# THE GOOD NEWSTERN SON OF Christ THE GOOD LEVE SON OF CHRISTON OF



NOVEMBER 2025 | CHRIST CENTERED | BIBLE BASED | FAMILY FOCUSED | MISSION MINDED







## **PASTOR'S CORNER**

While driving through town on Saturday, October 18, I was accosted by a very happy, friendly group of rioters armed with "No Kings!" signs and banners. There were no Molotov cocktails or angry fists or raised voices. No, it looked more like the folks next door simply needed something to do on a Saturday morning. Honestly, it looked like a very strange combination of political activism and "Minnesota Nice." I had the window rolled down in the truck, so I had to wave. I didn't recognize anyone. But I was also trying to keep my eyes on the road. So I'm really not certain where all these non-violent, rebel protesters came from. Or if any of them actually were my next-door neighbor.

I was told later that Rushford was chosen to be the county demonstration site for the national movement. Apparently, around 7 million people nationwide turned out for the cause. Now, just in case you missed it, "No Kings!" is a reaction to our current sitting president. Some feel that President Trump has abused his elected position and is acting like a king. That is, rather than acting presidential. I do feel that gilding the Trump White House in gold has been a bit much. Hopefully, it's all just paint, and the next President will have much better taste in decorating. We can only hope.

Now, you all know I don't do politics from the pulpit. And slipping in my own views via the newsletter would be much the same. But we do seem to be living in a particularly strange moment in American history. The political pendulum has a way of swinging in large arcs, decades at a time. During the Obama and Biden administrations, the pendulum swung as far to the left as

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**PASTOR** Steven Chellew 507-703-1221 (cell), pastor@rushfordlutheranchurch.org

CHURCH SECRETARY Deanna Honsey, rlc@acegroup.cc

**FAMILY EDUCATION DIRECTOR** Brittany Agrimson 507-459-9600,

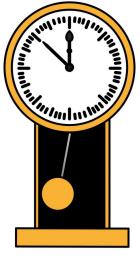
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**CUSTODIAN** David Hinz

possible. Now, as Trump is riding the pendulum, it is swinging back to the right once again. Unfortunately, whenever the political pendulum is moving, it tends to take people down with it (both directions, mind you). Whichever group of people is currently getting in the way.

And sometimes that includes politically active Christians, whether or not they chose to carry a sign. Because the fact is, ever since the reigning Republic decided it was



time to nail the Son of God to a cross, tension between church and state has reigned supreme. Jesus was what would be referred to today as "apolitical." That is, he was not interested in or involved in politics. Looking back, that seems a bit odd, considering Jesus knew it would be his own people, the Jews, in full political alignment with the evil empire, Rome, that ultimately led to his doom. His death, but our freedom. The irony of the cross.

The last Sunday of the church year is designated "Christ the King Sunday." This year, it is November 23. The following Wednesday, November 26, is Thanksgiving Eve (worship and thank-offerings at 7 p.m.). Here is a simple Google AI overview of why we have that special Sunday:

Christ the King Sunday is a Christian feast day celebrated on the last Sunday of the liturgical year to honor the kingship of Jesus Christ over all creation. It reminds believers that their ultimate allegiance is to a spiritual king, not earthly powers, and was established in 1925 in response to rising secularism and nationalism. The celebration emphasizes Christ's reign as being based on love, justice, and redemption, and it concludes the church year before the season of Advent begins.

As a representative democracy, I'm not that concerned that we'll be crowning a king any time soon. Our system of government has served us well for 250 years now, and will continue to do so. Still, during a time when the political pendulum is swinging hard and fast, a little caution and perhaps a bit more attention to what is happening are certainly due. Because you never know when the pendulum just might take you down, too.

Still, I do think we need a king. That is, the one we already have. His name is Jesus. And his reign is eternal. And he has been doing a bang-up job for a long, long time. And if there is any real hope to get us out of the current mess we are in, it will be through him. King Jesus. He's definitely someone I would vote for.

In Christ's Loving Service,

Pastor Steve

Rushford Lutheran Church Women's meeting highlights

**October 1, 2025** 

The next meeting is November 5 at 1:30 p.m.
 Priscilla Circle will have the program and Ruth
 Circle will have the lunch.

• Sunday morning coffee served by Martha Circle for the month of October.

President Linda Paulson welcomed everyone and shared a devotional. She then turned over the meeting to the Miriam Circle for the program. Ann Bartelson and Sandy Rasmussen introduced Sandy's grandson, Alex, from Holmen, Wis. Alex was an International Rotary Youth Exchange Student last school year as a junior in Poland. He shared with us his experiences in travel, school, language, culture and host families. Very interesting, great job Alex!!

Paulson read a quilting poem. Paulson then opened the business meeting. The Secretary's report was read and approved. The Treasure's report was read and approved. The balance on hand is \$1.885.58.

