



Advent Series 2015: The Unusual Savior

November 29: Unusual Relatives

- And we thought our family tree had some stinkers! We look at the liars, thieves, killers, adulterers, prostitute in the family tree of Jesus
- Shows that God can even work through those of us who are a mess (okay, all of us)

December 6: Unusual Circumstances

- Joseph was in a most unusual circumstance
- How do we handle those unusual circumstances in our lives? Like he did-with trust and faithful obedience

December 13: Unusual Method

- God is going to use a little unknown Jewish girl? And she's a virgin?
- God can, and will, use any of us...even when we feel small and insignificant

December 20: Unusual Arrival

- A traveling couple, in a barn, in a feed trough!?!
- Proclaimed first not to kings or prophets, but to the lowly shepherds
- We need to be prepared for the coming of Christ as well, because it probably won't be as we expect either

Children's Christmas Program - see page 10

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM

A service specially for families with young children

5:30, 9:00, 11:00 PM

Candlelight Worship

Nursery is available at 4 and 5:30 PM.



Christmas Day

10:00 AM

Worship with Holy Communion

Congregation Council

Council Members

Norm Gillette, Member at Large
Sarah Hagensen, Member at Large
Dave Larkin, President
Todd Maier, Member at Large
Rich Olsen, Financial Officer
Don Schmid, Member at Large
Joel Sorensen, Secretary
Sandy Steele, Vice President
Mike Strasburg, Member at Large

Ex Officio Member

Pastor Steve Ernst, Lead Pastor

Minutes of Council meetings are available on the website and in the church library.

Staff

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The Preview

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Member Directory Changes

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Roberts, Barbara
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Pastoral Acts

Baptisms

November 1	Presley Nipper
November 15	Emma June Lindsay
November 28	John Robert Teal

Weddings

None

Memorial/Funeral

November 19	Helen Foreman
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The following students confirmed their faith on November 1:

Conner Budzeck, Daniel Miles, Nathan Mitchell, Cheyanne Posey, Kyle Prigge, Katie Schmid, Ella Sperline, Garrett Streufert, Trond Tilton, Robert Warren

From Pastor Steve

DID YOU
KNOW



DID YOU KNOW...Richland Lutheran Church is planning to take a short-term mission trip to Estonia in the summer of 2016? True, true! Mot and Pam Hedges are working with Eastern European Missions Network to put a group of folks together from RLC to run an ESL camp at Holy Jacob Church in Estonia. If you'd like more information about this trip and/or would like to go, please contact Mot and Pam.

DID YOU KNOW...Our 11:00 service praise band consists of youth from our congregation? Pastor Corey is leading the team and utilizing some of our very talented middle and high school youth. You may have seen and certainly will see Trygve Tilton, Kira Westlund, Nathan and Zeke Ernst using their gifts of music and leadership to help us worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Even if you don't regularly attend the 11:00 service, I encourage you to drop in one of these Sundays to worship with us.

DID YOU KNOW...We're turning seventy years old next year? That's right! Next year we celebrate our seventieth anniversary and we're planning a party. Under the leadership of co-chairs Lori Hogan and Adele Sorensen the planning team is already making great progress. Please keep this team in prayer and be on the lookout for more information to come.

DID YOU KNOW...We received twelve new members last month? We indeed did! Perhaps you've seen them around. There are many new faces here at RLC. Last week alone we had five first time visitors (according to the yellow slips) and every week there are more and more new folks joining us for worship. So, don't be shy, if you don't recognize someone it's most likely because they're new. Take a moment to say hello, ask their name, and welcome them to our church family.



Financial Update

As reflected in the financial summary below, the financial results have been behind budget so far this year. Our offerings are down \$(18,944) or 3.1% less than last year for the same period. Our expenses are down \$(13,108) or 2.0% less than the same time last year. For the year, our offerings are below expenses by \$(48,557) compared to \$(42,722) in 2014, a change from last year of \$(5,836). These results are reflected in the columns titled "Prior Year Comparison."

	Year to Date			Prior Year Comparison		
	Actuals	Budget	Variance	YTD '15	YTD '14	Variance
Offering / Income	\$ 590,460	\$ 649,320	\$ (58,860)	\$ 590,460	\$ 609,404	\$ (18,944)
Expense	<u>\$(639,018)</u>	<u>\$(702,521)</u>	<u>\$ (63,503)</u>	<u>\$(639,018)</u>	<u>\$(652,126)</u>	<u>\$ (13,108)</u>
Profit / (Loss)	<u>\$ (48,557)</u>	<u>\$ (53,201)</u>	<u>\$ (4,644)</u>	<u>\$ (48,557)</u>	<u>\$ (42,722)</u>	<u>\$ (5,836)</u>

For the year, actual offerings are below budget by \$(58,860) and actual expenses are under budget by \$(63,503). The decrease in expense is primarily due to underruns in salaries and benefits.

If you have any questions regarding this financial summary, please contact Lisa Wiegand or me.

