



## From Pastor Steve - Lent Worship Series

# The Preview

DID YOU  
KNOW



Every August the Staff and I go on a three day retreat to, as the Apostle Peter encourages, “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” This last August we read and studied together a little book entitled, “I Am a Church Member” authored by Thom Rainer. They say, great things come in little packages, well, they weren’t lying! The content of this short read focuses on what the Bible says about what it means to be a

church member. The presupposition of the author, captured in the introduction, communicates well the biblical teaching on church membership,

**God did not give us local churches to become country clubs where membership means we have privileges and perks. He placed us in churches to serve, to care for others, to pray for leaders, to learn, to teach, to give, and, in some cases, to die for the sake of the gospel.**

During this season of Lent, where we become more penitent and contemplative in our spiritual journeys, I’d like you to consider your church membership. What are *your* presuppositions, what are *your* practices, what are *your* attitudes as a member of Richland Lutheran Church? Does your understanding and practice of your membership align with what God’s word says about the body of Christ, the church? Do you know what God’s word says about church membership? Did you know the Bible talks about church membership?

You know me and know well by now where I’m going with all of this, don’t you? This Lenten season we’ll be working together, using “I Am a Church Member” as a guide and resource, to help us discover or rediscover the privilege and joy of church membership as the Bible teaches. I’m asking you to prayerfully consider wholeheartedly joining me on this magnificent journey. To put aside your own attitudes and presuppositions, to be

Continued on Page 3

## 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

**Rev. Steve Ernst, Lead Pastor**  
Christian Service Ministry Lead  
pastor.steve@richlandlutheran.org

**Rev. Corey Smith, Associate Pastor**  
Spiritual Transformation Ministry Lead  
pastor.corey@richlandlutheran.org

**Joseph Farrar, Director of Music and Worship**  
Worship Ministry Lead  
joseph.farrar@richlandlutheran.org

**Debbie Stankovich, CCA, Director of Administration**  
Biblical Stewardship Ministry Lead  
debbie.stankovich@richlandlutheran.org

### **Open, Property and Grounds Coordinator**

**Kelly Westlund, Ministry Assistant for Christian Service**  
kelly.westlund@richlandlutheran.org

**Joanne Woehle, Ministry Assistant for Worship**  
joanne.woehle@richlandlutheran.org

**Lisa Wiegand, Ministry Assistant for Biblical Stewardship**  
lisa.wiegand@richlandlutheran.org

**Jenny Page, Ministry Assistant for Spiritual Transformation**  
jenny.page@richlandlutheran.org

## Member Directory Changes

Corbin, Corrine  
2000 Stevens Apt. 135  
Richland 99354

Sparks, Carolyn  
1629 GW Way Apt. 111  
Richland 99354

Edwards, Rick & Barbara  
6575 Agate Ct. W.  
Richland 99353

Wise, Jeanice  
1269 Chardonnay Dr.  
Richland 99352

Morris, Dan & Kim  
156 Bradley Blvd.  
Richland 99352

Prigge, Jason & Jami  
208 Kranichwood Ct.  
Richland 99352

Schulz, David & Christina  
4324 W. Hood, Apt. D  
Kennewick 99336

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## Pastoral Acts

January 4      **Baptisms**  
Paige Elizabeth Ingram

**Weddings**  
None

**Memorial/Funeral**  
January 17      Helen Shadel

### **The Preview**

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## From Pastor Steve - Lent Worship Series, Continued

humble and open, to examine what the Bible has to say about church membership and honestly ask yourself, “Am I getting this right?” Maybe, by God’s grace, you are. But if you’re like me perhaps there’s some work to do, a shift in attitude, a tweak in practice, a recommitment. I look forward to our time together on Sundays and more especially to the work God will do every day at Richland Lutheran as we earnestly seek to, “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

Sunday, February 15	“Being a Functioning Church Member”
Sunday, February 22	“Being a Unifying Church Member”
Sunday, March 1	“Surrendering My Preferences and Desires”
Sunday, March 8	“Praying for My Church Leaders”
Sunday, March 15	“Leading My Family to be Healthy Church Members”
Sunday, March 22	“Treasuring Church Membership as a Gift”

## Scout Sunday - February 8

**ALL CUB SCOUTS AND BOY SCOUTS (young and old, past and present)** – Sunday, February 8, is “Scout Sunday”. The Boy Scouts of America designates the Sunday that falls on or before February 8 (the Anniversary of the founding of Scouting in the United States) as Scout Sunday. To recognize the twelfth tenant of the Boy Scout Law, “A Scout is Reverent”, all Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts (active or not) are encouraged to wear your uniform to worship services that day. RLC Boy Scout Troop 248 will host Hebrews Café and be a part of the worship services on that Sunday. If you or anyone you know is interested in what the RLC Troop does, please come!

