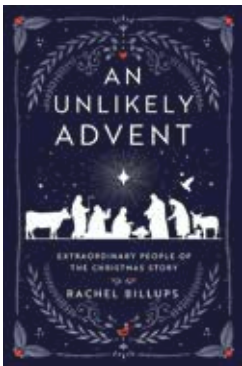




ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

An Unlikely Advent
by Rachel Billups
9:30 am Thursdays in Rm. 40
Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, 21

This four-week Advent study focuses on the experiences of four sets of often overlooked characters in the Nativity story. During this Advent season, we will explore the themes of hope, love, joy, and peace as we share the stories of Elizabeth and Zechariah, Herod, the Magi, and the shepherds. Each set of unexpected characters has something to teach about living faithfully on the journey to Christmas.



A limited number of books are available through the church office for \$15.00 (cash or check). You may also purchase through retailer of your choice.

RLC WELCOME STATEMENT

*Called by Jesus,
Roseville Lutheran Church
welcomes you with open arms,
minds, and hearts.
We are all beloved children
of God, and we celebrate
each other completely:
all ages, abilities, races and
ethnicities; all sexualities,
gender identities and
expressions; all family
circumstances, and
experiences.*

*RLC pledges our authentic
welcome and hospitality.
We commit to learn, to grow,
and to undo oppressive
norms that divide us,
while we humbly strive
to dismantle barriers to racial,
social, and economic justice.*

*Following Christ's example,
let us love God and
our neighbor together.*



ADVENT: COME, LORD JESUS – A SEASON OF HOPE AND EXPECTATION

Lauren J. Wrightsman, Senior Pastor

Advent, which means “coming” in Latin, is a season of anticipation, preparation, and hope for Christians around the world. It marks the beginning of the liturgical year and serves as a time of spiritual reflection leading up to the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas Day. Advent is a period of great significance, where believers are reminded of the profound message that encapsulates the heart of Christianity: “Come, Lord Jesus.”

Advent invites us to imitate the waiting and preparation that characterized the world before Jesus’ birth. As Christians, we are encouraged to prepare our hearts, minds, and lives for the arrival of our Savior. Just as Mary and Joseph prepared to receive the Christ child, Advent is a season to examine our lives and seek reconciliation, renewal, and spiritual growth.

This period of waiting serves as a poignant reminder of the yearning humanity had for a Savior, a yearning that is just as relevant today. In our fast-paced world, Advent encourages us to slow down and refocus on the essential elements of our faith: hope, peace, joy, and love.

As we light the candles on the Advent wreath and contemplate the prophecies, we are called to embrace hope, peace, joy, and love and are encouraged to focus on the miracle of Christ’s coming into the world, a message that transcends time and culture. In the midst of our preparations for the Christmas season, let us remember the central theme of Advent: the longing for the Messiah and the ultimate hope our cry, “Come, Lord Jesus” brings to humanity.

Advent Blessings to you and your family,

Lauren J. Wrightsman
Senior Pastor



WORSHIP AT ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN

Regular Sunday Worship Times at 9:00 and 10:30 am

A TIME TO FOCUS ON WHAT IS IMPORTANT

Marty Wyatt, Associate Pastor

Advent is a time for refocusing, for taking a deeper breath, and just being. Before the busy-ness of the holidays overtakes us, before the overwhelm of presents, huge meals, and extra activities, Advent is the time when we can focus on what is important. Society seems to speed up as we rush toward the holidays, but nature slows down. As the temperatures get colder, we start to see how the natural world gets ready for winter. I think about hibernation and how animals store up enough food for the winter; about how other animals fly south to warmer temperatures. In the same way, we humans prepare for winter and colder temperatures. Some of us head south for warmer temperatures, while others winterize our homes. We attempt to get everything inside before it freezes-some years we succeed and others we don't. And then, we wait. We wait for the cold, the snow, and the winter.

I think it is good to take a lesson from nature in these times. It is good to prepare and then to slow down. It is good to stop and listen because in that listening is where we find our meaning and our purpose. It is where we hear stories-both ours and those of our neighbors. And it is where we find room to invite the Christ Child into our lives again. In the quiet moments we find peace and serenity and we are able to remember that this coming season is truly about Jesus. It is about God loving this world, God loving each of you so very much that God chose to live as one of us, as a human being, so that nothing could separate us from God's love for us, not even our own humanness. We believe in a God who loves us so very much that God became one of us, became human and lived among us, showing us how to live and move and be in the world. What a truly amazing and breathtaking thing to contemplate this Advent season!

Our theme this year for Advent is "Come, Lord Jesus" and is based on the common table prayer: "Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed." Jesus is indeed our guest and our host in this season and always. I look forward to digging deeper into these ideas and ponderings with you all in this season as we rest, as we breathe, and as we prepare for Christ.

Pastor Marty
Pastor Marty



BUILDING UP EACH OTHER

Val Velde, RLC Council President

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

- 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Building each other up and supporting one another is what we are called to do. I see this in action at Roseville Lutheran Church. I've seen the power of our community through the work of the Reconciling In Christ team that continues to focus on how to make our community be as welcoming as possible to all. I've seen our community come together at Octoberfest in a community wide fun event. We are a busy place filled with love. I've witnessed your encouragement of my family as we navigate advanced breast cancer. I have previously shared with you all the very real ways RLC has shown up for me in my time of need from meals, rides, gifts, and words of encouragement.

Now, let's talk about the power of prayer. When I hear that the RLC men's group has prayed for me, and other members included me in their prayers it moves me. Prayer is just as real as those meals and rides and so very appreciated. The power of prayer is found in so many parts of the bible:

- James 5:16-18: The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Elijah prayed for drought and rain, and God answered him.
- Philippians 4:6-7: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- Psalm 107:28-30: Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. They were glad when it grew calm, and he guided them to their desired haven.
- John 14:13-14: And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

As Christmas season is upon us let's be reminded of the power of prayer. Pray for our family members, friends, neighbors, church, communities, and world. Prayer brings us closer to God and focuses our minds on those elements of our lives that truly matter. This season I'm grateful to be done with Chemotherapy. Each day I feel more and more myself and feel so blessed. I'm ready for surgery, radiation, and other steps that I need to take to beat cancer. I pray for my doctors, the researchers, and the scientists' making advancements that will help millions. I pray for you, our members of RLC. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1 If you are going through challenging times, pray, but also please reach out and ask your community for help. I did and RLC answered.

Val Velde
Val Velde, RLC Council President



My friends helping me celebrate the end of Chemo!



Members of the RLC Inclusion Task Force gathered to celebrate RLC becoming a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

COME, LORD JESUS

Tori Kraus, Pastor of Youth and Young Adult Engagement

Come Lord Jesus Be Our Guest and Let this Food to Us be Blessed.

Our Advent theme comes from the common prayer that is often said before meals. I grew up saying it at every single family supper, and I always thought it was a way to give thanks and praise for the food that was prepared for us. From the fields, animals, crops, it came from. From the workers who packaged it. From the stores and employees who sold it to us. Then from my parents or grandparents who prepared it for us to eat. I always focused on the food portion (probably because of supper time), but I never stopped to pay attention to the phrase at the beginning: "Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest..."

So then, what does it mean to have Jesus be our guest? In the Polish Christmas Eve tradition known as Wigilia, there are twelve traditional dishes on the table representing the twelve disciples. There is also an empty chair set at the table for any unexpected visitor because if someone shows up at your door they should be fed and given shelter. It goes hand in hand with an old polish saying that translates to "a guest at home is God at home."

