



# THE PREVIEW

DECEMBER 2019

## Christmas 2019 at RLC



Join us for a special sermon mini-series during advent

Advent is a season of hope and expectation as we not only prepare to celebrate the coming of the Christ in Bethlehem, but also the return of our triumphant King. This year we are celebrating Immanuel, God With Us on each Sunday leading up to Christmas. Here is the schedule...

**December 1:** Immanuel, God With Us-**Faith**. We will look back at the ancient prophecies fulfilled in His first coming, and we'll forward in faith to the promises yet to come.

**December 8:** Immanuel, God With Us-**Hope**. We will look back at the hope of the Jewish people for the anticipated Messiah, and we'll look ahead to the certain hope of the Church to His return and eternity.

**December 15:** Immanuel, God With Us-**Love**. We love because He first loved us. Taking in the greatest act of love in history with the coming of Christ, how then should we love?

**December 22: Christmas Cantata.**

**This will be a Combined Worship Service at 10 AM ONLY.** Our choir will lead us in Scripture readings and a musical journey that will lift our hearts as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas.

### Christmas Eve

We will have three worship services on Christmas Eve at 4:00, 5:30, and 11:00 PM

Our 4:00 service is designed specially for families with children. The nursery will be available at 4 and 5:30 PM.

### Christmas Day

Join us for worship on Christmas morning at 10:00 AM.



## Our Vision and Mission

We are a congregation of Christ followers making disciples who worship, grow, serve, and steward.

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## Congregation Council

### **Council Members**

**Dave Larkin**, President  
**Jenifer Haler**, Vice President  
**Jeff Pilger**, Financial Officer  
**Janet Budzeck**, Secretary  
**Diane Bonin**, Member-At-Large  
**Jim Honeyman**, Member-At-Large  
**Kiane Lesser**, Member-at-Large  
**Darrell Miles**, Member-At-Large  
**Valerie Silva**, Member-At-Large

### **Ex Officio Member**

**Pastor Steve Ernst**, Lead Pastor

Minutes of Council meetings are available on the website.

## Staff

**Rev. Steve Ernst, Lead Pastor**  
 Ministry Lead for Biblical Stewardship and Worship  
 revsteverlc@gmail.com

**Rev. Corey Smith, Associate Pastor**  
 Ministry Lead for Christian Service and Spiritual Transformation  
 revcoreyrlc@gmail.com

**Rev. David Hogan, Pastor Emeritus**

**Rev. Sam Geyer, Semi-retired Pastor/Counselor**  
 revsamrlc@gmail.com

**Amanda Daniels, Youth and Family Minister**  
 amandadrcl@gmail.com

**Susan Miller, Organist**

**Susie Nunamaker, Traditional Music Coordinator**  
 susienunrlc@gmail.com

**Jenny Page, Ministry Assistant for Spiritual Transformation and Worship**  
 jennypagerlc@gmail.com

**Kelly Westlund, Ministry Assistant for Christian Service**  
 kellywrlc@gmail.com

**Lisa Wiegand, Ministry Assistant for Biblical Stewardship**  
 lisawrlc@gmail.com

## Member Directory Changes

Vicky Willingham  
 524 N. Ely #A11  
 Kennewick, WA 99336  
 509-222-1236

## Pastoral Acts

### **Baptisms**

None

### **Weddings**

None

### **Memorial/Funerals**

David Styris                      11/2/19

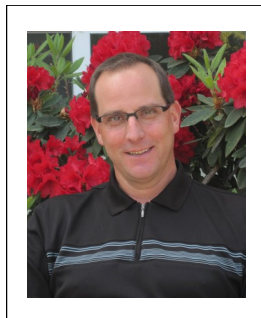
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### **The Preview**

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## Incarnated into the Neighborhood



**From  
Pastor  
Steve**

*The Word became flesh and blood,  
and moved into the neighborhood.  
We saw the glory with our own eyes,  
the one-of-a-kind glory,  
like Father, like Son,  
Generous inside and out,  
true from start to finish.*  
-John 1:14

In Christian theology, *incarnate* means that God, in the person of Jesus Christ, became flesh by assuming a human body and nature, entering into the temporal world as we know it. In the prologue of the Gospel of John, the apostle speaks poetically about the incarnation, “The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood” (the Message). I like Eugene Peterson’s take on this passage, especially how he sees the place to which Jesus came, “the neighborhood.” It’s so personal, intimate, relational and gets to the heart of the incarnation of Jesus. Namely, God is now with us, Immanuel.

The Hebrew word, Immanuel, translated literally “God with us,” is one of the prophetic signs Jesus is the Messiah. The prophet Isaiah writes, “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.” (7:14, NIV). As we enter into the Advent season, I encourage you to remember God came to us, to you, in your own neighborhood. And there he remains.

It’s so easy to get caught up in all the hubbub of this busy and demanding season. We shop, we entertain, we cook and bake, we write, we clean, we decorate and all this without giving up what is already keeping us too busy. The next thing we know we’re limping past the new-year tattered and worn, seeking refuge. And what did we forget? The most important thing, God with us!

As you jump into this holiday season, be mindful of practicing the presence of God Immanuel. Don’t neglect to set aside time and space for the Christ child. This will look different for everyone. Below are a few practices which might help:

- Intentionally begin your day asking God to be present in it. Perhaps you could start with a simple prayer, “Jesus, make me aware of the many ways you will be present with me today.”
- Regularly stop throughout the day to remember the Lord’s presence. You could set your phone alarm to go off a couple of times a day to remind you God is present. When it does, thank God for being mindful of you.
- Invite God into your otherwise normal day. Ask him to join you on your commute. Ask him to join you in your routine work. Pray God would increase your awareness of him in your conversations with others.
- Deliberately focus on worship and praise. Put on Christian radio, cue up

## New Ministry Opportunity: Weekend Lunches For Kids



**From  
Pastor  
Corey**

We have been given a great opportunity to help children in our community. RLC member Ellie Rosser, who works as the Communities in Schools rep at Sacajawea Elementary in Richland, brought to our attention the need for sponsorship of their weekend lunch bags for children in need.

Here is how it works: Each month we will pack up to 15 bags (one per child) that will provide 2-3 meals with snacks for one child for the weekend. The food must be non-perishable and must be able to be made by the child. We will shop for the food items and then have a day/evening when we will pack the bags and deliver them to the school. Each bag will have a label stating that these lunches were provided by their friends at Richland Lutheran Church, and we will also include the hours of our own Food Pantry. The approximate cost to provide 15 bags per week is \$60, making our monthly total around \$240. That's not much to feed 15 children for a weekend each week!

So, how can you get involved? Glad you asked. Here are our needs:

- We are looking for a few people who would be **willing to go shopping** for us on the day (or day before) we pack the lunches. A detailed shopping list will be provided.
- Folks who will **pack the lunch bags**. This will be done once a month-rotating between evening and day times.
- **Donated money** for groceries. The RLC Foundation has generously provided seed money to fund this ministry for this school year. However, beginning next fall, we will then use donations to continue to provide these important meals.

Because the need is urgent, we are hoping to pack our first bags on **Wednesday, December 4**, so they are ready for the first weekend in December. Also, because we are advertising our **Food Pantry** hours on each bag, please consider donating food or funds (or even volunteer to help) to RLC's Food Pantry. We serve many families in our community, and it's a great opportunity to feed those in need.

*34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'*

*37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'*

*40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'*

*Matthew 25:34-40*

**Dave  
Larkin,  
Council  
President**

## President's Perspectives - Looking for Discernment

As we come to the end of another year, rather than write about what Council has done or is planning, I want to share more personally what the New Year means for me.

In October, Carol and I celebrated our fourteenth anniversary as members of Richland Lutheran Church. During those fourteen years I have served for eight years on the Congregation Council, either as Secretary or President. Next year I also complete my 15<sup>th</sup> and final year on the City of Richland's Utility Advisory Committee. So 2020 is going to have a very different feel for me as I seek to find what God would have me do next.

One thing is to continue to study the scripture and what it means for my life. Carol and I have taken a seminary level course each of the past four years at Regent College in Vancouver, British Columbia, and we plan to continue that for the foreseeable future.

Beyond that I hope to find a way to take part in a hands-on ministry work-

ing to help those who are in need in our community. I have for many years been moved by God's command to help the poor, the widow, the orphan, the alien or stranger, and those who are oppressed. Writing a check has been the easy way to help while I have been involved with Council, but now I want to do more with personal contact. Whether that will be with a ministry within our church or with another organization I do not know. I will be trying to discern where and how God is calling me to respond and that may take some time. But I look forward to the process.

It has been an honor to serve you as your President these past three years and I encourage you to pray for and support your new President, Sandy Steele. Pray also each week for your pastors, staff, Council, and brothers and sisters in Christ. And never forget to love God with all your heart, and your neighbor as yourself.

Dave Larkin – Congregation President  
[dllarkin@charter.net](mailto:dllarkin@charter.net) or 509-628-0420



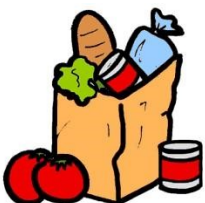
## Giving Tree - Union Gospel Mission

This year's Giving Tree project runs through December 15. Please bring gifts of warmth (socks, t-shirts, gloves, hats, scarves, underwear, long underwear, hand warmers, etc.) as well as hygiene items (deodorant, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc.) Clean used clothing and coats are also welcome. Please do not wrap the gifts.

Bring an ornament from home when you drop off the gifts, and add it to our RLC family tree. Be sure to pick up your ornaments after December 15, or they will be donated to the spring yard sale.

Questions? Contact Betty Quinn.

## Update from the RLC Food Pantry



We want to thank all who have contributed to the RLC Food Pantry this year. You helped over 250 families during the year. This summer and fall, many shared the bounty from your gardens (squash, potatoes, apples, pears, zucchini, tomatoes, onions, and rhubarb.) We are also grateful to the many volunteers who helped to fill the shelves and bag up the groceries. We are truly blessed by our generous and supportive church. And so is our community!

~The RLC Food Pantry Team



## From the Council

**Valerie  
Silva,  
Member-  
At-Large**

RLC Friends,

A few months ago I took on a new role at RLC as coordinator for the Recycling volunteers. I've personally joined in the rotation, as well as talking with others who serve RLC in this way. I've learned some things I wish to share with you.

We can view our Recycling as part of our Stewardship role as members of Christ's church. God made humans the caretakers of the earth, his creation. So reducing the amount of waste we produce is part of that role. And yet, it's not always easy. The process here in Richland is not straightforward, leading to confusion as to what can and can't be included in recycling. Our recycling team has become frustrated and discouraged from having to hand-sort trash and garbage out of the recycling bins.

The main recycling point for the congregation are in the two large blue bins in the Prince of Peace fellowship hall. (The adjacent beige bins are for garbage.) Above the blue bins is a list of what can and cannot be recycled here. Here are some key points:



- No foods, liquids, or food-stained items can be recycled. (This means no pizza boxes, no icing smeared paper plates or trays, no cup that still has liquid in it, no dirty napkins.)
- Metal cans can be recycled if they are first rinsed clean. Clean aluminum foil is okay.
- Office paper, scrap paper, cardboard, and packaging paper is okay.
- Plastics. This is where it gets complex!

\* Only plastics that are marked with a 1 or a 2. In addition:

Continued on Page 8

## Financial Snapshot

### Richland Lutheran Church Year to Date

### October-19 Prior Year Comparison

	<u>Actuals</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>YTD '19</u>	<u>YTD '18</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Tithes/Offerings*	\$ 627,721	\$ 857,782	73%	\$ 627,721	\$ 613,088	\$ 14,633
Expense	\$ 708,439	\$ 857,782	83%	\$ 708,439	\$ 839,216	\$ (130,777)
Profit / (Loss)	\$ (80,718)	\$ -	-9%	\$ (80,718)	\$ (226,128)	\$ 145,410

\*Tithes/Offerings only. Does not include free will offerings, payments or designated gifts.

## More Fun December Activities! Mark Your Calendar!



Saturday, December 7  
10:00 AM—12:00 Noon

Ready to take your family back in time? Come to **One Starry Night** and experience Christmas like never before! You'll taste, see, and even smell what life was like when Jesus was born. You'll find stations and activities for all ages—so bring the whole family!

Join us Saturday, **December 7, from 10:00 AM-12:00 Noon** for this free, exciting children's advent event in the **Prince of Peace Fellowship Hall** (please enter through the narthex). This event is appropriate for children **preschool through 5th grade**, and parents need to stay with their children as they experience the marketplace and the Bethlehem village. No pre-registration is needed—just come join us!

*Help is needed for this event! If you are interested in serving as a marketplace shopkeeper or Bethlehem villager, please contact Jenny Page (JennyPageRLC@gmail.com).*

### RLC Family

**Christmas Caroling**  
**Wednesday - December 11**  
**6:30 - 7:30 PM**

Meet at the church, and we'll head out! The plan is to go to Brookdale and bless the residents there. **All ages welcome!**



### RLC Family

**Christmas Party  
& Game Night**  
**Wednesday - December 18**  
**6:30 - 7:30 PM**

Join us for a night of celebrating the season!

**CHRISTMAS  
PARTY**

## From Pastor Steve, Continued

your favorite praise song, sing your favorite hymn as you do homework, wash dishes, prepare dinner, walk the dog, get ready for work.

- Regularly give thanks to God for his promises to “never leave nor forsake you” and “be with you always, to the end of the age.”
- See God in the beautiful world around you. The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 1:20, “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.” Look for God, who is unseen, in what is seen. A sunrise, autumn colors, crystal waters, blooming flowers, a human image bearer.
- Be deliberate about being still, practicing silence and making room for solitude.
- Meditate on God’s word. Whether you use your Bible, an app, a devotional, or your memory, God’s word always leads to God’s presence.

Please know I’m praying for you this Advent season. That you would practice and experience the presence of Jesus Christ, our Immanuel.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Steve

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## From the Council, Continued



- \* Plastic items have to be certain shapes to be processed in the machines used locally. This means items with a neck or which come in at the top. For example: water, milk and juice bottles, ketchup bottles, salad dressing jars, and detergent bottles. No trays or lids.
- \* Everything must be clean and free of food residue.
- \* No Styrofoam anything

So, if an item isn’t clean, please don’t put it in the bins. Especially please don’t put something on top of the other items in the blue bins that will render the entire contents un-recyclable.

And remember that your fellow-congregants are clearing out those bins and either dealing with the church’s recycling at their own homes, or at a recycling location, and usually sorting them in the process. I’d like to thank those who have faithfully served in this behind-the-scenes role. I appreciate your efforts in facilitating this ministry!

And, if you are interested in helping in this area, please contact me or Jenny Page. We would welcome more volunteers to our team!

Valerie Silva  
RLC Council Member-at-large



## Wednesday Night CONNECT!

Where are YOU on Wednesday nights? If you and your family are not at RLC, you're missing out on some great opportunities to CONNECT with your brothers and sisters in Christ! Come join us!



- 5:30 - Children's Choir (Gloria Dei)
- 6:00 - Dinner! (Prince of Peace Fellowship Area)
- 6:30 - Super Kids! (grades 1-5; Room 4 downstairs)  
Middle School Small Group (room 201, upstairs)  
Pastor Steve's Bible Study (Friendship room)
- 6:45 - Chancel Choir

## New Offering Envelopes

2020 Offering Envelopes will be available in your mailbox in the fellowship hall by the end of December.



***Please do not use the 2020 envelopes until after the start of the new year! And, please do not use 2019 envelopes after December 31!*** You *may* have a different offering number for the new year, and if you use a 2019 envelope, your contribution may be mis-recorded!

You are encouraged to switch to electronic giving in 2020. It's safe, convenient, and environmentally friendly!

Please remember: For contributions to be attributed to your 2019 statement, they must be received by the church office before the close of business, December 31. Year end contribution statements will be issued in January.

## Small Groups

As small groups are coming to the end of their first study, "Mansions of the Heart," and are beginning new studies of their choice, now would be a great time to jump in to a group! If you're interested in joining a small group, contact the church office, and we'll help you connect with a group that fits your needs!

***Because life is better when you're doing it together!***



## December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>8:30 AM Worship            9:00 AM Good News Today - KVEW            9:45 AM HeBrews Café/ Sunday School            9:45 AM Middle School Youth Group            11:00 AM Worship            5:00 PM Worship            6:00 PM 4:12 Youth Group            6:30 PM Umbarger/Underwood Small Group</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study            5:00 PM Executive Committee            5:00 PM Biblical Stewardship MALT            6:30 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Staff Meeting            1:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution            2:00 PM Tues@2 Small Group            6:30 PM Cub Scouts Pack 248            7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 248</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>8:30 AM Worship            9:00 AM Good News Today - KVEW            9:45 AM HeBrews Café/ Sunday School            9:45 AM Middle School Youth Group            11:00 AM Worship            3:00 Brookdale Chapel            4:00 PM Haler Small Group            5:00 PM Worship            6:00 PM 4:12 Youth Group            6:30 PM Umbarger/Underwood Small Group</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study            6:30 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast at Denny's            10:00 AM Staff Meeting            1:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution            2:00 PM Tues@2 Small Group            6:30 PM Cub Scouts Pack 248            7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 248            7:00 PM Congregation Council</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>8:30 AM Worship            9:00 AM Good News Today - KVEW            9:45 AM HeBrews Café/ Sunday School            9:45 AM Middle School Youth Group            11:00 AM Worship            5:00 PM Worship            6:00 PM 4:12 Youth Group            6:30 PM Umbarger/Underwood Small Group</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study            6:30 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Staff Meeting            1:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution            2:00 PM Tues@2 Small Group            6:30 PM Cub Scouts Pack 248            7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 248</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Good News Today - KVEW            10:00 AM Combined Worship Service            6:30 PM Umbarger/Underwood Small Group            7:00 PM Union Gospel Mission Service</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study            1:30 PM Dorcas Circle Bible Study            6:30 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>24 Christmas Eve -            Offices Closed</b></p> <p>4:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship            5:30 PM Christmas Eve Worship            11:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship</p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>8:30 AM Worship            9:00 AM Good News Today - KVEW            9:45 AM HeBrews Café            11:00 AM Worship            5:00 PM Worship            6:30 PM Umbarger/Underwood Small Group</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study            6:30 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Staff Meeting            1:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution            2:00 PM Tues@2 Small Group            6:30 PM Cub Scouts Pack 248            7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 248</p>

## December 2019

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>4</b> 9:00 AM Sewing Bee 1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study 2:30 PM Knitting Group 4:30 PM Spiritual Growth MALT 5:30 PM Children's Choir 5:30 PM Praise Band 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Pastor Steve's Bible Study 6:30 PM SuperKids!, MS Small Grp 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	<b>5</b> 9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 10:30 AM Prayer for the Church 12:00 PM Outreach Team 5:00 PM Steele Small Group 6:30 PM Ernst Small Group	<b>6</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting	<b>7</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 PM Missions Prayer
<b>11</b> 9:00 AM Sewing Bee 1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study 2:30 PM Knitting Group 5:30 PM Children's Choir 5:30 PM Praise Band 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Pastor Steve's Bible Study 6:30 PM SuperKids!, MS Small Grp 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	<b>12</b> 9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 10:30 AM Prayer for the Church 11:45 AM Dunamis Group 5:00 PM Steele Small Group 6:30 PM Ernst Small Group	<b>13</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting	<b>14</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 PM Missions Prayer
<b>18</b> 9:00 AM Sewing Bee 10:30 AM Luther Senior Center Chapel and Lunch 1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study 2:30 PM Knitting Group 5:30 PM Children's Choir 5:30 PM Praise Band 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Pastor Steve's Bible Study 6:30 PM SuperKids!, MS Small Grp 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM RLC Foundation	<b>19</b> 9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 9:30 AM Worship MALT 10:30 AM Prayer for the Church 5:00 PM Steele Small Group 6:30 PM Team Night 6:30 PM Ernst Small Group	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting	<b>21</b> 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 PM Missions Prayer
<b>25 Christmas -            Offices Closed</b> 10:00 AM Christmas Worship	<b>26</b> 9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 10:30 AM Prayer Meeting 5:00 PM Steele Small Group 6:30 PM Ernst Small Group	<b>27</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting	<b>28</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 PM Missions Prayer
		<b>The Richland            Lutheran Church            calendar            changes daily!</b>	Please call the church office, at 943-3164, or check the website, richlandluther- an.org, for the most current information. Please note that not all activities are actually held at the church.

## Activities for Kids



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 as part of the Wednesday Night CONNECT, from 6:30 to 7:45 PM, immediately following the family dinner at 6:00, in the Prince of Peace fellowship hall. Worship and prayer, Bible lessons, scripture memorization, games, crafts, and lots of fun happen each week!

This year we will be exploring the **Parables of Jesus**, as well as growing together as disciples of Christ through worship, spiritual growth, service, and using all that God has given us!

December 4—Parable of the Lost Sheep  
 December 11—Christmas Caroling!  
 December 18—Christmas Party  
 December 25—No Super Kids! Merry Christmas!  
 January 1—No Super Kids! Happy New Year!

For more information, please contact Jenny Page  
 (JennyPageRLC@gmail.com)

## Children's Christmas Program



### The Christmas Tree

RLC Children's Christmas Program

**Sunday, December 15**  
**3:00 PM**

*Rehearsal: Saturday*  
*December 14 @ 10 AM*

Join us on Sunday, **December 15, at 3:00 PM** for "The Christmas Tree," the annual **Children's Christmas Program**. This year, the children will be sharing with us about the symbolic meaning of the common items we put on our Christmas trees, and how each points us back to the birth of Jesus. Presented in word and song, this will be a special time of sharing by the children of our congregation. There will be a cookie reception immediately following the program in the fellowship hall.

Please bring a dozen cookies to share at the reception. **NEW THIS YEAR—please also bring a large jar of peanut butter to be donated to the RLC Food Pantry.**

*There will be one rehearsal, Saturday, December 14, from 10:00 AM—12:00 Noon. All children from the preschool and elementary classrooms will be participating. The kids will also be practicing the songs in the weeks leading up to the program, so be sure to be on time to Sunday School each week at 9:45 AM!*

For more info, contact Jenny Page  
 (JennyPageRLC@gmail.com)

## Activities for Middle School

### **Sunday mornings - 9:45 AM Middle School Room upstairs**

**\* \* (Not meeting December 22 or 29) \* \***

If you're middle school aged, come hang out with us on Sunday mornings! We've got great stuff going on, and each week we have a lesson, a game of some sort, and quality time with each other. See you there!

We're starting our Advent series, called "Unwrapped"! Don't miss it!

No Middle School events during  
Christmas break!  
(December 21-January 4).  
See you on January 5!

### **Looking for some mid-week fun & Jesus-time?! Come hang out with us at**

#### **Wednesday night Middle School**

**6:00 PM Dinner --- 6:30 PM Middle School**

**\* \* There is no Wednesday night MS on December 25 or January 1 \* \***

Join us on Wednesday nights for dinner and middle school group time!  
It's a great mid-week break from the craziness of "real life!"  
Questions? Want more info? Talk to Amanda!

## Activities for High School

Ready or not, December is here!

We would love to see you at

### **High School Youth Group**

**Sunday nights from 6:00-8:00 PM!**

Our Advent series this year is called "Unwrapped."

Check out our December schedule:

December 1: At the church

December 8: At the church

December 15: **At the Rosser's!** - Christmas Party:

\*Bring food to share and a wrapped White Elephant gift!\*

Students: if you don't get texts from Amanda reminding you about it, let her know!

If you've got a high school student in your home, encourage them to be there! Need a ride? Want more info? Talk to Amanda!

**No High School  
Youth Group on  
Sunday,  
December 22, or  
Sunday,  
December 29!**



## “Pastor’s Ponderings” by Pastor Joe Beal

### The Angry Dogwood

Me: "Carole, my dogwood tree didn't blossom this year - what's up with that?"

Carole: "Did you transplant it?"

Me: "Yes, it needed more room to grow."

Carole: "Well, it's mad at you."

Me: "?!"

Carole: "Be patient, it will probably bloom again."

Note to self: Beware of the wrath of the dogwood! My little dogwood used to burst into pink blossoms each spring, but not this year. So I'll be patient, fertilize it and stay hopeful. I guess change is hard on all of us.

Master Gardener, sometimes I feel like my dogwood tree

- Upset by my circumstances
- Unsettled in my surroundings
- Unfulfilled in my purpose.

Thank you for being so patient with me. Help me to understand my feelings and trust all of them to your care. Renew the soil of my heart. I want to bloom where I'm planted for your Kingdom's glory! Amen

"Though the fig tree does not blossom...still I will rejoice in the Lord." Habakkuk 3:17

\*\*\*\*\*Reprinted with permission from Pastor Joe Beal, Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, Lacey, WA, LCMC

## Conflict Resolution Workshop

**LCMC**

**Conflict Resolution  
Workshop**

Save the date!

Pastor Perry Fruhling, Coordinator for  
Pastoral Ministry for LCMC, will present  
information on emotional systems as it  
relates to congregational health.

**Saturday, February 22, 2020**  
**9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**Richland Lutheran Church, Richland, WA**  
Cost: \$10 for breakfast reception & lunch

RichlandLutheran.org for more info and early registration



## Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will not be meeting in December. Our book for January is "The Flight Girls" by Noelle Salazar. Join us for this book, several books, or all books. Contact: Joanne Woehle at [jomawo@hotmail.com](mailto:jomawo@hotmail.com)



## LiFT - Ladies in Fellowship Together

LiFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) will not be meeting in December. Join us again beginning on the second Thursday of January (January 9). We will be continuing with our study of "Friends of God: A Discipleship Experience."

Questions? Contact Jenny Page ([jennypageRLC@gmail.com](mailto:jennypageRLC@gmail.com))



## Operation Christmas Child

### December Operation Christmas Child request: Prayer!

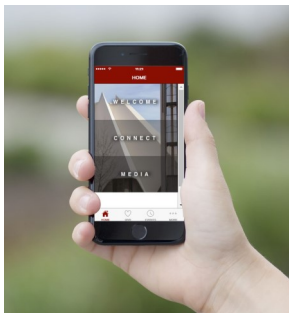
Please pray for the recipients of our boxes, that they will feel the love and prayer that was given with each box we packed, and that their hearts will be open to the Gospel as it is shared at each distribution site, and they will be drawn into a relationship Christ.

**On November 20, we packed 450 boxes!** Thank you for your prayers, your gifts, your financial support, and your time! We had quite the scare when our shipment of gift items was delayed, but God in His amazing ways got everything here an entire week earlier than we thought it would be! Thank you, Lord, for your control over the situation!

*Thank you, RLC family, for your partnership in this ministry!*

For more information contact Jenny Page ([JennyPageRLC@gmail.com](mailto:JennyPageRLC@gmail.com))

## RLC Mobile App and Pushpay



Digital giving is a safe and easy alternative for your tithes, offerings and special gifts to RLC. Register on the church website ([RichlandLutheran.org](http://RichlandLutheran.org)) or on the mobile-phone app (text RLCAPP to 77977 to download). Digital giving eliminates the need for offering envelopes and volunteer/staff processing of your check or cash. It's even more efficient that using the bill payer system offered by your local bank or credit union! Recurring or one-time special giving is available. And, you have the ability to see your giving records at any time through your personal PushPay account! Join the others who have already made the switch!

Questions? Contact Lisa Wiegand or Jenny Page in the church office.



## Worship Support

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Sunday Dec. 1</i>	<i>Sunday Dec. 8</i>	<i>Sunday Dec. 15</i>	<i>Sunday Dec. 22 **10:00 AM ONLY**</i>	<i>Sunday Dec. 29</i>
<i>Lectors</i>	8:30	Charles Davis	Kathy Killand	Jim Peterson	N/A	Norm Gillette
	11:00	Karen Clark	Valerie Bettinson	Elaine Keyes	N/A	Vernon Packard
<i>Acolytes</i>	8:30	Jase Vopalensky Julianna Monroe	Brock Streufert Joey Weissenfels	Nonie Kangas Evelyn Davis	Hans Miles Kyia Miles	Mackie Kangas Kyle Peterson
	11:00	Gabe Kissire Lila Hagensen	Matthew Smith Cameron Smith	Aiden Lesser Kaleb Prigge		Emily Archibald Lauren Archibald
<i>Ushers</i>	8:30	Chuck McCargar Sue McCargar	Wayne Roundy Dave Larkin	Fred Ball Jon Erlandson	Gary Weible Darrell Miles	Matt Sterkel Jon Erlandson
		Gary Weible Jim Peterson	Darrell Miles Kyia Miles	Matt Sterkel Jim Peterson	Fred Kremmer Matt Sterkel	Fred Ball Fred Kremmer
	11:00	Carol Hexum Alyce Budzeck	Kathy Snyder Rick Snyder	Rick Budzeck Janet Budzeck	N/A	Rick Snyder Kathy Snyder
		Alan Hagensen Luke Hagensen	Rick Budzeck Janet Budzeck	Alyce Budzeck ****	N/A	Mike Bettinson Valerie Bettinson
<i>Assisting Ministers</i>	8:30	Jeff Pilger	Sue Meek	Rick Nunamaker	Valerie Silva	Sue Meek
	11:00	Shirley Fast	Sandi Edgemon	Valerie Bettinson	N/A	****
	5:00	Elaine Keyes	****	****	N/A	Sam Geyer
<i>Evening Worship Support</i>	5:00	Lisa Frislie Elaine Keyes	Vernon Packard Betty Quinn	Kelly Arnzen Marcia Vogel	N/A	Diane Bonin Linda Totten
<i>Communion Assistants</i>	8:30	Norm Gillette Sara Gillette Pam Hedges	Clarine Watkins Jenifer Haler Pam Hedges	Alesia Chaney Charles Davis Elaine Davis ****	Clarine Watkins Erlan Leitz Jan Leitz ****	Norm Gillette Sara Gillette **** ****
	11:00	Karen Clark Jenny Page Shirley Fast Kelly Westlund	Sue Peterson Bill Peterson Ginnette Ernst Heidi Dagle	Kathy Umbarger Jami Prigge Lisa Wiegand Valerie Bettinson	N/A	Kelly Westlund Jenny Page **** ****
<i>Setup Communion</i>	Before 8:30	Vernon Packard	Joanne Woehle	Susie Nunamaker	<b>Before 10AM</b> Lisa Wiegand	Joanne Woehle
<i>Cleanup/Setup Communion</i>	Between Services	Vernon Packard	Vernon Packard	Vicki & Dan Jordheim	N/A	Vicki & Dan Jordheim
<i>Cleanup/Setup Communion</i>	After 11:00/ Before 5:00	Vernon Packard	Ellie Rosser Jenny Page	Kelly Westlund	<b>After 10AM</b> Ellie Rosser Jenny Page	Jenny Page
<i>Cleanup After Evening Service</i>	After 5:00 Service	Elaine Keyes	Vernon Packard	Marcia Vogel	N/A	Diane Bonin Linda Totten
<i>Bake Communion Bread</i>		Nancy Ballard	Joanne Woehle	Jane Wilcox	N/A	Kathy Umbarger
<i>Greeters</i>	8:30	Lois Harrold	Norm & Sara Gillette	Carol Schmid	Debby Honeyman	Jenifer & Larry Haler
	11:00	****	Elaine Keyes	LaVonne Scully		Kelly Westlund
<i>Children's Church Leaders</i>	8:30	Trina Miles	Karen Juergens	John Huebner	Traci Moran	****
	11:00	Pam Hedges	Julie Bishop	Karen Clark		****

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!** We are currently seeking a volunteer to schedule acolytes each month. *You do not have to be a parent/guardian of an acolyte to do this!* This task is mostly done via emails and SignUpGenius. It does not require any direct supervision of acolytes on Sunday mornings; it's only scheduling them. If you have a few hours each month to help with this task, please contact Jenny Page (JennyPageRLC@gmail.com).

## Worship Support

	<i>Time</i>	<b>Sunday Dec. 1</b>	<b>Sunday Dec. 8</b>	<b>Sunday Dec. 15</b>	<b>Sunday Dec. 22</b>	<b>Sunday Dec. 29</b>
<i>Video Coordinator</i>	8:30	Larry Haler	Drew Snyder	Don Schmid	Drew Snyder	Mark Underwood
<i>Audio Coordinator</i>	8:30	Scott Carswell	Brian Killand	Mike Bettinson	Brian Killand	Bob Thompson
<i>Cameras</i>	8:30	Ken Meek Vern Packard	Bill Bishop Larry Haler	Andrew Miles Ken Meek	Larry Haler Vern Packard	Bill Bishop Ken Meek
<i>Editor/ Post Production</i>	8:30	Scott Carswell	Drew Snyder	Mike Bettinson	Drew Snyder	Bob Thompson
<i>Sound System Operator</i>	8:30	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges
	11:00	Jeff Dagle	Tammy Carswell	Jeff Dagle	N/A	Tammy Carswell
<i>Offering Custodians</i>	8:30	Gary Weible Joel Sorensen	Jon Erlandson Harold Hogue	Fred Kremmer Jim Peterson	Erlan Leitz Joel Sorensen	Gary Weible Harold Hogue
	11:00	Alan Hagensen Alyce Budzeck	Mike Bettinson Rick Budzeck	Mike Bettinson Rick Snyder	N/A	Alyce Budzeck Mike Bettinson
	5:00	Steven Pe- tersen ****	Marcia Vogel ****	Betty Quinn ****	N/A	Marcia Vogel ****
<i>Recycle</i>		Carol Schmid	Karen Clark	****	****	Valerie Bettinson
<i>Flowers</i>		Gearheard	Ballard	B. Westlund	Sorensen	Page

<i>Cashiers</i>	<b>Dec. 2</b>	<b>Dec. 9</b>	<b>Dec. 16</b>	<b>Dec. 23</b>	<b>Dec. 30</b>
	Joanne Woehle Adele Sorensen	Judy Riggers Lori Hogan	Kristen Imhoff Jon Erlandson	Kathy Snyder Debbie Honeyman	Nancy Ballard Janet Budzeck

	<b>Dec. 6</b>	<b>Dec. 13</b>	<b>Dec. 20 Includes Christmas Eve/Day bulletins</b>	<b>Dec. 27</b>
<i>Bulletin Assembly</i>	Norm Stout Bobbi Stout Lois Harrold	Norm Stout Bobbi Stout Lois Harrold	Norm Gillette Sara Gillette Gail Gilbertson Lois Harrold	Norene Erlandson Jon Erlandson Carol Schmid

### 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 then let the church office know, and make the swap on SignUpGenius.com.

\*\*\*\* indicates an available service opportunity.

If you can fill in, please sign up on SignUpGenius.com

Or let the office know: 943-3164 or JennyPageRLC@gmail.com

### Sign up for future dates now on SignUpGenius.com.

Search for the RLC schedules by clicking the search "magnifying glass" in the top right corner of the website [www.SignUpGenius.com](http://www.SignUpGenius.com). Then enter [jennypagerlc@gmail.com](mailto:jennypagerlc@gmail.com) in the box on the left labeled "search for a sign up."

Questions? Contact Jenny Page.

## Worship Support

### Christmas Eve—December 24

	Ushers	Acolytes	Lector	Sound System Operator	Offering Custodian	Greeters
<b>4:00 PM</b>	Rick Snyder Kathy Snyder	Joe Granda Lila Hagensen Kaitlyn Prigge Kaleb Prigge Jase Vopalensky	Kathy Killand	Paul Hedges	Alan Hagensen Fred Kremmer	Norene & Jon Erlandson Marie Riensche
	Alan Hagensen Luke Hagensen					
<b>5:30 PM</b>	Matt Sterkel Fred Kremmer	Brock Streufert Joey Weissenfels Elijah Rodriguez Matthew Smith Cameron Smith	Norm Gillette	Tammy Carswell	Jon Erlandson Lois Harrold	Norm & Sara Gillette
	Rick Budzeck Janet Budzeck					
<b>11:00 PM</b>	Boy Scouts	Aiden Lesser Josephine Whitney	Charles Davis	Jeff Dagle	Joel Sorensen ****	****
	Boy Scouts	Breckan McDaid Briella DeWeber ****				

### Christmas Day—December 25

	Ushers	Acolytes	Lector	Sound System Operator	Offering Custodian	Greeters	Communion Assistants	Comm. Prep/Clean Up
<b>10:00 AM</b>	Bill Bishop Gary Weible	Julianna Monroe ****	****	****	Gary Weible ****	****	Charles Davis Elaine Davis Jennifer Haler Larry Haler	Jenny Page Ellie Rosser
	**** ****							Jenny Page Ellie Rosser

Remember to use [SignUpGenius.com](http://SignUpGenius.com) to schedule your dates of service in the following areas:



- Lector
- Acolyte
- Communion Assistant
- Assisting Minister
- Usher
- Set up/Clean up of communion
- Baking communion bread
- Greeters
- Children's Church leader
- GNMM production
- Sound System Operator
- Offering Custodian
- Cashier
- Bulletin Assembly
- Recycle

If you have questions about using the SignUpGenius website, please contact Jenny Page ([JennyPageRLC@gmail.com](mailto:JennyPageRLC@gmail.com)).



## Anniversaries

### December 2

Bruce & Alesia Chaney

### December 6

James & Sharon Fulton

### December 8

Bert & Lila Andor  
Paul & Arline Berthelot

### December 14

Jon & Jenny Page

### December 16

Corey & Leah Smith

### December 20

Jim & Shirley Fast  
Jim & Traci Moran

### December 22

Dennis & Darlene Mahlum

### December 26

Shane & Janelle Thorson

### December 27

Christer & Janet Jansson

### December 30

John & Lisa Wiegand

## Birthdays



### December 1

Zeke Ernst  
Karen Filipy

### December 2

Janet Budzeck  
Ken Harris  
Patti Miller

### December 3

Norm Lippert  
Kathy Umbarger  
Paul Vopalensky

### December 4

Kjerstyn Jordheim

### December 5

Andrew Miles

### December 6

Tyler Salyer  
Joy Stuenkel

### December 7

Nathan Mitchell

### December 9

Tammy Maruska

### December 10

Janice Fulton  
Jenna Worchester

### December 11

Laurel Palmblad

### December 12

Rick Nunamaker

### December 13

Nikki Arnzen  
Nathan Ernst  
Carlyle Keyes

### December 14

Bentley Daniels  
Carole Siefken  
Richard Siefken  
Drew Snyder  
Summer Spinato

### December 15

Joel Sorensen

### December 17

Aiden Lesser  
Cody McCargar

### December 18

Ralph Curran  
Barbara Edwards

### December 19

Jeremy Bender  
Sande Tackett  
John Umbarger  
Kelly Westlund

### December 20

Bill Bishop  
Deacon Carter  
Madelyn Palmblad

### December 21

Jase Miller

### December 22

Eleanora Bishop

### December 23

Marianne Kane  
Karen Williams

### December 26

Joan Lund  
Julianna Monroe

### December 28

Kristi Heffron  
Rhett Levin  
Marilyn Schumacher  
Gerald Whitney

### December 29

Lennox Flint  
Lisa Frislie  
Vicki Glasford  
Brian Killand  
Hal Udem

### December 30

Jeff Ziemer

### December 31

Marilyn Ball



**Richland Lutheran Church, LCMC**

**901 Van Giesen**

**Richland, WA 99354**

MONTHLY PUBLICATION

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Mailing Label

## **Worship Schedule**

**Traditional Worship with Holy Communion**  
Sundays at 8:30 AM

**Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion**  
Sundays at 11:00 AM

**Informal Evening Worship  
with Holy Communion**  
Sundays at 5:00 PM

**Christmas Cantata/Combined Worship**  
December 22 at 10:00 AM

**Candlelight Services on Christmas Eve**  
4:00, 5:30, 11:00 PM

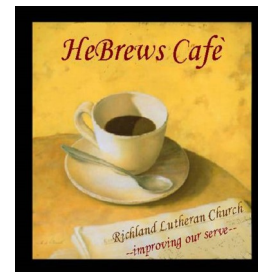
**Christmas Day**  
10:00 AM

*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

**Live Streaming and audio files of sermons are available  
on the website:  
[www.richlandlutheran.org](http://www.richlandlutheran.org)**



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

***It's where Richland Lutheran Church  
members are  
refreshed, 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.***

***Worship · Grow · Serve · Steward***