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THE TABLE

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

DECEMBER 2020 • 2021 JANUARY • FEBRUARY

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Pastor Lauren J. Wrightsman

As the nights continue to grow longer I find myself drawn to different forms of light. Like a moth to a flame, I crave the light, the warmth, the guiding spirit that light brings. From the beginning of these cold and dark months, I count the days until December 21st, "The Longest Night," where the light again begins to build, strengthen and nourish.

So I light candles during these dark, winter months. Their flame, although small, brings comfort as the dark closes in. Eventually I will also light our Christmas tree lights – another corner of our home now glowing - the front porch Christmas lights will twinkle despite the cold, and a fire will be lit in the fireplace. Perhaps there will be a few winter bonfires with neighbors and friends and evening winter walks where I will stand, in the stillness and the silence of the evening, and look up at the stars, my dog by my side.

But you know what? I also need the darkness. A flame lit in the light of day is hardly noticeable. A fire lit during the day is very different than one that lights the darkness of the evening. Author Madeline L'Engle once wrote, "Maybe you have to know the darkness before you can appreciate the light."

Advent is such a season. The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming." During this season of preparation, we spend 40 days waiting and watching. Declaring our hope in Christ, the love and joy Christ's birth will bring, and the peace that comes with his cry in the stable. In this time of waiting, we recognize the dark voids around us. We recognize that we are in need of a savior. In the words of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, "The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come."

LIGHT (Continues on Page 2)



WORSHIP WITH ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN

online sundays at 9:00 and 10:30 AM

CTV channel 19 • 10 am sun • 6 PM wed • 2 am, 10 am thurs

SPECIAL DEC. EVENTS

Drive-Thru Christmas

Friday, Dec. 11 from 5-8 pm

Drive from Calvary Church to Roseville
Covenant to Roseville Lutheran.

Pass It On

Saturday, Dec. 19 at 10:00 am

This is our Online Family Christmas Program

Longest Night

Monday, Dec. 21 at 6:30 pm

Caroling at RLC and in the Neighborhood

Christmas Eve Online Worship

Thursday, Dec. 24

Family Service Starts at 12:00 Noon
Candlelight Service Starts at 7:00 pm

LIGHT (Continued from Page 1)

Throughout this Advent season, we will be gathering together in worship under the theme, "Christ, Be Our Light," and following the song written by Bernadette Farrell under the same name. The opening verse and chorus sing:



**Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people
Light for the world to see.**

(Chorus)

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

While we will be unable to gather for in-person worship this Advent and Christmas season, we gather together as God's people with the light of Christ leading us, creating hope and joy in us, making us a people of peace for all the world to see.

Blessings to you and your family this Advent season.

Pastor Lauren J. Wrightsman
Senior Pastor, Roseville Lutheran Church

JAMEY JOHNSON (continued from Page 3)

My favorite Advent Quote: Brennan Manning, "to help people define themselves as one beloved by God."

I love Leadership development, reading, African-American history, racial reconciliation, fitness, personal development, public speaking, transformational life coaching, and a 1980's Action-Movie Geek. I absolutely love Mixed-Martial Arts and the UFC too!

CHRIS HAGEN (continued from Page 3)

My days are always busy with interests and hobbies: gardening, winemaking from fruit I grow, electric bicycles, reading industrial history, cooking and singing with the Great Northern Union Chorus. God has blessed me with wide-ranging curiosity for this marvelous world.

CHANGE?**Why Change RLC's Constitution and Bylaws?**

Change is hard. Change is harder now with COVID-19 restrictions. Change is extremely hard for a church with long standing traditions. As the saying goes, "the only thing that doesn't change... is change itself".

The constitution that RLC operates under today is from 1999.... 20+ years ago! Think about what has changed in your own lives in the past 20 years! There have been A LOT of societal changes and acceptances. A lot has changed with how RLC "does church." It's time the RLC Constitution and Bylaws are updated to be in alignment with governance documents from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) and the St Paul Area Synod (SPAS). It's time for us, the RLC Congregation, to put together a new and visionary approach to how we live out our mission and vision of Love God, Love your Neighbor and how we function as A Community United by Grace.

In the next several weeks the Constitution and Bylaws Task Force (CBTF) will be working to re-write the RLC Constitution and Bylaws, to better align with the language and structure of the ELCA model constitution and better describe the methods and operations of RLC's ministries and missions. There will be opportunity for congregation members to voice their questions throughout the process. The process includes bringing a DRAFT of the RLC Constitution and Bylaws to a Congregational meeting for an initial Congregational approval, followed by a SPAS review & approval. Once SPAS approves the draft, the RLC Congregation then votes to ratify the new Constitution and Bylaws. As the Bylaws are implemented and Bylaw changes are needed, these changes are approved by the Congregation. However, Continuing Resolutions are approved by just the Council.

The CBTF first met on September 24th with the following members: Pastor Lauren Wrightsman, Pastor Christopher Hagen (SPAS Consultant), KJ Bach, Dr. Chris Gehrz, Carrie Hefte-Hanton, Greg Johnson, Stacy Nealy, & Scott Roste. Each member brings a unique perspective of what church was and is, and will explore "what it might look like 'if'." The CBTF will be in communication with the Congregation Council, RLC Strategic Development Task Force, the Associate Pastor Call Committee, and those working on RLC's Ministry Site Profile. Further information will be forthcoming to the congregation via e-blasts, the TABLE Newsletter, and the RLC Website.

This effort is challenging. This effort is daunting. This effort is EXCITING as we prepare our church to live out what ministry God is putting before us and among us.

EPIPHANY AT RLC**What Happens When Doors Open?**

**"Prepare the Way of the Lord:
Preparing a people of faith"
is the Epiphany Season theme at RLC.**

Epiphany is the season when the curtains of heaven are pulled back and we glimpse a bit of God's intent. God has come incarnate, in body and welcome at Christmas. Epiphany is the next thought when seeing this wonder, who is this Jesus and what now? What happens after heaven's curtains are pulled back and doors open?

The same about Roseville Lutheran Church. We have endured the Advent agony of waiting through quarantine, social upset, racial questioning, political struggle. The world has changed suddenly. This congregation has changed. Lives and livelihoods have changed.

What happens when RLC doors open again? (The doors of RLC were never really closed and God is pleased with the care and good news living through you people still, yet what next?) This quarantine time will end. In-building worship and in-person gatherings will resume. But it will be to a changed world and a different church.

What happens when RLC church doors reopen and members return is one question. Another question is what happens when doors are open to a different way of being church, when doors are open to the wisdom of young adults and their dreams, when doors are open to understanding the challenges of being people of color in America, when doors are open to the gifts of GBLTQ+, when doors are open to God's ways in other faiths and cultures? What happens then?

This Epiphany season, January 6th through February 16th, we will be exploring what God is up to in all the changes happening. We will explore what does it look like to be a community united by grace. And RLC's core values of love, humility and faithfulness make it natural to open doors, to listen to other voices, to see the Spirit of God appearing in surprising places.

**Fling wide the door, unbar the gate;
the King of glory comes in state...
So raise a shout of holy mirth and praise our
God and Lord, Creator, Spirit, Word.**

— Evangelical Lutheran Worship, hymn 259

Chris Hagen, Interim Associate Pastor

WELCOME, JAMEY JOHNSON

Jamey Johnson, Transformational Life Coach

I am excited to be a part of Roseville Lutheran because of the vision that RLC has to reach outside its doors and be a light in the community.

My passion is in Transformational Leadership Coaching! My mission is to help Empower and Add Value to the Voices, Dreams, and the God-Potential in Others. I love Jesus Christ with all my heart, and I am so grateful to be called to serve!

I grew up in South Minneapolis. I grew up in an alcoholic family. I came to know Christ and was mentored in a Pentecostal, African American Church and Community. I graduated from North Central University and Bethel Seminary.

My wife and I have been married for over 23 years. We met at North Central University in 1994. Edwinna and I dated for two years and decided to get married on June 28, 1997. My wife (African-American) and I are both called to the ministry of racial-reconciliation, and have been in ministry together for over 25 years as well. Edwinna is my wife, sweet baby, honey, friend, companion, and supporter. Next to accepting Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, marrying Edwinna is my most important decision I have ever made.

Currently, I'm serving as the District Leadership Specialist in the Roseville School District, where I have the responsibility of developing, and leading the leadership programs for students, families and professional staff.

I absolutely believe in the purpose and potential of young people. I truly love to empower and coach people in their potential to dream big, become emotionally healthy, and development their leadership capacity.

JAMEY JOHNSON (continues on Page 2)



WELCOME PASTOR CHRIS

Chris Hagen, Interim Associate Pastor

Thank you for inviting me to be on this journey of faith with you for a time! I am awed by the wealth of talent, skills and resources of the RLC congregation. God has blessed you richly and opens opportunities not available to most churches. I am particularly interested in RLC's core values of love, humility and faithfulness, and look forward to hearing how these inform your ministry and witness.

Curiosity drives my faith and relationship with God. This life is full of wonder and surprise! My wife, Ann, says that my hobby is "collecting people" because I come home with stories of interesting and odd encounters with those I meet. I approach each day first by thanking God for one more day of life, and then looking forward to what adventure awaits, not knowing exactly how the day will play out, but always trusting that God leads and it will be interesting!

My wife, Ann Brearley, is Assistant Professor of Biostatistics at the University of Minnesota. Our daughter, Rachel, is a recent graduate of Metro State University and is now working for Metro State managing their psychology lab. Daughter, Hannah, is a student at the U of MN, majoring in Sociology of Law, Criminality and Deviance. And we have a dog and two rabbits, pets that my daughters "thoughtfully" left behind when they moved out.

Our home since 2000 is in Plymouth. Before that we lived in West Chester, PA and Chicago. I grew up in Glenwood City, WI where my dad is still the town barber. I call him every Sunday to catch up on the news in town and get the latest goings-on of relatives.

CHRIS HAGEN (continues on Page 2)



RLC Lay Leaders and Staff

Pastors

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

Hospitality Ministry

Connie Marchio, Hospitality Manager

Music Ministry

John Helgen, Director
Martha Mutch, Organist
Lori Haaland, Handbell Choirs

RLC Preschool

Jenifer Johnson, Director

Child Care House

Jenifer Johnson, Director
Shyama Dahal, Assistant
Laurie Miller-Hedeen, Assistant

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
Jamey Johnson, Transformational Life Coach

Facilities Ministry

Bruce Pelava, Campus Manager
Arlen Rystrom, Building Engineer
Shelton Ingram, Custodian
Vicky Benoit, Custodian
Greg Saiko, Custodian

Ministry Support Staff

Dave Booms, Church Administrator
Laurel Hofeldt, Director of Finance and Data
Diane Sell, Director of Volunteer and Care Ministry
Daniel Pederson, Communications Manager
Beth Daniel, Receptionist/CYF Support
Diane Daulton, Financial Assistant
Tammy Swanson, Financial Assistant

Endowment Committee

Dorothy Tostengard, Chair

Nominating Committee

James Stark, Co-Chair
Sharon Boyce, Co-Chair

Congregation Council

Jessica Henry, President
Joe Zeigler, President Elect
Rebecca Field, Vice President
Mary Peterson
Kevin Hanson
Heidi Larson
Heather Awad
Carrie Hefte Hanton
Scott Roste

Ministry Team Chairs

Georgia Nygaard, Adult Ed
Gena Mickley, Children's Ministry Advisory Board
Roxanne Schultz, Christian LIFE
Dave Tetzlaff, Mission & Outreach
Lillian Wassell, Youth & Family

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AT RLC

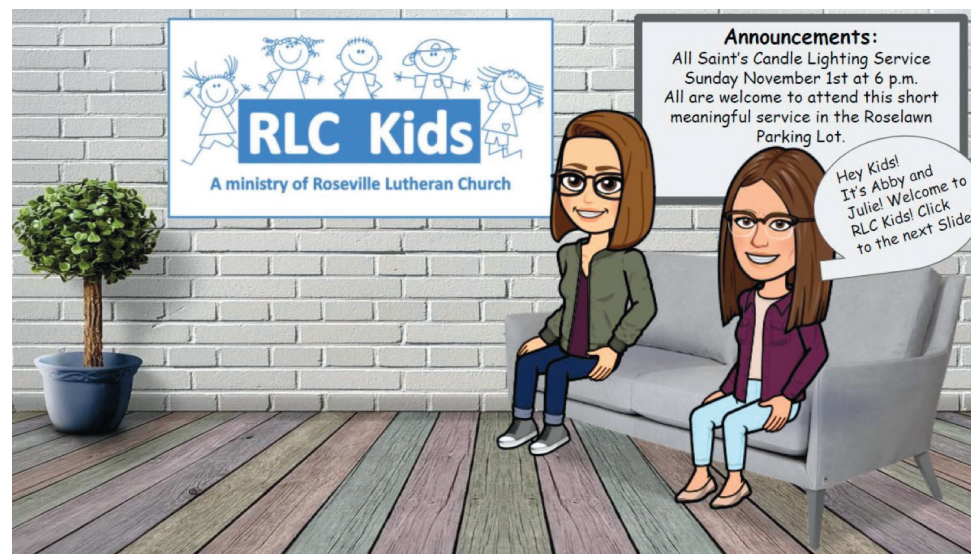
Julie Hanson, Director of Children's Ministry

