



# ROYAL REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL COUNTDOWN

*Learning for Life,  
Leading for Christ*

Royal Redeemer Lutheran School exists to equip each student to achieve educational excellence, inspire a lifelong love of learning, and grow Christian leaders.

## Lutheran Scholarship Grant Organization:

Questions about converting your tax dollars to scholarship dollars through the LSGO? See attached info or contact [Lbattaile@royred.org](mailto:Lbattaile@royred.org)! The potential to bless our school families is HUGE and influenced by our collective participation.



## Christmas Concerts:

We look forward to seeing all of our preschool families December 11 or 12 for our annual Christmas Programs, see your class newsletter for more details. Join us as the K-4th grade classes and all band students come together to present the RRLS "Christmas Show & Tell" Concert on Thursday, December 14th at 7:00 p.m.! **ALL ARE INVITED!!** We look forward to sharing the news of Jesus' birth with you.



## Christmas Dress Down Day:

Monday, Dec 11—Cozy Christmas PJs  
Tuesday, Dec 12—Ugly Christmas Sweater  
Wednesday, Dec 13—Dress-up Attire  
Thursday, Dec 14—Christmas Plaid or Flannel  
Friday, Dec 15—Red & Green  
\* Crazy Christmas socks are permitted throughout December.



## Upcoming Events & Opportunities

### December

- Dec 1:** Boys Basketball at St. Paul
- Dec 2:** Girls & Boys Basketball at Bethel
- Dec 3:** Advent Begins
- Dec 3:** Family Photo Fundraiser
- Dec 6:** Family Advent Night, 7:30pm
- Dec 6:** PTO meeting, 6:00pm
- Dec 8:** Girls & Boys Basketball at Bethany
- Dec 11&12:** Preschool Christmas Programs
- Dec 13:** All School family Chapel 9:10am in the CAC
- Dec 13:** 5th/6th grade Summit Night, 7:00-8:30
- Dec 13:** Family Advent Night, 7:30
- Dec 14:** RRLS Christmas Concert, 7:00pm
- Dec 18 - Jan 1:** No School, Christmas break

## Chapel News

Thank you to our Kindergarten classes for leading chapel and showing us how we are connected to others. Join us next week in the Sanctuary at 9:10am for Chapel led by our Family Ministry Team.

## Mission of the Month

Chapel offerings this month will go towards the Helping Hand fund. The RRLC helping hand fund was created to help those in need who have incurred an extra unexpected expense, or need a little extra assistance with a utility bill, etc.

*Next week's lunch menu:*

### MONDAY

Teriyaki Chicken  
Rice  
Veggie  
Fruit  
Milk

### TUESDAY

Chicken Patty Sandwich  
Chicken Noodle Soup  
Veggie  
Fruit  
Milk

### WEDNESDAY

BBQ Pork  
Mac & Cheese  
Veggie  
Fruit  
Milk

### THURSDAY

Tacos (hard shell)  
Chicken & Rice soup  
Veggie  
Fruit  
Milk

### FRIDAY

Garlic Bread Cheese  
Pizza  
Yogurt  
Salad  
Fruit  
Milk

Stay connected with us!



December 1, 2023

# PASTOR Zahrte's Weekly Update

November 30, 2023



*a message worth sharing...*

## RIGHT FROM THE HEART

### Shining Christ's Love at Christmas

With the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season, it's easy to become distracted from the true heart of the holiday. To embrace the full meaning of Christ's birth, it's important that we remain focused on the heart of God's love. Filled with the joy of God's gift in Jesus, we rejoice in opportunities to reflect that same love of Christ to those around us. This Sunday, we will look at what's involved in sharing that love of God when it comes to **"Loving Our Family."**

*mark your calendars...*

## NOVEMBER

30 Last day to donate items for St. Herman's

## DECEMBER

- 3 Advent begins  
High School Bible study, 7-8:30pm
- 5 R.E.A.L. Women's Christmas event, 7pm
- 6 Advent Family Devotion, Sanctuary, 7:30-8pm
- 9 HeavenTrain gift distribution
- 10 Royal Seniors Christmas event
- 13 Advent Family Devotion, Sanctuary, 7:30-8pm  
5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Summit Night, 7-8:30pm
- 14 RRLS Christmas concert, 7pm
- 15 Young Adult (20s & 30s) Small Group, 6:30pm
- 17 Redeemer Kids: Journey to Bethlehem, 9:30am  
High School Bible study, 7-8:30pm
- 20 Advent Family Devotion, Sanctuary, 7:30-8pm
- 24 Christmas Eve worship services  
**Sanctuary**, 10am, 2pm, 4pm | **CAC**, 3pm, 5pm  
NO Redeemer Kids or nursery
- 28 Young Adult (20s & 30s) Small Group, 6:30pm
- 31 NO Redeemer Kids or nursery

Grab a **"Season of Hope"** card with details!

YTD AMOUNT GIVEN		YTD AMOUNT SPENT	
Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
\$602,999	\$637,594	\$626,245	\$624,352

(Does not include school finances)

*opportunities to serve & connect...*

Stay connected this Advent season and join us for **family devotions** each Wednesday leading up to Christmas. All ages are welcome as we prepare our hearts for Christmas together -- Dec. 6, 13 & 20 at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary.

- **Poinsettias for Sale:** Adorn the Sanctuary & CAC with \$10 poinsettias. Order envelopes & collection boxes available through Dec. 10.
- **Royal Seniors Christmas event:** Tickets are on sale in the Gathering Rm. Nov. 19, 26 and Dec. 3 for the Dec. 10 dinner & entertainment event.
- **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade Summit Night:** Sign up for a fun night on Dec. 13 as we dive into our Bibles together and play some games! [Register here](#)
- **HS "WinterWave" retreat:** 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade retreat at Beulah Beach, Jan. 12-14 [Register here](#)
- **HS Bible Study:** 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders meet on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 7-8:30pm. [Register here](#)
- **Night to Shine:** Sign up to be a "Buddy" or for one of the other volunteer slots. Visit [www.royred.org/nts/](http://www.royred.org/nts/)

[royred.org/upcoming](http://royred.org/upcoming) OR [info@royred.org](mailto:info@royred.org)

*'Tis the season of hope...*

On Feb. 9, 2024, RRLC will once again host **Night to Shine**, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs, ages 14 and older. How can you help?

**VOLUNTEER:** [royred.org/nts](http://royred.org/nts)

**GIVE:** [onrealm.org/RoyRed/-/form/give/now](http://onrealm.org/RoyRed/-/form/give/now) (scroll down and select, "Night to Shine")

You can sponsor a guest for \$75 or a guest and buddy for \$150. We expect to serve 200 honored guests, plus 200 volunteer buddies who help guide them through their night to shine. Questions? Contact Lynn Ebner [lebner@royred.org](mailto:lebner@royred.org) or Wendy Hengeli [ntsbuddies@gmail.com](mailto:ntsbuddies@gmail.com).



**RoyalRedeemer**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

[WWW.ROYRED.ORG](http://WWW.ROYRED.ORG)



# PROFESSIONAL FAMILY PHOTO SHOOT

dress your best on December 3

receive 2 professionally edited photos via email  
for your personal use

all proceeds will bless the 7th & 8th grade  
class trip to washington DC in may

*sunday, december 3 in room 102 after every service*

Bryan Szucs  
@BryanSzucsPhotography



**venmo**

Scan this code to pay

freewill offerings greatly appreciated

cash, check payable to RRLS  
("class trip" in the memo line) or venmo  
*suggested gift amount is \$35*

courtesy of  
Bryan Szucs Photogrphay  
[www.bryanszucs.com](http://www.bryanszucs.com)

# ***DID YOU KNOW...***

...that donations made to the LSGO lower tuition costs for students who might not have been able to go to RRLS without such financial support?

...that within limits, LSGO giving doesn't cost you a cent but adds a significant benefit to families and students of RRLS? Determine how many tax dollars you can convert to scholarship dollars at <https://lsgoohio.org/>

...that while you can donate up to \$750 for an individual and \$1,500 for a married couple, it could be less if your tax liability is less than these prescribed maximum amounts?

...you can make a donation on behalf of the 2023 tax year up through April 14, 2024? (However, you may want to donate no later than March 31, 2024 as you will need to include the receipt of payment from the LSGO for your tax return.)

...you can break up your donation over a period of months as long as the total donations do not exceed \$750 for an individual or \$1,500 for a married couple?

