

THE GOOD NEWS



OCTOBER 2024 | CHRIST CENTERED | BIBLE BASED | FAMILY FOCUSED | MISSION MINDED

Sunday School Milestones for September



RLC three-year-olds received their preschool Bibles.

RLC third graders received their Bibles.

OCTOBER IS SOAP MONTH

Baskets will be placed at the two entrances to collect requested soaps for the Rushford Food Shelf. They are in need of laundry detergent and dish soap.

Rushford Lutheran Church Men's Club
87TH ANNUAL

CODFISH & MEATBALL SUPPER



Saturday, October 5
Adults: \$20 | Children 6-12: \$15
Children under 6 eat FREE

FAMILY STYLE
ALL YOU CAN EAT



Carry-outs available

TICKETS AVAILABLE
Serving Times:
4:45 p.m. - 7 p.m.

PASTOR'S CORNER

Thank you for your generous contribution. I saw what you did. You put your last dollar in the offering plate. I know things are tight for you right now, so thank you. You spent an hour or two washing dishes after that last funeral. You baked bars, sewed quilts and crocheted until your hands were sore. You dug up weeds, washed windows, and helped fix that toilet in the girl's restroom, which always seems to need fixing. Again. You sat down in the pew next to that recent widow because you know from experience it's not easy to come to church alone. You read the lessons, ran the projector, taped the service and ushered that new family to their pew. You taught and out-talked an unruly class of fifth graders just so that they could better know the story. I saw what you did. Thank you for your generous contribution.

Jesus and his disciples sit outside the temple and watch as people bring in their offerings. Yep. Watching. Spread around the outer courtyard are 13 trumpet-shaped receptacles for contributions brought by worshippers. There was no "passing the plate" in the days of Jesus. The offering plates were outside the sanctuary, not in. Still, everyone could see what everyone else gave. Mark tells the story best.

Mark 12:41-44 (ESV) ⁴¹ And Jesus sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. ⁴³ And Jesus called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all

those who are contributing to the offering box. ⁴⁴ For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."



In the kingdom of heaven, more is not always more. It's never about "how much." It's always about why; why we give. Even when we can only give "two small copper coins, which make a penny." Or maybe it's just an hour here, an hour there. A kind word. A ride to church. Like Jesus and his disciples sitting outside the temple, start watching. Start watching and counting the many ways people are giving. It's truly impossible to say all the many ways we can give.

Whether giving time, talent or treasure, the principle behind the "widow's mite" remains the same. Whether we have been blessed with much (many rich people put in large sums) or blessed with little (two small copper coins), whether we consider ourselves talented, or can barely sing in the shower, whether we have hours to kill each week, or can barely squeeze in a few minutes during the day, we can all give. And at certain times in our life, like the widow heading into the temple, we give of what we have left. We give of what we have to live on. And that is always the sweetest time to give.

So yes, we do not say it often enough. Thank you for your contribution. I saw what you did. You sat on endless committee meetings. You helped a newly grieving widower pick out a spot for his wife in our cemetery. You made a meal for the youth group, and they ate every last bite! You banged your drum, played your guitar and sang out for Jesus in the Praise Team. You took pictures for the new church directory. You signed up to give electronically or just brought your envelope to the church and put it in the plate. Just like the poor widow.

No, no one at church said a thing. But I saw what you did. "And Jesus sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering plate..."

In Christ's Loving Service,

Pastor Steve

RUSHFORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Office Hours: Monday– Thursday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
www.rushfordlutheran.com

PASTOR Steven Chellew
507-703-1221 (cell), stevechellew@gmail.com

CHURCH SECRETARY Deanna Honsey, rlc@acegroup.cc

FAMILY EDUCATION DIRECTOR Brittany Agrimson
507-459-9600, brittany2284@gmail.com

YOUTH & CHOIR MINISTRY DIRECTOR Kristin Burdey
507-459-0731, kristinburdey@gmail.com

CUSTODIAN David Hinz

GET TO KNOW THE ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The Endowment Fund is separated in 4 categories. Eligible contributions to any of these funds could include bequest under will, charitable remainder trust, life estate, insurance policies or direct gifts of stocks, bonds, IRAs and cash.

