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THE TABLE

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

MARCH • APRIL • MAY • 2021



LIFT EVERY VOICE

*A Conversation about Race
and Reconciliation*

WEDNESDAY LENTEN WORSHIP

Join us for worship during the season of Lent at www.rosevillelutheran.org/leнт. This time of worship will be one of song, prayers, and an opportunity to listen to discussions with young adults from our community regarding race and the work of reconciliation.

Online worship will be available for viewing at 12 noon on Wednesdays February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31.

You can also watch our Wednesday Lenten Services on Local Cable Channel 19 at 6:00 pm Wednesday. (Local access cable for Xfinity/Comcast subscribers in Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Mounds View, New Brighton, North Oaks, Roseville and St. Anthony).

LIFT EVERY VOICE continues on Page 2...

WHAT IS TRUTH?

Pastor Lauren J. Wrightsman

The other day, I had the pleasure of hosting a zoom meeting that we created for members and friends of RLC to gather in conversation about the ongoing mission and ministry of Roseville Lutheran Church. These "Community Conversations" happen monthly, and if you haven't had the chance to join us for these conversations, I hope that you take the opportunity to do so! Please register each month online at www.rosevillelutheran.org/conversations. The next ones are March 2, April 6, May 3.

Each of these conversations is created out of questions that members send in in advance of our discussion. This last month we had the opportunity to meet our newest member of staff, Rebecca Bedner-Faris, Director of Development (to hear more about Rebecca, read her introduction to the congregation on Page 4). We also took the opportunity to discuss RLC's plans for moving forward in the midst (and hopefully, the end!) of this pandemic, as well as hear from members from all three of our Task Forces: 1) Constitution and Bylaw Task Force, 2) Ministry Site Profile Task Force, and 3) Inclusion Task Force – read about all on Page 2, and find out even more at www.rosevillelutheran.org/task-force. I find these times of discussion to be very engaging, uplifting and sometimes - to be honest - a bit challenging.

For example, at the end of our time together that evening, this question was asked by one of the participants, "How should the church address the fake and misleading news that permeates our world today?"

It's a great question and I was eager to hear how those in attendance would respond.

What followed then, was then another question that focused on the first question at hand. "What IS truth?" someone asked.

I can't remember exactly how the conversation played out, but I jotted down a few comments that followed:

- Is truth that which enhances life?
- Is the news we hear helping build up and encourage, or is the news pulling us apart and destroying our communities, families and relationships?

WHAT is TRUTH continues on Page 2...



WORSHIP AT ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN

Lenten Wednesdays • 12 NOON ONLINE • 6:00 PM CABLE
Sundays • 9:00 and 10:30 am ONLINE • 10:00 am CABLE

WHAT is TRUTH continued from Page 1

Both of these follow up questions are wonderful questions for all of us to consider. Is the news that we absorb news that brings new life? Is the news we deliver news of encouragement or news of destruction?

As we reside in the season of Lent, and as we ponder the cross, I am reminded of the passage from 1 Corinthians 1:18 which reads,

"For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

From the very beginning of his ministry, Jesus proclaimed the truth of what sort of ministry we are being called into.

Luke 4:16-19 reads:

When [Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor."

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

The truth of Christ's message, the truth of our mission and calling, the truth of what we are blessed to be a part of as Christians called out into the world - it's all there! As this sermon articulates - truth is what love and consciousness born of the Spirit looks like in public. Good news to the poor, recovery of sight to the blind, freedom to the oppressed.

And this work - it is not just the work of a pastor, a staff, or the corporate work of a congregation - it is the work, the truth that ALL people all called to proclaim.

May you seek, proclaim and live in the truth that is in Christ Jesus this day.

Blessings to you this holy season of Lent,



Pastor Lauren J. Wrightman

TASK FORCE(S) AND MORE!

Chris Hagen, Interim Associate Pastor

This past year has been unprecedented in recent history for the disruption and uncertainty it brought to our country and our congregation. Roseville Lutheran Church continues to provide needed and consistent ministry through it all. As we anticipate resuming "normal" life soon, it is necessary to prepare for changes and challenges that this past year has brought. Health concerns will linger. Effects from stress and loss will continue. Expectations of church have changed.

My role as Interim Associate Pastor is to provide the regular duties of pastor at the direction of Pastor Lauren and Council, and specifically to inform the transitioning out of quarantine and to inform the process of calling the next associate pastor. To those ends, I am advisor to the Constitution and Bylaws Task Force, the Ministry Site Profile Task Force and the Inclusion Task Force.

Constitution and Bylaws Task Force

The Constitution and Bylaws Task Force works on behalf of the council to "align RLC's constitution and bylaws within the RLC mission, vision and values and develop a comprehensive and cohesive organizational framework that can reimagine our work as the church for the 21st century." CBTF is drafting updates to the current constitution and bylaws that will be reviewed and considered by the congregation this summer. The updates will serve as foundation for restructuring programs and ministries to best carry out RLC's core purposes.

Ministry Site Profile Task Force

The Ministry Site Profile Task Force prepares the document that will be used to promote RLC in the call process and to guide the eventual Call Committee seeking the next associate pastor. Along with basic demographic information, the document describes the qualities, direction and purpose of RLC. Building on previous discussions of RLC's values, mission and vision, the task force will be engaging members for deeper understanding of these items.

LGBTQ+ Inclusion Task Force

The Inclusion Task Force is a recent initiative that will guide "comprehensive conversations about the active inclusion of LGBTQ+ people within our congregation." It will explore and advise how RLC might best embrace diversity and celebrate differences.

It is my privilege to join RLC for a time as a new era unfolds!



Pastor Chris Hagen
Interim Associate Pastor

**LIFT EVERY VOICE** continued from Page 1...**WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 – SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS
JOIN THE CONVERSATION!**

During the season of Lent we will be hosting online small group discussions, starting Monday, March 1. It is our prayer that by being a part of this study you will discover new ways to see, explore, and experience the wonderful diversity that is a part of our community. Each Monday evening during Lent we will meet online to discuss and reflect the previous Wednesday Lenten service and discussion. Learn more and sign up for the link at www.rosevillelutheran.org/voice.

