

February 2022



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

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.

I know that change is hard, yet change is necessary. Challenge and change are words that have permeated our world, our society, and our families. Here's the hard part: things often must get messy, before they get good. Those of you who have lived through construction or remodeling projects should understand that.

We have all been living under construction/remodeling (re-construction!) since COVID hit. Our lives have continued to be a mess. Since the world shuttered, everything needed to be reorganized. We all continue to scramble through the dust and chaos that came with a re-construction of our lives. 2021 has again been one challenge after another (Omicron!). Then again, if it doesn't challenge you, it won't change you. And, we have been changed! I believe that we have a renewed appreciation for community, for simply being together. We have been changed in the way we approach meetings (not every meeting needs to be done in person). We have changed the way we see our life on this planet. We are resilient as humans and yet, our life together is fragile as well. Much has been stripped away and now laid bare: the great economic divide between those on the top and nearly everyone else; racial injustices stemming from a history of slavery that continues to haunt us; and the lack of appreciation of healthcare workers, first responders, teachers, and even grocery store workers. We are changed and can no longer pretend that the problems do not exist. We have been challenged in this time of re-construction, and we are changed!

Jesus was aware of challenges and changes. *I assure you that unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it can only be a single seed. But if it dies, it bears much fruit* (John 12:24). "Challenge and change" is the very definition of the cross that leads to resurrection.

-Darryl Thompson Powell

Church Council Meeting January 10, 2022

Lauren prayed that the Holy Spirit would lead us in fulfilling our mission statement and support all our actions throughout our days.

Devotion by Alan – Reflected on the role of Council in 2021. Alan felt the role of president was made easier by the support he received from the council and RLC staff. Alan thanked the current council members especially when they helped with items that were not assigned. The group discussed the couple of meetings that were canceled in 2021 because there were not any pending issues. Sue suggested that we could consider meeting virtually for a devotion when there isn't business to discuss. Everyone agreed that the monthly devotions are important.

Vision and Mission – Lauren wrote a complete report for the Annual Meeting packet. Lauren will ask the bible study group to research bible verses about giving to the needy.

2022 Budget – Wayne Molley joined the meeting via Zoom and presented the proposed budget. Minor adjustments from the printed copy were discussed. MSC

Annual Meeting will be January 30th after Sunday Service. The announcement letter can be sent via e-mail. It was suggested that the letter include a request for an RSVP so we can prepare the area for social distancing.

Next Council Meetings: Immediately after Annual Meeting to elect officers. Full Meeting, Monday, February 14th at church 6:00 and via ZOOM.



Janet G, Judy H, Irwin K, Marvin K, Donna T, Dave N

Financial Summary December 2021

December Income:	\$10,029.05
<u>December Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$13,742.68)</u>
December Shortfall:	(\$3,713.63)
<u>Loss on Investments:</u>	<u>\$6,756.71</u>
Total Dec. Shortage with Investments:	\$3,040.08
YTD Income:	\$72,889.10
<u>YTD Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$126,588.56)</u>
YTD Income Shortfall	(\$53,699.46)
<u>YTD Investment Gain:</u>	<u>\$30,943.43</u>
YTD Total Shortfall:	(\$22,756.03)

December results reflect a monthly overage in envelope income of \$296.00 compared to 2021 budget and an Investment gain of \$6,756.71. With Plate and Interest Income our total income for the month was a positive \$16,782.76. Expenses came in at (\$13,742.68) over budget for the month, leaving us with an overall gain of \$3,040.08 for the month.

Our cash position as of 12/31/21 is \$359,331.34 in total cash assets, spread across our investment, Money Market, Operating Accounts and other investments. Our monthly expenses averaged \$10,549.00 a month and our average income was only \$6,074.00 a month. We used \$45,000.00 of our investments to cover our short fall in our income for this year. Year to date we had very good gains on our investments to help offset our shortfalls.

God Bless. Be Healthy and Safe.

Wayne Molley, Treasurer

Outreach Food4Life Food Pantry/Clothing Closet News



In December we served 52 families consisting of 117 adults and 53 children. Our monthly numbers are increasing which means there are so many more people in need in the Franklin Park area. We are blessed to be able to help them.

We are forever grateful to those who donate food to meet the needs of our guests. Food Rescue US has been one of God's many blessings. It has been amazing that God knows when we are getting close to being out of meat. Meat always shows up when we need it. 43 different donations were received in December. Our much-appreciated dedicated volunteers worked 152 hours in December. Thank you so much to Pastor for picking up the Panera Bread and Costco items. Thank you also to Wayne and Donna Molley, Lindsay Vega and Jeff Davis for picking up at Costco on Saturday mornings. We are still looking for some volunteers to pick up food from Costco on Saturday mornings. Please call the office if you can help out with this.

Thanks to the generosity of our members, we were able to send a check for \$715.00 to Lutheran Social Services of Illinois for their foster children program. Many children were able to receive a gift at Christmas. Outreach contributed \$250.00 of the \$715.00.

Our clothing closet continues to be a blessing to our guests. Thanks to all who donate clothing items. We can always use winter coats, sweatshirts and sweatpants.



Church Calendar

February 8	Vision & Mission	7:00 pm
February 9	Finance Meeting	5:15 pm
February 9	Choir Pot Luck	7:30 pm
February 14	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
February 27	Coffee Hour	11:00 am
Mondays	Food Pantry/Clothing Closet	12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Wednesdays	Midweek Worship Service	1:00 pm
	Bible Study	2:00 pm
	Evening Prayer Service	7:00 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.