## Operation Christmas Child 2015

**February’s Operation Christmas Child Items of the Month:**  
**Toothpaste, individually packaged toothbrushes, hair brushes & combs, barrettes, headbands, ponytail elastics, and other “hair stuff” for girls.**

**Goal for 2015:** 425 boxes

Your gifts may be placed in the Christmas-y box in the Prince of Peace fellowship hall.

Please do not include:

- Used items
- War related items (toy guns, plastic army men, etc.)
- Liquid anything (soap, perfume, paint, bubbles, snow globes, etc.)
- Breakable items (glass, ceramic, etc.)

Watch for updates in the coming months about where the 400 boxes we shipped in November were distributed! Thank you for your extravagant generosity in 2014!



## Financial Report - December 2014

As reflected in the financial summary below, our financial results through December ended on a positive trend for 2014. Our offerings are up \$21,489 or 2.8% higher than last year for the same period. Our expenses are up \$15,284 or 2.0% higher than the same time last year. For the year, our offerings are above expenses by \$6,313 compared to \$108 in 2013, a change from last year of \$6,205. These results are reflected in the columns titled "Prior Year Comparison".

	YTD - December			Prior Year Comparison		
	Actuals	Budget	Var O/(U)	2014	2013	Var O/(U)
Offerings / Income	\$ 784,305	\$840,000	\$(55,695)	\$ 784,305	\$ 762,816	\$ 21,489
Expenses	\$ 777,992	\$840,000	\$( 62,008)	\$ 777,992	\$ 762,707	\$ 15,284
Net Cash Flow	\$ 6,313	\$ 0	\$ 6,313	\$ 6,313	\$ 108	\$ 6,205

For the year, actual offerings are below budget by \$(55,695) and actual expenses are under budget by \$(62,008).

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

In His Service,  
Rich Olsen

The information is only a snapshot of the church's financial status on the day the report was generated and is not audited information. Please direct all inquiries for additional information to Debbie Stankovich, Church Administrator at 943-3164 or [debbie.stankovich@richlandlutheran.org](mailto:debbie.stankovich@richlandlutheran.org).

## Benevolence Thanks

Dear Friends at RLC,  
Thank you so much for your very generous donation to our mission. Your gift is being used to help feed and clothe Bedouins especially now as they face the cold winter. We are so grateful for your partnership with us in our work in Ma-fraq. You are a blessing to us, and we love you!

With joy and thanksgiving,  
Mike and Julie Penley

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Dear Pastor Ernst,  
Thank you! On behalf of the **Annoor Sanatorium for Chest Diseases**, please accept our heartfelt thanks and deep gratitude for your support and partnership in ministry. We greatly appreciate Richland Lutheran Church!

Only God could do this: Nearly 50 years ago, Aileen Coleman and Dr. Eleanor Soltau began a work at the desert cross-roads of northern Jordan, providing vital care to Bedouin people suffering with tuberculosis. Aileen and Eleanor saw two great needs in these poor and outcast Bedouin people. Of course, they needed expert medical care. But even more, they needed eternal, grace-filled hope for their souls.

Because of churches like yours and God's sovereign watch care, this amazing work continues. Every day, men and women with no other hope find access to loving, life-giving care in the middle of a very troubled region of the world! We thank God for you. Your support makes true life possible for them.

For His glory among the nations,  
Dave Haas, Managing Director

## From the Council - Helping the Community – RLC Food Pantry

*"For I was hungry, and you gave me food." (Matthew 26:35)*

Here at RLC, we take very seriously our call to minister to our world. Outreach is an integral part of who we are. We are actively involved in participating with the East European Mission Network in global missions, but we also understand that missions is also about ministering to those just across the street. Our Food Pantry is a wonderful outreach of the Christian Service Ministry and provides food for over 150 people a month in our local community.

Ministry Assistants, Joanne Woehle, Kelly Westlund and Jenny Page, distribute the food to those who come asking for help. They come in cars, walk from within the neighborhood, take the bus, or get rides from friends. The food RLC gives out is just enough for a few meals but makes a difference in the lives of those who need it. The staples are Tuna Helper™, chili, soup, spaghetti, Chicken Helper™, mac and cheese, canned vegetables and fruit, cereal and pancake mix. We don't ask for ID or proof of need. We just give to those who ask, showing RLC's love for God's people in need.

