other sources of income to draw upon, you can direct your IRA custodian to transfer a portion of your retirement assets directly to a public charity as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). The donation counts as part of your Required Minimum Distribution, but is not included in your taxable income.

** Adapted from Thompson & Associates. Members are encouraged to consult with their tax professional before acting on this information.*

Please contact me if you have any questions about the Annual Appeal, Love Light Luminaries, or gifting strategies shared above. I hope to see you at one of our events this Holiday Season!

Rebecca Bedner-Faris
Director of Development

WELCOME SHER NOOT

Director of RLC Preschool and Childcare House

Hello my name is Sher Noot, and I am excited to tell you that I have accepted the position of Director of RLC Preschool and Child Care House! My name may be familiar to some of you as I am a member along with my husband Karl, son Cooper and daughter Carsyn, of Roseville Lutheran Church. We have two rescue dogs, Zoey, and Gidget, a bearded dragon named Pringle and our newest member Oakley the cat.

I love reading, crafting, baking and coffee. And as crazy as it sounds, I LOVE to organize! Seriously organizing anything from a party or fundraiser to a closet or a storage shed. Just ask my family, they can always tell when I've been organizing because it makes me so happy! If I'm not crafting or organizing, you can find me at the local hockey rink.

When I'm not working, vacations for me are best spent with my family at a cabin or camping. Nothing better than being outdoors in God's great big wilderness.

Most recently I was the Director and Lead Teacher at North Como Preschool. I am super excited to be a part of the amazing team of teachers and staff here at RLC. I am eager to get to know the families here at RLC Preschool and the Childcare House. I look forward to learning and growing with each and every one of them. It truly is a joy to experience the world around us through the eyes of a child.



SAVE THE DATE(S) SUMMER 2022!

We are beginning to plan for summer so mark your calendars as you won't want to miss out on these awesome opportunities! Registration won't be open until after the new year, but for now simply save the date!

JUNE 13-16 • Vacation Bible School (3-year-old – completed 4th grade)

Camp Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp (Amery, WI):

JULY 15-17 • Seeds (completed grades 1-3)

This action-packed session for our youngest campers is the perfect introduction to camp. Knowing that this may be some kid's first camp experience or even their first time away from home, our counselors will spend every moment with these campers. They will provide a safe and caring environment filled with music, Bible study, campfires, crafts, water activities and tons of games.

JULY 17-22 • Wapo Youth Camp (completed grades 4-8)

Campers at Camp Wapo will experience a place of grace to meet new friends, experience new activities, and make memories that will last a lifetime. The week is packed with a variety of activities that are meant to impact kids in a meaningful way, taking them higher, wider, longer and deeper into the love of God and community with each other. Each day includes Bible study, chapel, cabin activities, free time, field games and campfire. Summer youth camp at Camp Wapo is a week youth will never forget!

JULY 17-22 • Servant Leadership Camp (completed grades 9-12)

This program provides High School campers an opportunity to grow deeper in faith and learn leadership skills by working with younger kids. Servant Leadership Program (SLP) campers will be assigned to a youth cabin and be trained to assist Wapo counselors in leading a variety of activities. SLP campers will be mentored by their partnering Wapo counselors and the SLP program staff. This experience is ideal for those demonstrating maturity, commitment and joy in working with younger kids.

JULY 24-28 • ELCA Youth Gathering (completed grades 9-12)

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. This year the Gathering is in Minneapolis, MN.

JULY 10-15 • Amnicon Wilderness Adventure (completed grades 9-12)

Going into the wilderness together is one of the best ways for people to grow personally, for groups to bond deeply, and for everyone to encounter God in totally amazing and unique ways. With over 50 years' experience in safe wilderness travel, Amnicon trips create memories that will last a lifetime.

Join other RLC high school youth on a week of river canoeing and spiritual growth this summer! The Flambeau and Namekagon Rivers flow through central Wisconsin, in a land of rich forests and abundant wildlife. Each day brings adventure, challenge, discovery, and fun as you learn and practice your paddling skills and overcome obstacles with the help of your group.

