



## Extravagant Generosity: Part 2

*“God who supplies seed to the sower and bread will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God ...” II Corinthians 9: 10, 11.*

On November 29 and 30, Pastor Steve explained how Extravagant Generosity benefits the Church, that is the people, and thus us, in accomplishing God’s and our vision by making Christ’s name known and furthering His Kingdom. As in many cases, his message made me think. My thoughts wondered to how generous giving to the work of the RLC Foundation fits into that vision. So I got his approval to do a little plagiarizing.

Some of you might ask, “What in the world is the RLC Foundation.” Let me tell you. The congregation at an annual meeting started the Foundation in 1987 as a separate 501 (c) (3) corporation. They made voting members of Richland Lutheran Church also voting members of the Foundation.

The RLC Foundation plants seeds for new ministries that are nourished by others to become full-fledged ministries that praise God and give Him glory. Thus, these seeds stir others to do good deeds to the glory of God and ultimately provide sharing and leading others to Christ.

Examples of some of the Foundation ministry seeds that you may be familiar with that have matured include G-3 (1999)/mid-week Super Kids!, an opportunity for family night; Prayer Ministry (2008), practical teaching for developing people’s prayer life; God Sightings Bibles and aids (2009), drawing people into the Bible at their own pace; the Gedde Lecture Series (2010), bringing theological speakers to the Tri-Cities; Neighborhood Ministry (2011), reaching out to our immediate neighbors and showing that we care for them and want to know them better; Jefferson School Tutoring Ministry (2012), assisting volunteers to enter a partnership with teachers and administrators in helping students improve their skills and confidence levels; and the Cornerstone Fund Jump Start (2013), funds provided on a donation matching basis.

Planting these seeds are possible through your generous giving to the Foundation because the funds used result from the income earned by investing your donations; only the income is used so your donation remains as principal and can multiply by generating funds for future use.

Continued on Page 4

## 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

Dagle, Jerry & Margaret  
184 Bradley Blvd.  
Richland, WA 99352

Frame, Bill & Maria  
Remove - transferred to  
Charlotte, NC

Tanasse, Joel & Lynn  
1130 Foxtrot Lane  
Richland 99352  
430-0043

Vesper, Bruce & Janice  
Remove per request

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## Pastoral Acts

**Baptisms**  
None

**Weddings**  
None

**Memorial/Funeral**  
December 20 Kay Aase

### **The Preview**

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## From Pastor Steve

DID YOU  
KNOW



DID YOU KNOW...Christians celebrate both life and death at Christmas? At least we ought to. As I write this article I'm in the midst of planning Kay Aase's memorial service. Kay, a beloved member of Richland Lutheran and a dear friend of mine and many, died the previous Sunday. In fact, Christmas can be a very difficult time of year for many because of the remembrances of lives lost in years' past during this season and the highlighted absence of our loved ones at family gatherings and celebrations. Honestly, I find myself feeling less than "joyful, joyful" these days as I prepare, yet again, to say goodbye to a fellow member of our church and loving friend. Having had to say goodbye to so many these past months, Bill Eller, Millie Volkman, Ken Kenton, Roy Hibbard,

Jean Moore, Pete and Edie Lakey, Kay Mesford, Shirley Riley, and most recently Cloyde Hardman, I'm feeling a bit worn. Perhaps you are too. It's become difficult to find the joy in Christmas this year.

But God is teaching me something new. In my morning quiet time with Jesus, He's been teaching me, by His Spirit of grace, to understand Christmas as both a celebration of life and a celebration of death. The first, a celebration of life, is easy to come by and understand. We celebrate the life of Jesus the Christ begun in the manger, incarnate (God made flesh), Immanuel (God with us). The second, a celebration of death, is not as easy to get our heads around. But indeed, I believe it's there in the Christmas story.

Jesus himself said in the Gospel of John the tenth chapter, "*I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*" These two verses, ten and eleven, give testimony to the truth Christmas is about the celebration of both life and death. Verse ten speaks clearly to the celebration of life, "*I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*" But Jesus doesn't stop there even though many times we do. For its much easier to celebrate life; the life of Jesus, the life of loved ones, our own life, than it is to celebrate death. Duh! With statements like these I'm sure to win the "Master of the Obvious" award. Mom will be so proud!

