

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



Serving Our Neighbors  Sharing Our Blessings!

Below is the email that Carla sent to the Sinodo del Caribe (Caribbean Synod) office on October 12, 2025

I am writing to you with a success story of the Holy Spirit today.

My husband, Darryl, and I are ELCA pastors on vacation in San Juan before we board a cruise this afternoon. Darryl had found Grace and that they had a 9am service. Unfortunately, our rideshare took us the old location. I was ready to give up and go back to the hotel, but he found the new location address and insisted we go. By the second rideshare, we arrived a few minutes late.

From the moment we got there, the members were so hospitable and full of grace. They made sure we had a hymnal, announced what page we were on, and welcomed us warmly at the passing of the peace. It wasn't until the prayers that we discovered their pastor had gotten sick and the person leading service had stepped in at the last minute. I couldn't have guessed that from her sermon/message. Wow.

They were about to skip communion when I interrupted and introduced myself as an ELCA pastor on vacation. I asked if it would be appropriate for me to lead communion. The congregation was lovely and gracious about this gift, and they felt it was a blessing to have us in worship that day.

We try to go to church whenever we are on vacation and this is the first time we felt truly welcomed as guests and not just as potential members. We were warmly welcomed (and shown) to fellowship time after, and they chatted with us (even though several people needed to meet for a council meeting).

I wanted you to hear a success story about how God used ALL of God's people on this particular Sunday.

Dios Bendiga, amigos de Christo.



All 13 worshippers at Grace on 10/12/25.

Council Meeting Highlights: October 6, 2025

Thank You for the gift of this new day and the community that surrounds us. Guide our hearts toward kindness and our minds toward wisdom. Bless the work of our hands and the words we share, that all we do may bring hope, light, and encouragement to others. Renew our spirits, strengthen our faith, and fill us with Your peace. Amen.

--**"God's Work. Our Hands September 7, 2025:** Church members from several congregations gathered to make 27 fleece tie blankets for Phil's Friends, a cancer support organization. The event was filled with joy, fellowship, and teamwork, concluding with a group photo and a blessing over the blankets in the sanctuary.

--**Bingo Night Tuesday, November 18, 2025:** Doors Open 6:30 PM. Bingo Starts: 7:00 PM Join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, and friendly competition! Whether you're a bingo regular or new to the game, everyone is welcome. There will be light refreshments and prizes. Bring your family and friends—see you there

--**Three Pathways Discussion:** The 3 Pathways guide supports congregations by offering clear, biblically grounded options and variations for moving forward, fostering unity, clarity, and proactive decision-making at critical junctures in congregational life. **We will host two Sunday meetings with Pastor Kathy Nolte and the congregation on November 9 and 23 from noon to 2 p.m.** Please make every effort to attend both sessions. A letter will be sent to the congregation soon.

--**Next Council Meeting: November 10, 2025, at 6:00 pm.**

Adjournment with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Jan Ramsson,
Council Secretary

November: Gateway to Winter.

The themes of Autumn include balance, gratitude and spiritual renewal. It's a transitional time between decline and progress, of letting go, reflecting, and preparing for winter dormancy. Consider the balance between day and night, light and dark, and the inner and outer aspects of life at this time of the year. Have gratitude for our accomplishments and successes, and use this time to reconnect with God and the Divine. The harvest has been gathered and there are stores for the winter- spiritual stores from studying and living in God's Word through Jesus Christ. What we have harvested this year will see us through the winter, the dark and cold time of the year where nothing seems to grow, where we go inward, like a small seed, quiet and still. But we are not doing nothing. Our minds are very busy contemplating, pondering, observing, and reflecting. We have much to consider and now is the time to do it.

-In Christ, Lauren Obrzut

Trick or Treat Thank You!

A big "Thank You" to the folks who helped make a day at the park a real treat for the kids in town! On Saturday, October 25th, the Franklin Park Park District sponsored their Sixth Annual Trick or Treat at the Park. Resurrection hosted a table along the walking path and passed out candy to the children and their families in a safe Treat-or-Treat environment. Pumpkin handouts and bookmarks with information about RLC Worship services and Bible Study as well as the Food Pantry were distributed to the parents. Volunteers for the day included Jan Ramsson, Walter Johnson, Alan Miralgio and Barb Miralgio who helped set up our table and take everything down. Thank you to those of you who donated candy: Judy Tichy, Sue Koevenig, Pr. Carla Thompson Powell, Linda Andrade, Walter Johnson and Lauren Obrzut! We needed every bit of it as there were over 500 children at the event! We started with 196 small bags of Halloween pretzels, 285 pieces of candy plus 6.5 pounds of Tootsie Rolls, Pops, Dots and Fruit Chews plus 4.5 pounds of Skittles and Starbursts for a total of over 20 pounds of candy!

Serving our Neighbors by Sharing our Blessings!

Outreach Food4Life

Food Pantry/Clothing Closet News

We take pride in bringing food and hope to our neighbors in need.

In the Sunday bulletin we list a food item that the food pantry is in need of. The item changes each month. The item for October is cereal. The item for November again will be cereal.

In September the food pantry served 89 families which consisted of 212 adults and 77 children. We welcomed 10 new guests.

We received 73 donations from members, neighbors, companies and another food pantry.

We are so grateful to our volunteers. We have 26 volunteers of which 5 are not members of Resurrection. Our volunteers spent 209 hours of their time working very hard to make this ministry successful. Everyone is invited to stop in on a Monday morning to see hard our volunteers work. We have received an enormous amount of clothing donations and are in need of volunteers to help sort through all of the approximately 20 bags and eliminate the ones that are not suitable to offer to our guests. Please contact Linda in the office or Sue Koevenig if you can help.

Financial Summary Sept 2025

	September	Year to Date
Income:	\$7,349.26	\$72,221.70
Expenses:	<u>(\$12,894.84)</u>	<u>(\$110,479.07)</u>
Income Shortfall:	(\$5,545.58)	(\$38,257.37)

Sept results show a gain in our investments of \$239.19. Envelope income was under budget by (\$4,810.42) for the month & under budget (\$37,197.75) for the year. Expenses were under budget by (\$15.50) for the month & under budget by (\$5,713.93) for the year. Our cash position as of 9/30/25 is \$80,653.40 in total cash assets, spread across our Money Market Fund, CD and Checking Account. Year to date we have taken \$45,000.00 out of the Money Market fund. We probably have 12 months before our cash reserves run out. So far, we have made \$854.00 on six nights of Bingo, \$597.50 on carwash fundraiser and \$1,730.00 on our GoFundMe page in ten months. This is a total of \$3,181.50 in additional income. Our envelope income, given year to date, is well under budget, but we have three more months to make up for the shortfall. If you are behind in your giving this would be a great time to catch up. Continue to watch for ways to give to our ministries!

God Bless. Be Health and Safe.

Wayne Molley, Treasurer

November Fellowship Hour Cancelled

Fellowship Hour will not be held in November. Instead, our next Fellowship Hour will be held on Sunday, December 7, while folks help decorate the building for Christmas. Plan on decorating the tree, hanging wreaths, putting out our Nativity set and adding lights.



Church Calendar

November 4	Finance Meeting	6:30 pm
November 9	Three Pathways Meeting	12:00 pm
November 10	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
November 12	Outreach Meeting	3:30 pm
November 18	Bingo	6:30 pm
November 23	Three Pathways Meeting	12:00 pm
Mondays	Food Pantry/Clothing Closet	12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Wednesdays	Bible Study	2:00 pm
	Choir	6:00 pm
Thursdays	Al-Anon Meetings	6:30 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.**

