

Rochester Central Lutheran School

RCLS PAW PRINT

April 9, 2009

Preparing for tomorrow with a Christ-centered education today!

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

DON'T FORGET!

**Friday, April 10—
No School/No SAC!**

**Friday, April 17 -
Parent Transport—AM
only!**

**Saturday, April 18—
RCLS Auction!**

MR. PAHLKOTTER'S THOUGHTS...

Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane... ***Going a little farther, He fell with His face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as You will."*** Matthew 26:39

On Sunday during Bible hour, a good friend and fellow teacher shared a passage from one of Max Lucado's books in which he reveals the human side of the God/man Jesus before he left to begin his public ministry. The passage shared how Jesus visited the carpentry shop he worked in with his father just one more time...picking up the tools and walking around the room recalling the blessings of his first 30 years of life. I was moved by the passage as I sometimes forget that Jesus was both God and man...that he had human emotions about what He was about to face in the next three years of His life... knowing as God that His life would end with a horrific death on a cross before His glorious resurrection on Easter morning. He gave up his family, Nazarene life, friends and much more to answer God's calling to begin His public ministry and to eventually fulfill God's plan for salvation...death on a cross.

As I reflect upon my need for the forgiveness of this Jesus, my Lord and Savior, I think about the events of Holy Week. I am drawn to the Gethsemane scene where Jesus falls...literally falls to His face on the ground...and He prays to God the Father, please take this responsibility away from me. As God He knows the horror and agony He is about to face and yet he continues...***"Yet not as I will, but as You will."***

Let us give thanks this week for the ultimate sacrificial act...Christ's death and resurrection. Let us reflect upon our true need for a Savior and give Him thanks for what He endured not because of His sin...but because of ours.

One of the students in my youth Bible class said that the passage from Mr. Lucado's book made him feel guilty. Understanding all that Christ gave up, he felt guilty knowing that his sin was the reason Christ went to the cross. The blessing is that Christ does not want us to remain in our guilt. He wants us to rejoice with the angels that He is risen and that we are forgiven. He wants us to live in the JOY of His salvation for us. Heaven is ours...not because it is deserved...certainly not...but because it is given as a gift along with His forgiveness of our sins.

Thank you Jesus for Your life, death and resurrection. Thank You for Your undeserved gifts of love, forgiveness and life eternal. Thank You for Your willingness to "take this cup" even with the knowledge of what You were going to face...mocking, whipping, nailing, bleeding, hurting, suffering...for me. Indeed, Jesus is my HERO.

In the name of Jesus,
Mr. Henry G. Pahlkotter, II
RCLS Principal



Special points of interest:

- *Auction Notes!*
- *Overindulged Children*
- *National Teach Your Kids to Share Day!*
- *Development Director Position Available*
- *Logo Wear Sales*
- *2009-10 School Calendar*
- *Thrivent Members*
- *Kayla Manuell—Poster Winner*
- *Summer School Opportunities!*
- *Much, much, more!*

Friends,

As you know by now, our annual auction is coming up in less than two weeks. It is vitally important that each of us do our part to make this auction a success. The funds that are generated by the auction are used for direct support of our school's operations and are vital to maintain the programs we have in place today. If it helps to think of this in terms of dollars, the auction revenues support our students by over \$100 per student. This is money that doesn't have to come in the form of tuition increases, so you directly benefit by participating as well.



Please find a way to help support our auction to allow RCLS to continue to be the great place it is. Perhaps you can find time to still solicit a number of businesses for donations. Is there something you have that you can donate, such as a service, a skill, or maybe something that another person will consider to be the perfect 'white elephant' item? There are a number of opportunities to volunteer during the auction itself. Sign up sheets can be found on a table outside the office. Think of a friend or couple that you could invite to come to the auction. I would also ask that you prayerfully consider 'over' bidding on at least 1 item. Let's say you see a gift certificate to one of your favorite stores or restaurants worth \$10.00. It would be such a blessing for our school if you were able to bid over the value, regardless if it were \$11.00, \$20.00 or maybe even more. All of us love to get a bargain. In this case, think about what a 'bargain' your family's experience with RCLS is, and then think about what those extra dollars can mean to our school and our students. You then have the opportunity to thank that business and let them know how much their support of RCLS means to you and our school, and that you were even willing to bid 'just a little extra'. Think of what a message it sends if we could raise the revenue we receive through the auction by 10, 20, or 30 percent? This will only happen through your involvement.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our auction on the 18th, and please think of all the ways you can help this be the most successful auction ever held at RCLS.