- **7:00 pm:** A large group meeting to recap the previous Wednesday's conversation and hear from one of our young adult speakers.
- **7:15-8:00 pm:** Small group discussions centering on the focus of our Wednesday Lenten worship

OUR WORK CONTINUES

Jessica Henry, Congregational President

Despite Roseville Lutheran Church’s temporary pause of indoor in-person worship, our work continues. There are far too many ways to list each one here – but let me lift up a few:

There are three active task forces focused on updating RLC’s Constitution and Bylaws, completing RLC’s Ministry Site Profile, and inclusion, respectively. Confirmation students are meeting virtually; ninth graders are preparing their faith projects and are looking forward to working with mentors from the congregation throughout Lent. There are plans for small group discussions connected to the upcoming Wednesday night Lenten services under the theme “Lift Every Voice” and soup suppers will be available to order and pickup for your enjoyment at home.

In service to the greater community, the people of RLC built a record number of dressers for Bridging, volunteers are serving meals at the Dorothy Day center, snow clothes are being collected for students at Central Park Elementary School, and the Mission and Outreach Team is working closely with community partners to determine how RLC can best meet their current needs.

Council is continuing to meet virtually at least once per month (you can read the meeting minutes online). Part of each monthly meeting is a financial check-in, and the end of December marked the halfway point in RLC’s fiscal year; following a formal quarterly review at January’s meeting, Council determined that no adjustments to the budget were needed. Council members also participate in monthly Community Conversations hosted by Pastor Lauren on the first Monday evening of each month – I invite you to join in these virtual conversations, whether you have specific questions or just want to hear more about all of the things that are happening at RLC.

In the meantime, take good care.



PASTOR LAUREN SABBATICAL
SUMMER OF 2022

Lilly Endowment National Clergy Renewal Program

The word sabbatical has its roots in the Biblical concept of Sabbath (“to rest or to cease:”). Sabbath keeping is setting aside time that God consecrates and makes holy. In the congregation, sabbatical leave is a time for a pastor or other ministry leader to shift gears to study, reflect, travel and rest in order to become refreshed in work, as well as renewed in body, mind and spirit.

The St. Paul Area Synod recommends clergy sabbatical after every six years of ministry. Pastor Lauren began her ministry with us in December 2015.

Pastor Lauren is applying for a grant with the Lilly Endowment National Clergy Renewal Program for 4 months in 2022 (April 25, 2022 – August 7, 2022). The grant provides opportunities for pastors to step away briefly from the obligations of parish life to engage in a period of renewal and reflection. Sabbaticals are not vacations, but times for intentional exploration and reflection, as well as an opportunity for regaining the enthusiasm and creativity needed for future ministry.

Working with a group of young adults, as well as other members of RLC, Pastor Lauren is crafting a sabbatical proposal under the theme: Mentored UP! Gen XYZ: Finding Faith in the Future Together.

This proposal has been born out of an understanding that as a Gen X’er, she wants to spend time listening to, and uplifting the voices of Generations Y and Z. Pastor Lauren was struck by a declaration that, “If you are a Gen X pastor and don’t have a mentor younger than yourself, you are doing yourself and your ministry a disservice.”

The sabbatical that is being proposed for Lilly consideration has four different areas of concentration:

SABBATICAL continues on Page 4...

RLC Lay Leaders and Staff

<p>Pastors</p> <p>Lauren Wrightsman, Senior Pastor</p> <p>Chris Hagen, Interim Associate Pastor</p> <p>Rolf Olson, Visitation Pastor</p> <p>Hospitality Ministry</p> <p>Connie Marchio, Hospitality Manager</p> <p>Music Ministry</p> <p>John Helgen, Director</p> <p>Martha Mutch, Organist</p> <p>Lori Haaland, Handbell Choirs</p> <p>RLC Preschool</p> <p>Jenifer Johnson, Director</p> <p>Child Care House</p> <p>Jenifer Johnson, Director</p> <p>Shyama Dahal, Assistant</p> <p>Laurie Miller-Hedeen, Assistant</p> <p>Children’s Ministry</p> <p>Julie Hanson, Director of Children’s Ministry</p> <p>Tammy Heiple, PMO, Nursery Coordinator</p>	<p>Student Ministry</p> <p>Audrey Dontje Lindell, Director of Youth Ministry</p> <p>Abby Matter, Deacon, Director of Faith Formation</p> <p>Jamey Johnson, Transformational Life Coach</p> <p>Facilities Ministry</p> <p>Bruce Pelava, Campus Manager</p> <p>Arlen Rystrom, Building Engineer</p> <p>Shelton Ingram, Custodian</p> <p>Vicky Benoit, Custodian</p> <p>Greg Saiko, Custodian</p> <p>Ministry Support Staff</p> <p>Dave Booms, Church Administrator</p> <p>Laurel Hofeldt, Director of Finance and Data</p> <p>Diane Sell, Director of Volunteer and Care Ministry</p> <p>Rebecca Bedner-Faris, Director of Development</p> <p>Daniel Pederson, Communications Manager</p> <p>Beth Daniel, Receptionist/CYF Support</p> <p>Diane Daulton, Financial Assistant</p> <p>Tammy Swanson, Financial Assistant</p> <p>Endowment Committee</p> <p>Dorothy Tostengard, Chair</p>	<p>Nominating Committee</p> <p>James Stark, Co-Chair</p> <p>Sharon Boyce, Co-Chair</p> <p>Congregation Council</p> <p>Jessica Henry, President</p> <p>Joe Zeigler, President Elect</p> <p>Rebecca Field, Vice President</p> <p>Mary Peterson</p> <p>Kevin Hanson</p> <p>Heidi Larson</p> <p>Heather Awad</p> <p>Carrie Hefte Hanton</p> <p>Scott Roste</p> <p>Ministry Team Chairs</p> <p>Georgia Nygaard, Adult Ed</p> <p>Gena Mickley, Children’s Ministry Advisory Board</p> <p>Roxanne Schultz, Christian LIFE</p> <p>Dave Tetzlaff, Mission & Outreach</p> <p>Lillian Wassell, Youth & Family</p>
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WELCOME REBECCA!

Rebecca Bedner-Faris, Director of Development

We are delighted to welcome Rebecca Bedner-Faris to the RLC as our new Director of Development!

