

## Facilities Building Committee Update

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace"

– 1 Peter 4:10

The above verse is the premise of the last tenant of the 6<sup>th</sup> Objective in the RLC Long Range Plan. It reminds us that each of us is blessed, and that we should use the gifts we have received to serve others. Besides having a place for us to worship and praise the Lord, we must ensure that our church facilities meet our ongoing ministry needs. Accordingly, the RLC Facilities Building Committee has been hard at work the last several months bringing together the necessary elements that will lead us to a RLC Facilities Strategic Plan.

The road map laid out in the Meier Architecture and Engineering contract involves the production of existing facility drawings (completed), a summary of needs document, a draft programming report (building objectives), a remodel concept (with cost estimate), a new construction concept (with cost estimate), a congregational decision point; and finally, the RLC Facilities Strategic Plan.



Friendship Room - 1962 Roxanne Knutson and Carol Stanfield

The Building Committee last reported to the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting on October 26, 2014. We have since received from Meier the Draft Programming Report and the Summary of Facility Needs document (which consolidates all the ideas and desires gathered by the Building Committee from the congregation). These documents are available on the RLC web site for review.

Though the solicitations for improvement ideas last August and September specified that the focus was on the narthex and the facilities south, we received suggestions for the sanctuary/chapel on idea sheets and in the fall workshops. The Building Committee's charge is to consider improvements to all areas of

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The Preview

## **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

## **Member Directory Changes**

Judy Eller 727-8734

King, Barbara 943-8898

Richman, Russ passed away January 26

Westlund, Kelly 205-2651

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 Scripture taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL 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.

## **Pastoral Acts**

Baptisms None

Weddings None

#### Memorial/Funeral

February 13Darrel WaltersFebruary 28Marcia Clement

#### The Preview

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### **From Pastor Steve**



**DID YOU KNOW...** That most of the RLC staff and many of the RLC council members and their families are participating in the Dave Ramsey stewardship program, Financial Peace University? For the last month and a half, they have been gathering on Thursday evenings to work through this great curriculum. RLC members Tim and Corki Mraz have been leading and facilitating our time together, while Mike and Debbie Stankovich have been assuring we are well fed. Melissa Woehle has been watching our kids in the nursery to keep us focused. This is one of many opportunities for the leaders of RLC to go through Financial Peace University as we prepare for Momentum this fall which will take our entire congregation through this program as we seek to grow in stewardship and focus on Extravagant Generosity.

**DID YOU KNOW...** The Annoor Sanatorium in Mafraq, Jordan, where Mike and Julie Penley serve and where RLC has partnered, is turning fifty this year? That's right! Annoor has been helping folks in Mafraq and the surrounding area for fifty years. Pastor Steve is making plans to join Mike and Julie in June (God willing) to represent RLC and celebrate this great partnership we've enjoyed over the years.

**DID YOU KNOW...** Prayer really works? It's true. Not only does the Bible tell us so in verses like James 5:16, "*Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective*", but we know this to be true by our experiences: our individual experiences, for I've heard many of your stories, and our corporate experiences which we all experience together. So, keep praying and don't grow weary or lose heart, for God hears your prayers for each other and responds with His power and effect.

**DID YOU KNOW...** RLC is now using Assisting Ministers during all three of its worship services? No doubt you've seen members from the congregation leading us in our profession of faith, prayers of the church and time of offering. Though recently new, the practice of using lay people to lead in corporate worship is really nothing new either to RLC or the broader Church. What a blessing to us all that they are willing to use their gifts to love and serve Christ and our church. If you are interested in becoming an Assisting Minister please let Joseph Farrar know.

**DID YOU KNOW...** Pastors Steve and Corey meet every Sunday morning at 7:30 to pray for our worship services and those who attend? They pray God's Spirit would move and anoint each service and those who attend with power and presence. They pray God would nudge those who might be wavering to come. They pray they would decrease as God increases in them. They pray words of gratitude and thanks for their

opportunity to proclaim God's Word. They pray especially for newcomers, that they would be welcome and feel the impact of the Spirit's movement among the congregation. They pray for all those who serve in any and every capacity behind the scenes or up front that God's peace and power would course through them. And, they pray much more! So when you "feel" God's presence upon you on Sunday's don't be surprised, you've been prayed for!



## Financial Report - January 2015

As reflected in the financial summary below, our financial results for January were similar to our January plan. Our offerings are up \$5,368 higher than last year for the same period. Our expenses are up \$1,693 higher than the same time last year. For January, our offerings are below expenses by (\$10,450) compared to (\$14,126) in 2014, a change from last year of \$3,675. These results are reflected in the columns titled "Prior Year Comparison".

