

January 2018 Genesis Newsletter

Message from Pastor Jennie!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you for the fabulous welcome to Resurrection Lutheran Church, the help with unloading trailers at our new house and the basket of gift cards, coffee and tea... Wow! Your generosity and warm welcome is overwhelming yet very much appreciated. Speaking of appreciation, your willingness to tell me your name(s) more than once is also greatly appreciated! I try really hard to learn names quickly.

There are so many things I want to know about you, my brothers and sisters in Christ. Feel free to return your answers to me via email, drop your sheet off in the office or the offering plate, or we could meet for a conversation just to name a few possibilities.

Pastor Jennifer wants to know...

What Christmas hymn is most memorable to you? What makes it so special?

What is one tradition your family celebrates during the Christmas season?

Who are the people that have significantly shaped your faith journey?

What is the sweetest thing about the ministry of RLC?

What excites you about the ministry of RLC?

Thanks for your responses!

Called to *Serve*

Join us for Pastor Jennie's Installation. Service will be January 21st at the 8:30 & 10:30 am service with a breakfast Fellowship to follow from 9:30–10:30 am.

Just a bit more about Pastor Jennie....

Oh my goodness do I love the name of this congregation – Resurrection Lutheran Church. It is a message into the messy world that we come alive, that we are reborn in God – not once, but each and every day.

I'm good at negotiating the messiness of this Spirit-fueled process that calls us to become all that we are created to be (as individuals and as an organization) and calls us out into the world to share faith in Jesus Christ and this hope. Hope that doesn't disappoint.

I grew up as a member of the Wisconsin Lutheran Synod. My parents moved around a lot, but I mostly call New Ulm my hometown. I was the heavy-set middle child who liked to get lost in books, but I also grew up to join the Army – and became the Douglas McArthur Leadership Awardee and US Army Europe Soldier of the Year. I was a Russian-language interrogator sergeant and worked in civilian clothes debriefing political refugees in Germany who were seeking political asylum. It was a strange and interesting time to be alive. I was in Berlin two weeks after the wall came down!

This is the 24th time I've moved – and the last for a good long time, I pray. My husband, Daryl, and I met when we were both in the Army stationed in Munich, Germany. We will celebrate our 28th anniversary in April. He grew up in Cold Spring. He is also a pastor and will be starting at South Santiago in rural Becker this month. We are grateful that our family keeps growing. Hannalora (our favorite daughter) and Sam live in Marshall and have three boys: Liam (4), Quinn and Rowan (15 months); Andreas (son #1) and Natasha live in Redwood Falls and are expecting a baby in May; Oliver (son #2) is a student at MN State University, Mankato and is following his dream of becoming a pilot. Caleb (son #3) is soon to be 15 and will transfer as a 9th grader to Tech High School in January.

Life can be a little complicated and trying to explain how I went from Army Interrogator to Pastor might take a little more space than I have in this newsletter. Just know I've spent time as an English-As-A-Second-Language Teacher, that we owned a weekly newspaper in South Dakota, and that there was never a part of me that thought I'd become a pastor until the Spirit grabbed me and didn't let go. That was about 12 years ago.

I still like books and would like to get in better shape. After two cups of coffee in the morning, I switch to decaf. One of the greatest hopes for our time together involves growing in the Word – both in better understanding scripture and seeing where the Spirit is leading us.

I am extremely excited to see and experience ministry with you. The days will now start getting incrementally longer. Pay attention and let it remind you that we celebrate Christmas because God comes to us as a human so that we might be let our light shine in the darkness of a broken world.

I thank God for bringing us together – and I look forward to hearing your stories in the coming weeks. Feel free to stop by to say hello or let's meet somewhere for a visit and a cup of coffee.

Fare for All in St. Joseph on Monday, January 15, 2018

Fare For All, sells packages of fresh produce and frozen meat **with no quantity limit**. Prices ranging from \$10 to \$30 per package, Fare For All offer 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. There are no forms to complete and cash, credit, debit and EBT cards are all accepted.

For additional dates and a map of Fare For All locations, go to: fareforall.org or find us on Facebook. If you have questions, feel free to contact us at 763-450-3880 or 1-800-582-4291.