Chuck & Hermine Fordham and Vivian Stangeland organize the pantry shelves in a closet located in the preschool hallway. They discard the out-of-date items that come in and rotate the food so the food with the longest shelf life is in the back. Betty and Felix Quinn do the shopping at Costco and the Fordhams and Vivian pick up sale and other items at local grocery stores. RLC members are very generous with their food and money donations.

There are many stories behind the people who use the Food Pantry:

- A grandmother in extremely poor health, getting by on Social Security, now has her son and grand-children move back in with her.
- A family who had an extended member get put in jail and now has four more mouths to feed.
- Another family needed help when the wife's sister and her children move in after she became a victim of abuse.
- A boy who came in with his mom got excited when he saw the food and said, "Oh, thank-you, I'm hungry."

There is one woman who was a regular, but stopped coming. One day the church received a college graduation notice from her with an attached thank-you that said she couldn't have done it without RLC's help.

### **You Can Help**

Remember our Food Pantry families when you shop for your own family. Donations of food, toiletries, paper products, baby food and diapers are gratefully received. Monetary donations are also needed to supplement donated items. Our pantry is currently pretty bare, so any nonperishable food is welcome.

Thank-you Chuck and Hermine, Vivian, Betty and Felix and the many people who contribute to this local mission.

Don Schmid, Member At Large

## From Pastor Dave and Elaine

TALK ABOUT EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY! First of all, thanks to God for His extravagant generosity in having called us to serve in an official capacity as an Associate Pastor for the past several years at Richland Lutheran. Second, thanks to the RLC Council, fellow staff members, and congregation for the honor of receiving appreciation at the recent Hebrews Cafe, which you hosted on our behalf. This church always supported us well materially; and provided us even *more* needful prayer and service assistance, enabling us to carry out the mission. Thank you for your kind gifts, cards, comments and continuing prayers directed to/for us. It has been an unsought, but Spirit-anointed, privilege to labor in the Lord's vineyard in various capacities in and through this great congregation during these years. You are to be commended for having such a well-qualified staff with pliable hearts for the Lord. In *our* new-found capacity of "irresponsibility" going forward: we look ahead to continuing to work among you with the Lord's enabling and leading, in ways that are yet to be fully determined. Thanks for being an easy-to-love-congregation!

Pastor Dave and Elaine Hogan

## Presidents' Perspectives - Friends and Fellowship

**Our Neighbors** - When Carol and I started our family here in Richland we lived in a north Richland neighborhood. Very soon we knew all of our neighbors on the block through our children. We enjoyed celebrating the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with neighbors on our street while watching our own fireworks and sharing homemade ice cream. We baby sat for neighbors and shared meals on occasion. We interrupted our yard work to talk about our families and each other's work.

After our family had grown and left home, we moved to a new neighborhood in south Richland. After twelve years there, we still only know a very few neighbors to any extent and none are really friends. Often we really don't even see our neighbors, as they get in and out of their cars in the garage, open the garage door with automatic openers, and drive away or back. Now, only two of us still mow our own yards so we see each other less even in the summer.

**Our Church** - I suspect the change we have noticed in neighborhood relations is one that many of you have also experienced. It is sad when this happens in the neighborhoods where we live but even worse when it happens in our churches too. Over the past two months I have been hearing RLC members, who have transferred from other churches, talking with sadness that they do not feel they have any friends within the church. Carol and I have felt this way at times too during our eight years here. Our closest relations have come only during this past year through sharing our thoughts and feelings in the small group that formed after the Renovare Weekend.

Over the last decade Richland Lutheran has had several members transfer from other local Lutheran congregations. How long do you think they will remain here if they do not establish connections and friends? We need friends; God made us that way. Even before recorded history, when humans lived as hunter/gathers, we know they lived in groups for mutual material and social support.

**God's Command** - God intended his followers and disciples to be known for their love for each other. Jesus said to his followers, "***A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.***" Love is much more than polite conversation or warm feelings. There are many definitions of love but for me the true essence of love is wanting to be with the other person and truly wanting what is best for them.

Becoming friends with other church members to the point of loving them takes effort and time spent with them. It often means giving up time that we would like to be spending in some other way. Friendship means sacrifice. Greetings during a service or a short conversation in the narthex or at a HeBrews Café won't do it. I think that for many of us the most effective way to friendship is through sharing meals together. There is something about talking while enjoying food together that brings people together like no other activity.

**Taking Action** - How long has it been since you invited someone, that you don't know very well or at all, to your home for a meal? Consider forming a new habit. At least every three months invite a member of Richland Lutheran, who you don't know, to your home for dinner. Let us show love to one another as Jesus commanded us to do. You will fill a need and find enjoyment for yourself.