By having Jesus as our guest, we are practicing the hospitality that is laid out to us by God. We are inviting Jesus into our lives, and opening are our hearts and minds in preparation for Jesus to fully come into our world. This preparation carries us through Epiphany and into Lent too. What would it mean to fully invite Jesus into our lives? To practice this hospitality of letting Jesus fully become our guest in our homes, in our lives, and in our world?

Blessings to you this Advent season.

Tori Kraus
Pastor Tori





Love
Lights
and Luminaries

Order until Dec. 10

Pick Up
Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10

IT'S A TEAM EFFORT

Rolf Olson, Visitation Pastor

I have referred to Christianity as a team sport. We can't do it alone. We worship together. God's Word comes to us best through hearing (which requires someone to speak or read it to us). The root word for Communion is "common"—something shared with others. St. Paul coined the phrase "one another"—we love one another, we forgive and encourage one another. He uses this phrase over a dozen times because we are "members of one another." (Romans 12:5).



My job is to visit those who can't worship in person, or who are homebound in some way. I am visitation pastor. Most of these saints are 80+ years old. I enjoy my time with these elder RLCers. We also have a great care team who visits, helps with transportation to appointments, and serves in other ways.

One concern I have is making sure that we visit those who need a visit. Some situations are obvious—medical issues or a call to the church to request a visit. We deal with what we know and prioritize. Occasionally I hear about some elder member who is upset that they haven't been visited. Fair enough. If we have been notified that they would like a visit it is up to me, the care team, or another pastor to respond. But we can't respond if we don't know. To be the caring church we want RLC to be we need to see it as a team effort where we communicate openly with each other and for each other. If you would like a visit—or if you know of someone else who would like one—please let us know. We will do our best to make a connection.

Let's keep the communication—and caring—flowing. Your pastors and care team are ready to respond as part of team RLC.

WELCOME MINISTRY

David Booms, RLC Church Administrator

With additional worship services in Advent, Christmas, and Lent, the Welcome Ministry is looking for those who want to help new people, as well as regular attendees, feel at home, comfortable, and welcome at RLC. I personally wish to encourage you and your family to consider taking part in one or more activities listed below.



- Extend a hand in greeting people as they arrive before each worship time. A friendly smile can make a world of difference to those coming through the doors, especially those who are visiting. Families and couples can greet together.
- Usher before and during worship, handing out worship folders and helping with communion and offering.
- Serve bread or wine during communion or hold the empties basket. Another activity where a family can serve together.

Our additional worship services will occur on:

- Dec. 17 – Christmas Festival Concert at 7:30 pm
- Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve at 3:00, 4:30, and 9:00 pm (with communion)
- Dec. 25 – Christmas Day at 10:00am
- Lenten Wednesdays, starting February 14 at 5:00 and 7:00 pm

You can get involved by stopping by the Welcome Center on Sunday, or calling the church office at 651-487-7752.

THANK YOU, CONNIE!

Thank you Connie Marchio for your wonderful partnership in ministry throughout the past years. Connie has supported the life and ministry of this congregation with wonderful opportunities for gathering, fellowship, and food and menus that awed and inspired. Connie is leaving RLC to begin full time employment with Kowalski's. We wish her the very best! Her last with us is November 30. Please take the time to wish Connie blessings. You may send Connie a card or a note, at: Connie Marchio, c/o Roseville Lutheran Church, 1215 Roselawn Ave. W, Roseville, MN 55113.



SOLAR LIGHTING RETROFIT FOR SIGN

Bob Zismer, Campus Lead

Monuments signs are meant to be lit. When the church monument on Roselawn Avenue went dark a couple years back, the repairs ended up being too costly to pursue. That is, until the idea of solar power entered the realm of possibilities. Solar lighting options are numerous and confusing with endless possibilities, until, KJ and Bob Bach designed, engineered, and installed a solar panel fed battery powered LED light that is controlled by an internal timer. The lighting for the monument is now operating on 100% solar energy at a fraction of the repair and parts cost.



RLC Lay Leaders and Staff

Congregation Council

- Val Velde, President
- Rebecca Field, President ProTem
- Erik Storlie, President Elect
- Jim Stark, Vice President
- Nancy Brown
- Linda Werner
- Pam McCulloch
- Andrew Olson
- Sarah Richter
- Karen Rodgers

Project Team Chairs

- Sharon Swiglo, Adult Ed
- Kris Olsen, Mission & Outreach

Endowment Committee

- Mike Dolan, Chair
- Bill Metzger
- Audra Engebretson
- Dave Risinger
- Carrie Hefte-Hanton
- Judy Ekern
- Lou Tschudy
- Greg Johnson
- Kevin Peterson
- Linda Nelson

Nominating Committee

- Dave Werner
- Jan Abell
- Beth Jacobson
- Kevin Miller

Finance Committee

- Nick Velde
- Merle Gaedy

Pastors

- Lauren Wrightsman, Senior Pastor
- Marty Wyatt, Associate Pastor
- Tori Kraus, Pastor of Youth/Young Adult Engagement
- Rolf Olson, Visitation Pastor

Music Ministry

- John Helgen, Director
- Lori Haaland, Handbell Choirs
- Lucas Byl, Worship Leader

Hospitality Ministry

- Open

Children's Ministry

- Jenna Baccam, Dir. of Children's and Family Ministry

Youth and Young Adult Ministry

- Tori Kraus, Pastor of Youth/Young Adult Engagement

RLC Prechool and Child Care Ministry

- Sher Noot, Director
- Rachel Anderson, Preschool Teacher
- Karen Sundeen, Preschool Assistant Teacher
- Rachel Nentwig, Prescool Assistant Teacher
- Laurie Miller-Hedeen, Childcare Teacher
- Krystina Eliason, Childcare Teacher
- Angie Koeck, Childcare Teacher

Ministry Support Staff

- Dave Booms, Church Administrator
- Laurel Hofeldt, Director of Finance
- Open, Director of Development
- Daniel Pederson, Communications Manager
- Mary Johnson, Administrative Assistant
- Tammy Swanson, Financial Assistant

Facilities Ministry

- Bob Zismer, Campus Lead
- Arlen Rystrom, Building Engineer
- Shelton Ingram, Custodian

TAX-SMART DONATION STRATEGIES

Laurel Hofeldt, Director of Finance

As 2023 comes to an end, many donors are looking for guidance on how to develop a charitable giving plan for the remainder of 2023. These tips have been adapted from Schwab Charitable. More information is available online here: www.schwabcharitable.org. Members and friends of RLC are encouraged to consult with their tax professional before acting on this information.

Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) of Individual Retirement Account (IRA) assets. Individuals age 70½ and older can instruct an IRA administrator to send up to \$100,000 per year—all or part of the annual RMD—to charities such as Roseville Lutheran. The IRA assets go directly to RLC, so donors don't report QCDs as taxable income and don't owe any taxes on the QCD, even if they do not itemize deductions

Donate Appreciated Stock. Appreciated non-cash assets—such as publicly traded securities, held more than one year provide a unique opportunity to leverage your investments to potentially achieve maximum impact with your charitable giving. First, you potentially eliminate the capital gains tax you would incur if you sold the assets yourself and donated the proceeds, which may increase the amount available for charity by up to 20%. Second, you may claim a fair market value charitable deduction for the tax year in which the gift is made and may choose to pass on that savings in the form of more giving.

Bunch two years of contributions into 2023. For 2023, the standard deduction is \$13,850 for single filers and \$27,700 for married couples filing jointly. If your total itemized deductions are below those amounts, you may find it beneficial to “bunch” your 2023 and 2024 charitable donations together in 2023 to exceed your 2023 standard deduction. You could then itemize deductions on your 2023 tax return and take the standard deduction for 2024 taxes. This strategy may produce a larger total deduction over two years than two years of standard deductions.

