



RUSHFORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

MISSION STATEMENT OF RUSHFORD LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rushford Lutheran Church is people gathered by God's Word and Sacraments
and sent to make Christ known to all persons and to serve all people.



CHRIST CENTERED * BIBLE BASED * FAMILY FOCUSED * MISSION MINDED

Rushford Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministries site.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

8:00 AM Worship service
(Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays)

Home Phones: Dial in for worship
service

9:15 AM Worship service
(Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays)

Home Phones: Dial in for worship
service

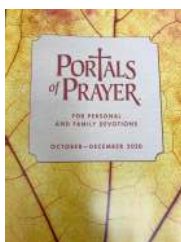
MONDAYS

10:00 AM Recorded worship
available on website

5:30 PM Coffee House Worship
(Communion following 1st & 3rd
Sundays)

Portals of Prayer

Daily devotional books are
available to pick up in the
church office.



(October—December)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM RALLY SUNDAY



These superheros kicked
off Rally Sunday with all
sorts of fun activities,
including naming off
their favorites!

Some of the
favorites included:
Spiderman,
Captain America
and Iron Man.



But the only
REAL
superhero is
JESUS!

NEWS FLASH!

The food shelf has a surplus of bar soap but could use laundry soap and dish soap.



We encourage face masks brought from home. We do have a supply but appreciate it if you're able to bring one. Thank you.

RLC HIGHLIGHTS



Third graders were presented with their own bibles on Sunday, September 27. May your faith continue to grow and blossom!



PASTOR'S CORNER

This September flew by in a blur. The tediousness of summer quickly overcome by the sudden re-starting of things. It was as if school and Sunday School and Confirmation Classes, along with the sudden return of our families after summer break, broke suddenly upon us, ready or not. Things simply needed to start happening, COVID or not. And while the fall surge following the summer slump is normal every year, this

year's breaking dam felt so much different, as so many things do right now.



So, fall is here, and with-it October. And October has for many years now been my favorite month of the year. The fact that the first weekend of October now also marks my anniversary as pastor here at RLC makes it even

sweeter. Two years down, but what a strange time it has been. Added to that the fact that we will not be able to mark this fall with the usual fall festivities of codfish and apple pies and ladies' bazaars makes it even stranger still. Like a bad love song, we really didn't know how much we loved these things until they were gone. But prayerfully, hopefully, not gone for good. Let's not even use the word cancelled. Simply on hold for when better times, safer times, come back around.

But beneath the annual calendar of social events, most of which were cancelled – oops, not held, and beneath the regularly scheduled school events, some of which are able to carry on and some not, another calendar flies by. The Church calendar. The annual cycle of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost. The annual changing of the guard and changing of the colors: blue, white, green, purple, white again and green to the end. Reformation Sunday, the end of October, and All Saints Sunday, the beginning of November, signaling the two-minute warning that this old church year is rapidly coming to an end. And that a new year in the church, the new Advent, the new coming of the Christ-child, will all too-soon begin.

And there is nothing that the Coronavirus can do to stop the annual cycle of the Church calendar going forward, as it has now, for nearly two-thousand years. And I find an odd source of comfort in that. Because during the month of October, while most people are thinking about what their kids or grandkids will wear for Halloween, my thoughts are on planning for Christmas. And when Christmas comes and most people are thinking about whose house Christmas is "at" this year, my thoughts are planning for Lent. And when Ash Wednesday hits and we mark our foreheads with an ashen cross, reminding us of our morality, my thoughts are thinking Easter. And so it goes for the pastor. The yearly Church calendar always calling the Church forward, forward, into a new day. A better day, a better year.



And there is nothing that the Coronavirus can do to stop the Church of Jesus Christ from going forward, as it has now, for nearly two-thousand years. Seven months after we were forced to shut our doors, we now know that to be true. You can make the Church stumble, but you can't make it stop. Whether its in parking lots or pews, drive-up communion or church on the web, the Church, like it's calendar, will find a way to keep moving forward. Oh yes, we also now know how much better, how much richer,

the church is when it is in person. (Again, like that love song, we really didn't know this until it was gone). And yes, now we also now know how much we relish simple things like the Men's Codfish Dinner, believe me, I've fielded many a phone call. But perhaps this too is for the best.