Please continue to communicate with me. Call me (509-628-0420) or Email me ([dllarkin@charter.net](mailto:dllarkin@charter.net)) if you have thoughts, suggestions, complaints, or want to become more involved in our church's ministries.

Dave Larkin – Congregation President

# Annual New Members Event

*"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."* Matthew 18:20



L-R: Bobbi & Norm Stout, Lisa & Lillyana Frislie, Connie Distefano, Eileen Posey, Bettye & John Samuel, Barbara King

The New Members' Ministry team hosted its second annual New Members' event on Saturday, January 17, honoring those individuals who joined the Richland Lutheran Church family during 2014.

This year everyone enjoyed "A Wintertime Picnic". The evening was filled with fun, good friends, conversation, and lots of picnic-style food and drink. The evening was topped off with song and guitar by our one and only Joseph Farrar. A resounding "Thank You" to all who attended this annual event to help welcome these individuals who are new to our church family. And, a special "Thank You" to those who helped set up and clean up. You know who you are.



This Ministry team looks forward to hosting many more of these events and welcoming many more new members to Richland Lutheran Church. We also look forward to helping them connect with Christ, the church and its ministries, and God's purpose for their lives through our Shepherding Program. If you are a member of Richland Lutheran Church and haven't already volunteered for this ministry, we encourage you to consider doing so through prayer and by contacting a member of the New Members' Ministry team or by indicating your interest on the yellow worship slip.

*"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers – not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be..."* 1 Peter 5:2

New Members' Ministry Team: *Sandy Steele, Fred Kremmer, and Liz Swanson*



New member, Bettye Samuel, wrote this poem for the day she and her husband, John, joined RLC:

## THE TURNING WINDS

Before John, I and others became members of Richland Lutheran  
the "winds of change" had caused us sorrow and pain  
But the winds of change have turned to the "Winds of Grace"  
For we are now snuggled in the arms of Richland Lutheran  
and by the Grace of God, are now happy and content!  
So thank you Richland Lutheran for accepting us, loving us  
and securing us in BIBLICAL TRUTH!

## February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>8:30 AM Worship            9:00 AM Good News Today            9:45 AM HeBrews Café, Education Hour            9:45 AM New Members Class            11:00 AM Worship            5:30 PM HS Discipleship Team            6:30 PM Coffeehouse            7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Growth Group</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Play Date            12:00 PM Mary Martha Growth Group            4:30 PM Executive Committee            6:30 PM Pastor Bob's Bible Study            7:00 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Meeting            6:30 PM Cub Scouts            6:30 PM Facilities Building Committee            7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 248            7:00 PM Outreach Team</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>8:30 AM Worship            9:00 AM Good News Today            9:45 AM Blood Pressure Checks            9:45 AM HeBrews Café, Education Hour            9:45 AM New Members Class            11:00 AM Worship            5:30 PM HS Discipleship Team            6:30 PM Coffeehouse            7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Growth Group</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Play Date            12:00 PM Mary Martha Growth Group            6:30 PM Pastor Bob's Bible Study            7:00 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast - Dennys            9:30 AM Staff Meeting            6:30 PM Cub Scouts            6:30 PM Facilities Building Committee            7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 248            7:00 PM Congregation Council</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>8:30 AM Worship            9:00 AM Good News Today            9:45 AM HeBrews Café, Education Hour            11:00 AM Worship            5:30 PM HS Discipleship Team            6:30 PM Coffeehouse            7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Growth Group</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Play Date            12:00 PM Mary Martha Growth Group            6:30 PM Pastor Bob's Bible Study            7:00 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Meeting            6:30 PM Cub Scouts            6:30 PM Facilities Building Committee            7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 248</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>8:30 AM Worship            9:00 AM Good News Today            9:45 AM Blood Pressure Checks            9:45 AM HeBrews Café, Education Hour            11:00 AM Worship            5:30 PM HS Discipleship Team            6:30 PM Coffeehouse            7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Growth Group            7:30 PM Union Gospel Mission Service - meet at RLC at 7:00 PM</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Play Date            12:00 PM Mary Martha Growth Group            1:30 PM Dorcas Circle/Bible Study            6:30 PM Pastor Bob's Bible Study            7:00 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Meeting            6:30 PM Cub Scouts            6:30 PM Facilities Building Committee            7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 248</p>