LENTEN MENTORS NEEDED

6-Week Commitment to a Confirmation Student

This year we are looking for 29 adults in the congregation to be mentors to our 9th grade confirmation students during Lent. The plan is to meet in person. It would be a 6-week commitment beginning with a Mentor Meeting on February 23 at 7:00 pm. As a mentor, you would attend the 7 o'clock worship with a 9th grade student and then meet with them afterwards one on one for five weeks in Lent (March 2, 9, 23, 30 and April 6). Students have Spring Break March 16 so you would not meet that week). You will be given all the materials you need including discussion questions and talking points for your time together. Please contact Abby Matter at amatter@rosevillelutheran.org if you are interested in being a mentor. The idea is to connect these students with members of the congregation who can get to know them and call them by name!

RED ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER

Kick-Off on Youth Sunday, February 13

Summer trips are an important part of our youth program. They offer unique opportunities to step away from daily routines to serve, grow in Christian community, and strengthen personal relationships with God.

Join us for Youth Sunday worship on Feb. 13 to help us kick off our Red Envelope fundraiser. All of the proceeds from Invest In Our Youth go to making our summer trips possible for all families. Your support means that life-changing experiences continue to be offered to every one of our youth: right here at RLC, in wilderness destinations, at residential camps, and in service in our community and around the world.

Thanks, and see you on Sunday, February 13!



PAJAMA DAY

Sunday, Nov. 28

Wear your jammies to church and bring a new pair of pajamas for kids in need! We will be collecting pajamas at church in the Blue Bin until Dec. 12th, and then need to distribute them to others. Pajamas needed in sizes 2T-14, both boys and girls. Worship in a comfy, cozy way and make another child warm and cozy too!



PATHWAY TO CHRISTMAS

Drive-By Nativity at RLC • Friday, Dec. 3 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm

We often miss Advent's power because these December weeks are full of secular Christmas parties and preparations for Christmas. Each year, the busyness of this season serves to distract us from having an Advent season that truly prepares us for the celebration of Christmas, with all its meaning. Join us as we slow down and prepare our hearts for Christmas by listening to the story of Jesus birth from our Children at RLC. You are invited to our Pathway to Christmas Drive thru Nativity. The sights and sounds will warm your hearts as we look for the arrival of baby Jesus.

If you are interested in helping out with this event please contact Julie Hanson at jhanson@rosevillelutheran.org or Diane Sell at dsell@rosevillelutheran.org.



HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING

RLC Kids Christmas Program – Sunday, Dec. 12 at 10:30 am

Listen in on angels discussing how to celebrate Christmas after the stress and strain of last year. Hear kids sing, Bible verses recited, families sharing their own Christmas traditions and much more! The kids and their families are working hard to make this program meaningful and fun. Hark the Herald Angels Sing will be Sunday, Dec. 12 during the 10:30 am worship service.

RLC KIDS CHOIR TO START IN JANUARY

Kids in grades 1-6 are invited to join us for Kids Choir on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 7:00 pm in the Choir Room. Joe Husby is the director and is looking forward to making this experience fun and enjoyable! Invite your friends to join us! Look for more information on the church website soon.

SERVE SUNDAY IS JANUARY 16

Dresser Build for Bridging!

All are invited to participate in Serve Sunday to benefit clients of Bridging, a local organization that helps people get back on their feet and into homes of their own by supplying home furnishings and things many of us take for granted. We will be assembling dressers for Bridging in two ways. You can order a dresser online, pick it up at RLC and assemble it at home and bring it back to RLC, or you can participate in the Dresser Build on Sunday, Jan 16th from 8:30 - noon in the Activity Center. Last year we offered the "Take and Build" option and the response was amazing. Look for more information about how to reserve a dresser on the RLC website. Confirmation kids and their leaders will be building dressers as part of their Confirmation session on Wednesday, Jan. 12. Help be a blessing to the clients of Bridging!

