



RUSHFORD LUTHERAN CHURCH SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

CHRIST CENTERED * BIBLE BASED * FAMILY FOCUSED * MISSION MINDED



Fall Salad Luncheon

Wednesday
Sept. 15, 2021
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

\$7/plate

Dine-in or
Carry-out

Sponsored by Rushford Lutheran
Church Women



Rally Sunday is September 12!

Theme: Because of His Mercy

Verse: Titus 3:5 "He saves us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit."

Welcome back to Sunday school! Sunday school students will be participating in activities about God's mercy, good deeds, and the importance of prayer.

Sunday school this year will be from 10:15-11:05am.

This program features biblical, Christ-centered teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The DVD seminar features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories of people, followed by a small group discussion about what was viewed. Past participants have related how helpful the information and follow-up discussions were to them.

Many grieving people find they are only beginning the work of healing when friends or family have returned to their daily life routines. Too often people, including Christians, tend to stuff their grief instead of allowing it to do the God given work for which it is intended. Don't allow fear of what others may think to keep you



from what could help you. Confidentiality is very much a part of this program.

Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. You will find encouragement, comfort and help in grieving the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member, or friend. No matter what the cause of your loved one's death, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. You will learn how to recognize the symptoms of being stuck in grief and that you do not need to live in bondage to certain emotions. You will learn valuable information about facing your new normal in life and renewing your hope for the future.

**Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m. | September 15—December 15 | Rushford Lutheran Church
Contact Becky for more info at 507-923-9051. Preregistration appreciated, but not required.**

PASTOR'S CORNER

When asked, there are typically two reasons parents give for bringing their children to Sunday School. The first is, oddly enough, “because my parents brought me.” Bringing our kids to Sunday School, like many spiritual practices, can be a tradition. Or to say it another way, learned behavior. Meaning we learn to be parents by watching our parent’s parent. (Even when we, or they, don’t know we are watching.) Parents who model bringing their kids to Sunday School, and even more importantly, parents who model bringing their children to church, are much more likely to end up with grandchildren who one day go to church and Sunday School.

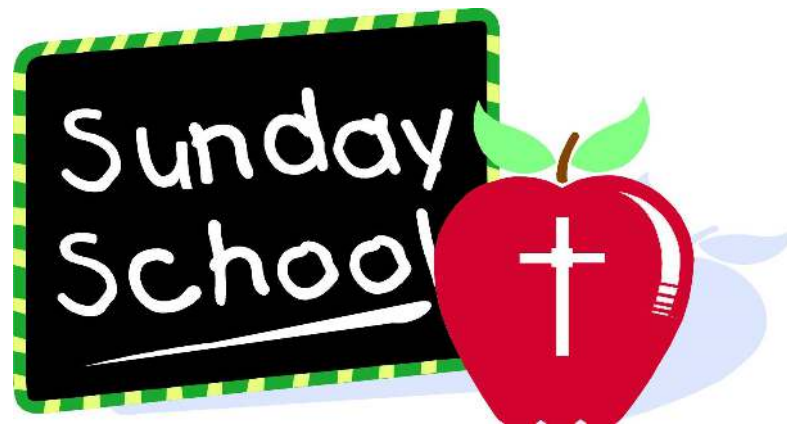
The second reason for bringing our children to Sunday School typically runs along the lines of “it’s good for them.” When pressed, parents will clarify that they hope Sunday School helps their child develop morally. Bible stories, understandably, reinforce certain moral traits they hope their kids to have. While one can argue that that is not necessarily the Bible’s first mandate, that is, to teach morality, it is indeed how much of Sunday School is taught. Then what is the Bible’s first mandate? To teach us that there is a God who loves and saves us, even when, or perhaps especially when, we are not being as moral as we know that God wants us to be.

But, are there other reasons to bring our children to Sunday School? Absolutely, indeed, here are two.

