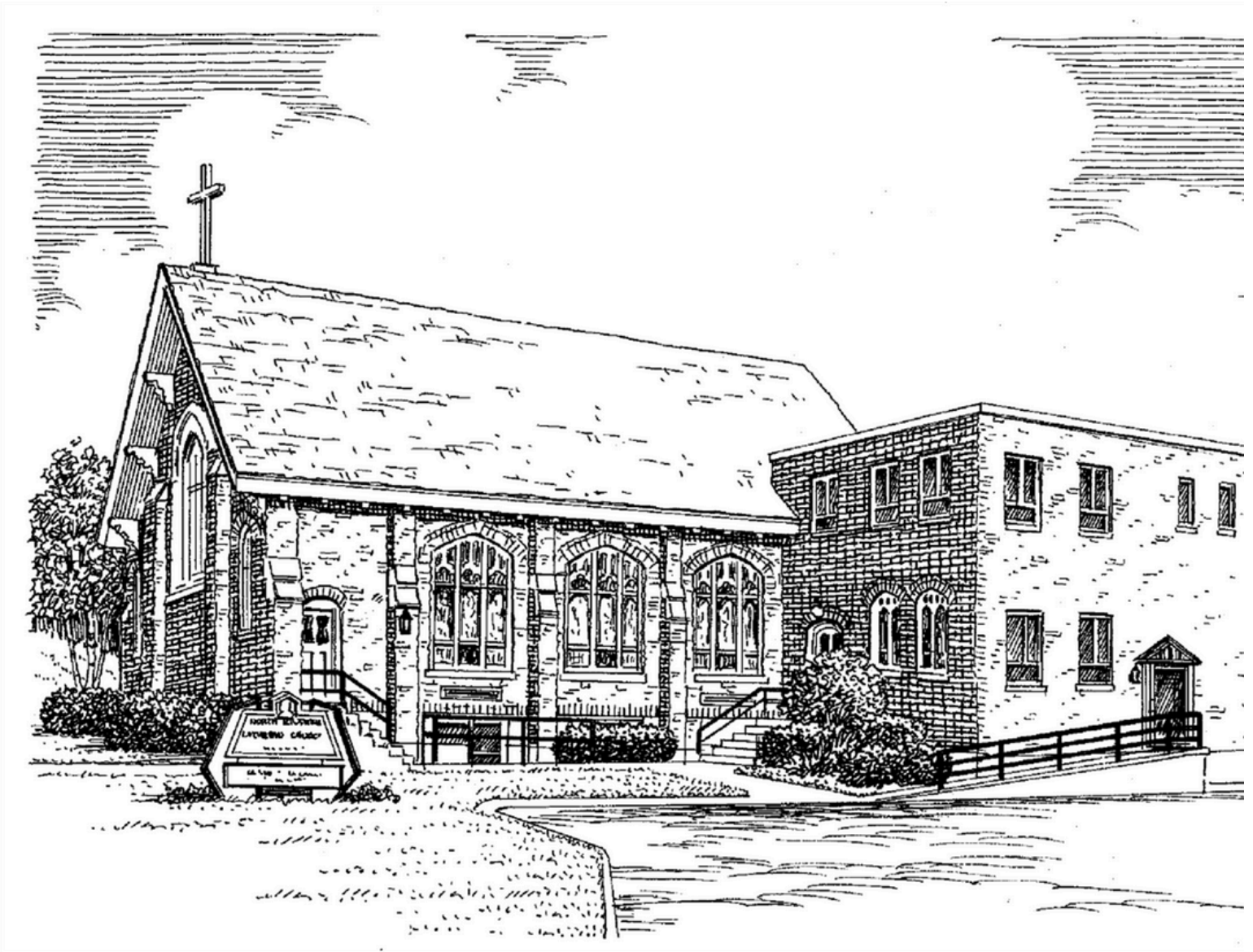


# North Riverdale Lutheran Church



**GO IN PEACE AND SERVE THE LORD!**

North Riverdale Lutheran Church  
45 Kurtz Avenue, Dayton OH 45405  
937.275.5750 - [nrlchurch.org](http://nrlchurch.org)

## From Pastor Richard

Hello, people of God at North Riverdale Lutheran Church!

This is our last update of 2024. What a year! I am celebrating the fact that this year brought me to NRLC. It's an honor to be with you, and I look forward to the good things happening here in 2025. Let me tell you, in case you haven't noticed, that your generosity is making ministry happen inside and outside our church building. I'm confident that your generosity of time, talent, and money will continue in 2025 to make ministry thrive in our little corner of God's kingdom and beyond. It is an honor and privilege to be with you!

To all of you who were able to join the people of New Hope Lutheran Church to worship there last Sunday, THANK YOU! It was great to see so many people there and witness the cordial interaction between people from both congregations. I've got feedback that the people who attended this service and the Thanksgiving service last month at St. John's (downtown) are interested in more interaction with those congregations. We'll see what we can work out!

