

# pRAISE RLC Rebecoming... May 7-11

## REBECOMING: CREATING OUR STRATEGIC PLAN TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION AND VISION

Rebecca Field, RLC Council President

A big thank you to all who were able to attend the *Rebecoming* sessions that were held in January and February! It was a wonderful time to spend some time together and make new and strengthen connections within the Roseville Lutheran community. Additionally, it was a great opportunity for those participating to share their thoughts and ideas for how RLC can together work through the *Rebecoming* process by answering these key questions:

- What brings you closer to God as an individual at RLC?
- What brings you closer to God as a community at RLC?
- What is missing or do we need more of at RLC?

These thoughts were captured, and the results were compiled and analyzed to identify common themes. The most common themes include:

- Social Connections and opportunities to strengthen relationships (small groups, and volunteering)
- Community impact and involvement (serve events, and justice advocacy)
- Worship Services (music, and preaching)
- Children and Youth Programs (growing ministry, and family events)

These themes and ideas that were shared will play an integral part as staff leadership and council move forward in the next couple months with forming and creating a strategic plan for RLC. This strategic plan will be our roadmap to how we can together rebecome as a community that continues to support our mission to "Love God. Love Your Neighbor" and vision to be "A Community United by Grace." It will include defining our supporting values, priorities, goals, and actions needed.

REBECOMING continues on p.2



## REBECOMING A PEOPLE – EMPTY TOMBS AND OPEN HEARTS

Lauren J. Wrightsman, Senior Pastor

The world had shifted under their feet. The earthquake in the early morning hours of that first Easter day, literally moved the ground! The scene of the empty tomb shifted the hearts and minds of the first disciples.

The world as they knew it was never going to be the same. The ground had shifted.

They, as followers of Christ, were never going to be the same. Their hearts opened wide at the sight of an empty tomb and all of the possibilities that the empty tomb meant for them.

The Gospel of Matthew ends rather abruptly. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary are the first ones to encounter the open tomb and are told to tell the others. Jesus then appears to those gathered and says, "Do not be afraid," and then gives this instruction, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." He then ends with this promise, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

And with those two commands, "Do not be afraid," and "Go!" and the promise of presence, the disciples set off into a changed world, with changed hearts, learning how to navigate a new landscape of life, love and hope. Things had changed in new, amazing, and awesome ways. Through their witness and dedication, they rebecame a people of faith encouraged by words of peace and command – and the world was changed.

*The same commandments of "Do not be afraid" and "Go!" are also spoken to us!*

*Do not be afraid! The world is changing! But I am with you!*

*Go! Go out into the world with this promise of life, love and hope.*

*Go! Love God! In your worship, in your life, love God!*

*Go! Love your neighbor! At your work, in your neighborhoods, in your relationships to strangers and friends alike!*

*Go! As a community united by faith - Go!*

The world as we know it shifts between our feet, but the knowledge that we are not alone propels us forward in exciting and new ways. We are called, much like those first disciples, into a world that has shifted with the news of the resurrection. May our hearts beat with the promise that is born to us in the empty tomb and may our feet follow our risen Christ out into the world.

*Go! What is holding you back from trusting in the promise and command of Christ?*

*God has wonderful things in store for us!*

Join us in worship on Sunday, May 7th for a ONE Worship service at 10:00 a.m; and then join our online pRAISE campaign and in-person events to hear more about how the people of Roseville Lutheran Church are rebecoming and reimagining what it means to follow Christ out into the world.

Blessings,

Pastor Lauren J. Wrightsman



that continues to support our mission to "Love God. Love Your Neighbor" and vision to be "A Community United by Grace." It will include defining our supporting values, priorities, goals, and actions needed.

REBECOMING continues on p.2



[www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC)  
May 7-11, 2023



JOIN US MAY 7-11 AS A COMMUNITY  
REBECOMING TOGETHER!

Rebecca Bedner, Director of Development

Mark your calendars, and save the dates! We have many great things in store for our upcoming *pRAISE RLC: Rebecoming* campaign. I hope you will be able to join us throughout the week as we come together to celebrate our work as a community united by grace.

This year, we have a goal of raising \$110,000 in 100 hours. Donating to our *pRAISE* campaign will support our shared ministries, and help ensure we remain a strong and vibrant church. There will be opportunities to give throughout the campaign as different ministry areas are highlighted each day.

Thanks to popular demand, we are bringing back experience events similar to what was done in 2019. All donors who give \$100 or more will be able to attend a priceless experience/event hosted by an RLC member or friend. Some examples include attending a beer making class, a backyard BBQ, and tapas tasting, to name a few. You can find more information about this on our website at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC).