Rebecca brings over 20 years of experience leading programs in the non-profit sector. Throughout her career, she has held positions in community education, volunteer management, human resources, fundraising, and special events. Most recently, she comes to us from Avivo-a non-profit focused on providing recovery, career advancement, and housing services-where she led their volunteer and annual giving programs. She enjoys volunteering at Make-a-Wish Minnesota as a wish granter and Prepare and Prosper as a tax preparer for low income individuals and families each tax season. Rebecca began her work with us on February 1. Here are a few words of introduction from her:

I am excited to be a part of Roseville Lutheran Church because I feel connected and aligned to the mission and vision of this church. I learned of RLC while on a run in my neighborhood last fall. As I ran past the church, I was moved by the messages in the yard signs. This prompted me to go online and learn more, and eventually apply for the Director of Development position. In addition to the mission and vision, I am also excited about the impact that RLC members have on those in the community through their donations and volunteer efforts. I have spent many years in the social service arena, and I am very excited to make this change, both professionally and personally.

I feel grateful for my faith, and the deep sense of knowing that I am loved as a child of God, along with my fellow brothers and sisters. My faith is what grounds me and encourages me to shine God's light through me into the world. I believe there is no greater gift than this.

I enjoy the rituals and traditions that come with the church seasons, so it is hard to name a favorite. I enjoy the time spent with family as well as the quiet reflection of faith that helps to slow me down and keep me grounded, especially over the last year. In addition to my faith, family, and friends, I love walking our dogs, running, cooking great meals, and any kind of work in the garden.

I grew up in St. Paul and made Roseville my home in 2019. I married my wife Maggie in 2018, and we live in Roseville with my mother and all our dogs. My mother Mary Anne has been staying with us through the pandemic and will be going back to her home once vaccinated. Maggie and I each had 2 dogs prior to meetings, so we are now a big, blended family enjoying our home, yard, and new friends in Roseville. She works for the Minnesota Department of Transportation which includes driving a snowplow. While we are not able to attend service in person yet, keep an eye out as you may catch her on Highway 36 during the next snowstorm!

I am very excited to start this new journey. I am looking forward to connecting with you and learning more about your relationship to RLC and the larger Roseville community. I have enjoyed attending online service and look forward to the time when we will meet in-person again.



SABBATICAL continues on Page 4...

- 1. Personal internships,** "Mentoring UP", and learning experiences with Gen YZ Pastor Lauren is proposing an "internship" for a portion of her sabbatical with OutFrontMN.org. She will walk alongside this team of professionals to gain and understanding of their work and passion. Pastor Lauren is also going to be "Mentored UP" by a Gen Y pastor or church worker throughout the sabbatical. A portion of the sabbatical is also spent volunteering at the ELCA Youth Gathering to be held in Minneapolis late July 2022.
- 2. Interviews with young adults for a post-sabbatical podcast series.** Throughout the sabbatical, Pastor Lauren will be interviewing a variety of Gen YZ young adults about their passions and concerns. These interviews will become a podcast series, shared after her sabbatical.
- 3. Experiences with her own family of young adults.** Part of the sabbatical will be spent traveling with her own young adults (ages 21, 19 and 17). Exploring their passions and interests and interviewing other young adults along the way.
- 4. Personal time of rest and renewal.** The sabbatical also includes time of rest: gardening, walking, reading, and private retreats.

Learn More on March 23

Want to hear more? Have questions? Join Pastor Lauren for a "Sabbatical Q and A Session" on Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. over zoom. Register at www.rosevillelutheran.org/sabbatical.

FINANCE OFFICE

Laurel Hofeldt, Director of Finance and Data

Thank you for the many ways that you participated in the Storehouses of Grace Annual Appeal! With strong financial support from RLC members and friends, we look ahead to the ways God is calling us to expand our shared ministry with young adults, new and improved worship outreach and technology, and expanded community partnerships. If you have questions about updating your giving or becoming a sustainer, please call the church or email lhofeldt@rosevillelutheran.org.

Stay tuned for more information about **pRAISE RLC 2021**, coming **May 2-6** This promises to be another high energy, fun way to celebrate and support all that is happening through the people of Roseville Lutheran.

Please give a warm welcome to Rebecca Bedner-Faris, RLC's new Director of Development. Rebecca will work closely with staff and lay leadership in the areas of stewardship, planned giving and special events such as pRAISE RLC. As she gets to know the congregation, look for ways to share your story with her. She is a great listener!

ENDOWMENT GRANTS

May 1 Deadline

Endowment grants due are May 1 and will be discussed at their May meeting. Go to www.rosevillelutheran.org/endowment-grant-application/ for information and to apply online.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

www.rosevillelutheran.org/Holy-Week

MARCH 28 – PALM SUNDAY

Drive-In Worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am
Online and Cable Broadcast as Usual.

APRIL 1 – MAUNDY THURSDAY

Online worship (only) available at 12:00 Noon.

APRIL 2 – GOOD FRIDAY

(Family service available at 9:00 am)
Online worship (only) available at 12:00 Noon.

APRIL 3 – EASTER VIGIL

Parking Lot Service at 7:30 pm
(No online/cable broadcast of this service).

APRIL 4 – EASTER SUNDAY

Drive-In Worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am
Online and Cable Broadcast as Usual.

FAITHFULNESS IN THE DARKNESS

Diane Sell, Volunteer and Care Ministry

After 911, churches came together and immediately got out and gave aid to those who were hurting and in need. They rolled up their sleeves and got in the midst of the clean-up. The human touch was present. This pandemic has not allowed the church to be that physical presence. Instead for months we have zoomed and phone called and met from afar. We do drive by communion and limited seating and drive-in worship. We count how many can be present to bury our loved ones. We mask, we mask, we mask. This pandemic doesn't allow us to do what we have always done and that has been frustrating and sad and filled us with anxiety for the last 10 months. We have been, for the most part, faithful in this darkness, not knowing when we will go back to normal life.



I was listening to a podcast the other day titled "Where is God in This Pandemic". It featured 2 men. The author and Pastor, Timothy Keller, and Francis Collins. Francis is an American physician-geneticist who discovered the genes associated with a number of diseases and led the Human Genome Project. He also happens to be a Christian. I thought for sure they would hold some wisdom and answers to our current plight. What I learned though is that, like me and perhaps you too, they are wandering in the darkness, trying to do what they can to help each other endure and stay safe and faithful.

Keller spoke about how he thinks our Culture and social economic effects may change some

churches in general to the point of having to "re-plant" their church and Collins echoed what we have all learned; that this pandemic has disproportionate effects on minorities. What I loved hearing though, was Dr Collins talk about Psalm 46. He says that when he has had a bad day he recites this scripture to give him comfort. I believe scripture can be a healing balm and I leave you with this. Psalm 46 says this:

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear,
though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake
in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
There is a river whose streams
make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city;
it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.
The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations
he has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.
"Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth."
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

We continue to pray for healing and thank God for his presence and faithfulness to us.