In His Service,
Rich Olsen

Women's Advent Celebration



Join us for the 2015 Women's Advent Celebration on Friday, December 4, at 7:00 PM in the Prince of Peace fellowship area with special guest Alice Jiao.

Tickets are \$10 and must be pre-purchased before November 29.

The Best Gift of All

For more information, contact Shirley Fast.

From the Council

The season of Advent is upon us once again. This is a season of preparation and celebration – a busy season. As is the case for many people in our busy society, myself included, this time of year is filled with preparations for the holiday – shopping, cleaning, baking, decorating, preparing for company, and the list goes on and on. Through this busy time it's easy to lose our focus on the true meaning of this holiday season - the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As I continue forward on my journey with Christ, I sometimes look back on those Christmases past when Christ wasn't as much a part of my life as He is now. I realize what was missing – HOPE. Christ is "**HOPE.**" Christmas is a reminder (a renewal) of "hope" as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ who came into our world to bring us salvation and, more importantly, eternal life with Him.

So as we enter into this season of Christmas, and all Christmases to come, my hope and prayer for all of you is that you take time away from your busyness to be still in God's presence, let the Holy Spirit enter your hearts, and ponder the true meaning of this glorious season – God's gift to the world, His one and only Son.

John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

As we journey into yet another new year, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing RLC Council members for their years of service on Council – Dave Larkin (President), Rich Olsen (Finance Advisor), and Don Schmid (Member at Large). It's been a true joy and pleasure serving alongside these individuals. And, as they go forward, I know that God has further plans for them and will use them well. A huge and warm welcome goes out to our newly elected members - Bob Thompson (President), Rick Snyder (Finance Advisor), and Janet Budzeck (Member at Large). Thank you for answering God's call to serve on RLC's Council as we all look forward to a joyful and rewarding new year ahead.

2 Corinthians 5:17 - "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

Sandy Steele, Vice President

2015 Giving Tree

This year's annual giving tree for the Union Gospel Mission was lit on November 14. A big thanks goes to Wallapa and Wally Hendrickson who usually attend the 8:30 Sunday service. Wallapa made the origami fish which adorn the giving tree this year.

For new members or visitors who might not know, the Union Gospel Mission is one of the long standing mission projects close to the heart of many RLC members. In addition to the yearly giving tree focused on providing warmth for the winter season, our members also volunteer in other ways. Some volunteer weekly at the mission, a number of us share an evening service the fourth Sunday of each month, and throughout the year there is a big plastic tub back by the choir room to collect goods.

As in the past, tags with suggestions for giving will be on the tree for you to take. Please remember that you do not need a tag, you do not need to wrap the gift, and any practical gift is welcome. Because there are many more men at the Mission than women, the emphasis is always on men's gifts which provide warmth such as long underwear, gloves, hats, socks. However, sometimes women and children are living at the Mission and the Mission gives out clothing to the community weekly. Suggestions for giving for the women and children include undergarments, hand soaps, lotions, deodorants, shampoos, etc., and children's shoes.

Sandy Steele and Betty Quinn will take the gifts to the Mission weekly. Contact: Betty Quinn at 967-5216 or Kelly at RLC at 943-3164.



President's Perspectives - A Vision of Our Future

As my term ends this month I am writing my last PREVIEW article as your President. There are many things I could write about but mostly I want to leave you with my vision of what Richland Lutheran Church could be like in 2025, just ten years from now.

New Facilities - I see new facilities that have replaced our current buildings south of the sanctuary. The new main entrance off of Stevens has provided our church with significantly more interest and appeal to those who pass by it each week. The parking lot has been expanded to provide adequate parking off the streets and provide designated parking spots just for visitors. Transportation is provided from all of the Richland Retirement homes to our church by our minibus each Sunday morning.

Loving God – Our first priority is loving God; the greatest commandment. The worship services have become known throughout our community for the joy and heartfelt worship of God felt by those participating. Worship and praise of God is the paramount theme of each service. The music in all its variety is known for its excellence with traditional choirs, praise teams, children's choirs, bell choirs, and instrumental specials. The sermons each Sunday leave listeners wanting to meet God's expectations for us and challenge us to respond specifically with some particular action to better obey God that week.

Our desire to be spiritually transformed is seen by the content and attendance at Sunday School classes, Bible studies, seminars, and small groups centered on promoting spiritual transformation. We are known as a church that prays.

Making Disciples - Our congregation has changed in both size and makeup. Gone is the old homogeneity. Our congregation is multi-generational and multi-racial. A separate Spanish language service is held each week as we integrate with the changing population of our community. Our average attendance has grown with the growth of our city and is now over 500 each week.

Sharing the Good News has become a priority with our congregation. Members have become more engaged in secular organizations and their neighborhoods to have more contact and opportunity to know non-Christians. We have two Alpha courses underway where non-Christians who are curious about Christianity can learn about it and express their own thoughts and doubts in a nonthreatening, accepting atmosphere.

