

RLC Genesis

July 2024 Newsletter



Just a Note...

The month of July is oftentimes filled with travel plans, weddings, picnics, and celebrations. In the world of church, it's a time for Bible camps, Vacation Bible School, and mission work opportunities. All of these are amazingly fun activities. But as we begin to enter the steamy part of summer, where 90 degree temps and higher humidity levels become more frequent, does anyone else long for the colder temps of December? Maybe a little? (By now, some of you have probably stopped reading this article in disgust!)

If you're craving cooler temps and Christmas tree lights, look no further! The Hallmark channel can pull off Christmas in July, so how about we have a little Christmas spirit this time of year as well?!

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While we may not be pulling out the huge Christmas tree or decking the halls quite yet, let's plan to come together and have a special "Christmas music"-themed service on July 21. Join us for worship that morning as we sing some of our favorite holiday hymns! And it wouldn't be Christmas in July without Christmas cookies. For fellowship that Sunday, we're asking all of you bakers to bring in a sampling of your favorite Christmas cookies to share as we carry the Christmas spirit into the fellowship hall. Check out the newsletter articles in the pages that follow for more details and for ways we can get into the Christmas spirit by supporting our local food shelf this month.

Merry Christmas in July! Hope to see you in church!
Pastor Sarah

Welcome to our New Office Manager!

If you've stopped by the church during the week or called the office, you probably noticed a familiar face or heard a familiar voice. Susan Curtis has been serving as our interim Office Manager for the past several months and has been doing a phenomenal job in the position. She has taken the initiative to learn new software programs on her own, is extremely efficient when it comes to projects, and has a deep passion and dedication to RLC and the ministry and outreach we do in the community. So...we have asked her to stay on in the role and make it official! Please join us in welcoming Susan to the RLC staff.



A huge thank you to Cheryl Hodges-Savola as well who has continued to assist with Sunday bulletin and PowerPoint preparations. Cheryl has been an instrumental partner, volunteering her time to help out even remotely from Arizona. Her dedication to RLC is also SO appreciated.



**Who said you can
only celebrate
our Lord's birth
in December!??**

**Join us on
Sunday
July 21st as
we
celebrate
Christmas
in July.**

We will be singing some of our favorite Christmas hymns during the service. Bring your gifts of food for the food shelf and place it under the tree during offering. Bake your favorite Christmas cookies and share them during fellowship time. Best of all, take time to ponder on the most amazing gift we have ever received!



St. Joseph Community Food Shelf

CHRISTMAS IN JULY FOOD DRIVE

**Bring items to the food shelf any time in July!
We are open Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00-3:00**

Join our Christmas in July food drive and help ease the burden of summer hunger. Every food donation brings happiness to those in need. Be a food hero this summer and make your contribution starting today!

18 Birch St. E.
Saint Joseph, MN
478-213-2700





WHEN:

**SUN. JULY 28TH -
AUG 1ST
6PM-8PM**

WHERE:

**RESURRECTION
LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN ST. JOE**

WHO:

**ALL CHILDREN AGE 4 -6TH
GRADE**

COST:

**\$15 PER STUDENT
\$45 FAMILY MAX**

Scan here to
register



Building Needs – Help Requested

Unexpected expenses have a way of cropping up (in homes as well as churches)! Unfortunately we've had a few significant expense-related items come up this summer related to our building. Here's a quick summary:



Recently, our commercial size refrigerator stopped working in the kitchen. After several attempts to find and repair the leak in that system, we were told it would likely be more cost-effective in the long-run to invest in a new refrigerator. The council has approved the purchase of the new appliance; however, it is estimated that this will cost \$3000-\$3500.

Sprinklers were reconfigured earlier this summer to provide water coverage in the areas that were landscaped last year so that area can continue to flourish. Generous donations covered a large portion of that project; however, a balance remained.

We are asking members to prayerfully consider donating to assist with these unbudgeted expenses. (Please indicate "building needs" with any donations.) Thank you so much for your ongoing support.



Worship Without Walls

Sunday, July 28, 2024

Our next Worship without Walls service for this season will be held on Sunday, July 28th, weather permitting!

Bring a camp or lawn chair if you can, and join us as we worship God in the beauty of our backyard (or parking lot...stay tuned for the exact location). We will also have folding chairs available if needed.

Befriender Ministry

Resurrection is a caring congregation, faithfully praying for those in need. A new program called Befriender Ministry would extend the care we provide to those in need *beyond* prayer through visits, phone calls, rides, resources, and/or meals.



Members of the congregation who wish to participate will receive training and education that will allow them to confidently provide in-home visits to those homebound, provide rides to medical appointments, and prepare meals taking into consideration any dietary restrictions.

