

Contact Information

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Buildings & Grounds: Cynthia Erickson
Celebration & Worship: Daley Tubbs
Church & Society: Mari Hirabayashi
Congregational Care: Pam Hord
Education & Nurture: Patty Gould
Finance: Whitney Kerns
Stewardship: Deb Griffin
Membership & Growth: Nancy Irsfeld
Personnel: Amy Lane
Nominating: Cindy Ward-Thompson

“Ruling elders have responsibilities for the life of the congregation as well as the whole church.” ~ PCUSA Book of Order



NEW LIFE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

965 Larpenteur Ave W
 Roseville, MN 55113

Ph: 651.488.5581
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newlifechurchroseville.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:00a

CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
 10a—2p
 Tuesday - Friday

New Life Presbyterian Church

April 2019

New Life News

Riz's Reflections...

At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" Mark 1:12-15

Dear Church,

Peace be with you. By now the days are getting longer, the frost beginning to give way to new life as the temperature rises. This is also the season of Lent. Lent began on Ash Wednesday and lasts for 40 days concluding on Maundy Thursday. The word lent comes to us from the Anglo-Saxon word, lencten which means "spring." For the Christian disciple, this time can be a season of introspection, fasting and prayer as we are deep in the season of Lent. It is a time in which we are called to critically examine what it is we believe and how we live out our faith in anticipation of the celebration of Easter. The 40-day period alludes to the time Jesus spent in the wilderness in preparation for the ministry ahead and the time Israel spent wandering in the desert for 40 years purging themselves of unrighteous ways. It might serve us well to think of this as a time of spiritual strength training or a spiritual spring cleaning.

During this time of Lent I would encourage us to seriously think about what are the things that draw us closer to God and what things tend to pull us away from our faith walk. One of the central components of Lent is the call to repent. The Hebrew word for repentance is Teshuvah which means to "return." Contrast that with the Hebrew word for sin, chet, which means, "to go astray." The prophet Joel tells us this about repentance,

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WE ARE
 AN
 INCLUSIVE
 FAITH
 COMMUNITY

Riz's Reflections (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

"Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing" (Joel 2:12-13). God is not interested in people changing their clothes as they would sometimes do when they fast or mourn. God is speaking of an internal transformation; a change of heart.

If we are honest, we all go astray from the word of the Lord at some point or another. But the invitation to repent and come home is ever-present. The world pulls at us each moment and this constant pressure to conform to the ways of the world can create distance in our hearts from the heart of God. Lent is a time for us to recalibrate our hearts to be more in line with the heart of God. What's the heart of God? Explore the scriptures this Lent and beyond to find out what God desires from us. If you are not sure how to access scriptures in a meaningful way, we have devotionals at church for you or you can also join one of the bible study groups at church.

I urge you to use the spiritual practices that are associated with Lent, such as prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as tools to move closer to God. Don't just fast to fast, but seek a fast that will be meaningful and will help you grow in the ways of the Lord (see Isaiah 58).

This Lent, let us together work out our faith and nurture our spirits in the ways of the Lord, strengthening our spiritual core muscles, so that whatever trials and temptations come our way we may remain strong in the Lord. May your time in the desert of Lent and spiritual strength training prepare you for the ministry that God has called us all to (see Matthew 28:19-20).

Be careful what you practice. As they say, practice makes perfect. Let us never cease moving towards the fullness of life that Christ has to offer us all; towards joy and new life as we move closer to Resurrection Sunday!

In Christ,
Rev. Riz

One Great Hour of Sharing Palm and Easter Sundays, April 14 & 21 And Change in the Offering during April

From wildfires in California to the tsunami in Indonesia; from Hurricanes Michael and Florence to Super Typhoon Mangkhut; from hunger and poverty work across the planet to grants for self-help projects in the US and around the globe – our denomination is there to help people all over the world move from crisis to hope. Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world through One Great Hour of Sharing.



Your generous gifts to this Special Offering help provide relief for those affected by natural and human disasters, provide food to the hungry, and assist in helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Envelopes are in the pews during April; write checks to NLPC marked for OGHS. Change in the Offering Plate during April goes to this offering. If you like, pick up a fish coin box from the Church & Society table to fill with coins and bring it for the Easter Offering or the Change collection at the end of the month. Thank you for helping the most vulnerable members of God's family!

