

Richfield Lutheran Newsletter

OCTOBER 2025



From the Pastor

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Jeshanah and named it Ebenezer, for he said, "Thus far the Lord has helped us." – 1 Samuel 7:12

At the end of this month, I will have officially served one year as pastor with this blessed congregation! Kind of surreal, if you ask me! Like many things in life, in some ways it seems longer and in other ways a quick blur. Either way, looking back on the year brings

much gratitude and wonder. For my article this month, indulge me in a little look back on some of the highlights of the year gone by!

- *Highlights from last November included a lefse-making party and a Christmas decorating get-together with church members and volunteers from the CELC
- *Advent lifted the themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love and culminated in a beautiful Christmas Eve candlelight worship with 100+ in attendance
- *Stars graced the narthex throughout the Epiphany season of light, a gift from the children of the CELC
- *Lent was marked by "Late Lunch Lent" midweek Holden Evening Prayer and delightful soup luncheons in the Mary and Martha room
- *Easter Celebration featured members of the Crosstown Community Band and a reminder that death has been destroyed in love
- *May 17 members gathered for an all-church spring-cleaning day, sprucing up the facility both inside and out
- *Two days later, May 19, we experienced the fear and trauma of a school bus crashing into and through the church playground as 14 children played and 3 teachers supervised. By God's miraculous grace, every person involved was able to walk away, and we witnessed the heroics and amazing swift actions of our CELC staff responding to care and protect.
- *The crash spurred us to follow up with mental health therapy professionals offering counsel for staff, children, and households alike, and we walked alongside each other as staff, households, congregation, and council to heal, recover, and put actions in motion to address the damage and rebuild.
- *Throughout the summer, we explored "God's Greatest Hits" of the Hebrew Scriptures in a worship and preaching series.
- *In July the parking lot was packed and filled with life as RLC and the CELC hosted an all-community ice cream social in attended by roughly 175 people of all ages
- *August featured a robust collective worship at Veteran's Park with House of Prayer, Woodlake, and Oak Grove Lutheran churches, and "Into the Woods" was hosted as the annual Hoi Polloi Players production.
- *September has brought a shift to the Narrative Lectionary in worship and preaching focusing on the entire arc of the Biblical story, and in just the last couple weeks we've celebrated the installation of the brand new playground



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WEBSITE:
www.richfield-lutheran.org

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

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

RLC FACEBOOK:
[Richfield Lutheran Church](#)

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





Upcoming Services and Events:

- *Sunday, October 5: 9:30am Worship w/communion*
- *Wednesday, October 8: 5:00pm-6:30pm Corn Festival and Blessing of the Playground*
- *Sunday, October 12: 9:30am Worship*
- *Sunday, October 19: 9:30am Worship w/communion*
- *, October 21: Operation Christmas Child - noon*
- *Reformation Sunday, October 26: 9:30am Worship (wear red)*
- *Thursday, October 30: CELC Halloween Parade and Classroom Celebrations*
- *Friday, October 31: Halloween*
- *All Saint's Sunday, November 2: 9:30am Worship w/communion*



**Sunday, November 2nd:
Daylight Savings Time**



Bible Study Online with Pastor Charlie
Wednesdays @ 1:00 p.m. using Zoom
Video Meeting.
Zoom link to Bible Study can be accessed
on the RLC website under "Get Involved".



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equipment which at the time of your reading is likely already being enjoyed by the kiddos! Amid all of this we've worshipped, prayed, studied, served, celebrated, grieved, and hoped together in the love of Jesus. It serves as a great testament to God's continued faithfulness.

Three things I hope you keep on your radar this month:

*Wed, Oct 8, 5-6:30pm the "Ear-resistible Sweet Corn Playground Party and Blessing" | You won't want to miss this! Look to page 4 for more info!

*Sun, Oct 26, Reformation Sunday Worship, 9:30am | We host our beloved seminarian, Sam Maier, in the pulpit.

*Sun, Nov 2, All Saints Worship, 9:30am | We gather to remember church members and loved ones who have died in the past year and those we miss and hold in love.

In all of this, thanks be to God for you, for this community, and for the privilege of serving alongside you.

Pastor Charlie



By Susan Anderson Council President

Council Update

First, a shout out to a terrific group of faithful servants. I am so grateful to Cathy Salin, Patty Jodell, Shirley Evenstad, Mark Flom, Sherie Swanson and, of course, Pastor Charlie Ruud for sharing their expertise, time and talent in leadership at RLC.