Many have said that they look forward to 2021, mostly so they can begin to forget 2020. But I hope that is not what happens. I hope that 2020 becomes the year in which we began to appreciate the simple rituals, traditions, and habits that make up 90 percent of our daily life. And in 2021, not only renew our commitment to these simple things, but do so with a renewed vigor and strength. And while the scientists and specialists and politicians all say we have a long, long way to go yet to get to the end of this Pandemic, we now know this for certain: the Church will remain. And Christ will remain. And with Christ's help, we will get through it, together. One month, one week, one day at a time.

In Christ's Loving Service,

Pastor Steve

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Heritage Sunday: A day to specially thank those who have provided mentorship of faith through their years at Rushford Lutheran Church. Those members in attendance 80 years and above will receive a carnation in recognition of RLC Heritage on Sunday, October 25 and Monday, October 26.

Confirmation Mentors We are looking for individuals to serve as confirmation mentors for this year's ninth grade class. We will be starting up the mentor program in October of this year. Mentor's meet with the student they are paired with a minimum of five times during the year. After confirmation, mentors are asked to continue communicating with and supporting their student through the rest of high school. If you are a member of the church and would like to be placed on the list of mentors that the students can choose from, please contact Pastor Steve. (Please e-mail Pastor with your name and contact info.)

Projectionists Wanted- Our church is currently looking for individuals who would be willing to be on a rotation to run the projector at the Sunday morning worship services. If interested, please contact the church office by emailing rlc@acegroup.cc. Also, specify which service you would prefer. Training will be provided.

Sunday School Reminders:

Time: 10:15am-11:00am

Place: Sanctuary (Students should not go to a classroom.)

- Students in 1st grade – 7th grade will be spread out.— Siblings may sit together. Masks are required.
- P3-Kindergarten must be attended by an adult or older sibling. Children ages 3-5 are encouraged to wear a mask if they can do so without frequently touching it and taking it off.
- No snacks should be sent with students to eat during Sunday School due to COVID-19.

Operation Christmas Child will be here before we know it and we are asking RLC members that would like to participate again to drop off items to pack into the shoe

boxes this fall. Items such as: pencils, crayons, glue sticks, pencil & large erasers, pencil sharpeners, ivory soap, combs, hairbrush, toothbrush, reusable small cups, bowls & plates, new t-shirts, socks & underwear, hair bows, sunglasses, small interactive toys, etc. Anything a child from ages 2 – 14 would enjoy receiving. Last year we were able to fill 180 shoe boxes and

hopefully we can do as many or more this year. If you aren't able to go shopping for items, monetary donations are gladly accepted since we will need to include \$9.00 per shoebox to cover shipping costs. Thank you for all your support in this project.

RLCW All Occasion Cards are now \$7 a box in the Fellowship Hall (unless otherwise marked).

RLC CODFISH SUPPER is officially cancelled this year due to Coronavirus.

THE MAYO CLINIC HOSPICE BEREVEMENT PROGRAMS FOR FALL 2020 including Adult Grief Support Groups and Healing Adventures Youth Grief Camp are canceled due to COVID-19 guidelines.

E-mail Your E-mail We know you are already getting this e-mail, but please think of a fellow member or a family member of RLC that are not yet receiving the news. Please send their email to rlc@acegroup.cc (With their permission, of course).

No Internet? No Wi-Fi? You Can Still Tune In. Our home phone system will be expanding so you don't need one of the church's special phones to dial in. Please contact Pastor Steve if you are interested. There are only 12 more lines available per licensing requirements held by the phone company. Please share this with our members who do not currently have access via the Web to our services.



ELECTRONIC GIVING: At Rushford Lutheran Church, we use **Vanco Services** for direct payments. Just go to our website www.rushfordlutheran.com and look for the Tab GIVING, click on that. There will appear a box. Click on Sign In/Sign Up at the top right corner of that box. It will walk you through the set up. OR visit www.vancopayments.com/OnlineGiving to set up your giving account. You can also download the free app "Give+" on your smart phone, search for Rushford Lutheran Church and follow the set up. You may choose to give to the general fund, missions, building improvements, memorial giving, Easter or lent. You can set your offering or contribution to be a one time, weekly, biweekly, monthly, etc. With these challenging times of "social distancing", this is a great option to submit your offerings and contribution to your church. It's fast and easy.



OFFERINGS AND CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMORIALS can always be mailed to Rushford Lutheran Church, PO Box 399, Rushford, MN 55971 if electronic giving is not an option for you.

Reminders for attending in-person worship

- Face masks are required at all public gatherings in Minnesota.
- *We encourage face masks brought from home. We do have a supply but appreciate it if you're able to bring one.*
- Seating in the sanctuary will be every other pew. Please social distance between families.
- Offering plates will be on stands at the doors. (Thank you for keeping our congregation strong so far through this crisis.)
- Special instructions will be given for communion.
- There will be fellowship coffee hour following each service.
- The sanctuary will be limited to approximately 150 people.



FAMILY EDUCATION

What really makes a superhero? Our theme this year is

"God is Greater" and we started off the year with our Rally Sunday event on September 13th talking about superheroes. The kids sure named a lot of them from the movies, TV, and comics. We played Superhero Bingo and the younger students



had superhero training and earned their superhero masks. We spoke about how Jesus is the ultimate superhero and here are 20 reasons why: 1) Jesus has never made a mistake. 2) Jesus is fearless. 3) Jesus never displayed anger in a negative way. 4) Jesus has no kryptonite; nothing that could make His powers weaken or sicken Him. 5) Jesus has powerful words. 6) Jesus overcomes evil. 7) Jesus is humble. 8) Jesus is all knowing. 9) Jesus didn't wear a mask and has always been open and honest about who He was. 10) Jesus was never in true danger. He was always in control of the timing of everything including His death. 11) Jesus connected with people. 12) Jesus is both God and man. 13) Jesus died to save all people, even His enemies. 14) Jesus never sinned. 15) Jesus controlled the elements; He calmed the storm. 16) Jesus has authority over heaven and earth. 17) Jesus didn't need technology, just the power of the Lord, to save the world. 18) Jesus walked on water and performed many other miracles. 19) Jesus never needed weapons, but instead, solved problems with peace. 20) Jesus defeated death and gives us eternal life in heaven. Now that's superpower! No fictional character will ever be able to replace the world's one true superhero – Jesus.

We welcome all students, age 3 on up, to join us Sunday mornings from 10:15-11 in the sanctuary for songs, Bible lessons, activities, and prayers. Children ages 3 through Kindergarten must have a parent or older sibling attend with them.



KIDS' SUPERHERO WALK –

October 11th, 2020 10:15-11:00am Kids - If you have a superhero costume, you are welcome to wear it! Adults – Kids would love to see you in your superhero costumes!

Superhero masks will be provided for the kids. (Eye masks, not germ protection masks. They are made of felt with elastic bands.) Kids will carry signs that read "Jesus is my Super Hero". Please join us for a fun walk showing our faith and spreading our belief that Jesus is the greatest and only superhero we need. Be sure to dress for the weather and wear good walking shoes.

Milestone Events: (held at 9:15am worship services)

On September 27th, the 3rd graders received their ESV Student Study Bibles. We also introduced our new P3 students who received, or will receive, their Children's Bible.

October 4th: 5th grade First communion

October 25th: 4th grade Catechism Sunday

Enjoy the fall weather and colors!

Christine Anderson
Family Education Director
christineandersonmn@yahoo.com
507-858-5968

PRAISE TEAM NEWS

Praise Team

Praise Team is back in action! This year the kids will be meeting right after Sunday School ends at 11:00, after a short break to use the restroom, set up, and burn off steam. They will be socially-distanced in the sanctuary, and rehearse until 12:00, at which time they will get a snack for the road and head on their merry way! I was delighted to see almost our entire crew return for the fall season, but there is always room for new voices! Students aged 3rd-12th grade are welcome to join! PT will be singing during the second service on the second Sunday of each month. Things are subject to change as we adapt to the changing conditions of the world, but this is the plan for our present situation. Students are encouraged to join at any point during the year that they feel comfortable. We are so grateful to the RLC Community for supporting the PT as they have grown and changed through the years. We ask that you keep the group in your prayers as we begin our 2020-2021 season!



Ladies Choir

Seeking interested women to join our small-group ladies chorus! After a lovely start, we are forging bravely ahead into fall! We are presently rehearsing Monday nights after service, but are open to adapting to the needs of the group. It is important to note that the use of technology makes it much easier to keep up when you have to miss a

practice. Using Facebook groups, the accompaniment for each song can be shared to rehearse at home on your own time! Contact Kristin Burdey with questions or interest! 507-459-0731

Student Ministries

Homework and Heroes is coming this fall to RLC Youth!

With so many activities on hold, kids are often lacking a safe place to hang out. Somewhere that they can eat, work on homework, and grow in faith and friendship.