## February 2014

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Sewing Bee            1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study            2:30 PM Knitting Group            6:00 PM Family Dinner            6:30 PM Super Kids!, WILD!            6:30 PM Sacred Parenting            6:45 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Work            9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study            6:00 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly            6:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>4:30 PM Mafrag Prayer Team            5:00 PM Worship</p>
<p><b>11</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Sewing Bee            1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study            2:30 PM Knitting Group            6:00 PM Family Dinner            6:30 PM AA Treatment Committee            6:30 PM RLC Foundation            6:30 PM Super Kids!, WILD!            6:30 PM Sacred Parenting            6:45 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Work            9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study            6:00 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly            6:00 PM AA Meeting            6:30 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>4:30 PM Mafrag Prayer Team            5:00 PM Worship</p>
<p><b>18 Ash Wednesday</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Sewing Bee            12:00 PM Ash Wed. Service            1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study            2:30 PM Knitting Group            7:00 PM Ash Wed. Service</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Work            9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study            1:00 PM Piece-Makers            6:00 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly            6:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Breakfast            4:30 PM Mafrag Prayer Team            5:00 PM Worship</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 10px; margin: 0 auto; width: 80%;"> <p><b>The Richland Lutheran Church calendar changes daily!</b></p> <p>Please call the church office, 943-3164, or check the website, <a href="http://www.richlandlutheran.org">www.richlandlutheran.org</a>, for the most current information. Please note that not all activities, especially Growth Group meetings and Circles, are actually held at the church.</p> </div>			
<p><b>25</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Sewing Bee            1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study            2:30 PM Knitting Group            6:00 PM Family Dinner            6:30 PM Super Kids!, WILD!            6:30 PM Sacred Parenting            6:45 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Work            9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study            6:00 PM Girl Scouts            6:00 PM Soup Supper            7:00 PM Lenten Worship Service</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly            9:00 AM Preview Assembly            9:30 AM Hannah Circle            6:00 PM AA Meeting            6:30 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>4:30 PM Mafrag Prayer Team            5:00 PM Worship</p>

## Activities for Kids



### ***SUPER KIDS FEBRUARY 2015***

Feb. 4 - Jesus Demonstrates His Authority! (Mark 1:21-28)

Feb. 11 - Jesus Heals, Prays & Preaches (Mark 1:29-39)

Feb. 18 - No Super Kids! (or dinner) JOIN US FOR

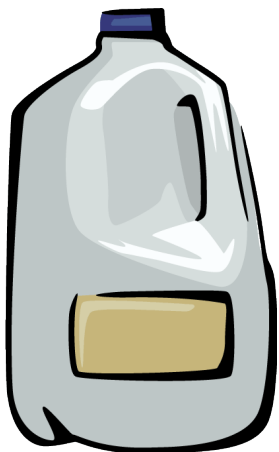
ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP @ 7:00 pm

Feb. 25 - Jesus Calms a Storm (Mark 4:35-41)

Admiral Awesome and Professor Peabody will be exploring the biblical truth about Jesus and his ministry this winter!

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 PM, 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, and lots of fun happen each week!

For more information, contact Jenny Page at 943-3164  
[jenny.page@richlandlutheran.org](mailto:jenny.page@richlandlutheran.org)



### **VBS needs your gallon-sized, plastic milk jugs & hot-glue sticks!**

Please bring your empty, **well washed**, gallon-sized plastic milk jugs for use with a decorating project for Vacation Bible School. We also need a LOT of hot-glue sticks (full-sized, not the micro or mini size). There's a box in the Prince of Peace fellowship area near the mailboxes to receive the jugs and glue sticks, or you can drop them off to the Sunday School office. Lids can be included with the jugs, and the label does not have to be removed...but please use soap and warm water to wash out the jug extremely well! Half-gallon jugs will work too, we'll just need a lot more of those!

## Youth Activities

### Middle School!

Grades 6-8



**Feb. 4** - What do they believe? Mormons - Part 3

**Feb. 11** - Game Night!!

**Feb. 18** - No WILD! (or dinner) JOIN US FOR ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP AT 7:00 pm

**Feb. 25** - What do they believe? Muslims

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 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.

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 Ben Barr  
(509) 948-0461

### High School!

Grades 9-12



(Sunday nights at 6:30 PM in the High School Room) This is our weekly meeting for high school students. We spend time worshiping, playing, laughing, discussing, learning, praying...among other things! Friends are always welcome!

**Feb 1:** Super Bowl Party...somewhere!  
(We'll let you know)

**Feb 8:** How to be a Christian in High School part 3

**Feb 15:** Life Decisions...the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

**Feb 22:** Bad Habits...turning over a new leaf

Reminder that **March 6** is our annual **Beach Trip Fundraiser Dinner**...and we'll need your help!!!

The **High School Discipleship Group** meets at 5:30 PM on Sundays in the Friendship Room. If you are interested in deepening your faith and growing closer to other Christ-followers, this may be the group for you!

## Advice for the Lovelorn

One glance at the headline and you may assume, that in my newfound “status” (?) at Richland Lutheran, I’ve determined to turn these articles into an advice column. It is a temptation. I can only imagine what manner of wackiness, seriousness, hypocrisy, heresy and sinfulness an “Ask Pastor Dave” column might uncover from within *any* congregation granted anonymity by the use of pseudonyms in correspondence. Over 40 years of pastoral experience gives me the sad feeling it could be shockingly eye-opening to discover what *some* parishioners might indeed *really* be thinking, facing or believing. But instead, as this is February’s article, I’m intending to draw on over 50 years of marital experience in a Valentine’s Day tie-in. Hence, the title.

Last year marked the significant 50th wedding anniversary for Elaine and me. You should know that our marriage has survived being preceded by a three-year courtship during which I was, most of the time, unsuccessfully pursuing a person who didn’t *want* to be courted by me. Believe me: I know something about being lovelorn (a term referring to pining away in love...somewhat akin to being “lovesick”)! So, my first advice for the lovelorn is: prayerful persistence. It doesn’t guarantee the goal, but it certainly forms/informs the relationship. Now, you’re probably thinking, “Hogan, we see what you look like. We know all about your sick sense of humor. We’re well acquainted with your obviously manifest and manifold flaws. *Anybody* would be justified in not wanting to be pursued by you!” I’m very self aware, and don’t disagree with your assessment. It’s just that even loners aren’t meant to go through life alone. Every person has this immense, innate creational need to be loved, to love and to be in relationship (I’m skipping a great deal of proof from God’s Word substantiating this statement). I am three weeks older than Elaine. I’ve often considered that in the intervening three weeks from my birth, God took note of me and concluded, “That boy needs help!” Hence, Elaine.

Oddly, the relationship *has* survived. *Both* of us forgot our 10th anniversary! My second piece of advice for the lovelorn is that you each must have a sense of humor: self-deprecating humor toward yourself (not at your mate) and your relationship. It survived my well-worn line, “Sure, you’re upset at me now; but when I turn my back you’re going to smile and think, ‘He says the cutest things!’” During our courtship, contemporary cards from me were a staple. So why would our 50th wedding anniversary be any different? Oh, I bought her the flowery obligatory serious card; but she knew, and expected, the other card - the real one. A forlorn guy on the cover says, “*There’s no one in the world who makes me feel the way you do.*” On the inside it continues, “*It’s a mixture of passionate love and the vague feeling I’m in trouble. Happy Anniversary!*”

More advice for the lovelorn: love isn’t intended for just two of you. You each move into an extended larger family. You’re intended to enlarge the family - this is known as child-bearing/soul-winning. As the love relationship lengthens this will come back to haunt you - this is known as your family coming back to visit you with sick grandchildren. At Christmas, the annual call alerting us to such a visit came. You’re told they’re all ill, but *think* they’ll be well by the time they get here (what! in four hours?!). The predictable result(?): at this writing it is January 15th; I’ve been well enough to get out of the house *once* since New Year’s Eve day. How can you not love sick granddaughters who want to snuggle up to you? I’m reminded of the vows “in sickness and in health”. I’m reminded of the irony I’m about to teach a course on healing at church. I’m reminded of **Song of Solomon 2:5, 5:8: “I am sick with love.”** (ESV) I’m reminded of Jesus, Who continues to pursue and court us even when we rebuff His advances. I’m reminded of the high and holy hilarity of God, the Creator, in Jesus pursuing such unlikely and unlovable creatures (who, me?) See the lovesick Jesus in **Isaiah 53:3,4 “rejected by (us)...acquainted with (sickness)...(bearing) *our* (sickness)...”** (ESV, alt.)

Pastor Dave



## Recognizing our Volunteers

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

This month we’d like to recognize Chuck and Hermine Fordham, Vivian Stangeland, and Betty and Felix Quinn who spend several hours a month shopping, stocking and organizing our food pantry. We regularly serve more than one hundred and fifty individuals each month and we couldn’t do it without the dedication of our volunteers!