If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact Deb Robinson at deacdebrownson@gmail.com.

Deb will also be conducting a study on the books of Acts as a companion to the Befriender Program. It will be held on Sundays after the worship service.



GAS AND FOOD CARDS

Early this fall we did an appeal to collect money to purchase food and gas scrip for those in need. We have unfortunately gone through all those cards with the need as great as ever. If you would like to help out please leave a donation with Connie at the Scrip table.
Thank you!

Bible Study



Join us for morning Bible study either in-person (Fireside Room at the church) or via Zoom on Thursdays at 9am! Together we look at and discuss the lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday. Come and share, or just come and listen. We'd love to have you join!

Fare for All July 15th 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.

Grief Group – July 2

Grief group continues to meet during the summer months. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 2, at 10am in the Fireside Room. We are currently reading through and discussing the book series "Good Grief" by Granger Westberg, and the partner devotional book by Brent Christianson.

Peoples Church Annual Mission Trip

We are planning our annual intergenerational mission trip to Peoples Church in Bemidji, MN. The dates are July 7th- 9th. You are invited to come for all three days one day or just the afternoon, what ever fits your schedule.



They are planning to build an addition this fall and then remodel the current space so are looking for help cleaning out areas in the current space as well as a nearby house that will need to be torn down to create green space. We will also be providing a free community meal while we are there.

If you would like more information or would like to attend please reach out to Susan Curtis or Angela Haynes

Flat Jesus



You are invited to color and cut out flat Jesus and take him with you on your summer adventures to the lake, playground, family get togethers, camping trips, or fun in the back yard. Take pictures with flat Jesus and email them to rlc@rlcstjoe.com and we will post them in the Friday Reflections . You can also pick up a copy of Jesus at church.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

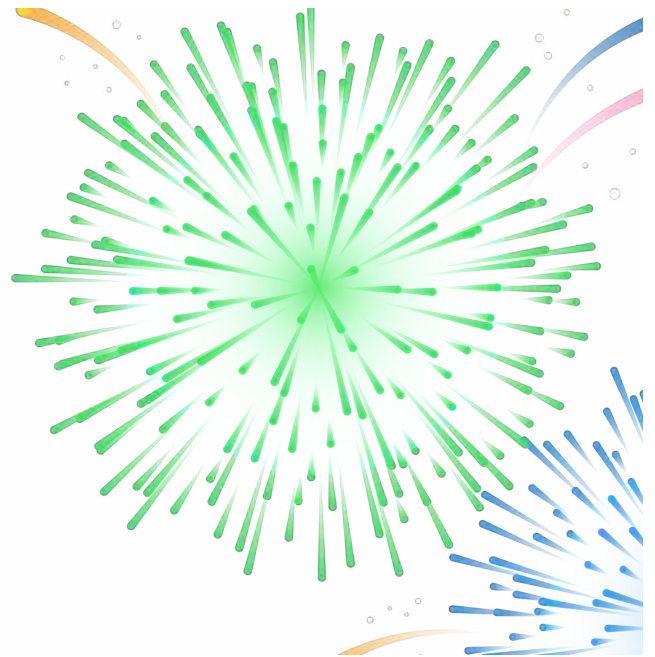
July Birthdays

Bradley	Lakeberg	07/03
Terri	Boysen	07/09
William	Krueger	07/09
Richard	Haselhorst	07/10
Melanie	Mueffelmann	07/10
Alana	Curtis-Nair	07/11
Roger	Linn	07/11
Weston	Schaefer	07/11
Henry	Skaggs	07/11
Kylie	Tate	07/12
Eloise	Westby	07/12
MacKenzie	Akkerman	07/13
Sharron	Bolin	07/13
Nancy	Holy	07/13
Arvin	Richter	07/13
Jennifer	Lage	07/16
DeAnn	Hennigs	07/18
Sarah	Lage	07/18
Gladys	Smith	07/18
Ginelle	Richter	07/19
Troy	Buchheit	07/20
Joseph	Baggenstoss	07/21
Luke	Barrow	07/23
Sam	Huston	07/25
Fiona	Welker	07/26
Joshua	Akkerman	07/30
Luke	Frame	07/30
Sophia	Welle	07/30

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

Council Highlights – June

- Pastor Sarah's vacation days approved: July 31 – Aug 2 and Aug 11 – Aug 18
- The Audit Committee met and completed their report
- Formal hire of office manager was approved
- Approved agreement with Arlington Place to be a temporary shelter site in the event of an emergency.



OFFICE HOURS

Closed on Mondays
Tues & Wed: 9am – 2pm
Thurs: 9am – noon
Closed on Fridays