



Dear Roseville Lutheran Church Disciples of Jesus Christ,

It is with a heavy heart that I let you know that Pastor Tori Kraus has been offered and has accepted a Call to a new congregation. You can read more about that in her attached letter. Pastor Tori has been faithfully leading and serving at Roseville Lutheran for two very tumultuous years, and has done so with the grace and love of Christ in all of her ministries. We thank her for her faith-filled service and wish her all of God's blessing in her new Call, and as she and her husband John eagerly anticipate the birth of their child.

We will be celebrating Pastor Tori and her ministry among us on Sunday, July 13, as we release her from her Call here at RLC and pray for God's peace and blessings on her continuing journey of faith and ministry. Stay tuned as more plans for her farewell develop, and how you can show her your gratitude.

What does this mean for the Children, Youth, and Family Ministries here at Roseville Lutheran Church?

First, and most importantly, Christ's ministry continues! Adam Boldenow is with us this summer to lead youth trips and VBS. A Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Task Force has been formed and has already met once to begin visioning and discerning where God is leading us into the future of our ministries. We are looking into a variety of interim ministry options in partnership with InterServe Ministries, which specializes in helping churches with Children, Youth, and Family ministry transitions. Pastor Marty and I are already looking ahead to confirmation ministry and high school ministry plans for the fall.

There has been and continues to be a lot of change here at Roseville Lutheran Church. In such times of change and uncertainty it is easy (and natural) to want to step back, hold back, to wait and see what will happen. That is not what Jesus wants us to do! On the night of his betrayal and arrest, Jesus was preparing his disciples for what was ahead, and said, ***"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid"*** (John 14: 27)." We do not need to be troubled or afraid during this time of change at RLC. Jesus goes on to remind his disciples, ***"You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you"***



whatever you ask in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another (John 15: 16-17)." The Lord has entrusted each of us at RLC with a mission to love God with our whole being and to love our neighbors with the love Christ has given us. God is calling all of us forward into the vision of the Kingdom, to become a community of grace, rooted and grounded in the grace Jesus Christ has given us. Love, grace, hope, faith – fruit of the Kingdom!

This is a time for you, as disciples of Jesus Christ to step forward, not hold back; to get involved, not wait and see. This is the time to answer Christ's call to "bear fruit that will last." In the coming months we will be asking for people to step forward to use your gifts, talents, time, and energy for the sake of the Children, Youth, and Family ministries of Roseville Lutheran Church. Please answer the call to help!

In an ideal situation I would love to be able to meet with each of you individually and personally ask you to step forward to use your gifts to serve the ministries of Christ's church. However, I have only been at RLC for 10 weeks and am still trying to put names and faces and people together. I am relying on each of you to take the initiative and personal responsibility to answer Christ's call to serve here at RLC.

Thank you for the ways that many of you already serve and help here at RLC. I am so grateful for your faithful service and leadership and the ways that you are using your gifts, talents, time, energy, and financial resources to support Christ's mission at RLC.

And finally, this, a reminder from the Apostle Paul that is written on the wall of our sanctuary, "***May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit*** (Romans 15:13)." Our joy, peace, and hope come from the God of hope through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. Join with me in keeping focused on hope in the midst of these changes and transitions!

Yours in Christ's Grace,

Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud