

RLC Genesis

Dec. 2024 Newsletter



Just a Note...

This time of year between Halloween and Thanksgiving is always a little tricky to navigate in our household. I have one kiddo who wants to get out the Christmas décor right away on November 1 and the other who is completely opposed to the idea until the day after Thanksgiving. Of course, both present valid arguments. On the one hand, the Christmas season is short, so why not enjoy the decorations for as long as possible?! On the other hand, decorating too early makes the fall season feel too short.

While I tend to crave snow and Christmas music as soon as the temps start to fall, there's also something meaningful about having time to reflect, appreciate, and anticipate what is yet to come. Fortunately for us, as we turn the page on November and enter the final month of the calendar year,

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a time of waiting, reflecting, and anticipating is exactly what the season of Advent sets before us.

As the pace of the world rushes around us in a pre-Christmas flurry, may we find opportunities this season to slow down, to pause and reflect on the promise and hope of what is yet to come. Even more importantly, may we create the time and space to praise the God who finds a way to make all things possible...the God who gifted us that promise and hope in the person of Jesus.

We have many opportunities to offer our praise by gathering together for worship on Sundays (9am) and Wednesdays (6pm). Our typical Worship on Wednesday services will be transitioning into Advent “Holden Evening Prayer” services, held at 6pm on Dec. 4, 11, and 18. (Holden services are *completely* different from the Sunday morning services, so consider joining us for both!)

Aside from worship, may we set aside time for personal devotion and prayer. Advent is indeed a season of waiting and reflecting. It’s a time to connect with God on a deeper level. It’s a time to remember that the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Thanks be to God!

Advent & Christmas Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

New Devotionals Available



The newest copy of the “Christ in Our Home” devotional book is now available for pickup in the narthex at church.

Blue Christmas Outdoor Observance



While Christmas is a joyous time of year for many, we are also mindful of the unrest and pain that exists in our lives, communities, and world.

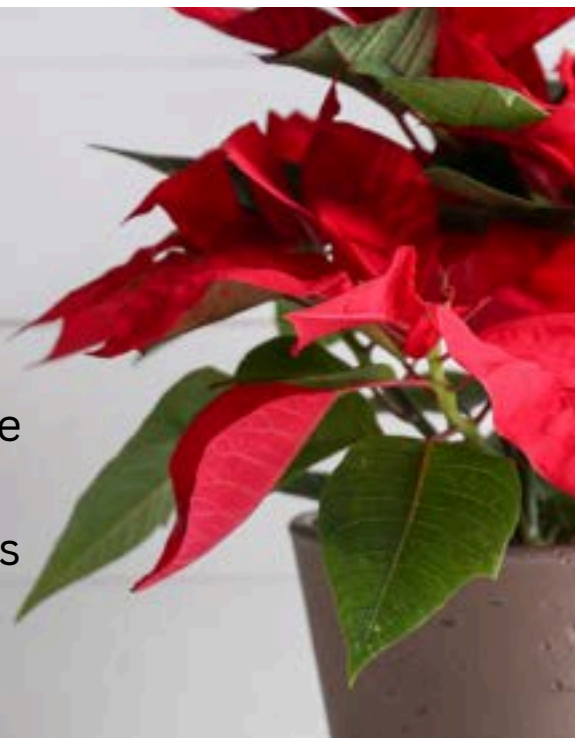
If you are grieving the loss of someone special this time of year, please join us for a special outdoor Blue Christmas observance on Saturday, December 21,

the longest night. A Christmas tree will be set up near our church bell outdoors. Come, write the name of your loved one on a Christmas ornament, and hang it on the tree anytime between 4:30-6:30pm.

For those who wish to stay, the time of observance will conclude at 6:30pm with a brief prayer near the tree, and then the tree will remain lit throughout the night as a symbol of the hope and peace that is revealed to us through the ever-present Light of Christ.

Poinsettias!

If you would like to donate a poinsettia plant to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas services, please bring or have them delivered to the church by Dec. 22 and indicate whether you would like them in honor or memory of someone. Plants can be taken home after Christmas Eve services. Thank you!



Advent Services

Sunday Advent Services:

Dec. 1st through Dec. 22nd at 9am

Wednesday Advent

Holden Evening Prayer Services:

Dec. 4th through Dec 18th at 6pm



Christmas Eve Services

Join us for worship on Christmas Eve!

Tuesday, December 24th

Candlelight Services at 3:00pm and 5:00pm

RLC Christmas Program Info!



The children will present their Christmas program on Sunday, Dec. 15,, at 9am in the sanctuary. All children from Pre-K through 6th grade are invited to participate. Rehearsals

will be during the Christian Education class times on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Rehearsals:

- **Sunday, December 1 & 8 from 10:15-11:00 a.m.**
- **Wednesday, December 4 & 11 from 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.**

You are welcome to come to any (or all) practices. There will be a final dress rehearsal on Saturday, Dec. 14, time to be announced later. **Please mark your calendars and encourage your young person(s) to be a part of the Christmas program!**

New Member Sunday: December 15th



Are you or someone you know interested in joining RLC? We will be holding a New Member Sunday on December 15th. Please talk with Pastor Sarah or reach out to the church office to let us know!

Wednesday Night (WOW) Schedule for December

As a reminder, Confirmation classes do not meet during the season of Advent. Students are encouraged to attend worship and help with midweek services.

Wed. evening Christian Ed. classes for Pre-K - 6th grade continue to meet from 6:30-7:15pm for Christmas program rehearsals on Dec. 4th & 11th and for regular class on Dec. 18.



There will be no WOW meal, worship, or Christian Ed. on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1 because of the Christmas and New Years holidays. Enjoy time with your families!

Advent & Christmas Adult Choir



The adult Christmas choir has begun to practice songs for Advent & Christmas Eve. All who want to sing are invited to join us for practice on Wednesday evenings after the 6pm service. The adult Christmas choir will be singing on Sunday Dec. 8th & 15th at the 9am service and at 3pm on Christmas Eve. We would love for you to join us!

Affirmation of Faith

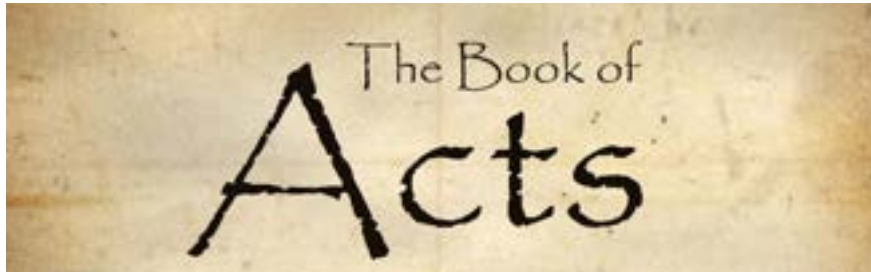
Jack Tesch affirmed his faith at our Worship on Wednesday (WOW) service on Nov. 20!

Congratulations and blessings on this milestone celebration, Jack!



Annual Confirmation Baking Night





Book of Acts Bible Study

During Christian Education time on Sundays, Deb Robinson will be leading a Bible study based on the Book of Acts starting January 12th. Grab a cup of coffee and a treat and join us in the Fireside Room after the service.

Befriender Program



We now have volunteers in place who can help members out in need of a ride, a visit, or special food prep. Please call or text Deb Robinson at

(320) 248-6210 if you need a befriender service. If you want to help on an occasional basis, contact Deb. Thanks to everyone for helping.

Additional Group Ministry Opportunities



Grief group: Tuesday, Dec. 10th, at 10am in the Fireside Room.

Bible study: Thursdays at 9am in the Fireside Room or via Zoom

Serving on Sundays

Hot, nutritious meal for the Lincoln Center



Did you know that every Sunday the Outreach team cooks and delivers a meal to the homeless at The Lincoln Center?

Did you know you can be a part of that? Anyone can make a meal to share with the folks at the Lincoln Center!!!