There have been lots of ways we have been involved in the past few months, and there are many opportunities coming soon, too. On the following pages, read all about the important ways our Children's Ministry area is working in the RLC congregation and the Roseville community. Thank you for your participation, prayers, and encouragement!



KITCHEN BUNDLES ASSEMBLED FOR BRIDGING

While we have not been meeting in person on Sundays, we are still using our resources and time to help others. In September many families gathered outside our main doors to assemble Kitchen Bundles for the clients of Bridging. Thrivent Action Grants were used to purchase many of the kitchen utensils used, but individuals and families also contributed kitchen towels, pot holders, dish cloths and utensils to enable us to give Bridging over 70 Kitchen bundles. While waiting for their turn to put together their bundle, kids enjoyed a chalk obstacle course until it was their turn to bundle.



RLC KIDS

RLC Kids offered fun and diverse ways to learn more about Jesus this fall. In September we handed out Worship Kits to each child that registered for RLC Kids. In these kits we included their own Bible and items that are used during our online and Drive In worship services to help kids engage more in the service. We also included Family Talking Points that could be used to reinforce the lesson that was introduced in Worship for the first 4 weeks.



We also introduced a fun and interactive Google Slide activity that kids could use to hear music, Bible stories and fun craft options by clicking on different things in the slide that reinforced the messages that were introduced in worship in October. Knowing families are tired of "screens" we only used this activity for 2 weeks and will re-introduce it periodically as a different option for families.

Registration for RLC Kids is open and will be available the entire school year. If you would like a Worship Kit for your kids, register online today by going to the RLC website: www.rosevillelutheran.org.

When we are able to meet in person on Sunday mornings, all kids participating must be registered for RLC Kids.

RLC PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE RECEIVE MN STATE GRANTS!

Jenifer Johnson, Director RLC Preschool

RLC Preschool and the Childcare House each received a grant this late Fall from the State of MN as part of the COVID-19 Public Health Support Funds for Childcare. The funds will supplement the costs of Covid-19 supplies, classroom materials, and staff payroll. The programs are very grateful for this gift to off-set costs during this pandemic. Thanks to our MN Governor, Lt. Governor and Legislature for passing this in legislation to support our childcare centers, preschool programs, and family child cares in the state of Minnesota. God is good!



RLC MEN'S GROUP

Online Gatherings on the First and Third Saturdays at 8:30 am

RLC men recently completed discussion of the Gospel of Mark (it took us two years). In November we started a leisurely walk through Acts—the chronicle of the early church and the journeys of St. Paul. We invite all men to join us at 8:30 a.m. on the first and third Saturdays each month (Dec. 5, 19). Please contact Pastor Rolf to get on the email list and zoom invitation. Rolson@rosevillelutheran.org



PASS IT ON

Family Christmas Program is Set for Saturday, December 19

Even though we cannot gather to watch our kids sing and tell the Christmas story this year, many are working hard to make this program fun and meaningful! Our Family Christmas program will be a little different this year but will tell the Christmas story in a unique way that will touch your heart! Over 30 families and 60 kids are participating in a virtual Christmas program called Pass It On! Look for it to be aired starting at 10:00 am on Dec. 19 (watch any time thereafter). It will bring a smile to your face and joy to your heart. We hope you will Pass It On!

DRIVE THRU CHRISTMAS

Friday, December 11 • 5-8pm
CALVARY CHURCH • ROSEVILLE COVENANT • ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN

DRIVE-THRU CHRISTMAS

Dec. 11 • Start at Calvary Church (2120 Lexington Ave.)

In a world that seems so divided, RLC is joining two other Roseville churches for a Drive Thru Christmas! Join us on Friday evening, Dec 11th for this awesome event that begins at 5:00 pm and continues until 8:00 pm. Stay in your car to hear a narrated story that starts at Calvary Church, then continues at Roseville Covenant Church and culminates at Roseville Lutheran. Each church will portray a different part of the story of Jesus birth. See live actors, animals, carolers and enjoy safe treats. Get a map at the start that will direct you and tell you how to connect to the audio narration. This promises to be a fun way to experience the true meaning of Christmas!

JANUARY SERVE SUNDAYS

The Dresser Build Continues!

To be able to assemble 50 dressers for the clients of Bridging in a safe way, we are having our annual Dresser Build and Kitchen Bundle assemble over 3 different Sundays in January, starting on Jan. 10.

Confirmation groups will be invited to come in on certain Wednesdays to build 25 dressers and our general congregation will be invited to sign up for a time slot to build a dresser on Sundays at either 9:00 or 10:30.

We will have the dresser kits in several rooms around the church so each family or group that builds one will be a safe distance from others. Tools and rooms will be disinfected between shifts. Bridging is in major need of dressers for their clients. This pandemic has limited the number of volunteers that have the ability to build dressers. It is more important than ever that Roseville Lutheran help with this project in the safest way possible. Our goal is building 50 dressers. We will do what we can to meet this goal. We will also be assembling Kitchen Kits during this time. Look for more information after Christmas to sign up.



BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS

Upcoming Service Projects for Children and Families of All Kinds

RLC Kids and families will be offered different ways to show they are the hands and feet of Jesus this winter. These service projects will include making tie blankets, building dressers and Kitchen Bundles for Bridging, Food items for Keystone and connecting with our neighbors in different ways. Look for more information about these opportunities in Julie's Tuesday morning emails.

THRIVENT ACTION GRANTS APPRECIATED

A Simple Request Can Support RLC Ministries

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, you are eligible to request a Thrivent Action Grant that can be used for various service projects and activities that Children, Youth and Family ministry does. Thrivent Action Grants are easy to request and much needed. This is a great alternative to fund projects. If you are interested in helping in this way, please contact Julie Hanson at jhanson@rosevillelutheran.org or call the church office at 651-487-7752.

thrivent

RLC READS - BOOK GROUP FOR ADULTS

An book discussion group started at RLC, and met recently to discuss "The Book of Joy" by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu. If you are interested in joining a future group, please contact Bob Bergstrom at rcbergstrom@comcast.net or 651-415-0860. He'll let you know what is being planned next. and will send you a link to the online meeting.

VIRTUAL CONFIRMATION NOT SO VIRTUAL IN JANUARY!

Abby Matter, Director of Faith Formation

Confirmation, like many other things, has made the jump from weekly in person gatherings to weekly online gatherings. Even though this is not ideal in any way, shape or form, it is at least one way for students to stay connected to God and a supportive community during these difficult times. At the beginning, I was quite uncertain about how this would all work out, but it has proven to be fruitful and meaningful to youth and leaders alike. We began with lighthearted team building activities but have now taken the plunge into topics and conversations that are relevant to life here and now. Specifically, we are looking at the book *Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times* by Adam Hamilton. This book covers everything from fear, crime, race and politics to failure, loneliness, illness and dying. We are taking this opportunity to talk about the universality of fear and how faith can help combat fear. The hope is to give students a space and place to express all that they may be feeling in one of the most uncertain times they likely have lived through.

While we have not been able to meet in the building for Confirmation yet this year, we are hoping that will change come January. The plan is to have three to four small groups come in each Wednesday in January to build dressers for Bridging. This will be a wonderful opportunity for not only our church to support an amazing organization but also for kids and leaders to connect with one another face to face. We want to do this as safely as possible and are currently working on a plan. More information about rules and procedures including temperature checks, mandatory face masks, etc. will be sent to parents in advance.

