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# THE TABLE

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

**SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER • NOVEMBER 2020**

## 40 DAYS OF COMMUNITY - STARTS SEPTEMBER 13

### Worship/Sermon Series • Small Groups

*"Studying God's word together can impact our lives in powerful ways. The Bible says we were formed for fellowship and obviously we can't fellowship by ourselves. It takes at least two people.*

*At the same time, you can't fellowship with a crowd either. True fellowship happens in a small group of people. That's why Jesus had a small group of 12 disciples! He modeled fellowship. Community doesn't just happen automatically and joining a church doesn't guarantee fellowship. Fellowship is something we must learn to do, it must be intentionally cultivated."*

– Rick Warren

Join us as we worship together and continue small group online gatherings this fall, centered around this theme of "Community." This has been a trying time with the Covid 19 pandemic and has stretched us in ways we never could imagine. We have been isolated in ways we never would have dreamed possible. We were created to live in community. We were created to Reach, Belong, Grow, Serve and Worship together. Join us as we explore and unfold God's word for our lives in today's world as brothers and sisters in Christ.

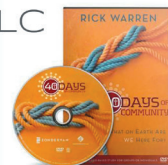
If you were a part of small groups this summer, you will have a chance to sign up again for your small group or join a new one. For those who are new to small groups at RLC this is your chance to join one!

More information can be found at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/40-days-of-Community](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/40-days-of-Community). Please register NOW! Small groups start the week of September 13. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Sell at [dsell@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:dsell@rosevillelutheran.org)

small groups at RLC

## 40 DAYS of community

Sign up today, starts September 13!



## BE STILL!

Pastor Lauren J. Wrightsman

In a recent article in The Christian Century, by professor and writer Brian Bantum, entitled "Still Plowing," (July 1, 2020, pg. 35), Bantum begins his article with these words,

"I have been thinking a lot about Moses, about bondage and liberation and what it looks like to imagine one's life apart from the lens of an oppressive regime. Somehow, Moses is drawn from a space of death into privilege, then into the wilderness, and then into the throes of a liberation movement. It's all miracles and power and bags full of gold – until he and the Israelites hit that watery obstacle and hear Pharaoh's army behind them."

**BE STILL (Continues on Page 2)**



## IN-PERSON WORSHIP!

sunday, SEPT. 20, OCT. 18  
**9:00 am (ONLY)**

## DRIVE-IN WORSHIP!

sunday, SEPT. 13, OCT. 11  
**9:00 am • 10:30 am**

## WORSHIP WITH ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN

online sundays at 9:00 and 10:30 AM  
CTV channel 19 • 10 am sun • 6 PM wed • 2 am, 10 am THURS

**BE STILL (Continued from Page 1)**

We are pretty familiar with the story. Moses and the Israelites have been allowed to leave the slavery they knew in Egypt. They quickly pack up their things, a few bags of gold, and set out to freedom. Pharaoh, however, has second thoughts and soon sends his army out to bring the slaves back to his land. The Israelites are caught with the Red Sea in front of them and their would-be captors behind them.

The Israelites begin to complain. In Exodus 14:11-12 they call out,

*"Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."*

It is a cry of lament. On the brink between captivity and freedom, they are lamenting the safety of the comfort of the past – even though that past was one of slavery and bondage. In this moment, the thought of freedom, liberation and a land to call their own seemed like a lot of work, dangerous work, hard work. In this moment they don't quite feel up to the task to move into the future.

As I consider the world around us, sometimes I look back on the past and long to return to those seemingly halcyon days of past years. Looking back to those years, I can find myself waxing nostalgic about how it used to be, forgetting that it wasn't all idyllic and happy.

Stepping into the future and claiming a future is hard and arduous work. It is sometimes dangerous work. It is sometimes unsettling work. But it is the work of a people of God who center themselves first and foremost in the love and keeping of a generous God.

There on the shores of the Red Sea, Moses does not cry out for his people to start getting busy

arming themselves, building a wall, or running for the hills. As the people cry out their lament, Moses speaks to them and says, "The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

Bantum continues,  
*"Keep still? They should probably be walking. But there is another meaning to still here: to plough or engrave. It's not inactivity, but a directed, purposeful movement. Moses wants them to walk into their liberation. At this moment it's not a question of what they should do but of who they are. Be still, God says. Plough, dig, plunge your hands into the ground and feel what gives you life... Be still and feel the center of your being and how it cries out not for the toil of Pharaoh but for worship and life with your Creator."* (emphasis mine)

And then, Moses ploughs his staff into the ground and God reveals the promises and possibilities of freedom that were there the entire time.

The future is before us and we, too, share in this work of ploughing and digging, unearthing the promises of God that have been there since God first breathed into the earth and created life. We are reminded to feel the ground beneath us, to stand still in the promise of God's love and keeping, and step forward into uncharted ground together, led by the spirit and fed by God's promises.

This is holy ground that we stand on. This is holy work that we are a part of.

In the closing, Bantum writes, "We choose to be life, in all its stubborn and mundane forms. We choose to drive our staff into the ground and see what God will do, what paths of liberation might be revealed."

As we move forward in these unprecedented times, we are not just "standing still" we are plunging deeply into that which gives us life. We choose to be life and see what God will do and what liberation will be revealed.

I am thankful for all of you. Your work, your steadfastness during these difficult times, your hope and the ways in which we, as a people of God, are plowing new ground. Thanks be to God!

Blessings,



Pastor Lauren J. Wrightsman  
Senior Pastor

## Interim Associate Pastor Update

In consultation with Bishop Patricia Lull (SPAS) and the Executive Committee, we are pausing in our search for an Interim Associate Pastor. There is great fluidity in our needs at the moment and we are discerning the needs of Roseville Lutheran not only in the months ahead, but for our future ministry in the years to come. Pastoral responsibilities are being shared by Senior Pastor Lauren Wrightsman and Visitation Pastor Rolf Olson. RLC is blessed with an energetic and gifted staff who are also taking on some of the shared responsibilities of committee and ministry work. We will keep you informed of the call process for our next Associate Pastor.