If you would like to donate a Fare for All package to a family in need, please send a check to RLC, P.O. Box 549, St. Joseph, MN 56374. We have had donations that are allowing us to do monthly drawings for vouchers used towards their purchase that day. Everyone attending is encouraged to put their name into the drawing!

January 2017 Adult Forum Schedule

Sunday January 7th – TBA

Sunday January 14th – TBA

Sunday January 21st – No Adult Ed due to Installation Fellowship Celebration

Sunday January 28th - TBA

RLC Quilters

We have completed 58 quilts! Last year we completed 40 so our goal was 41!

16 went to Anna Marie's Shelter

9 went to Peoples Church in Bemidji

9 went to the Somali residents in St. Joe

6 went to Red Lake

5 went to Quiet Oaks

4 went to individuals

2 cross wall hangings were completed for the church in seasonal colors.

At this point our supply of quilts on hand is really low but I am sure we will get more done in the new year!

Bible Study - Tuesday Mornings at 9 a.m.

Not an early riser? Well, now you can join Pastor Jennie for Bible Study on a new day and time! All are invited to join Pastor Jennie on Tuesday mornings 9-10 a.m. for a look at the upcoming Wednesday & Sunday Bible readings. In this interesting discussion you'll get an inside look at the message for Wednesday & Sunday as well as treats and coffee!

RLC Music & Choir *written by Samantha Delke*

The Contemporary Worship Team will be leading worship more often in 2018! Keep your eyes open for announcement of when this group will be leading worship.

The Adult Choir is looking for more members to join the group in 2018. Feel free to join us for rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 or contact Samantha for more information.

The Children's Choir will meet again on January 7th at 9:40 to begin rehearsing for their next performance. This will be the first time that the children are called to Sunday School in 2018.

I am always looking for members to contribute their musical gifts in any way possible. If you would like to perform any Special Music in the next coming months, please make yourself known!

And on a personal note: I would like to thank all the members of RLC for their most welcoming and kind support of my work here. I feel most blessed to have a community with such open arms and hearts during my first few months working at RLC. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!!

RLC Discussion Group

For our next meeting on January 2nd, 2018 we will be reading [The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane](#), by Lisa See. If you have any questions, contact Ellen Chovan at ellenchovan@aol.com or (320) 217-8705. All are welcome to join.

Community Meal Wrap Up

Thanks to all who helped in some way to make our community meal a success. We appreciate those who donated turkeys, baked cookies, helped prep, helped serve, helped deliver or helped clean up. It takes a major effort to pull off this meal and we made it look easy! On December 17th, we served about 120 in the dining room, had 25 take-out meals and delivered 140 meals to the greater St. Joseph - St. Cloud area. Our meal was held in conjunction with the St. Joseph Farmer's Market. We feel the two events complemented each other nicely. Community Meal organizers were, Randy Maile, Susan Curtis and Angela Haynes

Resurrection Reflections and Worship Host Opportunities



You are already receiving a weekly publication sent to the e-mail address we have in our database. Open it up to be up to date on the weekly happenings at RLC. You will find signing up for Worship Host duties, and other volunteer opportunities to be a breeze! Once you have opened it, scroll down towards the bottom and you'll see a direct link to Sign-Up Genius. There you'll see sign-up opportunities for Weekly Worship hosts, Assistant Ministers and other signups as requested by our members at RLC.

It's easy to sign-up, you'll get an e-mail reminder, and it's easy for the church office to track.

