

# ROCKFORD AREA LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

+ 200 North 1st Street Rockford, IL 61107 815-962-4279 RalmMail@aol.com

**One God, One Body, One Voice —**

**Collaborating to Transform our Communities**



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## PARTNER CONGREGATIONS

**Alpine Lutheran Church, Rockford**  
**Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Rockford**  
**Calvary Lutheran Church, Rockford**  
**Capron Lutheran Church, Capron**  
**Christ Lutheran Church, Belvidere**  
**Cross & Crown Lutheran Church, Roscoe**  
**Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Rockford**  
**Faith Lutheran Church, South Beloit**  
**First Lutheran Church, Rockford**  
**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Rockford**

**Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd**  
**Grace Lutheran Church, Loves Park**  
**GPS Faith Community, Machesney Park**  
**Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Rockford**  
**St. Mark Lutheran Church, Rockford**  
**Salem Lutheran Church, Rockford**  
**Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church, Rockford**  
**United Lutheran Church, Rockford**  
**Zion Lutheran Church, Belvidere**  
**Zion Lutheran Church, Rockford**

## MINISTRY PARTNERS

**RALM Community Collaborative** Through grace and vocation, Lutheran agencies minister in Christ's name by offering services to the community. These agencies have united to support one another and share resources. These ministries provide housing for seniors, adoption services, safe children's recreation, education, community development, foster care services, provide greater independence for those with intellectual disabilities, and more. Lutheran agencies exist to represent the work of the church in the world.

**Alpine Academy**  
**Katie's Cup**  
**Lutheran Social Services of IL**  
**Mosaic**  
**Northern Illinois Synod, ELCA**  
**Patriot's Gateway**  
**Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries**  
**Rockford Lutheran Schools**  
**Trinity House**  
**Zion Development Corporation**  
**Zion Outreach**

## WHAT IS RALM?

Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries is a collaboration of Lutheran congregations and ministries that celebrate being One Church, One Body doing God's work, walking together, leaving footprints. We join together to do what one congregation cannot do on its own. Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries is a partnership organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America congregations in the Greater Rockford area. Formed in 1985, RALM is an official ministry of the ELCA.

## #ROCKTHEGOOD

Do you post on social media about church events? Are you hosting an event and want to share with others? When you post, add #RockTheGood. Let's share the many blessings we have as God's people together. Then check the hashtag regularly. Need more info, contact 815-962-4279 and ask questions.



## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO GET INVOLVED?

Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries is a ministry of all the congregations. We are one church together. You are already a part of God's work through this ministry. Here are more ways for us to walk together and leave footprints in this community.

- Pray
- Volunteer as an individual or bring a group to any of these ministries on either side of this page.
- Serve as a congregational advocate to share your congregation's ministries with RALM and RALM's ministries with your congregation. Guidance is provided to help advocates.
- Contribute financially

Need more info, contact Amy at 815-962-4279 and ask questions.

## ONGOING MINISTRY ♦♦♦♦ Walking Together, Leaving Footprints

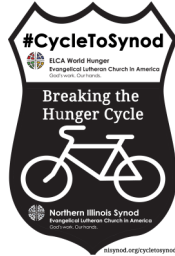


**Becca's Closet** Helping young women gain confidence and develop an understanding of the beauty God gave them by supplying gowns for formal events. Becca's Closet, Rockford gives away about 1000 gowns annually. Becca's Closet will re-open in July.



**Laundry Love** Free laundry services are provided for those who need it most. Laundry Love exists to help alleviate the strain that poor health and hygiene places on the most vulnerable of our community. Laundry nights are the 3rd Wednesday of every month at Charles Street Laundromat. Laundry Love is scheduled to relaunch on August 19.

**#CycleTheSynod** To support the ministry of ELCA World Hunger, cyclists ride to raise awareness of hunger issues facing God's people and collect funds to support ELCA World Hunger. #CycleTheSynod is September 19 on Old Plank Trail. Riders may ride the full route or just a portion of the ride. Join us, as together we work to eradicate world hunger and give our legs and hearts a great workout in the process!



**Park Players** Teens from the area learn job readiness skills and peaceful conflict resolution skills in a playground setting. The teens, through games and a drama, taught the conflict resolution to hundreds of school-aged children. Park Players will resume summer 2021.



**Rejoicing Spirits** *United in One Body* **Rejoicing Spirits** is a partnership with Mosaic for enriching the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities through meaningful Christian worship service and fellowship time in a shush-free, expressive environment. Everyone welcome. Worship is every second and 4th Thursday, 6pm on zoom..



**God's Work Our Hands Day** Celebrating with the ELCA and congregations across the country, September 12 RALM is coordinating with partner ministries and congregations to help with outside work at Lutheran ministry partners. Watch for more information and save the date.

**Basic Needs Bags** Once a year, items are collected and assembled into bags to be shared with area homeless. Volunteers and concerned citizens about area homelessness keep bags in their cars and distribute them as needed.

## WHAT'S NEW

### Grants to Support Ministry Partners

There is a direct connection between hunger and peace. Conflict and hunger reinforce each other. Food is a key to peacemaking. To stand for peace and justice, Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries is committed to partnering with congregations and other organizations to get food and basic supplies into the community.

RALM provided grants for congregations and partner ministries in their efforts to assist the community with hunger and COVID-19 relief. The congregations and ministry partners awarded funds will use them for a variety of needs including food for mobile pantries, grocery delivery, basic needs for foster families, activities for residents in long term care facilities, and to prepare school classrooms for social distancing.

RALM is able to supplement 13 congregations and ministries with grants to support God's work through these efforts. Watch on social media to see what our partners in action #RockTheGood.



## ANNUAL EVENTS

**RALM Annual Meeting** Are you wondering what is the purpose of RALM? We celebrate being one church together and share what is happening because we are God's hands. Join us for at our Annual Meeting on October 4 at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church.

**Trivia Night** Fellowship, chili, a silent auction, goodies, and a variety of mind tickling questions make this evening spectacular.



**Korv** RALM is celebrating making the Tabor traditional Swedish korv. Telling our Swedish heritage through 2000 pounds of sausage is a newer adventure relating with our community.