## NEW PODCAST HOPE IN THE HEALING

Fall Series with Pastor Lauren

Podcast on Fridays, Sunday Discussions

Throughout the past month Pastor Lauren has hosted various conversations with community and church leaders, musicians, poets and others. These conversations will be aired as a weekly podcast starting **Friday, September 18**. There will also be a small group discussion component on **Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm online**. You can sign up for the online discussion at [www.rosevillelutheran.org](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org). Guests include:

- Angela Denker - ELCA Pastor, and author of Red State Christians: Understanding the Voters who Elected Donald Trump
- Dr. Michael Osterholm - Director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota and activist for prairie land restoration
- Ken Medema - nationally acclaimed singer/songwriter and musician
- Rev. Mark Hanson - former presiding bishop of the ELCA

*This speaker series has been funded through a gift by the Roseville Lutheran Church Endowment Fund.*

This series, as well as other adult education offerings will be archived for later viewing on a new page of our website called "Forum" found at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/forum](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/forum).





## FAREWELL AND GODSPEED, PASTOR SARA

*Associate Pastor Sara Spohr Accepts New Call, Departs RLC*

In June, Pastor Sara shared a letter informing us that she was called to Lake Nokomis Lutheran in Minneapolis. “For me personally, this news is the very definition of bittersweet. I am excited for this new chapter in my calling as a pastor and leader, but it comes with deep sadness in saying goodbye to the people of Roseville Lutheran. Over the last six years I have been so honored and grateful for the ways that we have been in ministry together. I will miss this community of faith tremendously.”



While we are saddened by this news, we are grateful for Pastor Sara’s time at Roseville Lutheran Church and pray for her as she begins this new journey with the people of Lake Nokomis Lutheran. Pastor Sara is a gifted leader, preacher and trusted pastor. Many of you have been impacted by her ministry among us and we thank her for sharing her gifts with us.

We celebrated her ministry time with us through a card shower and online greetings, as well as a Service of Celebration and Sending on Sunday, July 12 at our Drive-In Worship. Pastor Sara’s last day with us was July 29,2020.

## Upcoming RLC Worship Schedule

- Sunday, September 6** - Online Worship
- Sunday, September 13** - Online, and Drive-In Worship w/Holy Communion (9:00 and 10:30 am) NOTE NEW TIMES!
- Sunday, September 20** - Online, and In-Person Worship at 9:00 am (only). Masks required. You must register ahead of time at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/in-person-worship/](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/in-person-worship/)
- Sunday, September 27** - Online Worship
- Sunday, October 4** - Online Worship
- Sunday, October 11** - Online, and Drive-In Worship w/Holy Communion (9:00 and 10:30 am) NOTE NEW TIMES!
- Sunday, October 18** - Online, and In-Person Worship at 9:00 am (only). Masks required. You must register ahead of time at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/in-person-worship/](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/in-person-worship/)
- Sunday, October 25** - Online Worship

## ENDOWMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS

*Deadline is September 30*

The deadline for Endowment Grant requests is September 30. The committee will meet in October to fund this. Each year we spend about 5 percent of our fund. In the past we have given funds within the congregation, within the community, statewide and internationally.

# RLC Lay Leaders and Staff

### Pastors

Lauren Wrightsman, Senior Pastor  
Rolf Olson, Visitation Pastor

### Hospitality Ministry

Connie Marchio, Hospitality Manager

### Music Ministry

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

### RLC Preschool

Jenifer Johnson, Director

### Child Care House

Jenifer Johnson, Director  
Shyama Dahal, Assistant

### Children’s Ministry

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

### Student Ministry

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

### Facilities Ministry

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

### Ministry Support Staff

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

### Endowment Committee

Dorothy Tostengard, Chair

### Nominating Committee

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

### Congregation Council

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

### Ministry Team Chairs

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



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AT RLC

### What Will Children's Ministry Look Like This Fall?

The answer to this question is ever changing! As this is written, we don't know the plan for our area schools. Given the number of families and students at RLC, it is unlikely we will be able to meet together as a traditional Sunday School program this fall. We will be inviting families to worship together at RLC as they are comfortable, or worship together at home while watching our worship services online.



### Worship Kits For 3 Years Old Through 6th Grade!

To engage the kids and get them involved, look for Worship Kits for each student ages 3 years through 6th grade. These kits will include a Spark Story Bible for each child ages 3 yrs. through 2nd Grade, an Adventure Bible for our 3rd graders, and 4th-6th graders will use the Bibles they should have from us in previous years. If your student does not have a Bible, please let us know and we will provide one.

Kits will include objects that coincide with various parts of our worship service, for example. a small cross to hold while we pray together, a wand with ribbon to use during music, a cup and pretend wafer to hold during

communion. These are just some of the things in the kit. We will be giving out the Worship Kits on Rally Sunday, Sept. 13th at our Drive In Worship. Kids will then bring them to worship at RLC on Sundays, or use them at home while watching the service online. Similar to Carryout Camp, we will be offering a packet of activities that you can pick up monthly to enhance the various lessons each week. Older kids will have age appropriate items and activities in their kits. We will be checking in with you to see how you are doing and about offering other ways to help your child grow in their faith at home. We want Children's Ministry to be engaging and fun for kids. We also want to have a format that is easy for parents to implement.

We will be getting you more information about when we can meet at church again with kids and families. We need to be safe and cautious, and also want the experience at church to be fun and engaging! We need to put on our creative hats! If you have ideas or suggestions, please let us know!



## RLC CHILDCARE HOUSE

### New "House" in the Back Yard!

The kids at the childcare love their new house in the backyard! Thanks to the Endowment Fund of RLC for a gracious grant, RLC Childcare was able to purchase a pavilion to put in the backyard for the children to have shade and shelter while playing. In addition, a huge thanks goes to Scout Troop #9297 for providing their muscles, tools, and gift of service to put the pavilion together. RLC Childcare Staff thanks everyone who has provided this great gift for our childcare. God bless!



## RLC PRESCHOOL OPEN FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

### Jenifer Johnson, Director RLC Preschool

Hello RLC Community! RLC Preschool is open to provide a safe and caring environment for preschool students and families for 2020-21. We still have some spots available for students ages 3-5 years old. If you have or know of a child seeking preschool education, they may contact Jenifer Johnson, Director of Preschool and Childcare, for more information at 651-488-6887, or [RLCPreschool@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:RLCPreschool@rosevillelutheran.org). Also, we would appreciate your thoughts, prayers, and support as we learn to educate in a "new normal" during this time. Thank you!