Annual Meeting Announcement

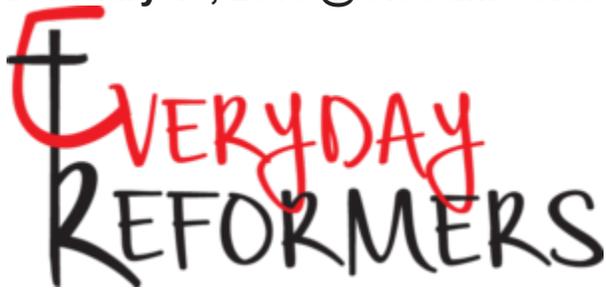
The Annual Meeting for members will be held on January 28th between services in the Fellowship Hall. This is an important meeting to vote for church council positions and approve the budget. All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Southwest MN Synod News

(If you are interested in participating in either event, please contact the church office at 363-4232)

Equipping Congregations Day

February 10, 2018 @ 8:30 am - 3:30 pm



Saturday, February 10, 2018

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Vinje Lutheran & Bethel Lutheran, Willmar, MN

Registration Information:

Registration fee includes all materials, refreshments and lunch.

Complete the online registration and pay online or mail payment by Thursday, February 1.

Registration will close if we reach maximum capacity -OR- February 1 @ 5:00 p.m.

Group Rate (no limit!):

- \$75/Congregations or Parishes with total average worship attendance of 100 or less
 - \$150/Congregations or Parishes with total average worship attendance of 101 or more
 - OR \$25/Person
-

Live Generously. Live Happier: Lessons from "The Generosity Project"

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY (SMSU) /MARSHALL CONFERENCE CENTER LIVESTREAM OPTION AVAILABLE!

"The Generosity Project" is designed to equip your congregation or group to talk about generosity, stewardship, abundance and money practices. It does this through a day filled with interactive, fun, full of laughter, faith centered lessons and practices. Begin 2018 by learning so you can bring these practices to your setting. Join us as together we learn to "live generously and live happier" Our presenters will be Karen Johnson Kretschmann, the ELCA Delaware Maryland Synod Associate for Generosity and her daughter, Sarah. In Karen's role she talks about gratitude, talents, abundance, blessings, gifts as well as how money makes mission and stewardship a faith practice. Karen's heart is in the mid-west as she spent most of her life in Wisconsin and her two children, twins, live in the Twin Cities. Sarah is a student at Luther Seminary and will join us as a co-presenter for the day.

January Birthdays!

Chalking the door for Epiphany—January 6, 2017

This year Resurrection will be celebrating Epiphany on January 7th, during worship at 10:30 a.m. However, the actual date of Epiphany is Saturday, January 6th. It is a time to gather with family and friends (C is for “community”) at the main entrances to homes or apartments (nursing home quarters, extended care facility, hospital rooms! etc.), and ask God’s blessing on dwellings and on all who live or visit there.

Leadership may be shared with a change of voice at each Leader’s part (L).

L: Peace be to this house and to all who enter here.

L: A reading from Proverbs: *“By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.”*

L: Let us pray: Gracious God, as a shining star once guided the magi to the birthplace of the infant Jesus, so enable those who dwell here to be your light in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray.

C: Amen.

Using chalk (hence, “Chalking the Door”), people are invited to inscribe the lintel of the home (the horizontal frame above the door) with the inscription shown below. The letters C M B come from the traditional (9th century) names for the “three kings” -- Caspar, Melchior & Balthazar. Some also suggest “Christus Mansionem Benedicat” which means “May Christ bless this dwelling!”

Each person is given a turn to make one or more of the marks:

20 + C + M + B + 18

L: A reading from Isaiah: *“The effect of righteousness is peace and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and quiet places.”*

(People may join hands or extend their hands outward and upward for the prayers)

L: Let us pray: Sovereign God, we pray that you will bless this home and all who live here with your gracious presence, that your love may be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Jesus Christ we pray.

C: Amen.

L: Lord, remember your children and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father...

(People may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of their baptism)

L: May the Lord watch + over our going out and our coming in, from this time forth and forevermore.

C: Amen.

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320-363-4232
www.rlcstjoe.com
Address Service Requested

**Sunday Worship 8:00 am. & 10:30 am.
Wednesday Worship 6:30 pm**

Church Office Hours

Monday—Thursday:
Pastor Jennie's Email
Samantha's E-mail
Tracey's E-mail
Bob's E-mail

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Jthul@rlcstjoe.com
samantha@rlcstjoe.com
rlc@rlcstjoe.com
rlc@rlcstjoe.com

Friday: 8:00 a.m.—noon
320-363-4232
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