Verse eleven, I've come to believe, speaks to the celebration of death, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." It may feel uncomfortable to talk about celebrating death but that is indeed what we do as those who believe Jesus' death on the cross paid for our sins giving us salvation and eternal life itself. What Jesus is really saying here is, "I, the good shepherd, have come to lay down my life for my sheep," isn't it? Doesn't this give greater meaning to Jesus' coming? Not only did Jesus come to live, He came to die. In the manger we see Jesus coming to life, coming to death, death on a cross. The manger and the cross cannot, must not, be separated!

So then, it is because of Christmas, the birth of Jesus, we celebrate both life and death. The life of Jesus and the abundant and eternal life he gives us and the death of Jesus and our own death which leads to life! Paul says this clearly in Romans 6, "Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him." Did you see it just there, the Hope of God, our reason to celebrate death, a glimpse of joy? Kay, Bill, Millie, Ken, Roy, Jean, Pete and Edie, Kay, Shirley, Cloyde, have died with Christ, the one come in the manger to go to the cross, and now live with him. Though we miss them dearly, this is certainly worth celebrating! Merry Christmas!



## Financial Report - November 2014

As reflected in the financial summary below, our financial results through November are reflecting a positive trend as we end the calendar year. Our offerings are up \$25,996 or 4.0% higher than last year for the same period. Our expenses are up \$5,539 or .8% higher than the same time last year. For the year, our offerings are below expenses by \$(31,552) compared to \$(52,009) in 2013, a change from last year of \$20,458. These results are reflected in the columns titled “Prior Year Comparison”.

	YTD - November			Prior Year Comparison		
	Actuals	Budget	Var O/(U)	2014	2013	Var O/(U)
Offerings / Income	\$ 676,134	\$737,520	\$(61,386)	\$ 676,134	\$ 650,137	\$ 25,996
Expenses	\$ 707,685	\$767,447	\$(59,762)	\$ 707,685	\$ 702,147	\$ 5,539
Net Cash Flow	<u>\$(31,552)</u>	<u>\$(29,927)</u>	<u>\$ (1,625)</u>	<u>\$(31,552)</u>	<u>\$(52,009)</u>	<u>\$ 20,458</u>

For the year, actual offerings are below budget by \$(61,386) and actual expenses are under budget by \$(59,762).

As a reminder, this year’s approved budget is 9.8% higher than last year’s actual offerings. For your reference, our average planned offerings/income per week is approximately \$16,150. Through the month of November, our actual weekly average of offerings/income is \$14,086, or \$(2,064) under plan per week.

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).

## Extravagant Generosity: Part 2, Continued

There are many ways to give; outright gifts of money or property or through wills, transfers in trust, gift annuities, life insurance, and life and income trusts. Thus, if the desire to give is present, almost anyone can share in making the Foundation a more effective instrument for carrying out the mission and ministry of our Lord – now and in the future.

There is another way you can help the Foundation and learn more about it. On January 25, 2015, the Foundation will sponsor HeBrews Café and hold its Annual Meeting. Our President promises that the business meeting will take only 5-10 minutes followed by the remainder of the time as an “open house” allowing you to interact with the Board Members and learn more about the Foundation while socializing and enjoying good food.

Loren C. Schmid, a Foundation Voting Member since 1987.

## From the Council

### SHARE YOUR JOY IN 2015 WITH A FRESH START

Having prepared during---Advent---for and received at the---Nativity---the birth of our Lord, we're ready for a fresh start in 2015 sharing with the Magi our Christmas Joy in the true light and presence of Jesus.