...you can set up a monthly recurring donation of up to \$62.50/month for an individual (\$750 in total/year) or \$125 per month for a married couple (\$1,500 in total/year)?

...that even if you have had Ohio taxes withheld that would produce a refund, you can still donate up to the prescribed limits for individuals (\$750) and married couples (\$1,500) and simply obtain a greater refund by the amount you donated to the LSGO?

...that you can reduce your Ohio tax withholding by the amount you donate to the LSGO so your monthly income remains unchanged?

## **Ready to give to the LSGO?**

1. Make your donation (<https://lsgoohio.org/>)
2. Receive documentation
3. Attach to your tax filing

**LEARN MORE &  
MAKE A DONATION  
ONLINE AT:**

**[WWW.LSGOOHIO.ORG](https://www.lsgoohio.org)**

**WIN...**  
**for our students & families  
for Royal Redeemer  
for you as an Ohio taxpayer**



*Dear Royal Redeemer Family:*

As we prepare our hearts and minds for the birth of our Savior, I invite you to attend our **Advent family devotions** on Dec. 6, 13 & 20 in the Sanctuary at 7:30pm. Our Family Ministry team will share special messages for people of all ages on HOPE, PEACE, and JOY. And please continue to worship with us every Sunday morning as we begin our next sermon series, **“Right from the Heart: Shining Christ’s Love at Christmas”**. See the calendar for our Christmas Eve worship times.



We continue in our Season of Hope as we lift up **Night to Shine this month**. See the reverse side for details. I encourage you to grab a **Season of Hope information card** with deadlines and details highlighting ways you can support this amazing event!

I’d like to welcome **Debra Kamms** as our new **Meals on Wheels coordinator!** She begins January 1, as Diane Krafft is stepping away after 20+ years of dedicated and excellent service. Please pray for Debra as she takes on this important role.

The Christmas season can be especially difficult for those going through a tough time or facing a crisis. Please remember that one-on-one support is available from our trained **Stephen Ministers** who listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. It’s free and confidential to anyone.

Lastly, thank you, church and school family! As of Oct. 31, you’ve contributed nearly **\$14,000 to the LSGO**, benefiting RRLS! And together, we can do so much more! Information is still available outside both worship spaces. We’ll also be sharing some additional helpful tips over the next few months.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas season!

*Pastor John*

*Stay Connected*

**ROYRED.ORG**



*Sunday Worship Services*

- 8:30** Traditional - Sanctuary ^
- 9:30** Contemporary - CAC ^
- 10:00** Traditional - Sanctuary
- 11:00** Contemporary - CAC

^ Livestream | \* Registration required | + Volunteer

*Calendar of Events*

**DECEMBER**

- 3** Advent begins  
High School Bible study, 7-8:30pm \*
- 5** R.E.A.L. Women’s Christmas event \* +
- 6** Advent devotional, Sanctuary, 7:30-8:30pm
- 9** HeavenTrain gift distribution +
- 10** Royal Seniors Christmas event \*
- 11** RRLS Preschool Christmas concert, 7pm
- 12** RRLS Preschool Christmas concert, 7pm
- 13** Advent devotional, Sanctuary, 7:30-8:30pm  
5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade Summit Night, 7-8:30pm \*
- 14** RRLS K-4<sup>th</sup> Christmas concert, 7pm
- 15** Young Adult (20s & 30s) Small Group, 6:30 \*
- 17** High School Bible study, 7-8:30pm \*
- 20** Advent devotional, Sanctuary, 7:30-8:30pm
- 24** Christmas Eve worship services  
**Sanctuary**, 10:00am, 2:00pm^, 4:00pm  
**CAC**, 3:00pm^, 5:00pm  
NO Redeemer Kids or nursery
- 25** Merry Christmas! (No services)
- 28** Young Adult (20s & 30s) Small Group, 6:30 \*
- 31** NO Redeemer Kids or nursery

**JANUARY**

- 7** High School Bible study, 7-8:30pm \*
- 9** LEGO Club \*
- 10** 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade Summit Night, 7-8:30pm \*
- 11** Young Adult (20s & 30s) Small Group, 6:30 \*
- 12-14** Confirmation retreat at Beulah Beach \*  
High School retreat at Beulah Beach \*
- 14** Life with God membership class begins \*
- 15** R.E.A.L. Women Bible study begins, 7pm \*
- 16** Life with God membership class begins \*
- 21** High School Bible study, 7-8:30pm \*
- 25** Young Adult (20s & 30s) Small Group, 6:30 \*



*Current Sermon Series*

# It's the season of hope

On Friday, February 9, 2024, Royal Redeemer Lutheran Church will, once again, host **Night to Shine**, in partnership with the Tim Tebow Foundation. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love for people with special needs, ages 14 and older.

