

# ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

CELEBRATING  
75 YEARS

*Love God. Love Your Neighbor.*

# GREETINGS FROM ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Roseville Lutheran Church has been a part of the Roseville community for 75 years and, over these years, it has been a growing congregation that seeks to make a difference in the lives of young and old, stranger and friend. As a community united by grace we seek to love as God first loved us.

In these pages you will find a sampling of the ways in which our members and friends are living out this calling: serving the needs of people both near and far, engaging in mission and outreach, and striving to follow the command to love God and love neighbor.

At Roseville Lutheran Church you can be part of a community, and together we can discover just how meaningful a relationship with Jesus Christ can be in each of our lives and in the world.

Come and experience RLC!  
All are welcome!



*Lauren J. Wrightsman*

Lauren J. Wrightsman  
Senior Pastor

## FOLLOWING JESUS' EXAMPLE, WE VOW TO

- Serve generously
- See God's grace in all who regard his creation with love, charity, dignity and respect
- Celebrate without exception the diversity in our community
- Embrace honesty and invite candid discussion
- Strive to be good stewards of the resources God has granted



## MISSION

LOVE GOD.  
LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR.

*Simply stated, but never complete. We humbly devote our lives, hoping through worship, to attain a glimpse of God's magnificence. We strive to serve others with love, every day.*

***"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."***

***This is the greatest and first commandment.***

***And a second is like it:***

***"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."***

*(Matthew 22:37-39)*





# VISION

A COMMUNITY  
UNITED BY GRACE

*Grace comes from God. Wherever people treat one another with compassion, kindness, generosity and love, God is there.*



***"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."***

*(Ephesians 2:8)*



# VALUES

LOVE

*Every person is a child of God.*

HUMILITY

*We do not possess the wisdom to judge others with impunity.*

FAITHFULNESS

*The Lord has a purpose for us here, in Roseville.*

*Together with nearly 10,000 congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we profess: This is Christ's church. There is a place for everyone here.*

***This is Christ's church.***





## FINDING a COMMUNITY OF LOVE AND KINDNESS

*One of our members, Emma Bontrager, reflects on her time with the youth as she gets ready to start her senior year of high school:*

I was that kid who was signed up for Cornerstone (Sunday school) but maybe showed up twice a year.

Up until confirmation, my relationship with God was almost nonexistent. My mom wanted me to learn more about faith so I agreed to go to confirmation and learn – or maybe just hang out with friends.

That's exactly what I did until Michael Jordan (RLC Youth Director) showed up. It meant a lot to me that he made an effort to get to know me. It was through that new relationship that I decided to go to Camp Hiawatha for the first time – best decision of my life.

At Hiawatha, I found a community of love and kindness that set my faith on fire and I was able to learn more about myself. From then on, I wanted to learn as much as I could about God and was determined to get involved as much as I could. Church became my second home, spending at least 4 days a week there.

In my 9th grade year, I became a Cornerstone shepherd, came early to confirmation, and went to every *FLOCK* and *Bagels @ Dawn* youth gathering. I made it to every event, even if it meant waking up extra early so I could walk a mile to the St. Paul Bagelry to make it there by 6:45 am. I loved being with a group of people who truly cared about me and had a similar mindset as I did. As many would tell you, I was the shy, quiet girl who just sat and listened, yet continued to come back every week.

Since that summer at Hiawatha, I have gone on every fall break trip, mission trip, Boundary Waters trip, and camp trip offered at RLC, each experience offering up new and different ideas on what it means to be a Christian. I have made countless lifelong friends and could fill a book with all the good, bad, funny, and emotional memories I have made over these past years with the youth group.

Last summer, on my favorite trip, I had the chance to travel overseas and serve with 19 other youth from Roseville Lutheran Church. We worked with our partner congregation and school in Martin, Slovakia. It was amazing to be able to serve alongside RLC youth and the students at the school. It's crazy to think that we all live such different day to day lives yet share the same faith and ideals as people on the other side of the world.