◀ March	April 2019						May ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1 9-11a PROJECT HOME MOVES IN 5:45p Handbells	2 9a TOPS	3 9a Quilters 10:45 Meals on Wheels 5:30p Lenten Bible Study 6:30p Comosso	4 6:30p AA	5	6 9:30a Care Coordinators 2p Daring Group	
7 8:30a Choir Practice 10a Worship 11a Fellowship 11:15a Faith Formation 11:30a Confirmation 5:00p AA 5:30p Youth Group	8 9:30a Rebekah Circle 5:45p Handbells	9 9a TOPS 6:30p Faith Formation	10 9a Quilters 5:30p Lenten Bible Study 6:30p Comosso	11 6:30p AA	12	13	
14 15 8:30a Choir Practice 10a PALM SUNDAY 11a Potluck 5:00p AA	15 NEW LIFE NEWS Articles Due 5:45p Handbells 7:00p Finance	16 9a TOPS 1p Former Dementia Caregiver Group 6:30p Esther Circle 6:30p Personnel	17 9a Quilters 5:30p Lenten Bible Study 6:30p Comosso	18 6:30p AA 7p Maundy Thursday Service	19	20	
21 22 8:30a Choir Practice 10a EASTER SUNDAY 11a Fellowship 5:00p AA	22 5:45p Handbells	23 9a TOPS 6:30p Session	24 9a Quilters 10:45a Meals on Wheels 6:30p Comosso	25 6:30p AA	26	27	
28 8:30a Choir Practice 10a Confirmation Sunday 11a Fellowship 5:00p AA	29 5:45p Handbells	30 9a TOPS	PROJECT HOME IS USING THE GREAT ROOM FROM APRIL 1—APRIL 30. For our most current calendar, go to newlifechurchroseville.org and click on Connect/Calendar				

PROJECT HOME

Project Home engages area faith communities to provide emergency shelter space and volunteer support for Ramsey County families facing homelessness. Each month, two different area faith communities host 20 emergency shelter beds.

For the many families we serve, church social halls, synagogue classrooms, and school cafeterias become "home" for a short period of time in their lives. Before entering emergency shelter, these families all struggled with choosing to pay the rent or put food on the table.

DONATIONS WISH LIST

Donations of simple items help us meet our families' most basic needs as they begin to piece together their lives again:

Feminine hygiene products, washcloths, hand towels, disposable razors, deodorant

Ear phones (new), games (new), puzzles (new), coloring books, activity books, art supplies, craft supplies.

Donations can be dropped off anytime during office hours.

Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul

1671 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul MN 55105
651.646.8805

2019 Planting Seeds of Hope Community Garden UPDATES!

1. The Community Garden clean-up and kick-off will be Saturday, May 4th.
2. If you would like to reserve a garden plot this summer, please let Darby Laing know via email: ericndarby@gmail.com by Friday, March 29th. We currently have 8 open plots and 1 raised plot still available this summer.
3. If you would like to volunteer to help, we have a list of non-dirty activities that are super fun! Contact Darby to see the full list.

Thank you,
Darby



From Congregational Care

Lent is a great time to reflect on what we can do for others as we search our souls to bring us closer to Jesus. The Care Coordinators try to reach out to the church community. A smile can become contagious when you greet others at church, and Spring is the perfect time to renew friendships and make new friends. May you feel the warmth of the sun and Jesus, as He walks with you.

We would welcome you if you would like to join the Coordinators. To find out more, talk with one of the Coordinators listed on the poster by the welcome center near the front door, or contact Ardys Randall at 651.245.2643 or Pam Hord, our Session liaison.

Our Project Home Hosting Experience is Underway!



You'll notice cardboard partitions and supplies in the Great Room, food and supplies in the kitchen, and new faces in our building in the evenings: our guest families, Project Home staff, and volunteer hosts, some from other area churches. The Great Room is the living space for our guest families each night. The partitioned guest "rooms" are left intact during the day. The kitchen is accessible for church groups during the day and until "lights out" at night. The nursery suite is the sleeping area for overnight hosts.

Thank you, congregation, for all the ways you are a welcoming and caring presence – for offering a friendly hello and a smile, for being flexible about our building space, for praying for our guest families, and of course for hosting. Please check the schedule at SignUpGenius.com or come to the sign-up table in the atrium on Sunday mornings to fill in a remaining host opening if you can. If you'd like to help in another way, bring fresh fruit, granola bars, and/or low-sugar cereal to the kitchen marked Project Home to add to our breakfast offerings. Thank you for providing hospitality for families in need of shelter!

...for I was a stranger, and you invited me in..." Matthew 25:35

Minnesota Water Action Day—Wednesday, April 10th

Water Action Day will run from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Wed., April 10th. Come join other Minnesotans for this day of public action and advocacy to let lawmakers know we care about our water and how they can help #ProtectOurWater! Come for all or whatever part of the day you can whether it's the rally, the forum, meeting with your legislator or other parts of the event. This event includes:

- * 8:00 a.m. Registration at Christ Lutheran Church (across from the Capitol)
- * Free breakfast & lunch
- * A youth & future leaders summit with the Walz administration open to those 26 and under
- * The ever popular Clean Water Rally (2:00 p.m.) Past speakers include Winona LeDuke. Gov. Dayton, & Anne Bancroft.
- * Briefings on Minnesota's water issues
- * An environmental Town Hall (12:30-1:30 p.m.)
- * Small group meetings with your legislator, complete with quick training & support .(We make it easy!)

