

THE MESSENGER

Monthly Newsletter



ROSEVILLE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Lenten Theme for 2026 - "Bless the Lent we Actually Have"

Our Lenten theme, "Bless the Lent we Actually Have," comes from Kate Bowler.

Kate writes: During Lent, we ask God to show us the world as it is. We begin with the reality of our finitude rubbed on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday— from dust we were made, to dust we shall return. Then, we walk through that reality in a kind of dress rehearsal. It's the downward slope of God—the Great Descent, where the whole Church walks toward the cross.

Join us as we ask God to "Bless the Lent we Actually Have," starting with Ash Wednesday, February 18 for worship at 5:00pm and 7:00pm.

New This Year -
Wednesday night
Adult Small Group(s)
concurrent with
Confirmation



(7:30pm-8pm), meeting with Pastor Kent in the new Prayer and Meditation room, 160. We will be using Kate Bowler's materials for conversation and reflection. Contact Pastor Kent to sign up kclaussengubrud@rosevillelutheran.org.

Starting on Wednesday, February 25:

5pm - Evening Prayer Service

5:30pm - 6:45pm Soup Supper

7pm - Evening Prayer Service

7:30pm - Confirmation Small Groups and Adult Small Groups

Confirmation During Lent

A reminder for Confirmation families: during Lent there will be no pizza suppers, but everyone is welcome to attend the Lenten soup suppers in the Social Hall.

7th & 8th graders will worship with their small groups at 7:00pm and meet until 8:00pm.

9th graders will attend worship and meet with their Lenten mentors.

Lenten Mentors

We are still looking for a few adults to meet with 9th grade Confirmation students as Lenten mentors during the Lenten season. Worship on Wednesdays together and then have a guided conversation together afterwards. Pastor Marty will give you all the materials you need- no previous experience needed! If you are interested in serving in this way, please contact Pastor Marty.

Important Dates & Events in Feb/Mar.

February 6th-7th
Confirmation Lock-In

February 16th
Spring Plant Sale Starts

February 18th
Ash Wednesday

March 25th
Lenten Soup Suppers End

March 28th
Communion Instruction Workshop

For a full calendar of church events, please check out the church website at this QR code.



Sign Up for Our Weekly eBlast

Scan the QR Code Below



Community Updates

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL UPDATE

On behalf of the Church Council, we want to thank everyone who helped with critical facilities challenges these past two months, as well as helped set up the church for Advent and Christmas festivities. It is an important time for the church and community and we are grateful for your service.

In November, RLC distributed Bibles to our third graders and Confirmation students, which were received with great enthusiasm. Thank you to the RLC Endowment for supporting this effort.

We also ask for prayers for our immigrant neighbors. It is a time of deep fear and uncertainty for them. We will share opportunities to support them and get involved in 2026.

Seeking volunteers for church leadership

RLC is looking for dedicated volunteers to serve in a variety of leadership roles for the coming year. Opportunities include positions on:

- Church Council
- Endowment Committee
- Finance Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Properties Committee

These roles are vital to advancing our mission, offer a chance to collaborate with staff and fellow members and help guide our congregation's future.

We welcome individuals with skills in leadership, organization, communication, teamwork, finance, strategic planning, and outreach. Whether you're passionate about governance, supporting our mission and outreach, or helping recruit future leaders, there's a place for you!

If you feel called to serve, know a great candidate, or would like to learn more, please reach out to Sarah Richter (sarahrichter@gmail.com).

Bring Your WaterBottle to church!

Many of us already bring a water bottle with us wherever we go... and now, thanks to a \$4000 grant from the Endowment Fund, the old water fountain (likely installed in 1982!) near the lower level restrooms is replaced with a new ADA compliant, chilled & filtered, water fountain WITH A BOTTLE FILLER! Installation needed a plumber and an electrician and also repaired a failing drain. No need to get your water bottle filled from the sink in the kitchen!

Pastoral CARE

Pastoral Care Visits

In need of a visit from one of our pastors? We would love to come visit you! Please contact the church office if you or someone you love is desiring a pastoral visit. Call 651-487-7752. One of our pastors will call you to arrange a visit.

Prayer and Meditation Room

Needing a quiet space to pray and reflect on the Lord? Room 160, connected to the Heritage Hall, has been turned into a Prayer and Meditation room for you to have some quiet time with God in prayer. There will be future opportunities for individual and group prayer, as well as other spiritual faith practices.

Update on the Cross Hoisting System in the Worship Center

This past November, while installing the Advent mural in the Worship Center, the cross-hoisting system broke, rendering the cross precariously stuck above the Chancel. The 25 year-old hoisting system is now outdated and poses risks due to its age and design flaws. Following a comprehensive review, it was determined that hazardous attic conditions, structural hazards, and system failures will prevent RLC from returning the cross to its original position at this time. The cross was taken down January 13th and will be stored until the time a licensed professional can be engaged for structural advice & potential costs that will ensure compliance with current safety standards.

RLC Pop Machine

The RLC pop machine, located on the lower level by the elevator, now has Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Orange Crush, A&W Root Beer and La Croix Lime. Enjoy a cold beverage for just \$1.

Spring Plant Sale

The Lively Landscapers Team are sponsoring their Spring Plant Sale in partnership with Gerten's Nursery. The online sale through the Gerten's Fundraising website is February 16 - April 2 with delivery/pickup to RLC on Wednesday, May 6th. This is a fundraiser for the Lively Landscapers to maintain the RLC Gardens. Go to gertensfundraising.com and enter 1118 for the 'StoreID' to place your order or scan the QR code. Think SPRING!