LENTEN MENTORS NEEDED

6-Week Commitment to a Confirmation Student

This year we are looking for 49 adults in the congregation to be mentors to our 9th grade confirmation students during Lent. We hope that this will take place in person, but will make decisions at a later date of whether Lenten Mentors will be happening in person or online. It would be a 6-week commitment beginning with a Mentor Meeting on February 10 at 7:00 pm. As a mentor, you would attend the 7 o'clock worship with a 9th grade student (or watch it online) and then meet with them afterwards one on one for five weeks in Lent (February 17, 24, March 3, 17 and 24. Students have Spring Break March 10 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!



GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

Audrey Dontje Lindell, Director of Youth Ministry



Is RLC's Shop With Scrip program on your radar yet? This Gift Card Fundraiser allows your family to use gift cards for everyday purchases in place of cash, checks, or credit cards while raising money for RLC's youth programs. It's an easy way to support the RLC youth programs any time of the year!

Anyone can purchase gift cards through our fundraiser, and a percentage of each gift card's dollar amount is returned as a rebate to the church. The rebate can go toward your family's account to pay for future trips, or to the general Scholarship Fund to make sure that RLC youth programs are affordable to all families.

HOW THE GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER WORKS • For each gift card you purchase, RLC receives an automatic rebate. (The exact percentage of the rebate depends on the retailer—usually between 3-8% of the full gift card value.) Of that rebate, RLC takes 10% to cover the cost of maintaining the program on our end. You choose where the other 90% goes: either your family's "account" or the general Scholarship Fund.

HOW TO GET STARTED • Contact Audrey (adontjelindell@rosevillelutheran.org) to sign a Family Agreement that designates where you want your fund to go (either your family's account or to the general Scholarship Fund). Then Audrey will create an online Shop with Scrip account for you.

Once you've signed a Family Agreement, decide which retailers you want to purchase gift cards for, and in which denominations. Go to ShopWithScrip.com to view the full list of available gift cards and to compare the rebate amount for each retailer. To get started, I recommend purchasing gift cards for any of the retailers you already shop at regularly (such as grocery stores or gas stations). This holiday season, it's also easy to purchase the gift cards you would normally give your family and friends.

Once Shop with Scrip becomes part of your normal routine, you can begin to plan ahead for larger or special, one-time shopping sprees. Doing home renovation? Find out how much of a rebate your nearest home improvement store offers. Going back-to-school shopping? Most popular department stores offer rebates, too!

PLACE YOUR ORDER(S) • Place your order via your online account or by sending your order to Audrey. You can pay via credit card or bank transfer through the online account, or by cash/credit card through Audrey.

Audrey will send you a message when your gift card order is available to pick up from the church (within two weeks of placing your order). Many stores also now offer e-Cards, and you can fill up your "electronic" gift card anytime and anywhere, even while you're in line at the cash register!

WATCH YOUR FUNDS ADD UP • You can contact Audrey anytime to keep track of your rebates. We distribute funds once a year in May, and you decide which event(s) the money goes towards covering for your child(ren). If your rebates go to our Scholarship Fund, they will go toward making sure that all families can attend our summer trips, annual retreats, and any other youth events throughout the year. THANK YOU for your support of our youth programs!

ADULT EDUCATION

On-Line Opportunities Located on New Webpage, "Forum"

The RLC Adult Ed Committee has planned for adult education sessions in the coming months. They will be shared as online video or Power Point presentations. These programs will be recorded and you can view them at your convenience at www.rosevillelutheran.org/forum once they've "aired." We generally plan to release new presentations the first and second Wednesdays of each month. Below is a listing of the upcoming Adult Ed sessions:



Wednesdays – December 2, 9

WORSHIP AND MUSIC – Marty Haugen

Composer and church musician Marty Haugen will be interviewed by Jim Boyce and John Helgen in two sessions and will discuss the history of ancient and modern hymnody, how forms of worship have changed over time, the role of "music in worship" and "music as worship", and the significance of the Lutheran liturgy. One of the most influential church musicians of the past 50 years, Marty Haugen grew up in Wanamingo, MN and attended Luther College in Decorah, IA. He is the author of over 400 songs, hymns and other liturgical music, including "Gather Us In", "Canticle of the Sun", "Shepherd Me, O God", "All Are Welcome", and "Holden Evening Prayer".



Wednesdays – January 6

GUN VIOLENCE: WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT – Rolf Olson

This is presented in cooperation with our Mission and Outreach Committee. In addition to Covid-19, gun violence is another plague in America. Gun sales have skyrocketed in recent months. Ready access to guns along with fear and lack of training is a volatile combination. For Pastor Rolf Olson the issue is very personal. His daughter was killed in 2007 in the first Craigslist murder. In this presentation Pastor Olson tells his personal story and then lays out some key issues in gun violence prevention—especially how to reduce gun violence while respecting the Second Amendment.



Wednesdays – Feb. 21, 28, March 1, 8

GOSPEL OF LUKE: God's Promise for All People - Jim Boyce

The Gospel of Luke tells the story of Jesus in a unique and captivating way. As Luke tells the story faith is not so much a possession as a journey of discovery and discipleship. Touched by God's grace, the lives of God's people, and our lives, intersect with others and the world in which we live in surprising ways. As we explore the special themes of Luke's narrative we will see the way each of our faith stories is continually shaped by our hearing of this story within a community of faith and within an expectant world.



- Session 1 (February 21) "Righteousness Reimagined"—The Birth of Jesus. Luke, Chapters 1-2
- Session 2 (February 28) "Salvation: the Keyword of Promise"—Jesus' Ministry in Galilee, Luke, Chapters 3-9:50
- Session 3 (March 1) "Today is the Day of Salvation"—Jesus Journey to Jerusalem, Luke 9:51-19
- Session 4 (March 8) "The Necessity of God's Promises"—Jesus' Passion and Resurrection, Luke 20-24

MY PRAYER FOR THESE TIMES...

Diane Sell, Director of Volunteer and Care Ministry

My head and heart are filled with so much these days. Many of my thoughts go to the current state of our country and world. I think about our children and their children so I wanted to offer up a prayer because we can never be in prayer too much.

Dear God, As we face these uncertain times in our nation and the world, we ask you, Lord, to dwell among us. We are comforted by the knowledge that You alone are our Savior and Lord, and the ultimate Master of life. We trust our nation to Your loving care, Lord. Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders. Give them the wisdom to know what is right, and the courage to do it. Give us Your light and Your truth to guide us in our ways so that we may seek Your will in our lives and impact the world around us for Your Kingdom. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen



HAPPY HOLIDAYS, ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN

Connie Marchio, Director of Hospitality

As we make the journey through this holiday season, I tell my children that these difficult days will pass and we will be more cognizant of our surroundings.

RLC Hospitality is staying on track to still have a wondrous holiday. When you arrive at church for the Drive-Thru Christmas on Dec. 11, you will notice Christmas trees made from Tomato cages of the summer, this was a fun project and was an inexpensive way to share the holidays.

When you receive this letter, we would have already made the meals for our drive up Veterans day event. I have also been able to make full turkey dinners for the people that would not be able to do so on their own.

DECEMBER DINNERS

Order by Dec. 7

Pick up Dec. 21

You have the opportunity to purchase a pick-up dinner as a fundraiser for the church. The menu is homemade meat lasagna, Italian salad with dressing, Italian bread and butter, and dessert will be cream cannolis. The meal will serve 4 and costs \$30.00

Please make your reservations by **Monday, Dec. 7**, as this is a labor of love and I want to make sure we have the necessary ingredients for all of the meals. Contact Beth in the church office (651-487-7752) or bdaniel@rosevillelutheran.org to make reservations and payments. You can make checks out to Roseville Lutheran Church or pay cash, please no credit/debit cards. Your prepayment is your reservation for this dinner. Meals will be available for pick up at the church on Monday, **Dec. 21** from 4:00 - 6:00 pm.

If you are getting a Love Light Luminary this year, they will include a homemade christmas cookie in it to enjoy.

As I know this is a challenge, I feel we will embrace this time that we could spend with our immediate family (social distancing of course) and move forward to a new normal. I wish you a very Happy Holiday and a new normal New Year!
Buon Natale!





Love Light Luminaries - Christ Be Our Light

For 2020, the RLC Endowment Committee will be offering Lovelight Luminaries for Christmas in your home. For a requested donation of \$25 each, you will receive a paper luminary with a battery-operated candle, some sand for ballast, and as an added bonus, it will include a Christmas cookie from Connie!