MENTAL HEALTH

Tips for Managing Your Own Mental Wellbeing - from Minnesota Health

- Spend time in places that feel safe and comfortable as much as possible.
- Tell yourself that how you are feeling is a normal reaction and will pass – it is nothing to be afraid of.
- Reach out to your usual supports – family, friends and co-workers. Sharing how we feel and offering support to others is important.
- Keep to usual routines – mealtimes, bedtime, exercise and so on.
- Keep active – working, doing usual leisure activities and connecting with friends can improve general wellbeing and help distract from distressing feelings.
- Media coverage or public discussion of COVID-19 may affect you. It's normal to feel distressed and experience symptoms of stress in this time.

PRAYER TEAM

**"Devote yourselves to prayer,
being watchful and thankful."**

– Colossians 4:2

Have you ever had someone pray for you? Knowing that others are lifting you up in prayer can be life giving in a time of need. If you or someone you know needs prayer please contact Pam McCulloch at 651-210-7843 and she will either pray with you over the phone and or add you to the ongoing list of prayers that our prayer team works from.

SMALL GROUPS IN LENT

Mondays at 7 pm (March 1, 9, 15, 22, 29)

Join us on Monday Nights at 7pm beginning March 1 as we unpack the previous Wednesday night Lenten conversation. You can sign up for one or all of these small groups by going online to www.rosevillelutheran.org/voice. You will also be able to get the small group question sheet before we meet to look over the scripture and questions ahead of time. This will be sent to you with a reminder email before your session. Looking forward to seeing you online!



A CALL TO SERVE: RLC NEEDS YOU

The Time Is Now - Members Needed to Serve in Leadership Roles

Never has our mission been more relevant. Love God. Love your neighbor. As we explore new ways to build a community united by grace, RLC members are rolling up their sleeves and getting involved. Share your unique gifts and talents, as together we do God's work in Roseville and across the globe.

We currently need RLC members to serve on church council, and to lead or serve on our ministry teams. Whether your passion is worship and prayer, children's and youth programs, adult education, council, or local and global mission and outreach – please contact Diane Sell, director of volunteer and care ministry at dsell@RosevilleLutheran.org. Experience the rewards of giving of your time, energy, and ideas!

*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,
serve one another with whatever gift
each of you has received.*

- I Peter 4:10

PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE HOUSE

Jenifer Johnson, Director

Preschool & Childcare
Staff Staying Healthy!

Roseville Lutheran Preschool and Childcare were randomly selected for a COVID-19 Vaccination Pilot the end of January 2021. As a staff working with young children every day, we are so grateful and blessed to have the opportunity to have received the Covid-19 Vaccination. This is another step in providing a safer and healthier environment for our students as we overcome this pandemic. We will continue to wear masks/shields, wash hands/hand sanitize and follow our health and safety protocols to protect our students and their families. By being extra diligent with our cleaning procedures and health and safety protocols, we have noticed that we have had less absences from students, as well as staff. Illnesses have been at an all-time low, which has led us to consider that many of our Covid-19 health and safety practices may continue going forward.

In addition thanks to everyone who participated in our Poinsettia Fundraiser last December 2020. We made over \$1500.00 which helps us update toys and materials in the classroom, along with scholarships for families in need.

Please watch for another Plant Sale this Spring! We will be selling perennials, vegetable plants, and more. The Plant Sale will be from March 1 – April 8. Order plants online only at www.gertensfundraising.com and enter code: 142 to go to the Roseville Lutheran Preschool fundraising page. Plants can be picked up Apr. 29 & 30 at RLC from 9 a.m. – 3p.m. We appreciate your support to our preschool and childcare, as we provide essential care to families in our surrounding community. God bless!



SATURDAY FUN IN THE ACTIVITY CENTER

Being cooped up in the house all the time isn't fun for kids or parents! Don't we all know it? In January and February, we opened the Activity Center to families with young kids so they could run and play in a big open space, and parents could get out of the house! We offered 2 time slots on each Saturday morning, and welcomed up to 8 people for each of those time slots. Families could invite others in their "pod" to join them if they wished. Cleaning of the room was done between time slots to keep everyone safe. It was fun to see the families having fun!



FUN WITH MISS GENA

We held our first online Fun with Miss Gena time together on Sunday, Jan. 31st at 10:00. 10 families joined us with 13 young ones who enjoyed singing, dancing and hearing Miss Gena read stories as they shared this experience with their favorite stuffed animal. We hope to hold more of these sessions for our youngest kids in the future! Look for information about these and other family activities in Julie's weekly Tuesday emails. If you are not on this weekly email list please let Julie know at jhanson@rosevillelutheran.org



FIRST COMMUNION WORKSHOP SET FOR THIS FALL

To make this experience for young people in 2nd grade and older more meaningful, we will hold the First Communion Workshop and First Communion in person this fall, probably in October. Look for more information to come with fall activities and information that is sent out in August.



PALM SUNDAY PARADE!

Outdoor Service on Sunday, March 28

We won't let this pandemic stop us from having a Palm Sunday parade this year! Join us on Sunday, March 28th in the lower parking lot for a meaningful and joy-filled palm parade for kids of all ages! Outdoor Drive In Palm Sunday services will begin at 9 and 10:30. When you enter and park for each of these services, look for an invitation to leave your car and wave palms in our outdoor festive parade around the RLC parking lot as we shout Hosanna to the King!



GOOD FRIDAY FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE

We will be having a kid-friendly Family Good Friday Worship online Friday, April 2nd. It will be available to watch anytime after 9:00 am. As keeping with our tradition, this service is meant to engage kids of all ages and will include a craft for you to make at home. More information about this will be available in early March.

VBS - SAVE THE DATE

VBS at RLC is Planned for June 21-24

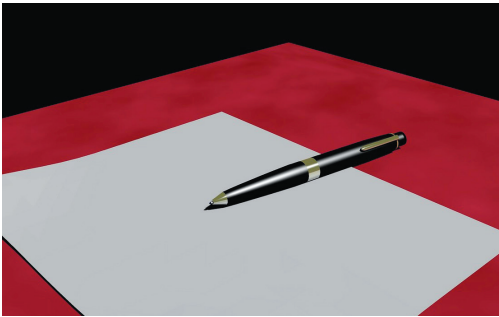
As this is written, we don't know what VBS will look like this summer, but are making plans to make it amazing! Get ready to roll down the tracks and celebrate Jesus' love! Mark your calendar for June 21-24! More details will be sent to you this spring, as well as info on the RLC website.



