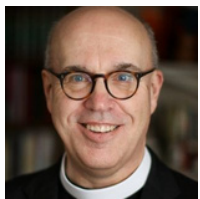


Richfield Lutheran Newsletter

DECEMBER 2022



A Light is Shining in the Darkness



By Pastor Brian Mundt
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Ruminations from the Pastoral Pasture

Welcome to December! Yet before I say, "Merry Christmas," we need to say, "Now hold on to your horses! We need to go through Advent first." We want to rush headlong into the warm delights of Christmas, of Jesus being born, one of us. But instead, first, we have Advent. A dark, cold time of "hurry up and wait."

Hey, this reminds me of the pandemic too. We want to rush headlong into "the way things used to be." But we know we cannot go "back home" again, too much has changed, we have changed, besides, it's just not the same anymore, so it could never quite be the same. And isn't Advent like much of life too? Uncertain. Treading water. Waiting to see the outcome. Not a place we'd choose to be, but we have no choice.

Our "theme song" for Advent this year is # 243, "Lost in the Night."

Hear the verses:

1. **Lost in the night do the people yet languish,
longing for morning the darkness to vanquish,
plaintively sighing with hearts full of anguish.
Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?**
2. **Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow?
Shall those who have light no light let us borrow,
giving no heed to our burden of sorrow?
Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?**
3. **Sorrowing wand'rers, in darkness yet dwelling,
dawned has the day of a radiance excelling,
death's deepest shadows forever dispelling.
Christ is coming soon! Christ is coming soon!**

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CHURCH OFFICE:
(612) 861-2265

WEBSITE:
www.richfield-lutheran.org

VIDEO WORSHIP on YOUTUBE:
[Richfield Lutheran Church](#)

AUDIO WORSHIP:
(612) 474-4974

ONLINE SERMONS:
Go to [Resources](#) on our
website

RLC FACEBOOK:
[Richfield Lutheran Church](#)

CELC FACEBOOK:
[Creative Early Learning Center
@RLC](#)





Upcoming Services and Events: Worship

**Sun, Nov 27: 1st Sunday
in Advent**

**Join us each Sunday after
worship for coffee &
fellowship!**

- Sun, Dec 4: 2nd Sunday of Advent Worship w/Communion
- Sat, Dec 10: WELCA Christmas Tea at 2:00pm
- Sun, Dec 11: Lessons & Carols Service at 9:30 with Pie Fellowship to follow
- Sun, Dec. 18: 4th Sunday of Advent w/communion
- Mon, Dec 19: Deadline for January Newsletter
- Sat, Dec 24: Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00pm
- Sun, Dec 25: Christmas Day - no service
- Mon, Dec 26: RLC Office Closed



***May your Christmas be
wrapped in the blessings of
his love***



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**4. Light o'er the land of the needy is beaming;
rivers of life through its deserts are streaming,
bringing all peoples a Savior redeeming.
Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!**

Yes, Christmas is coming. Yes, light is dawning on the horizon, if you can discern it. Yes, Jesus is coming, bringing his kingdom in its fullness. Until then, we sit in the blue light of Advent. Christ is coming soon! Christ is coming soon!

Jesus loves you, and so do I,

— Pastor Brian

P.S. In the midst of our Advent, we have pie! Come enjoy pie fellowship on Sunday, December 11, after our Service of Lessons and Carols.



Stewards of God's Grace. By God's grace, we are claimed as children of God through baptism. We belong to God and all that we have belongs to God. How does "belonging to God" shape the way that we live our lives? How might we be good stewards of God's grace? Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and Galatians 3:23-29.

Online with Pastor Brian, Wednesdays @ 1:00 p.m.

**To join, go to Zoom Mtg: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88368868971?wd=aU9FYXlvWUJzeVIXeGVoazUvTVU2Zz09>
or email: bmundt@richfield-lutheran.org for the link.**



From the Business Office

**By Meggy Wagner
mwagner@richfield-lutheran.org**

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! To everybody who donated to our Give to the Max Minnesota Day, thank you! All donations received will go towards furnishing our new classrooms and staff lounge! Thank you for your generosity! If you have not contributed yet, there is still time! Go to <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Richfield-Lutheran-Church> to make a donation, every amount is welcome!