The first is community. What is also referred to here at church as fellowship. Something that the very first Christians shortly after Jesus’ resurrection understood: Acts 2:42 (ESV)⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Our community was compromised the past year and a half. Or to say it another way: Covid cramped our community. Sunday School, as well as the things that happen in the hallways before and after worship, and the things that happen between the adults and families in the fellowship hall and adult Bible study, are essential to community. Our kids lost out too. This is one of the reasons why along with Sunday School, we are also ramping up our youth ministry program via Kristin Burdey. Fellowship is more than simply hanging around and catching up on the past week’s gossip. It is being Christ’s body, the church, the communion of saints on earth.

Indeed, this Fall the “communion of saints” is one of the things I will talk about as I preach through, line by line, the Apostle’s Creed. And if the “communion of saints” was important enough to include in that creed, you know it is important enough for you and me as well. Communion... common... community. That which we share together. A high percentage of our children share their life together at R-P schools each weekday. On Sundays, they have the opportunity to share something else together: their faith.



Their common (there is that word again) belief in the same God. Being one with one another.

And finally, is there an even stronger reason for parents, or grandparents, or loving aunts and uncles, to bring their children to Sunday School and church? Well, yes of course. It is Jesus. And it’s not that Jesus is not in our homes, or available via YouTube, or present when we read the Bible alone, or hearing us as we pray together as a family. No, he is there too. But when we are together here at church, he is here with us as our head. The church, including Sunday School, is his body. So in order to get the full measure of Christ, head and body, we need his Word, but we also need his people. We need one another. Or as Paul put it in 1 Corinthians 12:12–14 (ESV)¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.¹⁴ For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

Sunday mornings for our families with children has changed slightly. With two services on Sunday, 8 a.m. and 9:15 a.m., we encourage families with children to join us for the later service. The education hour follows immediately thereafter. (And just a reminder that this is simply a 15-minute change from previous years, from 9 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. But with that change, hopefully some of the parking issues will be alleviated by continuing with the two services. Education Sunday is scheduled for September 12. First Communion and Confirmation classes start September 8. If you have a student in fifth, eighth or ninth and did not receive an information letter, please let the office know.

Yes, there are many reasons to bring your child to Sunday School and Church. But Jesus is the best.

In Christ’s Loving Service,

Pastor Steve

Rushford Lutheran Church Women

Ladies Mission Work: Every Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Coffee Fellowship for September will be served by Miriam Circle and the Membership Committee.

Quilting: Quilting will take place will September 13 at 1 p.m.

RLCW Meeting will be Wednesday, September 1 at 1:30 p.m.; Adah Circle has the program. The speaker will be Brian Himlie, food service supervisor at the Federal Medical Center in Rochester. Priscilla Circle will serve lunch.

RLCW Meeting Minutes August 4, 2021

President Bean welcomed everyone, then turned the program over to the Martha Circle. The group sang "I love to Tell the Story", accompanied by Shari Evavold on piano and Karen Nelson on trumpet. Karen Nelson gave devotions reflecting on the recent 125th Anniversary celebration of Rushford Lutheran. She then introduced our speaker, Teri Benson, mayor of the City of Rushford. Teri spoke on her role as mayor and talked about the services provided by the city, including public works, which includes recreation and maintenance, and safety, which includes the fire department, police department and ambulance. She spoke of the staff responsibilities of each department and told of upcoming projects the city is undertaking. She then took questions from the group.

President Bean then opened the business meeting. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report was read showing a balance on hand of \$3,690.48.

