

RLC Genesis

March 2024 Newsletter



Just a Note...

The warmer temperatures we've had this winter have brought on a definite desire to dive into spring cleaning! It's a lot of work, but it feels good to clean out closets, get rid of dust bunnies, and do a deep clean every now and again. Even though it may not be spring quite yet, we are in the season of Lent, which is a great time to spring clean our emotional and spiritual lives.

Sometimes we get stuck in the pace and clutter of life and get distracted from spending good quality time with God because...let's face it...distractions are EVERYWHERE! We can't avoid them. It takes dedication and practice to set aside time to be unplugged and in-tune with God. It's extremely easy to get absorbed by the technology that's all around, and it's also easy to get distracted by our schedules and wants and by the pace of the world around us.

Continued on page 2...

But, no matter how busy life gets, it's important to challenge ourselves to set aside dedicated time to be more fully aware of God's presence in our lives, to unplug and refocus, to listen for the still small voice, the whisper of God that will completely fill and transform us. We need time to be silent before our Creator. Our very souls crave it! It's then, when we focus on the silence and breathe in God's amazing presence, that we truly find ourselves...or should I say, God finds us...and we are strengthened to face whatever celebrations or challenges lie before us.

In this season of Lent, let's take time to slow down and consider all that God has done for us. Let's reconnect and strengthen our relationship with the God who was willing to sacrifice everything for our sake. Let's follow the advice of Psalm 46:10: "Be still and know that I am God". In that stillness, you will find peace and wholeness.

I encourage each of you to take a timeout from the craziness of the week to join us for midweek Lenten services, Wednesdays at 6:30pm, either in person or online. This year, we have some amazing individuals who have graciously agreed to share a piece of their faith journey with us, one each week! This is a powerful way to both worship God and to experience God's presence working in and through the RLC faith community. God is up to great things...come and see.

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Lenten Speakers

A huge thank you to each of our Lenten speakers who have agreed to share a portion of their faith journey with us this season:

Feb. 14 - Steve Streng
Feb. 21 - Joan Thralow
Feb. 28 - Gene Boysen
Mar. 6 - Gina Anderson
Mar. 13 - Jane Ford
Mar. 20 - Brett Lund

THANK
YOU!

Thank you for sharing a piece of your story with us. We've heard some powerful messages so far, with more to come! If you missed out on any of our previous speakers, tune in to watch the service on Facebook or YouTube!

Lent, Holy Week, & Easter Service Schedule

Mark your calendars, and join us for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter:



Lenten Soup Suppers/Services:

March 6

March 13

March 20

(Soup suppers at 5:30pm, worship at 6:30pm)

Palm Sunday Service: March 24 at 9am

(Pancake breakfast following worship)

Maundy Thursday Service: March 28 at 6:30pm

(Celebrating First Communion)

Good Friday Service: March 29 at 6:30pm

Easter Sunday Services: March 31

(7am Sunrise Service and 9am Celebration Service)

First Communion Class

Attention parents! This year, First Communion will again be celebrated during worship on Maundy Thursday, which falls on March 28. To help prepare for this special day, we will be holding a First Communion Class following worship on Sunday, March 17 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).



New Member Sunday



A New Member Sunday is tentatively being planned for Sunday, April 14! If you or someone you know is interested in joining RLC, please reach out to Pastor Sarah (pastorsarah@rlcstjoe.com). Thank you!

Welcome, Amy Krohn!



Resurrection welcomes our new Youth & Family Coordinator, Amy Krohn! Amy grew up in the Lutheran church and has over 10 years of experience serving congregations in youth & family ministry. Her specialty is taking big spiritual and universal truths, putting them in the juicer, adding humor (and kale), and serving up simple yet powerful stories and experiences that everyone can relate to and enjoy. Amy grew up in northern Minnesota on Lake of the Woods, which was the foundation of her love of Mother Nature. She has two grown daughters and two sons in high school. In her other work, Amy is a children's book author and coaches parents in supporting their kids' emotional well-being. Amy loves board games and riddles, reading, travel, playing sports, and swing sets.

Temporary Office Hours Continue

Our current office hours are as follows:

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



Thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding as we work to fill our Office Manager position!

March Madness: Bracket Challenge!

ELEVATE YOUR GAME...

March is MN FoodShare Month, and our confirmation class is collecting items to help support our local Food Shelf. Each week throughout the month will feature a "matchup," with two food items facing off against each other. Support the team of your choice by bringing in that item when you come for worship on Sundays or Wednesdays!



The matchup for March 1-7 is Peanut Butter vs. Jelly...
Let's see which team "scores" the most!

Wish List from the VA

During the season of Lent, the Outreach committee is going to be collecting much needed items for area Veterans. Currently the VA is requesting:

- Men's shower shoes (L and XL flip flops & sliders)
- Reader glasses (a variety of powers)
- Men's sweatpants (M, L and XL)
- Men's sweatshirts (L and XL)
- Men's underwear (L, 2XL and 3XL)
- Men's ski and snow winter gloves

Items must be new and un-opened. There will be a collection basket placed in the narthex. Please speak with Angela Haynes if you have any questions. Let's show a little love to those who have so bravely served our country.



Sunday School Rehearsals for Palm Sunday

Mark your calendars! On Sunday, March 10 and Sunday, March 17, the Sunday School kids will be having rehearsals to prepare for their special singing performance at the beginning of the Palm Sunday service on March 24. Please have your child in the sanctuary at 10:15 for these rehearsals. Thank you!

Palm Sunday READERS

Readers are needed to help fill parts for our Passion reading from Mark's Gospel on Palm Sunday, March 24. If you are interested, please either sign up on the clipboard at the church or reach out to Carol Olson (worshipandmusic@rlcstjoe.com).



Join the Youth Committee after worship on Palm Sunday, March 24, for a fundraiser breakfast! A free will offering will be accepted, with all proceeds benefitting the Youth fund for special activities, outings, and events. Thank you for your generous support of our young people!

Worship & Music

I pray your Lenten journey is leading to spiritual growth and renewed faith. We appreciate hearing the faith journey stories being shared.

I am looking for special music for Easter. If you'd like to share your singing talents with a small group because too many choir members are gone over the holiday, let me know or talk to Linda Larson. Also, if you would like to play an instrument, do a solo, share a special reading or poem, please let me know that, too.

Order forms for Easter flowers are on the welcome counter in narthex. The greenhouse requested orders by Feb. 29 for their ordering but will still accept orders after that date. Please return the order form and payment to church office or to Carolyn Finley.

Finally, because there are two services at Easter, please consider assisting in some leadership role for either one. Use Sign Up Genius or the clip sheet at church. We will also have the annual special sanctuary cleaning on March 30 (Sat. before Easter) from 10:00 until 12:00. Many hands make light work!

Submitted by Carol Olson on behalf of the, Worship & Music Committee

Easter Talent Needed!

All voices and all instruments are welcome to join the special Easter music group! The songs are #677 in WOV and Dakota Road's "To Be Alive." Two practices will be held: Tuesday, March 19 and Tuesday, March 26, from 6-6:20pm. On Easter morning, March 31, the group will warm up at 8:25am and sing at the beginning of the 9am service. Help spread the word! If you have questions, please reach out to Linda Larson or Carol Olson.



Fare for All March 11, 2024 @ 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.

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!

COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

This March, Fare For All is celebrating 10 years serving St. Joseph and we want to thank YOU!

As a special thanks to our customers, we will have a \$2 off Fare For All coupon as well as prizes to win during the sale. Simply stop by the prize table near the entrance for your chance to win!

**When: Monday, March 11
3:30 - 5:30 pm**

**Where: Resurrection Lutheran Church
610 County Road 2
St Joseph, MN 56374**

www.fareforall.org
763-450-3880

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March Birthdays

Reese	Birr	03/02
Stella	Birr	03/02
Riley	Petron	03/06
Marilyn	Haug	03/07
Tasha	Marwitz	03/07
Aria	Durheim	03/08
Mary	Gunn	03/08
Jared	Hennigs	03/08
Caleb	Schaefer	03/08
Tyler	Boulton	03/09
Marianne	Zitzewitz	03/09
Abby	Lyon	03/12
MaKayla	Olsen	03/13
Clara	Heintzelman	03/14
Connor	Petron	03/14
Tami	Seelen	03/14
Jack	Kirby	03/16
Bobbie	Loch	03/16
Jerome	Emmerich	03/17
Joel	Knopp	03/17
Kathy	Haselhorst	03/19
Marlys	Eikmeier	03/20
Sharon	Kraft	03/20
Gretta	Gunn	03/21
Frank	Holy	03/21
Quinn	Rennecke	03/21
Charles	Burnos	03/23
Nick	Curtis	03/25
Jennifer	Good	03/25
Marcia	Johnson	03/28
Martha	Schulz	03/29
Laura	Tate	03/29
Janis	Buchheit	03/30

Council Highlights - Feb.

- Jane Ford will be the new council secretary starting next month.
- Adopt-a-Highway will continue but in the fall as part of God's Work, Our Hands Sunday.
- Welcome to all our new council members and treasurer: Marlys Eikmeier, Angela Haynes, & Tami Seelen.

Concordia Concert!



The Concordia Choir will be holding a concert at Bethlehem Lutheran Church (4310 County Rd. 137 in St. Cloud) on Saturday, March 16, at 7:30pm. Tickets may be purchased online (ConcordiaTickets.com) or at the door. (Fun fact...Sara Borgen's daughter, Reanna, is performing with the choir this year!)

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

Thank you!

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