We are almost done with our Common Grounds conversion. Final inspections should happen late November / early December. Then we will set up the rooms with all furniture and equipment and toys, and then we can invite the Department of Health and Human Services, our licenser, to visit and approve the rooms. After that, our Infants and our Teddy Bears can move into their new home, and the Main Renovation can start! We will have a proper ribbon cutting ceremony in December, and we will let you know via email and in Worship when that will take place. Everyone is invited! See you in Worship and in Church! Have a blessed Advent Season,
Peace,
Meggy Wagner



We extend our christian sympathies to the family of friends of Darlene Moen who passed away on November 19th. Blessed be her memory.



December Birthdays

12/4 Anne Lindstrom
12/5 Roy Eldred
12/7 Joan Christensen
12/8 Jean Bunday
12/8 Darwin Missling
12/16 Bonnie Swenby
12/19 Marilyn Long
12/21 Becky Markkanen
12/23 Shirley Evenstad
12/29 Wayne Holmberg

RLC Offering Envelopes



will be available for pick up soon. Watch for them

in the Narthex. If you see a box of envelopes that belong to a neighbor living by you who may not get to church often, please do a 'random act of kindness' and bring them their envelopes. Thanks!



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Reverse Advent Calendar

Each day add an item to a box.
On Christmas Eve donate the contents to a Food Bank

December 1 - box of cereal
December 2 - peanut butter
December 3 - stuffing mix
December 4 - boxed potatoes
December 5 - macaroni and cheese
December 6 - canned fruit
December 7 - canned tomatoes
December 8 - canned tuna
December 9 - dessert mix
December 10 - jar of applesauce
December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
December 12 - cranberry sauce
December 13 - canned beans
December 14 - box of crackers
December 15 - package of rice
December 16 - package of oatmeal
December 17 - package of pasta
December 18 - spaghetti sauce
December 19 - chicken noodle soup
December 20 - tomato soup
December 21 - can of corn
December 22 - can of mixed vegetables
December 23 - can of carrots
December 24 - can of green beans



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Its almost that time of year again! Colder weather is getting close. Any donations of caps, mittens and scarves for the 'little ones' at RLC/CELC would be appreciated. Please drop off in the RLC Office or adorn the mitten tree in the RLC hallway!



Holiday Baskets

It's the holiday season and if you are thinking of 'how can I help?', RLC is collected donations for holiday baskets. Monetary donations will be accepted for the Thanksgiving & Christmas baskets this year. Gift cards will be given out to families to purchase food. Donations can be mailed or dropped off at the RLC Office.



WELCA Christmas Tea
hosted by Robbi Moore



Please join us on Saturday,
December 10th at 2:00 in the Mary
Martha Room for a
WELCA Christmas Tea.
Enjoy an afternoon with fellowship,
tea, coffee & treats!
We invite you to bring a wrapped
white elephant gift for an exchange.
All are invited - invite a friend!
(Masks are optional!)



A great time to donate
to the RLC Mitten
tree. Mittens, hats &
scarves are welcome.



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Let's bring the holiday season to our Sanctuary!

Now is the time to purchase your Poinsettia
Memorial. Envelopes are available in the Church
Office. Cost is \$15.00 and payment must accompany
the envelope.



Daily Bible Readings for the Next Two Weeks:

Thursday, December 1

Isaiah 11:1-20

Friday, December 2

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19

Saturday, December 3

Romans 15:4-13

Sunday, December 4

Matthew 3:1-12

Monday, December 5

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

Tuesday, December 6

Isaiah 41:14-20

Wednesday, December 7

Genesis 15:1-8

Thursday, December 8

Isaiah 35:1-10

Friday, December 9

Psalms 146:5-10

Saturday, December 10

James 5:7-10

Sunday, December 11

Matthew 11:2-11

Monday, December 12

Psalms 42

Tuesday, December 13

Jude 17-25

Wednesday, December 14

Zachariah 8:1-17

Thursday, December 15

Isaiah 7:10-16

Friday, December 16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Saturday, December 17

Romans 1:1-7

Sunday, December 18

Matthew 1:18-25

Monday, December 19

Genesis 17:15-22

Tuesday, December 20

Galatians 4:21-5:1

Wednesday, December 21

Isaiah 9:2-7

Thursday, December 22

Psalms 96

Friday, December 23

Titus 2:11-14

Saturday, December 24

Luke 2:1-20

Sunday, December 25

John 1:1-14

Monday, December 26

Matthew 23:34-39

Tuesday, December 27

John 21:20-25

Wednesday, December 28

Matthew 2:13-18

Thursday, December 29

Isaiah 52:7-10

Friday, December 30

Hebrews 1:1-4

Saturday, December 31

Matthew 25:31-46