

# Rose and Spruce Church Newsletter

PARISH NEWSLETTER

## “Christmas Movies ”

**An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”**  
Luke 2:9-12

The season of Advent is upon us. It means a time where we light candles on an Advent Wreath and read Scripture that points us to the first coming of Jesus to this broken world in that barn in Bethlehem so very long ago. Yes, Advent is that anticipation of a Savior, THE Savior, THE Messiah to come to earth! It is truly an anticipation of Christmas!

As you look forward to Christmas, what things occupy your mind and time? Decorations? Goodies? Presents? Parties? Snow? Family and Friends? Christmas Music and Programs? Santa Claus?...maybe Lefse and Lutefisk? There are many things that occupy our lives this time of year. For some people it is extremely stress-filled and for others it truly is the most joyous time of the year.

For myself, Christmas Eve has always been the best night of the year. In fact, I fill with emotions even writing about why; simply because it is the night we commemorate THE night THE Savior, my Savior, THE Savior of the World, JESUS CHRIST was born. He then began his earthly journey to the CROSS to fulfill the greatest gift, SALVATION.

Some of you may be wondering why did you entitle this newsletter article “Christmas Movies”? Well, I have decided to look at clips from Christmas movies for our three Wednesday Advent Services this year, December 4, 11, and 17 respectively. As a family we do movie nights this time of year to watch some of our favorites like “Arthur Christmas,” “The Nativity,” “The Grinch,” “Polar Express,” “It’s a Wonderful Life,” and “Alabaster’s Song”.....just to name a few. The ticket is free to come to our Advent Services and be pointed to the real reason for CHRISTmas.

Have a Blessed Advent this year as you remember Jesus’ first ADVENT (coming) and you look to His second ADVENT (coming)!

In Christ, Pastor Todd



# Rose News

## Ministries

### Women

- **WMF Bible Studies** at Rose on *Monday, December 9*
  - Dorcas Group - 2:00 pm
  - Ruth Group will not meet in December
- **WMF Program & Meeting:** No regular meeting; Christmas Ham & Potluck Supper for Men & Women on Sunday, December 8, 4:00 pm.
- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study** will resume in January; *Contact: Debbie Erickson*
- **Monday Evening Bible Study:** *John LifeChange* Bible Study will resume in January; *Contact: Joyce Erickson* if you want to jump in

### Men

**Men's Community Fellowship Breakfast** at Messiah Lutheran Church Wednesday, December 4, 7:00 am

**Guy's CFB** Wednesdays, December 11 and 18 ; 7:00-8:00 am at Rose; All guys are welcome to come for CFB--coffee, food, & Bible

## Worship

SERVICE TIME

10:30 AM



### Coffee Fellowship Servers

Sunday, December 1, 9:30am

Bob Przekwas, Karolyn Eastman, Jack McDonald & Jim McDonald families



### Fellowship Meal Servers

Sunday, December 15

Stuart Nelson, Marty Johnson, Pat O'Connell, Jean Pederson & Lesa Schmechel families



### Special Music Organizer

Debra Erickson



### Ushers

\*Jon Johnson  
Kevin Johnson  
Buddy Erickson

# *The Scene at Spruce*

## *Worship*

SERVICE TIME  
9:00 AM



## Fellowship Brunch Servers

Barb Smedsmo



## Church Cleaning

Greg Dahl & Mike Dahl families



## Birthdays

5: Barb Smedsmo  
6: Jennifer Cole  
9: Mark Olafson  
10: Geri Campbell  
13: Mike Dahl  
15: Hayden Drown  
23: Mike Roth

## *Ministries*

### Youth

**Youth Group** at Osweiler's on Sunday's at 6:30pm.

### Women

**November Spruce Mission Aid will not meet in December**

**Monday Evening Bible Study** John LifeChange Bible Study will resume in January; Contact: Joyce Erickson

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# *Meeting Minutes*

## Parish Council Unapproved Meeting Minutes November 26, 2024

Meeting was called to Order by President Scot Bellefy at 7:00 pm. Scot read from Psalms 100, and led us in prayer.

Those present: Scot Bellefy, Keith Peppel, Buddy Erickson, Kurt Osweiler, Tim Fugleberg, Ben Huener, Connie Nelson, Mark Karol, Dennis Smedsmo, Ron Thramer, Greg Dahl, Cody Schumann, Jeremy Anderson and Jean Pederson.

As Pastor Todd will be late to the meeting a discussion on the increase in pay or vacation days for the coming year. Pastor Todd had mention to several church members that he would like to have an extra week of vacation for the 2025 year. A discussion followed and a motion by Greg Dahl to accept Pastor Todd's request and seconded by Mark Karol.

