

# RLC

# February Newsletter



## Fat Tuesday Fun!

The day before Ash Wednesday is traditionally known as “Fat Tuesday” or “Shrove Tuesday”. It is sometimes marked as the last day of eating richer or fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season. To commemorate the day, the RLC staff invite you to join us for a Fat Tuesday Celebration!

**When:** Tuesday, February 21

**Time:** 6 – 7pm

**Where:** Saintly Scoops Ice Cream & Sweets  
(aka the Fellowship Hall)

**What:** Service with a scoop and a smile!  
Come when you can, and enjoy some sweets, games, and fellowship.

Brought to you by the current RLC staff who have been serving the RLC community since 2022!



## Just a Note...

February...it's one of those months that I tend to get writer's block. It's still cold. And while we're in the season of Epiphany, it tends to feel like we're kind of "in-between" major church seasons because Christmas is over, the wise men have come and gone, and Lent is still a month away. We've got Groundhog's Day and Valentine's Day, but neither of those feel very earth-shattering for the vast majority of people.

BUT...for all those sports fans out there, it's also SUPER BOWL month!! Even though the Vikings didn't make it this year, it's still at least a little entertaining to watch the big game, or if nothing else, it's a great excuse to pick up a cheese and cracker tray and eat chili or other game-day foods to your heart's content!

Let's add a little pizzazz to February this year. For Super Bowl Sunday (February 12), I invite you to grab your families, friends, and neighbors, wear your jerseys or favorite sports attire, and join us for worship at 9am! The service is going to be geared toward what it means to be on a team...specifically God's team! We'll have a special children's message that day to talk about what it means to "defend" your faith and strive for that goal line. In addition, our Confirmation students will be collecting soup cans to share with our local Food Shelf as part of a "Souper Bowl of Caring" initiative. Please consider bringing along a soup can or two as a donation for the cause. Consider this day a pep fest to celebrate the victory that God has won for us already through Jesus!

Just as every football team has players that are specialized in certain areas of offense or defense or special teams, every person has unique spiritual gifts that have been given to them for the building up of God's kingdom.

Paul talks about this in his letter to the Corinthians:

***"If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body"***  
***(1 Corinthians 12:17-20).***

The Spirit has given each of us special gifts with which to serve God and our neighbors, and the gifts of all are needed to make the body of Christ complete. What an inclusive and amazing feeling that is! We are ALL a part of God's team, and we're all called to get out on the field and share those gifts we have been given to help strengthen and support those around us.

That being said...Get ready and gear up for Super Bowl Sunday (and all Sundays, for that matter) because you don't have to be a professional athlete to play on God's team! We need YOU!!

God's Blessings,  
Pastor Sarah

## GOD'S GAME PLAN

### GOD'S TEAM needs YOU!

Join us for worship on Feb. 12 at 9am!

- ✚ A special time of worship with a special children's message for Super Bowl Sunday!
- ✚ Wear your favorite team attire to worship if you'd like (any sport will do!)
- ✚ Help support our local food shelf by bringing a can of soup or two... "Souper Bowl of Caring"!

**Hope to see you there!**



## Lenten Soup Suppers & Midweek Worship Schedule

Ash Wednesday and the beginning of our Lenten season is right around the corner, which means the start of midweek Lenten services, soup suppers, and confirmation student/mentor meetings! The serving time for soup suppers will be from 5:30 – 6:30pm, with worship starting at 6:30. Please see the schedule below, mark your calendars, and join us!

Ash Wednesday Service  
Midweek Lenten Services

February 22 – soup at 5:30pm, worship at 6:30pm  
March 1 – soup at 5:30pm, worship at 6:30pm

March 8 – soup at 5:30pm, worship at 6:30pm  
March 15 – soup at 5:30pm, worship at 6:30pm  
March 22 – soup at 5:30pm, worship at 6:30pm  
March 29 – soup at 5:30pm, worship at 6:30pm



Maundy Thursday Service  
Good Friday Service

April 6 worship at 6:30pm (no soup supper)  
April 7 worship at 6:30pm (no soup supper)

If you are willing to provide soup for one of the Wednesday evening soup suppers, a sign-up sheet will be passed around during our Sunday worship services, or feel free to contact the church office. Thank you!



## Zoom Bible Study!

Our mentor program is about to re-launch! Mentors meet with their student during the soup suppers in Lent to read a scripture passage together and talk through discussion questions. If you are willing to serve as a confirmation mentor for 1, 2, or 3 years (or if you would like more info), please reach out to Pastor Sarah. Thank you in advance for making a difference in the lives of our young people!



