

Orvin's Gift



Orvin Peterson, who passed away in April of 2016, farmed on the family's Century Farm in Pleasant Valley Township as his parents Carl and Alice had done the generation before. Arnold Roen, whose farm was near the Peterson farm, remembers Orvin as a helpful and good neighbor, always having a good sense of humor and a smile on his face. Arnold remembers one time when he had a lot of grain cut and on the ground, Orvin came over and offered to help shock the grain, telling Arnold he needed something to do that day. My brother David recalls once seeing Orvin at an auction wearing only one glove. Orvin responded his reasoning for wearing only one glove was that the T.V. weather person had forecast a warm day, but on the "other hand," a cold front was coming in.

Lawrence Johnson introduced Pastor Dave to Orvin and accompanied him on early trips to the Care Center in Hammond. Pastor Dave continued to visit with Orvin and give communion. Their shared love of the land and farming always made for easy conversation. Pastor Dave called Orvin a man of soil and faith with a strong sense of caring for the earth.

Orvin, in his estate, has left a legacy gift of over \$42,000.00 to RRLC.

The legacy gift has precedence in this church and our constitution gives us insight in how to receive such gifts. RRLC is blessed to have an Endowment Fund, established in 2004, to receive, manage and distribute such gifts to perpetuate the work of the church for generations to come. The Congregation Council and the Endowment Fund Board will follow constitution guidelines concerning this gift.

Orvin was a blessing to this church throughout his life. His legacy gift will continue to bless this church and its mission for generations to come.

Thanks, Orvin.

TOGETHER IN CHRIST,
Don



Congratulations to our First Communion Recipients!

Congratulations to Trevan Anderson, Adisyn Brown and Trent Gordon who received First Communion on April 9th. Also, thanks to Pastor Dave and Lauren Kasten for leading them in their First Communion education to make this such a meaningful event in their faith lives!



Words are powerless to express our gratitude for all the thoughts, prayers, words, cards and gifts we have received from our church family during our illnesses. We cannot thank everyone enough for the encouraging words to accept your help and that you are fighting right along with us to help us get better.



We are very proud to say we are part of Rush River Lutheran Church—the church of caring and supporting members and friends.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Steve and Roberta Sylla

May 2017 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Pastor Dave's office hours: Wed & Thurs; 10 am-12	1 Men in Mission, 6:30 pm	2	3 Confirmation, 6 PM; Choir Rehearsal, 7 PM	4 Quilters, 9 AM	5	6
7 9:15 am Sunday School; Harvest Dinner Mtg; Worship: 10:30 am	8	9 St. Croix Valley Pastor's Conf.; Council Mtg, 6:30 PM	10 Confirmation, 6 PM; Choir rehearsal, 7 PM	11 Women's Bible study @ Carol Stephan's, 1 PM	12	13 Peace Circle, 9 AM @ Loree Austrum's
14 9:15 am Sunday School (last day); 10:30 am Worship	15	16	17 Choir Rehearsal, 7 PM	18 Women's Bible study @ Carol Stephan's, 1 PM	19	20 Newsletter items due
21 Friends of RR Mtg, 9:30 AM; Worship, 10:30m	22	23	24 Choir Rehearsal, 7 PM	25 Women's Bible study @ Carol Stephan's, 1 PM	26	27
28 Worship, 10:30m	29 	30	31 Spring Party-Potluck & Rehearsal, 6:30 PM			Linda's office hours: Wed & Thurs, 10 – 1:30

Worship Leaders in May

	Readers	Communion Assistant	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Preparation
May 7	Diane Friese	Cindy Johnson	Jerid & Brandy Peterson	Kugel Family	Loree Austrum & Peggy Kugel
May 14	Sunday School Students	Cindy Johnson	Kugel Family	Kugel Family	Loree Austrum & Peggy Kugel
May 21	Merlona Austrum	Cindy Johnson	Bob & Kathy Swenson	Kelly Ebbens, Roberta Sylla, Annette Kelley, Toni Lubich	Loree Austrum & Peggy Kugel
May 28	Ethan Hayes	Cindy Johnson	Dianne Erickson	Kelly Ebbens, Roberta Sylla, Annette Kelley, Toni Lubich	Loree Austrum & Peggy Kugel

Thank you to Roberta Sylla for baking communion bread for the month of May!