In addition to raising funds for our shared ministries, *pRAISE RLC* is also a time to highlight the work of our shared ministries. We will kick things off with One Worship at 10:00 am and an RLC Jazz concert at 7:00 pm on Sunday, May 7. There will be opportunities to volunteer with the Lively Landscapers on Monday and Tuesday May 8 and 9, and you won't want to miss our 3rd Annual Family Friendly Fun Night on Wednesday, May 10 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. We hope to have something for everyone! Check out the box to the right on this page for highlights of each day, May 7-11.



Lest you think I only toil away in the office, here I am (above) with some friends (including Ron and Mona – you'll hear from them on the next page) enjoying a good visit at our recent Restaurant Month activity in January!



REBECOMING continued from p.1

The upcoming *pRAISE RLC: Rebecoming* campaign will be a way that you can share your gifts and support the work that we are doing in our ministries, help further our ability to meet our strategic goals, and take the action needed to support our mission and vision. I invite you to join in on the fun – this year's *pRAISE RLC* campaign is packed full of events that are sure to be a great time!

Rebecca Field

Rebecca Field, RLC Council President



*pRAISE RLC*  
**Rebecoming...**  
*Daily Highlights*

*Sunday, May 7 – One Worship at 10:00 am*

*pRAISE RLC: Rebecoming a Community United by Grace*

We will kick off our *pRAISE RLC: Rebecoming* campaign with ONE Worship on Sunday, May 7 at 10:00 am. Join us as RLC's Jazz Band leads us through a special service highlighting our new members and a special blessing for our high school seniors. Stick around after service to mingle and enjoy a few snacks.

Come back at 7:00 pm to enjoy a Jazz Concert with our very own Jazz Band. This event will take place in the RLC Worship Center.

*Monday, May 8*

*LOVE GOD (Worship, Music, CYF)*

Join us online as we hold up our ministries that highlight our Love of God. Support our RLC Preschool and Childcare by volunteering with our Lively Landscapers to unload plants and flowers for their Gertrons fundraiser from 8:00 am-12:00 pm on Monday, May 8 in the north parking lot. Contact Rebecca Bedner ([rbedner@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:rbedner@rosevillelutheran.org)) for more information and to sign up!

*Tuesday, May 9*

*LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR (Mission and Outreach, Adult Education, Justice Teams)*

Volunteer with the Lively Landscapers from 4:00 - 7:00 pm as they come together to clean up our grounds in preparation for our Block Party on Wednesday, May 10. Contact Rebecca Bedner ([rbedner@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:rbedner@rosevillelutheran.org)) for more information and to sign up! And join us online as we share more stories from RLC members about their experience loving our neighbors in this community united by grace.

*Wednesday, May 10*

*A COMMUNITY UNITED (Family Friendly Block Party!)*

Back by popular demand! Join us for our 3rd Annual Family Friendly Block Party! This event will take place on Wednesday, May 10 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm in our south parking lot. And if it rains, we will take it inside! All are invited and encouraged to attend this **free event**. There will be three food trucks (Eggroll Queen, Mama's Tacos, and Peppers and Fries) if you want to purchase dinner, and there will be **free ice cream for all**. There will also be free family friendly activities for both adults and children, and a surprise fundraising challenge this year. Perhaps a pie in the face for our pastors if we meet our fundraising goals? Join us and find out!

*Thursday, May 11*

*RLC RESOURCES (Facilities, Communication, Volunteers)*

Tune in online as we wrap up our campaign and share our highlights. We will also be holding up all the ways that volunteers help us to live out our mission and vision at RLC!

Learn more about our campaign at [www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC)

Do you have more questions or want to volunteer during the campaign?  
Contact Rebecca Bedner at [rbedner@rosevillelutheran.org](mailto:rbedner@rosevillelutheran.org).

**NEW(ER) THIS YEAR: Experiences are Back!**

This year, all donors who give \$100 or more to the *pRAISE RLC* campaign will have the option to attend a priceless experience/event - similar to what was offered during the 2019 *pRAISE* campaign. Some examples of the experiences being offered include:

Attending a beer making class, a backyard BBQ and beer tasting, attending a lefse making class, attending a kids cooking class with Connie, an RLC experience for kids to attend (without their parents!), a pontoon ride, tapas and whiskey tasting and a manicure. More experiences will be added as we get closer to the campaign!

**How does it work?**

When you donate \$100 or more during the campaign, you will be eligible to sign up for a priceless experience. You will be asked for your top 3 choices and will be notified of your experience after the campaign concludes. There are both adult and family friendly events available. Each experience has a limit for how many guests can participate, and we will do our best to match you with your top choice. More specifically:

- Donate \$100, you attend an event
- Donate \$200, you attend plus 1 guest
- Kids events (cooking classes and RLC experience for kids), Donate \$100, and your entire family may attend the event.