Being a Christian is one of the best things of my life.

*I was  
that kid who  
signed up  
...but maybe  
showed up  
twice a year.*

– Emma B.



*Being a Christian  
is one  
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best things of my life.*



RLC offers a variety of opportunities for our children, youth and families. We hope that the young people at Roseville Lutheran Church learn to love God and love others and that they will experience that same love themselves.

For young children we offer **Cornerstone**, our Sunday morning programming during the school year. This is a time where we help our children lay the foundations of their faith. In middle school, we continue our Sunday programming through **Luther League**, and we also begin **Confirmation** for that age on Wednesday nights. For high school, we offer three weekly programs each with a different focus. During the summers, we have numerous trips and camps for all ages.

All of our children, youth, and family programs are open to everyone – you do not need to be a member to participate! You can learn more at: [www.rosevillelutheran.org/ages-and-stages/](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/ages-and-stages/)



## PROJECT HOME: HELPING RLC BECOME a community UNITED BY GRACE

For the past few years, Roseville Lutheran Church has volunteered to be a host congregation for Project Home for one month. Each day in February, Project Home guests arrive in the evening and spend the night. RLC volunteers provide snacks and a healthy breakfast, come to read stories and play games with the kids, and some are overnight hosts. At RLC the sleeping rooms for families are in our education wing; the same rooms that we use for Sunday morning Cornerstone classes for our 3rd and 4th grade students. The guests like these rooms because each family gets their own private room with a door that shuts.

We engaged our Cornerstone students, talking with them about sharing their small group space with a family that needs a place to sleep. This was meaningful for the children. They not only learned about homelessness in our community, but could provide encouragement and hope for the kids by writing notes and leaving messages for them in their rooms. This experience opened their eyes and made the issue of homelessness very real and personal to them. Being the hands and feet of Jesus took on new meaning. They experienced loving God and loving our neighbor in a significant way. Some of their reflections are shared on these pages:



*We talked about the fact  
that there were kids here,*

## ABOUT PROJECT HOME

Project Home is an organization through the Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul that provides emergency shelter to homeless families during the evening and overnight hours. Churches and faith communities in the St. Paul area volunteer to provide space for families to sleep every night for a month. Buses bring families to the church, where they spend the night. While there, guests have space for kids to play, for families to gather together and a safe space for families to sleep. Guest families eat breakfast and then get on the bus again in the morning for a ride to a central place where kids pick up their school buses and parents go to work or get employment counseling during the day.





*Kids who don't have a home are just like us.*

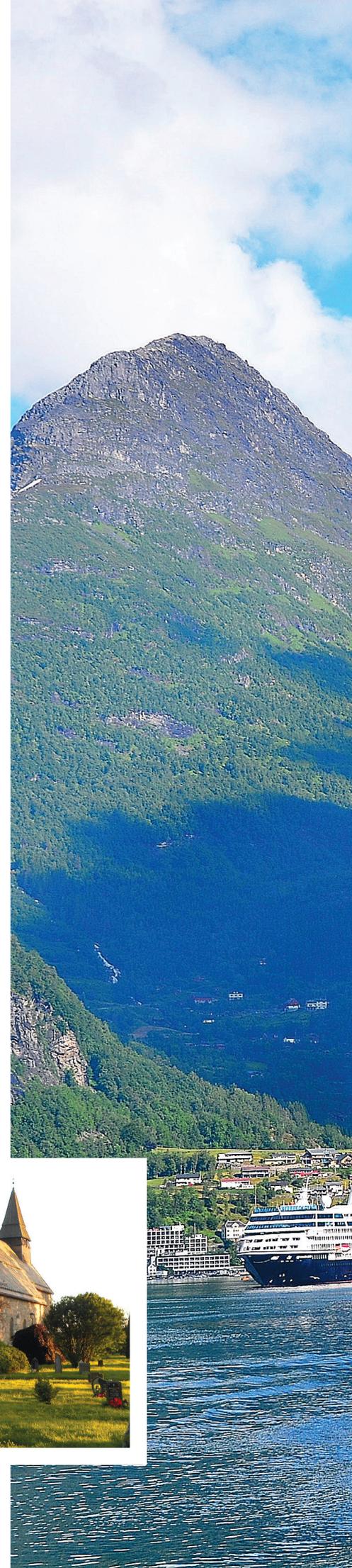
*Kindness comes in small ways...*



*maybe some our age.*



*Love God.  
Love Your  
Neighbor.*



In June, 2017, members of the RLC Senior Choir traveled to Norway for a musical tour, along with singers from the St. Michael's Lutheran Choir, as well as other family members and friends. A total of 78 people went on the tour, which began in Norway's capital city, Oslo, then moved west through the mountains to the coastal city of Bergen, and then northward up through the fjordland to Trondheim. It was exciting to sing and share the good news of God's love in churches with such long and rich histories, most of them dating from the 12th and 13th centuries. It was also exciting to meet new Norwegian friends, and to discover that despite living in different parts of the world and speaking different languages, that in so many ways we are all the same.

Two notable experiences occurred in two of the oldest churches we visited:

We sang for Sunday worship at the Vangskyrkja in Voss, which was constructed in 1277. It was a delight to participate in two baptisms that took place that morning. We were impressed, not only by the church's architecture – the baptismal bowl descended from the ceiling held by a winged cherub (see above) – but also by two families decked out in their traditional Norwegian garb. Even though the service was in Norwegian, it followed the same format as our worship in English, and we realized the great similarities no matter the language.

The next evening, we presented a concert at the Fana Church (pictured below) outside of Bergen. This church dates from around 1150, and is well-remembered by some RLC Choir members who traveled there in 2003 to help the congregation celebrate its 850th anniversary! Being there reminded us again of the importance of connections that are made and held between Christians whenever and wherever we happen to be. One choir member had a number of her Norwegian cousins in attendance at the concert, and another was approached afterward by a fourth cousin he had never met. Especially moving was one gentleman who arrived at the post-concert reception with pictures he had taken when the Fana Choir sang at Roseville Lutheran in 1995, and a woman who asked us to bring greetings to an RLC choir member who had stayed with her in Norway on the 2003 trip.

As we prepare to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation this fall, and the 75th anniversary of Roseville Lutheran Church, our visit to Norway, along with the legendary beauty of its scenery, reminded us of the way God continues to surround God's people and transform them with the gifts of creation. The Christian tradition which grew in Norway from the 11th century, and its link to culture and worship, was certainly a basic part of the culture and values that were carried to the regions of Minnesota and the upper Midwest, and is an important part of the heritage of Roseville Lutheran Church.



in so many ways  
we are ALL THE SAME



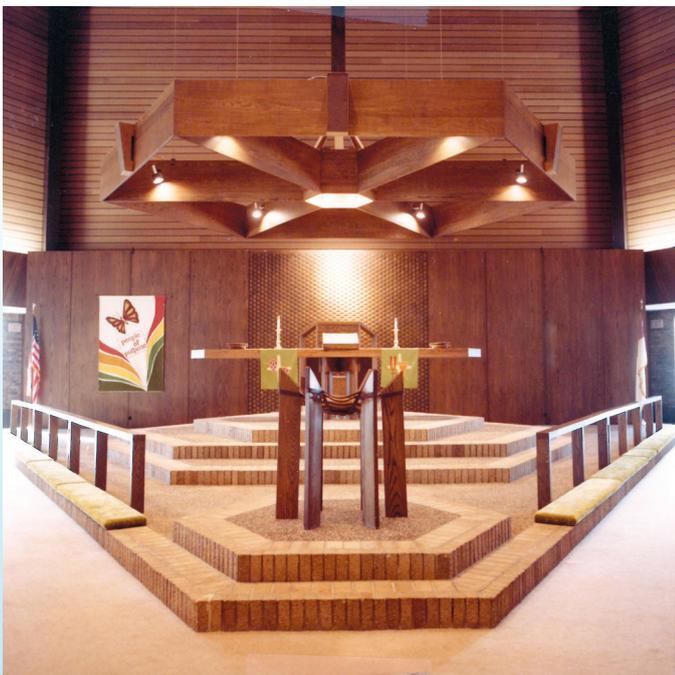
# remember



1949 Palm Sunday worship in the basement church



We're celebrating 75 years as a congregation, and are proud of our place in the history of Roseville. You are invited to any of the special events planned in celebration. All are welcome at RLC! *We are a community united by grace.*