To hear more about Bridging, you are invited to attend the Adult Education hour on Sunday, January 9th at 10:10 am in the Social Hall when Wendy Erickson from Bridging will be presenting who they serve, what the need is and ways RLC members can get involved.



CANDY CANE BREAKFAST

Reserve Your Place for Saturday, Dec. 4 from 9:00 - 11:00 am

We are having a Special Christmas breakfast for kids ages 2-10 years and the special adults in their life on Saturday, December 4th from 9-11 a.m. Fun, Food and Fancy are not usually used in the same description as kids, but this breakfast will be memorable! Invite your friends and neighbors to join you! Wear your Christmas best and dine at our fancy tables. Enjoy fun activities in addition to the special breakfast designed with kids in mind! Limited seating, reservations required! Reserve your place at the table online at www.rosevillelutheran.org/candy-cane. Tickets are \$10 each.



ADULT EDUCATION AT RLC

Winter 2021-2022

Your Adult Ed Committee at RLC has been hard at work assembling thoughtful opportunities for you to take part in during the coming months. The venue and format in which these discussions take place may need to adjust as Covid conditions dictate. As of Nov. 1, Sunday Adult Ed forums are taking place at 10:10 am in the Social Hall.

DECEMBER 5 - GREAT HYMNS OF FAITH WITH JOHN HELGEN

John Helgen leads a session on the history and function of hymns in our worship, with singing of some of the great hymns of the church and telling of the stories behind them.

DECEMBER 12 - GRATITUDE WITH MARY SCHULTZ

Mary will share benefits and challenges of experiencing and expressing gratitude...no matter where we are on life's journey.

During the Month of January, 2022, we will be highlighting portions of the Roseville Lutheran Church's Mission and Outreach ministries during our Adult Education Hour at 10:10 am Sundays.

JAN. 9 - BRIDGING WITH WENDY ERICKSON

Wendy Erickson from Bridging will share what their organization does, how many people they serve and what impact we can have for someone that is moving into their own home for the first time, transitioning from homelessness.

JAN. 16 - CELEBRATE SLOVAKIA DAY

See page 4 of this issue of the TABLE for more details of how we are celebrating Vision Slovakia at RLC during worship, and at an 11:30 am program and luncheon. There will be no 10:10 Adult Education forum.

JAN. 23 - IMMIGRATION WITH A REPRESENTATIVE FROM LSS

Refugees and Resettlement: Lutheran Social Service's Work in Minnesota. Since the 1970s, LSS has assisted other Lutheran bodies in the refugee resettlement process. Our speaker will give a global update on refugees in the world (especially Afghan resettlement) and detail how individuals and Roseville Lutheran Church might help in this process.

JAN. 30 - FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN WITH KATHY AND JEN

In 2021, the traditional rocking room full of meal packers had to be scaled back in order to comply with pandemic public health safety measures. FMSC worked to continue producing meals, not with volunteer packers, but with machines. We were replaced temporarily with robots! RLC generous donations provided 50,000 machine packed meals. Another example of God's amazing work. Hunger has not taken a holiday during this pandemic, as a matter of fact, meal demand has increased. Economic disruptions, political upheaval and natural disasters have caused more hunger emergencies. At the time of this writing, we do not know what 2022 holds. This adult education with Jen Bergman and Kathy Miller will cover some of the highlights from previous FMSC events, including the Project Based Food assistance, the amazing program that empowers communities to rise out of poverty and become self-reliant. God willing, and COVID subsiding, we hope to preview the 2022 opportunities to for us to serve. Until all our fed.

FEB. 6 - THE CHRISTIAN REFORMATION AND THE PROLIFERATION OF DENOMINATIONS

The 1400s and 1500s spawned many breakaway groups from the Catholic Church, including the Lutherans. What were the issues and which groups continue today? Pastor Rolf Olson will explore some of their commonalities and differences.

FEB. 13 - MORMONS AND JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

We've all had them knock at our doors. Where and when did these uniquely American religious groups start? What do they believe? Pastor Olson will provide a better understanding of these two well-known groups..