### 3rd Grade Bible Workshop This Fall

Similar to how we did our First Communion Workshop in May, we will be inviting all 3rd graders and their families to participate in a Bible Workshop that will introduce what this amazing book is all about, and go through some fun and engaging activities to help everyone learn about the Bible together at home. All 3rd graders will receive their own Adventure Bible in their Worship Kit on Sept 13th. 3rd Graders will also receive a packet of info to go through with their family. These activities don't have to be done all at once, but pick a special time each week to go through them- make this a special family time together. We will be sending you a video to watch together that will reinforce the activities in the packet. Not ideal for us, as we SO enjoy seeing you in person, but we want to get the Bible into your 3rd grader's hands and don't want to wait!



## SERVE SUNDAY CONTINUES CREATIVELY

### Grad Care Packages

Every year, Roseville Lutheran shows its love for recent high school graduates by sending care packages to wherever they may be! It's an awesome show of support and care that involves the whole congregation to shop, pack, decorate, and send. We're excited to continue this tradition!

If you're a parent of a recent grad, keep an eye out for an invitation (via email) from Audrey to share your child's current information by Sept. 18 so that we can include them in this great tradition.

If you want to be a part of the congregation's effort to make this happen again, look for an invitation in the RLC Youth Update weekly emails and other CYF communications. We appreciate everyone's enthusiasm and support as we find creative ways to adapt this Serve Sunday event during current safety restrictions!



## JOY IN EVERY SEASON

### Carryout Camp This Summer Was FUN!

In an effort to provide some fun and faith this summer when we couldn't have VBS or any of our usual camps and trips, we offered Carryout Camp to families from our church and the neighborhood. Families picked up their camp box filled with activities following the weekly "Joy" theme. Boxes were prepared by our amazing youth helpers and handed out "curbside" as is the custom now!

We sprinkled service projects in with the many activities that were provided for Carryout Campers. Families repackaged 28 lbs of laundry detergent into individual packages for 3 loads of laundry per family that were given to Keystone Community Services for their food shelves. Families made 100 tie blankets for clients of Bridging, and we collected hygiene items for Keystone Community Services.

Bonus prizes were given out in some of the camp boxes – gift cards to Target, Michaels, Barnes & Noble and Dairy Queen were some of them, in addition to the weekly Photo Challenge prizes!

Carryout Camp culminated with tie dye and mural painting- the Joy of Community was accomplished with COVID guidelines and safety in mind! Look for the mural in the hallway between the Commons and the Social Hall – it is truly amazing!



### Let's Hear from Our Carryout Campers:

"Wesley (our 4-year-old) likes to call out, "let's go get the pizza box." He's not talking about pizza. He's talking about carry out camp. He loves the activities each week and it gives me some new ideas of things to do together. He loved taking Flat Jesus on adventures and hearing the stories with Gena and Squiggles. He likes to pick which baggie devotion to do. He loved the water balloons, any devotions with candy, the tie dye night and the scavenger hunt night! I felt good about the community service projects. We could talk about helping others as we scooped soap or cut blanket strips. It was so nice to feel connected during a time when we couldn't physically be in church." – from the Hofmeister family.



"I am so thankful for Carryout Camp and the opportunity it gave me to spend time with my grandsons, Landon and Jordan who are turning 8 and 10 this week. Carryout Camp has given us many awesome activities to do together. We usually take a day or two each week to learn the story and complete the activities. Some of our favorites have been the chalk drawing, building with marshmallows and toothpicks and baking bread. It was my first time baking bread, so we learned together. We also really enjoyed the service projects and it was a wonderful experience to teach them to show God's love through loving and caring for others. We are so thankful and grateful to the team who made Carryout Camp happen!" – from the Quarstad/Higgins family

"Suddenly our schools and our Extracurriculars had to change and adapt to a distance model because of Covid. Out of all of our experiences, Carryout Camp at RLC has been the best. It is so well thought out and organized. So many different activities and devotions including ways of fellowship online through photo challenges or the Wednesday evening activities. Our kids are so excited to pick up the box each week! We can do the activities together despite their varied ages. The lessons and devotions are short and perfectly suited for young kids. what a blessing it has been this summer! Thank you!" – from the Walz family

"I have been very impressed and thankful for the carry out camp. It is something new and exciting, bringing positive and fun activities into our home! So many parents are done with screens, just plain DONE! All these activities are hands on, get my kids moving, thinking and promote great conversations. They have been a highlight of our week! We have been able to do these boxes on the road, at the lake and in our backyard. The girls loved the scavenger hunt, making tie blankets, baking the bread and tie die! We all enjoyed a night of tie dying. That was something that I probably wouldn't set up and do- just because it is so messy! We were able to be coached by talented staff on how to do them in a safe environment. It turned into family fun! Thank you!" – from the Engman Family.

"My family has enjoyed how carry out camp has kept us active in our faith and involved in the community in fun and creative ways this summer!" – from the Field family.

"The best part of Carryout Camp was the pick up and surprise of what was inside the pizza box each week. We've had many weeks of monotonous activities and schedules, so it was fun to have something on the calendar and feel like we were participating in something special. Olivia enjoyed the art activities (especially the big picture) and baking the bread while Ethan enjoyed building things (like the marshmallows with toothpicks activity). And both kids loved the tie dye activity! It was fun to participate as a family and have new activities to try. We appreciate all of your hard work with putting these activities together. I'm sure it was not an easy task to plan and prep each week, but we are grateful! Thanks again!" – from the Tiedeman family.





## CONFIRMATION 2020-2021

*Abby Matter, Director of Faith Formation*

With Roseville Lutheran's decision to not open in the fall came the reality that confirmation could not take place in its original form (at least not immediately). Therefore, confirmation will be online on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. but will be 45 minutes to an hour instead of the traditional hour and a half. We will begin with Orientation on Wednesday September 23rd. It will be very important for both students and parents to attend this online session as I will be outlining the multitude of changes that will happen as a result of Covid-19.