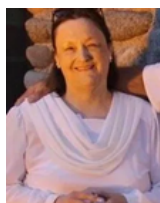
As for what we are up to, I think it is the following:

- We take care of the business of the church. To name a few items: this last half year there has been much related to the playground bus accident and insurance; Cathy Salin spends an inordinate amount managing our financial situation and ensuring that we are informed so we can make sound decisions.
- We look forward to and plan around the church year. For this, we rely on Pastor Charlie and the Worship Committee. We have been hearing about Thanksgiving, a bit about Christmas and way into next year.
- Always at the back of our minds is listening for the "still small voice" to guide us in the direction we need to go to be in relationship with our neighbors as ourselves. The Ear-resistable Corn Feed is the next outreach activity and promises to be great fun.
- We listen to you to hear your thoughts and concerns. For example, we have heard your questions about the courtyard. It has not been a priority financially but also it is not clear what exactly should go in there. We are gathering ideas and letting them "percolate".

Thanks to all of you for your prayers and support for our endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Anderson, Council President



By Robbi Moore Parish Nurse

Nursing Notes

October is breast cancer awareness month. I have written that now as long as I have written in the Good News (about 18 years). I have shared the stories of my mom who had her breast cancer when I was 9 years old, Mrs Saunders Peterson the first and longest church librarian in RLC history who had a double radical mastectomy but still was at the library cart every Sunday at both the Wentworth church and our current building.



October Birthdays

10/04 Charlie Ruud
 10/13 Maureen McGinty
 10/18 Carol Gnerer
 10/28 Barbara Bachman



Save the Date

RLC lefse bake is happening Saturday morning, November 15, from 9 to 12. Sign up or call Shirley Evenstad at 612-861-4793 if you have questions. Again this year, we are willing to roll and bake some lefse for purchase - three rounds for \$5, proceeds go to WELCA. All are welcome. If you don't know how, we will teach you, and if you are an 'expert' - all the better. We will have some for sale on Sunday, November 16.



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There have been many women leaders at RLC as well as many who had a quieter RLC presence but they all shared the good and the bad of breast cancer.

Some lost their battles and others lived long lives after their cancer journey rocked their worlds. This year I joined their numbers. To tell you despite being a nurse and having an educated understanding of this disease that I wasn't terrified would be a lie. I went into the screenings, biopsies and finally the surgery with open eyes and it was still scary and lonely. Despite supportive friends and family, spouses and caring health providers I can tell you that this has totally rocked me and that almost every woman I know who has been through this, this year or 30 years ago tells the same story. This is a very lonely and very challenging process to one's core of femininity. This is the disfiguring of a part of a woman's body that says to the world I am a woman.

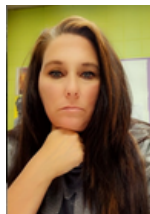
I feel very lucky and blessed by God who I talked to nearly constantly for the 7 months this was going on. I feel bad for those who don't have God to lean on. I am happy to tell you that God walked every step with me and he enfolded me in his arms. I am not usually someone to talk about things this way but I am struck by the fact that in 2025 we are still losing women to breast cancer. AND MEN..YES MEN. Research continues despite the blow of the closing of the over 200 separate research trials at the National Institute of Health and the firing of their research teams; the Susan Kolman Research programs as are several at University Medical Schools across the country. There are 5 big drugs that are now released to patients this year and some drug companies are supplementing financially to get them covered. There is much more needed and of course healthcare costs are at risk. Discuss these issues with your MDs, your pharmacies, your political representatives and anyone else who will listen. These are overwhelming issues but if we all work to be more informed and share our concerns we can make a difference.

I will have red cancer awareness pins at church this month. Please wear them proudly.

I know this was not my normal kind of article and I ask for your acceptance as it has weighted heavily on my heart.

IN HIS NAME

Your Parish Nurse
 Robbi



Denise Hagen, Director
 Early Learning Center



Hello Families.

Welcome to October! As the leaves begin to change and the air gets crisp, we have a month full of exciting activities, learning opportunities, and family-friendly events planned. Here is everything you need to know to stay in the loop!



Upcoming Events & Important Dates:

October 8th Corn Festival/Playground inauguration
 October 11th Trunk-N-Treat
 October 15th Apple Orchard Field Trip
 October 30th Halloween Parade and classroom celebrations



Thank you for being such an important part of our community. We look forward to sharing a fun and festive experience.



"May the changing colors of October remind you of God's unchanging love"



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Wednesday, October 8th
5:00pm-6:30pm



RLC/CELC Corn Feed and Blessing of the Playground

Offering both traditional Mexican Elote and Midwestern Style Sweet Corn. Free will donation encouraged. Proceeds will go toward remaining costs of the playground and the ongoing operating of RLC and CELC.

