

RLC Genesis

June Newsletter



Welcoming New Members on June 25!

Calling all prospective members! Are you considering making RLC your official church home? We will be welcoming new members at our worship service on June 25 and would love to have you join us in our ministry!

COME
grow
with us

If you or someone you know would be interested in joining the RLC church family (or if you have questions about the congregation or about membership), please reach out to Pastor Sarah, contact the church office, or send an email to pastorsarah@rlcstjoe.com.

Just a Note...

Summertime is officially upon us! And with the summer months comes not only the sunshine, but also what is described by many families as “room to breathe”. Without school in session, people tend to travel more, go camping and take road trips, and take time to enjoy family and the great outdoors. The sound of birds wake us up in the morning, and the smells from neighborhood barbeques linger into the evening hours. It is good to be surrounded by the sights and sounds of summer!

This time of year always makes me think about the lyrics to the hymn, “This is My Father’s World”, a hymn that has a special place in my heart because it was one of my grandpa’s favorites. Many of its words and phrases are so appropriate for this time of year:

“All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres...
the birds their carols raise...
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker’s praise...
rocks and trees...skies and seas”.

The beauty of God’s creation abounds throughout this song! The birds singing, the flowers blooming, the shining of the morning light... Like a psalm of thanksgiving, this hymn is a reminder to us that God is indeed present and working in the world around us. There are certainly times at which it can feel as if the evils of this world (or those powers that seek to control and manipulate the lives of others) are in control. And yet, as this hymn gently reminds us, “though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet”. No matter what life brings, we live with the confidence and assurance that the God who created all living things is still the One who watches over, guides, comforts, and provides for this creation and for each one of us.

To praise and worship the God who continues to create in our world, we’re going to try a little Sunday morning experiment... Join us as we try an outdoor “Worship without Walls” service on Sunday, June 25, right here on the RLC property. That Sunday, we’ll celebrate new members AND enjoy the beauty of God’s creation around us. If all goes well, maybe we can make this a once-a-month thing throughout the summer.

The next time you go for a walk or spend time in the great outdoors, think about the words of “This is My Father’s World”, and tune in to all the ways nature sings praise to God. Think about the many ways in which your life can also sing and bring praise to God’s name. And then, think about the words and actions through which you can proclaim “The Lord is king, let the heavens ring; God reigns let the earth be glad!”

God’s Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

"Worship Without Walls" Service!

WHAT: An outdoor worship service at RLC!

WHEN: Sunday, June 25, at 9am

WHERE: Right here on RLC property

Details are still in progress, so stay tuned to Friday Reflection emails for more information!



Annual Intergenerational Mission Trip – People's Church



The dates for the annual mission trip to Bemidji have been set, and we would love for you to join us. We will be going up there July 10th, 11th and 12th. Everyone is welcome to join us, come for a day or all three days. Besides doing some cleaning, fixing and organizing, we will be doing some work on their assessable shower and bathroom. We will also be holding a free garage sale and community meal. If you have any questions please reach out to Angela Haynes, Sandy Spiczka or Susan Curtis. We will have a sign up sheet on the interest table in the Narthex.

Father's Day Take N' Bake Pizza!

We want to celebrate our dads, so the Outreach Committee is going to be offering Take N' Bake breakfast and regular pizzas for Father's Day.



Orders can be placed online (<https://forms.gle/kxAzo4GLJq27hVXH9>) or at church. Order forms can be found on the Welcome Table in the Narthex. Orders must be received by the 13th of June and will be ready for pick up on the 18th. If you place your order by the 4th, we will have it ready by the 11th of June. Please let Angela Haynes, Sandy Spiczka, Alana or Susan Curtis know if you have any questions.

Thank you!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped make the annual garage sale a success. From the Outreach Team for coordinating to those who helped with setup, sales, and cleanup...your work and time was so appreciated. Thanks also to all those who donated items or came out and did a little shopping to support the cause!

Meet RLC's High School Graduates!



Matthew Eric Goebel

Rocori High School

Parents: Eric & Mary Goebel

Matthew's future plans involve joining the trades, undecided on which one at this time. Throughout high school, Matthew was involved in football and wrestling.

Olivia Marie Kompelien

Albany High School

Parents: Brad & Jessica Kompelien

This fall, Olivia plans to attend the University of North Dakota/Grand Forks, majoring in Health Sciences.

Throughout high school, she was involved in basketball, softball, student council, FFA, mock trial, and knowledge bowl.



Ryder Matthew Petersen

Holdingford High School

Parents: Matt & Laura Petersen

This fall, Ryder plans to play football at the University of Mary in Bismarck, ND, majoring in electrical engineering. Throughout high school, he was involved in football, basketball, baseball, track and field, weightlifting, band, jazz band, and leadership council.

Cade John Smallbrock

Sauk Rapids-Rice High School

Parents: Laura & Adam Tate
Curt & Brandy Smallbrock

This fall, Cade plans to attend the University of North Dakota to major in finance. Throughout high school, he was involved in the SabreStorm fishing team, golf team, and downhill ski club.



