

December 11, 2022

Joys and Prayer Concerns

for healing and recovery of ongoing health concerns:

Cathy Christensen's friend, Richard Russel; Ann Legg; Raechel Sowa's sister in law, Terri; Jim and Carol Iddings; Tom Lafontaines sister, Kathy; Cy Zank; Walt Rosquist; Ron Miller; Cindy Theobald's sister, Cheryl Kirchner; Deb Steele's, sister-in-law Linda and family; Chris Pickett's brother, Mark; Nancy Blakely's mom, Sally and dad, Tom; Sharon Ray; Glenn Bereiter

Upcoming Worship Leaders

Liturgists

December 11 Deb Steele

December 18 Deb Bendis

Ushers

December 11 Kathy and Lou Rabe

December 18 Bev and Dick Kerman

Greeters

December 11 Joan Jensema and Linda Peel

December 18 David and Pam Palmer

Happenings this Week at RCLPC

Sunday

10:00am Worship – Cantata

11:00am Cantata Brunch in FH

Monday

7:00pm Session Meeting

Tuesday

10:00am Book Group on Zoom

Wednesday

12:15pm Staff Meeting on Zoom

5:45pm MidWeek Soup and Adult Faith Formation in FH

Thursday

10:00am Women's Bible Study

7:00pm Finance Team Meeting

Saturday

6:00pm Youth Group Christmas Party at Viners

Save The Date

Kim Stewart is retiring and we are going to celebrate her in a big way! Mark your calendars now for January 22, 2023 and stay tuned for details.

Session Highlights

November 28, 2022

Rev. John Dillon Moderator

- Approved Session Meeting Minutes from October 24, 2022
- Approved Session Meeting Minutes from September 26, 2022
- Approved Joint Session/Deacon Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2022
- Reviewed and discussed Church Molding Report from David Steele
- Reported that RCLPC Session Minutes and Registrar were approved with no exceptions on November 19th
- Approved for membership by transfer for Susan Castriota from Faith Presbyterian Church of McHenry
- Approved for membership by transfer for Thomas and Sara Ervin
- Approved proposed By-law change for Session Quorum to be 5 Ruling Elders present for Congregation approval in January
- Approved membership roll changes
- Announced that RCLPC will host June 13, 2023 Presbytery meeting
- Approved Consent Agenda items
- Reviewed and Approved development completion of New RCLPC Website
- Approve LWW dedicated fundraising account (017-25-00-31) for LWW Guatemalan Staff
- Approve Session dedicated account for distributed funds from JCBF (017-65-00-13)
- Presented Preliminary 2023 Budget
- Approved new budget expense category-Website Support/Maintenance (016-50-20-06)
- Shared Joys and Concerns
- Next Session meeting is December 12, 2022 at 7pm in Fellowship Hall



Welcome Lynn

The administration team is excited to welcome our new Administrative Assistant, Lynn Hoch. She comes to us with strong organizational skills, people skills, and computer skills. She will be in the office mornings on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday so you can stop in or call and ask questions. Kim and Raechel are busily showing Lynn the intricacies of the job. Lynn will be responding to email sent to office@rclpc.org and lynnh@rclpc.org. Lynn likes to bake so she will be bringing cookies to the cookie walk and calories to the staff.

Worship



Join our Illumination Team and Help Us Light the Night

We need help to light the streets of Ridgefield on Christmas Eve. You have three ways to be part of this exciting new team. 1. Sign up to set the luminaries out at 10am on Christmas Eve 2. Light the candles (ok, turn on the candles) at 3:45pm 3. Collect the bags after the 7:30 pm worship service. This tradition is well loved by our neighbors and worshipers on Christmas Eve but in order to keep it going we need a few more hands. To volunteer please contact Raechel Sowa or sign up in the Gathering Space.

Christmas Eve Worship

Join us on Christmas Eve for our 4:00 pm (in person only) family worship service and at 7:30 pm (in person and online) for a traditional candlelight service.

Christmas Day will be a video online only via our [YouTube Channel](#)



Faith Formation

Multigenerational Faith Formation Sundays in Advent following Worship

We will explore the text each week by preparing an item to add to your home as a reminder of the season. Don't rush off to the next event, go home or run to the grocery store. Give yourself a chance to be present in Advent.

