

## Rochester Central Lutheran School

# RCLS PAW PRINT

November 5, 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!**

**Nov. 13—No School**

**Nov. 17-18—Parent/  
Teacher conferences!**



### MR. PAHLKOTTER'S THOUGHTS...

**"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."**

**Psalm 107:1**

This month our mission project is Channel One and is being promoted by our 1<sup>st</sup> grade classrooms. Students are asked to bring in non-perishable food items so that those who are hungry can be fed.

When my youngest was born and he spent three weeks in NICU and then several years in doctors or therapists offices three times per week, Debbie and I struggled financially. Even though we had good insurance, Debbie had to be a stay at home mom carting our son from appointment to appointment while caring for a toddler and a preschooler.

I remember wondering how we were going to pay the next bill. I remember collecting bottles and cans (Michigan had a deposit program, 10 cents per container) to return to afford milk and bread for my children. I remember the weight of the world on my shoulders. Debbie and I were near tears every other moment out of concern for our youngest and how we were going to make it.

The only way we made it the first several months after our son's birth was through the generosity of others. Meals were brought to our home daily for weeks upon weeks. Debbie's mother who was helping us, froze many of these meals as we could not consume them as quickly as they came. This then helped us for several months later as things remained tight.

God showed us humility during this time. He also showed us His goodness and that He does provide even when times are difficult. God keeps His promises.

I thank God that He used the people around us to be constant reminders of His love during this difficult time. I thank God that He taught me the importance of not only giving but also receiving.

As we participate in this month's mission project, please remind your children that God loves them so much that He has given them all that they have...including you, their family. Remind them that giving to this mission project is just one way in which we can worship Him...give God thanks for all He has given us...especially His Son, Jesus and the forgiveness He offers through His death and resurrection.

Indeed, let us give this November with thankful hearts for all that God has given us.

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

#### Special points of interest:

- Sports Update
- Lefse!!
- Stuff the Turkey Project
- Grace Lutheran Festival
- Basketball Uniform Auction
- October Reading Month—a Huge Success!
- *Much, much, more!*

## Start your Christmas Season with an unforgettable evening of laughter, joy, and music!



The Rochester Group of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is pleased to sponsor a special Christmas concert featuring nationally recognized singer and song writer Peder Eide. Peder's unique ability to engage people of all ages makes this a GREAT family event!

Concert Details: Friday, December 4, 2009 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm (Doors open at 6:00 pm)  
Location: Trinity Lutheran Church, 222 6th Avenue SW  
Refreshments will be served after the concert.

This event is open to the public. No products will be sold at this event.

### THIS-n-THAT.....

- **Stephanie Murray**, 2009 RCLS Graduate, and currently a Freshman at Century High School, was awarded the Math Student of the month for October by the Math Department. The award was based on her accomplishments in the Honors Geometry class. Stephanie also participated and competed on the Varsity Cross Country team this past Fall. At the Cross Country awards banquet, she was awarded a Varsity Letter, All Conference Honorable Mention for the Big 9, and "Rookie of the Year". We're proud of you, Stephanie!!
- If you had your **picture taken at the Hallelujah Carnival** please stop at the school office to claim it. They turned out great!
- Trinity Lutheran will be hosting another **Coffee House on Saturday, December 5**. Jill Pearson will be returning for a special Christmas Coffee House. Doors open after the 5:30 pm worship service. No admission charge. Free will donations will benefit Trinity Missions and RCLS.
- Due to the escalating price of lettuce, the **Bobcat Café will not be offering** the salad option on Tuesdays and Thursdays until further notice. Sandwiches and snack paks will be available as a main dish option daily. This will begin Monday, November 9.

**HOLY CROSS YOUTH have firewood for sale** - Stop by the front of church for bundles for \$5, or order 1/2 cord online for \$120. Proceeds to youth mission and gathering trips. [Http://www.holycrossyouth.org/Firewood.htm](http://www.holycrossyouth.org/Firewood.htm)  
We will also do computer repairs, upgrades, speedups... See Curt Boger at Holy Cross, [curt@holycross-church.org](mailto:curt@holycross-church.org), 269-4952.

**LEFSE** that wonderful Norwegian potato flatbread! Family of Christ members are busy mixing, rolling and baking lefse. Last year was a huge success so we are starting earlier this year. The cost will remain the same this year—5 sheets for \$5. Order as many sheets as you need and order as often as you wish. We will have orders ready for Thanksgiving, Christmas and anytime in between. Contact Dan Kluge, 285-5723. Leave a name on the answering machine or e-mail at [kluge.daniel@mayo.edu](mailto:kluge.daniel@mayo.edu) We will take orders up until Christmas. Thrivent has agreed to support our efforts with the funds raised being given to RCLS. We have had tremendous support in the past and thank you again if you ordered from us last year. We look forward to making great lefse for you again this year.

### GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH HOSTS SECOND ANNUAL SAINT NICHOLAS FESTIVAL

On December 5, from 1-3 pm, you are invited to attend a **Saint Nicholas Festival!** Jolly ol' Saint Nick has penciled in **Grace Lutheran Church** (800 East Silver Lake Drive NE, Rochester) on his calendar and will be on site to greet young children and share the story about the Saint Nicholas of long ago. Children will enjoy participating in activities, watching short holiday movies, and taking delight in special treats and trinkets! Be sure to bring a camera to snap a picture of your children with St. Nick! This free event is targeted towards pre-school and early elementary school age children. Come enjoy the festivities and fellowship during this season of Advent. Location: Grace Lutheran Church, 800 East Silver Lake Drive, Rochester, Minnesota.

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Oh the memories! Would you like to have your RCLS uniform back? **There will be a silent auction for the OLD RCLS BASKETBALL UNIFORMS at the Friends of RCLS Basketball Tournament on November 14, 2009.** The silent auction will be for both boys and girls, home and away uniforms. The bid will include both home and away uniforms for each separate number. Bidding will begin at 8 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. The minimum bid is \$5. Proceeds from the silent auction will be used to purchase new uniforms. The winning jersey bidder will receive his or her jersey in early December.

### **OCTOBER IS READING MONTH A HUGE SUCCESS! (The following was put out as a news release.)**

**“October is reading month, read, READ, READ!** For the 277 Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at Rochester Central Lutheran School, October has been reading month and they have been keeping track of their reading time. Principal, Mr. Henry G. Pahlkotter, challenged students to read double the original goal of 1,534.5 hours of reading or about 15 minutes per night per student to a double goal of 3,069 hours or 30 minutes per night.

On Monday, November 2, 2009, the students found out that not only did they make the goal, they read a total of **5,787 hours**. More than 2,000 hours over the principal’s challenge. ***Last year we read 4,421 hours!*** Wow! This is a huge increase!

As a reward for this exciting accomplishment, Principal Pahlkotter and the RCLS October is Reading month committee have arranged for all 277 students to go on a Reading Road Trip on the Rochester City Bus Lines to McDonald’s on Broadway Thursday morning, November 5. “Our reading month theme this year has been Reading Road Trip USA,” said Principal Pahlkotter. “What better way to celebrate our successful reading than to go on a reading road trip!”

RCLS asked Courtesy Corporation (McDonalds) to assist in making this road trip a reality. Courtesy Corporation was so excited to be involved that they have donated a special ice cream treat for each and every student and teacher going on the reading road trip Thursday morning. In addition, a friend of RCLS donated 4 hours of time on the local City Bus Line to help transport students to and from the Broadway McDonalds.

“I am so very proud of my students,” Mr. Pahlkotter stated when asked about Thursday’s event. “I have encouraged a reading month emphasis all three years I have been at RCLS to help students and families understand the importance of reading.”

Teachers will be reading stories to their students while they are on the bus to and from their delicious destination. They will also be read to as they enjoy their ice cream treats at McDonalds. “We wanted to truly make this a **READING** road trip for our students.”

**WE WANT TO THANK OUR PARENTS** for helping us encourage reading over the past month. Congratulations RCLS for making your reading goal!”

**Nine students were taken for lunch to Valentino’s** for being the students to record the most reading time during October is Reading Month. The students were:

Kindergarten—Grade 2: Hope Nelson (Kindergarten)  
Nora Will (Grade 1)  
Gavin Pahlkotter (Grade 2)

Grade 6 –Grade 8: Kayla Biar (Grade 8)  
Jon Harris (Grade 8)  
Lacey Ruggeberg (Grade 6)

Grade 3—Grade 5: Kayla Manuell (Grade 5)  
Allison Kaiser (Grade 4)  
Jeremy Walder (Grade 4)

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**PRAYING FOR OUR FAMILIES** Each school morning (except Wednesdays) your children's teachers gather for devotions. The teachers and pastors take turns leading those devotions. We are praying for all the families at 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 9 we will pray for Troy & Kathy Dickinson (Tyler), Thomas & Hollie Dunford (Zachary, Emily), Kraig & Louise Durst (Kassandra, Nicholas), Maker & Awut Dut (Agum, Atong), Greg & Karen Edlund (Paul), Curtis & Kaaren Eide (Nathan, Daniel), Adam & Annette Engelmann (Anika), and Pete & Leanne Erickson (Paige, Jacob).