A discussion on Sick and Safe, a new law in 2024, was mentioned, and it was learned that Rose and Spruce are in compliance with the law.

The salary reduction for the coming year for Pastor Todd to be used as he needs for ministry-related expenses will be \$200.00 a month. Motion made by Greg Dahl and 2nd by Cody Schumann.

Secretary's Report from November 2023, was read and placed on file. Treasurer's Report was given by Buddy Erickson and a total on hand is \$28,554.00. A motion was made by Greg Dahl to accept the Treasurer Report, 2nd by Ron Thramer.

Coming events: Advent Services will be at Rose, starting December 4th, 11th, and 18th, at 7 PM. Annual Meeting for Spruce will be January 12th, 2025, and Rose January 19th; each will take place after Church Service.

Parsonage: Kurt Osweiler made the motion to replace the parsonage tub/shower that is leaking; Tim seconded; motion passed. Leaf Guards on the parsonage, Fire Pit in back yard, and the Front Step on the parsonage will be tabled until next spring.

As there was not further business to come before the meeting; motion to adjourn by Cody Schumann and 2nd by Greg Dahl.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Jean Pederson  
Parish Council Secretary



# *News & Events*

## Christmas Dates

Wednesday, December 4

**Advent Services begin at Rose at 7:00 pm**

Sunday, December 8

4:00 pm Rose WMF Men & Women Christmas Potluck & Program  
(Ham and beverages provided)

Sunday, December 15:

9:00 am \*Spruce Sunday School Program followed by brunch  
\*please note new date

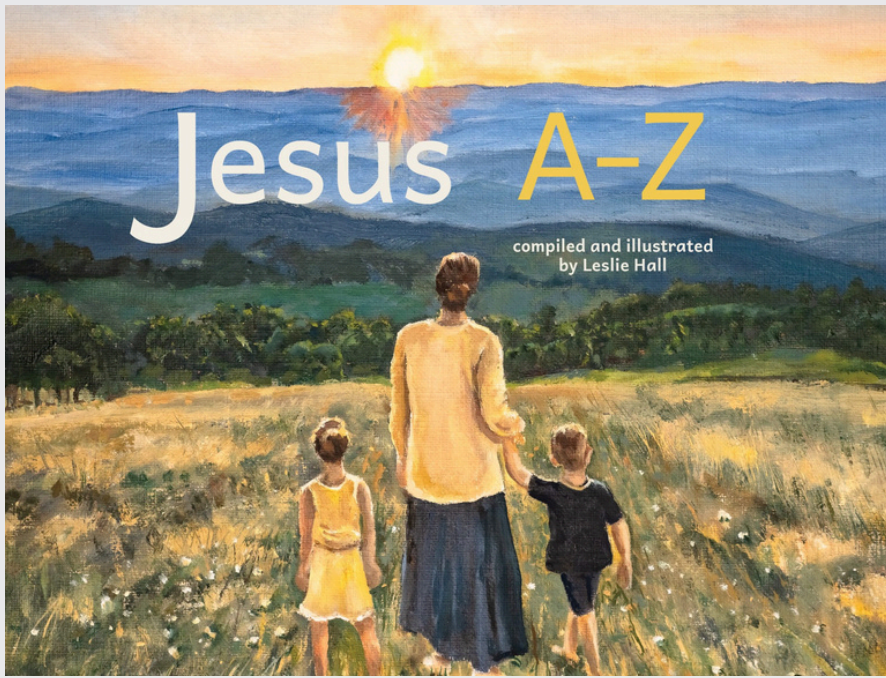
4:30 pm Rose Sunday School program followed by treats

2024 FLBCS Christmas Concert

**BEHOLD**  
*our God*

Fri, Dec 6, 7PM • Sat, Dec 7, 7PM • Sun, Dec 8, 4PM

December 6-8—Christmas Concerts & Events at FLBC; (including our very own Grant Osweiler & Brett Erickson at the Concert)—livestream information at <https://flbc.edu/event/christmas2024/>



**Additional copies of Jesus A-Z are available at the Rose Church Office. These would make a nice coffee table book & great for kids/grandkids. (Suggested donation \$10)**

**Our Church Directory will be updated in January. Please contact the Church Office, 463-1243, with new pictures or changes to your contact information.**

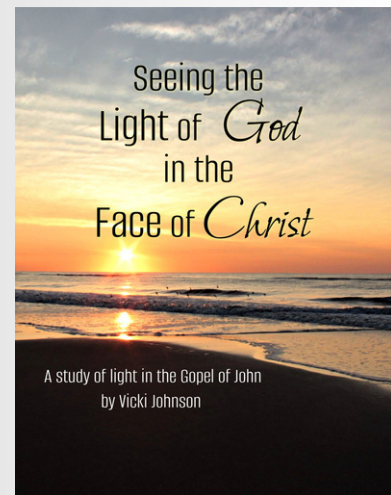
### 2025 WMF Bible Study Book

#### *Seeing the Light of God in the Face of Christ*

A study of light from the book of John

**Please let Randi Gaukerud know ASAP if you would like to be added to the book order, which will be made soon. The books are \$15 each.**

The Rose WMF Bible Study will meet the 2nd Thursday of each month at 2:00 pm at Rose. (See next page for details on this change to the WMF Bible Studies and Meetings.)