Old Business: None.

New Business: RLCW Yearbook is being updated. Pie sales will be Sunday Oct. 5 after church services. Women are asked to bake 1-2 pies to donate.

Norwegian baking will be on Tuesday Oct. 7 starting at 8:30. The bake sale will be on Friday Oct. 17 at Sterling Drug from 9-12. We would like to request more baked goodies and less pies please.



A laundry basket for the collection of dish soap and laundry soap for the food pantry is located upstairs outside the sanctuary.

Quilt sales will start on Sunday Oct. 26.

Ladies are in charge of ushering on Nov. 30. Volunteers needed.

Birthdays and anniversaries were recognized.

Prayer Requests: Darlene Chiglo family, Jeanneen Engrav, Susie Magnuson, Shirley Helgemoe, Becky Hanson, Jeanette Colbenson, Shawnee from Shawnee's Bar and Grill.







The Sunday School ended September by singing in church and doing a neighborhood clean up on Sunday, September 28.

October was a busy month for the students. On Sunday, October 5, we recognized Pastor to kick off Pastor Appreciation Month. We read him a poem and he was gifted with flowers, playing cards in a card box and a wooden guitar pick. During the service, our fifth grade students received First Communion.

On Sunday, October 12, our second through fourth-grade students received Luther's Small Catechism and Memory Work. During the Sunday School hour, our kindergarten and first-grade students learned about what we do with pop tabs. We talked about where these pop tabs go and what benefit they have. In case you didn't know, the pop tabs brought in by the students are donated to the Ronald McDonald House in Rochester. They turn in the pop tabs to help cover the costs for families to stay at the Ronald McDonald House while a child is sick in the hospital. So, please encourage your student to bring in their pop tabs, either in a bag, buckets or jar. Every pop tab makes a difference. Our kindergarten and first-grade students had fun measuring how many pop tabs long we are.

On Sunday, October 26, the preschool through fifth-grade students sang in church. We held our annual Harvest Party during the Sunday School hour with cotton candy, games and so much fun as we celebrated the Harvest of Blessings that God has given to us. Starting November 2, we will begin working on the annual Christmas Program - save the date for Sunday, December 21at 11 a.m.



# YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

# CARDBOARD BOX CITY

RP Community Youth Group held a Cardboard Box City hosted by Highland Prairie Lutheran Church over MEA break. Students served soup, played games and slept outside in boxes they put together to raise awareness and support for those facing housing insecurity, in partnership with SEMCAC.

# CHRISTMAS PACKAGES

RLC Youth is accepting donations toward Christmas packages for our friends at Good Shepherd. A gift of \$10 helps us provide a gift bag for one resident.





The RLC Praise Team is back in the swing of things. They are enjoying breakfast over rehearsal after Sunday service.

# ADULT CHOIR & PRAISE TEAM

Reach out for more information about sharing your musical talents with a group of great people. Rehearsal times are subject to change as we look for the perfect time to meet.





## CARING CUPBOARD

On Sunday, October 12 youth group prepared meals and cookies for the newly-formed Caring Cupboard. If they have a friend or neighbor that could use a little extra love and a meal, they know where to get one.







# IMPORTANT DATES

- NOV 2 @ 6:30 P.M. STUDENT LEADERSHIP MEETING: THE OFFICIAL FALL MEETING FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-12
- NOV 9 @ 5 P.M. GOOD SHEPHERD FLOWER DELIVERY & PACK OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES
- NOV 23 5:30 P.M. BIBLE STUDY & 6:30 P.M. FRIENDSGIVING
- NOV 30 TBD BAKING DAY

# CHURCH COUNCIL

## **PRESIDENT**

Jessica Heiden, 507-951-1643 jess.heiden@gmail.com

## **VICE PRESIDENT**

Robin Honken, 507-429-0056 honkenrobin@gmail.com Human Resources Committee

## **SECRETARY**

Heather Larson, 507-450-0334 heatherklarson@gmail.com Scholarship Committee

#### **TREASURER**

Cory Feine, 459-4628 coryfeine@gmail.com

Ben Anderson, 715-338-1100 benjamin.anderson.2.ba@gmail.com Youth Committee

Jim Bernier, 507-261-4991 jrbernier@hotmail.com Endowment Committee

Adam Brennan, 507-459-0688 ajbno7@gmail.com Education Committee

Amy Luhmann, 507-864-3121 amyluhmann8@gmail.com Membership Committee

Scott Nielsen, 507-993-5696 sanoutdoors@gmail.com Worship Committee

# Church Council meeting highlights October 20, 2025

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

- The minutes from September were approved.
- Detailed financial report for the month of September was approved as presented.
- Pastor provided an overview of the pastoral acts completed for September which included: 2 hospital visits, 16 homebound visits, 1 wedding (9/13—Karissa Eide & Luke O'Hare) and 2 baptisms (9/14 Jonathan Joseph Hatch; 9/28—Aletta Marie Franzen).
- Repairs on the sound and video equipment have been completed.
- Adult Praise Team Director position.
- Seeking an accompanist for the choir.
- Annual review for benevolence giving.
- The nominating committee will consist of Jim Bernier and Amy Luhman. Both will have completed two, three-year terms.
- Available committee reports were reviewed.