Old Business: President Bean reminded everyone of the Good Shepherd Golf Classic to be held on Aug. 14. A motion was made, seconded and passed to send \$250 to Hope in Christ Haiti Outreach. There has been concerns that the coffee pot in the kitchen has been turned off after use. This is not to be done. New signage will be put up to reflect this

New Business: President Bean requested that anyone who has changes to be made to the RLCW yearbook, including current phone numbers, please have them to her by Oct. 1. The ladies have been asked to provide ushering for the fifth Sunday of a month which occurs four times a year. Please consider doing this. A reminder of the salad luncheon on Sept.15. We will be looking to replace Karla Holland's position as co-chair, as she will be moving from the area. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Announcements: The next meeting will be Sept 1 at 1:30 p.m. Adah Circle has the program, Priscilla Circle has the lunch and Miriam Circle and the Membership Committee will share serving Sunday morning coffee. Birthdays and anniversaries



were noted and prayer requests were given. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and the Table Prayer was sung. Lunch was served by the Adah Circle.

Donna Boyum, secretary

FAMILY EDUCATION

Theme: Because of His Mercy

Verse: Titus 3:5 "He saves us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit."

Rally Sunday is September 12! Welcome back to Sunday school! Sunday school students will be participating in activities about God's mercy, good deeds, and the importance of prayer. Sunday school this year will be from 10:15 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.

Family Education Teachers, helpers, and substitutes will be installed during the 9:15 a.m. worship service on September 12. We have been able to get a wonderful group of volunteer teachers again this year. Things do come up when a teacher can't be there a Sunday or two, so it is helpful if they have long list of substitutes to choose from that are willing to fill in for them when needed. Please contact Christine if you would like to help.

- Staff and volunteers this year: Christine Anderson, Kristen Burdey
- Teachers & helpers: Brittany Agrimson, Aubrey Ingvalson, Melissa Feine, Karen Zibrowski, Emily Paulson, Audra and Evan Skalet, Gerald and Sharon Horton, Lisa Chellew, Beth



A most sincere "Thank You" for the honor you bestowed upon me on August 1, 2021. It was a great observation of historic dates in the long history of our church. Thank you for the flower, the recognition, and the kindness of everyone was most humbling.



Special thanks to Pastor Jim for his message, and to Pastor Roger for being there to help celebrate, and also to Pastor Steve who has been with us these past three years.

It has been a privilege to help preserve our history, and I thank God for the many men and women who have assisted in this preservation.

To God be the Glory!

— Herb Highum

Tudahl, Steve Burdey, and Pastor Steve Chellew

- Substitutes: Sue Ekern, Annika Bakkum-Ekern, Andrea Brand, Mandy Fenske, and Nicole Messenger.

Introduction Event to our Family Education time for those children (Age 3/4) completing the Cradle Roll program was held on August 30. These students and parents will be recognized during the 9:15 a.m. church service on Rally Sunday, September 12, and the little ones will receive their children's Bible. This is for all preschool age children who weren't able to attend last year.

Memory work will be a part of the curriculum again this year. Dates will be posted on the bulletin board located downstairs in the middle of the hall (next to the cubicles). Letters will be sent whenever there is an event involving your student. The monthly newsletter will also have important information listed for your convenience.

Permission forms will be sent home with students in September. Please turn them back in as soon as possible. Extra forms will be available in the downstairs hallway.

For the safety of the students, children in classes P3 through 2nd grade need to be picked up from their classroom by a parent or older sibling. They will not be allowed to leave the room on their own. Please introduce yourself, and whomever is authorized to pick up your child, to the teacher.

Snacks will NOT be provided for students this year.

Youth choir will be replacing the Cherub choir. Preschool through 5th grade will be singing the fourth Sunday of each month at the 9:15 a.m. service. Practice is held during Sunday school.

Students are to be in their classroom by 10:15 a.m. If you have a young child, please assist them in using the restroom before class to help diminish the need for this during class time.

Students should not be going downstairs to the fellowship hall for food. The line can get long and delay them in getting to class. Please advise them of this.

Offering is collected from the students each Sunday. This year we have chosen two charities: Operation Christmas Shoe Boxes and Semcac Food Shelf. Please encourage your child to bring in a monetary donation, an item for the shoe boxes, or an item for the food shelf. Shoe box donations will be collected the first half of the year, and food shelf donations will be collected the second half of the year. Watch for more information on posters.