Blessings,

Mark Blume,

Chair, RCLS Board of Directors

HAVE A BLESSED EASTER! This Friday, Good Friday, RCLS will not be in session giving families an opportunity to worship. School will resume on Monday, April 13.

*I would like to **thank everyone** for all the prayers, emails, cards, flowers, phone calls, meals, and visits during my diagnosis, hospitalization, and recovery. It is all deeply appreciated. Thank you for allowing God to use you to bless myself and my family.*

-Lila Manuell (Jeff, Kayla, Austin, Ethan)

IN OUR PRAYERS

... Mr. Chris Gade (Marne, Meredith, Mitchel) whose mother received her crown of life this past weekend.

... Pastor & Mrs. Shawn (Davina) Ethridge as they celebrate the birth of Ruth born March 30. Mrs. Ethridge is a former RCLS student and the daughter of Mrs. Robbins our fourth grade teacher. Not only is grandma quite pleased so are Ruth's siblings—Rachael, Hannah, and Caleb.

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Hebrews 13:7

AUCTION NOTES - April 18, 2009

2:30 pm Doors Open

4:30 pm Rooms Start Closing

6:00 pm Live Auction



**The auction is only a week away!!
We need everyone's help in order to make it a success!!**

Solicitations: There are many more places to solicit!! It would greatly help if each family would take 2 or 3!!

Volunteers: The auction signup sheet is located outside the office. Please consider volunteering your time. There are many opportunities!

ChildCare: We need someone to organize childcare during the auction. If you would be willing to help out, please contact Melinda Rud (jmmhrud@msn.com 288-6697) or Debbie Witte (mom2three@chartermi.net)

Baked Goods: Baked goods can be dropped off Friday (April 17) or Saturday morning (April 18)

Baskets: Please drop off completed or empty baskets in the office.

Please share the **attached flyer** with someone you think might enjoy attending the auction or post it at your place of work so others might see it. Thank you!

RCLS ENROLLMENT FOR 2009-2010: The enrollment process for next year is going well; however, every additional student makes a huge impact on our ability to offer programs. If you know of anyone wanting to enroll for the 2009-2010 school year, PLEASE encourage them to contact us now as we are finalizing our budget and staffing for the 2009-2010 school year.

THRIVENT FOR LUTHERAN MEMBERS: Now is the time to make use of your "GivingPlus" benefit, a matching funds program, that matches every dollar you give to RCLS. They match \$1 for every \$2 given up to \$600 per person. Forms are available in the school office. Please consider giving a gift today. During the 2008 calendar year RCLS received \$8,062.50 from this program. However, Thrivent ran out of matching GivingPlus funds at the end of the year so a few gifts were not able to be matched. Don't wait. Give your gift today. Thank you.

RCLS PARTNERS IN CHRIST PARENT SURVEY 2009: Administration is beginning to study the results of this year's surveys as the results have now been calculated. We give thanks to God that every area rated on the survey rated between 1 (excellent) and above 2 (good). In fact, 61 areas rated of the 65 options showed improvement from last year's survey. 94% of the program showed some sort of improvement. This is fantastic!

When asked why you send your children to RCLS, several parents replied, "*Christ-centered education.*" One parent went on to say, because of the "*loving family environment in all aspects of school. I love that the staff of RCLS takes so many opportunities to work Christ into my children's days at school.*"

We will share more of the survey results with you in the coming weeks. Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us. We use these results to determine what areas we need to improve and what areas of our school ministry we need to maintain. Again, thank you.

Again this summer Rochester Community & Technical College will be offering their academic enrichment program, "**COLLEGE FOR KIDS.**" Two programs will be offered, three All Day camps, July 27-31 for students in grades 3,4,5 and Half-Day classes, August 3-7 for students in grades 3,4,5, and 6,7,8. If you would like more information please stop by the school office for a brochure or visit their website www.rctc.edu/community/youth/cfk.html

OVERINDULGED CHILDREN— What does that mean?