CONFIRMATION LETTERS
OF ENCOURAGEMENT

May 23 Set for Affirmation of Baptism

On Sunday, May 23rd at 10:30 a.m., we will witness 38 ninth graders publicly affirm their faith. For those who have journeyed with any of these youth, we invite you to write letters of encouragement and congratulations. All letters submitted by May 12 to the RLC office clearly labeled with the confirmand's name along with Attn: Abby Matter. They will be included with each confirmand's certificate packet. Thank you for your support and prayers.



CONFIRMATION – ONLINE AND ONGOING

Deacon Abby Matter, Director of Faith Formation

Confirmation has been a wild ride this year but we are still going strong on Wednesday nights online. While students struggle with online school and lack of face to face social interaction, we have found that confirmation has provided a platform for kids to at least see each other and have conversations with peers. It is not perfect, and it does not replace the human need for socialization, but it is the best we can do during these challenging times.

In December, Audrey and I, with the help of a handful of small group leaders, delivered prayer station kits to each student's house so they had some tactile materials which were used to make a luminary bag covered in different kind of prayers. The following week was fellowship night where groups did everything from playing games online to cookie decorating to ornament making over zoom.

In the new year, the 9th graders had a wonderful opportunity to work with Joe Davis, a nationally-touring artist, educator, and speaker based in Minneapolis, MN. He employs poetry, music, theater, and dance to shape culture. This has definitely been a highlight for students as Joe brings so much creativity and energy even through an online platform. Below are two poems written during the one of the sessions; one by a 9th grade student, Brynn Entner and one by a 9th grade small group leader. You can read them in the next column:



Love God • Love Your Neighbor

FAMILY RETREAT PLANNED
OVER MEA WEEKEND

Looking Ahead to October 22-24

We have reserved the entire Bakk House retreat center at Camp Vermilion for MEA weekend (Fri-Sun, Oct 22-24) this fall. Camp Vermilion is located up north near Deer River MN and is the camp that RLC youth enjoy each summer. This is an opportunity for families with grade school and younger kids to relax and have fun in the Northwoods. There are no scheduled activities, other than a 3-4 hour break where the kids will have some supervised activities while the adults can have some time to themselves. Cost is \$100 per family, and includes brunch and dinner on Saturday. It's a great way to relax and enjoy community with other families. Registration information and other details will be posted on the RLC website (www.rosevillelutheran.org) closer to the event time.



COMMUNITY

*Community's are like stars,
each one different,
never the same.
Some millions of miles away,
but all together at heart.*

– Brynn Entner

*He can tell you a story
in parable form
He can silence the winds
of a terrible storm
Unconditional love
and a heart that's forgiving
He's trusting and kind
and He makes life worth living
His compassion is strong
and His peace is unwavering
He's Jesus, our savior,
and He does lots of savior-ing*

– Confirmation Small Group Leader

The goal was to spark some creativity with students as they work on their faith papers and projects. We encouraged them to find something they love to do whether that is writing, singing, dance, art, building, videos, etc. to create a project that was from the heart, not simply another task to do. I am excited to see these papers and projects as they come in and ask for your prayers as families continue to navigate these difficult times!



THE VIBE

Young Adult Ministry at RLC

The Vibe is an multi-ethnic online environment intentionally designed to inspire young adults to CONNECT both, with God, and to each other. Everyone needs a safe space to CONNECT and GROW during the week – a time for authentic conversation, to be emotionally open, and spiritually inspired to go deeper.

WHEN: Mondays 6:15 pm-7:30 pm on March 1, 29, April 19, May 17. Contact Jamey Johnson, RLC Transformational Life Coach at Jamey.Johnson@rosevillelutheran.org to join the Vibe.

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY, SOME HIGHLIGHTS

Audrey Dontje Lindell, Director of Youth Ministry

CHANGE BRINGS NEW WAYS TO CONNECT

When reflecting on this past season, it's easy to get stuck on the things that didn't happen – or that didn't happen the way we wanted it to. I want to name some of the changes that happened because I want to acknowledge that my youth and I all mourned some of the losses we felt!

FLOCK, our high school youth group, met outdoors until the weather and Minnesota Covid-safety restrictions moved us online to Zoom. Instead of our fall retreat, MEA Getaway, we gathered for a "Fall Fling" to rake leaves and carve pumpkins. Bagels@Dawn moved from the St. Paul Bagelry to our very own Commons before it had to be put on hold. When assisting with worship, youth would get to send in a recording of themselves reading a Bible passage or leading us in prayer instead of gathering in our Worship Center.

Like all of us, we miss the moments of connection that often don't happen when we're not sharing a physical space together! No matter how "small" these might have seemed just a year ago, their loss has had an impact on our youth, just like they have for you or me.

CHANGE BRINGS MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

However, I can't acknowledge the losses without acknowledging the other side of the same coin. Some really amazing ministry happened this year because of how things changed! Because these things can feel harder to recognize these days, I want to share just a few highlights of this past season.

An obvious highlight was the fact that more youth got to participate in different activities and connect with different people than their previous schedules had allowed. Some youth had never made it to Bagels@Dawn before because their school was too far away. Others were able to help lead virtual worship on Sunday mornings when they normally have sports events.

Some youth would never have considered reaching out to me via text when they wanted to talk before this year, but now because of the increased necessity of virtual connection this year I was more easily available to them. Youth have even joined us for Confirmation from their cars, or set up a Zoom chat with me from out of state!

Another highlight is that this season of transition has allowed for new and creative events and activities. One of my favorite weeks at FLOCK, we got to cook "together" from our own homes, and share our tasty creations together over Zoom.

And finally, I can't say enough how much I enjoyed meeting people's pets. Nobody has ever brought their dog or cat to youth group before (for good reason) but this season I got to see and hear from many of these beloved members of my youth's families--and they were so stinkin' cute!

While we continue to mourn our losses right now, I will also continue to thank God for the many new ways in which I got to connect with the youth, and which the youth got to connect with each other and with God!



Cooking together over Zoom!