Twelve days after Christmas we don't envision turtle doves, French hens or calling birds, but---gold, frankincense and myrrh---when the Three Wise Men came to adore and worship the Christ child by following the Star of Bethlehem,

*"O star of wonder, star of night....Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding....Guide us to thy perfect light."*

Joyously we celebrate the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ at Epiphany and the manifestation of our Lord to the nations by the leading of the star. We know our Joy is present to be embraced since **"He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."** (Ephesians 2:10b NIV)

New Year's resolutions abound every January, but can we share the Joy of our Salvation in ways that go beyond working out at the gym or pushing away from the table? Let me suggest some ways that **"we can re-ignite our Joy."**

**First, we can spend time with God every day.** Throughout Scripture, God invites us to come into his presence. There's Joy that comes when we spend time with God in prayer, meditation and reading our Bible as we listen for his voice and for his direction in our lives. There's Joy in deepening our relationship with God.

**Second, there is Joy in giving back through "good things he planned for us."** RLC's Ministry Plan for 2015 reflects many opportunities for service, volunteerism and Joyful giving of time and talents in keeping with our 2015 focus of Extravagant Generosity. We have the luxury of Joy in opportunities of giving our time and talent to the ministry teams in Worship, Spiritual Transformation, Biblical Stewardship and Christian Service at RLC. Did you know persecuted Christians in closed countries are some of the most joyful people? Worship and service are "not casual" to them "it means something" to them.

Finally since God has called and ordained Richland Lutheran Church **to make Christ's name known and advance His Kingdom** here in our community we may receive Joy beyond measure by telling someone about Jesus, volunteering in outreach, teaching Sunday school, youth groups, prayer ministries and visitation activities. **Lord make us instruments of your peace and grace.**

The three Kings "from Orient are, bearing gifts---**travel afar**---over field and fountain, moor and mountain, following the star" had their fresh start in adoration of the Christ child. How much easier for us to make a "fresh start" this Epiphany, being Joyous in our new creation in Christ while making Him known and advancing His Kingdom here in Richland.

Norm Gillette, Member at Large

## Presidents' Perspectives - A New Year

The end of a year and the beginning of a new one is always a time to reflect on how I've spent my time and money and how I can improve in the future. I have been totally retired from a job for pay for five years now and that has opened up many opportunities for me. I can spend more time in my devotional life, I can read more (over 175 books in 2014), exercise more regularly, and have more time for volunteer service.

When you elected me as your President for 2014-2015 I sat down and set some goals specifically for that office for 2014. I try to set very objective, measureable goals; no "enhance", "improve", or "leverage" language for me. I set goals in five different areas and this December took time to evaluate the successes and failures and how to do better in 2015.

**Prayer** - I had resolved to pray for Richland Lutheran Church by praying for Pastor Steve daily, for one other staff member each week, for a Council member weekly, and for congregation members as needed. I've done well on Pastor Steve, staff members, and Council members but need to do more on praying for members and want to specifically add ministries to my list for 2015. I'd rate my performance a B in this area.

**Communications** - I wanted to improve communications with you and the staff. The ways I resolved to do this was by attending at least monthly a staff meeting, meeting regularly with Pastor Steve, writing monthly PREVIEW articles for you, and to give more recognition through personal notes or in the PREVIEW for contributions made by members, especially those working behind the scenes. I now attend staff meetings every week, if in town, and have continued this monthly article in the PREVIEW. Meeting with Pastor Steve regularly did not happen. I started the year writing thank you notes but by July started letting that slip. I want to do better on this because I know how encouraging notes have been to me in the past. I would grade myself as B.

**Council Meeting Content** - The goals in this area were to increase our time in devotions and prayer, get materials to be discussed out to Council members a week in advance, segregate action items from information items and put information items nearer the end to make sure we got the action items done, get Council members involved in ministry areas, and to be advocates for those areas, and to feature a ministry area each month. An A- performance here. Not all materials are getting out a week in advance but everything else has been working.

**Expand Congregation Ministry Involvement** – Goals here were to help fill all ministry team leader positions with lay people, develop a data base of volunteers, and publicize ministry volunteer needs through the PREVIEW and possibly a bulletin board posting position descriptions for needed volunteers. The staff has made some progress here but personally I have only found one person to fill a needed position. This is an area that really needs emphasis. I give myself a D.

