

RCLS Paw Print



Weekly newsletter of
Rochester Central Lutheran School

November 1, 2007

Preparing for tomorrow with a Christ-centered education today!

RCLS is a ministry of Family of Christ, Grace, Holy Cross and Trinity Lutheran churches.

MR. PAHLKOTTER'S THOUGHTS.....

I am blessed to have two younger sisters. The middle child in my family is my sister Lisa. She is three years younger than me.

When I was in the third grade, my sister Lisa began school in Kindergarten. We walked to school every day. I remember being so upset with her because she took so long walking to and from school. She would sometimes just sit in the middle of the sidewalk when I knew time was passing and I would either be late for school or my parents would be looking for us at home.

It wasn't until after she was diagnosed with a hole in her heart that we all understood that she wasn't being stubborn or difficult, she was simply too tired to keep up. Her heart was broken, in a sense, and it wasn't doing its job effectively due to the hole. In fact, the plumbing of her heart was somewhat reversed which was not enabling her body to function as it should.

We too are broken in sin. Without forgiveness, our lives are not whole and in fact we are full of holes. We are unable to do what God has called us to do simply because the sin in our lives gets in the way. We stumble and fall...and sit in the middle of the sidewalk unable to move forward.

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." Psalm 147:3

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

Lisa underwent heart surgery as a little girl and they patched that hole and corrected the flow of blood through her heart. She is now a mother, wife and vice president of a financial investment firm. She is doing well and now I have difficulty keeping up with her.

I thank God that He is also a heart surgeon. He washes our broken hearts clean with the blood of His one and only Son, Jesus Christ. I thank God that He mends the holes and makes us whole. I thank God that he not only mends our hearts, but he corrects the flow of our hearts by overflowing His healing, forgiving love to us and then through us...giving us changed hearts for Him.

Overflowing in Christ,
Henry G. Pahlkotter, II
Principal

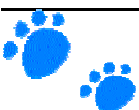
First grade is inviting all RCLS families to **STUFF THE TURKEY for Channel One**. Each classroom will have a turkey box to stuff with non-perishable food items. The classroom with the highest number of food items will be served a special treat by Mr. Pahlkotter during lunch. This contest will run from October 24-November 19. This is a wonderful opportunity to let our blessings **OVERFLOW** to others!

SAC (School Age Care) NOTES: Parents, please remember to register your children for child care on the following November non-school days: Friday, November 9th; Friday, November 16th; and Wednesday, November 21st. SAC will be closed November 22nd and 23rd in recognition of the Thanksgiving holiday.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES ARE

COMING! Conferences are schedule for Thursday and Friday, November 15th (4 p.m. – 8 p.m.) and 16th (8 a.m. – 4 p.m.). Please call the school office starting November 6th (Tuesday) to schedule your parent-teacher conference. Parents of children in grades 6 – 8 will be scheduled with the homeroom teacher. If a conference is needed with a departmentalized teacher, we will take your request and the teacher will personally schedule this with you at a mutually agreed upon time. Preschool parents, please watch for a specific note from your teacher regarding their particular available times. Everyone is asked to participate. Thank you.

NO SCHOOL FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH: Please note that there is no school on Friday, November 9th. This is a teacher records day. There will also be no school on Friday, November 16th due to parent-teacher conferences.



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE CHILD

CARE: On Thursday, November 15th, SAC will offer child care during conference times (4 p.m. until 8 p.m.) and on Friday, November 16th during conference times (8 a.m. until 4 p.m.). Families are asked to give a donation to help cover our costs in providing child care. A basket will be provided for your convenience.

TEACHING POSITIONS FILLED:

For the fourth grade position, I'm pleased to announce we have hired Mrs. Julie Prentice. Mrs. Prentice taught at RCLS from 2000-2006 in grades 3 & 5. While she was here she also coached volleyball and chaired the "Cash Back" fundraising program which donates a portion of sales receipts collected at the mall to RCLS. We look forward to having her rejoin our staff! 4th grade parents will receive a letter early next week letting them know how this transition will take place. Mrs. Prentice's first official day will be Thursday, November 15th.

For the resource teacher position, I'm also pleased to announce we have hired Mrs. Debbie Pahlkotter. Mrs. Pahlkotter will be working as a resource teacher with Mrs. Lonnie Strohschein. She is blessed with both the skill and the passion to work with students who have unique needs. She has experience as having taught both in a traditional classroom setting and as a resource teacher in Michigan. Mrs. Pahlkotter also has been a substitute teacher at RCLS in the 5th grade and most recently as the guest teacher in the resource department. We're excited to have her join our staff! Mrs. Pahlkotter is already on board and is working with Mrs. Strohschein to put a schedule in place that meets the resource needs of our students.

We welcome both Mrs. Prentice and Mrs. Pahlkotter to RCLS's ministry team. Let us keep them in our prayers as they make the transition and take on these important ministry roles.

*Mike Fink, Director of the Personnel Committee,
RCLS Board of Directors*

THIS 'N THAT

- **Inviting all men** (former RCLS graduates and older) to join in an evening of fun and exercise by playing basketball. Starting Tuesday, October 30, we will play from 8-9:30 pm in the RCLS gym. All skill levels are welcomed!
- **END OF THE FIRST QUARTER** is Thursday, November 8th.

ADVENT MUSIC CONCERT IS COMING! Parents, please note that the Advent Music Concert is scheduled for Thursday, November 29th, at 6:30 p.m. here at RCLS. This involves our 5th – 8th graders and 4th grade band. Please mark this date on your calendars. All are invited to attend.

November 2	- Diabetes Walk - Volleyball at Lewiston, 4:30 pm
November 4	- Adv. Handbells at Holy Cross
November 6	- Volleyball, here, 4:30 pm
November 7	- Grade 3 to sing at Chapel
November 8	- Coffee & Tour, 7:45-8:45 am - Fall Classroom Parties - Boys & Girls 7/8 BB Parent meeting, 4 pm - End of First Quarter
November 9	- No School—Teacher Work Day
November 10	- Volleyball Conference Tournament, TBA
November 13	- Report Card Sent Home
November 14	- Grade 1 to sing at Chapel
November 15	- Preschool conferences—All day - Parent Conferences, 4-8 pm SAC available 4-8 pm
November 16	- No School—Parent Conferences, 8 am—4 pm. SAC available 8—4 also
Nov. 21-23	- No School—Thanksgiving Break
November 26	- Board of Directors, 6:15 pm
November 28	- Kindergarten to sing at Chapel
November 29	- Advent Music Concert, Grades 5-8, and Grade 4 Band, 6:30 pm
December 5	- Grade 5 to sing at Chapel
December 6	- All School Christmas Celebration, 6:30 pm, John Marshall Auditorium
December 12	- Grade 3 to sing at Chapel
December 14	- Parent Transport to School!
December 17	- RCLS Board, 6:15 pm
December 19	- All Choirs to sing at Chapel
December 21	- Classroom Christmas Parties
Dec. 24-Jan. 2	- Christmas Break—No School

The **RCLS MATH TEAMS** had a solid performance on Monday. The blue team continues to be in second place. The white team moved up several places in the rankings. The teams were led by strong performances by Bryan Boger (24), Bethany Schultz (22), and Marissa Wales (20). Sixth grader Nathan Witte earned an excellent score of 18. Twenty-one students participated. Competition for spots on the Blue team is getting more intense.

ALL SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION:

We will be in need of a few individuals who enjoy sewing to either create or enhance costumes for the December 6th presentation of Miracle on Main Street. In addition, we are in need of an individual who could set us up with a free-standing door for the program. If you think you could tackle either of these projects, please contact Mr. Pahlkotter in the school office. Thank you.

EMERGENCY WEATHER CLOSINGS

School closing announcements can be heard on KROC, KRCH, and KWEB radio stations as well as on KTTC-TV. When Rochester public schools close, RCLS also closes.

Please look over the attached flyer explaining inclement weather policies for SAC.

IN OUR PRAYERS

...A former RCLS family—the family of Rebecca Monson (Todd, Amanda). Mrs. Monson entered her eternal home on October 31. ...Those struggling with physical afflictions.

PRAYING FOR OUR FAMILIES

Each school morning (except Wednesdays) your children's teachers gather for devotions. The teachers and pastors take turns leading these devotions. We are praying for all the families of RCLS on a rotation basis at these devotions. We invite you to share special needs for which you would invite our prayers by getting these requests to any teacher or office staff member. The week of November 5 we will pray for: Aaron & Janelle Fistler (Bryce), Sherry Foster (Trevor), Thomas & Sarah Frank (Talon), Matthew & Sara Frick (Samuel), Scott & Karen Fryer (Alec), Jim & Heather Fuelberth (Molly, Nicholas), Chris & Marne Gade (Meredith, Mitchel), and Paul & Jennifer Galuska (Cortiney).

THANK YOU HALLELUJAH CARNIVAL HELPERS!

This year's Hallelujah Carnival was a big success as in years past primarily due to the hard work of dedicated staff and volunteer families wanting to offer this family-friendly ministry event. On behalf of the entire steering committee, I sincerely would like to thank everyone who helped in any way for your willing service to help make this year's carnival a success. I also want to especially thank leaders Charla Schultz, Dea Otte, Lonnie Strohschein, Marlie Ernst and her entire kitchen staff. In addition, I would like to thank Corey Nelson for his willingness to share his wealth of insight and knowledge as our event consultant. I have been blessed to work with all of you and the entire RCLS ministry family.

*Lynn Schoppers,
Carnival Steering Committee Chairperson*

THANKSGIVING BREAK IS COMING! We will not be in session on Wednesday, November 21st through Friday, November 23rd in recognition of the Thanksgiving holiday celebration. Let us give thanks to God for all He has blessed us with this past year!

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER GIVING A THANK GIFT:

The Board of Directors is working very hard to stay within budget for this school year. Hiring an additional half-time teacher for 4th grade beyond the planned budget challenges us financially. We have already received a gift toward this expense in gratitude for the ministry of RCLS and the efforts being made by the Board of Directors to offer the finest in quality Lutheran Christian education. If you would be willing to make a gift, please contact the school office or Mr. Pahlkötter directly. Thank you.

THRIVENT MEMBERS CHALLENGE GIFT:

A Thrivent member is encouraging the Thrivent members of RCLS and the Association Congregations to give a gift to our school and then using your Giving Plus benefit to have these dollars matched \$1 for every \$2 given up to \$300 matched for every \$600 given. The first gift has already been given to help defray the costs of the additional half-time 4th grade teacher. Thrivent members, PLEASE consider a matching gift. All matching gifts must be made on or before November 15th. If you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office for forms or if you have questions. THANK YOU.

ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A 5TH GRADER?

On Fox 47, RCLS is sponsoring a promotion for the program "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?" Last week, it was aired 56 times throughout the week. If you are watching Fox and you see this spot, please complete bottom of the attached form. Let us know when you saw the spot and turn it in for a possible chance at earning a gift certificate to Applebees. We will have a drawing in early November and again in early December. We want to know what you think. Thanks.

FROM OUR SCHOOL NURSE Please take time to look over the attached flyer on common school-borne illnesses.

SECTION TO BE COMPLETED FOR THE PROGRAM ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A 5TH GRADER

---Please complete, clip and return. Thank you!---

Printed Name: _____

I saw the "Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?" spot on Fox 47 on _____ (date)

at _____ AM or PM (Circle).

What did you think?

Signature: _____

Date: _____