Bibles should be sent to class with students in grades 3 on up. Our curriculum this year teaches the Bible and they will use their Bibles in class. Be sure their name is in their Bible. If they'd like to leave their Bible in their classroom each week, they may. There are many student Bibles that were left at the church and I will try to be sure they get returned to the students.

Upcoming Events:

- **September 8: 5th Grade Communion Classes start, 5 p.m.—5:45 p.m.** Classes will be four consecutive Wednesdays: September 8, 15, 22, and 29. A parent is required to attend with the student. First communion will be Sunday, October 3.
- **September 8: Confirmation meeting 6 p.m.** Students and parents are required to attend. Classes will be Wednesdays from 6 p.m.—7 p.m.
- **September 12: Teacher Installation/P3 Introduction 9:15 a.m. service**
- **Rally Sunday 10:15 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.**
- **September 26: Bible Sunday (3rd Graders) at 9:15 a.m. service**
- **October 3: First Communion 9:15 a.m. service**
- **October 10: Service Walk 10:15 a.m.**
- **October 24: Catechism Sunday (4th Graders) 9:15 a.m. service**

Thank You to all parents and congregation members for your continued support of the Sunday School and Confirmation programs and to the wonderful members of the Education and Youth committees. Special thanks to all the volunteers who are dedicating their time to teaching. We look forward to another year working and praying with your children. My door is always open for questions, ideas and concerns.

God's Grace,

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

MUSIC

Calling all ladies!

Women of Rushford Lutheran, I'm talking to you! Have you ever wondered about

stepping out into a new adventure? Something that would deepen your faith and your friendships? After a really fun and powerful debut year, the ladies choir will begin rehearsals for fall soon, and we would love to have you join us! This fabulous bunch of women meets Monday nights after the evening service, from roughly 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m., and sings for both services on the first Sunday of each month, as well as special occasions. You don't need to be a professional singer, just have a heart for the Lord, and a love of music. Keep your eyes open for September start dates!

Looking for a few good men! This past year, we found



several occasions for the men to join up with the ladies for a song, most recently on Heritage Sunday. The men also had the opportunity to sing without the ladies, notably “In my Father’s Kingdom” on Holy Thursday. This made it abundantly clear that we have enough talented men in our congregation to make a regular habit of singing in church, so that is just what is being planned for fall. Keep on the alert for the start of rehearsals-and invite a friend!

Practicing with the RLC Praise Team has been the highlight of my week for a number of years now. As they have grown in numbers, skill, and maturity, the impact they’re able to have on the world around them has grown as well. However, change is inevitable, and I would be a fool to assume we can carry on as normal without taking into account the changing demographics of our students. My goal is to adapt the rehearsals, the music, and the commitment levels to reflect the variety of kids that we have in our congregation, so that opportunities exist for kids that want to do the big songs and the big events (like hopefully the Eagles Cancer Telethon and the like), and those that would still like to participate, but at a more relaxed level. We’ll try some new things as we start the season in September, and adjust as we need. Encourage the young people in your life to be a part of a group of really amazing young people.

Kristin Burdey, Director of Choirs

RLC Youth Group News

After a fun summer of activities, the 7th-12th grade RLC Youth group will keep moving into fall with great plans for the year ahead! Youth group will continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 6—9 pm, so make sure not to save your homework til the last minute! Upcoming events will be posted on the RLC Youth Facebook page, as well as in the bulletin and on posters around town, so be looking for the fall schedule to come out soon!



As the new youth director, I am very pleased with the foundation that has been put into place this summer. We’ve had great attendance, and great students! Some folks may wonder if we are having too much fun, to which I say, “Nonsense!”. I think that one wonderful advantage we have here at RLC is our very solid educational system: from littles in Sunday School to teenagers in Confirmation class, our young people have wonderful opportunities to learn about the foundations of their faith from an early age. Part of what I’ve seen happening these past few months is the deepening of relationships among students that might not have happened outside of church. Allowing the kids a safe space to gather with plenty of supervised silliness has begun to

foster a healthy and comfortable climate, which is absolutely essential to the spiritual growth of our teens. As we move forward, OF COURSE there will be more shenanigans, but my hope is that these kids will feel secure in the environment we’re creating; and comfortable enough to ask the hard questions about faith and life, to pray the heartfelt prayers, to share their joys and sorrows.

At the time of the newsletter deadline, the back-to-school schedule has not been finalized. I wanted to have the chance to sit down with the youth committee and get some input on how to proceed before planning fall activities, so the schedule will come out soon. Know that as we move forward, we will be looking to get more adults involved with the youth activities, in a variety of roles, so don’t be surprised if there’s a knock on your door. Thank you all for the support and encouragement that you as a congregation give to our students and staff!

Kristin Burdey, Youth Ministries

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

August 9, 2021

Reminder to turn in meeting notes from each committee to church office (email: rlc@acegroup.cc)

PRESENT: John Munter, Jim Bernier, Dean Hatlevig, June Vitse, Shari Michel, Glen Kopperud, Vicki Nelson, Barb Johnson

ABSENT: Amy Luhmann

OTHERS PRESENT: Pastor Steve Chellew

1) DEVOTIONS & PRAYER CONCERNS -

Devotions: Vickie

Prayer Concerns: Scott Feine, Jim Bernier

2) ADOPTION OF AGENDA - MA

Addition to New Business:

e. Properties Committee Update

f. Honorarium for Pastor Nelson

3) SECRETARY'S REPORT- MA

a. July Minutes

4) TREASURER'S REPORT - MA

a. July financials—giving has been good

5) PASTORS REPORT

a. 9 homebound visits

6) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Alley house discussion - Tabled

b. RLC bulk mailing account - \$500 to be held at post office for newsletters

c. Choir Director Position - Kristin is planning a choir for each Sunday.

7) NEW BUSINESS

a. Church Elevator – Elevator Contract & Inspection

Per State requirement, elevator is to be inspected quarterly.

b. Floor Care Proposal

Arnold's Kleen-Tech Services was consulted for recommendations in floor care. Floors to restore: education wing--classrooms, halls, steps; kitchen; restrooms. The restoration will provide 5-8 years of floor protection. *Motion made to proceed with restorative floor care with money coming from capital improvement fund.* MA

c. Fall Youth Program

Events through the summer have been well attended.

d. New Member, Adam Jay Brennan - *Motion made to accept new member to RLC - MA*

e. Properties Committee Update- Roof Project - John will contact Jerome to see where we stand on the project; will bring back to Properties Committee for discussion.

f. Honorarium for Pastor Nelson - *Motion made to give \$350 honorarium to Pastor Nelson- MA* Pastor Roger was reimbursed for mileage and lodging. Thrivent provided money towards the celebration. Many good comments about service have been heard.

8) COMMITTEE REPORTS: MA

9) INFORMATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

10) ADJOURNMENT / CLOSING PRAYERS

Adjourned at 8:20 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Johnson

JULY CASH SUMMARY REPORT

Balance brought forward 6/30/2021	\$11,540.98
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$37,013.90
DISBURSEMENTS	\$39,863.95
TOTAL ON HAND 7/31/2021	\$8,690.93



Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

If anyone is interested in participating this year, items needed are: "wow" items such as yoyos, small stuffed animals, cars, trucks, travel games, jump ropes, dolls, etc. Anything that a child would enjoy playing with that will fit in a shoebox. Also, school supplies, small notebooks, Kleenex, band-aids, toothbrushes, combs, hair ribbons, flip flops, etc. A drop box will be located at church. Your donated items will be very much appreciated. There will be a packing party in early November for those that would like to help.