## TAKING THE MESSAGE TO LOVE GOD AND ONE ANOTHER BEYOND OUR CHURCH WALLS

**Mullen Family (Ginny, Sam, and Tim)**

### Why do you attend RLC?

My family started attending RLC about seven years ago, shortly after we moved to Roseville. We remain at RLC because here the Bible is taught in its truth in purity. “The wages of sin is death,” is taught alongside, “the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)

### How does RLC bring you into a closer relationship with God?

Every Sunday I leave RLC with messages I take out into my week, and those messages draw me closer to God. For example, there was a recent message on Psalm 46:10, “Be still and know that I am God.” What I took from that and now have in my life as a reassuring message is that, there are times when I can marvel, to the extent that I can in my human capabilities, in the amazingness of God. There are other times that I am only capable of being. And in both, and in between, God sees me and loves me despite my imperfections.

The Praise Band also deepens my relationship with God. So many of these songs I know by heart. Hearing and seeing the Praise Band sing and play their hearts out is a beautiful witness. “They who sing, pray twice.”

### How does RLC offer opportunities to love your neighbor?

My children participate in RLC Kids, where they recently built dressers for Bridging and worked on tie blankets for those in need. They still talk about those dressers and look forward to that next opportunity! That is a very tangible example, but less tangible is my monthly sustainer gift, where I know my financial gift goes to help those within RLC, but also to further RLC’s message in the community to our neighbors who may or may not know Jesus as their Savior.

### What does community mean for you? How is RLC a part of that?

“Community” for me means either or both a physical and non-physical representation of like-minded people, who take the message of Jesus to love God and one another to those beyond our church walls. Perhaps that is done with words, perhaps with actions, or perhaps just with the example of the life one leads.

### How are you involved at RLC? Why do you financially support RLC?

As a parent of school-aged children, my children are more involved than I probably am! We attend the second service on Sundays, particularly as my family loves the Praise Band. My children also participate in RLC Kids and the RLC Kids choir.

I am an RLC sustainer because RLC reflects first and foremost my faith in God, and I wish to support its efforts to grow. But furthermore, I am a sustainer because RLC reflects my own commitments and interest in the community, such as financially supporting Keystone and Roseville area schools, the latter also with volunteer efforts.

Give Now: [www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC)

## STRENGTHENING OUR FAITH JOURNEY

**Ron Adkins and Mona Lackore**

My husband and I joined RLC after moving to the Twin Cities because we found it to be a welcoming, active community of faith. So many aspects of RLC help us to strengthen us in our faith journey. All the pastors give thoughtful and thought-provoking sermons. The music programming is inspiring. The service projects and community connections help us to practice what we preach.

RLC provides us another “home” – a community where people know us, and care about us. It is a warm and friendly place. As new members, Ron and I are just starting to get actively involved in RLC, but we are getting there! I have sung with the Festival Choir, both at Christmas and for the Lent/Easter season. I have also read the lesson on Sunday mornings. Ron has ushered. We are sustainers, with weekly automatic payments to RLC, because we feel it is important to support the services and programs of the church, inside and outside the walls of the church building itself.



## GROWING IN OUR FAITH

**Tiedeman Family (Katie, Phil, Olivia, and Ethan)**

### Why do you attend RLC?

RLC offered a place where we saw our family growing in our faith and growing as a community. Pastor Lauren was one of the main reasons we wanted to continue coming back when we were church shopping. Her messages were thought-provoking and encouraging. Miss Gina and Miss Julie were also people we felt a connection with early on and we felt like the children’s program that they led would be a great starting block for our kids. We became members in 2022 because this community has a loving and welcoming atmosphere where we want to continue to grow in our faith.

### How does RLC bring you into a closer relationship with God?

RLC’s mission is simple: Love God. Love your neighbor. It isn’t Love God and some of your neighbors or just the neighbors that look and think like you. By providing different service projects and different activities, we strengthen our relationship with God and grow in our faith. RLC sees a need in the community and as a community, we take care of others.

### How does RLC offer opportunities to love your neighbor?

Through a variety of service projects, we are able to love others. Not only do we love our church neighbors and brothers and sisters in Christ while completing the service projects, but that project then offers hope and love to our community neighbors. Between the service projects and community outreach programs, RLC invites all ages and all abilities to come together to love each other.