Are we doing too much for our kids? Are we giving them more than they need, spoiling them? Does any of this have an affect on them as students or adults? Is there an answer to how much is too much? Jennifer Finch-Mitchell, a school counselor, will explore some of these questions with us on Tuesday, April 21 at 6:00 pm. A light supper will be offered at 5:15 pm. The cost of the meal is \$5.00 per adult and \$3.00 per child. The SAC department will provide childcare from 6:00 - 7:00 pm at \$2.00 per child. Free childcare and supper will be provided for the first twenty-five (25) registered. This event is sponsored by the RCLS PEP -Parent Education Partners group. Please fill out the attached flyer and return to the office. Remember free meal and childcare to the first 25 registered!

RCLS SUMMER STRETCH 2009 (SUMMER SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES) is *STRETCHING and GROWING*:

Attached, please find this year's RCLS Summer Stretch brochure and registration form. Classes cost \$75 per class. All grade level requirements are based on the grade the student will be entering in Fall of 2009. We have *more* classes to offer than last year. Please read through the descriptions and consider a class or two that may work for your children. Most classes have a maximum number of students, so space is limited. Classes also have minimums so you will be notified if the class will not be held due to low enrollment. Please register as soon as possible. Thank you.

JOB TRANSITION S.O.S.: Strategies, Opportunities & Support:

The volatile economy and increasing number of job losses are tough on all of us, both financially and emotionally. The *Thrivent Community-Rochester Group* of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans recognizes these issues and is offering a special opportunity for individuals who have experienced a job loss. It will be held Tuesday, April 21, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church at 2830 18th Avenue NW in Rochester. Please call Diane Barclay at 507-289-1682 or 888-221-6311 to R.S.V.P. You may also reserve your spot by visiting www.thrivent.com/memberevents. A poster with additional information is posted near the front door of the school office.

TEACH YOUR CHILD TO SHARE DAY

Attached is a half page flyer similar to the invitation posters sent home with the *Paw Print* the week before Spring Break. *All families are invited*. The focus age of children is 6-10 years; however, all children are invited. The cost of the event to be held at RCLS on Friday, April 24th, is \$10 per family. A meal for the entire family and educational materials including a brand new version of the Thrivent Piggy Bank will be provided to

children. An adult session will be presented while children are also engaged in hands on activities. Please remember to RSVP at Thrivent.com/shareday or call 800-236-3736 to reserve a spot for your family.

Congratulations to KAYLA MANUELL who's poster won the Grand Prize for the *A Litter Bit Better!* poster contest. Her drawing was creative, colorful, easy-to-read, and had a great message that supports the litter collection event. Kayla's poster will be displayed with the other school winners on their website: www.rneighbors.org/litterbitbetter. Kayla was given *A Litter Bit Better!* t-shirt, invited to join the RNeighbors unit in the Rochesterfest Parade to hand out litter bags. In the very near future Mayor Ardele Brede will be coming to RCLS to meet Kayla, have his picture taken with her and enjoy pizza with the fourth grade class! Again, congratulations Kayla—we're proud of you!

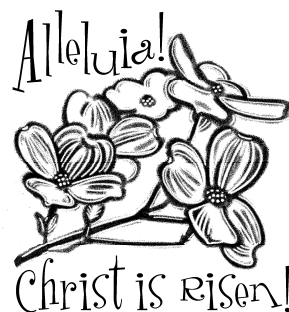
The annual RCLS AUCTION is scheduled for Saturday, April 18. This is a very important fundraising event for RCLS. Please make every effort to make attendance a priority as every dollar counts in this tough economic time.

A special thank you to those individuals who stepped up and went out knocking on business doors to seek donations for the auction. It still is not too late to help. In fact, every effort is a blessing to our ministry as these dollars are so important to being able to provide the quality program of RCLS. Please call either Debbie Witte or Melinda Rud if you can assist in seeking donations or helping with the event itself. Sign up sheets are also available in the front hall of the school.

-Mr. Pahlkötter

2009-2010 RCLS SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR: Now that the Rochester Public Schools have set their calendar, the Board of Directors will approve our 2009-2010 calendar at this month's board meeting. Once approved, we will print the calendar for your use.

It was decided at the last Board of Directors meeting that due to the late date of Labor Day we will begin school on Monday, August 31, and the school year will end on Friday, June 4. This has been decided to prevent a late end of the school year date. Other particulars will be approved at this month's Board of Directors meeting.



