

January 2023



# The Messenger

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Office Hours: 8:30 am - 2:30 pm Monday - Thursday

Sunday Worship: 9:30 am

Pastor Darryl Thompson Powell

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*Resurrection Lutheran Church is called by God to reach beyond our walls and share the Good News, bringing Christ to the world, through Prayer, Love and Action.*

“On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...” Most of us are familiar with this Christmas Carol, but did you know that each of the 12 days of the Christmas season has a celebration tradition of its own? In These Twelve Days, A Family Guide to After Christmas Celebrations, co-authors James Kasperson and Marina Lachecki delve into these traditions to give us an outline of meaningful ways to celebrate the 12 days between Christmas and Epiphany that are based in our earliest Christian teachings and customs.

**The 1st Day:** Christmas Day: The miracle of God begotten into human form. **The 2nd Day:** Feast of St Stephen: Celebrating Stephen, a disciple of Jesus who cared for the widows of the early Christian community. **The 3rd Day:** Feast of St John: Celebrating John, the beloved disciple of Jesus who gave his life and gift of writing to sharing the Good News of the Word made flesh. **The 4th Day:** Feast of the Holy Innocents: Remembering the deaths of the innocent children that Herod ordered to be killed upon learning from the Wise Men that the Messiah had been born. **The 5th Day:** The Song of Simeon: God promised his faithful servant, Simeon, that he would see the Messiah before he died. **The 6th Day:** The Women of Christmas: Celebrating the three women- Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna the prophet- who gave and received the blessings of the Incarnation of Light, Jesus Christ. **The 7th Day:** Feast of the Holy Family: Draws attention to the family that received God in human form and to the importance of that family in nurturing and supporting God's Child. **The 8th Day:** The Name of Jesus: There are many names for God- Yahweh, El Shaddai, and more. On this day we celebrate the new name given to God- Jesus. **The 9th Day:** The Legends of Christmas: Celebrating the Bishop of Myra, whose deeds of helping others developed into the traditions of St Nicholas, Sinter Klass, Kriss Kringle, and other beloved symbols of the spirit of Christmas. **The 10th Day:** Sacred Ground: Celebrating the holy places where the Word of God has been revealed- Mt Horeb, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Lourdes, and many others. **The 11th Day:** The Blessing of the Waters: Celebrating the miracle of birth from a mother's womb, and the miracle of rebirth in the cleansing waters of our baptism. **The 12th Day:** Epiphany: Celebrating the Light that came to live in our midst and our need to turn toward that Light.

May we continue to be filled with the Light of Christ this New Year and always.

In Peace, Lauren Obrzut, Council President

## Summary of December Council Meeting

Pastor Darryl led the group in a bible study around “What does Jesus tell us to do”. The group discussed key bible verses from the book of Matthew and the importance of all the lessons from Jesus. Matthew 28 verses 19-20 is when Jesus tells his disciples after his resurrection to “go make disciples”. Pastor explained how many of the English translations lose the sense of urgency especially regarding making disciples. “Making Disciples” has been labeled as “The Great Commission”.

The business portion of our meeting included:

- Nominating Committee – Verbal report from Beth regarding her resignation from her last year of her 3-year term effective after the January Council Meeting. Beth contacted Jeff Peterson and discussed a list of possible candidates for one one-year term and two three-year terms. As of the meeting we have not received any commitments for the ballot.

- Boiler – the current boilers are not supplying sufficient heat for the sanctuary portion of the building. Converting the front area of the building to a furnace would create more hot/cold cycles and increase the dryness of the air. Two bids have been received to install a new boiler with a third bid due shortly. Motion to allow the finance committee to move forward with the lowest bid as long as the company is reputable and will handle removal and disposal of the old units as part of the bid. MSC
- Security Cameras – The cameras are not working. More research needed to what should be done.
- Revitalizing RLC – Lauren asked if this program should be continued. The council agreed that we should complete the project that was funded by a grant from Synod. Lauren will continue to work as the lead for this program after her term on council expires in 2023.

Submitted by Beth Silenzi,  
Church Council Secretary

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Thank you everyone for the beautiful Christmas cards that you sent to me! I miss you all. Ella Munkvold.

### Outreach Food4Life Food Pantry/Clothing Closet News



In November the Food Pantry served 85 families consisting of 159 adults and 81 children. We had 15 new guests this month. Our guest list continues to grow each week.

We are forever grateful to those who donate food and toiletries each week.

Our special item Sunday has been very successful and we thank our members for their generosity. We have started soup Sunday. Everyone's help in keeping our food pantry stocked is greatly appreciated. Due to the increase in the number of guests, it is getting harder to keep the shelves stocked.

We are so fortunate to have a wonderful and dedicated team of volunteers to make Mondays at the Food Pantry work. Our team worked a total of 126 hours in November. Thank you, God, for blessing us with so many people wanting to do your work.

## Financial Summary November 2022

	November	Year to Date
Income:	\$5,460.54	\$65,295.71
Expenses:	(\$12,846.14)	(\$138,810.81)
Income Shortfall:	(\$7,385.60)	(\$73,515.10)
Loss/Gain Investments:	\$9,065.71	(\$43,393.83)
Total Shortfall:	\$1,680.11	(\$116,908.93)

*November* results show a gain in our investments (second time in last two months). Envelope income was short of budget by (\$2,195.29) for the year. Expenses were under budget by \$683.86 for the year. Our cash position as of 11/30/22 is \$234,869.54 in total cash assets, spread across our investment, Money Market, Operating Accounts and other investments. The stock market is still down for the year, but starting to show signs of recovery, but not enough to help us this year.

Our investments are not helping to offset our shortfalls and our shortfall year to date is (\$116,908.93). Our Income shortfall this year is concerning.

God Bless. Be Healthy and Safe.

**Wayne Molley, Treasurer**



## Church Calendar

January 4	Finance Meeting	6:30 pm
January 9	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
January 16	Outreach Meeting	4:30 pm
January 29	Annual Congregational Meeting and Coffee Hour	11:00 am
Mondays	Food Pantry/Clothing Closet	12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Wednesdays	Midweek Service	1:00 pm
	Bible Study	2:00 pm
Thursdays	Al-Anon Meetings	7:30 pm

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### In an Emergency

If you have an emergency outside office hours, you may reach **Pastor Darryl** at 847-616-0537.

## Annual Congregational Meeting January 29, 2023

The meeting will directly follow the  
9:30 am worship service.