All of our members are expected to be in service for God. An expectation of no less than four hours per week has been established and the results are apparent as we have moved to a dependence on lay people for ministry. As new people come into our church they are engaged in becoming disciples through Bible study, small spiritual transformation groups, and training classes for ministry.

Loving Our Neighbors - A large number of younger families have been joining the church as a result of our emphasis on their needs. Pre-school program using the expanded church facilities have provided neighborhood families with a convenient and affordable place for their children to be while parents are still at work. We continue as strong supporters of Boy Scout troops in our facilities. Weekly programs such as AWANA encourage children to memorize scripture giving them a foundation that will last a lifetime. Houses south of our current property have been recently purchased, removed, and the lots turned into soccer and football fields that support our thriving sports outreach programs to young families. Our sports emphasize sportsmanship and building character rather than skills or winning.

We have a thriving ministry for the elderly featuring opportunities for ministry and service that fit their gifts and physical limitations. They are our prayer warriors lifting every ministry in prayer. They give of their time each week to help others in ministry. The congregation supports them through visitations to shut-ins, help with physically demanding maintenance or chores, and providing transportation. Monthly bus tours are provided as well as opportunities for social interaction through meals or special events.

Continued on page 7

President's Perspectives, Continued

Our love for others has been noted by the community where we have become known for our ministries for the poor, immigrants, and the oppressed. Our members are involved in seeking changes in our laws and institutions to provide assistance and justice for those in need. We run an expanded food pantry, provide short-term housing and assistance for immigrants in adjusting to our community, and support programs for the mentally ill. Where it is not efficient to provide our own programs we partner with other churches and Christian organizations to meet needs in our community and around the world.

Closing Words - It has been an honor to serve you as your President these past two years and I encourage you to pray for and support your new President, Bob Thompson. Pray each day for your pastors, staff, Council, and members with needs. And never forget to love God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself.

Dave Larkin – Congregation President

Third Quarter Benevolence and Thank You Notes

Local Ministries – 25% = \$19,025

Ignite Youth Mentoring	\$1,500
Second Harvest	\$2,500
New Hope Farms	\$1,275
Jubilee Boys Ranch	\$ 750
Fields of Grace	\$1,000
Grace Clinic	\$1,000
Tri-Cities Chaplaincy	\$1,500
Tri-Cities Chaplaincy – Cork's Place	\$1,000
Union Gospel Mission	\$2,000
Habitat for Humanity	\$2,000
Heart for the Fatherless	\$ 750
Tri-City Pregnancy Network	\$1,000
Samaritan's Purse – Penley Fund	\$1,750
SIGN Fracture Care	\$1,000

Dear Congregation,

Thank you for your generous donation to **The Walk With Christ**. Your gift has come at a time when we have been trusting the Lord to help meet the current financial needs of The Walk. Please be assured that your donation will be used in furthering Christ's work in Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho and Northeast Oregon.

God bless,
Arrah Lee Wilson, Treasurer

Dear Richland Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your contribution to **Real Resources Foundation designated for the YouthWorks Crow Reservation site**. Your support helps us provide life-changing, Christ-centered mission trips for teenagers and better support the communities where we serve.

Thank you for joining us in our desire to challenge teenagers and love communities through respectful service and incredible partnerships.

We are grateful for your support!
Partnering in Service, Mara Amiot, Executive Director YouthWorks

More on page 15

December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue
<p>The Richland Lutheran Church calendar changes daily!</p> <p>Please call the church office, 943-3164, or check the website, www.richlandlutheran.org, for the most current information. Please note that not all activities, especially Growth Group meetings and Circles, are actually held at the church.</p>		<p>1</p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM New Members Team 6:30 PM 70th Anniversary Team 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Facility Building Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>
<p>6</p> <p>8:30 AM Worship 9:00 AM Good News Today 9:45 AM HeBrews Café/Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 4:00 PM Children's Christmas Program 5:30 PM High School Discipleship Team 6:30 PM Coffeehouse 7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Bible Study Group</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 AM Cashiers 9:00 AM Play Date 12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast at Denny's 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Facility Building Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Congregation Council</p>
<p>13</p> <p>8:30 AM Worship 9:00 AM Good News Today 9:45 AM HeBrews Café/Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 5:30 PM High School Discipleship Team 6:30 PM Coffeehouse 7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Bible Study Group</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 AM Cashiers 9:00 AM Play Date 12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Preview Deadline for January Articles 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Facility Building Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>
<p>20</p> <p>8:30 AM Worship 9:00 AM Good News Today 9:45 AM HeBrews Café/Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 5:30 PM High School Discipleship Team 6:30 PM Coffeehouse 7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Bible Study Group</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00 AM Cashiers 9:00 AM Play Date 12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Facility Building Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>
<p>27</p> <p>8:30 AM Worship 9:00 AM Good News Today 9:45 AM HeBrews Café/Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 5:30 PM High School Discipleship Team 6:30 PM Coffeehouse 7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Bible Study Group 7:30 PM Union Gospel Mission Service</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00 AM Cashiers 9:00 AM Play Date 12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study 1:30 PM Dorcas Circle Bible Study 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Facility Building Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>