GENERAL FUND

The general fund is to be used for anything that does not fall under the organ, scholarship or Sunday School funds.



ORGAN FUND

The organ fund is to be used for maintenance of and improvements to the Church pipe organ.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Scholarship fund is to be used by young people of the Church for their education at colleges, universities and technical schools.



SUNDAY SCHOOL FUND

The Sunday School fund is to be used for the enrichment and enhancement of the Sunday School program and to ensure that all children who cannot afford the costs of the program will be included in Sunday School activities.

WITHDRAWALS

Withdrawals from any funds are authorized by the Church Council. A request for a withdrawal must be in writing stating the amount and the date needed. Requests for withdrawals must be given to the Endowment Committee at least 30 days before the money is needed.

The Endowment Committee would like to thank John Campe and Dale Evavold for their contributions to the committee for 9 years. Their dedication and knowledge were much appreciate!

Rushford Lutheran Church Women's meeting highlights Sept. 4, 2024

- **The next meeting is October 2 at 1:30 p.m. Priscilla Circle has the program and Hannah Circle has the lunch.**
- **Sunday morning coffee served by Miriam Circle.**

President Bean welcomed everyone and turned the program over to the Miriam Circle. Devotions were given by Anne Bartelson from Ephesians 2:8-9. Guest speaker Ardith Brown, a member of Rushford Lutheran and a retired nurse, spoke on Back to School Month. She had invited RLCW members to bring their school pictures which were displayed. Her daughter-in-law persuaded her to write her autobiography a few years ago. It took her about two years to complete. She noted that there is a difference between a memoir and an autobiography. Her book is a memoir. She recalled many memories of her growing up and later getting married and raising a family. She writes that to live a complete life one must plant a tree, help a child and write a book. She has now done all three. When asked to describe herself in three words, she said she was frugal, loyal and plain.

President Bean opened the business meeting. The secretary's report was read and approved with one correction, that being the Priscilla Circle has Sept. lunch. The treasurer's report balance was \$5,753.54.

Old Business: Bean passed around a sign-up sheet for workers for the upcoming salad luncheon. She noted that they are still waiting for parts for the coffee pot. A reminder of the Bake Sale planned for October 25 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

New Business: For the Codfish Supper, each circle is asked to bring 7 dozen cookies this year as they ran out last year. Also, help is needed to make meatballs for the supper that Saturday.

Announcements: Birthdays and anniversaries were noted and prayer requests received.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The Lord's Prayer was said and the Table Prayer was sung. Lunch was served by the Martha Circle.



September was a great month as we kicked off Rally Sunday! The students had a blast with balloon animals, a picnic lunch, outdoor games and prizes. There are approximately 65 students in Sunday School (preschool through seventh grade). Our newest members of Sunday School, our three-year-olds, received their Preschool Bibles from the church on Rally Sunday. This is one of many milestone moments to come for them.



The following Sunday, we had our Bible Buddy Adoption Day. All students, preschool through fourth grade, adopted a stuffed animal that came with a journal. Each week, they (or their parents) will read a Bible verse to their Bible Buddy, and they can draw pictures or write about it in their journal. The students in fifth through seventh grade were given a Bible Reading Journal that allows them to read one story from the Bible each week and reflect on this in their journal. Those students who complete the 32-week journal at the end of the Sunday School year will receive a prize!

OCTOBER EVENTS

OCT 13 | 4TH GRADE RECEIVES LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM AT 9:15 SERVICE

OCT 20 | 5TH GRADE FIRST COMMUNION AT 9:15 SERVICE

OCT 27 | PRE-K TO FIFTH GRADE SING AT 9:15 SERVICE ANNUAL HARVEST PARTY DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR*

***PARENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THE STUDENTS FOR THE FUN AND GAMES!**

If you have any questions regarding Family Education/Sunday School, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Brittany Agrimson, Family Education Director
507-459-9600, brittany2284@gmail.com



The students had their first Sunday of singing in church on Sunday, September 22. This is for all students in preschool through fifth grade. The third-grade students also received their Student Study Bibles from the Family Education Committee.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS



The RLC Youth fall kickoff was held in conjunction with Destiny Life Youth at Creekside Park on September 8. Students played Capture the Flag: Color War Edition. The Rushford Fire Department helped clean up, and students thanked them by presenting several baskets of snacks they shopped for this summer. Devotion was shared by Matt Rodenburg, with prayer by Ben Ekern. The meal was prepared and served by Burdeys Cafe and Escobar Kitchen. It was a great start to a wonderful year!



