

RosevilleLutheran.org/praiseRLC



advancing
our
mission

**praise
RLC**

May 10-14, 2020

**Help Us Meet Our Goal
of \$100,000 in 100 Hours!**

WE ARE STILL DOING THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Spiritual writer, poet and speaker, Phyllis Tickle once wrote in her book, *Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why*, that every 500 years the Church goes through a "rummage sale" so to speak, where it cleans out the old forms of spirituality and replaces it with new ones. She calls this time the "Great Emergence" and compares our time of this emergence to other "Greats" in the history of Christianity, including the Great Transformation (when God walked among us), to the time of Gregory the Great (500 A.D.), the Great Schism (1000 A.D.), and the Great Reformation (1500's A.D.)

Now, 500 years after the Great Reformation, we are entering a new era, a new religious movement that crosses denominational boundaries, seeks common ground, engages diverse cultures, embraces social causes as ways to live out Christ's call to serve others, and takes place largely outside of church buildings.

Written in 2012, Tickle would have had no idea how clearly her words would speak to the church during this time of the "Great Covid Crisis of 2020!"



Over the past months, our congregation has had to reform, reshape and reinvest in alternative ways of leading ministry, worship and fellowship. The church has been on a steep learning curve as we adapt how we approach ways of doing things, as well as discover new ministries all together.

Here at Roseville Lutheran Church, we have embraced the challenge we now find ourselves in. We are still "doing" church, but it is definitely NOT inside of the church building.

As your senior pastor, I encourage you to read through the pages of this publication and explore how the work of the church is taking shape in this new era and how we are having an impact on people both near and far as we continue to live out our mission and vision to "Love God. Love your neighbor. A community united by grace." Perhaps you will see a part of your own faith story reflected in these stories of giving, loving, serving and worshipping.

I also invite you to join us on our website and our Facebook page starting Sunday, May 10th to hear more about the amazing ways the Holy Spirit is engaging and leading us through this time and ask you to prayerfully consider the ways in which you can give financially to support our ongoing mission and ministry. It is our goal to raise \$100,000 in 100 hours towards our general budget for our fiscal year July 2019 - June 2020.

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pRAISE RLC • \$100,000 IN 100 HOURS

THE FACES OF PRAISE

We're trying something new with our pRAISE RLC campaign. These two extended families have agreed to be our "Spokesfamilies." They represent different experiences and tenures at RLC as well as generations. Many of you may know them through their connection with music, Cornerstone, Mission and Outreach, or leadership, council, or committee work. You'll hear more of their stories throughout the coming days, but we'd like to thank and introduce:

- Scott and Jill Cordes; Allison Codes; Shannon and Henrik Wood; Rachel and Cameron Japuntich, Paul, Ann; Elaine Magnuson.
- John and Marilyn Shardlow; Ben and Kristin Shardlow, Boden, Akse; Eliza and Frank Clark, Dominick, Vincent, Aubriana.



ABOVE: the Cordes, Japuntich families on the beach, and BELOW: the Shardlow families at Christmas.



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We have the promise of the risen Lord who has proclaimed that he brings new life. There is new life here to experience! There is new life here to be a part of! There is new life here to proclaim!

Thank you, members and friends of Roseville Lutheran Church for the many ways you live out your faith in the world!

Lauren J. Wrightsman
Senior Pastor, Roseville Lutheran Church

Gift Amount	# Needed	Total Amount
\$10,000	1	\$10,000
\$5,000	3	\$15,000
\$2,500	4	\$10,000
\$1,000	6	\$6,000
\$750	15	\$11,250
\$500	40	\$20,000
\$250	60	\$15,000
\$100	70	\$7,000
\$50	83	\$4,150
\$20	80	\$1,600
Total Gifts	362	\$100,000



Join in the excitement as we embark on our pRAISE RLC campaign. Every gift helps advance our mission to **Love God • Love Your Neighbor**. Please consider becoming a Sustainer by signing up online to give a regular, recurring gift. Giving links can be found at www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC. Each day of this campaign has a ministry area emphasis:

- Sunday, May 10 – Worship and Music
- Monday, May 11 – Fellowship and Care
- Tuesday, May 12 – Mission and Outreach
- Wednesday, May 13 – Children, Youth, and Family
- Thursday, May 14 – Adult Ministry

Updates on our progress, daily challenges, and more stories about the impact of RLC's mission and ministry will be shared on our website: www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC, and on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/RosevilleLutheranChurch.