We will still be asking students to register online! Please have your child registered by September 1st. At the time of registration, we require a fee to help cover the costs of supplies. This year, as a result of the pandemic, we decided to lower the price to \$60 per student. It will likely return to \$75 next year, but during these challenging times, we want to take a little financial stress off your while still being able to run a high-quality program. The fee can be paid online or a check can be mailed to RLC with "Confirmation <Child's Name>" in the memo line. If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please email Abby at [amatter@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:amatter@rosevillelutheran.org).

I am looking forward to this year, whatever it ends up looking like. All I ask of you is patience and grace and I happily plan to return those to you as well. The year is planned out, but specifically what everything will look will likely change. I will do my very best to keep you up to date about what is happening next as well as any changes that may occur. While I know online is not ideal, we simply do not have the space for 150 people to stay socially distant in our building and the goal is safety for students, leaders and staff.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

*Worship Kits Start This Fall*

With Sunday morning services being online and or in the parking lot this fall, things will look a little different for families with middle schoolers. Luther League which is our 5th and 6th grade Sunday morning ministry will be receiving Worship Tool Kits like all of the other Cornerstone kids (see other article on P. 4 for more detailed information). This will give them an opportunity to participate more actively in worship whether online, in the parking lot, or in person. There will also be activities that go with each week that families can do together at home. It will be new and different, but we are hoping it will also be meaningful and enjoyable.



### *Devos & Donuts on Hiatus*

Devos & Donuts is our Sunday morning program for 7th and 8th graders. This program will not be happening this fall! If/when we are able to meet in person again, we may decide to start it up again. If we do, families will be contacted about it! Otherwise 7th and 8th grade families can focus on confirmation on Wednesday nights. Please contact Abby at [amatter@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:amatter@rosevillelutheran.org) with any questions.

## HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

*Audrey Dontje Lindell, Director of Youth Ministry*

With current safety restrictions, high school ministry looks a little different than usual this year. Make sure you register your high-school-age kids for High School Ministry this fall so that you don't miss out on a changing schedule of events and opportunities! The registration will be made available by the beginning of September and can be found on the Youth Ministry page on our website ([www.rosevillelutheran.org](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org)).

Communication with families about high school ministry events is primarily through a weekly email newsletter (the RLC Youth Update) from Audrey, which families who register for High School Ministry will be automatically added to. Contact Audrey to be added to the list. Youth and parents are also invited to join this year's weekly text list by texting @youthofRLC to 81010. You will receive a welcome text from Remind, our messaging platform.

**FLOCK** (our weekly youth group) will kick off on Sept. 22. We meet Tuesday evenings from 7:30 - 9 p.m. for fun and fellowship. Depending on the week, the weather, safety restrictions, and our activity, FLOCK will meet in a variety of ways throughout the year, both in-person and online.

Watch for the weekly RLC Youth Update email or join the weekly text list to find out what's happening each week!

While **Bagels@Dawn** (our weekly before-school time for fellowship and a devotion at the St. Paul Bagely) is currently on hiatus, we are excited about continuing the program in a new way as safety restrictions change. Look for information about a potential new meeting space that's in the works! Our usual schedule for Bagels@Dawn is 6:45 - 7:45 a.m. on Thursday mornings.

Roseville Lutheran's high school ministry includes our weekly programs, service learning, and many opportunities for fun and fellowship. While at this point we are unable to be certain about how many of our usual fall events will happen, including the MEA Getaway retreat, we hope you'll stay in touch! We're excited to keep you in the loop about how you can be involved.

Audrey Dontje Lindell (Dir. of Youth Ministry) is always available to families by email, phone, or video call to hear prayer concerns or answer questions. Contact her via email at [adontjelindell@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:adontjelindell@rosevillelutheran.org) or contact the main office at (651) 487-7752 to schedule a call.





## ADULT EDUCATION

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

The RLC Adult Ed Committee has planned special educational sessions for this fall. Due to Covid-19 and gradual re-opening guidelines, our series of programs will begin as online video or Power Point presentations. These programs will be recorded and you can view them at your convenience at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/forum](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/forum) once they've "aired." We plan to release new presentations the first and second Wednesdays of each month. Below is a listing of the Fall Adult Ed sessions:



### Wednesdays – October 7, 14

#### RELIGION, POLITICS, AND THE ELECTION – Dr. Mark Tranvik

As Christians we are called to be citizens. What does this mean for the election in November? How might our Lutheran faith inform our hearts and minds?

- Martin Luther the Politician
- Faith and Politics



### Wednesday – November 4

#### LIVING WITH PURPOSE AS WE AGE – Dr. Roland Martinson

Older adulthood is most often a long period of life with its unique character, assets and limitations. We will explore the callings of elderhood and discover how day to day and across the entire span of this third chapter of life, older adults can make, indeed are needed to make, significant and necessary contributions to family, neighborhood, community and the larger world.



### Wednesday – November 11

#### FINDING GOD IN THE ORDINARY – Rollie Johnson

Most of us race through our days at a hectic and frantic pace oblivious to the Godly and divine in our midst. We are tuned into the latest electronic gizmos and out of tune with the holy and sacred that moves in and around us throughout our days. Journey with author Rollie Johnson who has a most unique gift for observing and sensing and recognizing Godly movements and spiritual truths in our ordinary day to day lives. His observations and unique insights from the natural world of creation and ordinary encounters will inspire you to new depths of trust and intimacy in your walk with God.



### Wednesdays – December 2, 9

#### WORSHIP AND MUSIC – Marty Haugen

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



## TANZANIAN STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

*A Global Outreach Ministry of RLC*

For over fifteen years RLC has faithfully provided scholarship support for secondary school students from RLC's companion congregation in Ng'ang'ange, Tanzania. In 2020, church leaders at Ng'ang'ange awarded more than 50 students with scholarship support from RLC. Our Mission and Outreach Ministry Team's goal is to maintain this ministry, enabling new high-potential students to enter school and successful students to continue their education in 2021.

Most of these students attend secondary schools but a few of them attend either a vocational school or a university or a seminary in Tanzania. RLC has also pledged to help sponsor a Tanzanian student at Luther Seminary right here in St. Paul this school year! The majority of all these scholarship recipients are members of the Ng'ang'ange parish.



