



Resurrection Genesis December 2018

Publication of
Resurrection Lutheran
Church
St. Joseph, MN

It is the end of November 2018. When I sat down to write my piece for the December newsletter I was going to focus on Advent and my desire to intentionally slow down as I wait and prepare for the coming of Baby Jesus. Then several poster boards were found that I find intriguing and exciting. I'm not sure when they were put together, but I smile as I think of the call process and the Holy Spirit's presence and activity in that time (even when it seems God works in slow motion).

I want to share this with you because in less than a month will mark our 1st anniversary. Here's to many more years together, beloved People of God!

What energizes us?

Being part of something – Opportunities to serve – Fare for All – People who step up when needed – Farmer's Market – Friendly Atmosphere – Acceptance of all people – Gifted musicians – Worship – Strong music ministry – Children's participation – a united staff – loyal members – families coming together – strong traditions – fellowship opportunities – welcoming atmosphere – feeling welcome – spirit of kindness and welcoming

Celebrations!

New fellowship space and kitchen – better technology helping us stay connected – social justice – service to community – community partnerships

Challenges!

Attendance at worship has decreased – fewer people participate in activities – complete staff turnover – Sunday school attendance is down (hard to get teachers)

Look over the challenges and give thanks to God for these being turned into reasons to celebrate.

What we want in a pastor:

Encouraging children to be present in worship – good with youth – pastor who interacts with Sunday school kids – music – someone who speaks to everyday life – pastor who will marry same-sex couples – visitation of sick, elderly, hospitalized members – sermons that relate Bible to our time – strong preaching – down to earth preaching style – pastor who can lead the congregation in song – warm, welcome, approachable – pastor who

welcomes guests – encouraging lay people to participate – energy – responsive not reactive – compassion – humor!

Thanks be to God and YOU for calling me to lead and shepherd in this community. May we all continue to be flexible and adaptable as we move forward and learn what it means to be church in this time and place.

Jesus loves you...and so do I!

Blessed to be a blessing,
Pastor Jennifer Thul



HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

Starting on November 28th, the 6:30pm Wednesday service will follow the structure of the beloved Holden Evening Prayer. The weekly lesson will center on the classic devotion of **The Jesse Tree**.

A pasta meal and dessert will be provided before the service, starting at 5:30pm.

See the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center to volunteer to be a Meal Provider or Assisting Minister for these services.

Please come and share in this beautiful service of light as we await the coming of our Savior-
the light that no darkness can overcome.

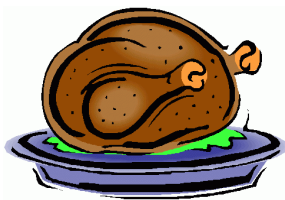
CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The 3:00pm and 5:00pm Christmas Eve services will be the only Christmas services at RLC. Prelude concerts begin ½ hr before worship starts so come early!

There is no service on Christmas Day, December 25th. The church is closed.
Wednesday, December 26th. The church is closed.

*There will be **one** service on Sunday, December 30th – at **9:30am**.

RLC Community Meal Volunteers Needed



You are invited to attend our annual Community meal on Saturday, December 15th from 11:30 – 1:00 pm. Enjoy a meal prepared by our members and get to know some of our community residents.

We are also needing some volunteers. If you have time to volunteer even a portion of the time, prepare food, deliver meals to homebound residents or help with clean up afterwards it would be greatly appreciated! Contact Angela Haynes or Randy Maile for more information.



Advent Devotion: The Jesse Tree

The symbol of The Jesse Tree comes from Isaiah 11: “There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.” Jesse was the father of King David. When King Saul turned away from God, God rejected him as king and sent the prophet Samuel to the farm of Jesse near Bethlehem in search of a new king from among Jesse’s eight sons. David, the youngest and a shepherd boy, was chosen. God told Samuel. “Arise, anoint him; for this is he” (1 Sam. 16:12). David became a great king and it was his line, the Jesse line, that Jesus Christ was born a thousand years later in fulfillment of the prophecies.

Throughout each day of Advent, a scripture passage pertaining to the spiritual family tree of Jesus Christ is read, and a corresponding ornament is placed on a Jesse Tree. This devotion is a great way to bring faith home!



*message from Bishop Jon Anderson

Who will be your congregation's next rostered leader?

Who will serve as pulpit supply for your congregation?

How will the sons and daughters of your congregation who have the gifts to preach and lead receive the training they need to do both?

Advent Appeal 2018

You are invited to address these questions through financial gifts to the Advent Appeal! With your gift we will provide financial resources for training, background checks, and colleague programs to make sure those who hear God's call to preach and lead communities in worship in Southwestern Minnesota can do this ministry without placing all of the financial burden on them to answer God's call.

Southwestern Minnesota Synod is known as an equipping synod, but we need your help to make sure no one with the gifts to preach and lead worship are left out because of their lack of financial support to prepare them for service.

Here are two ways you can give:

Send your financial support today! Your gift will be matched dollar for dollar by a \$10,000 gift from Bethel Lutheran Church Endowment Fund in Willmar if it is ***received by December 31st.***

Mail your gift to SW MN Synod, ELCA, PO Box 499, Redwood Falls, MN 56283. Checks are made out to the SW MN Synod with Advent Gift in the memo.

And/or make a commitment to give at least \$10 monthly for all of 2019 by signing up for a recurring direct payment (ACH debit) through the synod's online giving. **Our Savior's Lutheran Church Endowment Fund in Montevideo has promised a gift of \$5,000 when at least 50 people sign up for a recurring gift.**

Go to www.swmnelca.org and click on [Online Giving](#). (Reminder: the synod pays a service fee for all credit card transactions, checking/savings account transactions are free!) If you need help setting up a recurring gift, please call the synod office, 507-637-3904 or [click here](#) for step by step pictures with instructions.

-Romans 12:6-8

Let us as the people of God use our gifts to support the gifts of others.

Thank you for your willingness to share your gifts through this Advent Appeal to continue the ministry of your synod's Embrace God's Mission + Equip God's People Funding Initiative.

May your light shine,
+Bishop Jon V. Anderson



The Children's Christmas Program

During the Liturgy of the Word within the 8:30 and 10:30 services on Sunday, December 16th, the Sunday School children will be sharing the Christmas Story through a dramatic program.

A breakfast sponsored by the Sunday School Committee will be provided during the Fellowship Hour (9:30-10:30), with a free-will offering for Camp Scholarships. Please come and show your support for these young leaders in our congregation!



Christmas Eve Worship

Monday, December 24th – 3:00pm and 5:00pm services

This Christmas Eve service will contain favorite carols, the Christmas Story, and Holy Communion.

A 30 minute Prelude Concert will take place before each worship service. This concert consists of performances from RLC musicians including the Adult Choir, a flute consort, a trumpet quartet, a saxophone solo, and much more!



Fare for All – December 10th, 3:30 – 5:30 pm
Holiday Packs Galore!

Spiral Ham, whole chicken, sausage, frozen vegetables, meatballs and even the apple pie! All for \$30 There are no income limits for this program.

If you eat, Fare for All is for you!



Do you like to sing? We are looking for a volunteer to lead the residents of Arlington Place in their monthly Sing-Along. Songbooks and piano player provided. Activity takes approximately one hour, and usually occurs on the 3rd Thursday of each month, 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Training provided. For more information, contact Lisa @ (320)363-1056 or lwallin@gmail.com



Liturgy Corner:

Happy New Year!!!

A new church year has begun! We as church have now entered the season of Advent, the first season of a new year. This liturgical season is one of waiting. Longing. Patience. All emotions that are somewhat undesirable. But are necessary. Advent allows us to feel what the world would be like without the presence of Christ. What a dark world it would be. The symbolism of the Advent wreath, which will be in the center of our sanctuary during this season, reminds us of the light that Christ brings to this world. Each week that we get closer to Christmas, the more candles on the wreath are lit; representing the closer we are to Christ's light being within the world again. The light that no darkness can overcome. So let us take this time of Advent to wait. To be patient. To long for Christ.



CHECK OUT THE CHANGES IN THE LIBRARY!

Volunteers have been hard at work this November transforming the library - moving books and shelves, removing wallpaper, painting, cleaning the carpet, and re-shelving books.

A BIG THANKS goes out to:

- Rich Haselhorst, Tom Krueger, and Dale White for moving books and furniture.
- Karen Bobeldyk, Terri Boysen, Cheryl & Brad Hodges, Melanie Meuffelmann, Anna Sheel and students for removing the 30 year old wallpaper and giving the walls a fresh coat of paint.
- Jeff Swenson for cleaning the carpet.
- And a special thanks to Kari Haynes for organizing and shelving the books!

We thank all who contributed to the freewill offering at the Bountiful Blessings Brunch. The money will be put towards the purchase of two comfortable chairs.

Your support of this refurbishing project is greatly appreciated!



Welcome to our New Members;

We have many new faces at our church, so please stop and introduce yourself!

Jacob & Maureen Frame and their children Nora and Luke

Nick & Ridell Curtis and their children Elleanor, Mallana, and Iolla.

Brent & Kate Tschaeker and their children Elijah, Hazel & Ella

Kendra & Peter Ohmann

Rob & Abby Lyon and their children Nate and Nora

Oliver Thul



WINTER IS HERE!

Please consider donating your slightly used/new winter clothing. Especially needed this year are socks, hats, mittens and coats. There will be a collection bin in the narthex throughout the month of November and December. Donations will be divided among various organizations: People's Church of Bemidji, Hands Across the World and the St. Joe Community, etc. Spreading the warmth to those in need is greatly appreciated.



RLC Discussion Group

For our next meeting on December 4th @ 9:30 am., we will be watching the movie “Arranged”. If you have any questions, contact Ellen Chovan at ellenchovan@aol.com or (320) 217-8705. All are welcome to join in!



Resurrection Council Members

Finance	Cary Pogatchnik
Outreach Team	Randy Maile
President	Rachel Haaland
Treasurer	Steve & Marcia Johnson
Christian Education	Lori Schneider
Church in Society	Joan Schramm
Social Justice	Jeanie Wilkens
Staff Support	John Anderson
Property	Jeff Swenson
Worship & Music	Mary Gunn
Youth & Family	Rachel Haaland
Stewardship	Steve Johnson

Council Officers

President	Rachel Haaland
Vice-President	John Anderson
Secretary	Mary Gunn
Treasurer	Steve & Marcia Johnson

December Birthdays

12/01	Zachary	Nesland	12/17	Ethan	Rhode
12/01	Matthew	Thralow	12/18	Patrick	Marushin
12/02	Angela	Bobeldyk	12/19	Deanna	Birk
12/02	Jerry	Bobeldyk	12/19	Brady	Goebel
12/03	Lance	Anderson	12/20	Mike	Smith
12/03	Wambli	Kulberg	12/22	Debbie	Sabrowsky
12/03	Kathryn	Wirth	12/23	Michael	Schmotzer
12/04	Ellie	Eggert	12/24	Jake	Petron
12/05	Angela	Haynes	12/25	Heather	Bushkofsky
12/05	Katie	Pfannenstein	12/25	Evan	Keen
12/06	Amaya	Marwitz	12/26	Alex	Anderson
12/07	Magnus	Baker	12/27	Joan	Schramm
12/07	Dean	Holtz	12/29	Nathaniel	Kuebelbeck
12/07	Sara	Revier	12/29	Alex	Maile
12/07	Amanda	Steffens	12/31	John	Anderson
12/07	Maureen	Tubbiola	12/31	Paul	Fugleberg
12/08	Jessica	Kompelien			
12/09	Rachel	Haaland			
12/11	Ethan	Carlson			
12/11	Nathaniel	Dolven-Kolle			
12/11	Rob	Lyon			
12/12	Patricia	Michaelson			
12/12	Kurtis	Persson			
12/13	Deborah	Robinson			
12/14	Matthew	Goebel			
12/14	Mark	Hennigs			
12/15	Kendall	Eggert			
12/15	Gwen	Kranz			
12/15	Jim	Parsons			



General Budget Information

Previous Month Giving	Previous Month Budget	Year to Date Giving	Year to Date Budget
\$22,761	\$20,846	\$185,326	\$208,464
Building / Mortgage Information			
Previous Month Building Giving	Mortgage Payment	Year to Date Giving	Year to Date Budget
\$3,650	\$3,566	\$28,107	\$35,660

Who says that Youth leave the church after Confirmation?!
Not here at Resurrection!

Come find your place with other **10-12th graders in the Youth Room every Wednesday night from 7:30-8:30!** We are talking and learning about all sorts of things including Time Management this week and who knows next week! We are focused on creating a space for high schoolers to have their voice heard, get to know one another, and learn about God in a way that is applicable to their everyday lives!

Questions? Contact Anna! annacscheel@gmail.com

If you have any questions contact

Anna Scheel

annacscheel@rlcstjoe.com (651)-955-1368



Milestones Ministry

Coming up in December: **Welcome to Worship**

4 year old children – December 2nd during 8:30 and 10:30 worship

In baptism, parents promise to bring their children to the services of God's house. Children are needed and welcome in worship. We strongly encourage pre-schoolers to come to worship with their congregational family. So, this is an appropriate time in their faith journey to introduce them to the basics of worship. They, along with their parents are invited to meet during the sermon and learn about Lutheran liturgy (at an age appropriate level). They also are given a box of items to assist them in future worship services. This milestone takes place the first Sunday of Advent and is the focus of the Children's Message at each service.

Coming up soon:

5th graders – **Leading Worship/ Acolyte**

January 6th during Fellowship Hour (9:40-10:20am)

1 and 2 year olds – **Baptismal Anniversary**

January 13th during 8:30 and 10:30 worship

2 year olds – **Prayer**

February 3rd during Fellowship Hour (9:40-10:20am)

February 10th during 8:30 and 10:30 worship



Color page for the kids... Have them drop it off in the church office so I can decorate!



Resurrection Lutheran Church

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<p>December Newsletter Resurrection Lutheran Church</p>

Sunday worship: 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Holden Evening Worship – Wednesdays through Advent 6:30 pm

Wednesday Pasta meal: 5:30 pm

Christmas Eve - 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm Worship, Prelude concerts begin ½ hr prior

Christmas Day – No worship

December 26th – Church is Closed

Pastor Jennie Thul:

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