



Greetings RCC!

I pray that this message finds you well and as we are speaking on this month, walking in your true identity! As we've been preaching and teaching on this, the Lord has shown me that there are those that will be so liberated that walking in their true identity will not be second nature, but it will be FIRST nature! That's been my prayer for you, and I believe that God is not only showing us who we are as individuals, but in this season, he's showing us at Raytown Christian Church what he has called and chosen us to be in this community. Let us continue to strive to be great presence in our world pushing the message of the gospel that includes us ALL. I believe together we can defeat our worlds image crisis and tap into the love that God has for us and wants to show through us. The turbulent times in which we live need a good dose of God's love.

Speaking of love, I pray that this month you will feel loved by those around you and that you will show those that God has placed in your life, the love and appreciation that you have for them. I believe that love doesn't mind coming together. With that being said, I look forward to our fellowship between Powershift Worship Center and Raytown Christian Church. What a great time it will be on March 1st when we're able to get together to play games and enjoy one another!

Until then, I pray that love continues to conquer all, and that you all will be truly blessed!



Happy Valentine's Day!!!

When we think of Valentine's Day we usually think of the romantic side of love or the love we have for family and friends. But, in James 2:8, he reminds us "If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture. 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself,' you are doing well."

As we celebrate this holiday, how often do we think of the love Jesus shares with us each and every day. There are no strings tied to His love- we only must believe that He is our Savior and that He died to atone for all of our sins. Maybe, we should take a little time on this holiday to wish Him a Happy Valentine's Day and remember that we as Christians are here to make sure that everyone of God's creatures is loved with the same love we reserve for ourselves and family.

At Raytown Christian Church, we share our love on a very frequent basis with our community and with each other. But we may need to look for other ways to share the love Jesus so willingly shares with us. I can't say exactly how we will do this, but I know each of us has that ability. I know I will continue to look for ways to share our love and fulfill Raytown Christian Church's Mission and Vision:

**Our Mission**

To help people say "Yes" to Jesus. In other words, we exist to help people become faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

**Our Vision**

We believe everyone is invited to experience a Full and Abundant Life in Jesus Christ ... and that kind of life is available to everyone, no exceptions.

Please continue to share your love as well as your love for Jesus. With each of us doing this, our world can do nothing but improve.



**Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 6pm**

Ash Wednesday Service

**Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>**

9-10am Palm Sunday Breakfast (donations appreciated)

10:30am Palm Sunday Worship

**Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm**

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service

**Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 7pm**

PowerShift Good Friday Service – all are welcome!

**Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am**

Easter Sunday!



The Outreach Ministry held its first meeting and discussed the upcoming 2025 calendar. The team members discussed 2024 events and what we'd like to continue into 2025. Lots of good ideas and excitement going forward!

Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated Valentine's Day with the congregation and the Scouts. It was Scout Sunday, and we shared this special Sunday by giving everyone in church service a Valentine's Day card, reminding all of God's love for us, and a small bag of candy. Outreach had over 75 cards and candy bags shared that Sunday!

**Upcoming events:**

Outreach will start the planning process for two events:

- Easter baskets for the children at the River of Refuge. We want to ensure that all baskets include the Resurrection story, along with candy and little treats!
- RCC's support of the Raytown Main Street Association's Egg-Extravaganza. This is a great way to share our beautiful church building and some of the amazing members here!

Outreach is always interested in our congregation's thoughts and ideas on how to reach out to our community! Please feel free to find an Outreach team member and share your thoughts or drop a note in the Outreach mailbox located in the reception area of the office.

**Our first and foremost goal is to help the unchurched say "Yes!" to Jesus.**



"A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34).

The story of Jesus washing his disciples' feet appears in the Bible in John 13:1-7 and Matthew 20:25-27.

When Jesus washed his disciples' feet, it was an act of pure servanthood. He saw a need and chose to meet it. Once he had finished washing their feet, Jesus told them to go out and do just what he had done. Jesus wants us to serve one another out of love and compassion.

As Stephen Ministers, we are called to demonstrate the love and compassion of Jesus in a very specific way: by laying aside our own need, concerns, and interests for an hour each week so we can visit 1:1 with another in a confidential manner. In doing so, we follow Jesus' example and command to love one another as he has loved us. It's not a task that can be taken lightly, but it is attainable, because the very love that Jesus showed us equips and enables us to love others in the same way. As 1 John 4:19 says, "We love because He first loved us."

Happy Valentines Day! 



Thank you to our counters, attendance recorders, and bereavement committee. You do a wonderful job. Many of us may not know exactly who you are but you are ever loyal to RCC in helping with the smooth running of the church.



RCC is a member of the Raytown Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber has monthly luncheon meetings that are attended by RCC. The meetings discuss what is happening in Raytown and share information about local businesses.

**Support of Local Businesses**

The Raytown Chamber of Commerce will hold their monthly lunch meeting here at RCC on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>! The meeting is from 11:00-1:00. There will be 50-60 people here representing area businesses. We are interested in working with them to support their businesses and in turn encourage them to support our "Godly" Business!

At our Information Desk, we have placed a business card holder. Please put in business cards from local businesses support so we can all support them! We know that when we make a commitment to shop locally and support small businesses, we cycle money back into our community. Sales tax revenues from our local businesses support our local government.



February 20 – 22, 7pm  
Raytown High School

Tickets: \$7 in advance/\$8 at the door



The Raytown High School Theatre Department is proud to present *CLUE: On Stage* by Sandy Rustin, a murder mystery farce based off the popular board game and cult-classic film. When six guests arrive at a dinner party at the mysterious Boddy Mansion, they are met with blackmail and the murder of their host. In a race to find the murderer before anyone else dies, Mr. Wadsworth, Colonel Mustard, Mrs. White, Mrs. Peacock, Mr. Green, Professor Plum, and Miss Scarlet set out on a thrilling chase to solve this mystery.

**Morgana's Gluten Free Bakery**

9711 E. 63<sup>rd</sup> Street



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Hours:

Thursday & Friday: 11:00 am to 5:00 pm

Saturday: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Morgana's Gluten Free Bakery is in Raytown but is recognized throughout the metro Kansas City Area as the BEST local Gluten Free Bakery!

If you or someone you know needs to eat gluten free, this is the place to go!



If you use the church kitchen, should it be for a group event, your Sunday school dinners, the monthly potluck, Coffee Fellowship, or if you just want to learn the ins and outs of keeping the kitchen clean, maintained and up to code you are **highly encouraged** to attend this training with Mary LaPlante. It's very important to understand the steps required to keep the kitchen operating smoothly.