



RCLC Notebook

May 17, 2026
Issue #3

At Risen Christ Lutheran Church, we strive for **community** - in **seeing people come to know Jesus Christ** and **grow in their Christian faith.**

Come and See.



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Dear Members of Risen Christ,

The delay of spring this year, with its alternating cold snaps and warmth, serves as a powerful reminder that God works according to His own timing. Spring offers an annual reflection of Creation as we move past the cold and darkness. The budding trees and blooming flowers are a beautiful testament to God’s handiwork.

As we witness the world blooming, let us remember that we are created by the same God and are intended to flourish. May this season of renewal remind us that He is making all things new, including each of you.

My wife, Mary, and our three sons have called Risen Christ our church home since 1990. During this time, I have had the honor of serving as council president and chairman of the elders. It is wonderful to see so many new faces in our congregation, and I look forward to getting to know each of you better. I pray that we continue to grow together as brothers and sisters in Christ, looking forward to the exciting things God has in store for our church..

Yours in Christ,

George Eberlein
Elder



The Luke Project 52 Clinic - Flint

The Luke Project 52 Clinic – Flint is a ministry that we support at RCLC - a Christian-based prenatal and post-natal clinic for mothers in need, founded and directed by the husband-and-wife team **Brad and Sherie Garrison**. The Project rolled in on Monday night, the day after Mother's Day, to explain their mission at the Let the Girls Shine Craft Night – turned Baby Shower, organized by **Kim Cook** and **Kim Eiswerth**. Attendees crafted envelope cards, organized by Kim Cook, for the clinic to present to the expectant mothers. The cards will house ultrasound photos of their in-utero babies. Brad Garrison and Kim Eiswerth, team-lead for the baby supply arm of the clinic, explained the mission.

Bible Trivia: Who was the mother of John the Baptist?

Who was the mother of Boaz?



Brad, Kim and Kim Cook talking to the group.



Brad Garrison and Kim Eiswerth with the mobile infant/prenatal unit.

Ministries We Support:

AAA Pregnancy Resource Ctr.

Helps women and men to make important decisions about family planning.

Family Bible Journey

Streaming Daily Devotional Podcast

By Rev. Daniel Lepley

Grace Centers of Hope

Support for the Homeless

LCMS English District

Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

The Luke Project 52 Clinic - Flint

Free prenatal Clinic.

Baby supplies for mothers in need.

www.newlukeprenatal.org

Open Door Ministries

Canton Food Pantry & Job Bank

Salam Christian Fellowship

Sharing the Love of Christ with Muslims.

Thrivent Lutheran Services

Various Local Mission Efforts

Wellspring Lutheran Services

Adoption Services

Church Council

Council Meeting

June 2 @ 7:00 pm

All current and upcoming RCLC members are welcome to attend these meetings!

“What do we do at The Luke Project 52 Clinic – Flint?” Brad started with his presentation. “We save babies, change lives, and help churches build community. In Flint babies die before their first birthday at 2.5 times the national average. According to the Governor’s Task Force on infant mortality the #1 cause for this is due to inadequate prenatal care for low-income mothers. Why? There are two primary reasons. The first has to do with a healthcare delivery system designed first and foremost for the comfort of those working in the system rather than the patients they serve and the second has to do with the way poor patients are treated by the existing healthcare delivery system.”



The group working on the craft cards for the mothers.

“Typical prenatal clinics for low-income mothers experience a 50% no-show rate. The Luke Project experiences a 3.2% no-show rate. Why? The women want to come to the Luke Project 52 Clinic because we treat every Mom with the dignity and respect that every child of God deserves and we focus first on building a relationship to earn the right to provide quality prenatal care.”



The resulting ultrasound picture card holders crafted by our group.

“We have 5 certified nurse midwives. A partnership with McLaren Family Medicine to provide 1 attending MD and 1 resident MD at each clinic, along with a former University of Michigan high-risk labor and delivery nurse with 55 years of experience (my wife Sherie) who serves as the Clinical Care Coordinator.

Volunteer Opportunities Here @ RCLC

Weekly Offering Counters

Contact Any Elder

Safety Team

Contact Joshua Priebe
joshuapriebe@gmail.com

Trustee Assist

(Building Maint.)