Wednesday night has traditionally been a church night, and we hope to bring that essential part of life back during this time of COVID with a lightly- supervised, loosely-structured safe space, nurtured by adult mentors from our faith community.

Beginning in October a series will begin that will connect our kids to the heroes in their own congregation, bringing in a different speaker each week to share about how faith in action has served them while they serve others.

Watch the RLC Youth Facebook page and church announcements for further details!

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

August 17, 2020, 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Present: Mike Messenger, Shari Michel, June Vitse, Dean Hatlevig, Amy Luhmann, Barb Johnson, John Munter, Vicki Nelson, Pastor Steve Chellew, Jean Krambeer

1) Devotions & Prayer Concerns

Devotions by Shari Michel: Colossians 1:17-In Him all things hold together!

Prayer Concerns: Carolyn & Eldon Jonsgaard; Pastor David Steffenson; Ryan Oian

2) Adoption of Agenda: (MA)

3) Secretary's Report: (MA)

4) Treasurer's Report: (MA)

Healthy contribution. Same as last year; however, more was given to the renovation project last year. Expenses remain the same. \$40,000 will be budgeted in 2021 for the roof-1 more section. Committees are asked to think about the 2021 year budget.

5) Pastoral Report: (MA)

4 homebound: in-person visits; 3 visits by phone

2 hospital visits by phone

8/8 wedding: Jade Pelzl & Clay Olstad

8/29 wedding: Penny Wunderlich & Nathan Klinski

8/23 Confirmation: 17 youth were confirmed.

1 member, Judy Brand past away.

8/30 adult baptism-Kaitlin Stocker

6) Unfinished Business: (MA)

a. Technology Update: Sim Sound: The equipment will be installed October 19th.

Camera crew will be trained using this equipment.

This system will improve the overall picture and offer live streaming capability.

b. Restoration of Building: Jerome will work on project-9/19. The two chimneys will be taken down

7) New Business: (MA)

Air Conditioner Repairs: 14 units to maintain. Goal is to stay ahead of repairs-evaluating needs to stay efficient. The furnaces will be evaluated as well.

Pest Control Visit: The white parsonage-wasp hives removed-for safety concerns.

Sunday School: Rally Sunday-went well-good attendance. Adjust to sanctuary hosting Sunday School of mixed ages.

Events: The men and women's fundraisers have been canceled.

8) Committee Reports: (MA)

9) Adjournment / Closing Prayers (MA)

10) Next Meeting: October 12th at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall

Devotions: John Munter

Building Restoration Update:

Jerome arrived in September. We have left to raise \$18,227 by the end of the year. Thank you for your generous donations to our building restoration project!

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR OCTOBER

Worship led by Pastor Steven Chellew

Dean Hatlevig on October 11

Altar Guild for September: Shari Michel, Linda Paulson, Michele Ekern

Organist: Shary Evavold

Pianist : Portia Lee

Projectionists: Lisa Chellew, Sandy Rasmussen, Emily Cichoski

Videographers: Barb Johnson, June Vitse, Jeremy Tesch, Dean Hatlevig

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend

GRIEF SHARE®

WEEKLY GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Wednesdays, September 9 – December 9
6:30—8:00 p.m.

Rushford Lutheran Church, 101 S Mill Street

Cost: \$15 (scholarships are available)
Childcare: none available currently.

For more info, call Becky Stocker at 507-923-9051.
13-week seminar/support group.

Limited space available! www.griefshare.org
To pre-register, call the church office 507-864-7152 or Becky.

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		8:00 Worship	9:15 Worship
10/4/20	Acolyte Duty and Scripture Reader:	Lauren Honken	Madison Rhodes
	Ushering:	Mike and Robin Honken	Christine Anderson
		Marv Bestul and Claire Olstad	Louie Boehmke and John Campe
10/11/20	Acolyte Duty and Scripture Reader:	Aubrey Ingvalson	Ceona Johnson
	Ushering:	Casey and Shannon Ingvalson	Eric and Ramona Johnson
		Dennis Darr and Gordy Elliott	Tom Kopperud and Jim Bernier
10/18/20	Acolyte Duty and Scripture Reader:	Riley Huntley	Evan Skalet
	Ushering:	Rodney and Kate Heyer	Troy and Audra Skalet
		Carrol Hill and Wayne Meyer	John Petersen and Mike Messenger
10/25/20	Acolyte Duty and Scripture Reader:	Jordan Zibrowski	Devin Anderson
	Ushering:	Josh and Karen Zibrowski	Tonya Anderson
		Luther Myhro and Dale Evavold	Dale Rasmussen and Lowell Rasmussen

OCTOBER 2020

OCTOBER 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10a RLCW Bible Study with Pastor Steve,	2 Office Closed	3
48a Worship w/ Communion, Ladies Choir 9a-Coffee 9:15a Worship, Communion, 5 Grade First Communion, Ladies Choir 10:15aa- Bible Study with Pastor 10:15a- Coffee 10:15a-Family Ed in Sanctuary 11:15a- Praise Team Practice	5 10a- Recorded Service Online 4:30p Worship Committee Mtg. 5:30p Coffee House Worship w/ Communion—Fellowship Hall	6	7 9a Men's Helping Hands 9a Ladies Prayer Shawl 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p Grief Share	8	9 Office Closed	10
11 8a Worship with Dean Hatlevig, Praise Team 9a-Coffee 9:15a Worship with Dean Hatlevig, Praise Team 10:15aa- Bible Study with Becky 10:15a- Coffee 10:15a-Family Ed Super Hero Walk 11:15a- Praise Team Practice	12 10a Recorded Service Online 1p Quilting-MP Room 5:30p Coffeehouse Worship- FH 6:30p Finance Committee Mtg. 7p Church Council Mtg.	13	14 9a Men's Helping Hands 9a Ladies Prayer Shawl 6:30p Grief Share	15 Newsletter Article Deadline 9:30a Ruth Circle (Hosted by Linda Paulson) 1p Miriam Circle 1:30p Hannah Circle 5:30p Martha Circle	16 Office Closed	17
18 8a Worship w/ Communion 9a-Coffee 9:15a Worship, Communion 10:15aa- Bible Study with Pastor 10:15a- Coffee 10:15a-Family Ed in Sanctuary 11:15a- Praise Team Practice	19 10a Recorded Service Online 1:30p Priscilla Circle 5:30p Coffee House Worship w/ Communion—Fellowship Hall 6:30p Membership Committee Mtg.	20	21 9a Men's Helping Hands 9a Ladies Prayer Shawl 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p Grief Share	22	23 Office Closed	24
25 HERITAGE SUNDAY 8a Worship 9a-Coffee 9:15a Worship, 4th Grade-Catechism 10:15aa- Bible Study with Pastor 10:15a- Coffee 10:15a-Family Ed in Sanctuary 11:15a- Praise Team Practice	26 10a Recorded Service Online 5:30p Coffee House Worship Fellowship Hall	27	28 9a Men's Helping Hands 9a Ladies Prayer Shawl 6:30p Confirmation 6:30p Grief Share	29	30 Office Closed	31

Rushford Lutheran Church

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Mailing Address: PO Box 399, Rushford, MN 55971**FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**RUSHFORD LUTHERAN CHURCH****OCTOBER NEWSLETTER***Jessica Heiden, Editor***RUSHFORD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

101 South Mill Street, PO Box 399, Rushford, MN 55971 (507) 864-7152

*Church Office Open to the Public: M-Th 8 AM to Noon***Pastor Steven Chellew (Ext. 11) or cell 507-703-1221;** email: stevechellew@gmail.com

Jean Krambeer, Business Office Coordinator (Ext. 10)

Christine Anderson, Family Education Director; Kristin Burdey, Praise Team & Cherub Choir Director; David Hinz, Custodian

E-Mail Address: rlc@acegroup.cc ** Web Page: www.rushfordlutheran.com**2020 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS****PHONE****EMAIL ADDRESSES**

Mike Messenger, Council Chair, Youth	864-2174	mike@rushfordmfg.com
Shari Michel, Vice Chair, Education	875-2818	sharimichel@r-pschools.com
Dean Hatlevig, Council Treasurer, Finance, Membership	864-7001	dhatlevig65@gmail.com
Vicki Nelson, Council Secretary, Worship	864-2027	nelson@acegroup.cc
June Vitse, Human Resources	864-7876	jvitse@mienergy.coop
Amy Luhmann, Membership	864-3121	ageiwitz@acegroup.cc
John Munter, Properties	429-2969	johnmunter@yahoo.com
Jim Bernier, Finance, Endowment	261-4991	jrbernier@hotmail.com
Barbara Johnson, Scholarship	421-5472	johnson.barbara4@mayo.edu