FEB. 20 AND 27 - CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

Even though the first amendment to the Constitution makes it clear that there will be no official relationship between government and a particular religion, American Christians have always struggled with the relationship between "church and state." (That phrase was first used in a court case in 1947.) But in recent years the alignment between conservative politics and Christianity has taken on a new intensity in a movement called "ChristianNationalism." What is going on? What is the difference between Christian nationalism and patriotism? How do weas Lutherans understand this issue? Pastor Rolf Olson and Rev. Dr. Nancy Koester will explore these issues.

LIGHT FOR THE WORLD

CHRISTMAS EVE AT RLC

FAMILY SERVICES
3:00 AND 4:30 PM

CANDLELIGHT
9:00 PM

CHRISTMASTIDE AT RLC

Christmas Eve Worship

3:00 and 4:30 pm - Family Service
9:00 pm - Candlelight and Communion

Christmas Day Worship

10:00 am with Holy Communion

Sunday, Dec. 26

One Worship at 9:00 am

Sunday, January 2, 2022

Regular Worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am

PASTORS BIBLE STUDY ECCLESIASTES

**Mondays at 10:00 am in the Social Hall (enter off of the south lot)
February 7, 14, 21, 28**

Join Pastor Lauren as we prepare ourselves for the season of Lent with an overview of the Book of Ecclesiastes. Written around 935 B.C.E, this book provides King Solomon's analysis of life, which he discovers is meaningless and empty without a relationship with God. This is a free class and no registration is required. Participants are encouraged to bring their own Bible with them each class. Coffee and refreshments will be served.



RLC MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join in the Conversation!

First and Third Saturdays of the Month



RLC Men: Please join us at 8:30 am on the 1st and 3rd Saturday mornings each month for Bible study and discussion. Lots of conversation about current events, vacations, questions we have, answers we love to give. We meet in the upper lobby near the office. Wear a mask. Bring your own coffee and Bible. Want more details? Contact Pastor Rolf Olson at rolson@rosevillelutheran.org or 651-442-8867.

RLC READS 2022

Our Book List for the New Year

After a year of Zoom discussions, we're looking forward to being together in-person again at some point to share our love of reading! Our plans were to meet at church on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM to talk about books and life and how we're all doing. (This will change as Covid conditions warrant). So, get your library card out of your pocket, look up your e-books online, and/or take a trip to your local book store. Contact Robert Bergstrom at rcbergstrom@comcast.net to join in the discussion. Here are the books we'll be discussing through May 2022 with our RLC friends:

JANUARY 10 – Richard Lischer:

Open Secrets

With the subtitle, "A Memoir of Faith and Discovery", the author describes his early career as a Lutheran minister in the small town of New Cana, Illinois. With his newly-earned PhD, full of ideas and ambitions, the pastor and his flock take some time to understand each other, and it's all told with humor, insight, and love. (256 pgs)

FEBRUARY 14 – Katherine Stewart:

The Power Worshippers

This deeply-researched book is subtitled "Inside the Dangerous Rise of Religious Nationalism." Stewart reveals the inner workings of the Religious Right and traces its influence to every aspect of American life. It's both a warning and a wake-up call. (352 pgs)

MARCH 14 – Louise Erdrich:

The Night Watchman

The winner of the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, this powerful novel is based on Erdrich's grandfather, who was a night watchman. The memorable characters take us from Turtle Mountain Reservation in North Dakota to the tough streets of Minneapolis. We see them working to preserve their Native American treaty rights while also struggling with impulses of human nature, desire, and ambitions, all bound together by strong family connections. (464 pgs)

APRIL 11 – Jon Meacham:

The Hope of Glory: Reflections on the Last Words of Jesus on the Cross

The award-winning author admits this is "a devotional work, not a scholarly one". It seems like the perfect book for us to be reading during Lent and discussing on Monday of Holy Week. Meacham uses historical and theological insights to explore Jesus' message of love in his final words as recorded in the Gospels. (144 pgs)

MAY 9 – Jonas Jonasson:

The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared

We finish the year with a Swedish novel full of fun, laughs, and adventure! This enjoyable book has been compared to Forrest Gump and has sold over six million copies. You'll find out where the 100-year-old man goes, learn his fascinating backstory, and follow his adventures with criminals and goofballs. (384 pgs)

RLC SCRAPBOOKING

Second Friday of the Month

Come one, come all, we are back to crafting at RLC! We will be scrapbooking (or whatever craft you can carry) at RLC from 7:00 pm to midnight on the second Friday of the month, Covid conditions permitting. Feel free to contact Gena for details, genashawnone@comcast.net. She will send an email reminder as well as any cancelations due to scheduling conflicts. We hope you can join us, friends are always welcome! We look forward to crafting with you.



connect • explore • ACT
LOVE GOD • LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Join Us on the 3rd Sunday of the Month at 10:10 AM in the Library
Submitted by Lorene Roste

In 2006 a group of women at Roseville Lutheran gathered a group of volunteers to make shawls for the pastors and the parish nurse to give to people they were visiting. While we no longer have a parish nurse, the prayer shawl ministry still exists and has been busy creating in spite of covid.

Normally we would meet at church once a month where we hand in our finished shawls, lay hands on them, bless them, and put them in storage for the pastors to distribute. Baby blankets are also made by this group so each baby baptized at Roseville Lutheran gets a handmade blanket. In recent years, some members of the group have also been making hats and scarves to distribute at Roseville Central Park Elementary School, which RLC partners with for tutoring.

In order to stay connected and share our skills and tips about our knitting and/or crocheting, we have met every other Saturday over zoom during the colder months. Last summer and this summer from May to October, the group has been meeting with social distancing outside on the deck at Jim and Lorene Roste's house every other Saturday. **We are resuming our monthly meetings on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:10 am in the RLC Library (Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 16...)** Each member has a stash of shawls at home which need to be turned in and blessed in preparation for giving.

In the attached picture, taken Saturday, September 18, are (from lower right around to left) Judy Ekern, Linda Nelson, Cindy Bjerk, Pam McCulloch, Ada Kirscher, Nancy Sullivan, and Lorene Roste. Our group has an email list of 15; however, there are about 9 who attend consistently. Some of the others like to come for the fellowship, but work on their own personal projects. Since the pastors have made fewer personal visits due to the pandemic, we have a surplus of shawls right now. But, when the visiting returns, we sometimes have a hard time keeping enough shawls on hand. So we would welcome anyone who is interested to contact Pam McCulloch about participating at 651-210-7843.



WARM TOES AND TUMMIES

Mission and Outreach is Collecting New Socks Until Dec. 12

Roseville Lutheran works with Loaves and Fishes at the Dorothy Day Center. Each month on the 2nd Monday, RLC members purchase, prepare and serve a meal to all the guests at the Dorothy Day Center in St Paul. During the Holiday Season, RLC volunteers give a Christmas gift of new socks to everyone at the December meal.

Roseville Lutheran will be collecting new sock donations from Thanksgiving till Sunday December 12. Please bring your sock donations and place them in the boxes at the entrances. On Monday, December 13, the Roseville Lutheran volunteers will hand out your donated socks at the monthly Loaves and Fishes dinner. (See the next page of this TABLE issue for a volunteer opportunity at Dorothy Day).

HAPPY DAYS AHEAD

Connie Marchio, Hospitality Manager

As we begin the opening of the church, I am so grateful for all the support of all the volunteers that have helped me bring selected events back to the RLC community.

As we have not had very many inside services, we have been able to entertain our guests outside and I have been catering outside our church walls, and at other churches as well.

As we move forward and hopefully leave this pandemic behind us, we can look forward to more fun and meaningful events. Our hope is to now open up to serving after memorial services and honor the people that have passed with a warm meal and RLC hospitality.

I am an optimist and know that our future will be brighter. I have kept in contact with our past event coordinators and they are also anxious to get back into Roseville Lutheran to resume their events.