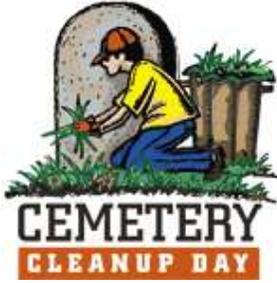
Thank you to Ariel Stephan for faithfully ringing the church bell!

March Income: \$15,583.24

March Expenses: \$13,496.20

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments or for more information if you would like any.
Roberta Sylla, Treasurer

Please note: The high expenses for March are because we paid our yearly premium for insurance (\$5,188.00).
By paying yearly, we get a discount.



CEMETERY CLEAN UP

FRIDAY, MAY 12TH

4:00-6:00 PM

Work for all ages

Picking up pine cones to lumber jacking

Grill out supper provided by
Cemetery Association Board

Bring any equipment you deem necessary

Aging and Disability Resource Center News

The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ARDC) of St. Croix County will be providing Memory Screen events at the local Senior Centers in St. Croix County. Please see the flyer on the church bulletin board for locations and dates (or call the church office to request this information).

Ultimate Car Wash Cards Available

- Undercarriage Flush
 - Presoak
- High Pressure Wash or Soft Foam Wash
 - Triple Shine Vehicle Enhancer/Cleaner
 - Spot Free Rinse
 - 95 Second Super Dry



Does your car need a wash? We can help! The Ultimate Car Wash Card is good at any Kwik Trip or Kwik Star Store. It includes 5 Ultimate Car Washes for \$36.00. The best part is that a portion of all sales stays here at Rush River Lutheran! Please contact Emily at 715.760.0573 with any questions or for your card!

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Lost and Found

A ring and two bracelets have been found at RRLC. Please contact the church office to claim if any of these belong to you.

"Don't dig up in doubt what you planted in faith."
~ Elisabeth Elliot

Save the Date!

Our 70th Annual

Harvest Dinner and Country Store

September 24, 2017

Preparations have begun for our 70th Annual Harvest Dinner celebration! The Harvest Dinner Committee is meeting regularly and invite you to join us. We are meeting weekly from 9:30 – 10 a.m. currently before church in the basement conveniently located close to the coffee and any treats!

We are planning on including special ways to honor this milestone and need your help. As we delve into the history of the dinner we are learning about how it has changed over the years. Please share your memories and pictures with us by reaching out to a committee member or emailing us at harvestdinnerrlc@gmail.com with questions.

Lisa Anderson 715-273-6697

Karen Miller 715-425-5040

Ione Hayes 715-273-5935

Annette Kelley 715-262-5528

Karen Knutson 715-760-2690

Loree Austrum 715-235- 1802

Murlona Austrum 715-549- 6580

We will be walking with the King of Grot and Queen of Lefse to spread the word on our upcoming 70th Annual Harvest Dinner! Please plan to join us in the parade!

Please Join Us!

Syttende Mai grande parade Woodville, WI

Noon on Saturday, May 20, 2017





Upcoming Events

10th W/ELCA Triennial, "All Anew": July 13-19, 2017,
Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, MN

Lutheran Men In Mission: BOLD GATHERING: July 21-23,
2017,
Marriott City Center, Minneapolis, MN;
www.boldgathering.com.

Watch for more information to come!

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Upcoming Events in 2017 for Our Neighbor's Place:

Fri, May 19 ~ Yard Sale, Open House, Community Meal – Stop by for a tour of the Day Center, shop for a good deal, and join us for a picnic style meal; **Sat, Sept 9** ~ Kinni River Trout Trot – 5K, Half Marathon, 20 mile course relays, FREE Kids Obstacle Course; **Thurs, Sept 28** ~ Community Connect – Meet with non-profit agencies and service providers, community meal, and free garage sale room.



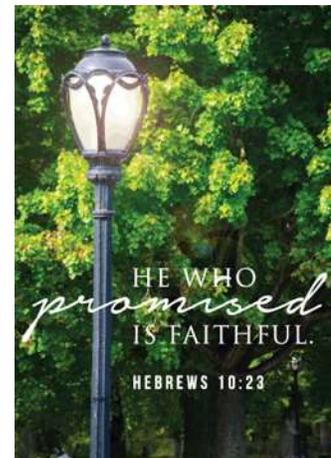
Hymn of Promise

by Natalie Sleeth

In the bulb, there is a flower,
In the seed, an apple tree,
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.
There's a song in every silence,

Seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness,
Bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity.
In our doubt, there is believing;
In our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season
Something God alone can see.