### Need Continues During Pandemic

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, all Tanzanian schools were closed in mid-March. However, primary and secondary students returned to school on June 28. In the Iringa Diocese, the students wear masks and wash hands frequently. Their temperatures are taken each day. In Tanzania the school year follows the calendar year, but the two school terms have been adjusted to make up for the time lost this spring.

During previous visits to Ng'ang'ange by RLC members, the parish leaders told us that the education of their young people is their highest priority. Through the Bega Kwa Bega program of the Saint Paul Area Synod, we are able to extend RLC's outreach ministry abroad to support these fine young Lutherans.

### You Can Help - Give Now, Through November 1

Here is how you can personally join this vital outreach ministry. Prayerfully consider providing student scholarship funds yourself for the 2021 school year that starts in January. To do so simply send a check to the church office and designate your gift by writing "Tanzania Scholarship" in the memo line. Or you can donate online by texting <amount> TZ to 651-383-1504. The deadline for receiving these scholarship funds is November 1, 2020.

Individual scholarships are based on need, and vary from student to student. The average award is about \$380. Partial or multiple scholarship donations will all be consolidated by Bega Kwa Bega and sent to Tanzania this November. Church leaders there will then have the funds they need to award next year's scholarships.

We at RLC are blessed to have this unique and inspiring companion congregation relationship with Lutherans in far-away Tanzania. We can learn so much from each other on both sides of the ocean, not only about our common faith, but also about our individual hopes and dreams. Together we become a global community united by grace through prayer and a deeper understanding of each other.





## GRIEF SHARE

*Surviving the Holidays*

*Nov. 7, Dec. 5 from 10:00 am - 12 Noon*



Save the dates! Saturdays, Nov. 7 and Dec. 5 from 10:00 am to 12 noon.

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

Surviving the holidays is here to help. Join Diane Sell and others who has lost loved ones over the years for a 1-day seminar. We will watch video clips from leading experts in the field of grief and be a part of a discussion group. You will receive a survival guide with daily encouragement and helpful exercises for the days ahead. Look for sign up to begin late October. Any questions, please contact Diane Sell directly at [dsell@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:dsell@rosevillelutheran.org).

## RLC MEN'S GROUP

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

Throughout our COVID shutdowns the RLC men have continued to meet twice per month for Bible study and conversation, usually through zoom. We have had a few outdoor gatherings over the summer but usually we meet via the internet. Please join us at 8:30 a.m. on the first and third Saturdays each month. Great conversation. Learning moments in Bible study. Excellent food – just like at home! Contact Pastor Rolf Olson if interested [rolson@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:rolson@rosevillelutheran.org)

**A Community  
United by Grace**

## MUSIC NOTES

*Thanks to Our Musicians!*

Thanks to all the many and varied musicians of RLC for all their dedication and good work in our worship presentations all year long – both before the health pandemic, and during. We are having an unusual year, to say the least!

As fall approaches, the RLC musical ensembles will not be rehearsing until further notice. We hope to be able to start rehearsals at some point, depending on the nature of the ensemble and its size. The current scientific understanding concerning singing is that it is an activity that can be a Covid 19 "super spreader" and so people singing and rehearsing in close proximity to one another is not a safe activity.

Instrumental ensembles may be slightly different, especially if they use smaller numbers of players and can practice safe distancing. Watch for further announcements regarding our ensemble schedules as we proceed this fall in the face of the pandemic.

We will be continuing with our weekly worship presentations on video, using a small number of musicians. Thanks to all our performers for their gifts, time and efforts.

– John Helgen, Director of Music



## A NOTE FROM MADDIE GIORDANA

Dear RLC Community,

In a spirit of gratitude, I am writing to announce that I will be moving to Madison, WI and will no longer be part of the RLC music staff. I feel very fortunate to have found the RLC community shortly after graduating from college and have greatly enjoyed making music with you all for the past eight years. In particular, I would like to thank all the youth who have shared their musical gifts by participating in the youth bell choir, Cornerstone Christmas, and as soloists. It has been an honor and joy to be able to make music with you, and I hope you continue to make music for years to come!

While I wish that I could have the opportunity to give my well wishes in person, I trust that there will be a time when we are able to see each other again in the future. And make some more joyful noise! Until then and always, best wishes and peace to you all.