**Encourage Improvements in Ministries** – The ministry areas I picked to improve were those I have a special heart for: expanding (not too specific there) the number of spiritual formation small groups, implementing the Alpha program, holding an information meeting on local Hispanics' social justice issues, having at least three adult education choices each quarter, and completing the architect's Strategic Facility Plan. None of these were implemented so I must give myself a grade of F.

As I look forward to 2015 I want to meet all of these goals before my term ends in December 2015. I thank the congregation for their trust in me by giving me these opportunities. 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

## From the Sewing Bee

Thanks and praise from the RLC Sewing Bee for your support at the GNMM Arts and Craft Fair on November 8. The Sewing Bee made \$824.75 with your help. Thrivent for Lutherans has matched our funds with a check for \$600 that goes to GNMM.

We also thank you for your support by giving us fabric and sewing quilt tops for us. On Wednesday, November 12, the Sewing Bee gave the following items to a few local agencies:

Large quilts - World Relief (2); Lap Robes - Red Cross (7); Cancer Center (5); My Friend's Place for teens (5) and Baby Quilts - Safe Harbor (2). We also donated 20 large quilts to Lutheran World Relief.

As we work together, we are blessed to be a blessing to others.

## Benevolence

It is a practice of Richland Lutheran Church to use at least 10% of every Operating Budget dollar you give for effective organizations providing help to others. Where these dollars go is decided quarterly. In December, the Council approved the recommendations of our Outreach Ministry Team on allocating \$11,461 to the following ministries: Union Gospel Mission (new building project) - \$5,100; SIGN Fracture Care International - \$2,361; China Connect - \$2,000; Soul Soup (Bethel Church) - \$1,000; and Bike Ministry (Hillspring Church) - \$1,000.

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Dear Richland Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your generous donation to the **Journey with Christ**. With your donation we've been able to allow "caterpillars" to attend weekends at no cost and this decision has not caused us any financial hardship. Your donation truly is a blessing to us and our community.

Thank you again, and we look forward to your continued support.

Kara Lanthorn, Journey with Christ President

Dear Friends:

On behalf of **Grace Clinic**, thank you for your generous support. Your donation helps us in our mission to bring Christ's love and healing to those in need.

Thank you from the Board and Volunteers of Grace Clinic

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Board, staff, and those we serve, thank you for your gift to **The Chaplaincy (Cork's Place)**. Through your gift, you will help children and adults struggling with grief, emotional distress, and loss, and will provide compassionate care to both patients and families before, during, and after a loved one passes away. We are so grateful for you and for your support of the work we do in service to others. It is a privilege to have you by our side as we care for our community.

Paul Weil, Executive Director

Dear Steve, Kelly and all our friends and family in Christ at Richland Lutheran:

Thank you so much for your continued support to **Fields of Grace**. We deeply value your partnership in ministry and feel blessed to be chosen as one of the ministries supported by the Richland Lutheran Church Family. Were looking forward to seeing you all on the 18th of January!

Your gift will help us continue to provide fresh produce to area food banks and the families that they serve. Together, we can then offer nutritious and delicious options for those who are in need within our community.

With thanks and blessings, John Neill, Executive Director

**Please join the Outreach Team and Fields of Grace in HeBrews Café on Sunday, January 18, to hear about their ministry here in the Tri-Cities!**

# January 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

**The Richland Lutheran Church calendar changes daily!**

Please call the church office, 943-3164, or check the website, [www.richlandlutheran.org](http://www.richlandlutheran.org), for the most current information. Please note that not all activities, especially Growth Group meetings and Circles, are actually held at the church.