Contact Dave Prange
Merc565@aol.com

Tech Team (Audio Visual)

Contact Kim Cook
Kimberly.Cook705@gmail.com

Join Council!

Contact Paul Eiswerth
peiswerth@gmail.com

Sunday Scripture Reader

If you are interested in being a **Sunday morning Scripture reader**, please let me know. I'm going to be coordinating this ministry and would welcome new folks (I'm one myself!). The summer schedule is set, but I'd love to add your name to our fall and winter schedule. Pastor Rennie will get the readings to me and I will have them to you by Thursday so you can practice. Thanks for considering this opportunity.
Debbie Single
Awsingle@aol.com



"Douglas provide our pre and post natal education programs. I am one of two registered pharmacists who provide proper medications for the mothers. Kim Eiswerth leads our Benjamin Closet, providing baby and mother supplies. Duron from the Greater Flint

Health Coalition is a social worker who attends our weekly clinics to help mothers navigate through the insurance and government assistance programs so that the proper paperwork and follow up is provided."

"Through donations, we give baby supplies and supplies for young mothers," added **Kim Eiswerth**, who leads the supply arm called Benjamin's Closet. "We also give small prizes to the mothers as an encouragement, as they show up for their appointments."

"We take calls 24/7 if help is needed", Brad continued. "Before we purchased the clinic office, we used our mobile exam unit more often. The ambulance serves as a fully outfitted prenatal exam room." Brad had arrived Monday at RCLC with the ambulance for us to tour.

"We follow up after births and encourage the mothers to utilize proper support at home by setting them up with a Christian church and community.

"These people do this work out of love for our patients. I manage through permission-giving leadership," said Brad. "They know individually how to best provide this loving care each within their field of expertise."

"One of our goals is to provide proper quality medical care," he summarized. "But we do that by first and foremost providing love, care and respect, so that babies can be born healthy - surrounded by a loving Christian community."



The gifts you provided at the baby shower for the mothers in Flint!

Save The Date!

Letting Our Light Shine Girls' Night

June 18th
July 16th
August 20th
All at 7:00 pm.

Christian Creative Crafters

Meets every Thursday
In the adult-ed room
10:00 am till 12:00 pm.
Watch the church calendar to see
which Thursday we go to work on
Days for Girls.

Young At Hearts Monthly Luncheon

June 16th - BJ's Brewhouse
July 21st - Mexican Fiesta
August 18th - Buddy's Pizza
All Are Welcome!

It Happened Here At RCLC



Pastor Rennie blessing the mothers of the congregation on **Mother's Day.**



Kim Cook with the craft group at Letting Our Light Shine Girl's Night on April 6th, lead by **Dale Becker** instructing the group how to make stained glass picture frames.



Men visitors to the Girl's Night had to wear wigs. **Paul Eiswerth** complied.
Right - one of the finished products.

It Happened Here at RCLC (Continued)



Our Safety Team Kickoff Meeting, April 9th, Paul Eiswerth, Josh Prieibe, Dave Prange, **Detective Sergeant Josh Hayes** – Plymouth Township Police, Rich Boehm, Mary and John Marasco, Pastor Rennie, **Officer Andrew Mendrzycki** – Plymouth Township Police, and Art Single. The officers met with us to assess our safety measures and offer ideas.

Holy Baptism: Born Again into Christ

Holy Baptism is far more than a symbol or a public declaration of faith. It is God's gracious work. In Baptism, the Lord takes ordinary water and joins it to His powerful Word to deliver extraordinary gifts: forgiveness of sins, rescue from death and the devil, and eternal salvation to all who believe His promise.

Luther asks in the Small Catechism, "What benefits does Baptism give?" The answer: "It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this."

How can water do such great things? Certainly not just water, but the Word of God in and with the water, and faith which trusts this Word of God in the water. Baptism is not our work for God; it is God's work for us.

Because Baptism is God's promise and not our achievement, the Church has always baptized people of every age. We are, so to speak, "equal opportunity baptizers." Infants, children, and adults all need the same forgiveness and the same new birth. From the earliest days, Christians understood Baptism in continuity with God's covenant with Abraham. Just as infant boys were included in the covenant through circumcision before they could speak or testify, so God includes even the youngest children in His New Covenant promises (Colossians 2:11–12).

Others come to Baptism later in life. As they hear God's Word and are taught the faith, they are brought to the font and given the same gifts. Whether baptized at eight days old or at eighty years old, the blessing is the same: God places His name upon us, unites us with Christ in His death and resurrection, and adopts us as His own dear children.

When Satan accuses and conscience condemns, the Christian can say with confidence: "But I am baptized." In Baptism, Christ claimed you as His own. And what God gives, He does not take back.

-Pastor Rennie

Movie Review



Hacksaw Ridge is a World War II biographical film, released in 2016. It relates the story of Desmond Doss, an American combat medic. As a Seventh-Day Adventist, Doss refused to use a weapon of any kind. He became the first conscientious objector to be awarded the Medal of Honor for his service during the battle of Okinawa. The film was directed by Mel Gibson and written by Andrew Knight and Robert Schenkkan, based

Doss enlisted after the Attack on Pearl Harbor, and in the film, we experience the challenges he endured from fellow soldiers during his time in basic training.

We later see his courage during battle, revealing his near super-human resolve in saving his fellow soldiers and even enemy soldiers. More impressive is his steadfast faith; never wavering before intense emotional and physical abuse early in the film.

The acting is exceptional, as is the story. The film contains brutal battle scenes and would not be appropriate for children.

Seventh-Day Adventists maintain different theological points from Lutherans in that they hold Saturday as the Sabbath, have a unique view of salvation and differ in view of baptism and the sacraments, among other things. They do however believe in the Trinity, the divinity of Christ and the inspiration of the bible. -Paul Eiswerth

Plymouth Township Police Chaplain Program



(Left to right) Lieutenant Ryan Krebs, Chaplain Ben Barnes, Chaplain Rene Kaufmann, Chief James Knittel, Jr.

The Plymouth Township Police Department's chaplain program exists to support people during some of the hardest moments they may ever face. The chaplains work closely with officers and the community, offering comfort, guidance and a steady presence when it matters most. Often, the chaplain's role is simply to listen and to be there when words are hard to find. They are available for all Township first responders, including EMS and fire personnel, and are called upon during some of the department's most difficult calls. Chaplains do not focus on religious differences or beliefs. Their faith-based background allows their work to be rooted in compassion, respect and meeting people where they are during moments of vulnerability. In emergent or life-changing moments, their calm presence can make a profound difference to families trying process devastating news. To stay connected, chaplains participate in ride-alongs, department training and community events. **Rennie Kaufmann** serves as our current chaplain for the Township and is mentoring a new chaplain into the program.





Our newest member on the security team is a real turkey.

RCLC Studies

Sunday Early Morning Bible Study

Covers Scripture Lessons for the day listed in the bulletin.
Meet in the Church Narthex "Lounge" area.

Men's Wednesday Morning Study 6 am

Meet online. Contact Michael Bell mbell48170@gmail.com

Noon and 7pm Faith Study with Pastor

Church Narthex "Lounge" area.
No appointment necessary!

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday Nights @ 7:00 pm led by Esther Kaufmann.

"Ask The Pastor"

Go ahead. Call or email Pastor Rennie about any questions or concerns regarding faith, the bible, our Lutheran Confession...
Go ahead. Make his day.

Confirmation, Faith Formation/Review Studies

We have 3 small groups with a wide variety of ages currently in session. If you are interested in joining an existing study or starting a new one on a different topic, speak with Pr. Rennie at 734-306-9364.

This is YOUR Notebook!

The *RCLC Notebook* is published on an ongoing basis. We welcome your submissions. If you have a church-related news report, artwork, poem, joke, story that you would like to share, please pass it on to Sue Bailey at suebee321@gmail.com. Remember to include photos when appropriate. We will make final decisions on content and will edit if necessary. Items will be included as space allows.

-Paul Eiswerth, Editor
peiswerth@gmail.com

Bible Trivia Answer: The mother of John the Baptist was Elizabeth. [Luke 1:39](#) Her baby leapt in her womb when Mary visited her while pregnant with the Christ child.

The mother of Boaz was Rahab. [Joshua 2 and 6](#). She was a Canaanite and a believer.

Mom Joke:

Cook a man a fish and you feed him for an hour;
teach man to fish and you can get rid of him for an entire weekend.

(Courtesy of Art Single).



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