Community Updates

9th Grade Retreat

Parents and 9th grade Confirmation students-Mark your calendars for March 28, 2026 for our 9th Grade Retreat! This retreat will be at church starting at 9am. End time TBD-early afternoon. This will be a time to work on faith projects and talk about the Affirmation of Baptism service. Please plan to attend!

Confirmation Lock-in

The Confirmation Lock-in will be Feb 6-7, 2026. This event is for 7-9th grade students. Friends are welcome, but everyone must register in advance. This will be a night full of food, fun, friends, and fellowship! Previous lock-ins have included karaoke, bowling, foosball, basketball, friendship bracelets, 9 square, board games, and many other fun activities. This is a night you won't want to miss! Register here by January 31:



Vacation Bible School

Summer may seem like a long way off, but it'll be here before we know it! Save the dates for Vacation Bible School: June 22-26, 2026 from 9am-12pm. We'll gather for music, crafts, Bible stories, games, snacks, and fun for preschool and elementary students. Look for a sign-up online in February.

Finance Committee Update (As of 12/31/2025)

Fiscal Year July 2025 to June 2026

Operating Budget (July-December)

	Actual	Budget	Budget vs. Actual	
Offerings	527,060	553,900	(26,840)	Offerings less than budgeted
Other Receipts	50,763	45,450	5,313	Other Receipts more than budgeted
Total Income	577,823	599,350	(21,527)	Total Income less than budgeted
Expenses	528,819	675,745	(146,926)	Expenses less than budgeted
Totals	49,004	(76,395)	125,399	Total more than budgeted!

First half of the fiscal year typically runs a deficit as you can see in the budget.

With January reports we start seeing a positive number in the budget and hopefully actuals will continue to run a surplus.

We are running a surplus in Actuals due staffing expenses still running lower than budgeted due to open positions.

Online giving: Go to <https://www.rosevillelutheran.org/giving/offering>

If you need help signing into an account you already set up give

Tammy (ext. 232) or Nancy (ext. 203) a call to get you a new password

Communion Instruction Workshop

Join us for a Communion Instruction Workshop on March 28th. If your child has not yet received Communion and is interested, please plan to attend this workshop together. We will learn about the Lutheran understanding of Holy Communion and review what to expect when receiving Communion. This prepares students to receive Communion for the first time on Maundy Thursday (April 2nd). The workshop is geared toward 3rd-grade students, but children who are younger or older are welcome. We ask that one adult remain with their child during the workshop.

Camp Wapo Dates

Registration for Camp Wapo opens on January 15! Seeds Weekend is a taste of camp for students in 1st-3rd grade. Their weekend will be July 24-26, 2026. Our 4th-9th grade students will go July 26-31st. Registration opens on January 15th. Our reserved spots are only held until February 15th, so be sure to register by then!

Register by scanning the QR code:



Summer Trips

Calling all middle and high school students! We are planning summer trips for each of these groups in partnership with Service Learning Camps! The middle school trip will be June 11-15, 2026 to Duluth. The high school trip will be July 12-17 to Milwaukee.

Sign up by scanning the QR code:





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Upcoming Adult Education Forums

February 1st

Rachel Morey from Interfaith Action will share updates on Project Home and Faithful Hospitality. A lot of changes.

February 8th

Bethany Husby will reflect on her work in Tanzania and the wonderful things happening there.

February 15th

Marietta Booth from AARP will advise us on the risks for scams that we all get via the mail, phone, and online. She will give tips on how to recognize them and avoid their deadly traps.

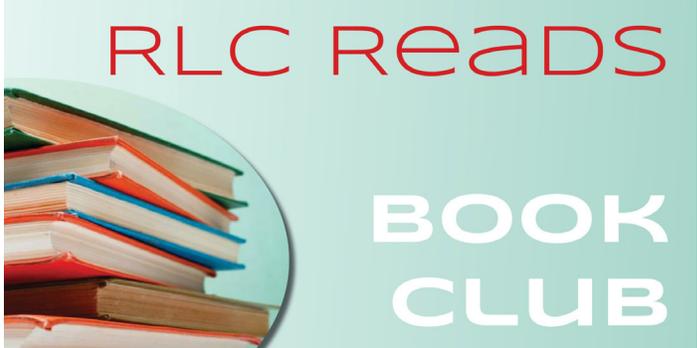
February 22nd

To Be Determined. Watch for future announcements.

March Preview:

On March 1, Pastor Kent will reflect on 2025 and his hopes for 2026 and beyond. On the following Sundays in March (8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th), Pastor James Boyce will present "Martin Luther on Romans: Pure Undiluted Grace".

RLC Adult Education • 10:00 am Sundays



Upcoming RLC Reads Books

RLC Reads meets at 7:00 PM on the 2nd Thursday of the month in the "coffee shop" area near the church office just inside the north doors. Use the upper parking lot and come join us. Even if you haven't finished the book, we'd still love to see you there. Everyone is welcome! Contact Bob Bergstrom (rcbergstrom@comcast.net) with any questions. Here are the upcoming books:

February 12th, 2026:

The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride (2023, 385 pp.)

March 12th, 2026:

My Friends by Frederik Backman (2025, 436 pp.)

April 9th, 2026

Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor Frankl (1946, 165 pp.)