Above, students and leaders took a road trip to shop for our Hometown Heroes on August 29, that topped off with a stop at Culver's.



MISSION TRIP JULY 26-AUGUST 2

In 2025, RLC and Destiny Life Church are partnering with St. James Lutheran Church in Philadelphia, laboring beside them for the gospel in an urban setting. This is open to students in grade 7 through college. They have ample opportunity to fundraise to bring down the cost of the trip. Encourage and support our youth as they step out in faith to impact lives for Christ. Contact Kristin for details.

PRAISE TEAM NEWS

Praise Team will be the musical guest at Highland Prairie's Cardboard Box City event on Wednesday, October 16. The event is raising awareness about homelessness and funds raised will be given to SEMCAC's Homelessness Prevention Home Advocacy & Resource Assistance Homelessness Prevention Fund. Praise Team plays at 8 p.m. This is a community event. See Kristin for details of the evening's events.

OCTOBER EVENTS

OCT 10

DOROTHY DAY HOUSE

We will prepare a meal on-site for up to 20 people to be served at 6 p.m. One adult and four students can sign up (more adults are possible if short on students). Our second date will be on November 4.

FLASHLIGHT MAZE

Meet at RLC at 6:30 p.m. for a snack, then carpool to Big Springs for their Flashlight Corn Maze. RLC members will be paid for, friends and guests, please bring \$10 for admission. Adult drivers needed!

OCT 19

OCT 27

SPOOKY CORN MAZE FUNDRAISER

Students of RLC and Destiny Life Church can raise funds for the summer mission trip at Big Springs Farm for the 2nd Annual Spooky Corn Maze.

****CARRYOUT ONLY**** **SUN, OCT 13TH**
11 AM - 1 PM
 AT RUSHFORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

RUSHFORD YOUTH FUNDRAISER

CHICKEN &

Help us raise funds for our 2025 Youth Mission Trip
 Contact Destiny Life or Rushford Lutheran Church for tickets

\$15 meal includes:
 1/4 Jumbo chicken, pasta salad, beans, bun, brownie & bottled water

THANK YOU!

ADULT CHOIR

The adult choir would love you to have you sing with us! Rehearsals are at 5 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. The choir generally sings the first Sunday of the month, plus special occasions and holidays.



If you have any questions regarding youth events, Praise Team or adult choir, contact me:
Kristin Burdey, Youth & Choir Ministry Director
 507-459-0731, kristinburdey@gmail.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

John Petersen
864-2789, johnp@acegroup.cc

VICE PRESIDENT

Steven Burdey
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SECRETARY

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Scholarship Committee

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Endowment Committee

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Youth Committee

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429-0056, RPVoteYes@gmail.com
Education Committee

Amy Luhmann
864-3121, ageiwitz@acegroup.cc
Membership Committee

Scott Nielsen
993-5696, sanoutdoors@gmail.com
Worship Committee

Church Council Meeting Highlights September 16, 2024

Below are abbreviated board minutes. Complete board minutes are available by contacting the church office.

- The minutes from the August meeting were approved.
- A detailed financial report for August was reviewed and approved.
- Pastor Steve provided a verbal report which included the following:
 - Overview of the monthly activities for August:
 - Funeral services: Gordie Nelson and Signe Cone.
 - Baptisms: Reese AnneMarie Anderson and Daxxton Legend Olson.
 - Wedding: Kjersta Hinz and Landon Skalet.
 - Member hospital and homebound visits.
- The church directory is near completion.
- Damages from the lightning strike continue to be discussed. The final dollar amount for the damages has not yet been compiled.
- The recommended changes from the scholarship committee were reviewed and approved.
- New RLC members accepted and approved: Caitlin Speece and children (4); Glen Boynton; and Tarini Eggert.
- Available committee reports were reviewed.