Open a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF) account. A DAF is a simple, tax-smart investment solution for charitable giving that gives the donor flexibility to either make one lump-sum contribution or a series of contributions to charities like Roseville Lutheran Church. Any contribution—of cash or non-cash assets—received by December 31 is eligible for a 2023 tax deduction.

QUESTIONS? For questions specific to donating to RLC, please contact Laurel Hofeldt at lhofeldt@rosevillelutheran.org or 651-487-7752. Always consult with a tax professional before acting on these strategies.



RIVERSIDE INNOVATION HUB

RLC Joins a 2 -Year Learning Cohort Program Through Augsburg University

The Riverside Innovation Hub team is excited to start our work and share what we are doing with the congregation as a whole. This is a two year process that we will engage in where we will learn how to be a public church and a vital neighbor. The purpose of this work is not to get our neighbors to come to church, but is instead for the flourishing of our neighbors and our neighborhood as a whole. This is relational work, where we will strive to really get to know our neighbors. Our goal is to understand the community, value its strengths, and figure out how RLC can be an even better neighbor.

Throughout this two year process, the Riverside Innovation Hub team will participate in learning events at Augsburg University where we will cultivate understanding of the Public Church Framework. This framework will shape our work with the Hub for the next two years.

There are four steps to the framework: 1) Accompaniment, 2) Interpretation, 3) Discernment, and 4) Proclamation. The team will participate in a learning event at Augsburg University for each of these steps and then will be working to enact each step in our context at Roseville Lutheran. We will share more specific information on each step as we learn it. This will be a deliberate process, but we hope that once we begin this process, we will start to develop an assets based perspective that lifts up the gifts that are present in people across the congregation and the community.

In the spring, we will begin the Accompaniment process. Stay tuned for more information and more ways to engage as we move further into this process. The Riverside Innovation Hub team includes Trupti Storlie (Team Lead), Pastor Marty Wyatt, Tanner Wyatt, Alice Neve, Leon Neve, Mary Peterson, Kris Olsen, Pastor Lauren Wrightsman- ask any of us for more information if you'd like it!



SHARING TREE

Unwrapped Gifts Needed by Dec. 17

The RLC Sharing Tree will run from November 26 through December 17. We will have 2 Sharing Trees: one in the commons with the Gift Card station, and one in the upper lobby (no gift card station). Tags can be taken from the tree as usual and added with the gift when you drop them off. Please, return your gifts UNwrapped by Dec. 17. We are delighted to have these sharing trees that help serve the needs of our community partners during the holidays. More information online at www.rosevillelutheran.org/sharing-tree.

Below is a list of the Community Partners served by the Sharing Tree and the items that will be collected for each. Please refer to the tags on the Sharing Tree for specific items:

- KEYSTONE COMMUNITY SERVICES: personal hygiene items
- BRIDGING: household items
- EVERY MEAL: donations to provide meals for school-age children
- CENTRAL PARK ELEMENTARY: gift cards for gas, groceries, and household items

If you choose to give a gift card, please consider giving through the youth of RLC gift card fundraiser that helps with payments for camp and other activities and events. The fundraiser is through the company RaiseRight and RLC gets a percentage of the proceeds. Go to www.rosevillelutheran.org/sharing-tree or use this QR code to enroll in the RaiseRight Gift Cards.



Once you enroll, you can put in orders for gift cards. For the Sharing Tree, please request physical gift cards. Once you checkout, you have the option to either pay the church directly or to purchase with a credit card. If you pay the church directly, please either provide payment directly to Pastor Tori, or provide to the church office labeled “youth gift card fundraiser.” The physical gift cards will then ship to the church, and Tori will give them to you to provide to the Sharing Tree. Please aim to have gift cards ordered by December 6th so that they arrive in time.

Please return the gift (unwrapped, with the name of the organization on it) by Sunday, December 17. The church office is open Monday-Thursday from 9 AM to 3 PM. If you have questions, please contact Janelle Olson at janelleaolson@gmail.com or call the office 651-487-7752.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCY

If you or a family member are in need of pastoral care, please contact the church office at 651-487-7752 during normal office hours (9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Monday - Friday). You may also email Mary Johnson at mjohnson@rosevillelutheran.org.

If you have an immediate emergency and are in need of assistance outside of normal office hours, call our **Pastoral Care Emergency line at 651-300-9824**. Please leave a message and the pastor on call will return your call.

CONNECTING WITH RLC STAFF

If you are in need of connecting with an RLC staff member we invite you to call the church office at (651) 487-7752, or reach out to them via email. Staff contacts can be found at: www.rosevillelutheran.org/welcome/staff-andleadership. RLC office hours are Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. We respectfully ask that you do not use text or cell phone as a primary way of communication with RLC staff. We wish to honor staff members day's off and vacations. Cell phone and text communication can often interfere with scheduled time away. We thank you!

THE SEASON OF LENT at
ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN

Lenten Season 2024 - The Wilderness

Sundays (9:00 and 10:30 am) and
Wednesdays (5:00 and 7:00 pm)

Lent begins in the wilderness. The Spirit guides Jesus into the wilderness where he comes face to face with temptation and struggle. Yet, in his forty days of fasting, resisting, and wandering, Jesus is shaped and formed for ministry. Similarly, through the wilderness of Lent, we are invited to surrender to the wild leadings of the Spirit. We rarely enter the wilderness willingly, but hopefully through our wandering we remember who we are and whose we are. The wilderness can become sacred even if it remains dangerous. There is no wilderness space too harsh or threatening for God’s love. This Lent, we welcome you to the journey.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Worship at 5:00 and 7:00 pm

The heart of our Lenten journey begins to beat with the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. Join us for this special service and begin your Lenten season as we begin our walk into the wilderness where the Holy Spirit dwells.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 24

9:00 and 10:30 worship

Maundy Thursday, March 28

7:00 pm worship with Holy Communion

Good Friday, March 29

7:00 pm worship

Easter Sunday, March 31

7:00, 9:00, and 10:30 am worship

ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!

CHURCH
OFFICE
CLOSED

DEC. 25, 2023 –
JAN. 2, 2024

Advent and Christmas are a busy time of year – especially for the staff of Roseville Lutheran Church. To provide time for the staff to spend this season with family, and offer a time of rest and renewal, the church offices will be closed from December 25, 2023 – January 2, 2024. Worship will continue as normal on Sundays at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m., and other activities, such as our New Year’s Eve Jazz Concert will still take place.. If there is a pastoral emergency, please call the Pastoral Emergency phone line at: (651) 300-9824.



RLC
Mission:
Love God
Love Your
Neighbor

GUATEMALA SERVICE LEARNING TRIP

Team Set for February 2024 Service Learning Trip

The team going to Guatemala in February has now been finalized! We are excited about this opportunity to grow in learning and understanding of another culture, be in community together, and develop new relationships as we serve and learn in Guatemala. We will be helping community members add an additional classroom to their school and visiting another Christian secondary school where we hope to also provide support. The hope for this trip and this ministry area is to build relationships with our global neighbors that can be sustainable, relational, and mutually beneficial. Please pray for us and the communities we will be spending time with in February. Then also look for updates from us as we travel and when we return.