Chancel area of the 1969 sanctuary



2016 Christmas Festival Concert in the worship center

## CELEBRATING 75 years!

## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS THIS FALL

**7:00 PM, SATURDAY, SEPT. 30**

### Swing Dance at RLC

Join the fun in this 40s-style Swing Dance in the Worship Center at RLC. Free dance lesson at 6:15 pm. Free dance from 7:00 - 9:30 pm.

**SUNDAY, OCT. 1**

### RLC Jazz in Worship

Our own RLC Jazz ensemble will lead the music in worship at 9:00 and 11:00 am.

**7:00 PM, SATURDAY, OCT. 14**

### Ken Medema in Concert

We welcome extraordinary composer and musician Ken Medema in concert. Tickets (\$10 adult /\$5 students) available at [rosevillelutheran.org](http://rosevillelutheran.org) or the church office at 651-487-7752. (\$12/\$6 at the door).

**SUNDAY, OCT. 15**

### Ken Medema in Worship

Mr. Medema returns on Sunday morning to lead music with our musicians at 9:00 and 11:00 am.

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY, OCT. 21-22**

### En Gang Til in Worship

We welcome the reunion of the *En Gang Til* (*One More Time*) women's choir this weekend.

**SATURDAY, NOV. 18**

Note: There will be NO Saturday Worship

**10:00 AM, SUNDAY, NOV. 19**

### 75th Gala Worship Celebration

We gather in ONE worship this Sunday as we celebrate 75 years of ministry. Worship includes the celebration of Holy Communion, the welcoming of new members through Holy Baptism, and the creation of a new painting by artist Paul Oman! Free food and fellowship will follow.



# QUILTS OF LOVE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

Gail Van Horn

In defining RLC's vision, we believe *"Wherever people treat one another with compassion, kindness, generosity and love, God is there."*

This love is freely shared by Roseville Lutheran's quilting group, which includes 12-15 volunteers who work Wednesday mornings in the lower level Heritage Hall at RLC. In addition, several other members work from home assembling quilt tops and pillows.

"We are always looking for more volunteers, and you don't even need to sew to help!" said organizer Muriel Anderson. The group has a 50-year history of creating beautiful textiles for charitable organizations such as Bridging, Global Missions, United Hospital maternity ward and the Animal Humane Society.

Recently, several funeral quilts and lap robes were donated by the RLC quilting group to the Ramsey County Care Center.

"The funeral quilts will be used in brief death rituals for residents being transported to hearses waiting outside our building," explained Beth Portman, activities and volunteer coordinator for the center, located on White Bear Avenue in Maplewood.

This new way of showing compassion and love will include a brief, non-denominational goodbye ritual. Chimes will alert staff requesting their attendance.

The lap robes are available for use when residents become cold and also as bingo prizes, Portman said. "They will never leave the building." They will be available for many years to come, giving comfort and love to residents.

We are thankful for these volunteers who help us live into our mission at Roseville Lutheran Church to "Love God and Love Our Neighbors."



TOP: Group with quilts for the Ramsey County Care Center. MIDDLE: Resident Evelyn Sundgren, 106, accepts a lap quilt donated by the RLC group. BOTTOM: Beth Portman, RCCC Activities Coordinator, organizes quilts donated by RLC. RIGHT: Ruth Drake shows the quilt made with the RLC First Communion class that was given to a Bridging youth.

## FINDING a PLACE TO GROW

In the early 1980s, Lowell and Leanne Van Berkom were looking for a vibrant church and community. Together with their five children, they visited several churches trying to find a place where each member of their family could grow. When their daughter said she wanted to join Roseville Lutheran Church (RLC), they felt as if the Lord had led them to RLC. Over the years children were confirmed, married, and even grandchildren were baptized here. They traveled with other church members to Italy and Norway. Lowell served on call committees and the committee to begin the day care and preschool; Leanne served as an accompanist for music ministry; and they both serve on the usher and care teams. "We've formed a lot of dear friendships in our years at RLC," says Leanne.

Because of their deep love for the church and how it impacts their family and community, Lowell and Leanne contribute to the RLC endowment fund. They appreciate that endowment fund grants support ministries and community programs that are beyond the general budget, things that would otherwise not be funded. "Our dream for RLC is that the church will continue teaching and preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ through its amazing programs and people."

The grants for Roseville Lutheran youth leadership retreats helped bring the Van Berkom's wish to life. Michael Jordan, Director of Youth Ministry, shares about the value of these retreats:

"We equip our youth with the caring, welcoming and affirming skills of peer ministry leadership so that they can confidently lead every day, everywhere and in every relationship. We help our youth use the story of the Good Samaritan as we all seek to better understand our calling to live a Christian life."

*The RLC endowment fund was created to extend the ministry and mission of Roseville Lutheran Church. Many members have included it in their wills and estate plans to continue their cherished values after they are gone. The fund accepts contributions, including memorials, celebrations, and estate gifts, into its perpetual fund. The investment earnings are used to fund grant requests twice per year. Learn more about the RLC endowment fund at: [www.rosevillelutheran.org/giving/endowment/](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/giving/endowment/)*

**Leave your legacy with  
Roseville Lutheran Church.  
Include the endowment fund  
in your estate plans.**



TOP: Lowell and Leanne Van Berkom at home with their grandchildren. MIDDLE: RLC Youth Leaders on 2016 Slovakia Trip waiting to greet the children at the Necpaly orphanage. BOTTOM: Youth taking a break on 2016 Service Learning Trip to Martin, Slovakia (supported in part by endowment grant funding).

## PROMISES MADE PROMISES KEPT

Gena Mickley grew up at Roseville Lutheran Church. She recalls the time in 4th grade (in those days!) when she received her own bible, and is now an adult with two daughters of her own, Taylor and Madeline. Gena has been active in children's ministry at RLC for many years, and now enjoys seeing former confirmation classmates returning to church with children of their own.

She has instilled the importance of service in her children, too. Taylor (11) is an usher. In fact, Gena became an usher to join with her! They often will jump in to "fill the gap" when there is a shortage of communion servers.

One day at home, Taylor asked her mother, "Why do you always have to be at church, spending all that time there?" She just wanted to spend some time with her mom.

The next Sunday there was a baptism at church. When they got to the part of the service where the promises are made to:

*"...teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, nurture them in faith and prayer, so that your children may learn to trust in God..."*

Gena said to her daughter, "Did you hear that?"

"I get it!" said Taylor.

Gena elaborated, "This is our church home. This is why I do what I do."

*This is why I do what I do.*

## Weekend Schedule

### SATURDAY

Worship at 5:00 pm

### SUNDAY

Worship at 8:00, 9:00 and 11:00 am  
Education for all ages at 10:00 am

Find more information at:

[www.rosevillelutheran.org](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org)

or call 651-487-7752



all are  
welcome  
IN THIS  
PLACE



**YOU'RE INVITED TO WORSHIP WITH US EACH WEEKEND!**

TRADITIONAL - 5:00 PM, Saturday • CONTEMPLATIVE - 8:00 AM, Sunday  
TRADITIONAL - 9:00 AM, Sunday • PRAISE AND WORSHIP - 11:00 AM, Sunday

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reJOice

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RLC MISSION: **Love GOD. Love your neighbor.**  
RLC VISION: **A community united by Grace.**