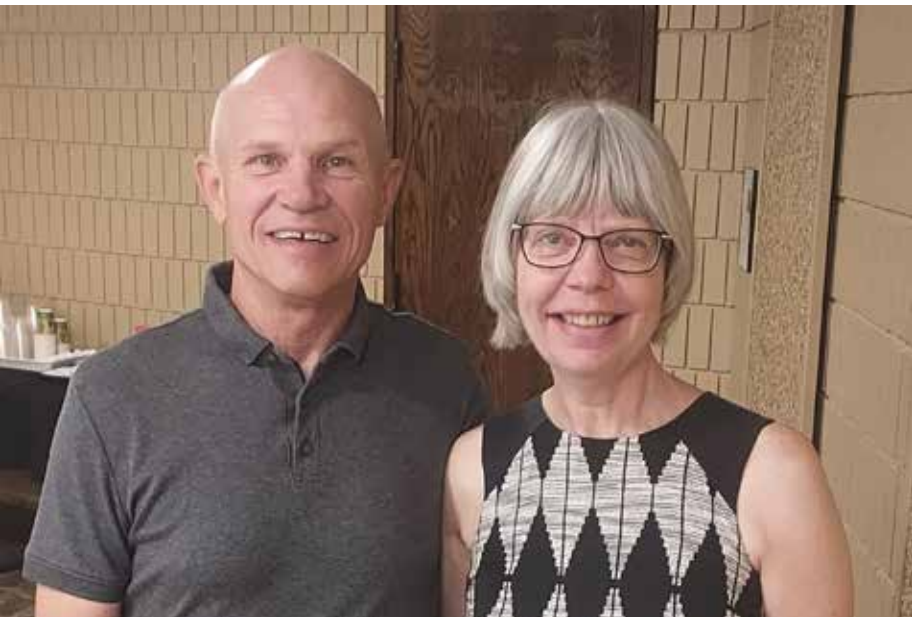
### What does community mean for you? How is RLC a part of that?

Community means helping one another and encouraging each other. No matter where each person is in their faith, RLC has something to guide and provide. Our family is slower to get involved with activities but we have never felt pressure to have to be at something or the need to do an activity because it is an expectation. Community means loving each person as they come.

### How are you involved at RLC? Why do you financially support RLC?

In previous years, our children attended VBS and during the summer of 2020, our family participated in Carryout Camp. We’ve enjoyed helping with building dressers (both of our kids said it was their favorite activity) as well as assembling kitchen bundles, hygiene kits and participating in other Serve Sunday activities. The Block Party and the Candy Cane breakfast are great opportunities to sit and talk with other families. Last year, our family participated in the Seder meal before our daughter, Olivia, received her First Communion. In addition to being monthly sustainers, we financially supported the red envelope youth scholarship, Christmas giving tree and additional funds during the *PRAISE* campaign.

Our son, Ethan, said it best when we were discussing these questions: ‘we support them because they support us.’ We choose to financially support RLC because we are part of a community that grows in love and is united in grace. In order to grow, we know that we need to be involved both in prayer and in our actions.







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Give now at: [www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC](http://www.rosevillelutheran.org/praiseRLC)



What is **pRAISE RLC**?  
\$110,000 in 100 hours

RLC has a long history of holding “end-of-year” appeals to raise awareness of our ministries and increase financial support. This fun, community-building giving campaign helps us bridge the gap between

our expected annual income and actual offerings and gifts.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

**pRAISE RLC** began in the spring of 2018 as a celebration of RLC’s 75th anniversary and continues to be a time for us to lift up and support our shared ministries.



**SUPPORTING OUR MINISTRIES**

In years past, our **pRAISE RLC** campaign has supported specific ministries such as the construction of our online studio booth, RLC’s organ repair fund, air ionization unit and live streaming, and our community partners Feed My Starving Children, Bridging, and Keystone. **pRAISE RLC** is also an important part of financially supporting our annual budget.

**LIVING OUT OUR MISSION**

**pRAISE RLC 2023: Rebecoming a Community United by Grace** will support our continued and budgeted ministries that help us to live out our mission and vision through worship, education, hospitality, mission and outreach, and so much more. We hope you will join us throughout the campaign as we highlight our work together, and raise funds to support our annual budget.



ONE Combined Worship Service at 10:00 am on Sunday, May 7 to Kick-Off pRAISE RLC!

We will kick off our **pRAISE RLC: Rebecoming** campaign with **ONE Worship on Sunday, May 7 at 10:00 am**. Join us as RLC’s Jazz Band leads us through a special service highlighting our new members and a special blessing for our high school seniors. Stick around after service to mingle and enjoy a few snacks. Mark your calendars now for the special service time of **10:00 am**.