LIVELY LANDSCAPERS YEAR IN REVIEW

The Fall colors have been popping the past couple of days. Autumn is upon us and winter isn’t far behind. The gardens at RLC will rest for the winter, awaiting Spring to then erupt. Thanks to ALL the Lively Landscapers for their energy, time, & efforts this past Summer. Here are a few highlights for 2023:

- Removed the broken arborvitae from behind the cross in the Cross Garden by the North Lobby Entrance, as well as the overgrown junipers along the east wall of the Pre-school. Thanks Mike and Dave!
- The South Terrace had a bit more black dirt put in at the west end to raise the bed so the alyssum that trims the edge of the terrace could be seen.
- Spring Cleanup was truly a kickstart to the all gardens in early May. Thanks to many hands and clippers!
- The Water Buddies once again kept the pots going through another hot summer. Huge thanks, Water Buddies!
- Many buckets of river rock were removed from the Cross Garden preparing it for other plantings. Thanks to Kim Tiber, our newest Lively Landscaper, helping de-rock the Cross Garden and for finding additional medium rocks to cover the base of the cross.
- The Wegalea shrubs that were not happy on the north slope were transplanted to the SW corner of the Activity Center where arborvitae was removed a year ago. Mulch was also added in that corner. River rock was added around the emergency exit step.
- The Cross Garden plantings were installed in early September. Thanks to Ann Schmalz for her Thrivent Action Team Grant to purchase the plants and grasses for the renovated Cross Garden. The Cross was repainted a lighter shade of brown.
- The Child Care House gardens are often a challenge to keep weeded. Linda Satrom came to the rescue in September. However, those gardens need a complete renovation. Looking for a couple of folks who could take on just the child care house gardens in 2024.
- Thanks to those that came for the late summer cleanup event prior to Welcome Sunday.
- Thanks to Julie Wendland for sharing her hostas and Irises and to Julie Henry for sharing her Irises to add to the RLC Gardens.
- Julie Hanson has shared her geraniums for years at the corner on Fernwood/Ryan. Those bright red geraniums (and one pink one!) always give a splash of color at that corner sign. Thanks, Julie and Tim.
- Mike Dolan took on the mowing duties this year... as a volunteer! Next time you see him, thank him for his weekly (or more) service to keep our church lawn mowed and trimmed!
- Thanks to everyone who pulls a weed (or a 100!), picks up stones from the parking lot islands and sticks from the trees, deadheads flowers, shares perennials, gives ideas for the gardens, give the gardens a drink of water, and the list goes on. Many of you gave the gardens positive comments this summer about how welcoming and colorful our church home is. The South Parking Lot is walked thru, driven thru, biked thru by neighbors and those coming to Bruce Russell Park. Without you and your caring for the gardens, this welcoming environment would be missing!

If you would like join the Lively Landscapers for 2024, please contact KJ Bach k-j-o@msn.com or Julie Wendland wendland8120@msn.com to be a part of our continued garden maintenance and renovation! It’s just a one year commitment but feel welcome to return another year! Bring a friend or two!

PS: The Lively Landscapers are not funded by the RLC General Ministry Budget, but by individual contributions. If you have a spare \$25, please consider making a contribution to the Lively Landscapers (if by check... Memo: Lively Landscapers). We have been blessed with a memorial gift from Helene Schmidt’s family that has been used for supplies that can’t be donated. Helene saw the need to maintain the gardens and did so for several years.

GOOD THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO... PUT THEIR TRUST IN GOD

Sher Noot, Director of RLC Preschool and Child Care House

RLC Preschool typically is up and running in the fall. This fall however, came with some really tough discussions and a really hard decision was made to pause the start of the school year as securing qualified staff was beyond difficult. Preschool did not start in September or October. We knew we just couldn't sit still during the pause so we cleaned, we purged, we organized and organized some more. We painted, we refreshed, we revitalized our spaces. We paused, we buffered, we waited, and we prayed.

We often hear the words, "good things come to those who wait". But good things also come to those who put their trust in God, when the times ahead of us seem uncertain. Would the preschool reopen? Would we be able to hire qualified staff that fit the "teacher team" mentality? Would we have families that stick with us when the future seemed uncertain.

The Answer Is "Yes"

The answer to all of these questions is a resounding yes! Yes we reopened November 1st. Yes we found amazing teachers that complete the team. Yes, many preschool families stuck with us during the pause. And yes, new families are joining us!

We are grateful to have hired two new staff to complete the Preschool Teacher Team of four. We welcome Miss Rachel A and Miss Rachel N who join Miss Karen and myself, Miss Sher. Rachel A and Karen teach on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Rachel N and I teach on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



Open House Set for Dec. 3

Our classrooms are full of energy and the sounds of children laughing and playing once again. Many of you know that children's laughter is my favorite sound when I'm working! We would love to share this joy and excitement with you, so on Sunday, December 3 from 10:00 – 11:00 am, we are opening our preschool doors and inviting you to come see our bright and joyful classrooms! We do still have a few openings available in our classes, so if your family or someone you know may be interested please have them join us on December 3rd.

With gratitude,
Sher Noot

Upcoming Preschool Events:

Preschool Open House - Sunday, Dec. 3 from 10:00-11:00 am
Dine Out for Schools w/Parkway Pizza - 4th Tues. of the Month
Registration for 2024-25 School Year - February 2024
Gerten's Spring Plant Fundraiser



CRASH COURSE

We have now had two Crash Courses and they have been a hit! On the first Wednesday of each month, we have been hosting an educational hour for our children's ministry. Kids have come with all the questions and it has been wonderful to dive deeper into our topics. This year, we have discussed some basics of the bible and the Lord's prayer. Stay tuned for more Crash Courses in the future! **Intended ages for the Crash Course will be 2nd - 4th grade, but other grades are welcome if they are interested.**

AN INVITATION

Jenna Baccam, Director of Children and Family Ministries

When I hear the phrase, "Come, Lord Jesus", it makes me think about getting an invitation in the mail. We want Jesus to come into our lives, our homes, our families. We say, "Come, Lord Jesus." We are allowing Jesus to come in with this statement, fully inviting him to whatever our circumstance may be.

But why do we extend this invitation? Isn't Jesus always surrounding us, whether we notice or not?

I recently read a poem by Mary Oliver titled, 'Drifting' that I shared at our staff meeting; I also wanted to share it with you all. There is a line where Oliver writes, "But holiness is visible, entirely". Holiness is visible to us at all times and in all circumstances. We simply need to learn how to look for it.

Jesus is visible to us at all times, he doesn't need an invitation. We say "Come, Lord Jesus" for our own benefit. For us to visualize and see Jesus with us in our circumstances.

And in a way, this is comforting. To be the one in control of when we want Jesus with us and when we don't. "But holiness is visible, entirely" doesn't allow for this. No invitation needs to be extended, to any of you or to Jesus.

This Advent season, we know Jesus is coming. He is about to be born and the world will be forever changed. But remember to also invite Jesus in outside of this Advent season, outside of this church. Jesus, and holiness, are indeed visible entirely. our congregation are doing!



CANDY CANE BREAKFAST

RESERVATIONS NEEDED FOR SATURDAY, DEC. 2 EVENT

Join Children's Ministry on Dec. 2 for our annual Candy Cane Breakfast! This is a time for those involved with children's ministry to put on their Christmas best and start celebrating the Christmas season together. There will be crafts, activities, and of course a breakfast! **Registration is open and required in advance.** Adults are \$15 and kids are \$10. This year, all proceeds will be going towards our youth attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. They will be serving and running activities at the breakfast!



RLC KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

10:30 AM, SUNDAY, DEC. 10

The Children's Ministry Christmas program is upon us! On Sunday, December 10th during our 10:30 worship service, our children will be telling the story of Jesus' birth. Jenna says, "I am excited to show the church what they have been working on, and to be directing my first Christmas program at RLC!" See you on Sunday, Dec. 10!