## Worship Support

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Sunday February 1</i>	<i>Sunday February 8</i>	<i>Sunday February 15</i>	<i>Sunday February 22</i>
<i>Lectors</i>	8:30 AM	Norm Gillette	Kathy Killand	Norm Gillette	Dolores Jaech
	11:00 AM	Karen Clark	Sue Meek	Susan Schmieman	Len Ross
<i>Acolytes</i>	8:30 AM	Ella Sperline Kjersten Jordheim	Josh Mars Mikayla Mars	Kayla Peterson Aaron Cole	Adam Pilger Madeline Pilger
	11:00 AM	Coley Levin Kenny You	Madeline Haynie Sophia Fetrow	Carlyle Keyes Zeke Ernst	Conner Budzeck Jennifer Williams
<i>Ushers</i>	8:30 AM	H-Mike Schwartz Karen Schwartz A-Jim Peterson Mac Dixson	Boy Scout Troop 248	H-Jim Peterson ***** A-John Lesser Kiane Lesser	H-Larry Corning Fred Kremmer A-Gary Weible Eunice Weible
	11:00 AM	H-Carol Hexum Alan Hagensen A-Jean Loss Jim Loss	Boy Scout Troop 248	H-Janet Budzeck Rick Budzeck A-Mike Strasburg Charles Rogers	H-Jean Loss Jim Loss A-Janet Budzeck Rick Budzeck
<i>Communion Assistants</i>	8:30 AM	Sue Meek Charles Davis Elaine Davis	Clarine Watkins Pam Hedges Kathy Killand	Norm Gillette Sara Gillette Charles Davis	Clarine Watkins Kathy Killand Charles Davis
	11:00 AM	Karen Clark Jon Page Jenny Page	Amy Sperline Jeff Sperline Val Silva	Kelly Westlund Heidi Dagle Val Silva	Ginnette Ernst Heidi Dagle Kelly Westlund
<i>Setup/Cleanup Communion</i>	Saturday 5:00 PM	Joanne Woehle Bernie Woehle	Nancy Ballard	Ann Brandes Dave Brandes	Sue Worgull Sue Worgull
<i>Cleanup/ Setup Communion</i>	Sunday After 8:30 AM	Vicki Jordheim Dan Jordheim	Lois Harrold Karin Nickola	Carol Schmid	Joanne and Bernie Woehle
<i>Clean Up Communion</i>	After 11:00 AM	Jean Loss	Rick Nunamaker	Kelly Westlund	Rick Nunamaker
<i>Church Friends</i>	8:30 AM	Lois Harrold	Norm Gillette Sara Gillette	Carol Schmid	Debbie Honeyman
	11:00 AM	Kelly Westlund	Kathy Snyder Rick Snyder	LaVonne Scully	Ann Brandes Dave Brandes
<i>Children's Church Leaders</i>	8:30 AM	Lori Lachut Jim Lachut	Desiree Hall	John Huebner	Melissa Schmid Sarah/Katie
	11:00 AM	Pam Hedges Kira Westlund	Julie Bishop	Trina Miles Andrew Miles	Jana Strasburg
<i>Producer/ Audio Mix</i>	8:30 AM	Bob Thompson	Jim Moran	Andrew Clark	Bob Thompson (11:00)
<i>Tech Direc- tor/Live Stream Coordinator</i>	8:30 AM	Brian Killand	Mike Schwartz	Mike Stankovich	Jim Moran (11:00)

## Worship Support, Continued

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Sunday February 1</i>	<i>Sunday February 8</i>	<i>Sunday February 15</i>	<i>Sunday February 22</i>
<i>Cameras</i>	8:30 AM	#1-Robert Warren #2-Ryan Warren	#1-Paul Hedges #2-Fred Kremmer	#1-Ken Meek #2-Don Schmid	#1-Jack Page (11:00) #2-Woody Page (11:00)
<i>Editor/ Post Production</i>	8:30 AM	Karen Rogers	Bob Thompson	Mike Stankovich	Karen Rogers (11:00)
<i>Sound System Operators</i>	8:30 AM	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges
	11:00 AM	Jeff Dagle	Jeff Dagle	Jeff Dagle	Jeff Dagle
<i>Coffee Preparation and Cleanup</i>	8:30 AM	Sandy Steele	Patti Miller	*****	*****
	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	Alicia Phaneuf Alan Hagensen	Snyder Bettinson	Jana Strasburg Mike Stankovich	Budzeck Rich Barchet
<i>Sat. Evening Worship Support</i>	5:00 PM	Rob Barr Kathy Barr	Jim Lachut Lori Lachut	Mike Schwartz Karen Schwartz	Dave Brandes Ann Brandes
<i>Cashiers</i>		Kathy Snyder Debbie Honeyman	Judy Riggers Doris Barchet	Kathy Snyder Marge Hogue	Nancy Ballard Lori Hogan
<i>Recycle</i>		Mike Hoffner	Valerie Bettinson	Joan Perham	Laura Stevens
<i>Flowers</i>		*****	Jerry & Sissel Selvig	*****	*****

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday February 18</i>	<i>Lenten Service February 26</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	Noon	Jim Peterson Mike Strasburg	
	7:00 PM	Mac Dixson *****	Gary Weible Eunice Weible
<i>Lectors</i>	Noon	Lois Harrold	Elaine Keyes
	7:00 PM	Dolores Jaech	
<i>Acolytes</i>	7:00 PM	Kyle Prigge Kaleb Prigge	Robert Warren Ryan Warren
<i>Communion Setup/Cleanup</i>	Noon	Rick Nunamaker	
	7:00 PM	Rick Nunamaker	
<i>Communion Assistants</i>	7:00 PM	Marge Hogue Valerie Bettinson Karen Clark	

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.