Don't forget that our outreach to the neighborhood starts the New Year with a joyful event this coming Sunday, January 5th from 1:00 - 3:00 PM, we will be hosting our "Neighborhood Event to Celebrate the New Year!" Lunch will be served at 1:00 PM. There will be fun activities, free school supplies for kids to restock, and free winter hats and gloves. Join us! We hope that a lot of our members will sit down and talk with the people from the neighborhood who come to be with us for this event.

This coming Sunday, we are going to celebrate the Epiphany of Our Lord. The Gospel is **Matthew 2:1-12**, the story of the magi visiting the infant Jesus and his family. **Matthew 2:1-12** **MSG - Scholars from the East - After Jesus - Bible Gateway**. The magi believed that the star indicated that the prophesied king of the Judean people had been born. When Herod and the people in Jerusalem heard about it, they were really upset. After all, if a king had been born, it was a threat to the established order and Herod's power. After the visit, the magi were warned in a dream to avoid Herod on the way back home, which is what they did. That's all pretty wild. The passage shows that it is clear from very early on in Jesus' earthly life that he had come for the people of all countries, not just the Judean people. It also shows that there is danger lurking, and we know how the story moves toward the cross, resurrection, and Jesus' ascension. I invite you to take a few moments to reflect on this story before Sunday. I promise that you'll get more out of the service, including the sermon, if you do.

I'll leave you with one final bit of information: Make sure that you put **January 19th** on your calendars for our **Annual Meeting**. The meeting will be held immediately after the 10:30 AM service.

Questions? Let me know.

*Peace,*  
*Pr. Richard*

# Church Committee Meetings in January



### **Worship and Music Committee**

**Sunday, January 5 at 11:30 AM**  
meeting will be held in the  
conference room.



### **Outreach Committee**

**Saturday, January 4 at 10:00 AM**  
meeting will be held in the  
conference room.



### **ANNUAL MEETING**

**Sunday, January 19** immediately  
following the 10:30 AM service.



### **Finance Committee**

**Sunday, January 26 at 11:45 AM**  
meeting will be held in the  
conference room.

## Food Pantry Open to Serve Our Neighbors



The Food Pantry team will be serving our community on **Wednesday, January 15th at 3:00 PM**. Through your generous donations and the partnership with the Foodbank, we help our neighbors who experience food insecurity. Thank you for your continued prayers, donations and financial gifts that help our community in so many ways.

For the month of **January**, we are collecting:

- Bar soap
- Dish liquid
- Toothpaste
- Laundry detergent
- Rice

## North Riverdale Book Club

North Riverdale Book Club. January and February can be a big letdown after the activities of the holidays. This year, we are going to have an additional opportunity during those months to get together for good discussion and fellowship. The book that we will be covering is “God Has a Dream” by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. It’s a very accessible, yet profound, book that is very uplifting. It is available on Amazon in paperback, hardback, and as an audiobook. [Click here to view on Amazon.](#) The plan is to hold the discussions both in person and on Zoom.



### WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN PERSON and On ZOOM

Jan 15 @ 5:30 PM

Jan 29 @ 5:30 PM

Feb 12 @ 5:30 PM

Feb 26 @ 5:30 PM

### THURSDAYS DURING COFFEE HOUR IN PERSON

Jan 16 @ 10:30 AM

Jan 30 @ 10:30 AM

Feb 13 @ 10:30 AM

Feb 27 @ 10:30 AM

## Neighborhood Connection

Join us on **Sunday, January 5th** from **1:00 - 3:00 PM** for the next *Neighborhood Celebration*.



Let's welcome in the New Year with our neighbors! How can we make this a successful event?

- Bake cookies or desserts for the event
- Volunteer to serve lunch or help supply lunch items: pizza, chips, and cookies
- Donate hat and gloves to give away
- Restock school supplies to give away
- Lead fun activities: indoor snow ball toss, cookie decorations, and craft table.

Questions? Contact Karen Burks.

## Monthly Newsletter

Do you have an announcement for the monthly newsletter, a prayer request, or prayer of thanksgiving to share? Contact the church office at [nrlchurch45@gmail.com](mailto:nrlchurch45@gmail.com) with your information.

Photos for the monthly newsletter have been retrieved from Canva.com.





## Rebekah Care Circle

The Rebekah Care Circle focuses on various topics for learning and discussion such as book reviews, Alzheimer's Disease, the state of NRLC, and healing touch. Each month the circle offers a devotion as they lift up prayers for those in need.

**The Rebekah Circle meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. This month, they will meet on January 14th.** Please feel free to come and see what we are all about. You are most welcome!

## Welcome Home Ministry

The Welcome Home Ministry is a partnership with Miami Valley Housing Opportunities. They provide a basket of goods needed upon moving off the street (or shelter) and into an apartment.

Please help this important work by collecting supplies and building the baskets.