THROUGH FAITH THERE IS HOPE

Michael Dolan, RLC Congregational President

The world has moved into a whole new reality for all of us. The COVID-19 pandemic is an event that has no precedent. Everyone on this planet has been affected by the illness itself or at least the disruption of our work and everyday lives. The terms "social distancing" and "personal protective equipment" have become everyday concerns. As bewildering as all of this has been, we have the one thing that can sustain us, our Christian faith. The bible is full of stories of uncertainty, worry and hardship. These stories all have one message in the end – that through our faith in God, there is hope. Our God is a loving God who we are called to trust in even if we cannot see what the future holds. Our faith gives us strength to adapt, to look out for our neighbors and friends, even if only remotely. We are called to meet these challenges and celebrate our faith with hope every day, even when we cannot meet on Sundays.

The pandemic has made this an extremely difficult year financially for many churches and community groups, and Roseville Lutheran is no exception. However, I am very proud of our congregation, knowing how important our ministry areas are to you. If the past couple years are any indication, I know you will respond and support our programs. Our spring pRAISE campaign will highlight our five ministry areas and we will share stories of how these programs lift up the lives of so many. I am heartened to know how much the church is in your prayers even as families find their way through their own personal hardships.

We all are learning to interact in new ways. I know that sometimes a held hand can be a powerful expression of our love of our neighbors. That expression of hope and love will be available again but for now, we can express our fellowship in other ways. Our Care Team and many of our lay leaders have been calling members of the church to ask if they need assistance. That offer of support may not equal a held hand or a hug, but it's still important to those who feel shut in and alone. Our neighbors need not be forgotten; our church is reaching out to all through online worship, prayers and other wonderful expressions of faith. Our ministries like the Care Team are there for all of us. I hope you will join me in supporting our spring pRAISE campaign to celebrate their work and that of all our ministries.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC • May 10



During the 36 years we've attended RLC, we have learned from many pastors, music leaders and fellow members how to be followers of Jesus. We give out of gratitude and thanksgiving for all that we have been given and to share with those in need.

– Heidi and Steve

The knowledge of the pastors has deepened my faith. RLC is a great place for the spiritual journey. Music has the power to inspire.

– Rick

I will always be thankful for the care and help I received from the Care Team and Choir people after a health crisis. Christ was surely present and visible through them!

– Anonymous



Worship and Music Ministry creates weekly worship and connects us as we praise and sing, hear God's Word, receive messages for our daily needs, and pray for our community and world.

RLC offers a place to participate with a community of people who gather to hear the story of God's love in Jesus Christ. We are then nurtured and grow in faith and knowledge to respond to this Call in our lives, and then go into the world to live this story of love for the sake of the world.

– Dick and Carolyn

At bells, I count my notes, but more than that, I count my blessings and friends! We are like family. We have laughed together, cried together, prayed together, and played together! Thank you for that!

– Paulette



Being a part of RLC has been very meaningful to me. As a young adult returning home after college and teaching out state, participating in choir was an opportunity to continue sharing the gift of music and to develop amazing lifelong friendships that sustain me even today. We have rejoiced together, supported each other through grief and tough times, and grown in faith together for 40 years.

– Marj

One way to love God and love your neighbor is through giving. In this time of pandemic one realizes how fragile we are, and we look for faith and hope in our community.

– Dorothy

My life today is a reflection of the love shown to me by the caring community of Roseville Lutheran Church.

– KJ



I'm thankful for all the good things that the church provides to me through worship, music, and adult education. I also want to support the programs RLC has for children and youth, and for outreach to the community like Keystone and Dorothy Day, as well as Tanzania and Slovakia. I am called to support the church and its mission of proclaiming God's love.

– Erik



FELLOWSHIP AND CARE • May 11

RLC Care Ministry centers around our mission to “love God and neighbor.” Our Care Team reaches out to members, the elderly, and sick, with regular calls, visits, rides, help with chores, and prayer. Our team has over two dozen servants and others who support this work.

Fellowship and Care has evolved! Over 300 meals were delivered to members/friends of RLC with help from hospitality ministry in April. Small groups have made masks and delivered meals. More than 300 family units over the age of 70 have been contacted by volunteers.



We are thankful for your kindness. You are applying your creativity to provide meals for so many folks in a variety of situations. We were blessed by your thoughtfulness and the Easter meal, which we also shared with our neighbor.

– Judy and Jim

“I really feel the work that we are doing calling people now is crucial to the body of Christ.

I love how RLC is reaching out to all the members and working to provide help in a needy time. I love my church!”

Martin Luther said “Prayer is nowhere so mighty and strong as when the whole multitude prays together.” These words guide the RLC prayer team. When prayers are received, the prayer team prays confidentially for the concerns, and we lift up the requests to our merciful God.



Our Prayer Shawl Ministry members knit or crochet shawls as a form of prayer, with the final product given to people in special need. Each shawl begins and ends in prayer with no knowledge of who will receive it. Shawls are tangible prayer – mantles of God’s love – bringing healing, peace, and comfort.