Now in its tenth year, this event has annually celebrated thousands of people with special needs around the globe on the Friday before Valentine's Day! The RRLC family has made it possible for us to celebrate those with special needs by volunteering at Night to Shine. Or, if it is on your heart to help financially, you can sponsor a guest for \$75 or a guest and buddy for \$150. This is the cost for dinner, corsages, boutonnieres, crowns and tiaras, limo rides, DJ, gift bags, ballroom decorations, and much more. This is our cost, but we appreciate any amount. We expect to serve 200 honored guests, plus 200 volunteer buddies who help guide them through their night to shine.

God bless each of you for your love and support as we celebrate the lives of those with special needs. If you have questions, please contact Lynn Ebner [lebner@royred.org](mailto:lebner@royred.org) or Wendy Hengeli [ntsbuddies@gmail.com](mailto:ntsbuddies@gmail.com).

**VOLUNTEER:** [royred.org/nts](http://royred.org/nts)

**GIVE:** [onrealm.org/RoyRed/-/form/give/now](http://onrealm.org/RoyRed/-/form/give/now)  
(scroll down and select, "Night to Shine")



*We have a love worth demonstrating!*

## FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

We were so blessed to receive a huge donation (3,000 - 3,500 items!) from the North Royalton city schools. Our shelves are actually over-stocked right now. With that said, we'll take a brief break in our collection and provide an updated list in the January newsletter. Thank you to those who blessed us with donations for our annual holiday food distribution. We served over 100 families!

## FAMILY MINISTRY UPDATES

**midweek advent family devotions** will take place on Wednesday, **Dec. 6, 13 & 20**, in the Sanctuary from 7:30-8:30. All ages are welcome to join us as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

**journey to bethlehem** on **Dec. 3, 10 & 17** at our Redeemer Kids program during the 9:30 service.

**winterwave retreat** registration is open for high school students heading to Beulah Beach **Jan. 12-14**. Cost is \$175/student. Spots are limited.

**no redeemer kids or nursery** on Dec. 24 or 31; but the parent's room will be open.

**upcoming activities** include **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade Summit Night** on Dec. 13 and **LEGO Club** on Jan. 9

**love on the littles** on Sunday mornings. Do you find yourself making cute faces at the babies near you in service? Nursery work can be volunteer or paid.

Sign-ups & details can be found on REALM or online at [royred.org/upcoming](http://royred.org/upcoming). Email [familyministry@royred.org](mailto:familyministry@royred.org).

## LIFE WITH GOD

**Membership classes begin in January**  
**Sign up at [royred.org/upcoming](http://royred.org/upcoming)**

## RRLS SPOTLIGHT

- Worship with us this Advent season. **Join us in Chapel** on Dec. 6 at 9:10 led by Family Ministry & all-school family Chapel on the 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:10 led by Family Ministry.
- You're invited to see our **Preschoolers' Christmas program** as they celebrate Jesus' birthday on Dec. 11 and 12 at 7pm in the CAC. Our **K-4<sup>th</sup> grade music program**, "Christmas Show & Tell," is Dec. 14 in the CAC. The RRLS band opens the show at 6:45pm.
- 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade **boys and girls basketball** is under way. First home game is Friday, Jan. 5 at 6:30pm & 7:45pm.
- Our **Annual Fund** campaign is launching! Your support will help provide funds for our school's operational expenses. To give, visit [rrls.org](http://rrls.org) or handouts are available outside of both worship spaces. Thank you for your continued support!

**RRLS.ORG**



**WAYS TO GIVE**  
**ROYRED.ORG/GIVE**



**IN SERVICE**



**REALM APP**



**GIVE ONLINE**



**BY MAIL**