In gratitude,  
Maddie Giordana



PODCAST

# Hope in the Healing

FRIDAYS THIS FALL AT RLC



**ANGELA DENKER**  
SEPTEMBER 18



**JOE DAVIS**  
SEPTEMBER 25



**MICHAEL OSTERHOLM**  
OCTOBER 2



**JESUS LUCERO**  
OCTOBER 9



**JAMEY JOHNSON**  
OCTOBER 16



**FARDOSA HASSAN**  
OCTOBER 23



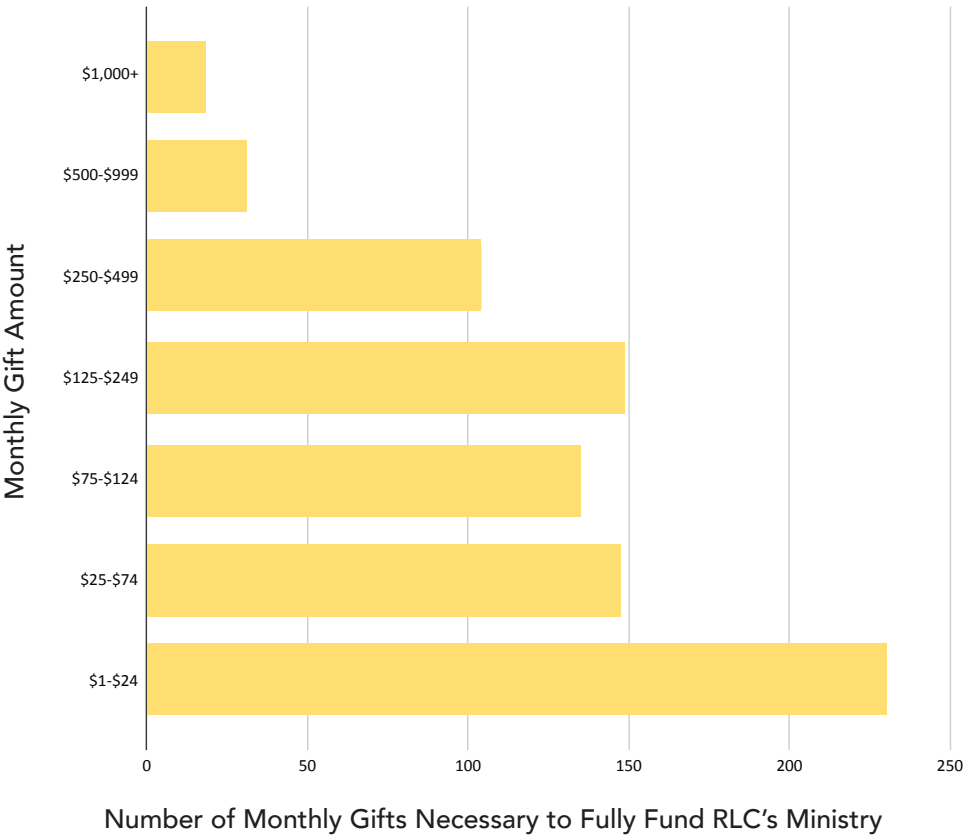
**KEN MEDEMA**  
OCTOBER 30



**MARK HANSON**  
NOVEMBER 6



ADVANCING OUR MISSION  
Giving Graph for 2020-2021



ADVANCING OUR MISSION IN 2020-21  
How Will We Get There?

As we continue to live out our vision and mission we are excited about what the future holds for us! As you consider the proposed budget, please know that every gift is essential for the continued support and growth of our mission and ministry.

The graph to the left indicates a model of the number of monthly gifts and pledges necessary to fund RLC's ministry. As you look at this, prayerfully consider the gifts that you and your family give to support our shared ministry. Consider your present support and how you may either begin a commitment to RLC's mission, or step up your giving.

**We can't advance our mission without you!** As a ministry of the people of God for the people of God, we rely on all gifts, both large and small to shape, transform, and empower people of all ages.

During the month of November we will be exploring the ways our stewardship supports communities of grace locally and in the broader world. We invite you to participate and prayerfully consider the ways in which you can support our shared ministries. Thank you for your gifts, support, time and talent! I am excited for where the Holy Spirit is leading this community of faith!

Blessings – Pastor Lauren J. Wrightsman

You Can Give A Gift Online:  
[www.rosevillelutheran.org/givenow](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/givenow)

WHY DO WE  
GIVE TO ROSEVILLE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH?

Laurel Hofeldt,  
Director of Finance and Data

As a church family, we have a greater impact on our community than we do as individuals. By combining our time, talent, and resources at RLC, we fulfill:



OUR VISION:

To Be A Community United by  
Grace

We give to teach, live, and share God's grace in our community. Wherever people treat one another with compassion, kindness, generosity and love, God's grace shines.

OUR MISSION:

Love God • Love Your Neighbor

We give to make a difference. Love is a verb: it requires action.

We give in response to God's love. He has blessed us and asks us to share those blessings with others.

How Can I Give?

How Can I Give a Financial Gift When We Aren't Meeting In Person?

ONLINE

Give Online: Give your gift online via credit/debit card or link directly to a bank account. Visit [rosevillelutheran.org/sustainer](http://rosevillelutheran.org/sustainer) to set up a recurring gift or give a one-time gift.

\*Stretch your gift: using your checking account with routing number results in fewer fees and is the preferred method for Roseville Lutheran Church.

TEXT

Give By Text: Text the amount you'd like to give to 651-383-1504. You will be prompted to visit a secure URL to register your credit or debit card information. If you create an account, your information will be stored for future texts to the same number.

BY MAIL

Give By Mail: Mail your gift to the church office at:  
Roseville Lutheran Church, Attn: Finance  
1215 Roselawn Ave. West, Roseville, MN 55113

STOCK

Stock Gifts: Giving a stock gift is an easy way to support ministry, may give you a significant tax advantage, and increase the amount you can afford to give. To learn more, contact Laurel at [lhofeldt@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:lhofeldt@rosevillelutheran.org) or 651-487-7752.

IRA DISTRIBUTIONS

Qualified Charitable Distributions from your IRA: If you were 70 1/2 years and older on December 31, 2019 or 72 years old on or after January 1, 2020, you may contribute directly from a qualified IRA account to Roseville Lutheran Church without paying taxes on the money withdrawn. The transaction must come directly from the IRA trustee. If you are interested in this opportunity to give a gift to RLC, please discuss the options with your tax professional.

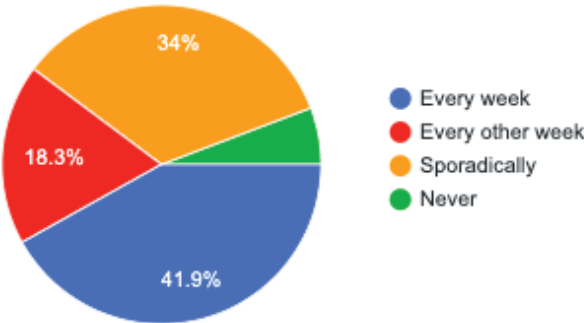
# CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

Thank You for Your Responses!  
Your Feedback Informs Phased Re-Entry.

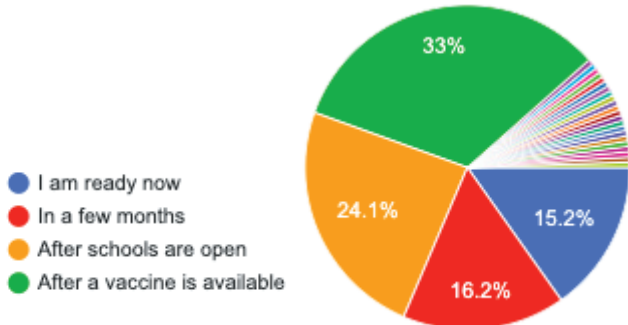
In July we invited you, as members and friends of Roseville Lutheran Church, to participate in an online survey so that we could hear how you are doing, how you have stayed engaged at Roseville Lutheran Church during the pandemic, and what your thoughts are at this time regarding when you would feel comfortable in engaging in on-site ministry at Roseville Lutheran in the future.