	YTD - January			Prior Year Comparison			
	Budget	Actuals	Va	r (O)/U	2015	2014	Var O/(U)
Offerings / Income	\$ 50,220	\$51,016	\$	(796)	\$ 51,016	\$ 45,647	\$ 5,368
Expenses	\$ 66,954	\$61,466	\$	5,488	\$ 61,466	\$ 59,773	\$ 1,693
Net Cash Flow	(\$16,734)	(\$10,450)	\$	6,284	(\$10,450)	(\$14,126)	\$ 3,675

For the month of January, offerings exceeded budget by \$796, and expenses were below budget by \$5,488.

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

Rich Olsen



#### March's Operation Christmas Child Items of the Month: Gifts for boys & girls ages 10-14

Suggestions include: dolls, jacks, small games, T-shirts, <u>non-liquid</u> make-up, Bible story books, solar calculators, stuffed animals, yo-yo's, marbles, baseballs, ball caps, flashlights and batteries, socks, flip-flops, small puzzles, silly putty, scarves, sewing kits, hammers, screwdrivers, garden trowels, tennis balls, shoelaces, hackysacks, harmonicas, duct tape, nails/screws, tape measures. **Goal for 2015:** 425 boxes

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

Please do not include: used items, war related toys, liquid anything, breakable items.

## Soup Suppers and Lenten Worship



# You're Invited:

Thursdays at 6:00 PM in the Prince of Peace fellowship area February 26, March 5, 12, 19 Lenten Worship Service at 7:00 PM

## From the Council

### The Urgent Assistance Fund

A few months ago the Urgent Assistance Fund was fully established, and I believe that it is quite possibly one of the strongest things to ever come out of Council. I would like to take the time to tell you about it. I believe that "why" is usually more important than "what" so I will start there.

**Why**: The Urgent Assistance Fund was created for those times that break a pastor's heart. It is for those moments when someone says "I don't know what to do" and the pastor knows there is no specific line item in the budget to help. It is for a time, not long ago, when a woman with a black eye walked into the church with her children in tow and said "I don't know what to do or where to go." This fund is an acknowledgement that in these situations we are blessed with pastors who will act. It is our responsibility and privilege to equip, empower, and encourage them (in addition to the other members of our church who work here). It is also for those less intense times when the smaller things make such a huge difference in someone's life. My grandmother used to live on Social Security and as she grew older and finances got tighter the smallest things made such an impact. The Urgent Assistance Fund can be used for help with rent, medical bills, utilities, etc.

**What:** Our two pastors and/or two staff ministry leads, in identifying a need and agreeing together on what needs to be done are able to utilize this fund for "gifts in kind", meaning they can send money where it needs to go but are not able to give cash directly to the individual. We do recognize that there may be times when it could become necessary, such as people travelling for medical reasons, and the policy was worded so that the ministry leads could send those requests on to Council for consideration. Its original funding of \$5000 comes from funds that were to be used for benevolence in previous years but unable to be received. The remaining undistributed funds were added to our benevolences this last year. In addition to the original funding, the option of donating funds directly to the Urgent Assistance Fund is available and is listed on the pink envelopes.

Mike Strasburg - Member at Large

### 40 Days of Lent Devotional Series



We are so excited to offer a video series of devotionals for you during this season of Lent! If you haven't seen them yet, go to the RLC website at www.richlandlutheran.org and click on the tree image, like you see here. It will take you to the series of videos.

Each day during Lent a new devotional video on the theme of Extravagant Generosity is added to the page for you to view. We hope that you will enjoy adding this to your daily time with the Lord during this season.

Thank you to the GNMM AV team for all their help in getting this project put together!

## **President's Perspectives**

**God's Call To Put Love Into Actions -** As I write this I am still reliving the past three days since my wife Carol had surgery. It reminded me of Jesus' parable in Matthew of how He will come with His angels at the end of time to judge us. He separates the sheep on his right hand from the goats on his left hand.

Matthew 25 - <sup>34</sup> "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, **I was sick and you looked after me**, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' (NIV)

**Everyone Will Have Needs Sometime -** We all have times in our lives when we need help, and God puts great importance on how we show love for one another through the actions we take to help those in need. During that first couple of nights after Carol came home from the hospital she needed help preparing food, taking her medications, getting dressed, walking down the hall, and even getting into bed. Sometimes it is experiences like these that remind us of the needs of our neighbors and especially our fellow Christians. Carol and I are fortunate because we have each other in times of trouble. But what about those who are single and have no nearby family? We were grateful for the prayers on her behalf as well as the messages and phone calls of encouragement.

Remember also the loved ones of those in need. While the surgery continued, I was in the waiting room anxious to learn how things were going. As the clock moved past the expected length of the surgery, thoughts of possibilities began to pop into my head. Fortunately, I had Warner Blyckert at my side trying to divert me with conversation.

Even more important than support for short sickness is continued prayers and encouragement for those undergoing long-term or chronic illness. It is fairly easy to respond to a brief illness or a crisis but hard to maintain our actions and prayers when the condition is long-term. But when troubles last, discouragement can come. Loneliness can come. This is when others need us the most.

I have talked mainly of illness here because of our family's current experience. But Jesus was much broader in the scope of what he expects of us. Review it again; feeding the hungry, providing drink for the thirsty, sheltering the stranger, clothing those needing it, looking after the sick, and visiting those in prison.