This Week in Fellowship Hall:

- Post a Note about what brings you joy
- Participate in our Christmas Card Challenge
- Cantata Brunch

Mid Week Advent Reflection

Come join us for some Advent reflection time on Wednesdays starting November 30. We'll begin at 5:45 pm with a simple soup supper (about 20 minutes) and then open with prayer and listen to a biblical text for the coming Advent Sunday. After hearing the texts, we'll write down our reactions to the texts, and share them if we feel moved to share. Then we'll move on to the second text. The goal is to provide a simple discussion tool that all can embrace—youth, young adults, long-time and new members too. We may refer to Richard Rohr's book, *Preparing for Christmas*, but it's not necessary to have the book unless you're looking for more: it provides daily meditations for the Advent season.

Let us know you are coming so we have enough soup! Class will end in time for choir
Deb Bendis and Raechel Sowa

Mission News



RCLPC Joy Angel Tree

YES, the RCLPC [Joy Angel Tree](#) LIVES and needs YOU to be an Angel!

Our Mission Agencies always have many needs for their clients and YOU can add a SPARKLE to someone who needs it this Christmas. This year we will be doing our Giving Tree “**Different but the Same**” ☺

Here's what you do:

- Scan the QR code right from the tree or take a tag home to do so
- After scanning, it will take you to a form for you to:
 - Type in your name and email address
 - Choose the gifts you plan to purchase
 - Hit the Submit button and you're all set!

The list will be

- You will find that many of the gifts this year are once again Gift Cards empowering people by giving them the privilege to shop and pick out gifts
*** Please Note: Buy the gift cards yourself and when dropping off the gift cards there will be a wrapped gift box in the office for you to put them in. Please have them in an envelope with your name and who it's for on the envelope before dropping it in the box

- For the **Pioneer Center** their clients make out an extensive "wish list". If you choose to sign up for this click on the box and Joan will send you their wish list and you may shop and choose the gifts you'd like to give this person. You will be the only one shopping for them. Please wrap these gifts.

Please return the gifts to the church by **Sunday December 11.**

If you have any questions OR need help purchasing or delivering your gift to the church feel free to contact Joan Jensema and we'll figure out a way:

- email jenpeel35@att.net
- call 815-307-5220

****ALSO** - Feel free to pass along the information to anyone you know that may be looking for a way to give to others this Christmas.

Fair Trade Store Open!

Discover handmade items from around the globe and fight global poverty through fair and ethical trade at the annual RCLPC Christmas Fair Trade Gift shop!



Shopping is [on-line](http://www.servv.org) and in person at RCLPC starting December 4th. By shopping on www.servv.org or in person at RCLPC, you'll empower small-scale global artisan and farmers, helping them build sustainable employment, resources, rights, and a vision of hope in their communities. All the funds gathered from this event go to the artisans. This is not a fund-raiser for RCLPC.

From handcrafted jewelry, to metal art, to wooden creations, holiday crafts, wall art, gourmet food and more, there's something for everyone! Shop early for the best selection. Don't forget, we always have Zatoun olive oil from Palestine, and fair-trade coffee and tea available.

Fellowship

Cantata Brunch - This Sunday All Welcome



Please join us after church on 11-Dec for a Fellowship brunch, celebrating the beautiful music performed in the Cantata. This was a big event last year - you won't want to miss it! Based on the size of the event, the Fellowship team is in need of some assistance, specifically in providing some of the food - bakery/baked goods, breakfast casseroles, fruit, and mini-bagels, and with clean-up afterwards. There will be a sign-up located in the Gathering Place or please contact Laurie Jensen, (815) 307-6644 or Julia Baser (224) 629-3191 for more information. Thank you! We are looking forward to another fun event!



Jesus' Birthday Party
December 18 from 4:00-7:00 pm
All kids ages 1-12 are invited!

It's almost here....Jesus' Birthday Party. Put on your pj's and fuzzy slippers and come have breakfast for dinner, watch movies, play games, and make all sorts of crafts to celebrate the birth of Christ. All children ages 1-12 are invited so, call your grandkids, nieces/nephews, cousins and friends to the best party in town. Let's fill the church with laughter and fun to kick off winter break. Birthday gift? Bring a pack or two of diapers to support the Diaper Bank. Don't delay, [sign up here](#) or in the Gathering Space.

Christmas Card Challenge

Each week during Advent you will be given the opportunity to think about different people in your life and to send them a Christmas card. Think about the prompts for each week, pray for that person, and send them a card.

Week 1: A person that has had an impact on you. Maybe that person is a family member, friend, favorite teacher, mentor or personal hero.

Week 2: Think about someone that helped you say "yes" to something big or encouraged you to take a chance on something that scared you?

Week 3: Someone in your life that helped you make a big decision.

Week 4: Who bears the Christ-light for you?