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Worship led by Pastor Steven Chellew

Altar Guild: Faye Heiden, Jess Heiden, Lacey Drinkall, Kim Benson

Organist: Shary Evavold

Pianist : Portia Lee

Projectionists: Lisa Chellew, Sandy Rasmussen, Becky Stocker, Steve Burdey

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

Choir Director: Kristin Burdey

8 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Worship

9/5/2021

Scripture Reader: Dr David Hinz

Linda Paulson

Communion

Ushering: Marv Bestul and Claire Olstad

Louis Boehmke and John Campe

9/12/2021

Scripture Reader: Vicky Nelson

Acolytes

Ushering: Dennie Darr and Gordy Elliott

Tom Kopperud and Jim Bernier

9/19/2021

Scripture Reader: David Hinz

Acolytes

Communion

Ushering: Wayne Meyer and Kerry Heiden

John Peterson and Mike Messenger

9/26/2021

Scripture Reader: Dr David Hinz

Acolytes

Ushering: Brendon Honken and Dale Evavold

Dale Rasmussen and Lowell Rasmussen

SEPTEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9a Men's Helping Hands 9a Ladies Mission Work 1:30p RLCW Meeting w/ program, hosted by Adah Circle 6p Family Education Committee	2	3 Office Closed	4
5 8a Worship w/Communion, Coffee & Fellowship to follow in Basement 9:15a Worship, Live Streamed, Coffee & fellowship to follow in Basement 10:15a Bible Study	6 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY 10a Worship Posted Online	7	8 9a Men's Helping Hands 9a Ladies Mission Work 5p 5th grade communion class 6p Confirmation Parents Meeting	9	10 Office Closed	11
12 RALLY SUNDAY 8a Worship, Coffee & Fellowship to follow in Basement 9:15a Worship w/Communion, Communion, Live Streamed, Coffee & Fellowship to follow in Basement 10:15a Adult Bible Study 10:15a Sunday School	13 10a Worship Posted Online 1p Quilting 4:30p Worship Committee 5:30p Coffee House, Fellowship Hall 6:30p Finance Committee 7p Church Council	14	15 9a Men's Helping Hands 9a Ladies Mission Work 11a RLCW Fall Salad Luncheon 5p 5th grade Communion class 6p Confirmation class 6:30p Grief Share	16 9:30a Ruth Circle 1p Miriam Circle 1:30p Hannah Circle 5p Martha Circle	17 Office Closed	18
19 8a Worship w/Communion, Coffee & Fellowship to follow in basement 9:15a Worship, Live Streamed, Coffee & Fellowship to follow in Basement 10:15a Bible Study 10:15a Sunday School	20 10a Worship Posted Online 1p Bremmer/GSLH Communion 1:30p Priscilla Circle 5:30p Coffee House Worship w/ Communion, Fellowship Hall 6:30p Membership Committee	21	22 9a Men's Helping Hands 9a Ladies Mission Work 5p 5th grade Communion class 6p Confirmation class 6:30p Grief Share	23	24 Office Closed	25
26 8a Worship Coffee & Fellowship to follow 9:15a Worship w/Communion, Live Streamed, Coffee & Fellowship to follow in Basement 10:15a Bible Study 10:15a Sunday School 1p Cub Scout Meeting	27 10a Worship Posted Online 5:30p Coffee House, Fellowship Hall	28	29 9a Men's Helping Hands 9a Ladies Mission Work 5p 5th grade Communion Classes 6p Confirmation class 6:30p Grief Share	30		

Rushford Lutheran Church

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RUSHFORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

RUSHFORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Linda Lea, Church Secretary (Ext. 10)

Christine Anderson, Family Education Director; Kristin Burdey, Youth Ministries/Director of Choirs; David Hinz, Custodian

E-Mail Address: rlc@acegroup.cc ** Web Page: www.rushfordlutheran.com

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