**4**  
 8:30 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

**5**  
 12:00 PM Mary Martha Growth Group  
 4:30 PM Executive Committee  
 6:30 PM Pastor Bob's Bible Study  
 7:00 Women's Bible Study

**6**  
 9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
 6:30 PM Cub Scouts  
 6:30 PM Facilities Building Committee  
 7:00 Boy Scout Troop 248  
 7:00 PM Outreach Team

**11**  
 8:30 Worship  
 9:00 AM Good News Today  
 9:45 AM HeBrews Café, Education Hour  
 9:45 AM Blood Pressure Checks  
 11:00 AM Worship  
 5:30 PM HS Discipleship Team  
 6:30 PM Coffeehouse  
 7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Growth Group

**12**  
 12:00 PM Mary Martha Growth Group  
 6:30 PM Pastor Bob's Bible Study  
 7:00 Women's Bible Study

**13**  
 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast - Denny's  
 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

**18**  
 8:30 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

**19**  
 12:00 PM Mary Martha Growth Group  
 6:30 PM Pastor Bob's Bible Study  
 7:00 Women's Bible Study

**20**  
 9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
 6:30 PM Cub Scouts  
 6:30 PM Facilities Building Committee  
 7:00 Boy Scout Troop 248

**25**  
 8:30 Worship  
 9:00 AM Good News Today  
 9:45 AM HeBrews Café, Education Hour  
 9:45 AM Blood Pressure Checks  
 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)

**26**  
 12:00 PM Mary Martha Growth Group  
 1:30 PM Dorcas Circle  
 6:30 PM Pastor Bob's Bible Study  
 7:00 Women's Bible Study

**27**  
 9:30 AM Staff Meeting  
 6:30 PM Cub Scouts  
 6:30 PM Facilities Building Committee  
 7:00 Boy Scout Troop 248



## January 2015

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> <b>New Years Day Office Closed</b>	<b>2</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 9:00 AM Preview Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	<b>3</b> 4:30 PM Mafraq Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship
<b>7</b> 9:00 AM Sewing Bee 2:30 PM Knitting Group 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Super Kids!, WILD! 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	<b>8</b> 9:00 AM Library Work 9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	<b>9</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting	<b>10</b> 4:30 PM Mafraq Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship
<b>14</b> 9:00 AM Sewing Bee 2:30 PM Knitting Group 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM AA Treatment Committee 6:30 PM Super Kids!, WILD! 6:30 PM RLC Foundation 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	<b>15</b> 9:00 AM Library Work 9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 1:00 PM Piece-Makers 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	<b>16</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	<b>17</b> 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast 4:30 PM Mafraq Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship 6:00 PM New Members Event
<b>21</b> 9:00 AM Sewing Bee 2:30 PM Knitting Group 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Super Kids!, WILD! 6:45 PM Chancel Choir 7:00 PM GNMM Board	<b>22</b> 9:00 AM Library Work 9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	<b>23</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 9:30 AM Hannah Circle 6:00 PM AA Meeting	<b>24</b> 4:30 PM Mafraq Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship
<b>28</b> 9:00 AM Sewing Bee 2:30 PM Knitting Group 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Super Kids!, WILD! 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	<b>29</b> 9:00 AM Library Work 9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	<b>30</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 9:00 AM Preview Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	<b>31</b> 4:30 PM Mafraq Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship

## Activities for Kids



### **SUPER KIDS DECEMBER 2014**

Jan. 7 - Wise Men Find Jesus! (Matt. 2:1-12)  
Jan. 14 - John Baptizes Jesus! (Mark 1:4-11)  
Jan. 21 - Rollerskating @ Richland Rollarena! Cost: \$5 (entrance & regular skates) or \$7 (entrance & inline/speed skates). No dinner @ RLC this night.  
Jan. 28 - Disciples Follow Jesus! (Mark 1:14-20)

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, 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)

### **January's Operation Christmas Child Items of the Month:**



### **New washcloths and individually wrapped bar soap**

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!



## **RLC SKATE NIGHT**

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

Richland Rollarena

6:30-8:30 PM

*No dinner at church that night*  
Everyone of all ages is welcome!!

Cost: \$5 (entrance & regular skates) or \$7 (entrance & inline/speed skates)

## Youth Activities

### Middle School!

Grades 6-8



**January 7** - It's a Mystery! Chapter 1

**January 14** - It's a Mystery! Chapter 2

**January 21** - Rollerskating @ Richland Rollarena!  
Cost: \$5 (entrance & regular skates)  
or \$7 (entrance & inline/speed skates).  
No dinner @ RLC this night.