**What Can You Do?** - If you are not on the prayer chain you could ask the office to be added. Pray for the needs listed there. Put your prayers into action through donating food, clothes, and money. Visit the sick if they are up to a visit, or send them cards, and remember their loved ones. The Food Pantry always needs more food or money for food. Volunteer at the Union Gospel Mission or at Habitat for Humanity. The needs are all around us if only we open our eyes to see them.

Thank you for being a caring church.

Please continue to communicate with me. Call me (509-628-0420) or email me (<u>dllarkin@charter.net</u>) if you have thoughts, suggestions, complaints, or want to become more involved in our church's ministries.

Dave Larkin - Congregation President

### What Can You Do?

## From the New Members Ministry Team

**Did you know?** We have a bulletin board in the Prince of Peace fellowship area featuring our brothers and sisters in Christ who are new members to Richland Lutheran Church. It's sometimes difficult for people who are new to RLC to feel welcome. So, the next time you're in the Prince of Peace, **stop!** Take a look. See who's new. Then take an opportunity to reach out to any one or all of those who have recently joined RLC and introduce yourself. Help them to feel welcome. Get to know them by inviting them out for coffee or even lunch. Find out what their interests are. Help them to become involved in RLC's ministries, small groups. Pray for them. Although each new member is partnered with a Shepherd, it's important that we all do our part to help them feel welcome by developing a relationship with them.

"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

Assimilating new members into God's church family is an important part of helping new Christians and new members connect with Christ, the church and its ministries, and God's purpose for their lives. They need group involvement that gives them the sense of belonging; friendships that give them feelings of acceptance and self-esteem; ministry roles and responsibilities that give them a sense of purpose, meaning, and positive self-identity; spiritual growth experiences that give them Christ-centered values. You can help!

New Members' Ministry Team - Sandy Steele, Liz Swanson, Fred Kremmer

# Doing No Harm is Good, But Doing Good is Better

The quote "to do no harm" is commonly attributed to Hippocrates, but the physician's art involves more than just avoiding harm. The doctor's oath to treat disease includes the ability to perceive its antecedents, to know the present and foretell the future of the condition being treated. We want our doctors to be proactive with disease and sickness----to restore our health-----not to only benignly observe and "do no harm."

If we lose a valued member of the congregation to liver cancer, when the diagnosis came much too late for effective treatment, was enough done "to do good" rather than "to do no harm?" Let us not judge, since only God knows the answer.

Nevertheless, in the spiritual realm we are confronted daily with issues which need attention so "harm is not done," but are we proactive to "do good" where the issues of the day cry out for our individual help? Jesus asked us to "**open the eyes of the blind, visit the sick and release the prisoners' chains.**" I don't think he wanted the Body of Christ (and yes our church, RLC) to sit on our hands and wait for the Holy Spirit to do all the work.

Our secular society has many people blinded by the ungodly culture of Hollywood, MTV and the "feel good" relativism which hides the truth from view. We have people, young and old **who are sick spiritually** (maybe some of us too) who need attending to by the Great Physician, Jesus. The prisoners in our society **are slaves to idols** not the inspired word of God, our Holy Bible.

What can we do? Well, certainly standing by and "doing no harm" isn't totally bad but how does that contribute to **"advancing His Kingdom" and making "His Word known"** in the community? Pastor Steve's sermon series on "I am a Church Member" points out the declining influence of Christianity in our community and country since the 1980s. How sad to hear only 15% of millennials consider themselves Christian. Our youth ministry team members will tell you how difficult it is to reach the 85% of nonbelievers who lack spiritual direction or faith in our Creator.

Clearly young people face daunting challenges to overcome the influence of peer pressure, drugs, pornography peddlers and the entertainment industry which caters to sex. If we close our eyes and minds to what is going on around us, are we no better than one who "does no harm," rather than when we could be "doing good" by proclaiming God's truths and right living to the blind, the sick and the prisoners?

There is another statistic which we could consider. What is the percentage of what we can call "cafeteria" Christians who pass the buffet table and pick the items of Christian living they like and leave the rest to youth ministry team members or pastors or missionaries. That's what "I am a Church Member" is about. Responding to Jesus' call to not only "do no harm" but proactively "to do good" by being an effective church member.

Prayerfully we can all discover the privilege and the joy of church membership and, in the process, answer the Great Commission to be disciples and spread the Good News of the Gospel knowing Jesus will be with us to the end of time.

Wouldn't it be wonderful on judgment day to kneel before our Lord and have Him say, **"thank you, my good and faithful servant."** 

Norm Gillette

### **Beach Trip Fundraiser Dinner**



The high school youth will be hosting the annual Beach Trip Fundraiser Dinner on Friday, March 6, at 6:00 PM. Join us for an exciting evening featuring a three-course Italian meal. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$7 for children (ages 12 and under). Please RSVP by March 2 to either the church office or to jenny.page@richlandlutheran.org.