The next meeting will be held on October 21 at 6:30 p.m.

AUGUST CASH SUMMARY

Balance brought forward 7/31/24.....	\$ 4,930.37
7/31/24 balance, adjust voided	\$ 4,962.35
Total receipts	\$35,181.64
Total disbursements.....	<u>\$29,529.23</u>
Cash balance as of 8/31/2024	\$10,614.76

CHURCH LADIES

Bring pies on Friday, October 4 or Saturday, October 5 to be sold at the Cod Fish Dinner.

Bring baked goods to the Sterling Drug Store lobby on October 25 for the bake sale. If you are unable to contribute, please consider donating \$10 to RLCW.

QUILT SALE

Quilts will be on display in the upper Narthex October 20- November 10.



OCTOBER WORSHIP LEADERS

	8 A.M. WORSHIP	9:15 A.M. WORSHIP	PASTOR Steven Chellew
OCTOBER 6 COMMUNION	Readers: Pam Nielsen Ushers: Marv Bestul, Claire Olstad, Claire Ione Shepherd	Kyle Britson Louie Boehmke, John Campe, Donnie Kjos, Erick Stocker	ORGANIST Shary Evavold, Portia Lee, Robyn Steffens FAMILY EDUCATION DIRECTOR Brittany Agrimson
OCTOBER 13	Readers: READER NEEDED Ushers: Dennie Darr, Gordy & Bonnie Elliot	Kellen Drinkall Andrea and David Brand, Jim Bernier, Tom Kopperud	YOUTH & CHOIR MINISTRY DIRECTOR Kristin Burdey
OCTOBER 20 COMMUNION	Readers: Carol Jeffers Ushers: Ben & Alicia Anderson, Kerry Heiden, Wayne Meyer	Cashtyn Eide Mike Messenger, John Petersen, Harlan Richards, Chad Steffens	ALTAR GUILD Shari Michel, Linda Paulson PROJECTIONISTS Lisa Chellew, Sandy Rasmussen, Becky Stocker
OCTOBER 27	Readers: READER NEEDED Ushers: Seth Cichoski, Brendon Honken, Dale Evavold	Isaac Feine Milford Paulson, Lowell Rasmussen	VIDEOGRAPHERS David and Andrea Brand, arb Johnson, Donny Kjos, Jeremy Tesch

OCTOBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 9a Men's Helping Hands 1:30p RLCW Meeting 5p Choir Practice 5p First Communion Class 6p Confirmation Class 6p GriefShare	3 10a Bible Study w/Pastor	4 Office Closed	5 4:45p Cod Fish Dinner
6 8a & 9:15a Worship w/ Communion, Coffee & Fellowship to Follow in Basement 10:15a Bible Study 10:15a Sunday School 11:15a Praise Team	7 4:30p Worship Committee 5:30p Coffee House Worship	8 9a Bake Sale Baking	9 9a Ladies Mission Work 9a Men's Helping Hands 5p Choir Practice 5p First Communion Class 6p Confirmation Class 6p GriefShare 6p Youth Committee	10 Youth Group Dorothy Day House Advance Sign-up Required	11 Office Closed	12
13 8a & 9:15a Worship, Coffee & Fellowship to Follow in Basement 9:15a Fourth Grade Small Catechism 10:15a Bible Study 10:15a Sunday School 11a Youth Group Chicken Q 6p Youth Group	14 1p Quilting 5:30p Coffee House Worship 6:30p Membership Committee	15	16 9a Ladies Mission Work 9a Men's Helping Hands 5p Choir Practice 5p First Communion Class 6p Family Education Committee 6p GriefShare	17 9:30a Ruth Circle 1p Miriam Circle 1:30p Hannah Circle 5p Martha Circle at RLC	19 Office Closed	19 6:30p Youth Group Flashlight Maze at Big Springs
20 8a & 9:15a Worship w/ Communion, Coffee & Fellowship to Follow in Basement 9:15a Fifth Grade First Communion 10:15a Bible Study 10:15a Sunday School 11:15a Praise Team	21 1p Pastor at Bremmer Suites & GSLH 1:30p Priscilla Circle 5:30p Coffee House Worship 6:30p Church Council	22	23 9a Ladies Mission Work 9a Men's Helping Hands 5p Choir Practice 6p Confirmation 6p GriefShare	24	25 Office Closed 9a RLCW Bake Sale Sterling Drug Store	26
27 8a & 9:15a Worship, Coffee & Fellowship to Follow in Basement 9:15a Sunday School Choir 10:15a Bible Study 10:15a Sunday School/ Harvest Party 11:15 Praise Team 6:30p Youth Group	28 5p Youth Group ECFE Trunk or Treat 5:30p Coffee House Worship	29	30 9a Ladies Mission Work 9a Men's Helping Hands 5p Choir Practice 6p Confirmation 6p GriefShare	31		