## Confirmation Mentors Needed

Our mentor program is about to re-launch! Mentors meet with their student during the soup suppers in Lent to read a scripture passage together and talk through discussion questions. If you are willing to serve as a confirmation mentor for 1, 2, or 3 years (or if you would like more info), please reach out to Pastor Sarah. Thank you in advance for making a difference in the lives of our young people!





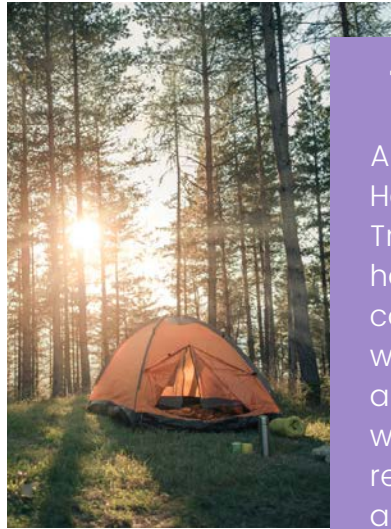
## First Communion Celebration!

Attention parents! This year, First Communion will again be celebrated during worship on Maundy Thursday, which falls on April 6. To help prepare for this special day, we will be holding a First Communion Class following worship on Sunday, March 26 to talk about the mystery and the miracle surrounding communion and what that means for us. If you feel your child is ready to celebrate this milestone or if you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Sarah ([pastorsarah@rlcstjoe.com](mailto:pastorsarah@rlcstjoe.com)).



## Church Camp 2023!

Check out the Welcome Table for information on Green Lake Bible Camp near Spicer or look online for information on Luther Crest Bible Camp near Alexandria. Scholarships are available to help cover the cost of Summer Bible Camp for kids in kindergarten through grade 12. Please email [rlc@rlcstjoe.com](mailto:rlc@rlcstjoe.com) with your child's name, age and what camp they plan to attend for more information.



## Treasurer Position

A HUGE thank you to Rich Haselhorst for serving as our Treasurer the past few years. Rich has a ton of talent (which he continues to share in countless ways), and he has done an amazing job in this role, but he would now like to hand over the reins for this position. If you have a finance background and might be willing to learn the ropes or hear more about what this position entails, please reach out to Rich or to Pastor Sarah for more information.

## Church Council Update

Thank you to our church council members (those newly elected and those continuing to serve) for answering the call and giving of their time and talent to help make decisions that affect the life and ministry of RLC. Members were officially installed during worship on January 29, and officer elections will take place at the February council meeting. Here is a current list of these

### representatives:

Sara Borgen	Lori Schneider
Susan Curtis	Sandy Spiczka
Carolyn Finley	Lynn Welle
Brad Kompelien	Rich Haselhorst
Cary Pogatchnik	(appointed treasurer)



Thank you as well to the following individuals who were elected to the Nominating and Audit Committees...

Nominating: Rich Haselhorst, Susan Schiltz, and Ridell Curtis

Audit: Tami Seelen, Sandy Willard, and Nancy Streng

# Upcoming Youth Sunday Events | 2023

Activities will begin at 10:45 a.m. in the Youth Room

**26 FEB**

## PUZZLE COMPETITION

Snacks provided and prizes for the winners



## JEOPARDY

**26 MAR**

Pizza provided and prizes for the winning Team

**23 APR**

## SARTELL BOWELING ALLEY

We will plan carpools and order pizzas



## PHOTO SCAVENGERHUNT

**21 MAY**

Pizza provided and prizes for the winning Team



# February Birthdays

---

Knopp, Lynn 02/06  
Skaggs, Ashley 02/06  
Novacinski, Ethan 02/06  
Bernstetter, Aaron 02/07  
Hennigs, Erik 02/11  
Ahrndt, Elle 02/11  
Dehn, Kori 02/11  
Dullinger, Vern 02/14  
Emmerich, Alana 02/14  
Mueffelmann, Chloe 02/14  
Mueffelmann, Paige 02/14  
Haynes, Kari 02/15  
Linn, Sophie 02/15  
Hassis, Marilyn 02/16  
Keehr, Jodi 02/16  
Akkerman, Isabelle 02/16  
Barrow, Stacey 02/17  
Kabe, Bonnie 02/19  
Frame, Maureen 02/19  
Dehn, Kiera 02/19  
Birk, Isabelle 02/20  
Huls, Hunter 02/20  
Schneider, Kyle 02/22  
Haaland, Stian 02/22  
Petron, Liam 02/24  
Pogatchnik, Emma 02/2