We were looking for a church where we could practice our faith and raise our child. A friend recommended RLC, and after one visit we knew it was the right place for us.

– Mark and Kathy

What has always impressed me about RLC is the commitment and passion of the people. Energy, creativity and wisdom have always been alive at Roseville Lutheran. Ordinary people, from a variety of backgrounds, coalescing as the body of Christ to do extraordinary things.



We love the online services! We’re able to “go to church” more now than we did before. Keep up the wonderful work!

GRIEFSHARE

One ministry that has not waned during this time is our Griefshare group which meets faithfully every Tuesday night on Zoom. This gives those who are grieving a chance to see each other and talk through how they are doing. Comments include • After a long day I really look forward to our meeting. • This group understands what I am going through. • I am so glad we continued to do this, this has helped me.

**LOVE GOD
LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOR**

Join Us Online:

RosevilleLutheran.org

MISSION AND OUTREACH • May 12



7 key areas of RLC Outreach:
Bridging, Central Park Elem.,
Dorothy Day Center, Feed My
Starving Children, Keystone
Community Services, Our
Neighbors and Me, Project Home.

Project Home families moved out on Monday, March 2, after being hosted in our building for the month of February. Many thanks to the volunteers, pastors, all staff, and to Mission and Outreach for the support and encouragement. They say it takes a village. What a great village we've got!



Did you know that when you serve you not only measurably fill palpable needs in our community and world, you also grow personally. Serving those in need helps you to deepen understanding, humility and empathy for everyone, and respond with gratefulness for God's abundant gifts.

Mission and Outreach Ministry at Roseville Lutheran Church is deepening partnerships in our Roseville Community in 7 key areas. Through these partnerships people are fed, housed, mentored, and treated with both dignity and grace.

From Survival to Sustainability Feed My Starving Children

Fighting hunger is at the heart of several ministries at RLC. And while most of these efforts fight hunger in our area communities, we invite you to join us – or join us again – during this year's pack on **October 21-27** (NEW date!) to pack more than a million meals in support of our Minnesota partners who are successfully fighting child hunger throughout the world.

This is the sixth year of our partnership with Incarnation Lutheran Church and Minnesota-based Feed My Starving Children (FMSC), and it brings an exciting new challenge: This will be the first of a three-year commitment to fill an entire shipping container of Manna Packs (273,000 meals) to support Tè Wouj, a remote village in Haiti, so its families can redirect their energy and resources from survival to sustainability as they recover from a hurricane three years ago. Plus, we'll be helping pack 750,000 meals at the MobilePack to help FMSC and their global partners reduce the number of children who die each year from malnutrition or associated diseases.



In January our volunteers worked to provide hope to homes in Roseville. Here's what they accomplished: 130 blankets made/donated, 52 dressers built, 88 kitchen packs wrapped, and 50 cleaning kits assembled! We were thankful to have Wendy Erickson, volunteer coordinator from Bridging share a story of the impact on one family. A volunteer was helping find things they would need for their new home. When they got to the silverware, the daughter exclaimed "mom, we won't have to share a spoon anymore." The donations and work done to provide these essential household items to Bridging each year make an impact on families right here in Roseville!

I have learned so much through the special events offered to our community in the last 4 years through Our Neighbors and Me. ONAM's work is to challenge, educate and empower our congregation to explore issues of racial equity and social justice. I believe that having a justice mindset is one key way I practice my faith.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY • May 13

RLC's Children, Youth, and Family ministry impacts over 300 families through weekly programming, special events, and summer trips. All are welcome, including friends and neighbors!



RLC has helped my family and me make a positive difference in the community. The loving welcome has encouraged us to become better people and has made an impact on our lives

Physical distancing and working from home with kids under foot has been challenging. To help connect people, many families made cards, artwork and letters that were sent to some of the Grandma's and Grandpa's of RLC that are not able to gather with their own families. The result of this "artwork ministry" blessed not only those that received cards crafted by kids and their artwork, but many seniors sent cards and letters back to the families with their appreciation. The kind notes that were returned warmed the hearts of the kids.

The service events, Bible workshops, Lord's Prayer workshops and regular Sunday morning ministry helps our kids and youth grow in their faith. During this time when we cannot gather together to encourage one another, we can demonstrate kindness to our neighbor and God's love by helping in a variety of ways. Jesus' example of love is our guide. Thank you for your support of Children, Youth and Family Ministry!



Our family feels especially connected with RLC's youth programming. It's very inclusive and community oriented. We are able to find ways we can volunteer and make a difference as a family. RLC is an invaluable part of our family tradition!



RLC Preschool may have physically closed, but our teachers are working hard at connecting with our students through distance learning and have created mini-lesson videos on FB, YouTube, and a new service called Remind. Plus, they've gathered learning materials to give to our students at Drive-Thrus in our parking lot, being cautious of social distancing.