Rushford Lutheran Church

Physical Address: 101 S Mill Street, Rushford, MN

Mailing Address: PO Box 399, Rushford, MN 55971

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

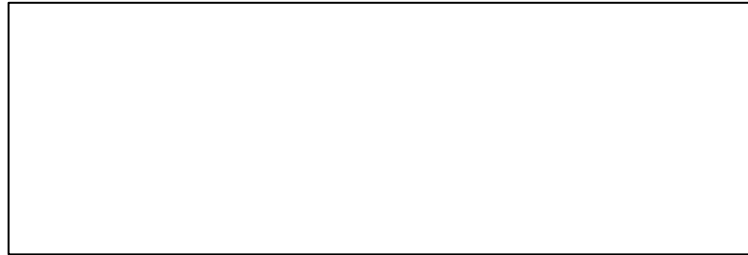
Non Profit Org.

U. S. POSTAGE

P A I D

Permit No. 1

Rushford, MN



Operation Christmas Child shoebox project starts in October!



If anyone is interested in participating, there will be shoeboxes throughout the church to take home and fill, or you can drop off items at church which will be used to put into a shoebox. Items needed are: "wow" items such as new yoyos, cars, trucks, travel games, jump ropes, dolls, etc. Anything that a child would enjoy playing with that will fit in a shoebox. Your donated items will be appreciated. A packing party will be held in early November for those that would like to help.

Grief Support Group

Need some help and encouragement after the death of a loved one?

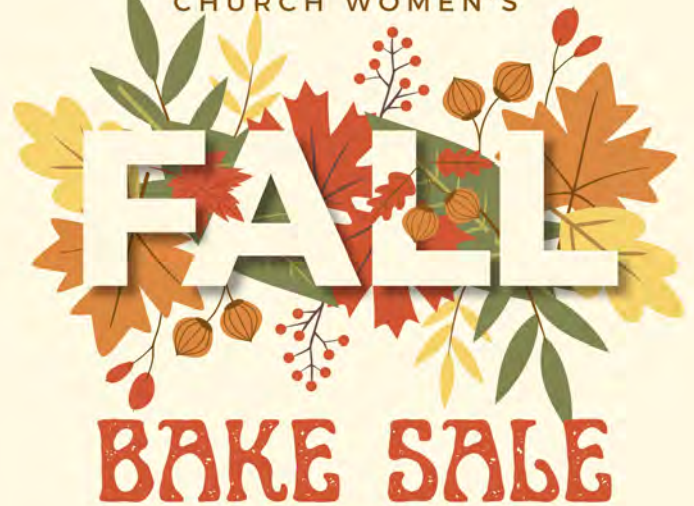
GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help. Open to all community members.

**Rushford Lutheran Church
Wednesdays at 6 p.m.
Multi-Purpose/Quilting Room**

Becky Stocker 507-923-9051 | Glen Kopperud 507-458-6894



RUSHFORD LUTHERAN
CHURCH WOMEN'S



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25
9 A.M. - 1 P.M.**

**STERLING DRUG STORE LOBBY
NORWEGIAN BAKING & ASSORTED GOODIES!**

PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE RLCW