Tanner John Tomasek

Holdingford High School

Parents: Paul & Mary Tomasek

This fall, Tanner plans to attend South Dakota State University, majoring in electrical engineering. Tanner's achievements include the Student of Excellence award and AAA Award Nominee for Academics, Arts, and Athletics. Throughout high school, he was involved in National Honor Society; student council; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Business Club; leadership council; pep, jazz, and concert bands; football, basketball, baseball, and trap shooting (and was captain for his football, basketball, and baseball teams).



We celebrated this milestone achievement with our graduates on Sunday, May 21.

Let's continue to pray for God's blessings in their lives as they begin this next chapter.

Congratulations, Graduates!

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 with your child's name, age and what camp they plan to attend for more information.



Joe Town Rocks – Volunteers Needed

We need YOU!! Volunteers are needed to work at the refreshment booth for the annual JoeTown Rocks event, which will be held on Monday, July 3. We are looking for people to cover during two different shifts:

5pm – 8pm
8pm – 11pm

This is a great fundraiser and great exposure for RLC! To sign up for a shift, please reach out to the church office or sign up on the sheet in the narthex. We'll need to know your name, contact information, and t-shirt size. If you have questions, please reach out to Rich Haselhorst.

This should be a fun-filled event with opportunities for fellowship with one another and with the community (not to mention a chance to get plenty of fresh air)! Thank you in advance for your help and support!



Grief Group



Grief is a very difficult journey that ends up touching the lives of everyone at some point or another. While we all walk our own path and journey at our own pace, getting together with others and having conversations can help you know you're not alone.

RLC's next Grief Group discussion will be held on Monday, June 5, at 10am in the Fireside Room. If you've experienced the loss of a loved one, please consider joining us, whether that grief is fresh or ongoing. Come and share, or simply come to listen and support. If you have questions, please see Pastor Sarah or send her an email (pastorsarah@rlcstjoe.com).

Save the Date – Vacation Bible School 2023

Attention Families!!! Summer is starting, and so is the planning for Vacation Bible School. The dates have been set: July 30 – August 3, from 6 – 8pm. Watch the Friday Reflections and the July newsletter for further details and registration information.



Breakfast Ministry



In support of a Breakfast Ministry started by member David Dawson, the Outreach Committee is collecting scrip to help cover the cost. The Breakfast Ministry happens every Sunday and is directed at youth from the St. Cloud area who come from homes broken apart by many reasons such as divorce, imprisonment, or abandonment. If you are interested in supporting this ministry please stop at the interest table in the narthex and leave your name and donation with Connie. Thank you for your support!

Could YOU be our next Treasurer?



Do you have a finance background and a willingness to put your talents to use for a great cause? RLC could use your help! If you're willing to learn the ropes or hear more about what our Treasurer position entails, please reach out to Rich Haselhorst or Pastor Sarah for more information.

Bible Study in-person or Zoom!

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. It's a great group with good conversation, and there's no participation pressure. Come and share, or just come and listen. We'd love to have you join! To receive a copy of the Zoom link, please reach out to the church office.



Fare for All – June 5

Fare For All, a local non-profit food program created to make fresh fruits and vegetables more affordable to Central MN families, will be selling their frozen meat packs at RLC on Monday, May 8, 2023 from 3:30-5:30pm.



Fare For All sells packages of fresh produce and frozen meat with no quantity limit. With prices ranging from \$11 to \$35 per package, 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.

Fare For All has teamed with Good in the Hood to support their Shoe Away Hunger Campaign. Gently used shoes will be available for purchase for everyone. Children's shoes go for \$2.00 and adult shoes range from \$5-\$10. All proceeds go directly to the purchase of food for food shelves. Shoe donations are also welcome.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June Birthdays

Carolyn	Finley	6/1
Joan	Holtz	6/3
Steven	Johnson	6/3
Pete	Haus	6/4
Kyra	Rudnicki	6/4
Soren	Haaland	6/9
Emee	Jagielski	6/9
Koltan	Peck	6/9
Caden	Larson	6/11
Beth	Bredeson	6/12
Nora	Lyon	6/12
Reanna	Borgen	6/13
Diana	White	6/13
Kevin	Nelson	6/16
Kurt	Gunn	6/18
Grant	Mueffelman	6/19
Steven	Streng	6/19
Robert	Erickson	6/22
Michael	Lage	6/24
Tessa	Rahn	6/24
Jenna	Goebel	6/26
Sarah	Larson	6/30
Duane	Michaelson	6/30
Cameron	Schwegel	6/30
Evalyn	Stanoch	6/30

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

Council Highlights - May

*New Member Sunday will be on June 25- anyone interested in joining is encouraged to contact Pastor Sarah
pastorsarah@rlcstjoe.com

*We will need volunteers to work the refreshment booth for Joe Town Rocks on July 3rd- this is a great fundraiser and exposure for RLC! Watch for a sign up.

*Temporary Building Hours will continue through June (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00am - 12:00 pm)

*Pastor Sarah and Susan Curtis will attend the Synod Assembly on June 9 and 10

*Ben Durheim (member and CSB/SCU faculty) and Gilbert Perez (guest/SJU student) will attend worship and visit with members as part of a research project called "Social Ethics in Rural Community Study".