December 2015

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2</p> <p>9:00 AM Sewing Bee 1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study 2:30 PM Knitting Group 5:30 PM Children's Choir, Praise Band Rehearsal 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Family Focus Bible Study, SuperKids!, WILD! 6:45 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting 12:00 PM Women's Advent Event Setup</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting 7:00 PM Women's Advent Event</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00 AM Children's Program Rehearsal 4:30 PM Mafraq/EEMN Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:00 AM Sewing Bee 12:00 PM Sewing Bee Luncheon 1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study 2:30 PM Knitting Group 5:30 PM Children's Choir, Praise Band Rehearsal 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Family Focus Bible Study, SuperKids!, WILD! 6:30 PM RLC Foundation 6:45 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>4:30 PM Mafraq/EEMN Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:00 AM Sewing Bee 1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study 2:30 PM Knitting Group 5:30 PM Children's Choir, Praise Band Rehearsal 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Family Focus Bible Study, SuperKids!, WILD! 6:45 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting 1:00 PM Piece-Makers</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 9:30 AM Hannah Circle Bible Study 6:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 4:30 PM Mafraq/EEMN Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:00 AM Sewing Bee 1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study 2:30 PM Knitting Group 5:30 PM Children's Choir, Praise Band Rehearsal 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Family Focus Bible Study, SuperKids!, WILD! 6:45 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve Office Closed</p> <p>4:00 PM Worship 5:30 PM Worship 9:00 PM Worship 11:00 PM Worship</p>		<p>26</p> <p>4:30 PM Mafraq/EEMN Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9:00 AM Sewing Bee 1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study 2:30 PM Knitting Group 5:30 PM Children's Choir, Praise Band Rehearsal 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Family Focus Bible Study, SuperKids!, WILD! 6:45 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting</p>		

Activities for Kids



SUPER KIDS DECEMBER 2015

- Dec. 2 - Trust God's Promises!
- Dec. 9 - We Need Jesus!
- Dec. 16 - Celebrate Jesus! (Christmas Party, too!)
- Dec. 23 - No Super Kids - Christmas break
- Dec. 30 - No Super Kids - Christmas break

Admiral Awesome and his sidekick, Chaddar the Chipmunk, are exploring the biblical truth of Emmanuel, God with us, this month as we prepare our hearts for Christmas!

Super Kids! is a Wednesday night ministry for children in 1st through 5th grade. Friends are always welcome to join us, and newcomers can jump in at any time! We meet from 6:30 to 7:45, immediately following the family dinner at 6:00 PM, in the Prince of Peace fellowship area. Worship and prayer, Bible lessons, scripture memorization, games, crafts, journaling and lots of fun happen each week!

For more information, please contact Jenny Page (jenny.page@richlandlutheran.org).

December Operation Christmas Child request:

Praise and prayer!

This month, we encourage you to give praise to the Lord for equipping us to pack **571 boxes!** Watch for announcements about where the RLC boxes were distributed!

Thank you for your ongoing support of this ministry that tangibly expresses our love of Christ through a simple box of gifts. This month, we ask that you pray for the recipients of the boxes, that they will be drawn into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

For more information contact Jenny Page (jenny.page@richlandlutheran.org)



The Children's Sunday School Christmas Program is DECEMBER 6!

ELEMENTARY REHEARSAL is Saturday, December 5 from 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM in the sanctuary. We will be picking out costumes during this time. (Preschoolers will have their rehearsal in the sanctuary during Sunday School on Dec. 6).

Program is Sunday, December 6. Kids should report to their classrooms at 3:30 for costuming. Program starts at 4:00 PM.

Parents, please bring 1-2 dozen cookies to share at the reception immediately following the program on Sunday afternoon.



A Christmas Reading

Youth Activities



All middle school students are encouraged to attend this mid-week ministry.

Each week, we spend time together having fun and learning God's Word. WILD! plays a vital role in RLC's youth ministry by partnering with the middle school Sunday School class and confirmation retreats to help kids grow their relationships with each other and more importantly, with Jesus Christ.

Dec. 2 - Leader Hunt - Meet at the church at 6:30 sharp!

Dec. 9 - Winter WILD Olympics & Reindeer Games

Dec. 16 - WILD Christmas Party! Bring a "white elephant" gift to exchange (less than \$5)

Dec. 23 - No WILD - Christmas break

Dec. 30 - No WILD - Christmas break

Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 PM

(immediately following the family dinner at 6:00) Meet in the Gloria Dei room
Friends are always welcome to attend!

For more information, contact Ellie Page (554-8826)

Sundays at 6:30 PM in the High School Room

Coffeehouse is our weekly gathering for high school students. We spend time worshiping, playing, laughing, discussing, learning, praying...among other things! Friends are always welcome! Join us each Sunday as we grow together in our relationship with each other, and more importantly, with Jesus.