## SPORTS UPDATE

**New Basketball Uniforms!** The Athletic Department is close to purchasing brand new Basketball Uniforms for 7th and 8th grade boys and girls teams! Through several anonymous donations and some fundraising, the Athletic department has raised a lot of money so far. In order to get a quality set of uniforms, we still need about \$1,000. **Please consider making a donation to the uniform fund so that we can pay the balance for the uniforms in November.** Please contact Aaron Rudzinski at aarudzinski@rcls.net or by phone at 289-3267 ext. 412 if you are interested in making a donation.

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. This is a wonderful way to be a witness for sharing the love of Jesus. The collection will run until Monday, November 23.



## IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

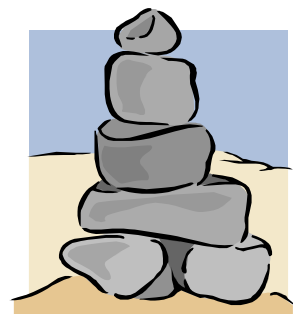
...Reverend John Meyer who is serving as a Chaplain in the US Army Reserves and on his way to Afghanistan for the next year. He is the brother of Mrs. Barb Jerabek and uncle to Rachael, Jerry & Sam Jerabek.  
...Mrs. Stacia Lynch (David, Sydney) whose grandfather recently entered his heavenly home.  
...Mr. Jeff Fanning (Katelyn) whose father received his crown of glory on October 28, 2009.

## FROM THE OFFICE

...If your child will be missing school due to illness please remember to call the school office. Be prepared to state what your child's symptoms are. Our student absence count has been very low thus far.  
...If your child is out ill homework can be picked up in the school office after 3 pm.  
...Remember to notify us if your home, work, or cell phone number has changed!  
...RCLS begins its school day at 7:40 am. Parents, if you are transporting your child to school please make every effort to have your student to school early enough to allow him/her time to prepare for the day.

***As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 2:4-5***

The five aspects of stone living: **Strong, Tested, Original,  
New, Everywhere.**



November 6	- Early dismissal, 12:45 pm
November 7	- Volleyball Tournament at Winona
November 8	- Family of Christ opening at Gibbs Elementary, 9 am
November 9	- Dinosaurs & Dragons Creation Conference, Grs. 5-8, 9:30-10:30 am
November 11	- Grade 1 to sing at chapel - Curriculum Meeting, 3:15 pm - Academic & Curriculum, 4:30 pm - Trustees, 6:15 pm - Genesis High School Committee, 7 pm
November 12	- End of First Quarter, 50 days - Gr. 4 to Bethany Samaritan Heights, 10-11 am
November 13	- No School—Records Day - SAC Open - Evening of Celebration, 6-11 pm
November 14	- Alumni BB Tournament, 8 am—6 pm, RCLS gym
November 15	- Concert Choir at Family of Christ
November 17	- Preschool Conferences Noon-4 pm - Personnel Committee, 5 pm - Finance Committee, 6 pm - Executive Committee, 7:30 pm
November 18	- Grade 2 to sing at chapel - Report Cards Out - No Preschool - Preschool Conferences 8 am-7pm - K-8 Conferences 3:30-8 pm - SAC available until 8 pm

November 19	- Early Dismissal, 12:45 pm—Parents Transport Home - No Preschool - Preschool Conferences 8 am—7 pm - K-8 conferences, 3:30-8 pm SAC available until 8 pm
November 20	- No School
November 23	- Board of Directors, 6:15 pm
Nov. 25-27	- Thanksgiving Vacation
December 1	- Marketing, 4 pm
December 2	- Kindergarten to sing at Chapel - Coffee/Tour, 7:45-8:45 am
December 9	- Concert Choir to sing at Chapel - Academics/Curriculum, 4:30 pm
December 10	- Advent Music Concert, Grs. 5-8, 6:30 pm
December 11	- Parent Transport TO school
December 12	- New Ulm BB Tournament, 7/8 Boys/Girls
December 15	- Personnel, 5 pm - Finance, 6 pm - Executive, 7:30 pm
December 16	- To sing at Chapel—To be announced - Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Program at John Marshall High School, 9-noon
December 17	- All School Christmas Celebration, PS-8, 6:30 pm
December 18	- Mid-term
December 21	- Board of Directors, 6:15 pm
December 22	- Christmas Parties
Dec. 23-Jan. 1	- Christmas Break
December 29	- Ski/Snowboard Trip
January 4	- School Resumes, Normal Hours



**Veterans Day—November 11, 2009**

**Remember to thank a Veteran!**