Our Childcare House is open to help parents who are classified as Emergency Workers. One parent commented, "Thank you for continuing to provide a safe place for our daughter to be as we sort through many unknowns with work and daily life as COVID-19 unfolds...we rest easier at night knowing our daughter is taken care of during the day."



We asked our 7th, 8th, and 9th grade confirmation students what they love about RLC • the people that work there and go there • the different activities there are (Summer of Service, Hiawatha, etc.) • the youth ministry staff because they are all so kind and joyful and it makes being at the camps one-hundred times better • devos and donuts because we get donuts and get to learn more advanced stuff • the people • Everyone is really nice and supportive • Camp Hiawatha! • the acceptance...I love that everyone is welcomed in and you don't feel judged at all! • the awesome youth programs! • the confirmation program • the community • everyone is just so generous and caring • my small group confirmation leaders are so nice • the people involved with the program, they're really nice and relatable.

ADULT MINISTRY • May 14




I've always been curious about the Bible and why people study it, so when I saw Pastor Rolf was leading a Men's Bible Study Group, I decided to check it out. I was expecting the other men to be Bible "experts" who would probably laugh at my ignorance. But was I surprised! I found them to be welcoming and friendly.

**Hope for Better Times:
The Pietist Option for Lutherans.**

Join in this 4-part online class with a new session each Thursday
10:10 am • April 16, 23, 30, May 7

ADULT EDUCATION at RLC



DR. CHRIS GEHRZ
Bethel University
RLC Member

Sunday Adult Education at RLC presents many options during the year. Our special thanks to Chris Gehrz and Jim Boyce for preparing and presenting their classes online this spring.



**The Gospel According to Mark:
The Beginning of the Good News.**

Join in this 3-part online class with a new session each Monday
10:10 am • April 20, 27, and May 4

ADULT EDUCATION at RLC

DR. JIM BOYCE
Luther Seminary
RLC Member


Through bible study, small groups, support groups, men's breakfast, and adult education classes there are many opportunities each week to grow in love for God and neighbor.

Christina Johnson is a senior at Bethel University and has been volunteering with the Confirmation program and attending worship and Bible Study at RLC for the last three years. In March she was one of our young adult preachers during our Lenten Worship series on Wednesdays. In her sermon she talked about some of the ways that her faith has been shaped and about her calling to use her gifts to serve God's people. She said:

The Israelites are instructed to share the first fruits of their soil and offer it to the LORD. And then, I think a key part of this is what they are instructed to say as they bring the first fruits. They are told recite the story of their people. They remember the suffering and misery they experienced in Egypt and they remember that it is God who will have brought them out and into the land they had been promised.

I stand before you today as a survivor of my own desert. So I have asked myself, what are my first fruits to offer God? Well, they are my passion for confirmation age students, my ability to see myself in the story of another and extend empathy, my comfort in the silence and in the pain, and my value in choosing purposeful words and none extra. So, I live my life as I do, at church, with the youth, studying practical theology and psychology, because this is how I use the first fruits, the gifts God has given me to honor God and love my neighbor.

We are so grateful for the ways that Christina has grown and served during her time in college and in the community of faith at Roseville Lutheran Church.







advancing
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mission

**PRAISE
RLC**

Roseville Lutheran Church

In 2018 I suffered lower back pain and was nervous and uncertain regarding surgery. I was in need of prayers. I searched for a support group and attended the men's Bible Study group at RLC. They prayed for me in earnest. At the following Sunday service I encountered a lady who approached me and prayed for me in the church lobby. Honestly, I was blessed with those prayers. I slowly recovered from the lower back pain and cancelled my doctor's appointment. I was healed by prayers for God's mercy and healing power. Since then, I have had an awesome time worshiping our Lord at Sunday worship at Roseville Lutheran Church.

– Elroy

pRAISE RLC • Sunday, May 10 - Thursday, May 14



In response to the Governor's call to make fabric masks, volunteers from RLC made over 300 and have been taking them to area care centers where RLC members are residents.



In addition to delivering masks, we have been bringing coffee and donuts to give to the care center staff as a gift of kindness. We are thankful for all the workers at care centers!



Follow our website and FB page every day for the latest updates, stories and special challenges to help us meet our goal. And have some fun times, too!



facebook.com/RosevilleLutheranChurch

RosevilleLutheran.org/praiseRLC

RLC SUNDAY WORSHIP

ONLINE - 9:00 AND 11:00 AM SUNDAYS

ON LOCAL ACCESS CABLE CHANNEL 19

SUNDAY • 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAY • 6:00 PM

THURSDAY • 2:00 AM, 10:00 AM



Join us each week on
CTV CHANNEL 19
in these communities:

