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## **Regathering for Worship - Reservations & More!**

#### Reservations may be made online Monday 9:00 AM—Friday 12:00 Noon. Or by phone (509-430-0050) Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM, Friday, 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon.

As we prepare to regather for modified in-person worship, we will be utilizing a "reservation" system through a company named "Brushfire." Making a reservation is easily done through the link available on the church website under the "Worship with Us" button. You do not need to make an account with Brushfire (although you can, if you wish), simply choose your seat from those shown as available, complete the necessary info, including agreeing to adhere to the health self-assessment guidelines, and click submit. You will receive an email in response with a "receipt" of your seat reservation. This can be saved to your Apple Wallet, printed out, or just otherwise remember your reserved seat section/number. We will also have a list of reservations available in the narthex on Sunday mornings. *Please visit the church website ("Worship with Us") for a vid-eo tutorial on how to make a seat reservation for worship.* 

Seating will be limited to no more than 50 congregants, and most likely less, depending on seat reservations. **Automatic social distancing will be added to each reserved group seating,** so when choosing a seat, please do not leave "orphaned" seats between you and the next group — those orphaned seats will become unusable by others and reduce our overall capacity. Some rows will not be available at all. You may not be able to sit in your "usual spot," so thank you in advance for being flexible and sitting where it is available. Please do not sit anywhere other than your reserved seat, and follow the directions from the Worship Hosts (those who will be assisting with seating and other duties) as appropriate. Masks must be worn throughout the duration of your time in the building, with the exception of receiving communion. If you are unable to wear a mask, we ask that you continue to worship safely from home via the livestream or TV broad-

cast. At the conclusion of worship, you will be dismissed by row by the Worship Hosts, and we encourage you to exit the narthex promptly.

In order for all to have an opportunity to worship in person, we are asking you limit yourself to just once per month at this time. This may be modified as we see the response to the opportunity to worship in person.

For a more complete list of details for our Regathering, please visit the church website and click "Announcements" or "Worship with Us," or call the church (943-3164) and we'd be happy to mail a copy to you.

BRUSHFIRE 🚺



## **Congregation Council**

#### **Council Members**

Sandy Steele, President Jenifer Haler, Vice President Bill Peterson, Financial Officer Janet Budzeck, Secretary Diane Bonin, Member-At-Large Jim Honeyman, Member-At-Large Fred Kremmer, Member-At-Large Kiane Lesser, 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.

## **RLC Staff**

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

#### Rev. David Hogan, Pastor Emeritus

**Rev. Sam Geyer, Interim Visitation Pastor** revsamrlc@gmail.com

Amanda Daniels, Youth and Family Minister amandadrlc@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*  Scripture taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTER-NATIONAL VERSION<sup>©</sup> NIV<sup>©</sup>. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.<sup>™</sup> Used by permission of Biblica, Inc.<sup>™</sup> All rights reserved worldwide.

All donations are subject to the Gift Acceptance Policy. RLC will treat the donor's designations as suggestions unless the Congregation Council has approved of the designations before receiving the gift. Copies of the policy are available on the website and in the finance office.

#### The Preview

is published monthly by Richland Lutheran Church for members and friends of the congregation. *The Preview* is distributed free of charge. Please report address changes to 901 Van Giesen, Richland, WA 99354, call 509-943-3164, fax 509-943-5383, or e-mail office@richlandlutheran.org. Richland Lutheran Church grants permission for any original content (not a reprint) to be photocopied for noncommercial, local church, or personal use, provided the copies indicate the source is *The Preview*. For any other usage, advance permission must be obtained. Electronic versions of *The Preview* may be forwarded in their entirety for noncommercial, local church, or personal use as well.

## **Directory Changes**

Pastoral Acts for September 2020

<u>Baptisms</u> None

Weddings None

<u>Memorials/Funerals</u> 9/25/2020 Mavis Lippert

Page 2

## Honoring God and One Another in Worship From Pastor Steve, Lead Pastor



Ask most any follower of Jesus about corporate worship (typically a Sunday worship service) and you're bound to hear them say something about honoring God by declaring his worth. Perhaps not in those exact words or using those specific terms, but I'll bet it will be there nonetheless, and it ought to be. Deuteronomy 6 is clear, "<sup>13</sup> Fear the Lord your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name. <sup>14</sup> Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you; <sup>15</sup> for the Lord your God, who is among you, is a jealous God and his anger will burn against you, and he will destroy you from the face of the land." Fear, here, means to honor and revere, not "to be afraid." This is but one of a myriad of scriptures which speak of honoring God in worship.

However, ask most any follower of Jesus about corporate worship and you will rarely hear them say anything about honoring one another. I believe that is because the Church has poorly taught and communicated about the importance of honoring one another while we worship the Lord our God together, but the Bible teaches this important truth. In Romans chapter 10, Paul connects worship and right living, "Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect." Later in this text Paul connects our worship with honoring one another, "<sup>10</sup> Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor."