# Anniversaries & Birthdays

ANNIVERSARIES	BIRTHDAYS		
<b>February 5</b> Eunice & Gary Weible	<b>February 1</b> Julie Gearheard Loren Schmid	<b>February 9</b> Emma Hamilton	<b>February 20</b> Bonnie Harris Terri Oberlander
<b>February 6</b> Lorrie & Charles Rogers	<b>February 2</b> Peggy Pilger Lauri Whitney	<b>February 10</b> Pat Gibson Carter Morris Bob Riggers JoAnn Rosscup	<b>February 21</b> Steven Skinner
<b>February 8</b> Mary & Todd Riensche	<b>February 3</b> Jackson Clary	<b>February 11</b> Edna Brasfield Sallie Huebner Ron Page Heather Riensche Jack Tellefson	<b>February 22</b> James Fulton Katie Schmid
<b>February 14</b> Nancy & Norman Fiess	<b>February 4</b> Mary Armatis Jean Loss Brenda Mercer	<b>February 12</b> Karin Nickola Lillian Solbrack	<b>February 23</b> Maxwell Clary Ginette Ernst Cadynce Hamilton Marilyn Mitchell Matt Rutt Marie Thompson
<b>February 16</b> Wallapa & Wally Hendrickson Brenda & Rob Mercer	<b>February 5</b> Ed Dalpiaz Marge Hogue Elsie Knostman Irmgard Kuchera Betty Quinn Henry Solbrack Laura Stevens Alan Tindell Jacob Wunschel	<b>February 13</b> Helen Hendrickson Lucille Knutson	<b>February 24</b> Ron Brunke Greg Kelly Kyia Miles Michael Pardini Susan Schmieman Samuel Webster
<b>February 17</b> Bonnie & Ken Harris	<b>February 6</b> Kelly Camastral Whitney Rau Chloe Thorson	<b>February 14</b> Roy Gunter Adam Pilger Loris Schmidt	<b>February 25</b> Lois Blanchard Michelle Peterson Tracey Stuenkel
<b>February 29</b> Sharon & Erick Koehling	<b>February 8</b> Todd Riensche Natalie Scherer Patrick Schroeder	<b>February 15</b> Trey Carstensen Elizabeth Striefel	<b>February 27</b> Jon Erlandson
		<b>February 16</b> Alisha Bettinson David Chaney Thomas Larsen	<b>February 28</b> Inez Miller
		<b>February 18</b> Norene Erlandson Jack Oppelt	

## HeBrews Cafe



Do you enjoy a cup of coffee before or after your Sunday worship while visiting with your RLC family in the fellowship hall? That coffee doesn't just magically appear all by itself! Someone needs to make it and clean it up each Sunday. And just like with your family at home, sometimes you make it, sometimes someone else in the house makes it. Everyone works together to make it happen! Please sign up on the calendar above the coffee table in the fellowship area to help make and/or clean up coffee on Sundays or email Jenny Page to be scheduled ([jenny.page@richlandlutheran.org](mailto:jenny.page@richlandlutheran.org)). If everyone who has a cup of coffee signed up JUST TWICE, the entire YEAR would be covered! A "recipe" for those big percolators is available, and hands-on training can be arranged, too!

Coffee at RLC...we're not a coffee shop, we're more like your home kitchen. Please lend a hand.



**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

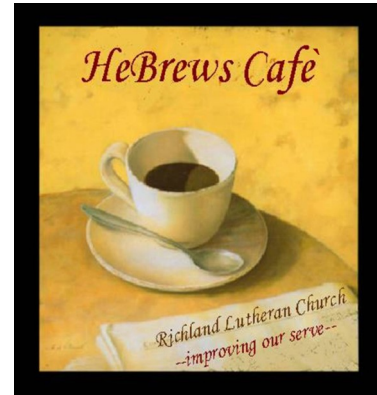
**Ash Wednesday Services**  
Wednesday, February 18, at Noon and 7:00 PM

**Lenten Service**  
Thursday, February 26, at 7:00 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](http://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.***