Featuring two bounce houses for children, music from the Crosstown Community Band, Information about the Minneapolis Toy Library and a Communal Blessing of the newly installed playground equipment.



All are welcome!

Women of the **ELCA** 



Operation Christmas Child

You are invited to participate in our Operation Christmas Child Packing Event on Tuesday, October 21st at noon in the South Community Room at RLC. Our goal is to pack 100 boxes this year (last year was 75). Donations are still being accepted. Contact Kathy Lindquist or the RLC Office if you have any questions.

A fun outreach activity for all! We hope you can join us!



On-Line Worship



Sermons on the go!

Want to listen to sermons from Richfield Lutheran Church on the go? WE ARE ON SOUNDCLOUD! Download the SoundCloud app to your mobile device and subscribe to "Richfield Lutheran Church" or follow the weblink on your computer:
soundcloud.com/richfield-lutheran
Listen in the car, on a walk, out in the garden, etc. Check it out! Full video recordings of our entire worship services are still available on our website and YouTube channel.



About our Newsletter

We try to make the RLC Newsletter available and easily accessible to all our members and friends. Here is a reminder of the way we distribute the newsletter:

- Physical copies are mailed to members with no e-mail addresses. (or if they simply wish to receive a hard copy in the mail).
- Members with e-mails are sent a pdf of the newsletter
- Printed copies are available in the office.
- Available on our website.

Contact the RLC Office if you have any questions.



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Daily Bible Readings for October 2025

Wednesday, October 1

[Hosea 12:2-14](#)

Thursday, October 2

[Psalm 37:1-9](#)

Friday, October 3

[2 Kings 19:8-20, 35-37](#)

Saturday, October 4

[Matthew 20:29-34](#)

Sunday, October 5

[Luke 17:5-10](#)

Monday, October 6

[Psalm 3](#)

Tuesday, October 7

[1 John 5:1-5, 13-21](#)

Wednesday, October 8

[Habakkuk 2:12-20](#)

Thursday, October 9

[Psalm 111](#)

Friday, October 10

[Numbers 4:34-5:4](#)

Saturday, October 11

[Luke 5:12-16](#)

Sunday, October 12

[Luke 17:11-19](#)

Monday, October 13

[Psalm 61](#)

Tuesday, October 14

[Ephesians 6:10-20](#)

Wednesday, October 15

[Matthew 10:5-15](#)

Thursday, October 16

[Psalm 121](#)

Friday, October 17

[2 Timothy 2:14-26](#)

Saturday, October 18

[Luke 1:1-4, 24:44-53](#)

Sunday, October 19

[Luke 18:1-8](#)

Monday, October 20

[Psalm 57](#)

Tuesday, October 21

[James 5:7-12](#)

Wednesday, October 22

[Luke 22:39-46](#)

Thursday, October 23

[Psalm 84:1-7](#)

Friday, October 24

[Jeremiah 9:17-26](#)

Saturday, October 25

[Jeremiah 14:1-6](#)

Sunday, October 26

[Luke 18:9-14](#)

Monday, October 27

[Psalm 84:8-12](#)

Tuesday, October 28

[John 14:21-27](#)

Wednesday, October 29

[Matthew 21:28-32](#)

Thursday, October 30

[Psalm 32:1-7](#)

Friday, October 31

[Romans 3:19-28](#)



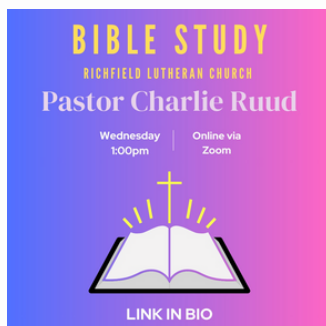
On Sunday, November 2, 2025 we pause to remember our departed loved ones at our **All Saints worship service**. We honor those who have left this world, yet whose faith lives on through us. Early in the service, we will read aloud the names of all members and loved ones who have died in the past twelve months, ring a bell in their memory, and light a candle.

If you have a loved one you would like named, please let Bonnie know by Tuesday, October 28th and their names will also be included in this meaningful service.

What's happening at CELC/RLC



Anticipating the new playground!
Construction crews had a rapt audience.



Weekey bible studies with
Pastor Charlie. Always
room for more.



Join the fun in packing boxes for
Operation Christmas Child.
Tuesday, October 21st at noon at RLC