9TH GRADE RETREAT: MARCH 1-2

Ninth grade confirmation students and their small group leaders will travel to Camp St. Croix in Hudson, Wisconsin for their retreat. It will be a time of fun, reflection, finalizing projects, and focusing on faith.

COMMUNITY TIME WITH CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Starting in January, children's ministry will be hosting a community time for parents and families involved with RLC kids, with pop-up events, and other activities. This is a way for parents and families at RLC to get to know one another better. Many of the kids here go to the same schools and it's nice to know a friendly face! This will occur in between worship services, from 10:00-10:30 am. Stay tuned for more information coming out about this in December.

TRAMPOLINE PARK

Join Us Saturday, Feb. 10

We're going to the trampoline park! On Saturday, February 10th, come join children's ministry for a fun evening activity. A parent or a guardian will be required to attend. More information will be coming out soon!



SERVE SUNDAY: DRESSER BUILD

Sunday, January 28

Through the morning of Sunday, January 28, we are partnering with Bridging for our annual Dresser Build! Bridging is a local organization that helps people get back on their feet and into homes of their own by supplying home furnishings and other necessary items. We will be assembling dressers for these homes during RLC Kids and will have stations set-up for you to stop by and help assemble between services.

If you are unable to be there for the build and still would like to help, please consider donating to assist with the cost of the dressers. If you are donating, please make a check to RLC with "Bridging" in the memo line.



2024 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

There are still openings! Commit by Dec. 15

You can still register for the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. This only takes place once every three years, and the location changes each and every time. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity! We still have spots available, but need a commitment by Friday, Dec. 15 to purchase our plane tickets. We do have scholarships available. Let Pastor Tori know if you are interested: tkraus@rosevillelutheran.org.

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

We have a lot of faith filled, fun, and service events in this season of Confirmation! Confirmation is for those in 7th-9th grades, and we meet weekly on Wednesdays. Specific dates below:

- Dec. 20 – Christmas Party
- Jan. 4 – Fellowship Night
- Jan. 11 – Lenten Mentor Meeting (9th Grade only)
- Jan. 12 & 13 – Lock-in
- Jan. 24 – Dresser Build
- Feb. 14 – Ash Wednesday
- March 2 & 3 – 9th grade retreat

CONFIRMATION LOCK-IN

January 12-13

Join us for our Confirmation Lock-In from 8:00 pm Friday, January 12 to 7:00 am Saturday, January 13. The lock-in is an all night event of fun and games. Youth will have a great time in fellowship with a pizza party, games, and so much more! Friends are welcome! Cost is \$25 per participant and you can register online. We do have scholarships available. Please register by January 5, 2024.

SNOW TUBING

6:00 - 9:00 pm, Friday, Feb. 2

Join other Roseville Lutheran Church Youth (7th-12th grade) for an evening of snow tubing at Green Acres in Lake Elmo on Friday, February 2. We will meet at Green Acres in Lake Elmo at 6pm. It will end at 9pm. Cost is \$20 per tuber. Registration for this event will be available in December, and registration is required for all students. Last day to register is Friday, January 26. Please contact Pastor Tori with any questions, or let her know if you can carpool/chaperone!

RIVERBOAT FUNDRAISER

Feb. 4-18 Fundraiser Supports ELCA Youth Gathering

Help us travel to New Orleans this summer for the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering. Through the month of February, help us get our River Boat from Minnesota to New Orleans. We will have a board with the River Boat in the commons from Feb. 4-18. We are hoping to raise \$5,000. Be sure to designate your giving to "National Youth Gathering."



GIFTCARDS

Help Support Youth Gathering

Do you give gift cards as gifts or stocking stuffers? Do you like to have them on hand around this time? Are you participating in the sharing tree? Well consider enrolling in our youth gift card program!

We are partnering with Raise Right, which provides gift cards to hundreds of large retailers nationwide, and we receive a rebate on all the gift cards that goes directly into our scholarship fund. The face value of the gift card stays the same, which means you pay exactly for what you're getting. It's as simple as that! Please contact Pastor Tori at tkraus@rosevillelutheran.org to learn more and enroll.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Grades 9-12 Meet on Second and Fourth Wednesdays

For our 9th - 12th graders, youth group is a time to practice service, ask questions, experience God's love and grace, and be in community with one another. We will meet in the youth room in the Great Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 8:15 - 9:00 pm. Our next few dates are: **Dec. 13, Jan. 10 and 24, Feb. 14 and 28.**



SAVE THE DATES FOR SUMMER CAMP AND TRIPS

Registration won't be open until after the new year, but for now simply save the dates!

CAMP WAPO SEEDS Weekend (completed 1st-3rd grade) August 2-4

This action-packed session for our youngest campers is the perfect introduction to camp. Knowing that this may be some kid's first camp experience or even their first time away from home, the counselors will spend every moment with these campers. They will provide a safe and caring environment filled with music, Bible study, campfires, crafts, water activities and tons of games.

CAMP WAPO YOUTH Week (completed 4th-9th grade) July 28-August 2

Campers will experience a place of grace to meet new friends, experience new activities, and make memories that will last a lifetime. The week is packed with a variety of activities that are meant to impact kids in a meaningful way, taking them higher, wider, longer and deeper into the love of God and community with each other. Each day includes Bible study, chapel, cabin activities, free time, field games and campfire. Summer youth camp at Camp Wapo is a week you will never forget!



CAMP WAPO ROOTS (completed 10th-12th grade) June 16-21, June 23-28, or August 4-9

This unique program is designed for high school campers, to grow deeper roots in faith development, friendships, and their relationship with God, in a small group setting. The Roots program is focused on developing leadership skills, community building, digging deep into faith, personal reflection, and building confidence. Roots campers will enjoy all of the traditional camp activities at Wapo, in addition to some day trips to Ox Lake for low ropes challenge course, and to the St. Croix River for a canoe trip.



A COMMUNITY UNITED BY GRACE

LENTEN MENTORS NEEDED

6-Week Commitment to a 9th Grade Confirmation Student

This year we are looking for adults in the congregation to be mentors to our 9th grade confirmation students during Lent. The idea is to connect these students with members of the congregation who can get to know them and support them. This would be a 6-week commitment beginning with a **Mentor Meeting on Jan. 10 at 7:00 pm** in the Activity Center.

As a mentor, you would attend the 7:00 PM worship with a 9th grade student, and then meet with them afterwards one on one for five weeks in Lent (Feb. 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20). You will be given all the materials you need including discussion questions and talking points for your time together. Contact Pastor Tori Kraus at tkraus@rosevillelutheran.org if you are interested in being a mentor.



20/30's BIBLE STUDY-ISH

Young Adult Gatherings

On "about" the last Sunday of the month, come to worship at 10:30 am and stick around after for a Bible study in the library. For the next few times, we will be using *How the Bible Actually Works* by Peter Enns as a basis (you do not need to buy the book) and using it more as a time to connect with each other and our faith. Our next ones are Dec. 31, Jan. 28, and Feb. 11.

20/30's YOUNG ADULT GATHERINGS

20/30's is the name of our new young adult gathering. These gatherings will take place on the first Thursday of every month. There will be some sort of activity each month that brings us together. See our events for the next few months:



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 – 7:00 PM
GLOW Holiday Festival at CHS Field

GLOW is a holiday show for all featuring over a million holiday lights, illuminated trees, larger than life animals and art installations, a featured light spectacle, plus multiple concession areas! Each night of GLOW benefits a community charity working to better our world during the season of giving. Tickets are \$20, and you can register on our website. Please register by Nov. 30, so we can get our tickets in advance.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4 – 7:00 PM
BlackStack Brewing and Board Games

We will meet at BlackStack Brewing this evening for a night of board games and drinks. They have a variety of beers, seltzers, and non-alcoholic beverages. If you have a favorite board game, please bring it!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1 – 7:00 PM
BYO Pizza at Pastor Tori's

Come on over and build your own pizza. Pastor Tori will provide dough, pizza toppings, and beverages. Let Pastor Tori know you are coming and she will send you her address.

RLC READS

2024 Book List

All are welcome, whether you come once, twice, or eight times! Even if you didn't quite get to finish the book, come anyway and share your thoughts (and feel free to bring a friend). We'll be meeting on the THIRD Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the "coffee area" lounge between the church library and the office just inside the north entrance. Hope to see you there!



JAN. 15: (MLK Day, but we'll still be meeting) *We Will Be Free: The Life and Faith of Sojourner Truth* by Nancy Koester. Local ELCA pastor and historian Nancy Koester "chronicles the spiritual journey of Sojourner Truth as an enslaved woman, a working mother, a preacher, and activist." This is a fascinating look at the life of the legendary abolitionist and how her strong faith in God drove her actions. With some states today denying the legacy of slavery and segregation, this life of Sojourner Truth inspires us and reminds us of her courage and passion for justice. (2023, 293 pgs) (suggested by Nancy Olson)

FEB. 19: (Presidents' Day, but we'll still be meeting) *Poverty, By America* by Matthew Desmond This was named one of the most anticipated books of 2023 by several major publications, and it's easy to see why. Desmond unflinchingly answers the question: Why does the United States have more poverty than any other advanced democracy? The acclaimed sociologist shows how affluent Americans knowingly and unknowingly keep poor people poor. "Elegantly written and fiercely argued, this compassionate book gives us new ways of thinking about this morally urgent problem, and helps us imagine solutions." (2023, 304 pgs) (suggested by Dave and Karen Dudley)

MARCH 18: *Solito: A Memoir* by Javier Zamora Named one of the best books of the year by several reviewers and winner of multiple awards, Solito will immerse you in the migrant experience like no other book. Nine-year-old Javier takes a harrowing 3,000-mile trek from his small town in El Salvador, through Guatemala and Mexico, and into the United States. Traveling to be reunited with his parents, he's alone on this two-month journey with a group of strangers, facing pointed guns, arrests, and dangerous desert crossings. Javier's treacherous trip also reveals unexpected kindness and love in this gripping memoir. The LA Times says, "You will be changed by this extraordinary book." (2023, 416 pgs) (suggested by Dana Ochocki)

APRIL 15: *Disability Visibility: First Person Stories* edited by Alice Wong

MAY 20: *We Should Not Be Friends: The Story of a Friendship* by Will Schwalbe

ADULT EDUCATION

SUNDAY CLASSES AT 10:00 AM IN THE SOCIAL HALL

Adult Ed opportunities are held at 10:00 am most Sundays in the Social Hall. All are welcome to bring a cup of coffee and engage with the topic of the day.

DECEMBER 3

Guatemala - What's This About?
with Pastor Marty Wyatt

What will this upcoming partnership with Guatemala look like? How can you get involved even if you're not going on the trip? Come hear from Pastor Marty about our new partnership in Central America—the who, what, where, when, and why. Even if you aren't interested in ever going on a trip to Guatemala, join us for this Adult Ed session to find out more about how we are working to answer the call to be partners with our global neighbors.



DECEMBER 10

Advent in Art
with Kristen Anderson

Using the texts assigned for the Advent season, this presentation highlights the New Testament fulfillment of Old Testament promises and prophecy about the birth of Jesus. We will see the stories of the Annunciation, the Visitation, and John the Baptist in this richly illustrated lecture.



DECEMBER 17

Advent and Christmas Hymns
with John Helgen

Come and sing as we explore hymns old and new for the Advent and Christmas season!



DECEMBER 24, 31

No Adult Ed Classes

JANUARY 7

Mission and Outreach Partnerships - Learn About What We're Doing!
with Pastor Marty Wyatt

Join Pastor Marty as we dive into questions surrounding the why behind what we do as Christians in the world. Why should we care about our neighbor? How does social justice fit into our faith life? What does it mean to be called into the neighborhood for the betterment of our community? Why partner with different community organizations? And what are the different groups that Roseville Lutheran partners with? We'll look at all of these questions with a theological lens while exploring some ideas from great thinkers like Luther and Bonhoeffer.



JANUARY 14

What Does It Mean to be a Part of the ELCA?
with Pastor Rolf Lowenberg-DeBoer

Roseville Lutheran is an ELCA church. What does this mean and how does RLC connect and interact with the ELCA? On January 21st, Pastor Rolf Lowenberg-DeBoer, a staff member of the ELCA's St Paul Synod Office, will present on the strong ties between RLC and the Synod, ties which sometimes go unnoticed, but non-the-less are very important like the calling of pastors, coordinating RLC's mission project in Guatemala, and several local outreach projects.



JANUARY 21

Learning About Lyngblomsten
with Pastor Ruth Sorenson

Roseville Lutheran has been a partner congregation of Lyngblomsten since 1975! Come and hear about what it means that we are partners, as well as why this partnership is important for both organizations and how we serve older adults. Pastor Ruth Sorenson, Director of Spiritual Care at Lyngblomsten, will join us to talk about the ministry at Lyngblomsten and the importance spiritual care in our later years.

JANUARY 28

Dresser Build - NO Adult Ed Class

FEBRUARY 4

Estate Planning 101
with Tom Lund

Tom Lund, who retired after 40 years as an estate planning attorney, will talk about wills, trusts, powers of attorney, health care directives, death taxes, probate, charitable giving, and estate planning dos and don'ts. He will share some estate planning horror stories and happy endings. Come with questions and concerns.



FEBRUARY 11

Sojourner Truth
with Rev. Dr. Nancy Koester

Rev. Dr. Nancy Koester, author and historian, will be presenting on on Sojourner Truth, abolitionist and women's rights advocate. Born into slavery in the state of New York in 1797, she became free around the age of 30. She became a traveling preacher who spoke for human rights as God's gift to every person. During the Civil War, Truth went to Washington DC to meet Abraham Lincoln and to work with the freedpeople who flocked to the nation's Capitol. Over her long life Truth spoke for many social reforms, based on her belief that God loves all people equally. Copies of Koester's book, *We Will Be Free: The Life and Faith of Sojourner Truth* (2023) will be available for \$20.00.



Here's a quote from the back of the book: *"In We Will Be Free, Nancy Koester helps us move beyond the superficial knowledge we have of Sojourner Truth and takes us into the spirit of a woman whose life should inspire and inform us all. This is more than the biography of a single, remarkable woman, it tells the story of the whole nation—halting steps toward freedom, the risk and rewards of speaking the truth and, most of all, the unflagging hope that change is possible."* — Dr. Jemar Tisby, author of *The Color of Compromise* and *How to Fight Racism*

FEBRUARY 18

Guidelines for Speaking Up
with Seema Pothini

Back by popular demand, Seema Pothini, educator, equity specialist and author will return. Whether you attended her April 2023 presentation or not, all are welcome. Seema will revisit her *Speak Up* guidelines, offer practical new strategies and insights to guide us as we have difficult conversations with family, colleagues and all our neighbors in challenging times.



FEBRUARY 25

The Relevant Church in a Changing Community
with Dr. Will Healy

Believing that all meaningful change begins with us, we will be looking at some of the steps a church might take in achieving greater relevance and impact in the community. As my friend Steven Belton (former President of the Twin Cities Urban League) so aptly puts it: "It's not enough for the Church to be welcoming. We need to be welcoming." Or as Jesus has it in the Parable of the Good Samaritan when asked "Who is my neighbor?" Well, anyone around us, regardless of their ethnic, religious or socio-economic status.



To that end, we will look at how we shift from an "invitational" model for doing church (inviting people to come to us) to an "incarnational" approach (what Jesus modeled for us by going to our neighbors). We will examine the topics of unconscious bias, micro aggression (ways we may unwittingly do harm to those unlike ourselves) and how we can more actively listen to the voices and experiences of those around us.



SERVICE OF HOPE AND JOY

11:00 AM, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6

Please join us for a holiday worship service oriented toward those with memory loss. As we have done in the past we will focus on a hymn and bring the good news of God's love in Jesus through familiar music, Lutheran liturgy, and Holy Communion.

RLC MEN 'S BREAKFAST GROUP

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION
8:30 AM, 1ST AND 3RD SATURDAYS

We continue to meet for bagels, coffee, and conversation at 8:30 am on the first and third Saturdays each month. Currently we are working our way through the Gospel According to Luke. Please join us! For more information contact Mike Dolan msdolan01@hotmail.com or Pastor Rolf Olson rolson@rosevillelutheran.org.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024

10:00 - 11:00 am

A₂M



ATTENDER TO MEMBER ORIENTATION

www.rosevillelutheran.org/a2m

ATTENDER TO MEMBER

10:00 am, Sunday, Jan. 28 – New Member Orientation
9:00 am, Sunday, Feb. 11 – New Members Received

On Sunday, January 28 from 10:00 - 11:00 am, those who are interested in learning more about becoming a member of Roseville Lutheran Church are invited to meet in upper level Lounge.

Attending RLC but not yet a member? This orientation is designed to welcome you as a member of the church, as well as orient you to the various mission and ministry opportunities available to you and your family. You may register for the orientation by contacting the church office at 651-497-7752 or emailing Mary Johnson at mjohnson@rosevillelutheran.org. You may also sign up online at www.rosevillelutheran.org/a2m. We will welcome members at our 9:00 am worship service on Sunday, February 11.


LENTEN PASTOR’S BIBLE STUDY

9:30 AM THURSDAYS IN ROOM 40

The Death of Jesus in the Gospel of John

Lectures on DVD by Craig R. Koester,

Professor of New Testament, Luther Seminary



John’s account of Jesus’ arrest and trial unfolds in several stages which are carefully explored in this series of lectures on DVD. Koester’s account of the crucifixion recognizes that Jesus suffered a brutal form of execution thus raising the question of what Jesus’ death means for us. Finally, John’s gospel also includes at least four different perspectives on the meaning of the crucifixion which are discussed extensively through this series.

Classes will be held with a mix of DVD lectures and class discussions. A study guide will be provided for participants.

A COMMUNITY UNITED BY GRACE

CONSIDER A LEGACY GIFT TO RLC ENDOWMENT FUND


Please prayerfully consider leaving a Legacy Gift to the RLC Endowment Fund in your Estate Plan. With each contribution, members and friends leave a legacy and entrust their dollars to help meet the future needs of RLC and our community. For more information about how our Endowment Fund works, please visit www.rosevillelutheran.org/giving/endowment.



MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES AT RLC

John Helgen, Director

If you have a musical gift you’d like to share at one of RLC’s worship services, or would like to get involved in one of our many vocal and instrumental ensembles, we welcome you! Pianists and accompanists are especially needed, as well as other instrumentalists and vocalists. If you like to sing but can’t commit to weekly rehearsals, consider the Festival Choir (sings for special events at Christmas and Easter – see article above). Contact John Helgen, Director of Music at 651-288-4236 - jhelgen@rosevillelutheran.org.



LOVE GOD • LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

RLC IS RIC

It’s Official: We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation!

At the RLC annual meeting in August, the congregation voted to officially become a **Reconciling in Christ (RIC)** congregation. We’ve received our official certificate and will be hanging it up in the commons for all to see as an indication of our welcome to all people in Jesus’ name.

While the formal work of the RLC Inclusion Task Force is finished, now the work of inclusion moves to all of us as we continue to live out our welcome statement each day, both inside and outside the walls of Roseville Lutheran Church.



Members of the RLC Inclusion Task Force



RLC WELCOME STATEMENT

Called by Jesus, Roseville Lutheran Church welcomes you with open arms, minds, and hearts. We are all beloved children of God, and we celebrate each other completely: all ages, abilities, races and ethnicities; all sexualities, gender identities and expressions; all family circumstances, and experiences.

RLC pledges our authentic welcome and hospitality. We commit to learn, to grow, and to undo oppressive norms that divide us, while we humbly strive to dismantle barriers to racial, social, and economic justice.

Following Christ’s example, let us love God and our neighbor together.



CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL CONCERT

7:30 pm, Saturday, Dec. 16

The musicians of Roseville Lutheran will present their 2023 Christmas Festival Concert “Stay with Us, Lord Jesus” on Saturday, December 16, with choirs, brass ensemble, handbells, organ, and chamber orchestra. Free program with free-will offering.

Choir Rehearsals for Christmas Festival

Get connected with singing at RLC! Join the Festival Choir for the Christmas Festival Concert on Saturday, December 16, 2022 at 7:30 pm. There are Wednesday evening rehearsals leading up to the day of the concert.

Wednesday	December 6	7:00 to 9:00 pm
Wednesday	December 13	7:00 to 9:00 pm
Saturday	December 16	9:30 to 11:00 am 7:30 pm concert

NEW YEAR’S EVE WITH RLC JAZZ

7:00 pm, Sunday, Dec. 31

Join with the RLC Jazz band for “New Year’s Eve with RLC Jazz” at **7:00 pm on Sunday, December 31**. We will bring in the new year with our program entitled “A Big Band Vocal Extravaganza” featuring our many talented vocalists. Invite your friends! Free program with free-will offering. Dancing will be encouraged and allowed!



LUTHER COLLEGE NORDIC CHOIR CONCERT

7:00 pm, Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024

The Nordic Choir from Luther College, Decorah, IA, conducted by Andrew Last, will be coming to RLC on January 13 for a 7:00 pm concert. Tickets are general admission, \$20 adults, \$10 students, and will be available at the door. Come and hear this fine choral ensemble

2023-2024 Upcoming Music Events at Roseville Lutheran Church

Get out your calendar and mark down these exciting concert opportunities at RLC for the coming year – concert times and more details will be available as the dates approach. Most events are free concerts with the opportunity to make a free-will donation.

3:00 pm, Sunday	Nov. 19	Oratorio Society of Minnesota with Matthew Mehaffey Ticketed event – info at: oratorio.org
2:30 pm, Sunday	Nov. 26	Northstar/Lake Country Chorus Holiday Concert Ticketed event – sold at the door
7:00 pm, Tuesday	Dec. 12	Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies
7:30 pm, Saturday	Dec. 16	RLC Christmas Festival Concert
7:00 pm, Sunday	Dec. 31	New Year’s Eve with RLC Jazz (See article above)
7:00 pm, Saturday	Jan. 13	Luther College Nordic Choir Ticketed event – see article above
7:00 pm, Friday	Feb. 9	Minnesota Sinfonia – Jay Fishman

RLC ORGAN PROJECT UPDATE

The RLC Organ Task Force accomplished the task of identifying a long-term solution for our pipe organ and has transitioned to the Organ Project Team to manage the project of bringing the refurbished Holtkamp #1762 pipe organ from Alabama to RLC.