**January 28** - It's a Mystery! Chapter 3

**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



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

**January 4:** TBD!!!

**January 11:** What's your story?

**January 18:** How to be a Christian in High School Part 1

**January 25:** How to be a Christian in High School Part 2

The **High School Discipleship Group** meets at 5:30pm 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!

## Have you met Keith?

Keith Lozano is our organist on Sunday mornings at the 8:30 service. He's a senior at Richland High this year. If you haven't met Keith yet, take a moment after the service to introduce yourself to him and thank him for sharing his gift of music with RLC!



## Return to the Routine

Ah (!) January: it doesn't stand a chance. How do you follow the unusual acts of celebration in December? *Now* we return to what, in the northern hemisphere, is the coldest month of the year. If it snows this month, it will *not* evoke the same heartwarming winter scene it did in December (excepting avid skiers - and delighted school children hoping for school closures.) In January, my Dad would come into the house, to warm up from sub-zero temperatures, stomping yet *more* fresh snow off of his boots, removing ice from his face and mittens, peering through fogged glasses, snow shovel in hand, declaring: "*I hate wintah!*" He reserved the disdainful pronunciation "*wintah*" for the continuation of winter - which in Minnesota would usually prove to be lengthy. Regardless of the fact of winter's ravages being considerably lessened in *our* locale of Washington, prolongation of the season still bears the ho-hum stigma of return to our normal routines of life. *Gone* are the bell-ringing greeters, smiling faces, lovely indoor party get-togethers with friends, wonderful special church programs and choral events which occupied our attention during Advent and Christmas. Now we return to school and work (and church!?) perhaps in an attitude of "*same old, same old*"/"*business as usual*" mostly without interruption in routine until Easter. This malaise in church apparently *doesn't* affect its C.E.O.'s (referring to attendance patterns of the crowd known as the "Christmas, Easter, Only" bunch). January is the doldrums!

Without negating seasons of special events, I speak in favor of the regularity of routine. The breakfast I eat *every day* is a candlelit meal consisting of: various and sundry pills (known as "*the black hole of medicine*") prescribed for/foisted upon me to treat diabetes and prevent medical matters which *could* arise out of that malady; a bowl of Smart Bran™ (with a bit of cinnamon and a sweetener called Truvia™) in skim milk; a large glass of water; a small glass of sugar-free cranberry juice; 2 cups of some variety of green tea - with a pinch of local honey (to stave off allergies); 1 small orange; shredded and seasoned hash browns (I prefer them burned) with 1 over-easy egg on top of them; 1 turkey link sausage; a nearly burned (by request) English muffin - with spread and sugar-free jam on it. It all ends with 1 small Russel Stover™ sugar-free toffee square and 2 small yogurt-covered pretzels! This breakfast may not *sound* good for a diabetic: but there *are* ingredients in it (like cinnamon) which are very good for the disease; and it gives me great blood sugar readings with enough protein to sustain me in case I get stretched out over the noon hour (an occupational hazard). Elaine is a *great* cook; but we laugh about not being able to recall what we ate at lunch or supper. Her meal I *remember* is my healthy, great-tasting, sustaining breakfast.

For spiritual sustenance, Elaine and I twice daily practice marital devotions (we also practice personal devotions, but *that's* a subject for another article.) This is healthy and sustaining for our marriage in relationship with Christ. Morning and evening for several years now, we've followed the format of *Celtic Daily Prayer*; reading the daily Scripture passages suggested, from two different translations (currently, the *Christian Standard Version* and *The Voice*.) It's all there: confession, professions of faith, Scripture, prayers; and, we sing seasonal hymns in accord with the liturgical calendar. Sound like twice daily worship services? It is - minus the sermon and the offering! Then, at the weekly corporate service of worship, even those missing elements get added. What could be *more* extraordinary than the *regular* affirmations of the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles'/Nicene Creed, and participation in that *memorable* meal of communion!!! The liturgical calendar's lengthiest season follows Pentecost; in Church history it's called "*Ordinary Time*". But what could be *ordinary* about life with Christ, and in His Church, experienced in the empowerment of the Spirit of Pentecost? Make such routines sustain *you* this year, and your life will *never* be routine again! **Hebrews 10:22-25.**