Sign Up Starts Nov. 23 • Pick Up Dec. 5-11

The Luminaries can be ordered online or by mail through Dec. 11. They can be picked up at the church office Monday, Dec. 7 through Friday, Dec. 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will also be a weekend pick-up on Saturday, Dec. 5 and Sunday Dec. 6 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the South door. They will be brought to your car by a volunteer. If you are unable to pick up your Luminary, a delivery can be arranged. The order form will have a place for you to designate "in honor of" or "in memory of" loved ones.

A new twist this year: We'd like you to take photos or short videos of your lit luminary at your home and send them in. We'll use those images for our Dec. 21 Longest Night and Dec. 24 Christmas Eve worship videos. You can email your photos or short video to pics@rosevillelutheran.org.

THE LONGEST NIGHT

"Shine in the Darkness" Caroling on Dec. 21

Join your RLC family to light up the longest night of the year with Christmas Carols and candle lights! Kevin Miller is heading up this event that begins at 6:30 pm. We'll meet in the parking lot off of Roselawn to warm up our voices and then we will head out on foot to sing carols in the neighborhood. No need to sign up for this event, just SHOW up masked and we will go from there!



www.rosevillelutheran.org/interested

Maybe you've been joining us online, or been with us for awhile. Learn more about RLC today!

Storehouses of Grace Thank You!

During the month of November RLC held our annual appeal seeking commitments and intents to give for 2021. If you have not yet completed your intent to give it's not too late! Complete your intent to give online at www.rosevillelutheran.org/storehouses. All gifts given help us live out our mission and vision as a community united by grace. Thank you for the many ways you give!

COVID PLAN UPDATE

Updated "Level Response Plan"

At the beginning of November, your church council and medical professionals from Roseville Lutheran Church engaged in an online discussion about the risks this virus poses to gathering communities.

While we all long to gather together in person, especially during the holidays, your church council made the difficult decision to **postpone any in-person, indoor worship through the end of January 2021**. This decision was made out of an abundance of caution, stemming from an abundance of love and care for all people.

Your church council will continue to listen to the advice of the Minnesota Department of Health, the CDC and other agencies. You can stay informed as to our plans on our website. For more detailed information, please go to www.rosevillelutheran.org/covid. You will also find RLC's COVID-19 Level Response Plan on this page.



**Join Others on
Saturday, Dec. 5
9:00 - 11:30 am**

Discussions/Support
Videos • Workbooks

Please Register Now

Grief Share Surviving the Holidays

Soon the holiday season will be upon us. This might be the first holiday after your loved one's death, or maybe it's the second, third, or beyond. In the days leading up to Christmas with its focus on family and yearly traditions, expectations and "cheer" the emotions can blindsides you.

Surviving the holidays is here to help. Roseville Lutheran will be hosting on December 5. Join Diane Sell and others who has lost loved ones over the years for a morning seminar. We will watch video clips from leading experts in the field of grief and be a part of a discussion group. You will receive a survival guide with daily encouragement and helpful exercises for the days ahead. To sign up please go to www.rosevillelutheran.org/event/2020-12-05-griefshare-surviving-the-holidays. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Diane Sell at dsell@rosevillelutheran.org

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Family Service Starts at 12:00 noon

Evening Candlelight Service Starts at 7:00 pm

Join us starting at 12:00 Noon on Christmas Eve for songs, prayers, a special Christmas message and a family blessing. May Christ's light shine within your hearts and your homes this Christmas season.

Our online evening candlelight service starts at 7:00 pm. Both services can be watched at your convenience anytime after their starting time.



PLEASE RETURN GIFTS BY DECEMBER 11

to find ways to donate items to our various ministries that we partner with during the year. We will be having donation boxes located at church that you can drop off your unwrapped gifts. Pick an item or two or five from one of our community partners lists and purchase them. You can locate the list on our website: www.rosevillelutheran.org/sharing-tree. This link will be sent through our email blasts as well. **Return the gift by Dec. 11** (unwrapped with the name of the organization on it) to the Ryan Ave entrance of Roseville Lutheran. We are open M-F 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Contact Diane Sell at 651-487-7752 or dsell@rosevillelutheran.org if you can't drop off then, or have questions.

Since we will not be gathering in person during November and December we have created a way in which we can still have our sharing tree that serves the needs of our Local Partnerships during the holidays.

Beginning the week of Nov. 15, you will have the opportunity