For the month of **January**, we are collecting:

- Shampoo and conditioner for men and women
- Pillows
- Bath and kitchen towels
- Dinnerware



## Inclement Weather Notification

Winter will be here soon and brings with it icy and cold weather. In an effort to keep everyone informed and safe when inclement weather arises, NRLC recommends that you follow the procedures below:

1. Check local news to determine current weather and road conditions.
2. Call the Church office at 937-275-5750. The answering machine message will be updated with information regarding the Sunday worship service or other events.
3. Check the North Riverdale Lutheran Church Facebook page it will be updated to reflect the status of the scheduled service/event.
4. Check the North Riverdale Lutheran Church website for an update on the Sunday worship service and other events.
5. For those members who do not use Facebook or the internet, we will institute a telephone/text alert to notify them of current status.





## Prayers for the Church

We ask that you join us in prayer for the following prayer requests:

- All first responders.
- Active duty military members, their families, and veterans.
- Educators who are dedicated to the success of all children.
- Families who have lost loved ones to gun violence.
- Local, state, and federal leaders.
- Bishop Dillahunt, the Synod staff, clergy, and lay leaders.

If you have joys or concerns that you would like to add to the prayer list, please call Pastor Richard Freudenberger at 937.275.5750 or email him directly at [nrlcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:nrlcpastor@gmail.com).

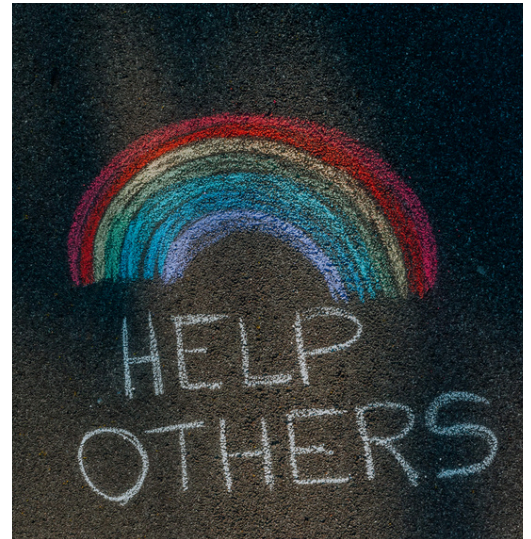
## Fourth Tuesday Ministry Wish List

The **Fourth Tuesday Ministry** team will meet on **Tuesday, January 28th at 11:30 AM at St. Paul's Methodist Church** to serve the surrounding community.

We are grateful for your financial support and donations of goods. A wish list of needed items can be found below. There is always a demand for shaving cream!

For the month of **January**, we are collecting:

- Toilet paper
- Bar soap
- Hand warmers
- Hand sanitizer
- Socks for men and women



## Joys of the Church

January Birthdays				January Anniversaries	
1/1	Emily Lake	1/18	Isaac Lucas	1/2	Sondra and Mel Elliott
1/1	Katie Lake	1/20	Imani Burnside		
1/4	Lauren Carver	1/20	Janice Griffin		
1/4	Carolina Van Luvender	1/27	Monni Kay Hunt		
1/8	Jenny Albers	1/29	Karen Fox		
1/9	Sondra Elliott	1/29	Benjamin Hanchak		
1/17	Luke Wagner	1/31	Christine Martinson		

## Calendar of Events for January

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>
Wednesday, January 1	Office closed - New Year's Day	
Thursday, January 2	Coffee and Fellowship Hour Choir Practice	10:30 AM 6:30 PM
Saturday, January 4	Outreach Committee	10:00 AM
Sunday, January 5	Worship Worship and Music Committee Neighborhood Connection	10:30 AM 11:30 AM 1:00 PM
Thursday, January 9	Coffee and Fellowship Hour Choir Practice	10:30 AM 6:30 PM
Sunday, January 12	Worship	10:30 AM
Monday, January 13	Messy Church	5:30 PM
Tuesday, January 14	Rebekah Care Circle	7:00 PM
Wednesday, January 15	Food Pantry Book Club (in person or online)	3:00 PM 5:30 PM
Thursday, January 16	Coffee and Fellowship Hour/Book Club Choir Practice	10:30 AM 6:30 PM
Sunday, January 19	Worship Annual Meeting - immediately following the 10:30 AM service	10:30 AM
Monday, January 20	Office closed - Martin Luther King Day	
Thursday, January 23	Coffee and Fellowship Hour Choir Practice	10:30 AM 6:30 PM
Sunday, January 26	Worship Finance Committee	10:30 AM 11:45 AM
Tuesday, January 28	Fourth Tuesday	11:30 AM
Wednesday, January 29	Book Club (in person or online)	5:30 PM
Thursday, January 30	Coffee and Fellowship Hour/Book Club Choir Practice	10:30 AM 6:30 PM

**[Click here](#) to access the full church calendar!**