As you know by now, food costs have gone up quite a bit! As it has been a challenge to buy food and hardware, so my job takes me to places of interest to pick up supplies and food products – with that comes heartwarming stories that make me so humble that I am an employee of this wonderful church. If you been at worship the past few weeks, you may have noticed that I am not working on Sundays for coffee. No I did not retire! It is because I work at my home church, and have added another charm to my bracelet of life.

Hospitality is ready and excited to serve the church and outside guests. Once again THANK YOU for letting me serve you!

Sempre Famiglia
Connie Marchio

Order from
Nov. 28 - Dec. 12
Pick Up
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12

Love
Lights
and Luminaries

www.rosevillelutheran.org/LOVELIGHTS

Be sure to make your donations for
Love Light Stars by Sunday, Dec. 12.
Stop by in the Commons on Sundays
Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 12, or go online to
www.rosevillelutheran.org/lovelights.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Help Feed the Homeless

Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Feb. 14

Roseville Lutheran Church provides and serves a dinner at the Dorothy Day Center the second Monday of each month. Please join us for food prep or serving dinner in the St. Paul location (183 Old Sixth St. Saint Paul, MN 55102), with adjacent parking lot code given to volunteers.

Covid vaccination or negative weekly test required due to federal guidelines.

Youth who meet the guidelines may prep or serve with a parent/guardian. Food prep starts at 3:00 pm, and volunteers serving dinner arrive at 4:00 pm. Dinner provided after serving. Please email Jim Stark at jim.stark@llc.leg.mn if available. Upcoming dates for volunteers: Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Feb. 14.



NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH RLC JAZZ

Ring in the New Year with this Free Concert on Friday, Dec. 31 at 7:00 pm (Registration, vaccination, and masking required)



SHARING TREE IS BACK FOR DECEMBER

Outreach to the Local Community

Last year Mission and Outreach held our first virtual Sharing tree at RLC and it was a huge success! Since we are now open for Worship we will do a hybrid of both online and LIVE Sharing Tree. What that means is that you can go online to www.rosevillelutheran.org/sharing-tree beginning Nov. 21 (this link will also be in our eBlast leading up to our Dec. 12 deadline) and donate to our community partners. Pick an item, or two, or five, from one of our community partners' lists and purchase them. We will have the Christmas tree up in the Commons where you can also grab a tag if you prefer. Please drop off your unwrapped gifts by Dec. 12. Please contact Kris Olsen with any questions at olsen_kao@msn.com.

LIVELY LANDSCAPERS...BEYOND RLC

KJ Bach, Lively Landscaper Team

RLC's Lively Landscaper team has been renovating the RLC gardens for 2 years. This summer's hot and dry weather proved to be challenging to keep new plantings alive, much less established. But with many hands...and many hours...the RLC gardens gave the south entrance a new and welcoming look, bursting with color!

Taking the Lively Landscapers beyond RLC was always in the plan as a way to live out RLC's 'Love God, Love your Neighbor' Mission Statement. That plan came to reality this past summer. Lively Landscapers Linda Satrom and KJ Bach have a mutual friend, Kathleen, through their Curling league. Kathleen needed help renovating her gardens and the gardens of a rental property. KJ offered to help Kathleen cleanup the gardens around Kathleen's house throughout the summer. As Fall approached, the rental property was in desperate need of cleanup. KJ asked the Lively Landscapers if any of them would be willing to help Kathleen for a few hours. Dave Werner, Julie Wendland, Linda Satrom, Joanne Otis and KJ Bach took their lively garden tools to Kathleen's gardens for a Fall cleanup, tree trimming and installation of over 100 bags of mulch. After a collective 40 hours, Kathleen was overwhelmed with the results and provided an unsolicited generous contribution to the Lively Landscapers fund.

'Love God, Love your Neighbor' is such a simple phrase, yet so powerful. Sharing our time and energy with those in need enriches the lives of those we help and love, and instills a sense of gratitude for all.