Lesson 1 - The Light of Life: Nicodemus and Being Born Again (John 3:1-21)

Lesson 2 - The Light that Dispels Darkness: the Woman at the Well Discovers the Truth (John 4:3-29)

Lesson 3 - The Light that Reflects: John the Baptist and Exalting God's Good Light (John 1:19-36, 3:25-36)

Lesson 4 - The Light that Enlightens: The Nobleman Sees and Believes (John 4:45-53)

Lesson 5 - The Light of Righteousness: Born Blind vs. Willfully Blind (John 9)

Lesson 6 - The Light of Truth and the Response of the Evildoer: Pride of the Pharisees (John 9)

Lesson 7 - The Light of Truth and the Response of the Truth-doer: Humility of the Blind Man (John 9)

Lesson 8 - The Light of the World: The Invitation (John 10:1-13)

Lesson 9 - The Light that Directs (John 16:9-15)

Lesson 10 - The Light that Transforms: Becoming Sons of Light (John 17:1-26)

Lesson 11 - The Light that Abides: Living the De-Vine Life (John 15:1-8)



# *Rose WMF News*

The Rose WMF (Women's Missionary Federation) would like to thank the congregation for the support during the Fall Fundraiser. We took in around \$5,744. At our November meeting we were able to use this, plus other income, to give donations to several places:

- to the National WMF for parish education, FLBC/FLS, Home Missions, World Missions, General Fund, Miriam Children's Home, and missionaries John & Hannah Lee
- to Local Projects: North Region Pregnancy Care Center, NW MN District WMF, Galilee Bible Camp, NSI Roseau Nutritional Site (formerly LSS), Violence Intervention, Wycliffe Translators, FLBC students from Rose, Roseau Area Food Shelf, Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Fund, and Christmas gift cards.

Because of You, we are blessed!

We had election of officers at our November meeting, and current officers were voted back in for one more year:

- Marianne Erickson-President; Rachal Erickson-V.P.; Debby Waage-Secretary, and Randi Gaukerud- Treasurer.

We also voted to make some changes to our WMF. We are trialing combining the Ruth and Dorcas Bible Study groups together with our WMF meetings. The program will be going over the monthly Bible study, and we'll have a short meeting and lunch. We will meet the second Thursday at 2:00 pm, January through November. Christmas potluck will be our December meeting. We will use the WMF Bible study books (see previous page). Let Randi know if you would like a book as she will place an order soon.

The annual WMF-sponsored Christmas program/potluck will be on December 8th at 4:00 pm. Ham and beverages will be provided. Men and women are invited to attend.

A committee will be meeting the beginning of January to make some phone calls and review and update our WMF booklets. **Please review this past year's booklet and let us know of changes.** We need and appreciate your help!

Continued prayer for your support and God's guidance as we think about plans for the next year. May you have a wonderful Christmas season.

Spreading God's Love,  
Marianne Erickson,  
WMF President



# *News & Events*

## **Primavera Project**

To: People of the NW MN District of the AFLC

From: Pastor Alex Amiot, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Thief River Falls

The Primavera Project is a giving opportunity through which our district has blessed our brothers and sisters in Brazil with funds to construct church buildings. The need has arisen again! Loiell Dyrud from Our Saviour's in TRF visited with district pastors in November to inform us of a Free Lutheran congregation in Brazil called, "The Garden of Hope," which is in need of a concrete block structure to replace their wooden church building which has suffered from termites. The cost for concrete block building materials and construction for a Primavera Project church is \$20,000. The goal is to raise this amount by Sunday, March 2, 2025.

Congregations throughout our NW MN district are encouraged to join in demonstrating love for The Garden of Hope congregation through the Primavera Project over the coming months.

Gifts may be sent at any time to NW MN District AFLC, c/o Jonathan Grahn, 27082 County Road 31, Roseau, MN 56751, with "Primavera Project" in the memo.

We are also planning a special offering in our congregation when we hold our Mission Conference, Feb. 28 - Mar. 2 with Pastor David Handsaker speaking.

Loiell Dyrud wrote a full article about this Primavera Project giving opportunity on page 4 of [Our Saviour's Lutheran Church \(TRF\) November Newsletter](#) if you wish to read it.