INVEST IN OUR YOUTH

Thank You for Your Support!



rosevillelutheran.org/RED-ENVELOPES

If you joined us for our online worship services during February, you would have heard from our youth about our annual Red Envelope fundraiser to support our summer youth programs. While the "envelopes" were virtual this year, many of you still donated online to help us make sure that every youth at RLC gets the chance to go on a summer trip. Thank you for making our summer programs available to every single family at RLC!

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.

"There is no other experience like this. This is a great way to make friends at church and prepares you for better experiences at Confirmation with the same group. We are more open and closer, and have better conversations because of knowing each other at camp."

– RLC youth about Camp Hiawatha

Your support means that life-changing experiences continue to be offered to every one of our youth: right here at RLC, in the Boundary Waters, at Camp Hiawatha, and in service in our community and around the world. Again, thank you for your generous support of summer youth programs!

There's still time to give!

If you missed the fundraiser but would still like to donate to the Youth Scholarship Fund, you still can! Please contact Audrey at adontjelindell@rosevillelutheran.org.

COMMUNITY CONVOS

March 2, April 6, May 3 at 6:30 pm

Pastor Lauren Wrightsman will host monthly online conversations to help answer questions, share what is happening at RLC, and look at what things are coming up. Sign up to get the link to join at www.rosevillelutheran.org/conversations. You will also have the opportunity to add your questions when you sign up.

COMMUNITY
CONVERSATIONS

SAVE THE DATE(S)!

SUMMER YOUTH TRIPS

Camp Hiawatha is June 25 – July 2



Boundary Waters is July 25-31



Lots of details are being worked out right now, so we are excited to share with you the dates for this summer's youth trips to Camp Hiawatha and the Boundary Waters! Get these dates on your calendar and start looking forward to fun, faith-filled adventures with other RLC families through Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry!

- Camp Hiawatha (grades 4 - 9)
June 25 - July 2
- Boundary Waters (grades 9 - 12)
July 25 - 31

pRAISE RLC: Love Lives

May 2-6

Plans are underway for this year's pRAISE RLC campaign with the theme, "Love Lives." This takes its inspiration from the refrain to the familiar communion hymn, "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" (ELW 674) with the words, "Jesus lives again, earth can breath again, pass the word around, loaves abound!"

We are grateful for the blessings God has provided for us, and for your generous support of the mission and ministries of RLC through your time and financial giving.

DRESSER BUILD AT HOME WAS A SUCCESS!

Thank You, Volunteers!

January is normally the month we gather together as Confirmation students and leaders and as a congregation to build dressers for the clients of Bridging. Bridging is an organization that helps people transition from homelessness to their own homes by supplying all the basics they need. The Dresser Build is normally a very busy week at RLC, assembling 50 dressers.

This year we wanted to be able to help Bridging by assembling dressers, and offered a Build a Dresser at Home opportunity. Due to the pandemic, dressers are a huge need for the people Bridging serves, so we wanted to supply them with as many dressers as we could. The response was HUGE. People picked up the dresser kits at RLC, assembled the dressers at home and then delivered completed dressers directly to Bridging in Roseville. Your generosity built 70 dressers for Bridging. Bridging was overwhelmed with thanks! Funding for these dresser kits was possible from the Mission and Outreach committee. Thank you to all those that participated!

Thank You From Bridging:

Hello, my amazing Roseville Lutheran Church friends!

Although we couldn't gather this year to build dressers together, YOU all still found a way to make it happen. Thanks to all of you who signed up, picked up, built and dropped off a dresser! Because of you, 70 clients have brand-new dressers! I love when I overhear our shopping volunteers talking to clients about the dressers. "These are brand-new dressers built by Roseville Lutheran Church. Aren't they amazing? Would you like one of them?" Thank you for continuing to partner with us as we provide quality furniture and household goods to those pursuing housing stability. It truly does take a village and we're glad to have RLC as part of our Bridging village. J Thanks, again.

With a very grateful heart,

*Wendy Erickson
Volunteer Coordinator*



A NEW GATHERING SPACE

Design Team

During the spring of 2020 conceptual design began on the creation of a comfortable and casual gathering space in the Upper Lobby near the library. Our mission, "Love God, love our neighbor," was the guiding principle of the design and "Food, Fun and Fellowship," was its design concept. One intended use of the space was to reach out to our local community on Sunday mornings. Parents drop off their children and youth for Sunday School and morning activities can comfortably enjoy a beverage and pastry, fellowship with one another and with RLC members.

Our vision, "A Community United by Grace," is expressed in the design by providing a warm atmosphere for small groups and conversation, encouraging the building up of the body of Christ through person to person relationships. We will be spiritually fed through fellowship, discipleship, and friendships, sharing one another's burdens and joys. Youth will use the space for confirmation activities, staff and volunteers' meeting, coffee gathering on Sundays, and study space related to the library.

The initial concept of the new space was created by RLC's Eric Lagerquist, an architect and member of the Facilities Committee. RLC's Design Team and its architect, Dot Probst, took over from there, further developing and implementing its esthetics and interior design. Next, the Design Team collaborated with Bruce Pelava of RLC's Facilities Department, during their in-house construction of the project. The gathering space is truly an RLC endeavor from start to finish!



LIVELY LANDSCAPERS

Think *SPRING...Spring Gardens at RLC, That Is!*

Last Summer RLC’s new landscaping and gardening team, Lively Landscapers, started a transformation of the gardens on RLC’s campus. It was a great diversion for the 10 members of the team from COVID-19 restrictions, being able to work outside and in-person with others. These tenacious team members tackled a lot this first year, giving the gardens’ transformation a huge kickstart. Their biggest project was the removal of the overgrown arborvitae trees to the left of the Worship Center’s south entrance. As a result, it opened up the space where the Christmas Nativity was displayed for Drive-Thru Christmas. Also, where ornamental trees once adorned the south parking lot islands, two islands were planted with Karl Foerster Tall Grass, Stella d’Oro day lilies & sedum (funded with Thrivent Action Team grants). Several other garden plots got a ‘make over’ with many perennials and over 150 tulip & daffodil bulbs donated. One miracle occurred when Outdoor Lab Landscapers, hired by the City of Roseville, partnered with the Lively Landscapers for a Phase 1 renovation of the Roselawn Ave raingardens. Many thanks to both Outdoor Lab and the City of Roseville for helping the Lively Landscapers. The rain gardens continue to be key garden plots for RLC, encouraging neighbors and Lively Landscapers to engage in conversation!