Dec. 6 - Union Gospel Mission— Bring some \$\$ to help buy stuff to take to the mission.

Dec. 13 - Hanukkah

Dec. 20 - Christmas Party—bring a "white elephant" gift to exchange (\$5 or less) and a snack to share!

Dec. 27 - No Coffeehouse - Christmas break

High School Discipleship Team!

We meet at 5:30 pm on Sunday nights. If you are interested in learning more about being a Christian leader, and want opportunities to disciple others through various activities and events, please join us!

For more info, contact Jon Page, 521-2946.

Recognizing Our Volunteers



It takes many hands to make things happen at RLC, and we appreciate all of our volunteers!

After many years of scheduling acolytes, Dawn Salyer has decided to retire. We thank Dawn and appreciate her service in this area!

However, we are now looking for someone fulfill her role. Joanne sends out the calendars and the final schedules, but we are looking for someone willing to take the marked-up calendars and schedule the acolytes. If you are willing to do this, please contact Joanne Woehle at the church office, 943-3164, or email at joanne.woehle@richlandlutheran.org.

Women's Book Club

The women's book club is taking December off. We will meet Thursday, January 21, to discuss "The Cost of Discipleship" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Please join us for this book, several books, or all books.

Contact: joanne.woehle@richlandlutheran.org or 943-3164



From the Prayer Ministry Team

If I may borrow Pastor Steve's column introduction used for The Preview, *Did you know . . .* that you should pray for your pastors *after* a service or event? "Just following a time of ministry, pastors often feel discouragement, depression, a sense of failure, and a desire to quit the ministry. Please do not stop praying for your pastors after the weekend service. Sunday afternoon and Mondays are often difficult times in the homes of pastors. There is a joke that the pastor resigns every Monday morning, but this really is no joking matter. It is the retaliation of the enemy." (Taken from Cheryl Sacks' book, *The Prayer Saturated Church*.)

"Without the supernatural power of God released through a praying congregation, pastors and churches often never reach their potential in God. However, when they are prayed for, they are equipped to carry out God's plans." Our pastors need Personal Intercessory Teams - a PIT crew! Would you commit to pray daily? Would you commit to come in early to pray for your pastors before services?

Please contact your pastors to let them know how you will support them in prayer. You can email them at:
Pastor Steve - pastor.steve@richlandlutheran.org
Pastor Corey - pastor.corey@richlandlutheran.org

New Members Annual Event

Saturday, January 23, 2016, 6:00 PM

The New Members' Ministry Team invites you to come and celebrate those individuals who joined our membership this year. This will be a potluck event and will be a great opportunity for you to meet our newest members and give them a warm welcome to RLC's family. Be sure to mark the date and time on your calendars so you won't miss it. And, stay tuned. More information will be coming your way in the near future.

2016 Short-Term Mission Trip to Estonia

Dear Friends in Christ, have you been prayerfully listening to our Lord regarding a call to serve on a short-term mission trip to Estonia? East European Mission Network (EEMN) will be holding an English Camp on Saaremaa Island, Estonia in early August 2016. Good Shepherd started supporting Holy Jakob Church in 1993 and RLC has continued to support this church. Going on a short-term mission trip is a wonderful opportunity to fulfill Jesus' last command and make personal connections with these people. We have been truly blessed from our previous trips and look forward to returning. Having several people from RLC on the team would allow us to prepare together and do fundraising to help cover the cost of the trip.

Travel dates will be August 3 – 15, 2016. Cost will be \$1300 + airfare. For additional information please go to www.eemn.org or contact Mot and Pam Hedges (946-8692). While the website has the deadline for turning in applications for the Estonia trip as March 15, 2016, historically the Estonian trip has filled up by January.

From the Sewing Bee

THANK YOU to all who purchased items at the GNMM Arts and Craft Fair. The Sewing Bee section made \$1,038 in support of our TV ministry.

We also have donated the following to local agencies for those in need: **Large Quilts:** Red Cross (7), Veterans (3), Gospel Mission (4), World Relief (6); **Lap Robes:** Cancer Center (3), Red Cross (6 - for use with children), Richland Life Care (6); **Baby Quilts:** Safe Harbor (7).

We welcome donations of cotton and cotton blend fabrics to be used in the making of our quilts and lap robes. If you are interested in joining us on Wednesday mornings from 9 to noon, please contact Lois Harrold at 946-0923. We have a really great time serving our Lord in this special way.



Operation Christmas Child 2015



Thanks to all who donated gifts, money and time!! We packed 571 boxes to ship off to children around the world! Miss Tri-Cities, Stefanie Maier, joined us for the evening and we all had a great time packing boxes, writing notes and praying for the children who will receive our gifts.



Benevolence Thank You Notes

Dear Friends of Camp,
Thank you for your recent financial gift to **Lutherhaven Ministries!**

Although we haven't met yet, I'm sure that we have a lot in common. For instance:

- We love Camp Lutherhaven and Shoshone Mountain Retreat.
- We believe that Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life.
- We support the Mission of Lutherhaven Ministries to plant the seeds of faith in Jesus Christ in the lives of children and adults, and encourage them to grow in their faith in Him.

The return on the investment that you and I have in the ministries of Lutherhaven is eternal. After 70 years of ministry and countless kids and adults being inspired by the beauty of God's Creation and the truth of God's Word, I can assure you that the Staff and Board of Directors of Lutherhaven Ministries are more committed than ever to continue this legacy of good stewardship and nurturing Christian faith.

Your partnership with Lutherhaven Ministries is very important to us. Thank you not only for your financial support, but also for your encouragement, your volunteering, and your prayers for the dynamic ministries of Lutherhaven. Your investment is ETERNAL.

May God bless you and may God continue to bless the work of Lutherhaven Ministries.

Your friend in Christ, Larry E. Comer, Acting Board Chairman

Dear Richland Lutheran Church,
Thank you so very much for your recent donation to our ministry. What an absolute blessing and we are so appreciative and thankful! We just finished our annual ONE Conference and hope that many were better equipped, gained more understanding of orphan care and left more sensitive to the Spirit of God.

God Bless you, **Heart for the Fatherless**

Dear Richland Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your generous contribution to **Convoy of Hope Tri-Cities**, held August 22, 2015 at Columbia Park.

Thanks to your gracious generosity, and others like you, together with more than 1,200 volunteers from 45 church and 60 business and community organizations, we were able to help 5,800 individuals. Guests were provided with free groceries, school supplies and backpacks, shoes, health and dental screening, haircuts, family portraits, hot meals, job-placement assistance, prayer for those who desired it and so much more!

Together, we provided Hope!

Your investment in the lives of the under-served in our community is a tremendous encouragement to those who were served on the day as well as to me. We are already looking forward to Convoy of Hope Tri-Cities in 2016.

Thank you again for your generosity and investment in people's lives and our Tri-Cities community.
Sincerely, Brian Stark, Pastor of Community and Outreach South Hills Church

Dear Friends,
Thank you for your recent gift to **Samaritan's Purse**. It has been credited to the approved project account for Dr. and Mrs. Michael Penley.

God has called us to help people in desperate circumstances all over the world, including our neighbors here in the United States. Most recently, our volunteers removed mud and debris and brought the hope of Jesus Christ to South Carolina flood victims whose homes were damaged after Hurricane Joaquin.

The apostle Paul encouraged believers to be like-minded, serving their neighbors with a spirit of compassion and humility. We are grateful for your generosity that enables us to share Christ's love to meet practical needs - wherever a crisis occurs. *"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another"* (John 13:35).

Thank you for your prayers and support. May God bless you.
Sincerely, Franklin Graham

Worship Support

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Sunday December 6</i>	<i>Sunday December 13</i>	<i>Sunday December 20</i>	<i>Sunday December 27</i>
<i>Lectors</i>	8:30 AM	Norm Gillette	Kathy Killand	Jim Peterson	Norm Gillette
	11:00 AM	Karen Clark	Susan Schmieman	Sue Meek	*****
<i>Acolytes</i>	8:30 AM	Madeline Pilger Adam Pilger	Blake Vopalensky Trey Wiegand	Aiden Lesser Anna Lesser	Kayla Peterson Carlyle Keyes
	11:00 AM	Joey Weissenfels Kenny You	Kyle Prigge Kaleb Prigge	Conner Budzeck Nathan Mitchell	Jason Schroeder Nathan Mitchell
<i>Ushers</i>	8:30 AM	H-Gary Weible Jon Erlandson A-Darrell Miles Mac Dixson	H-Larry Corning Fred Kremmer A-Chuck McCargar Sue McCargar	H-Harold Hogue Dave Larkin A-Gary Weible Mac Dixson	H-Larry Corning Darrell Miles A-Jim Peterson Fred Kremmer
	11:00 AM	H-Carol Hexum Alan Hagensen A-Alyce Thompson *****	H-Kathy Snyder Rick Snyder A-Janet Budzeck Rick Budzeck	H-Janet Budzeck Rick Budzeck A-Mike Strasburg Charles Rogers	H-Darrell Miles Alyce Thompson A-
<i>Assisting Ministers</i>	8:30 AM	*****	Sue Meek	Val Silva	Jim Worgull
	11:00 AM	Mary Armatis	Sandi Edgemon	Kelly Westlund	Len Ross
<i>Communion Assistants</i>	8:30 AM	Kathy Killand Erlan Leitz Jan Leitz	Clarine Watkins Norm Gillette Sara Gillette	Sue Meek Waner Blyckert Elaine Davis	Clarine Watkins Jeff Pilger Charles Davis
	11:00 AM	Mike Bettinson Valerie Bettinson Bill Peterson *****	Jason Prigge Heidi Dagle Bill Peterson Kelly Westlund	Kathy Umbarger Jenny Page Jon Page Ginnette Ernst	Karen Clark Kelly Westlund Ginnette Ernst Val Silva
<i>Setup/Cleanup Communion</i>	Saturday 5:00 PM	Jim Worgull Sue Worgull	Nancy Ballard	Joanne Woehle	Susie Nunamaker Rick Nunamaker
<i>Cleanup/ Setup Communion</i>	Sunday After 8:30 AM	Carol Schmid	Lois Harrold Karin Nickola	Pamela Warren Joy Stuenkel	Dan Jordheim Vicki Jordheim
<i>Clean Up Com- munion</i>	After 11:00 AM	Mike Schroeder MaryJo Schroeder	Kelly Westlund	Jim Loss Jean Loss	Rick Nunamaker Susie Nunamaker
<i>Church Friends</i>	8:30 AM	Lois Harrold	Jim Worgull Sue Worgull	Carol Schmid	Debbie Honeyman
	11:00 AM	Ann Brandes Dave Brandes	Kelly Westlund	LaVonne Scully	Julie Bishop
<i>Children's Church Leaders</i>	8:30 AM	John Huebner	Michelle Clary? Andy Clary?	Lori Lachut Holly Slatter	Melissa Schmid Kjerstyn Jordheim
	11:00 AM	Pam Hedges	Julie Bishop	Jana Strasburg	Trina Miles