The next meeting will be held on November 17 at 6:30 p.m.

## SEPTEMBER CASH SUMMARY

Balance brought forward 8/31/2025	\$ 4,847.22
Total receipts	\$30,635.34
Total disbursements	\$33,505.92
Cash balance as of 9/30/2025	\$ 1,976.64

NOVEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS								
		8 A.M. WORSHIP 9:15 A.M. WORSHIP		PASTOR Steven Chellew				
NOVEMBER 2 COMMUNION	Readers: Ushers:	Pam Nielsen Marv Bestul, Claire Olstad, Claire Shepard	Amelia Oian Donny Kjos, Eric Stocker	ORGANIST Shary Evavold, Portia Lee, Robyn Steffens FAMILY EDUCATION DIRECTOR				
NOVEMBER 9	Readers: Ushers:	Carol Jeffers Dennie Darr, Gordy & Bonnie Elliott	Natalie Lindmeier Jim Bernier, Tom Kopperud, David and Andrea Brand	Brittany Agrimson  YOUTH & CHOIR MINISTRY  DIRECTOR Kristin Burdey				
NOVEMBER 16 COMMUNION	Readers: Ushers:	Carol Jeffers Kerry Heiden, Wayne Meyer	Ryder Messenger Mike Messenger, Chad Steffens	ALTAR GUILD Jody Culhane, Patty Ebner, Wanda Kopperud				
NOVEMBER 23	Readers: Ushers:	READER NEEDED Brendon Honken, Dale Evavold	Johanna Oian Milford Paulson, Lowell Rasmussen	PROJECTIONISTS David and Andrea Brand, Lisa Chellew, Donny Kjos, Sandy Rasmussen,				
NOVEMBER 26 7PM SERVICE	Readers: Ushers:	Pam Nielsen	Becky Stocker  VIDEOGRAPHERS David and					
NOVEMBER 30	Readers: Ushers:	READER NEEDED RLCW	Mannix Darr RLCW	Andrea Brand, Barb Johnson, Jeremy Tesch, June Vitse				

# **NOVEMBER 2025**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 ALL SAINTS DAY DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS 8a & 9:15a Worship w/ Communion, Coffee & Fellowship to Follow in Basement 10:15a Sunday School 10:15a Bible Study 11:15a Praise Team 6:30p Student Leadership Meeting	3 4:30p Worship Committee 5:30p Coffee House Worship w/ Communion	4	5 9a Men's Helping Hands 1:30p RLCW Meeting w/Luncheon Meeting 5p Choir Practice 6:30p Confirmation	6 10a Bible Study w/ Pastor	<b>7</b> Office Closed	8
9 8a & 9:15a Worship, Coffee & Fellowship to Follow in Basement 10:15a Sunday School 10:15a Bible Study 11:15a Praise Team 5:30p Youth Bible Study 6:30p Youth Group	10 5:30p Coffee House Worship	11	9a Ladies Mission Work 9a Men's Helping Hands 5p Choir Practice 6p Youth Committee 6:30p Confirmation	13	14 Office Closed	15
16 8a & 9:15a Worship w/ Communion, Coffee & Fellowship to Follow in Basement 10:15a Sunday School 10:15a NO Bible Study 11:15a Praise Team	17 1p Pastor at Bremmer Suites & Good Shepherd 1:30p Priscilla Circle 5:30p Coffee House Worship w/ Communion 6:30p Church Council	18	19 9a Ladies Mission Work 9a Men's Helping Hands 5p Choir Practice 6:30p Confirmation	9:30a Ruth Circle 1p Miriam Circle 1:30p Hannah Circle	21 Office Closed	22
8a & 9:15a Worship, Coffee & Fellowship to Follow in Basement 10:15a Sunday School 10:15a Bible Study 11:15a Praise Team 5:30p Youth Bible Study 6:30p Youth Group	24 5:30p Coffee House Worship 6:30p Property Committee	25 4:15p Martha Circle at RLC	26 9a Ladies Mission Work 9a Men's Helping Hands 5p Choir Practice 6p Family Education Committee 6:30p NO Confirmation 7P THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE	27 THANKSGIVING DAY TBD Community Thanksgiving Meal Office Closed	28 Office Closed	29
<b>30</b> 8a & 9:15a Worship, Coffee & Fellowship to Follow in Basement 10:15a Bible Study 10:15a Sunday School 11:15a Praise Team						

#### **Rushford Lutheran Church**

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