In 2021, the Lively Landscapers have ideas and plans to continue to add/replace perennials & shrubs, in particular the church’s main entrance from Roselawn Ave, which includes the South Parking Lot, the South Worship Center entrance & the Flagpole garden at Roselawn & Fernwood. The Roselawn Ave rain gardens will be getting more plantings to add a variety of color & texture throughout the season. One of the bigger projects on their 2021 plan is to build fence panels to conceal the large utility boxes where the large arborvitae were removed (using free material from Roseville Auto Repair!). Another project on their plan is to install plantings in more south parking lot islands. With these plans, the continued transformation of the RLC Gardens is certainly worth an occasional drive-by this summer.

Lively Landscapers team members are asked to commit to a ONE-year term, and are welcome to serve multiple years. The work is self-directed with guidance from RLC staff and the Lively Landscapers team. If you have interest in participating in this season’s Lively Landscapers, contact Julie Hanson at jhanson@rosevillelutheran.org or KJ Bach at k-j-o@msn.com. Think Spring!



IN PERSON ACTIVITIES

Read the Latest at www.rosevillelutheran.org/covid

We have a dedicated team of health care professionals from within the congregation who are helping council make decisions such as this. At our January 2021 council meeting we discussed our in-person, on site activities. We are pleased about the vaccine roll out and are looking forward to in-person worship making a return and are planning for some options to open up post-Easter. We can’t wait to gather together again! See www.rosevillelutheran.org/covid for the latest updates.

RED	ORANGE	YELLOW	GREEN
25+	10 to 24	1 to 9	<1

ADULT EDUCATION

On-Line Opportunities Located on Our “Forum” Webpage

The RLC Adult Ed Committee has planned for adult education sessions in the coming months. They will be shared as online video lectures 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 select Wednesdays of each month.

Hoping for Fall In-Person Opportunties

The RLC Church Council has determined that in-person educational opportunities will resume in the fall, 2021. As the Adult Education Committee, we are planning on having videotaped education sessions presented by members of Roseville Lutheran Church in April and May. These sessions are titled the Summer Psalms. As we get closer to April and May, there will be further detail on guest presenters and times when the sessions will be available for viewing. Please watch the weekly eBlast and follow the church website “Forum” page.

Wednesdays – Feb. 17, 24, March 3, 10
Gospel of Luke: God’s Promise for All People
Video Lecture with 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.

Sundays – Feb. 21, 28, March 1, 8
Online Discussions

On the Sunday following each video session debut, there will be an opportunity for you to join a Zoom discussion in response to that week’s lesson. On the Forum page (www.rosevillelutheran.org/forum) click on the most recent Wednesday Gospel of Luke post to get the link to the Zoom discussions.

- Session 1 (February 17) “Righteousness Reimagined”—The Birth of Jesus. Luke, Chapters 1-2. ONLINE DISCUSSION - 7:00 pm, Feb. 21.
- Session 2 (February 24) “Salvation: the Keyword of Promise”—Jesus’ Ministry in Galilee, Luke, Chapters 3-9:50. ONLINE DISCUSSION - 7:00 pm, Feb. 28.
- Session 3 (March 3) “Today is the Day of Salvation”—Jesus Journey to Jerusalem, Luke 9:51-19. ONLINE DISCUSSION - 7:00 pm, March 7.
- Session 4 (March 10) “The Necessity of God’s Promises”—Jesus’ Passion and Resurrection, Luke 20-24. ONLINE DISCUSSION - 7:00 pm, March 14.

BEHIND THE SCENES - WORSHIP VIDEO PRODUCTION

John Helgen, Director of Music Ministries

Since the time that it became necessary (March 2020) for RLC to shut down most of its in-person activities, we have been producing a worship video each week, for viewing online and also for local cable TV broadcast. What goes into making our worship videos? There are a number of steps that we go through each week.

CONTENT

All the information that goes into each worship video is compiled and outlined in a document – welcome, announcements, call to worship, songs and lyrics, storytime, scripture readings, preaching of sermon, prayers, final blessing, participant credits, and anything else that needs to be included.

PERSONNEL

The people doing the recording each week – pastors, readers, musicians, technical support people – are notified and scheduled for the weekly recording session. Most portions of the videos are recorded in the worship center at RLC. Some are produced at home by member volunteers and sent in electronically to be included in the final production. Pastor Lauren Wrightsman coordinates the preaching and assisting minister schedules, Diane Sell schedules readers, Julie Hanson is in charge of storytime, Nick Clausen shoots the video, Jeff Bowar does the audio recording, and John Helgen coordinates and leads the musicians.

RECORDING

The people doing the recording meet, usually every week, to record that week’s material. This usually takes two to three hours each week. Each week has its own setup, depending on the personnel involved.

EDITING AND REVIEWING

After recording is completed, Jeff Bowar edits the musical parts of the service, and Nick Clausen edits the video and prepares it to be reviewed by staff members. Any necessary additions or corrections are made, and when completed, the video is uploaded to the internet.

VIEWING

The completed video is made available for viewing on the RLC website at www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/stream, and on local cable TV channel 19, and archived on the RLC website for later viewing.

FUTURE PLANS FOR WORSHIP VIDEO – LIVESTREAMING

We are in the process of developing the capability for livestreaming our services, which we plan to begin doing when we resume our in-person worship. With that capability, people will be able to view our services in real time on the internet, and each worship service will be videotaped and saved for later viewing through the RLC website and local cable TV access.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Our FMSC MobilePack is on hold in 2021 because of COVID and the need to safely distance. Hunger has not been quarantined however. There continues to be a great need for food here and abroad. FMSC now allows groups of 5 to pack together. You will not pack with other groups. If this interests you, check out FMSC.org to sign up for a shift with 4 of your family/pod. You will not be able to distance 6 feet, but will follow all other COVID safe strategies.

Another ongoing need besides packers is monetary donations. You can donate to FMSC by designating this in your donations to RLC. What a celebration we will have when we are all able to pack together again.

– Kathy Miller and Jen Bergman, FMSC co-chairs.

HOSPITALITY: HAPPY SPRING, RLC!

Order Soup Dinners Now for Wednesdays March 3, 10, 17, 24

Easter Ham Dinner to Go (Order by March 25, Pick Up April 3)

We were so blessed to make it through Christmas and New Years. Thank you to those who have ordered meals. We’re glad to keep the connection with you through our Hospitality Ministry. We are now looking forward to a New year filled with hope and good health for all.