The high school youth greatly appreciate your generous support of this ministry. Their time in Seaside, OR is filled with times of worship, prayer, self-reflection, study, and fellowship.

## Facilities Building Committee Update, Continued from Page 1

the facility provided that the internal location and function of the sanctuary and chapel does not change. Therefore, we are honoring these suggestions by considering their prioritization. Some of the sanctuary/chapel ideas received from you will be integrated into Meier's strategic planning. For example, the space behind the chancel area where offices are currently located could become an enlarged sacristy, larger Good News Media Ministry space, or storage area for banners, paraments, music equipment, or wedding equipment. Other changes would be handled outside of Meier's scope. In all instances recommendations will be presented to the congregation.

The Building Committee has also begun benchmarking what other churches have done to finance facility upgrades. It has been truly inspiring to hear the stories of God at work. The approaches we've learned about have varied widely, but the successes have been more heartwarming than you can imagine.

Perhaps the most exciting development has been the receipt of preliminary sketches from Meier. They show the potential of a facility remodel. Meier's "remodel" and "new construction" conceptual drawings will be displayed for the congregation to review once they are completed.

The Building Committee invites you to contact any of us with questions or comments that you may have.

In Christ,

Jon Erlandson, Dave Larkin, Steve Moritz, Karin Nickola, Tom Pitkin, Eric Schmieman, and Russ Warren

## **GNMM Yard Sale is Coming!**

The Good News Media Ministry (GNMM) Yard Sale is coming soon. It will be held on **Friday and Saturday, May 1-2**. Remember to set aside items for the sale as you are doing your spring cleaning. Your contributions are very much appreciated, as is your help volunteering to work at these sales. We are especially looking for help to pick up the heavier items people want to donate for the sale but are unable to bring in themselves.

If you have any questions you can contact: Karen Filipy – 627-0918 or Debbie Honeyman – 627-5820.



## **Baskets of Promise Campaign**

Lent is a time to focus our hearts and minds on Jesus' journey to the cross and an opportunity to share that gift of grace through service to others. 2015 marks the fifth year Lutherans will come together to assemble LWR Personal Care Kits as part of the **Baskets of Promise Campaign**.



Each week we'll collect a different item: **March 1 and 8:** Bath towels (light weight, maximum 52" x 27" **March 15:** Large-toothed combs **March 22:** Nail clippers **March 29:** Bars of soap

# 10th Annual Mission Trip to Lodge Grass, MT



The neighborhood children at "Kids Club" in Lodge Grass, MT, June 2014

The high school youth have begun raising support for the 10<sup>th</sup> annual mission trip to Lodge Grass, MT, in June. They ask first and foremost for your prayers for their ministry in this community. If you would like to support them with a financial gift, please make the check to "Richland Lutheran Church" with a notation of "High School Mission Trip" in the memo line, and submit it to the church office.

March 2014						
Sun	Mon	Tue				
18:30 AM Worship9:00 AM Good News Today9:45 AM HeBrews Café, Education Hour11:00 AM Worship12:30 PM New Member Orientation1:00 PM Boy Scout Classes5:30 PM HS Discipleship Team6:30 PM Coffeehouse7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Growth Group	<b>2</b> 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	<b>3</b> 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				
<ul> <li>8</li> <li>8:30 AM Worship</li> <li>9:00 AM Good News Today</li> <li>9:45 AM Blood Pressure Checks</li> <li>9:45 AM HeBrews Café, Education Hour</li> <li>11:00 AM Worship</li> <li>1:00 PM Boy Scout Classes</li> <li>5:30 PM HS Discipleship Team</li> <li>6:30 PM Coffeehouse</li> <li>7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Growth Group</li> </ul>	<b>9</b> 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	<b>10</b> 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				
<b>15</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:00 AM Good News Today 9:45 AM HeBrews Café, Education Hour 11:00 AM Worship 1:00 PM Boy Scout Classes 5:30 PM HS Discipleship Team 6:30 PM Coffeehouse 7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Growth Group	<b>16</b> 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	<b>17</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Facilities Building Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 248				
22 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 1:00 PM Boy Scout Classes 5:30 PM HS Discipleship Team 6:30 PM Coffeehouse 7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Growth Group 7:30 PM Union Gospel Mission Service	23 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	<b>24</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Facilities Building Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 248				
29 8:30 AM Worship 9:00 AM Good News Today 9:45 AM HeBrews Café, Education Hour 11:00 AM Worship 1:00 PM Boy Scout Classes 5:30 PM HS Discipleship Team 6:30 PM Coffeehouse 7:00 PM Haler/Worgull Growth Group	<b>30</b> 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	<b>31</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Cub Scouts 6:30 PM Facilities Building Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 248				

March 2014						
Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
<b>4</b> 9:00 AM Sewing Bee 1:00 PM Pastor Corey's Bible Study 2:30 PM Knitting Group 6:00 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Super Kids!, WILD! 6:30 PM Sacred Parenting 6:45 PM Chancel Choir	5 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	<b>6</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting 6:00 PM Beach Trip Fundraiser Dinner	<b>7</b> 4:30 PM Mafraq Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship			
<b>11</b> 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	<b>12</b> 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	<b>13</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 9:00 AM Craft Group 6:00 PM Confirmation Lock-in 6:00 PM AA Meeting 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	<b>14</b> 2:00 PM Confirmation Lock-in ends 4:30 PM Mafraq Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship			
<b>18</b> 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 7:00 PM GNMM Board	<b>19</b> 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	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM Bulletin Assembly 6:00 PM AA Meeting	<b>21</b> 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 4:30 PM Mafraq Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship			
25 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	<b>26</b> 9:00 AM Library Work 9:00 AM Pastor Dave's Bible Study 5:30 PM Passover Dinner 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	<b>27</b> 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	<b>28</b> 4:30 PM Mafraq Prayer Team 5:00 PM Worship			
Markendar).	Please call the church office the most current informatic	utheran Church calendar c e, 943-3164, or check the website, wy on. Please note that not all activities, and Circles, are actually held at the	vw.richlandlutheran.org, for especially Growth Group			

## Behold! I Stand at the Door and Knock

My inspiration for these monthly columns has generally been attributed to: getting lost in meditation during lengthy shower; and, being an avid follower of comic strips. Neither of the foregoing likely pass scrutiny as being sufficiently spiritual enough for inclusion in a church newsletter. However, if you've been paying attention, a goodly number of articles have origins in my own personal experiences (i.e., my own foibles resulting in the follies which have occurred to me). These could best be summed up in the Celtic devotional lines of affirmation from an old (1937) compilation known as *Hebridean Altars*, by Alistair Maclean: "....happenings of my lot hide the shining of Thy face from me. Yet if I may hold Thy hand in the darkness, it is enough..." "Happenings of my lot." In other words folks, this stuff happens to me! I'm guessing this kind of stuff happens to you, too.

My new role of irresponsibility, might be titled: "Pastor at Large"; but that sounds more like an old Wanted poster alert: "Warning! Pastor at Large". It results in occasional invitations to serve as pulpit supply in other churches needing a substitute officiant/preacher. One such opportunity was recently extended by the LCMC congregation of Selbu Lutheran, located along the road among the wheat fields between Lacrosse and (appropriately named) Dusty, WA. This being the old home church of "She Who Must Be Obeyed" who resides with me, it was familiar territory; and I was happy to be able to be of assistance. Rather than having to arise early Sunday to drive up there, we determined to cut the time by staying with one of Elaine's sisters, Goldie, in Colfax, on Saturday.

Once there, I decided to turn in around 10:00 PM. I did my pre-bedtime routine (fill in the blanks), climbed into bed and slept. It happens I'm an elderly man; and that necessitated my having to get up in the dark middle of the night and trundle off across the hall. So far, so good; but when ready to return to our room it turned out differently. The bathroom doorknob wouldn't disengage the latch bolt from the strike plate. Having no recollection that I'd locked the door, I nonetheless tried turning the lock; but any direction I turned it, it wouldn't release the bolt! After 20 minutes, I decided I was going to have to bite the bullet and rouse the household. I began *knocking...*knocking...KNOCKING. Goldie sleeps through anything; my bride *finally* awakes and *eventually* misses my presence (should I be worried?). The scene: me - in the bathroom; latch bolt - in the door frame strike plate; two women - *giggling* on the *other* side of the door; NO window *or tools* IN the bathroom; the door - not hollow-core, but substantial; 4-year-old house - so tightly built you can't see light under the door; the screws to remove the assembly - on MY side of the door(!!!); emergency slot opening on the outside of the door: rendered useless by a completely broken lock spring; sarcasm - a sister-in-law asking if I was going to preach about the Philippian jailer; news item conveyed - the local fire department is volunteer and *not* a viable solution; elapsed time of my incarceration - 2-3:30 AM.

The time was well spent (hey! I'm getting an article out of it, aren't I?). The Philippian jailer *wasn't* my inspiration: this article's headline *was*. The citation is Jesus in a dictated letter to the church of Laodicea in **Revelation 3:20** (read it). Christ is *outside the church* wanting to come in - remarkable and noteworthy as a lesson in itself. The text often serves as applicable to Christ desiring to come in to a heart without Him in its life. I'm thinking about how some are so inattentive to the Lord that He's inadvertently locked out. Water may be available (but not living water); but (like diabetic me) they're really going to need to eat sometime or they'll become comatose and die. There's no way out. It's not as if they had the *tools* to work their way out to Him on their own anyway, i.e. works won't do any good because of an impassable gulf between them and Him - the heart is broken. Good news! The Spirit can give them a pliable new heart (**Ezekiel 36:26**). Christ can then come in. He will supply and guest host a sacred meal for them once the door is opened. Free at last! Thank God Almighty!