The congregation voted to move forward with the organ project in August and RLC signed a contract with organ builder J.F. Nordlie Company of Sioux Falls. Nordlie will restore the organ from Alabama and blend it with 8 ranks (422 pipes) from our current organ and 7 new ranks to create a new instrument consisting of 3 manuals (keyboards) and 57 ranks (3217 pipes). Our new organ will be the J.F. Nordlie Opus 63 organ. It is estimated RLC’s organ project will be completed in June 2025.

The wheels are turning on our new organ! The console, windchest and casework designs are in the works and construction of small generic components, such as the compression billows has begun. Other components such as fuses, leathers, the blower, windchest parts, rubber cloth, tremulants, and the adjustable bench mechanisms and have been ordered. The Nordlie crew performed an on-site survey of our pipe loft in early October and measured the diameters of the pipes we will be re-using from our current organ. They traveled to Alabama in early November for final measurements of the Holtkamp organ and all these measurements will assist in final architectural renderings.

CREATING CONNECTIONS

The Organ Project Team wants to promote organ events that develop a greater appreciation for the rich heritage of the pipe organ and fosters congregational and community engagement for all ages. The Community Hymn Sing in August was well attended and brought in many visitors and wonderful singers. Attendees especially enjoyed the opportunity to request their favorite hymn and share why it was special to them. Ice cream sundaes afterwards allowed people time to socialize and meet our neighbors. In November, an opportunity to play our pipe organ gave adults and kids an up close and personal look at this versatile instrument. Not everyone may have an affinity for the organ, but our new pipe organ will benefit all as a fantastic catalyst to bring all ages together to make music and deepen our community connections.

Funding and How to Fulfill Your Intent to Give for the Organ

We are on track to reach the goal of \$850,000 for the organ project well before our new organ is installed. Thank you for your generous support!

To make a donation to the Organ Project, please fill out an Intent to Give form at www.rosevillelutheran.org/organ. If you would like envelopes to make regular contributions to the Organ Project, please contact Scott and Julie Henry (651-487-1327) and we will make arrangements to provide those to you.

HOW TO FULFILL YOUR INTENT TO GIVE:

- **For 2023 gifts:** If you designated an Intent to Give for 2023 and or wish to make a financial contribution this year, please send your donation now to the attention of Laurel Hofeldt, RLC Director of Finance, and designate Organ Fund in the memo line. If you have forgotten the amount of your Intent to Give, please email Laurel at lhofeldt@rosevillelutheran.org and the Finance Office can assist you.
- **For 2024 gifts:** RLC will make monthly payments of \$30,000 to the organ builder. To help with cash flow, please consider making your donation early in 2024 or making quarterly payments.
- **For 2025 gifts:** RLC will make monthly payments of \$30,000 to the organ builder with a final payment in June 2025. To help with cash flow, please consider making your donation early in 2025 and complete your donation before June 1, 2025.

NEXT STEPS

Stay tuned for a “Meet the Builder” information session in December or January when Nordlie will share their renderings of the new organ. The Organ Project Team will continue to provide updates in RLC’s weekly Update and is scheduled to present at the Adult Ed session on March 3, 2024. To learn more about this project, visit the Organ Project webpage at www.rosevillelutheran.org/organ. The webpage includes several videos and a thorough FAQ section.



Joseph Brown of J.F. Nordlie Organ Company and John Helgen sign the organ contract - September 21, 2023.

Members of the project team are KJ Bach, John Helgen, Julie and Scott Henry, Erik Storlie, Dorothy Tostengard, Pastor Lauren Wrightsman and organ consultant Dr. Greg Peterson.

Love God • Love Your Neighbor
A Community United by Grace

RLC CALENDAR
HIGHLIGHTS

Find More Information at:
www.rosevillelutheran.org
(Or see listed pages in this TABLE)

- Thursday, November 30
Advent Book Study (p.1)
- Saturday, December 2
Candy Cane Breakfast (p.6)
Men's Breakfast (p.9)
- Sunday, December 3
Preschool Open House (p.6)
Adult Ed: Guatemala (p.9)
- Wednesday, December 6
Service of Hope and Joy (p.9)
- Thursday, December 7
Advent Book Study (p.1)
20/30s GLOW Festival (p.8)
- Thursday, December 14
Advent Book Study (p.1)
- Sunday, December 10
Love Light Deadline (p.2)
RLC Kids Program (p.6)
Adult Ed: Advent in Art (p.9)
- Wednesday, December 13
High School Youth (p.7)
- Saturday, December 16
Men's Breakfast (p.9)
Christmas Festival Concert (p.11)
- Sunday, December 17
Sharing Tree Deadline (p.4)
Adult Ed: Music with John (p.9)
- Sunday, December 24
Christmas Eve
10:00 am Worship (p.1)
3:00 pm Worship (p.1)
4:30 am Worship (p.1)
9:00 pm Worship (p.1)
- Monday, December 25
Christmas Day
10:00 am Worship (p.1)
- Thursday, December 21
Advent Book Study (p.1)
- December 25 - January 2
Church Office CLOSED (p.5)
- Sunday, December 31
20/30s Bible Study-ish (p.8)
- Thursday, January 4
20/30s BlackStack Brewing (p.8)
- Saturday, January 6
Men's Breakfast (p.9)
- Sunday, January 7
Adult Ed: M&O Partners (p.9)
- Wednesday, January 10
High School Youth (p.7)
Lenten Mentor Meeting (p.8)



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- January 12-13
Confirmation Lock-In (p.7)
- Sunday, January 14
Adult Ed: Part of ELCA (p.9)
- Monday, January 15
RLC Reads (p.8)
- Sunday, January 7
Adult Ed: M&O Partners (p.9)
- Saturday, January 20
Men's Breakfast (p.9)
- Sunday, January 21
Adult Ed: Lyngblomsten (p.9)
- Wednesday, January 24
High School Youth (p.7)
- Sunday, January 28
Dresser Build (p.7)
20/30s Bible Study-ish (p.8)
- Thursday, February 1
20/30s Pizza Night (p.8)
- Friday, February 2
Snow Tubing (p.7)
- Saturday, February 3
Men's Breakfast (p.9)
- Sunday, February 4
Adult Ed: Estate Planning (p.9)
- February 4-18
Riverboat Youth Fundraiser (p.7)
- Saturday, February 10
Trampoline Park (p.7)
- Sunday, February 11
Adult Ed: Sojourner Truth (p.9)
20/30s Bible Study-ish (p.8)
- Wednesday, February 14
Ash Wednesday
Ash Wednesday Worship (p.5)
High School Youth (p.7)
- Thursday, February 15
Lenten Study (p.10)
- Saturday, February 17
Men's Breakfast (p.9)
- Sunday, February 18
Adult Ed: Speaking Up (p.9)
- Monday, February 19
RLC Reads (p.8)
- Thursday, February 22
Lenten Study (p.10)
- Sunday, February 25
Adult Ed: Relevant Church (p.9)
- Wednesday, February 28
High School Youth (p.7)
- Thursday, February 29
Lenten Study (p.10)
- Monday, March 18
RLC Reads (p.8)
- Sunday, March 24
Palm Sunday Worship (p.5)
- Thursday, March 28
Maundy Thursday Worship (p.5)
- Friday, March 29
Good Friday Worship (p.5)
- Sunday, March 31
Easter Sunday
Easter Sunday Worship (p.5)



CHRISTMASTIME AT RLC

CHRISTMAS EVE - Sunday, December 24

10:00 am • Service of Carols

3:00 and 4:30 pm • Family Service of Blessing

9:00 pm • Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY - Monday, December 25

10:00 am • Service with Holy Communion