Worship Support

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Sunday December 6</i>	<i>Sunday December 13</i>	<i>Sunday December 20</i>	<i>Sunday December 27</i>
<i>Producer/ Audio Mix</i>	8:30 AM	Andrew Clark	Larry Haler	Andrew Clark	Bob Thompson (11:00)
<i>Tech Direc- tor/Live Stream Coordinator</i>	8:30 AM	Mike Schwartz	Mike Schwartz	Brian Killand	Jim Moran (11:00)
<i>Cameras</i>	8:30 AM	#1-Ryan Warren #2- Fred Kremmer	#1-Ken Meek #2-Don Schmid	#1-Robert Warren #2-Daniel Miles	#1-Mark Underwood #2-Woody Page (11:00)
<i>Editor/ Post Production</i>		Karen Rogers	Mike Bettinson	Bob Thompson	Karen Rogers
<i>Sound System Operators</i>	8:30 AM	Larry Corning	Paul Hedges	Larry Corning	Paul Hedges
	11:00 AM	Jeff Dagle	Jeff Dagle	Tammy Carswell	Tammy Carswell
<i>Coffee Preparation and Cleanup</i>	8:30 AM	Sandy Steele			
	11:00 AM				
<i>Offering Custodians</i>	Sat. 5:00		Rob Barr		
	8:30 AM	Schwartz Weible	Larry Harrold Harold Hogue	Fred Kremmer Jim Peterson	Jon Erlandson Lois Harrold
	11:00 AM	Rich Barchet Bettinson	Rick Budzeck Alan Hagensen	Jana Strasburg Rick Snyder	Rick Snyder Rich Barchet
<i>Sat. Evening Worship Support</i>	5:00 PM	Rob Barr Kathy Barr	Ann Brandes Dave Brandes	Jim Perham Lisa Frislie	Diane Bonin Chris Bonin Joe Soldat Kathy Barr
<i>Cashiers</i>		Nancy Ballard Marge Hogue	Judy Riggers Doris Barchet	Kathy Snyder Debbie Honeyman	Kathy Snyder Janet Budzeck Judy Riggers
<i>Recycle</i>		Karen Schwartz	Susan Schmieman	Karen Clark	John Lesser
<i>Flowers</i>		Julie & Jim Gearheard	Barb Westlund	Virginia Glasford	

Please check over the schedule carefully. If you cannot serve when you are scheduled, please trade with someone or find a substitute for yourself and let the church office know.

**** indicates an available service opportunity. If you can fill in, please let the church office know.

Worship Support - Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Thursday, December 24</i>	<i>Christmas Day Friday, December 25 10:00 AM</i>
<i>Lectors</i>	4:00 PM 5:30 PM 9:00 PM 11:00 PM.	Len Ross Jim Salaba Laura Stevens Jeff Dagle	Dolores Jaech
<i>Communion Assistants</i>		No communion	Val Silva Charles and Elaine Davis
<i>Acolytes</i>	<u>4:00 PM</u> Crucifer Torch Bearers Acolytes <u>5:30 PM</u> Crucifer Torch Bearers Acolytes <u>9:00 PM</u> Crucifer Torch Bearers Acolytes <u>11:00 PM</u> Crucifer Torch Bearers Acolytes	Josh Mars Spencer Hoffner/Jennifer Williams Shayla Carter/Blake Vopalensky Daniel Miles Andrew Miles/Colby Riensche Matthew Smith/Joey Weissenfels Ella Sperline Mason Ciolli/Nathan Ernst Sophia Fetrow/Kjerstyn Jordheim Nathan Salyer Woody Page/***** *****/Aaron Cole	Garrett Streufert Shayla Carter Christmas Communion Setup/Cleanup Carl and Judy Schroeder
<i>Ushers</i>	4:00 PM 5:30 PM 9:00 PM 11:00 PM	H-Chuck McCargar Sue McCargar A-Jenifer Haler Larry Haler H-Jim Peterson Fred Kremmer A-Gary Weible Jon Erlandson H-Kathy Snyder Rick Snyder A_***** ***** H-Boy Scouts Boy Scouts A-Boy Scouts Boy Scouts	Gary Weible
<i>Church Friends</i>	4:00 PM 5:30 PM 9:00 PM 11:00 PM	***** Lois Harrold Norm and Sara Gillette Kelly Westlund	
<i>Sound System Operators</i>	4:00 PM 5:30 PM 9:00 PM 11:00 PM	Larry Corning? Tammy Carswell Paul Hedges? Jeff Dagle	Paul Hedges
<i>Offering Custodians</i>	4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 9:00 p.m. 11:00 p.m.	Fred Kremmer/Alan Hagensen Jon Erlandson/Harrold *****/***** Budzeck/Schwartz	Weible/Snyder