Just pick a Sunday you would like to provide a meal and let Angela Haynes, Susan or Alana Curtis know. Meals **do** need to be prepared at Resurrection or any commercial kitchen. Meals can be made during the week and either frozen or refrigerated at Resurrection. The Outreach team will heat it up and deliver it to the Lincoln Center on Sunday. We do try and make our meals protein and veggie forward!

What a great way for individuals or families to give back!!

Matthew 25:35 For I was hungry and you gave me food

St. Joseph Food Shelf

The St. Joseph Food Shelf has received a matching funds grant, with all donations now through Dec. being matched. Donations can be mailed to St. Joseph Community Food Shelf P.O. Box 121 St. Joseph, MN 56374, dropped off at the food shelf between 1-3pm, made on-line at st-joseph-community-food-shelf-square.site, or a check or cash can be left at RLC, and we will make sure it gets to the food shelf.

Holiday Scrip

The Scrip program is gift cards available for sale at the Welcome Table. For every gift card you purchase from Scrip, Resurrection receives a percentage back.

Connie has filled the book with gift cards from \$5 to \$100 for your holiday shopping convenience. Whether you are shopping for gifts, holiday decor, or food please check out Scrip gift cards available here!

Fare for All -December 2nd from 3:30pm - 5:30pm



Fare For All offers savings that are much less than retail prices. The program has no income requirements and is open to everyone who is looking to save money on their grocery dollar. There are no forms to complete, and cash, credit, debit and EBT cards are all accepted.

**December
Holiday Pack**

\$35



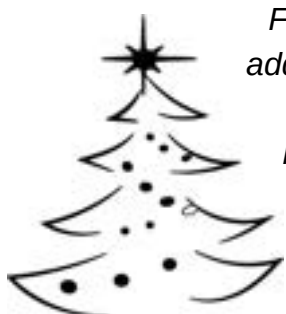
- Ham 7-9 lbs
- Shrimp - 12 oz
- Chicken Wings - 2 lb
- LOCAL Pork Breakfast Sausage - 1 lb
- Turkey Tenderloin - 1.5 lb
- Corn - 12 oz
- Apple Pie - 24 oz

Have yourself a Merry
Little Christmas!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Zachary	Nesland	12/01
Colin	Welle	12/01
Jerry	Bobeldyk	12/02
Lance	Anderson	12/03
Kathryn	Wirth	12/03
Angela	Haynes	12/05
Amaya	Marwitz	12/06
Dean	Holtz	12/07
Sara	Revier	12/07
Maureen	Tubbiola	12/07
Jessica	Kompelien	12/08
Rachel	Haaland	12/09
Buddy	Huls	12/09
Patricia	Michaelson	12/12
Jennifer	Schaefer	12/12
Lilah	Hannon	12/13
Deborah	Robinson	12/13
Joey	Beaulieu	12/14
Matthew	Goebel	12/14
Mark	Hennigs	12/14
Jim	Parsons	12/15
Brady	Goebel	12/19
Lori	Baggenstoss	12/22
Debbie	Sabrowsky	12/22
Jake	Petron	12/24
Joan	Schramm	12/27
John	Anderson	12/31
Vayda	Baggenstoss	12/31
David	Ford	12/31



For birthday corrections or additions, please reach out to the church office so our records can be updated.

Thank you!

Council Highlights -Nov.

Potential new members for Council

The children's Christmas program is Sun. Dec 15th @ 9:00am service

New members joining Sun. Dec. 15th

Worship/Education Times

Sunday Mornings

9:00am Worship

10:00am Fellowship

10:15 - 11:00am Education Time
(Pre-K through 6th Grade)

Wednesday Evenings

5:30 - 6:00pm Meal/Fellowship

6:00 - 6:30pm Worship on Wed (WOW)

6:30 - 7:15pm Education Time (Pre-K through Confirmation)

**Our Wednesday night lineup follows the school year calendar*

OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Wed: 9am - 2pm

Thurs: 9am - noon

Closed on Fridays