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| April 10 | -No School/No SAC—Good Friday |
| April 12 | -Easter Sunday |
| April 15 | -Grade 2 sings at chapel |
| April 16 | -Gr. 4 to Samaritan Nursing Home, 9:50-11 am |
| April 17 | -Parent Transport—AM only |
| April 18 | -RCLS Auction |
| April 21 | -Overindulged Children Program, 6 pm |
| April 22 | -Grade 5 sings at chapel |
| April 23 | -Gr. 4/5 to Mayo Civic Center, 10 am |
| April 25 | -Regional Spelling Bee |
| April 26 | -Spring Fling, 6:30 pm |
| April 29 | -Gr. 4 to sing at chapel |
| May 4-8 | -Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week |
| May 4 | -Gr. 6 to Ft. Snelling/State Capitol |
| May 6 | -Gr. 3 to sing at chapel -All School Picture, 1 pm |
| May 7 | -National Day of Prayer |
| May 8 | -Moms & Muffins, gr. 3 & 4, 7:30-8 am -Jazz/Pops Concert, 7 pm |
| May 9 | -Softball Conference Tournament |
| May 10 | -Mother's Day |
| May 13 | -Volunteer Appreciation Day -Concert Choir to sing at chapel |
| May 14 | -Coffee/Tour, 7:45 am -Gr. 4 to Samaritan Nursing Home, 9:50-11 am -Kindergarten Circus, 9 am & 1 pm -Mid quarter reports go home |
| May 15 | -Grades 3-8 to Winona Track & Field Day -Grades K-2 Early Dismissal |
| May 18 | -Board of Directors, 6:15 pm |
| May 19 | -Band Concert, 7 pm |
| May 20 | -Gr. 2 to sing at chapel |
| May 21 | -Choir Concert, 7 pm -PS 3's & Redeemer Campus Last Day Picnic |
| May 22 | -Dads & Donuts, Gr. 3 & 4, 7:30-8 am -PS 4's Last Day Picnic -Last day of RCLS Library |
| May 25 | -No School/No SAC—Memorial Day |
| May 27 | -Gr. 1 to sing at chapel |
| May 29 | -RCLS K-8 Track & Field Day -Book Fair |
| June 1 | -Gr. 6-8 Picnic at Bluff Valley |
| June 2 | -Gr. 6-8 Awards, 12:30 pm, gym -Gr. 8 Graduates picture taken 6 pm -Gr. 8 Graduation, 7 pm |
| June 3-5 | -Gr. 8 Class Trip -Kindergarten Graduation, 7 pm |
| June 5 | -Awards Assembly, 9 am -Sack lunches needed -Closing Chapel at noon with Gr. 4 to sing at chapel -School dismissed at 12:45 pm—Parents transport home. Have a great summer! |

PRAYING FOR OUR FAMILIES The week of April 13, 2009 we will pray for Brian & Ruth Poole (Gabriel, Michael), Serena Powers (Corbin), James & Christi Preiss (Tristan), Franklyn & Debra Prendergast (Sean), Sambo & Patricia Prum (Thayer), Gary & Lisa Pundt (Timothy), and Joeliann Quarve (Samantha).

As mentioned in the March 26 Paw Print with the departure of Dr. Gregoire RCLS begins the process of **seeking a new part-time DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**. This person will be responsible to help create, coordinate, maintain, and set vision for the financial resources of RCLS. A job description is available upon request. Please submit a letter of application, current resume, with 3 professional references and credentials to Mr. Pahlkotter at hepahlkotter@rcls.net or drop off at the school office.

LOGO WEAR DETAILS

If you would like to see detailed product information on the current Logo Wear sale items, please visit our web site (rcls.net) and click on the Logo Wear image. Look for the red LOGO WEAR RESOURCES link on the right side of the page. Click on this and you will find an order form with product links for almost every item. An order form is also attached to this week's Paw Print.

CONSIDER MAKING A GIFT: With the challenge of our current economy, several families are facing financial hardships. As it is our ministry to "prepare for tomorrow with a Christ-centered education today," we want to make sure that every child desiring a quality Christian education has the opportunity. Unfortunately, our ability to offer financial assistance is often limited by the generosity of God's people. If you are in a situation in which you can give a "thank gift" for your blessings, for the opportunity your children have to participate in a quality Christian education, or just as an act of worship as you return thanks for what God has done for you, PLEASE consider giving a gift today. We are only able to do what we do because of the generosity of Christian people like you. Thank you for prayerfully considering an additional "thank gift" to RCLS.

APRIL CHAPEL MISSION

PROJECT is the Judith Lindman Memorial Children's Book Drive. Along with our weekly chapel offerings we will collect new and gently used children's books. Please look over the attached flyer for further information.