Anniversaries & Birthdays

ANNIVERSARIES

December 2
Alesia & Bruce Chaney

December 5
Margaret & Dick Arnst

December 6
Sharon & James Fulton

December 8
Lila & Bert Andor

December 13
Cherie & Charles Hellier

December 14
Jennifer & Jon Page

December 16
Leah & Corey Smith

December 20
Shirley & Jim Fast
Traci & Jim Moran

December 22
Darlene & Dennis Mahlum

December 23
Ann & David Brandes

December 26
Kerry & Jay Petty
Shane & Janelle Thorson

December 27
Janet & Christer Jansson

December 31
Diane & Jim Fleener

BIRTHDAYS

December 1
Zeke Ernst
Karen Filipy
Mike Striefel

December 2
Janet Budzeck
Patti Miller

December 3
Evan Bratvold
Norm Lippert
Paul Vopalensky

December 4
Kjerstyn Jordheim

December 5
Andrew Miles
Kendra Prothero

December 6
Tyler Salyer
Joy Stuenkel

December 7
Nathan Mitchell
Debbie Stankovich

December 8
Ethyl Somerville

December 10
Janice Fulton

December 11
Melissa Bratvold
Laurel Palmblad
Hal Stivers

December 12
Rick Nunamaker

December 13
Nikki Arnzen
Nathan Ernst
Carlyle Keyes

December 14
John Hooks
Kathy Hooks
Carole Siefken
Richard Siefken
Drew Snyder
Spinato, Summer

December 15
Sharon Koehling
Joel Sorensen

December 17
Aiden Lesser
Cody McCargar

December 18
Barbara Edwards
Andrew Meek

December 19
Jeremy Bender
Dawn Finger
Sande Tackett
Kelly Westlund

December 20
Bill Bishop
Alexa Bond
Madelyn Palmblad
Stacey Gunderson

December 22
Eleanora Bishop
Anita Schmidt

December 23
Marianne Kane
Jay Petty
Karen Williams

December 25
Cheri Thomas

December 26
Isaac Destito
Ann Ledezma
Joan Lund
Julianna Monroe
Jacob Van Sant
Maya Wunschel

December 27
Carolyn Phaneuf
Frances Sleater

December 28
Rhett Levin
Marilyn Schumacher
Gerald Whitney

December 29
Vicki Glasford
Brian Killand
Logan Riensche

December 30
Ellie Hoffner
LeAnn Purtzer
Kristin Isakson VanSant
Jeff Ziemer





Richland Lutheran Church, LCMC
901 Van Giesen
Richland, WA 99354

MONTHLY PUBLICATION

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Worship Schedule

Traditional Worship with Holy Communion

Sundays at 8:30 AM

Worship with Holy Communion

Sundays at 11:00 AM

Worship with Holy Communion

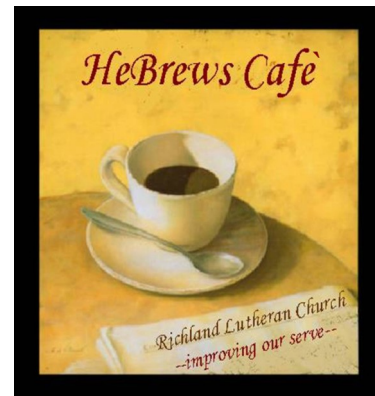
Saturdays at 5:00 PM

*And when circumstances beyond your control prevent
you from coming to church . . .*

Good News Today

Aired Sunday mornings on
KVEW 42 and KAPP 35 at 9:00 AM

***Audio files of sermons are available on the website:
www.richland-lutheran.org***



***Come to HeBrews Café Sunday mornings,
between 9:45 AM and 10:45 AM***

***It's where Richland Lutheran Church members are re-
freshed, rejuvenated, and renewed for work in the
Kingdom!***

***There are still some Sundays available for serving.
Sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex.***

Equipping. Empowering. Encouraging.

We are a congregation of Christ followers who are making Jesus Christ known to all people and advancing His Kingdom.