Over 191 families and individuals participated in the survey with ages ranging from 13 - 85+. Here are some of the results of the survey.

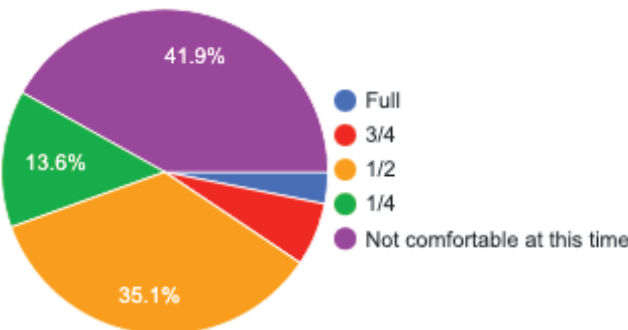
## During the pandemic I have participated in weekly online worship:



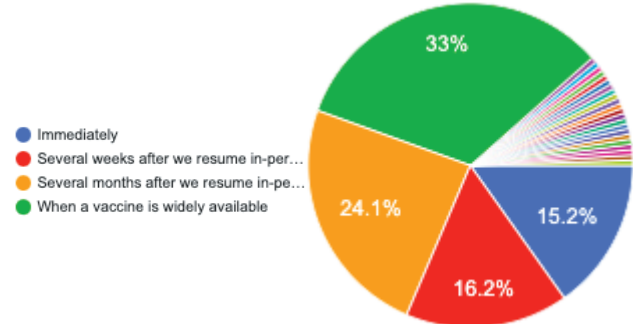
## When would you feel comfortable attending an indoor, in-person worship service? (Note: the "striped area" represents various individual responses to this question.)



## Which of the following describes the attendance capacity at which you would be comfortable attending a worship service at this time?



## When would you feel comfortable volunteering on campus? (Note: the "striped area" represents various individual responses to this question.)



Other responses indicate many of you feel it is very important that, as we move forward with in-person worship, that we follow protocols for wearing masks and physical distancing, provide hand sanitizer, and eliminate fellowship time.

For those who have children or youth in our Children's, Youth and Family Programs, your response to the question "When would you feel comfortable with them attending programming?" indicate a strong desire to follow the guidelines offered by local schools in the area.

- Of the 74 responses to this question:
- 43%: after schools are open
  - 20%: when a vaccine is widely available
  - 13%: when stay-safe orders are lifted
  - 3%: unknown

We recognize that this survey only provides a "snapshot" of your concerns and feelings at one moment in time. There is still much that the health community is learning about Covid-19, and we continue to listen to the advice of local and national health experts as they provide guidance for moving forward.

## PHASED RE-ENTRY PLAN

At the time of this writing (late July, 2020) Roseville Lutheran is currently operating at Level 2 and working towards Level 3. One of the ways

in which we are moving forward with Level 3 is offering in-person worship once a month, on the third Sunday of the month, starting in September 2020. We are working towards moving forward with different elements of Level 3 throughout the fall and winter of 2020. (See the Phase Table lower on this page.)

A reminder of the what **LEVEL 2** and **LEVEL 3** look like and the type of on-campus activity:

### ~ LEVEL 2 ~

#### EXTERNAL CONDITIONS

- Declining cases.
- Contract tracing is in place and PPE is available

#### CRITERIA

- State provides relaxed guidance for physical distancing
- Facilities and core services staff have adequately prepared to return to facility
- Church Council approval

#### CHURCH ACTIVITIES

##### Worship

- Services continue online or outside with social distancing
- All ministry activities online or postponed
- Life Celebrations (weddings, funerals, baptisms) may be allowed and should be kept to less than 10 in attendance with physical distancing. Approval required

##### Activities On Site

- All staff work remotely when able
- Recording of worship for online streaming of services
- Cleaning of facilities on a regular basis for spaces used - Other spaces will be cleaned and marked as "sanitized"
- Masks, temperature checks and physical distancing rules applied - Preschool closed
- Child care open to children of essential employees

Level	0	1	2	3	4
Worship	Online	Online	Online	In-person with physical distancing	Normal
Ministry Events	Online	Online	Online	In-person with physical distancing	Normal
Staff	Remote	Remote / onsite essentials with physical distancing	Remote / onsite essentials with physical distancing	Remote for vulnerable staff / onsite essentials with physical distancing	Normal
Community Groups	Online / postponed	Online / postponed	Limited in-person with permission	In-person with permission	Normal
Life Celebrations	Postponed	Postponed	Limited in-person with permission	In-person with permission	Normal



## ~ LEVEL 3 ~

**EXTERNAL CONDITIONS**

- Government leaders continue relaxation of physical distancing measures.
- Cases continue to decrease and testing is widely available. PPE is widely available

**CRITERIA**

- State provides relaxed guidance for physical distancing
- Facilities and core services staff have adequately prepared to return to facility
- Church has the ability to gradually expand number of people in the building while maintaining physical distancing
- Church council approval

**CHURCH ACTIVITIES****Worship**

- Service held online and in-person with physical distancing measures implemented
- Adjusted worship times to allow adequate rotation of congregants, cleaning of touchpoints and air circulated
- Masks required for all people when in the building - Designated entrances and exits
- Reorganization of seating as necessary
- Communion may or may not be offered until deemed safe with public health guidance
- Group singing and congregational speaking may or may not be allowed based on public health guidance
- "No touch" service: worship on screens, alternative methods for offering - No fellowship/social hour or educational events.
- People are encouraged to leave the building after the service (no mingling)
- Life Celebrations (weddings, funerals, baptisms) allowed with physical distancing. Approval required.