JOIN THE RLC MEDIA TEAM

Contact John Helgen, Director of Music

Roseville Lutheran Church is looking for individuals who would volunteer, on a rotating schedule, alongside our professional live-streaming crew for our 9:00 am Sunday worship. Volunteers would work with our videographer, Nick Clausen (who has worked professionally with Netflix and other networks) to assist in our live-streaming worship. Volunteers would be responsible for presentation of lyrics and other slides throughout the live-stream. Hours are 8:30 - 10:00 am Sunday mornings. Nick would also be willing to train volunteers in our multiple-camera set up and video. To learn more, please contact John Helgen at jhelgen@rosevillelutheran.org.

FESTIVAL CHOIR REHEARSALS BEGIN

Join Us and Sing on Saturday, Dec. 18 Concert



It's never too early to start making plans to sing in the Festival Choir for the Christmas Festival Concert on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 7:30 pm. There are four Wednesday evening rehearsals leading up to the day of the concert. This is a great way to get connected with singing at RLC!

Due to Covid restrictions, all choir participants must be fully vaccinated for Covid 19. We will also be wearing masks and observing distancing precautions.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

Wednesday	November 17	7:00 to 9:00 pm
Wednesday	December 1	7:00 to 9:00 pm
Wednesday	December 8	7:00 to 9:00 pm
Wednesday	December 15	7:00 to 9:00 pm
Saturday	December 18	9:30 to 11:00 am Rehearsal 7:30 pm Concert

MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES AT RLC

Contact John Helgen, Director of Music

If you have a musical gift you'd like to share at one of RLC's worship services, or would like to get involved in one of our vocal and instrumental ensembles, we welcome you! Pianists and accompanists are always needed, as well as other instrumentalists and vocalists. If you like to sing but can't commit to weekly rehearsals, consider the Festival Choir (sings for special events at Christmas and Easter – see article above). Contact John Helgen, Director of Music at 651-288-4236 or jhelgen@rosevillelutheran.org.



WELCOME LUCAS BYL

10:30 Worship Leader

Lucas Byl (rhymes with "smile") is the newest member of the RLC staff. He will be leading music in our 10:30 am worship, coordinating musicians for worship, rehearsing with the 10:30 am musicians and ensembles, and assisting with the worship production at 9:00 am. He plays guitar and sings, and is also trained as a percussionist. He sang in choir and also participated in worship ensembles as a student at Luther College.

Lucas says:

"Hello everyone! My name is Lucas Byl, I'm a first year Masters of Divinity student at Luther Seminary, and I'm very excited to start this worship leader position with Roseville Lutheran. I'm originally from Forest Lake, and was an active member of St. Paul Lutheran in Wyoming, MN. In January of 2021 I graduated from Luther College with a degree in Religion and Classical Studies. After spending all of my life in small cities and towns, I'm excited to take advantage of all the opportunities that living and studying in the Twin Cities gives me. I've spent the last 5 years working as a counselor and support staff person at Luther Crest Bible Camp in Alexandria, MN. Between that, and my work in college ministries at Luther College, I'm excited to share the gifts and talents I've developed for ministry with all of you, as well as learn new ones. I look forward to seeing you in worship!"



UPCOMING CONCERTS AND MUSIC EVENTS IN 2021-2022 AT ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN

Get out your calendar and mark down these exciting concert opportunities at RLC for the coming year – more details will be available as the dates approach. Concerts are free except as noted. See individual websites listed for Ticketed Event info and to secure tickets.

Sunday, Dec 12 4:00 pm VocalEssence Welcome Christmas **
Philip Brunelle, conductor

**Ticketed Event – see www.VocalEssence.org

Vaccination and masking required for all attendees

Saturday, Dec. 18 7:30 pm RLC Christmas Festival Concert
Registration, vaccination and masking required for all attendees

Friday, Dec. 31 7:00 pm New Year's Eve with RLC Jazz
Registration, vaccination and masking required for all attendees

Sunday, Feb. 20 4:00 pm National Lutheran Choir **
David Cherwien, conductor
**Ticketed Event – see www.nlca.com

Friday, March 11 7:00 pm Minnesota Sinfonia
Jay Fishman, conductor

Sunday, May 15 4:00 pm Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra
William Schrickel, conductor