As we get ready for the Lent/Easter season it comes with our annual Soup and Salad supper on Wednesdays. Though we cannot all eat together quite yet, we can still enjoy fresh made soups and salads from God’s garden. All the soups and salads will be cold and in TO GO containers for you to enjoy at your leisure.

Price per meal s \$9.00. Each soup and salad meal will include bread and butter, crackers, and dessert. All soups are made fresh and are in disposable containers that are microwave safe. Thank you for letting us serve you!

Please Order and Pay One Week Before Pickup Date

Reservations and prepayments need to be made **one week before pickup** date. Order online at www.rosevillelutheran.org/soup-and-salad-dinners-to-go. You may also call in your reservation (651-487-7752) or email Beth at bdaniel@rosevillelutheran.org in the office, and pay for your meal(s) one week before Wednesday pickup date.

WEDNESDAY SOUP/SALAD MENUS:

March 3 Tomato Basil Soup, Pasta Salad

March 10 Fresh Butternut Squash Soup, Spinach salad with berries and Raspberry dressing

March 17 Blue Moon Beef Chili (popcorn, sour cream), Pineapple Coleslaw

March 24 Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Fresh Berries in a Champagne dressing. In lieu of the famous candy bar, there will be a special dessert: Cannoli Cocktail (non-alcoholic)



EASTER DINNERS, TOO!

We had such great success with the Advent Lasagna meals, that we are going to have Easter dinners available. These meals for 4 can be picked up on Saturday morning, this will give you time to set a beautiful table, warm the meal, and enjoy the next day with your families (As you know my portions are a bit larger than usual so i think you could get about 6 servings out of this or freeze and save for another meal!)

Please Order and Pay By March 25

As with the Soup suppers you can call in or email your orders to Beth and she will process them and also get pre payment from you at that time. Reservations are needed by March 25. Order online at www.rosevillelutheran.org/Ham. Pick up in the south church parking lot from 10:00 am to 12:00 Noon on Saturday,

Easter Ham Dinner for 4 – Menu:

Rolls and Butter, Garden Salad and Dressing, Ham Slices with Pineapple and Cherries, Candied Carrots, Potato Dish, Dessert. Cost for dinner is \$55.00

Thank you for letting me serve you and please support your local church and restaurants during this unusual time.

Sempre Famiglia

Connie Marchio, RLC Hospitality Manager



TANZANIAN STUDENTS RECEIVE RLC SCHOLARSHIPS

Many generous RLC members stepped forward again last October by donating scholarship funds to aid secondary school students in Tanzania. These students are members of RLC's companion congregation in Ng'ang'ange, Tanzania. They are now able to continue their education or start attending secondary schools for the first time in 2021.

These students are very grateful for RLC's support. Without scholarship help each year, many of them would have to terminate their education prematurely. By reaching out internationally in this way, we at RLC are living out our vision to be A Community United by Grace with our sisters and brothers in Tanzania.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed scholarship funds for Tanzania in the past. Another special opportunity to help support this important outreach ministry will be offered in October, 2021.



RLC MISSION AND OUTREACH AT A GLANCE:

Keystone

- A "large carful" of needed items delivered in late Dec. from the Sharing Tree contributions
- M&O budget also contributed \$1,000 in \$15 Cub gift cards at Christmas.

M&O Contact: Kris Olsen

ONAM

- M&O Contact: Heather Awad (heather.awad6@gmail.com)

M&O Partners January Newsletter

Project Home

- Sharing Tree gift cards delivered.
- No updates. Waiting to hear where/when they will need our support due to the pandemic changes.

M&O Contact: Alicia Sandy (alicia.sandy@gmail.com)

Sheridan Story

- M&O Contact: Dave Tetzlaff (tetzl001@comcast.net)

Tanzania/Slovakia

- No current updates.

M&O Contact: Dave Tetzlaff (tetzl001@comcast.net)

Bridging

- 70 dresser kits assembled by congregation- Dresser Build at home, in January
- Kids/families will be asked to assemble kitchen bundles in April after Easter, hopefully on site outside (weather permitting)

M&O Contact: Dave Tetzlaff (tetzl001@comcast.net)

Central Park

- Sharing Tree successfully garnered winter outerwear and gift cards
- Asking congregation to use this time of winter sales to continue to donate much needed coats, snow pants and boots. RLC can store until needed

M&O Contact: Alicia Sandy (alicia.sandy@gmail.com)

M&O Partners January Newsletter

Dorothy Day/Loaves and Fishes

- 250+ pairs of socks were distributed by volunteers before Christmas due to Sharing Tree donations (RLC and Resurrection)
- Christmas meal was special and festive!
- This group needs more volunteers to prep and serve monthly meals.

M&O Contact: Alicia Sandy (alicia.sandy@gmail.com)

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)

- Mobile packs are on hold until June 1 and will look different due to pandemic
- Discussing hosting a virtual fundraiser with Incarnation to support mechanical packing

M&O Contact: Dave Tetzlaff (tetzl001@comcast.net)

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SLOVAKIA?

With all that is making the news in the Twin Cities, Minnesota and the US the past year, we haven't taken much time to think about



our Christian friends in Slovakia at the Center for Christian Education (CCE) in Martin, Slovakia. They, however, have not forgotten about their American friends! Each month they put together a short video that is shared via their website at www.cce.sk/blog. Take a few minutes to peek into the status of the CCE as they, too, navigate through COVID restrictions. You'll enjoy viewing their English Epiphany worship service (recorded for their American friends), which again, is on their webpage at www.cce.sk/blog.

They continue to enhance their Lutheran Academy campus with a multi-sport field and most recently, they completed the Music Studio. Both of these enhancements provide the students and the community with spaces that are safe and welcoming. These enhancements were made possible by generous contributors. They are moving forward and continue to need contributions for other enhancements.

With the May 2020 Builders Group Mission Trip cancelled, you might be asking "When might there be another Builders Group Mission Trip?". KJ Bach, Vision Slovakia Builders Group Mission Trip Leader, is eager to put together the next trip! However, the COVID situation has her thinking that a 2021 trip would be too risky, thus looking at a 2022 Builders Group Mission Trip. If you have questions about joining up with the next Builders Group trip or would like to learn more about RLC's mission partner in Slovakia, contact KJ at k-j-o@msn.com. Her passion for Slovakia, along with the passion of all the past participants, just might 'Infect YOU'!