**Activities On Site**

- Staff begin normal office hours, as able.
- Attention to cleaning and physical distancing
- Recording of worship continues for online streaming
- Cleaning of facilities on a regular basis for spaces used
- Bible studies and small groups may meet in person while maintaining physical distancing and mask wearing guidelines Approval required. Online options will continue.
- Groups, teams and committees may meet in person. Approval is required.
- Preschool and child care follows CDC, MDH and MN DHS guidelines for opening

There is much that we do not know as we look into the future of this pandemic. There may be times when we go back to "Level 0" where all ministry is held online and there may be times when we operate under two different levels, depending on how Covid-19 is impacting our community. (For example: we feel comfortable with having in-person worship, but Children's, Youth and Family ministry is held online only)

You can see the complete Leveled Re-entry plan online at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/covid](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/covid). Click the link on the top of the page.

In closing, I find comfort in the words written by the Apostle Paul to the people of Philippi when he was distanced from them:

*Paul and Timothy,  
servants of Christ Jesus,*

*To all the saints in Christ Jesus  
who are in Philippi, with the  
bishops and deacons:*

*Grace to you and peace from God  
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*I thank my God  
every time I remember you,  
constantly praying with joy  
in every one of my prayers  
for all of you, because  
of your sharing in the gospel  
from the first day until now.  
I am confident of this, that the one  
who began a good work among you  
will bring it to completion  
by the day of Jesus Christ.*

– Philippians 1:1-6

During these difficult times, we remain together in Christ Jesus. The work you do in your community, your work, among your friends, family and strangers is the work of the Lord. I give thanks for you, each and every day!

Blessings,

*Lauren J. Wrightsman*

Pastor Lauren J. Wrightsman

**THE LIVELY LANDSCAPERS**

*This Landscape...It is a-changin'!*



The new small group of Lively Landscapers took on the task of ensuring our church home campus landscaping did not look 'vacant' throughout the summer and through COVID restrictions. Many hours were spent weeding, trimming, and seeing what needed attention.

It became evident that the south entrance to the Commons and the gardens to the west of the entrance are overgrown and 'worn out'. It's time to remove the overgrown arborvitae trees and give that space a renovation. Also, the parking lot islands will be having a makeover as well. All of this work is being done by the Lively Landscapers and Greg Saiko, RLC Custodian and funded by Thrivent Action Team grants or by the team themselves.

The LL team encourages 'drive-bys' to see them at work...or to see the results of their work! They could use another 8-10 volunteers for next year. Contact Julie Hanson ([jhanson@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:jhanson@rosevillelutheran.org)) or KJ Bach ([k-j-o@msn.com](mailto:k-j-o@msn.com)) to get plugged in for next Spring!

Thanks to the City of Roseville and Outdoor Lab for their work in renovating the 3 rain gardens at the Roselawn entrances to the south parking lot!! What a huge makeover! Be sure to do a drive-by and take a long look.

Taking care of our church home grounds is an important aspect of presenting a welcoming and caring environment where 'All are welcome in this place!'



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





## DRIVE-IN WORSHIP

Sept. 13 and Oct. 11 at 9:00 and 10:30 am

When we don't worship in-person indoors, we are excited about worshipping together in our parking lot! Join us for our next Drive-In Worship services on Sept. 13 and Oct. 11 at 9:00 and 10:30 am (Note NEW Times). For those unable to join us, our usual online worship is at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/stream](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/stream).

**As we prepare for this service we are asking all participants to follow these guidelines:**

- If you are sick, stay home!
- Enter from the Roselawn Ave. entrances to the main/south parking lot. Parking assistants will direct you to a parking place.
- Each household in a separate vehicle.
- Attendees must stay in their vehicles.
- Roll windows down only on the driver's side of the vehicle. This is to maintain a safe distance between each household.
- You will receive a handout as you enter with information about the worship service.
- Worship will be transmitted to **106.5 FM**.
- RLC will not be serving food or beverages, but feel free to bring your own! Do not share food or drink between vehicles.
- RLC is unable to provide bathrooms during the service. Plan ahead!
- No passing of objects or physical contact between households.
- Parking attendants will direct you out of the parking lot.

[rosevillelutheran.org/drive-in-worship](http://rosevillelutheran.org/drive-in-worship)

## RLC Worship Schedule

**Sept 6** - Online Worship

**Sept. 13** - Online, and Drive-In Worship

**Sept. 20** - Online, and In-Person Worship at 9:00 am. Register at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/in-person-worship/](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/in-person-worship/)

**Sept 27** - Online Worship

**Oct. 4** - Online Worship

**Oct. 11** - Online, and Drive-In Worship

**Oct. 18** - Online, and In-Person Worship at 9:00 am (only). Masks required.

Register at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/in-person-worship/](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/worship/in-person-worship/)

**Oct 25** - Online Worship



## WORSHIP ONLINE AND CABLE CHANNEL 19

Join us on our Facebook page:  
[facebook.com/RosevilleLutheranChurch](https://facebook.com/RosevilleLutheranChurch)  
or website:  
[rosevillelutheran.org/worship/stream](http://rosevillelutheran.org/worship/stream)  
for our worship service video.

We are also broadcasting on  
**CTV Channel 19**  
(Xfinity/Comcast in Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Mounds View, New Brighton, North Oaks, Roseville, and St. Anthony)

Sunday - 10:00 am

Wednesday - 6:00 pm

Thursday - 2:00 am, 10:00 am

## IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Sept. 20 and Oct. 18 at 9:00 AM (ONLY)

We are excited to come together as a community and worship once again. Even though things will look and feel a bit different we have the knowledge that our God remains the same, yesterday, today and forever.

Masks and social distancing are required, with temperature checks as you enter. If you feel ill after you've registered or have been in close proximity to someone feeling ill please do NOT attend. Due to distancing guidelines we'll have limited space. We cannot guarantee your place if you come on Sunday without a registration. You may sign up today at [rosevillelutheran.org/worship/in-person-worship](http://rosevillelutheran.org/worship/in-person-worship).

Please be patient when you arrive as procedures for entering and exiting the worship center will be different and restricted. Arrive and park in the south lot, off of Roselawn Avenue, and use the Commons Entrance, following the signs and usher instructions.

If you have questions about the service or the procedures please call us at the office, 651-487-7752. Don't forget: 9:00 am ONLY on these days!

**9:00 AM**  
**SUNDAY**  
SEPT. 20

**In-Person**  
WORSHIP AT RLC

**9:00 AM**  
**SUNDAY**  
OCT. 18

**In-Person**  
WORSHIP AT RLC