Pastor Dave

# Worship Support

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Sunday January 4</i>	<i>Sunday January 11</i>	<i>Sunday January 18</i>	<i>Sunday January 25</i>
<i>Lectors</i>	8:30 AM	Jim Peterson	Kathy Killand	Kristen Imhoff	Laura Stevens
	11:00 AM	Karen Clark	Susan Schmieman	Elaine Keyes	Sue Meek
<i>Acolytes</i>	8:30 AM	Mason Ciolli Colby Riensche	Aiden Lesser Anna Lesser	Katie Schmid Sarah Schmid	Adam Pilger Madeline Pilger
	11:00 AM	Conner Budzeck Sophia Fetrow	Jennifer Williams Nathan Ernst	Daniel Miles Andrew Miles	Trond Tilton Nathan Mitchell
<i>Ushers</i>	8:30 AM	H-Mike Schwartz Karen Schwartz A-Eunice Weible Gary Weible	H-Dave Larkin Harold Hogue A-Jim Peterson Larry Corning	H-Chuck McCargar Sue McCargar A-Gary Weible Mac Dixson	H-Jim Peterson Fred Kremmer A-John Lesser Kiane Lesser
	11:00 AM	H-Carol Hexum Alan Hagensen A-Jean Loss Jim Loss	H-Mike Bettinson Valerie Bettinson A-Janet Budzeck Rick Budzeck	H-Kathy Snyder Rick Snyder A-Mike Strasburg Charles Rogers	H-Jean Loss Jim Loss A-Kathy Snyder Rick Snyder
<i>Communion As- sistants</i>	8:30 AM	Pam Hedges Sue Meek Charles Davis Elaine Davis	Clarine Watkins Pam Hedges Jeff Pilger	Norm Gillette Sara Gillette Charles Davis	Clarine Watkins Marge Hogue Jeff Pilger
	11:00 AM	Karen Clark Valerie Bettinson Mike Bettinson Kelly Westlund	Amy Sperline Jeff Sperline Heidi Dagle	Jon Page Jenny Page Kelly Westlund	Valerie Bettinson Mike Bettinson Ginnette Ernst
<i>Setup/Cleanup Communion</i>	Saturday 5:00 PM	Ann Brandes Dave Brandes	Nancy Ballard	Jim Worgull Sue Worgull	Joanne Woehle
<i>Cleanup/ Setup Communion</i>	Sunday After 8:30 AM	Lois Harrold Karin Nickola	Carol Schmid	Pamela Warren Rick Nunamaker	MaryJo Schroeder Mike Schroeder
<i>Clean Up Com- munion</i>	After 11:00 AM	Jean Loss	Kelly Westlund	Rick Nunamaker	Jean Loss
<i>Church Friends</i>	8:30 AM	Lois Harrold	Norm Gillette Sara Gillette	Carol Schmid	Debbie Honeyman
	11:00 AM	Rick Snyder Kathy Snyder	Dave Brandes Ann Brandes	LaVonne Scully	Kelly Westlund
<i>Children's Church Leaders</i>	8:30 AM	Lori Lachut Jim Lachut		John Huebner	Melissa Schmid Sarah/Katie Schmid
	11:00 AM	Pam Hedges Kira Westlund	Julie Bishop	Trina Miles Andrew Miles	
<i>Producer/ Audio Mix</i>	8:30 AM	Larry Haler	Bob Thompson	Andrew Clark	Mike Schwartz
<i>Tech Direc- tor/Live Stream Coordinator</i>	8:30 AM	Brian Killand	Mike Schwartz	Mike Stankovich	Jim Moran

## Worship Support, Continued

	<i>Time</i>	<i>Sunday January 4</i>	<i>Sunday January 11</i>	<i>Sunday January 18</i>	<i>Sunday January 25</i>
<i>Cameras</i>	8:30 AM	#1-Robert Warren #2-Ryan Warren	#1-Paul Hedges #2-Fred Kremmer	#1-Don Schmid #2-Ken Meek	#1-Paul Hedges #2-Andrew Clark
<i>Editor/ Post Production</i>	8:30 AM	Karen Rogers	Mike Stankovich	Bob Thompson	Karen Rogers
<i>Sound System Operators</i>	8:30 AM				
	11:00 AM				
<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	Rick Budzeck Bettinson	Jana Strasburg Mike Stankovich	Rick Snyder Rich Barchet
<i>Sat. Evening Worship Support</i>					
<i>Cashiers</i>		Nancy Ballard Doris Barchet	Kathy Snyder Marge Hogue	Judy Riggers Lori Hogan	Nancy Ballard Janet Budzeck
<i>Recycle</i>		Carol Schmid	Fred Kremmer	LaVonne Scully	Jeff & Heidi Dagle
<i>Flowers</i>					

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.

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



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 hall 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.

# Anniversaries & Birthdays

## ANNIVERSARIES

### January 1

Sharon & Philip Kaiser

### January 2

Kristen & Adam Donahue

### January 22

Pam & Mot Hedges

### January 29

Lauri & Gerald Whitney

## BIRTHDAYS

### January 1

Sharon Holden  
Earl Leitz

### January 2

Sarah Hagensen  
Brooke Snyder

### January 3

Emily Larsen

### January 4

Trell Miles

### January 5

Carol Hexum  
Ellie Page  
Dave Smith  
Audrey Strasburg

### January 6

Phyllis Schwarz  
Ryan Stolte

### January 7

Allison Crum  
Rich Mercer

### January 8

Kylie Blakely  
Andrew Cole  
Spencer Hoffner  
Zemmie Iedema  
Robby Ledezma  
Al Sampson  
John Tompkins

### January 9

Elle Carstensen  
Ron Filipy  
Jenn Skinner

### January 10

Darrin Drake  
Samual Woodall

### January 11

Irv Solbrack

### January 12

Helen Foreman  
Jim Worgull

### January 13

Ray Nierman  
Janelle Thorson  
Mark Underwood

### January 14

Dianna Carroll  
Daniel Miles  
Jaryd Schroeder  
James Ulseth

### January 15

Sharon Boness  
Amanda Solnicka  
Jean Thompson

### January 16

Stuart Iedema  
Vicky Willingham

### January 19

Isabel Bartholomew  
Roxanne Short

### January 20

Valerie Bettinson  
Darlene Mahlum  
Maria Montoya  
Kaleb Prigge  
Ted Stuenkel  
Clarice Ziner

### January 21

Chris Bonin  
Jenny Page

### January 22

Dale Gier  
Bruce Slonecker  
Joe Sundal

### January 23

Abigail Cole  
Jan Conley  
Lauren Crum

### January 24

Mike Bettinson  
Larry Haler  
Amy Sperline

### January 25

Kris Johnson  
Peter Newton

### January 26

Jordan Davis  
Debbie Hardman  
Cliff Sandberg

### January 27

Reagan Mercer  
Kayla Peterson

### January 28

Shirley Carlisle  
Nick Carlson  
Leslie Richardson

### January 29

Joclyn Conrad  
April Miller

### January 30

Elaine Keyes  
JoeAnne Oberlander

### January 31

Connie Henry  
Katie Nipper  
Kim Sundal



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

MONTHLY PUBLICATION

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



### **Worship Schedule**

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

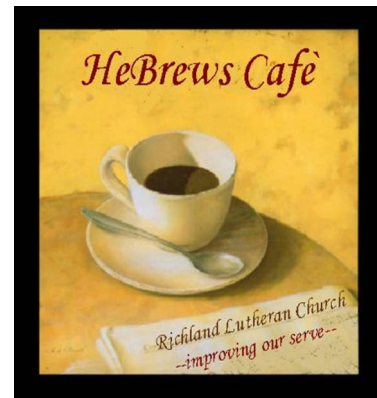
**Worship with Holy Communion**  
Sundays at 11:00 AM

**Worship with Holy Communion**  
Saturdays at 5:00 PM

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

**Good News Today**  
Aired Sunday mornings on  
KVEW 42 and KAPP 35 at 9:00 AM

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