Pastor Dave

## Jews for Jesus presents Christ in the Passover

Thursday, March 26; 5:30 PM



How does a Lutheran church welcome a missionary with Jews for Jesus sent from the Ukraine? With a **potluck** of course! **Our regular Lenten service on Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> will begin at 5:30** instead of the normal 6:00 soup supper time to give us a little extra time to enjoy a potluck meal together before the Passover Seder presentation '*Christ in the Passover*.' This event will take the place of the Thursday Lenten service and will be held in the Prince of Peace fellowship area.

The Jews for Jesus presentation, *Christ in the Passover*, shows the link between the ancient Festival of Redemption and Christ as the Lamb of God. This unforgettable

event will be a visual demonstration with a table set with traditional Passover items. The missionary will use Scripture as well as the visual items to walk through a Jewish Passover Seder, weaving the story of the Exodus together with the life, death and resurrection of Christ. The words He spoke in the upper room will come alive as each Hebraic item is carefully explained.

Our missionary will be Slavik Meyta. In his words: "I currently serve as the Senior Office Administrator for our Kharkov, Ukraine, branch. I was born into a Christian family. My parents took me to church and would talk about God despite the fact we lived in the USSR, an officially atheist country. When I was seven, I started attending Sunday school and remember having to meet secretly at someone's home, so that the authorities would not know there was a church meeting. During the next several years, I was actively involved in the life of church, although I did not know God personally yet. In January 1994, a few days after my grandfather passed away, I kneeled down to pray before going to bed. God convicted me of being a sinner and my need to repent. It was at that time that I prayed to receive Jesus as my Savior and Lord."



Jews for Jesus is an agency that proclaims that Jesus is the Messiah of Israel and Savior of the world. The late Moishe Rosen, a Jew who has believed in Jesus for over 35 years, founded the organization. However, Dr. Rosen was quick to point out that he did not "start" Jews for Jesus. "Jews for Jesus began about 2,000 years ago, around 32 C.E., give or take a year. Jesus' first disciples were Jewish, and there have been some Jewish people who have believed in him ever since."

The organization has permanent branches in eight North American cities (San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston, Chicago, Toronto, New York City, Washington D.C. and Fort Lauderdale) as well as over 127 volunteer chapters spanning some 41 states and five countries. The group's international branches are headquartered in Johannesburg, London, Paris, Odessa, Moscow, Essen, Rio de Janeiro, Kharkov, Dnepopretrovsk, and Tel Aviv.

## **Benevolence Thanks**

Dear Richland Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your donations in 2014 to **EEMN**. We look forward to your continued support in the coming year, as we see what the Lord has in store through the ministry and work of EEMN.

In Christ, East European Missions Network

# **Activities for Kids**



Super Kids March 2015

March 4 - Friends bring friends to Jesus!
March 11 - Tell God what you need!
March 18 - Celebrate Jesus!
March 25 - Jesus is Alive!

Admiral Awesome and Professor Peabody will be exploring the biblical truth about Jesus' ministry, and then we'll begin to look at the Easter story!

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 or





#### 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



March 4 - What do they believe? (Fringe Religions)

March 11 - What do they believe? (Other Christian denominations)

March 18 - Game night!

March 25 - Surprise!

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

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



The next confirmation lock-in is Friday March 13, 6:00 PM - Saturday, March 14, 2:00 PM. Cost is \$20. Please let us know if you will **OR** will not attend by **March 8**. You can sign up on the yellow worship slip, on the clipboard outside the Sunday school office, or by emailing jenny.page@richlandlutheran.org.

### 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 worshiping, playing, laughing, discussing, learning, praying...among other things! Friends are always welcome!

- March 1 What are they saying about you?
- March 8 What's that smell?!
- March 15 What they believe (Mormons)
- March 22 What they believe (Muslims)

March 29 - What they believe (Other Christian Denominations)

The <u>Beach Trip Fundraiser Dinner</u> is **MARCH 6**. If you're going to Seaside with the group, you need to be there to help! Contact a member of the discipleship team or Jenny Page for more info.

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!

Questions? Contact Corey pastor.corey@richlandlutheran.org Be sure to join the our facebook group for the latest news! Search for: **RLC Youth** 

## Holy Week and Easter Worship Schedule

#### Holy Week - March 29 - April 4

#### Palm Sunday - March 29

(Saturday, March 28 - 5:00 PM) Regular services at 8:30 and 11:00 AM

#### Maundy Thursday, April 2

7:00 PM - Holy Communion and footwashing

Good Friday, April 3

Noon and 7:00 PM (No Communion)

#### Holy Saturday, April 4

5:00 PM

#### Easter Sunday, April 5

6:00 AM - Sunrise service in the Chapel

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 AM Easter Worship Nursery available at all three services



# **Recognizing our Volunteers**

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

We would like to say thank you to Debbie Honeyman and Judy Riggers and their team of volunteers who provide receptions following memorial services for the families who have lost a loved one. It is often a short notice request and they work hard to make sure it is a calm and memorable time for everyone. Other members of the Christian Love committee are Hermine Fordham, Elaine Hogan, Eunice Weible, and Adele Sorenson. Debbie would also like to thank all the ladies of the Sewing Bee quilting group who often volunteer to bake cookies and help at the receptions.