Life Out of Death

“They shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, ‘God with us.’” ~ Matthew 1:23

After the Crucifixion came the Resurrection. After the Resurrection the Ascension. Because Jesus wore a crown of thorns, He now wears a crown of glory. Because He became poor, He now sits enthroned. Because He made Himself of no reputation, He now has a name which is above every name. Because He was willing to become a slave, He is now Master of everything. Because He was obedient to death, He is Lord of Life and holds the keys of hell and of death. Because He made Himself of no reputation, every knee will someday bow before Him. Every renunciation led to glory.

God could not more fully and plainly show us the glorious truth of life out of death than in these paradoxes of Jesus’ own life and death. Is it not clear to us that the sacrifice of Calvary was not a tragedy but the release of life and power?

Do we believe this? How hard it is to believe that our own self-offering to Him will work the same way. How easy it is for most of us to live as though we do not believe it.

~ Elisabeth Elliot ~ from “Keep a Quiet Heart” (found in the book, “Refresh My Heart in Spring)

“Christ came first and foremost to those who have no hope.”

~ Max Lucado

When the gift obscures the giver

“Jesus answered, ‘I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill.’” ~ John 6:26



This story of Jesus and the Capernaum crowd gives a classic example of ingratitude. On the previous day, Jesus had performed the miracle of expanding the bread and fish into a great banquet. Nowhere is there any evidence of gratitude. The people sought only a repeat of his miracle.

Perhaps the crowd ought not to be faulted. They did not forget or reject Jesus. They wanted him to be king. They crossed the lake to find him. But somehow the crowd has lost sight of Jesus in their excitement. They allowed the gift of bread to obscure its giver. The fringe benefits had become more important than the giver of life.

The gift without the giver is bare. Jesus is not feeling sorry for himself when the people clamor around him. Rather, he is sorry for the crowd because all they received was a meal. They did not receive the giver. Jesus’ best gift to us is himself. As we worship, we too can receive that gift.”

~ Luther Abrahamson

God, give us the wisdom to trace our blessings to their source that we may love you more and more. Amen.

From “Christ In Our Home” - Volume II

Tea Times ~ by Katie Anderson



(Editor's Note: The school where Katie works is at the edge of Winchester. As she walks into Winchester, this is one of her first views of the city.)

I Can Do All Things

Lately, I've been doing a lot of reflecting on Philippians 4:13. For quite a while, I've been told that the chaplain's assistant traditionally does at least one assembly during the year. I've never been a big fan of public speaking, so the idea of leading an assembly all on my own scared me. It's funny, though, because back home, I read in church, and here I help lead chapel services. My mom once asked me if I get nervous reading at church in front of everyone, and I said that I don't. Chapel services here are small, and fairly informal, so I don't get nervous about them, either. Assembly, though, is in front of the whole school, and feels so much more formal. Since there has been that expectation for me to do an assembly, the chaplain wanted to try to ease me into doing an assembly on my own. A few weeks ago, we did an assembly together, where I did a few minutes of the assembly. Today, I finally did do an assembly all on my own. A while back, the chaplain told a story that he gets a bit nervous before he does services. He was once doing a service with a bishop, so he asked when the time comes that you stop getting nervous before a service, and the bishop replied that it only happens when you stop caring. So, I may have been nervous, but I kept telling myself, "I can do ALL things through Christ who strengthens me." Including, apparently, talk for 10 minutes about something I'm passionate about in front of a crowd of about 500 people.

To keep up with my latest adventures, head over to my blog. Here's a cheeky little link to my most recent blog post.

<http://thisroadthatwetravelvagn.blogspot.com/2017/03/who-am-i.html>



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Rush River Lutheran Church

N8623 County Road Y
River Falls, WI 54022



Rush River Lutheran Church ~ May 2017

Worship Service at 10:30 AM ~ Sunday School at 9:15 AM
(Last day of Sunday School: May 14)

Church contact information:

Pastor Dave mobile: 715-557-0095 home: 715-268-9663
Church: 715-684-3701



Website

www.RushRiverLutheran.org



Facebook

[Facebook.com/RushRiverLutheran](https://www.facebook.com/RushRiverLutheran)



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