This week, our congregation will have the opportunity to live out honoring one another in worship. On Sunday, October 4, we will be gathering for the first time in over six months to worship together. In order to do so, we must follow strict guidelines (you'll find those on page 1). Because we have a large and diverse congregation, there are inevitably many opinions regarding these guidelines. That is to be expected and our diversity celebrated. However, this is the time to put our personal opinions and feelings aside for the other, as Paul encourages in verse ten above. If you are going to join us in corporate worship during the COVID pandemic you will need to devote yourself to the other in brotherly love and give preference to them in honor. There are many in our congregation who area among the "at risk" population for this devastating illness. It is incumbent upon everyone to love and honor them especially.

At the conclusion of Romans 12, Paul gives us a proper encouragement to assure we are in the right spiritual space to love and honor God and others. I am convinced each of us will do this with faith and obedience, "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Amen!



## No Internet? Watch Worship Service on TV!

If you don't have internet at home to watch the weekly livestream of our worship service, try watching *Good News Today!* Our Good News Media Ministry produces a weekly television show with KVEW-TV on channel 42-1 on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM. You'll see the previous week's sermon that was recorded live in our sanctuary.

Questions? Call the church office at 943-3164, and press "0".

Please pray for each other and our upcoming in-person worship!

## Annual Congregational Meeting Announcment

The Annual Congregational Meeting scheduled for October 25, 2020 is cancelled due to current COVID-related restrictions for in-person gatherings. However, mail-in ballots will be sent to your homes giving you the ability to elect your new Council members, Nominating Committee members, and adopt the 2021 budget as recommended by Council. The mailing will include pertinent information and you will be given the opportunity to ask questions before you vote. All other business will be placed on hold until such time that we can safely gather in person. More detailed information to follow.

**Reminder:** To be eligible to vote you must have a recorded worship attendance <u>and</u> contribution to RLC "within two years preceding the posting of eligible voting members prior to congregational and special meetings." If you have questions about your eligibility to vote, please contact Jenny Page (JennyPageRLC@gmail.com)

## From the Council Jenifer Haler—Vice President

Dear Friends in Christ,

Is this how you have begun to approach each day?

I laughed when I saw this picture and caption posted on Facebook by a very good Christian friend. It seemed appropriate when layer upon layer of misery seemed to follow the onset of the COVID pandemic. In September, numerous areas were struck with devastating fires and we experienced an extended period of hazardous smoke in our area.



which chapter of Revelation we're doing today

However, a physical, emotional, and spiritual weight was lifted from my spirit the day the air cleared and the sky turned blue. Many of my friends told me that they felt the same way. Did the blue skies lift your spirit, too? It was as if in our busy, modern society, we had taken for granted the gifts God has given us. It was as if the smoke had hidden God's gifts from our eyes. And a blue sky and clean air to breathe was truly a gift.

A stanza from a childhood prayer came to my mind:

Thank you for the sky so blue. Thank you, Lord, for me and You.

I have vowed to not forget how it felt to rejoice in a clear blue sky and to thank God for his many blessings. I want to share with you other stanzas of this childhood prayer. Because you, too, may find yourself sustained in these difficult times by thanking God for His gifts.

Thank you for the world so sweet, Thank you for the food we eat.

Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul. Thank you, Lord, for making me whole.

Thank you for the birds that sing, Thank you, God, for everything.

Amen

Annual

Congregational Meeting on October 25, 2020 has been cancelled.

See further comments in President Sandy Steele's article on the next page.

## President's Message: It's Been a Busy Year From Sandy Steele, Congregation President

I can't believe how quickly the year has flown by; but then, I say that every year. Here it is now October with only three months left in the year. I don't know about you, but it seems to me like it just began.

Your Council has been busy in spite of (and maybe partially because of) today's circumstances, so I want to take this opportunity to share with you an overview of just a few of our activities throughout the year. Before I do that, I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and appreciation. My heartfelt thanks go to the Executive Committee and Council for giving of themselves – their time, support, and prayers, especially during these very difficult times. I extend an extra special "thank you" to our hardworking Staff who have "hung in there" and have "gone above and beyond" throughout these last several months in continuing "life" at RLC. It would not have happened without your dedication and faithfulness. Lastly, I want to thank all of you for your trust, your prayers, and for your support of Council, Staff, and especially each other. This has not been an easy year for anyone but God continues to work with us, in us, and through us. I believe in many ways He is making us stronger in our faith and bringing us closer together. So, first and foremost, I thank God for His great love and His faithfulness beyond our understanding! "May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from

God." Ephesians 3:19 NLT

Here are highlights of just a few of the happenings within and outside of the physical and virtual walls of RLC. I'll begin with our Annual Congregation Meeting scheduled for October 25.