The Christian Love committee shows just what it means to love others with the heart of Jesus, and we thank them for their dedication to their ministry!

## **Benevolence Thanks**

Dear Richland Lutheran Church, I have received your gift to the **Tri-City Union Gospel Mission** Vision 2015 Campaign. On behalf of the Mission, I want to thank you for your gift.

I know you agree that the project we are undertaking is much needed and worthwhile. Your understanding and generosity, together with others, will help to provide a secure future for the Mission. As we continue to move forward, please join me in praying for the success of our campaign. May God bless you and those you hold dear.

Sincerely in Christ, Andrew J. Porter, Executive Director

# Worship Support

	Time	Sunday March 1	Sunday March 8	Sunday March 15	Sunday March 22	Sunday March 29
Lectors	8:30 AM	Peggy Pilger	Kathy Killand	Peggy Pilger	Dolores Jaech	Dolores Jaech
	11:00 AM	Karen Clark	Valerie Bettinson	Len Ross	Zemmie Iedema	Susan Schmieman
Acolytes 8	8:30 AM	Adam Pilger Madeline Pilger	Aiden Lesser Anna Lesser	Mason Ciolli Robert Warren	Kayla Peterson Cayden Tanasse	Kaleb Prigge Kyle Prigge
	11:00 AM	Conner Budzeck Nathan Mitchell	Trond Tilton Carlyle Keyes	Andrew Miles Daniel Miles	Nathan Ernst Zeke Ernst	Nathan Mitchell Carlyle Keyes
_	8:30 AM	H-Mike Schwartz Karen Schwartz A-Jon Erlandson Fred Kremmer	H-Dave Larkin Jim Peterson A-Larry Corning Jon Erlandson	H-Gary Weible Eunice Weible A-Dave Larkin Fred Kremmer	H-Larry Corning Gary Weible A-Eunice Weible Mac Dixson	H-Fred Kremmer Jon Erlandson A-**** ****
	11:00 AM	H-Carol Hexum Alan Hagensen A-Jean Loss Jim Loss	H-Mike Bettinson Valerie Bettinson A-Janet Budzeck Rick Budzeck	H-Janet Budzeck Rick Budzeck A-Mike Strasburg Charles Rogers	H-Jean Loss Jim Loss A-Kathy Snyder Rick Snyder	H- Rick Budzeck Janet Budzeck A- Jean Loss Jim Loss
Communion Assistants	8:30 AM	Jeff Pilger Elaine Davis *****	Clarine Watkins Kathy Killand Elaine Davis	Erlan Leitz Jan Leitz Sue Meek	Clarine Watkins Elaine Davis Charles Davis	Norm Gillette Sara Gillette Elaine Davis Charles Davis
1	11:00 AM	Karen Clark Kelly Westlund Ginnette Ernst	Jon Page Jenny Page Val Silva	Heidi Dagle Jeff Sperline Amy Sperline	Mike Bettinson Valerie Bettinson Kelly Westlund	Jon Page Jenny Page Heidi Dagle *****
Setup/Cleanup Communion	Saturday 5:00 PM	Joanne Woehle Bernie Woehle	Rick Nunamaker	Joanne Woehle	Jim Worgull Sue Worgull	Ann Brandes Dave Brandes
Cleanup/ Setup Communion	Sunday After 8:30 AM	Carol Schmid	Lois Harrold Karin Nickola	Dan Jordheim Vicki Jordheim	Rick Nunamaker Pamela Warren	Nancy Ballard
Clean Up Communion	After 11:00 AM	Doloros Erickson	Jean Loss Jim Loss	Kelly Westlund	****	****
Church 8: Friends	8:30 AM	Lois Harrold	Jim Worgull Sue Worgull	Carol Schmid	Debbie Honeyman	Norm Gillette Sara Gillette
	11:00 AM	Ann Brandes Dave Brandes	Kelly Westlund	LaVonne Scully	Kathy Snyder Rick Snyder	****
Children's Church Leaders	8:30 AM	Lori Lachut Jim Lachut	Lora Gorton	John Huebner	Melissa Schmid Katie Schmid	Desiree Hall
	11:00 AM	Pam Hedges	Julie Bishop	Trina Miles Andrew Miles	Jana Strasburg	****
Producer/ Audio Mix	8:30 AM	Andrew Clark	Jim Moran	Andrew Clark	Brian Killand	Bob Thompson (11:00)
Tech Direc- tor/Live Stream Coor- dinator	8:30 AM	Brian Killand	Mike Schwartz	Jim Moran	Mike Schwartz	Mike Stankovich (11:00)

# Worship Support, Continued

	Time	Sunday March 1	Sunday March 8	Sunday March 15	Sunday March 22	Sunday March 29
Cameras	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-Fred Kremmer	#1-Woody Page #2-Jack Page (11:00)
Editor/ Post Production	8:30 AM	Karen Rogers	Mike Stankovich	Bob Thompson	Mike Stankovich	Karen Rogers (11:00)
Sound System	8:30 AM	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges	Paul Hedges
Operators	11:00 AM	Jeff Dagle	Jeff Dagle	Jeff Dagle	Jeff Dagle	Jeff Dagle
Coffee	8:30 AM	Sandy Steele	Patti Miller	****	****	****
Preparation and Cleanup	11:00 AM	****	****	****	****	****
Offering Custodians	Sat. 5:00	****	Rob Barr	****	****	****
	8:30 AM	Schwartz Weible	Jim Peterson Harold Hogue	Fred Kremmer Jim Peterson	Jon Erlandson Lois Harrold	Rich Barchet Fred Kremmer
	11:00 AM	Alicia Phaneuf Alan Hagensen	Rick Budzeck Bettinson	Jana Strasburg Mike Stankovich	Rick Snyder Rich Barchet	Bettinson
Sat. Evening Worship Support	5:00 PM	Chris/Diane Bonin Joe Soldat Kathy Barr	Rob Barr Kathy Barr	Jim Lachut Lori Lachut	Craig Swanson Liz Swanson	Dave Brandes Ann Brandes
Cashiers		Judy Riggers Janet Budzeck	Nancy Ballard Debbie Honeyman	Kathy Snyder Doris Barchet	Judy Riggers Doris Barchet	Kathy Snyder Lori Hogan
Recycle		Karen Schwartz	Susan Schmieman	Karen Clark	John Lesser	Jim and Jean Loss
Flowers		Kathy Muhlbeier			Valerie Silva	

	Lenten Service March 5	Lenten Service March 12	Lenten Service March 19	Lenten Service March 26
Ushers	Alan Hagensen Carol Hexum	Dave Larkin Larry Corning	Eunice Weible Gary Weible	No Service Seder Meal
Lectors	Susan Schmieman	Sue Meek	Susan Schmieman	No Service
Acolytes	Blake Vopalensky	Kjerstyn Jordheim	Cayden Tanasse	No Service
Sound System Operators	Tammy Carswell	Paul Hedges	Larry Corning	No Service

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

March 7 Kelly & Bob Weissenfels

March 12 Barbara & John Cunningham Piper & Will Mercer

March 16 Joanne & Wayne Killand Adele & Joel Sorensen

March 19 MaryJo and Mike Schroeder

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

March 1 Katie Chaney Craig Swanson

March 2 Sally Culbert Drew McCullough

March 3 Cindy Dixon Norm Gillette Astrid Goplen Shanna Goplen Alzheimers March 4 Jami Prigge Steven Solnicka

March 6 Darrel Glasford Marge Nelson Neil Todd

March 7 Jordan Schroeder

March 8 Joanne Killand Jeff Pilger

March 9 Andrew Clark Fred Kremmer

March 10 Elaine Anderson Jeri Frislie Rob Mercer

March 12 Nate Chaney Sue Meek

March 13 Randy Coffman

March 14 Erick Koehling

March 15 Eileen Posey March 16 Peg Culbert Diane Olsen Marilyn Schmidt

March 17 Samantha Bussell Lillyana Frislie Jim Perham Len Ross

March 18 Bernie Woehle

March 19 Vincent Rodriguez Kenny You

- March 20 Malia Ciolli Sharon Kaiser Jack Page Ken Rivers Ed Simonen Abby Skinner Bob Somerville
- March 21 Madelyn Hogan Todd Maier Emelia Scherer Logann Smith

March 23 Jennifer Boynton Josh Maier Serena Tilton March 24 Shirley Johnson Mille Nierman Sharleen Thesenvitz

March 25 Susan Gunter LaVonne Scully

March 26 David Larsen Matthew Larsen Mike Schwartz

March 27 Joey Maier Dawn Salyer

March 28 Carl Schroeder Michael Streufert Nathan Streufert

March 29 Ethan Bishop Mason Ciolli Jeff Dagle Bryce Gardner Allen Maier

March 30 Kayla Deen Wayne Killand Mike Strasberg

March 31 Jon Page Gloria Richman



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). 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.



### MONTHLY PUBLICATION

### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Mailing Label

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#### **Worship Schedule**

Traditional Worship with Holy Communion Sundays at 8:30 AM

> Worship with Holy Communion Sundays at 11:00 AM

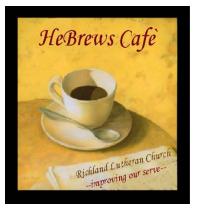
Worship with Holy Communion Saturdays at 5:00 PM

Lenten and Holy Week Worship Services See Pages 4,13 and 16

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

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

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



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

It's where Richland Lutheran Church members are refreshed, rejuvenated, and renewed for work in the Kingdom!

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

#### Equipping. Empowering. Encouraging.

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