If you would like to carpool or have questions check with Carole Rust (651-488-1273) or members of the Earth Care Team.

HELP WANTED!

Want to work in the 2020 Census Operations? In your Community? Census Day, April 1, 2020 is a year away, but Census 2020 Operations begin this summer 2019, and will continue intermittently through the summer of 2020. Who is eligible? We are seeking people of all ages (18+), and hours will be flexible. Weekly pay, mileage reimbursement, and paid training are all part of the opportunity. Learn how you can help collect important data that will determine Minnesota's representation in Congress, as well as funds allocated to roads, schools, and hospitals.

Applying is easy! Do it today! Applications are being taken immediately! Go Online: 2020census.gov/jobs or call 855-JOB-2020.

WHY I GIVE TO NLPC

I give to New Life because it's *my* church, and I believe the Bible tells me to give as I am able. I believe if I'm going to be part of this church family, I need to help support it. Salaries, utilities, mission, church education, building improvements—this place wouldn't be here if those of us who are able didn't share in the responsibility of financial support.

Stewardship isn't just about money, though. I'm also told to give of my time and talents. I love this church, and plan to support it in any way that I can.

~ Deb Griffin

North Como Preschool News

One of our "littles" summed up our March Spring Break the best, "why do they call it spring break? I think they should call it SNOW break!" We seriously had the snowiest spring break this year!

Many thanks to everyone who joined us at our annual Family Fiesta March 22nd! It was a fabulous turnout and YOU helped to make our fundraiser a HUGE success! We truly couldn't have done it without your support.

April is always a bittersweet time for me, our current kiddos start talking about where they're going to be going to kindergarten in the fall and our preschoolers start talking about being a "big" next year. At the same time, I am connecting with newly registered families about starting at NCP in the fall. Enrollment for fall is

nearly full. We do have a few spots still available in our Monday/Wednesday Frog class.

To be enrolled in our Frog Class, students need to be 3 years old by September 1st and must be potty trained. Class runs from 9:00a – 11:30a Mondays and Wednesdays. We offer an optional lunch bunch from 11:30a – 12:30p.

If you interested, or know someone with a 3-year-old looking for a preschool option for fall, please call 651-488-7137 or email me at director@northcomopreschool.org.

As always I am so very Blessed to be a part of the New Life/North Como community!

Many thanks,
Sher Noot, NCP Director

Quilters Ministry



Our ministry needs beginners and experienced persons. We'll teach beginners everything they need to know. We have shelves of beautiful fabric to turn into warm, colorful quilts. We need more hands to help us with this important ministry.

Some of the quilts we make stay here in the church for Pastor Riz to share with homeless folks who knock on our doors, or to members in Hospice care. Others have gone to Holy Hammers home recipients, Gillette Children's Hospital, House of Hope in Stillwater, and Women's Advocacy groups. Our goal is to make 135 quilts each year!

We meet Wednesdays from 9-11:30a. If enough people (men and women) are interested, we can do an evening or Saturday morning.



Easter Plant sales in April

We will continue to sell lilies and hyacinths for \$12 through Sunday, April 7th. If you'd like to buy a plant in memory or in honor of someone, look for order forms on a table in the Atrium, or contact Deb in the church office (651-488-5581 or deb@newlifechurchroseville.org). All proceeds will go to our Youth Group.

Earth Day Sunday will be on May 5th This Year

Mark your calendars now for a special, fun-filled celebration of Earth Day Sunday on May 5th at worship and afterwards in the Great Room. We are very happy that this year the youth will be enthusiastically taking part in our event and encourage you to look at your bulletins, electronic newsletters, & displays for more information in the coming weeks.



April Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1st— David King | 19th— Carole Rust |
| 2nd— Bob Jensen | 20th— Marlys Giesecke |
| 7th— Ken Phipps | 21st— Ryan Fleischhaker; Terry Lee |
| 8th— Kay Hoffman | 22nd— Thomas Colbeth |
| 9th— Lorraine Bangle; Ben Ihlenfeldt | 23rd— Ann Bursch; Conrad Miller |
| 10th— Lois DeVout; Janet Tschida | 24th— Judi Klotz |
| 13th— Peder Sandhei | 26th— Julie Kehne; Irene Meinen |
| 15th— Alice Brotherton; April Rust; Marilyn Stock | 29th— William Beck |
| 16th— Thomas Chandy | 30th— Geoff Sargent; Kris Sargent; Nate Sargent |
| 17th— Susan Bloomquist; Gail Reynolds | |