Congregation Annual Meeting - Due to our cur-**COVID**-related rent restrictions, it's not looking favorable for our annual meeting to be held in person as normal. However, the Governor has issued proclamations striking out any constitutional requirements for associations, such as RLC, to meet and vote in person until such time as this state of emergency is lifted, giving us some doable options. Council held a special meeting and approved a mail-in ballot for the election of your new Council and Nominating Committee members, as well as for your approval of the 2021 budget. We also discussed ways and methods for Q&A opportunities giving you the ability to ask questions. More detailed information will be forthcoming so stay tuned. In the meantime, the decision was made to delay the vote for the constitution/ bylaws and the off-site retreat center funds allocations until such time that we can safely gather in person.

**COVID-19** – As you are aware, the decision was made in mid-March to close our church doors due to the concerns over the health and safety of our congregants brought on by the uncertainties of COVID-19. We thought at that time it would be for only a couple of weeks; a couple of weeks turned into several months. Council formed a COVID-19 Safety Response Team to begin developing plans to bring us safely back for inperson gatherings, particularly worship. It's been a slow process, as you well know; but as of this writing, we are planning for October 4 as our first in-person worship since we closed our doors in March, with limited attendance and by reservation only. The Safety Response Team continues its planning for the day the RLC doors will be widely open for all. In the meantime, please continue your prayers.

Staffing – After 22 years of ministry at RLC, Pastor Corey and his family made the decision to "move on". We have been blessed to have him as a friend and as part of our ministry team for these many years. Although he will be missed, we wish him and his family well and continue to keep them in our prayers as they move forward in whatever God has planned for them. Additionally, as God continues His work within RLC, Council has activated its Staffing **Review Committee to review** and recommend future staffing needs in light of Pastor Corey's recent departure. We have also approved a job description and search team for a Contemporary Music Coordinator to lead the Praise Team. In the meantime, our current staff will step in to fill whatever needs arise. Council has also approved the hiring of Sam Gever as part time, Interim Visitation Pastor until such time as God reveals His path forward for RLC.

"May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from

God."

## **Financial Update**

#### From Bill Peterson, Finance Officer

### January-August 2020 RLC Financial Snapshot

Income	Budget	Expenses	Gain/(Loss)
\$570,590	\$606,466	\$613,723	(\$43,134)

If you have any questions, please contact Bill Peterson or Lisa Wiegand

## Our Third Quarter Benevolence Giving

Here is a breakdown of where our 3rd Quarter benevolence dollars were given in the area of National and Regional Ministries. Following the list is a short description of each of these organizations. You can find more information by looking at their websites.

If you have suggestions for the Outreach Ministry Team to consider when they make future recommendations to the Council for spending our benevolence dollars, please contact Kelly Westlund. We will research those organizations and make sure they fit with our requirements and mission/vision.

	2020 National/Regional Ministries	<u> 2020 – \$21,606.80</u>	
Do you have suggestions for how to gift some of the benevolence \$? Contact Kelly	Institute of Eutherali Theology	3,000.00 2,000.00 3,000.00 5,000.00 2,000.00 2,500.00 1,106.80	

Following is some information on each of these ministries from their websites:

#### **Lutherhaven Ministries**

http://www.lutherhaven.com/Index.asp

Camp Lutherhaven is a year-round camp, conference and retreat center on Mica Bay of Lake Coeur d'Alene (12 miles south of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho). The camp hosts retreats and programs in 11 modern lodges, spacious large group meeting rooms, accommodations for 200, a new dining hall with full meal service, high and low ropes adventure course and waterfront.

#### Jews for Jesus

#### Jewsforjesus.org

We Are Jewish people who believe in Jesus, and we want to tell everyone about Jesus the

Westlund.

## **Digital Giving with Pushpay**

**Pushpay** During this unusual time of congregational life, where we are worshipping exclusively via live stream, and holding meetings and gatherings through virtual connections, you are encouraged to give digital giving a try. Visit the church website (www.RichlandLutheran.org) and click on the red "Give" button located towards the bottom of the front page. It takes just a moment to create an account. You can make a one-time gift or set up a recurring transaction for your tithes and offerings. The most frequently used ministries that receive designated gifts are listed for your convenience, so you're still able to give those special offerings for things like the Food Pantry, GNMM, the Foundation, Operation Christmas Child, and more!

Of course, you're always welcome to still give your tithes, offerings, and special givings via check or cash in your offering envelopes by mailing them to the church or dropping them by the church office during normal business hours.

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

## Come Chat with Us!



Want to connect with your RLC Family during the week? Join us for Family Chat.

## President's Perspectives, Continued from Page 5

Sandy Steele, Council President

**Constitution and Bylaws** 

- One of the responsibilities of RLC's Congregation Council is to review our Constitution and Bylaws and to recommend changes, if any. This task has been accomplished and we are recommending several changes which, by now, you have received for your review. These changes are recommended to ensure the relevancy of our governing documents to our ministry as partners in Christ in the advancement of God's Kingdom. We have provided to you only those sections of the Constitution and Bylaws which we are recommending for change. So, I ask of you, as you review these recommendations, to please refer to this document in its entirety which can be found on RLC's web site. Doing so may help to answer some of your questions and concerns.

Christian Education Scholarship Policy - Although this was not the year to review policies, Council made the decision to review Christian Education the Scholarship Policy in response to administrative questions that were felt to not be addressed and to better define the intent of this program - "...to provide financial assistance to RLC's congregation members who have been in good standing for at least two years with post-secondary education expenses from an eligible educational institution and who are candidates for degrees in **Christian** studies that are theological. biblical, and/or ministerial which will assist recipients in advancing Kingdom." The God's

Christian Education Scholarship Policy is available for your review on RLC's web site.

Adjacent Properties -The Congregation voted at last year's annual meeting in favor of the demolition of our remaining adjacent property houses - the Stevens Dr. B house and the Kimball H house. We were literally on the verge of making that happen in March when COVID-19 swept in and caused us to place a temporary hold on this project. It gives me pleasure to report that this project is now underway and should be completed soon.

**Off-Site Retreat Center Fund Allocation Recom**mendations Vote - We may have three strikes against us but we're not out! We've tried three times to bring these recommendations to you for a vote. This was first brought before you at last October's annual meeting; however, due to several questions and concerns, the vote was tabled and futured to allow for further discussion. Two information meetings were then held (one in February and one in March) with a Special Congregation Meeting scheduled for mid-March when COVID-19 caused us to delay this meeting. After some deliberation, we rescheduled for a September Zoom Webinar meeting and vote; however, after a practice run, we found it to be too limited and cumbersome so the decision was made to delay the vote, once again, to coincide with the Annual Congregational Meeting. Well, we have yet another delay but it will happen. It's

all in God's timing.

Yes, it's been a very unusual year and, in many ways, a very frustrating year. We know this has been a difficult time for many of you in many ways; especially during times of need when we can't be together. So, lastly and most importantly, I want to say to you, we love you, we care for you, and we continue to pray for you. Your needs are our concern. So, I encourage you to reach out, even if it's just to talk. We are here to serve God by serving you.

This year has been filled with unexpected events and experiences - some good and some not so good. My prayer (and hope) is that when we get to the other side of this, we will look back and find that this has been an experience from which we will all have grown. Although we've been apart, God has brought us together in ways that we would never have imagined if not for COVID-19. For that, I'm grateful. "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28.

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose."

Romans 8:28.

## Third Quarter Benevolence, Continued from Page 6

Messiah. We engage the greater Jewish community with the message of Jesus so that more of our Jewish people will be spiritually transformed through knowledge and love of God. Jews for Jesus the organization was founded in 1973. However, we like to say we were "founded 32 a.d., give or take a year." Today, our staff are active internationally in 13 countries and 24 cities.

#### LCMC Seminary Debt Relief Fund

Lcmc.net/congregational-recources/seminary-debt-relief-fund/a228.html# Seminarians who go on to serve within LCMC are able to apply for grants from the Seminary Debt Relief Fund for up to five years after the completion of graduation. The maximum amount available from this fund is \$5,000 per year, however the amount varies each year based upon availability.

#### LCMC Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund

https://www.lcmc.net/relief-funds/lutheran-disaster-assistance-fund/a403.html During the LCMC's October 2012 Annual Conference, the LCMC Board of Directors approved the establishment of a Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund to provide emergency relief assistance to victims of natural disasters. St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Marion, Iowa, will administer the Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund (LDA Fund). Grants of up to \$10,000 will be available for relief aid in the wake of tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, ice storms, wildfires, flooding, and similar natural disasters.

- If you would like to personally donate to this fund, you can send a check to:
  - Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund c/o St. Mark's Lutheran Church 8300 C Avenue NE Marion, IA 52302

#### Institute of Lutheran Theology

Ilt.edu

The Institute of Lutheran Theology is a Christian faith community, seminary and graduate school that rigorously equips faithful pastors, teachers and lay people to effectively proclaim the gospel and serve Christ's church throughout the world.

#### The Masters Institute:

https://miseminary.com/

Our deepest desire is the development of Spirit-filled Christian leaders who understand the fundamental call to proclaim the Good News of Jesus in word and deed. To that end we have two masters level opportunities that integrate excellent academics with extensive Christian character formation and practical Leadership development training.

#### Lutheran Military Veterans & Families Ministries

#### Lmvfm.com

LMVFM is a Christian non-profit (501c3) faith based ministry. We are dedicated to serving military veterans, military contractors and their families in need of care and assistance, regardless of their faith or religious affiliation. We offer resources, assistance and training to congregations and other care providers to assist veterans, military contractors and their family members.

#### LAMP – Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots

#### Lampministry.org

LAMP's volunteers and staff from Canada and the United States share the love of Jesus to Indigenous people in communities in remote northern Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia through Christ-centered Bible studies and other outreach projects.

If you would like to personally donate to the LCMC Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund, send a check to the address to the right. 

October 2020					
Sun	Mon	Tue			
4 9:00 AM Good News Today—KVEW TV	5 12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study via Zoom	6 10:00 AM Staff Meeting via Zoom			
10:00 AM Worship - in person and livestream	2:00 PM RLC Family Chat - FB Live 5:00 PM Executive Committee via Zoom 6:00 PM Contemporary Worship Coordinator Search Team	1:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution			
<b>11</b> 9:00 AM Good News Today—KVEW TV 10:00 AM Worship - in person and livestream 7:00 PM High School Youth Group via Zoom	<b>12</b> 12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study via Zoom 2:00 PM RLC Family Chat - FB Live 6:00 PM Contemporary Worship Coordinator Search Team	<b>13</b> 10:00 AM Staff Meeting via Zoom 1:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution 7:00 PM Congregation Council via Zoom			
<b>18</b> 9:00 AM Good News Today—KVEW TV 10:00 AM Worship - in person and livestream	<b>19</b> 12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study 2:00 PM RLC Family Chat - FB Live 6:00 PM Contemporary Worship Coordinator Search Team	<b>20</b> 10:00 AM Staff Meeting via Zoom 1:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution 5:30 PM Christian Service MALT via Zoom			
<b>25</b> 9:00 AM Good News Today—KVEW TV 10:00 AM Worship - in person and live stream 7:00 PM High School Youth Group via Zoom	26 12:00 PM Mary Martha Bible Study 2:00 PM RLC Family Chat - FB Live 4:00 PM Biblical Stewardship MALT via Zoom 5:00 PM Spiritual Growth MALT via Zoom 6:00 PM Contemporary Worship Coordinator Search Team	<b>27</b> 10:00 AM Staff Meeting via Zoom 1:00 PM Food Pantry Distribution 5:30 PM Christian Service MALT via Zoom			

October 2020					
Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
	1 10:30 AM Prayer for the Church via Zoom 2:00 PM RLC Family Chat - FB Live 3:00 PM COVID Safety Response Team 4:00 PM Outreach Team via Zoom 5:00 PM Steele Small Group via Zoom	2	<b>3</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 PM Missions Prayer via Zoom		
7 5:30 PM Praise Team via Zoom 5:30 PM Super Kids! via Zoom 6:30 PM GriefShare via Zoom 6:30 PM Middle School Youth Group via Zoom 6:30 PM Pastor Steve's Bible Study via Zoom 7:30 PM Staffing Review Committee	8 10:30 AM Prayer for the Church via Zoom 2:00 PM RLC Family Chat - FB Live 3:00 PM COVID Safety Response Team via Zoom 5:00 PM Steele Small Group via Zoom	9	<b>10</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 PM Missions Prayer via Zoom		
<b>14</b> 5:30 PM Super Kids! via Zoom 6:30 PM GriefShare via Zoom 6:30 PM Pastor Steve's Bible Study via Zoom 7:30 PM Staffing Review Committee	<b>15</b> 10:30 AM Prayer for the Church via Zoom 2:00 PM RLC Family Chat - FB Live 3:00 PM COVID Safety Response Team via Zoom 5:00 PM Steele Small Group via Zoom 5:00 PM Deadline for November Preview Articles	16	<b>17</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 PM Missions Prayer via Zoom		
21 5:30 PM Praise Team via Zoom 5:30 PM Super Kids! via Zoom 6:30 PM GriefShare via Zoom 6:30 PM Pastor Steve's Bible Study via Zoom 6:30 PM Middle School Youth Group via Zoom 7:30 PM Staffing Review Committee	22 10:30 AM Prayer for the Church via Zoom 11:30 AM Worship MALT via Zoom 2:00 PM RLC Family Chat - FB Live 3:00 PM COVID Safety Response Team via Zoom 5:00 PM Steele Small Group via Zoom	23	<b>24</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 PM Missions Prayer via Zoom		
28 5:30 PM Super Kids! via Zoom 6:30 PM GriefShare via Zoom 6:30 PM Pastor Steve's Bible Study via Zoom 7:30 PM Staffing Review Committee	29 10:30 AM Prayer for the Church via Zoom 2:00 PM RLC Family Chat - FB Live 3:00 PM COVID Safety Response Team via Zoom 5:00 PM Steele Small Group via Zoom	30	<b>31</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 PM Missions Prayer via Zoom		

## 2021 Council Nominees



#### Joel Sorensen–Vice President

Joel is a lifelong Lutheran whose father, grandfather and four uncles were Lutheran pastors. He and his wife, Adele, whom he met in the RLC parking lot, have been married 46 years. They have two daughters and four granddaughters. He graduated from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa; spent two and a half years in the Peace Corps in the Philippines, followed by three years in the military, including a year in Vietnam. He was employed by various contractors on the Hanford Site, from 1973 until his retirement in 2005. He has been an active member of Richland Lutheran Church since 1973, singing in the choir the entire time. He has twice been a member of the Richland Lutheran Church leadership – as a deacon in the 1970's, and more recently as Council Secretary. He strongly supports and will tirelessly work to further the mission of Richland Lutheran Church, which is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to our congregation and to our friends and neighbors in the Tri-cities.



#### **Diane Bonin**—Secretary

I grew up in Wisconsin, outside of Milwaukee, on my Father's produce farm with my two sisters and brother, and received my college degree as a Badger, at the University of WI-Madison. I came to RLC in the early 1980s when I moved here with my husband Dan when he took a job at Hanford as a mineral engineer. I have attended RLC since that time with the exception of two years that we spent in Aiken SC. My two adult children have been brought up at RLC; Chris who lives and works in the area as a software engineer, Tim who lives in Boston with his wife, Jen, both of whom are meteorologists. My husband died suddenly in 2008. I have worked for DSHS-Developmental Disabilities since 1990.

Over the years at RLC, I have been involved with a lot of great people in Health Ministry, Stewardship, RLC Foundation, Outreach, VBS, the block party, Children's Christmas program, various Bible studies, helping in the library, and I am coming off a twoyear term as a council member.

I love sharing my time with my family, friends, two dogs-Maddie and Sophie; and spending time at home-even during this time of quarantine! My preferred service is the Sunday evening service, where I enjoy knowing regular members on a closer basis, as it reminds me of the congregation where I grew up in Mequon WI. I appreciate being nominated again for RLC's council position, and the opportunity to serve our congregation and our Lord!



#### Jeanne Dillner - Member-At-Large

Here are a few things about myself that might be interesting with respect to my Christian walk:

As a child I attended the Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Salem, Oregon, with other girls from my street. The parents on our street were not church goers, but felt it was valuable for us girls to attend church and Sunday school. The parents of the girls rotated driving duty to deliver and pick us up each Sunday. I don't recall much from that experience or whether that is when I accepted Christ as my Savior. Though I do recall always being receptive to learning about Him and enjoyed attending Catholic church with my grandmother and the Presbyterian church with my great aunt Edie.

## 2021 Council Nominees, Continued

In 1985, I started to attend Portland Alliance Church and found the experience rewarding. I enjoyed singing in the church choir and was secretary of the board for around a year before moving to Richland in 1990.

Soon after moving here, my next door neighbor invited me to attend a Bible Study Fellowship class. I loved learning more about God's word and was asked to join the leadership team as the class administrator. I attended BSF and was in leadership until 1994 when I moved to Vienna, Austria to work for the IAEA. I was very sad to learn there was no BSF in Vienna and prayed with another woman for God to open a door for that eventuality. While in Vienna I attended a variety of Bible studies, but none quenched my thirst as much as BSF had.

How do I quench my thirst for God's word without BSF? I am a fan of Oswald Chambers and meditate daily to his devotional, *My Utmost for His Highest*. I study God's word each day and on occasion develop my own mini-sermons which I have shared with Susie and my brother Don. This practice helps me to internalize His word with the hope that His love and wisdom shines through my words and actions.

Here at RLC, I have served in the choir, on the audit committee and the compensation committee. And on occasion I will help the ladies in the kitchen, though am challenged to keep up with them. They are an energetic group of women! I am honored to be considered for service on the church council and trust that God will equip me with the wisdom and energy to carry out the duties.

Do I know the exact hour and day or even year that I became a Christian? No. Honestly, I think I have been a Christian since I was a little girl, if only because of the way I always felt at home in church and in hearing God's word. I cherish my morning study of God's word and making Susie cry when I send her my mini-sermons. And I feel joy when I look back on each day to see how God orchestrated the events of my work and/ or personal time to further His will.

What else do you want to know? I like to watch the night sky and am learning how to use the telescope I recently purchased. I love walking my dogs and getting to know my neighbors, many of whom get to try out the various breads I am baking. I have traveled to more countries in the developing world than to states in the USA. And I believe that unity and peace are vital to the future of our nation, it breaks my heart to see our country divided as it is today.



#### Jan Leitz - Member-At-Large

I was born in Spokane and grew up in the nearby small community of Seven Mile. I graduated from Washington State University with a degree in Range & Wildlife Habitat Management. I met my husband, Erlan, while at WSU and we began our married life in Richland, his hometown. I worked as an Environmental Technician in the 200 West Area at Hanford until we started our family. It was my privilege to be a stay-at-home mom to our two sons, Earl and Kurtis. Volunteering became an important part of my life during this time.

I became a member of RLC in 1980 and rejoined in 2009 after spending  $4^{1/2}$  years at First Lutheran in Idaho Falls, ID. Over the years I have served as a Luther League sponsor, VBS teacher/helper, elementary Sunday School teacher, small group co-leader,

## 2021 Council Nominees, Continued from Page 13

Youth Committee member, choir member, eucharistic visitor, and communion assistant. For the past 28 years I have been a member of Bible Study Fellowship, in both day and evening classes. It has been my great joy to serve the Lord in BSF as a staff member and leader in both the adult and children's programs for 26 of those years.

Erlan and I spend many weekends at our "cabin" on Lake Spokane in Stevens County. A year ago, my legally blind sister, Terri, came to live with us. We are grateful her move came before Covid-19 became part of our lives. The seasons of our lives change, but our great God is ever faithful and sufficient in all of them!



#### Kristen Imhoff - Member-At-Large

I moved to Richland by myself, barely 21 years old, to work as a research economist at Battelle in January 1981. Pete and Edie Lakey, parents of my college friend, introduced me to Millie Deusner who rented me the other half of her B-house at the "Lutheran discount" rate. For anyone who remembers Millie, you will understand why I did no "church-shopping" on her watch! The kindnesses of these and other RLC members have caused me to be very thankful for God's shepherding me to this church almost 40 years ago. Over the years, I've attended all of our various services; before Covid-19 hit us, you would most often run into me at the 5:00p service.

I'm a lifelong Lutheran and active Jesus-follower. I was born and baptized in Ephrata, WA, then grew-up in Oak Harbor, WA. At PLU I earned an economics degree. I met husband Carl at Battelle and we have raised our family of 3 sons here at RLC. All along the way, I had a sense of the deep truth of God's Word, even as a child, and I am still hooked on God's story and how he operates right here, right now, with people as flawed as - me! This keeps me worshipping, praying, studying, giving, and serving – and thankful for what God has done, is doing and will do for all his people.

I've always served in some way at RLC, usually small jobs/behind the scenes (too many to remember), but also as a Sunday School teacher, a lector, a choir member, a committee member. In 2018, I organized the Read the Bible effort; I'm currently a small group leader and a cashier.v I've been led to past work in victim/witness at the prosecutor's office and as a CASA for foster children. I'm currently volunteering as a children's grief facilitator at Cork's Place and at the TC Food Bank. Much of my serving in the world is simply meeting a need, whether it is for a friend or a stranger, that God brings to my attention. I'm coming to think of myself as a "utility player" – no big defined purpose, but lots of little ones!

Humbly serving my God, wherever and to whatever I'm called, has been my main goal in life as long as I can remember. If I am called to be on the RLC council, my intention is to gladly give my talents to serve in Christ's love.

Please keep our Council nominees in prayer!

## **Church Community Builder - Our New Database**



Have you accessed your profile on the new church database? The link to the portal is available from the church website (richlandlutheran.org). Everyone who had an email on file with the church should have received an invitation email the second week of September with a direct link to the login page, and with instructions on how to activate your profile account. Alternatively, you can click on the "RLC Login" from the menu bar near the top of the page, and then click on the dark gray button labeled, "RLC Online Community Login" and click "Request Account." If your email is on file, the process will begin. If you are using an email that we don't have on file, your request for a login will be forwarded to the staff, and we will have to grant access for the email you used. There are tutorial videos on "RLC Login" page of the website to assist with accessing your account, as well as how to navigate through the various modules of the site. You have the ability to update your profile with current information. If you see something that needs correction, and is not correctable by you, please contact Jenny Page (jennypagerlc@gmail.com).

This online community provides us with greater opportunity to connect with each other, with our ministry teams and groups, and to stay organized with calendars and message boards. We hope you enjoy and put to use this powerful new congregational tool.

## How Can We Pray for You Today?

The staff prays for congregation members regularly at our weekly staff meetings. The prayer team prays over all the prayer requests we receive on Thursday mornings at 10:30 AM. We consider it a gift and a privilege to lift YOU up in prayer to our Lord.

How can we pray for you today?

Send your prayer requests to officeatrlc@gmail.com, or go to the website or our new CCB site and submit them there. You are also welcome to call the church office and tell us over the phone—we will most likely pray with you right then and there, over the phone, as well.

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." Ephesians 6:18

Be sure to log in and update your information as needed!

Thank you!

## **Activities for Kids**

## Super Kids !

**Super Kids! has reZOOMed** on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 for about an hour! We meet via Zoom (please contact Jenny Page for the room ID — for security purposes, we will not post it here).

Super Kids will meet weekly via Zoom or the foreseeable future.

And, Super Kids, you're always welcome to call or FaceTime Miss Jenny or Chadder on the phone if you'd like to chat!

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

+or more information about activities for kids, contact Jenny Page!

Sunday School & Children's Church!

Sunday School and Children's Church videos are available on the RLC Children & Family Ministry YouTube channel. New videos are posted weekly and available by about 8:00 AM on Sundays. Videos are appropriate for preschool and elementary aged children. Simply go to YouTube.com and search for RLC Jenny Page.

Direct links are available through the RLC Families Facebook group page each Sunday. You can also find a link to the YouTube channel on the church website's Children's Ministry page, and on the church app under the Media tab.







## Activities for Middle School and High School Youth

## Middle School Youth Group is meeting EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY

on Zoom

10/7 - 10/21 - 11/4 6:30 PM

Meeting ID: 801-602-3197

There is a waiting room, so please make sure your name is recognizable!

For more information about youth and family activities, contact Amanda Daniels! High School Youth Group

is meeting EVERY OTHER SUNDAY

on Zoom

9/27 - 10/11 - 10/25 - 11/8 7:00 PM

Meeting ID: 801-602-3197

There is a waiting room, so make sure your name is recognizable! We hope to be back in person soon!!



Families, are you on our RLC Families Facebook Page?

If not, search "**Richland Lutheran Church Family Ministry**" and request to join.

We need connection and community right now, maybe more than ever! Come join the conversations!

## Operation Christmas Child Request for October: Any gifts for all ages

How are you doing on packing your OCC box? Would you like more boxes? If so, please let us know! And we're happy to get them to you!

Remember to return your filled box to the church on Sunday, November 8, 12:00 noon—2:00 PM. We will pray over the boxes during worship on Sunday, November 15.



450 boxes sent in 2019!

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

## **RLC Prayer Groups**

## Prayer for the Church

Thursdays at 10:30 AM via Zoom

Mission Prayer Saturdays at 4:30 PM via Zoom Our RLC prayer groups meet once a week. The Thursday morning group prays for our congregation's specific prayer requests, our ministries and our community. We meet at 10:30 AM via Zoom.

Our Mission prayer group meets on Saturday afternoons at 4:30 PM to pray for all of the various mission efforts RLC is involved in. We pray for our missionaries, Mike and Julie Penley, for the missions to Estonia and Lodge Grass, and Operation Christmas Child, for missionaries Caleb and Emily Arnold in Mexico; and for our local mission efforts such as the food pantry, the block party and others.

Scripture reminds us often that God calls us to pray regularly, persistently, and constantly. It is a blessing to lift up others to God in prayer and it is especially sweet to know that God hears us when we pray. Won't you join us? Please contact the church office for Zoom meeting information.

...for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the nations." Isaiah 56:7

## **Devotion Booklets**

If you would like a copy of the October - December issue of Portals of Prayer or Christ in Our Home, please contact the church office and we will be happy to mail one to you.

Email officeatrlc@gmail.com or call 509-943-3164 and push "0".

## Anniversaries

October 1 Don & Melissa Schmid

**October 3** Alan & Barbara Casebere Rebecca & Steven Skinner

**October 5** Seth & Allison Thompson

**October** 7 John Drewrey & Jen Ranta Cameron & Kris Mitchell Bill & Sue Peterson

**October 12** Carl & Judy Schroeder

## **Birthdays**

**October 1** Lynn Clarke Karen Juergens

**October 2** Myrtle Nesbitt

**October 3** Kathy Baumgarten Miriam Curran Lyric Daniels

**October 4** Lila Hagenen Paige Ingram

October 5 Darrell Miles

**October 6** Grace Davis Soren Miles Bruce Chaney

**October 7** Andrew Villegas

**October 8** Kaysha Benjamson Eunice Weible

**October 9** Olivia Moran Judy Schroeder

**October 10** David Juergens Michael Schroeder **October 14** Henry & Lil Solbrack

October 18 Jeff & Kimberly Ziemer

October 19 Brett & Chelsey Wheeless

**October 21** Loren & Michelle Peterson

**October 24** Jeff & Pat Johnson Andrew & Mary Lipton Jim & Sue Worgull

**October 11** Bill Kaiser Elsa Sandness

**October 12** Corrine Armstrong Jim Hardman

October 13 Aiden Pardini

**October 15** Shayla Carter Mark Williams

**October 16** John Fulton

**October 17** Terry Davis Linda Totten

October 18 Anna Mae Squires

**October 20** Hans Miles Katherine Pardini Lorrie Rogers Wayne Roundy

October 21 Rich Olenius

**October 22** Hannah Mitchell Isabelle Thorson **October 25** Tom & Jeri Frislie John & Bettye Samuel

**October 28** Fred & Marilyn Ball



**October 24** Virginia Glasford Tom Pitkin Blake Vopalensky Joey Weissenfels

**October 26** Johnny Boynton Ann Tolrud Clarine Watkins

October 27 Buck Taft

**October 28** Carmelita Peterson Trenton Worcester

**October 29** Judy Eller Rose Moran Woody Page Gerald Sandness Elaine Solbrack

**October 30** James Loss Elijah Rodriguez Ollie Stolte

**October 31** Lisa Corning Elizabeth Kelly







Richland Lutheran Church, LCMC

901 Van Giesen Richland, WA 99354

## MONTHLY PUBLICATION

## **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Mailing Label

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## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

# **Richland Lutheran Church:**

Making Disciples who

Worship · Grow · Serve · Steward

In-Person by Registration ONLY, and Live Stream Worship on Sunday Mornings at 10:00 AM go to richlandlutheran.org or YouTube.com/c/richlanldlutheranchurch/live

#### For another option you can watch Good News Today Aired Sunday mornings on

KVEW 42 and KAPP 35 at 9:00 AM

Recorded videos of our service can be found on our YouTube Channel (Go to YouTube and search Richland Lutheran Church)