

May 2022



The Messenger

9777 Grand Avenue • Franklin Park, IL 60131

Phone: 847.455.7013

E-mail: office@rlcfp.org - www.rlcfp.org

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.

“The Empty Tomb”

All around us, the world uses the season of Easter to remind us of spring and new plants and warm weather. But in the church, we are still holding onto to that season of Easter as a spiritual truth. On Easter Sunday, we recalled the resurrection event – the day on which the disciples and the women found the tomb empty, the day on which we remember that Jesus rose from the dead. During the month of May, we are still in the church season of Easter (Pentecost Sunday starts the next church season). The Easter season is a great time to remember the ways that God brings new life in the midst of death, hope in the midst of fear, and joy in the midst of sorrow. Easter Sunday the tomb was empty. Jesus had risen! This isn't the same as a silver lining in a tough day or a glass half full optimism. This is a story of a God who dramatically and wonderfully redeems the worst moment in human history into salvation, new life, and joy that can be shared with EVERYBODY!

In my Easter Sunday sermon, I stated *“We report the hope against hope for the possibility of the impossible.”* I should have been clearer. The impossible has never stopped God. God transformed the sorrow of Good Friday into the joy of Resurrection. Or, as Isaiah says, *“The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me... to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair”* (Isaiah 61:1a, 3a). We have received these gifts from God too – beauty for ashes, joy for mourning, and praise for despair. God frequently does far more than we could ever ask or imagine.

We may not see unbelievable miracles like the women at the tomb saw on that Resurrection Day. I hope you still trust that God is on the move – in us, through us, with us, and all around us. The stone did not stay at the entrance to the tomb – it was rolled away. God can and God did raise Jesus from the dead! We can also see God bringing hope, beauty, praise, and new life – if we use our eyes of faith to see all the wild things that the Holy Spirit is bringing into being. The impossible has never stopped God. Happy Easter.

-Darryl Thompson Powell, pastor

Church Council Minutes April 11, 2022

At the April council meeting, each council member reported on a chapter from the Gospel of Luke and shared what inspired them about the reading. The topics included: forgiveness, opening the heavens, mystery of “why was Mary chosen”, healing, unconditional love, uncleaned spirits, give up family, finish projects, do not worry where your treasure is that is the place you will end up being, “people” things vs “heavenly” things.

We did not get a homework assignment for May.

The business portion of our meeting included many updates with the following highlights:

The Synod Assembly is going to be a one-day event on Saturday June 4th at the Chicago Marriott in Naperville. Wayne Molley will attend. One additional non council member can also attend.

The Celebration Committee requested funds for their events. There is \$400 in Grant Money for Open Doors and other money in the Community Connections fund totaling \$1,353. Motion made to allow the committee to use up to \$1,353 for their events – MSC. Wayne reported the roof repairs are complete as of Saturday, April 9th at a cost of \$350. The contractor found some additional cracks that were also repaired. The changing of the lights to LED is almost complete.

Al-Anon returned to in person meetings 3/17

Pastor was excited to see so many members at the Palm Sunday service.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 9th at church 6:00 and via ZOOM.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Beth Silenzi, Church Council Secretary

Celebration Committee

Serving Our Neighbors by Sharing Our Blessings

Greetings All! The Celebration Committee has exciting news- we are hosting an Open House and Drive By Food Drive on Saturday, June 11. There will be more details in the coming weeks, but for now, mark your calendars and invite your friends, family, and neighbors to come and celebrate how God is working through Resurrection with our wonderful food pantry and giving closet. Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:18 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12:13.

Member Highlight

How well do you know the members at Res? This month we feature Joyce DeWinter whose artwork has been used on our bulletin covers over the years. Her lovely rendering of Jesus entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday is her latest offering. Joyce was always sketching as a kid-mostly horses. She took up drawing more seriously after retiring in 2007. Her friend was taking lessons at the Centennial Activity Center in Park Ridge. She remembered how much she enjoyed drawing so she joined her. She still takes lessons there twice a week. Her favorite medium is working in pastels but she is also learning to paint with acrylics. She finds drawing to be very relaxing. Her other hobbies are reading and doing cross stitch. She used to do silversmithing as well. When she isn't taking drawing and painting lessons, she's teaching Mahjong, a Chinese game of tiles and patterns. She likes Mahjong because it engages the mind differently than sketching. Her advice for people who want to do something creative but don't know where to start: check your local park district and see what interests you. Also check out other park districts if you can't find something local, or check out books or magazines on whatever you feel drawn to (pun intended ;) Thanks, Joyce, for sharing your talents with us!

Share the Gift

Thank you to everyone that contributed to the Lutheran Disaster Response of the ELCA regarding the crisis in Ukraine and Eastern Europe. We exceeded our goal and raised \$1,245. So, with Share the Gift matching the first \$1,000 received, **we will be sending in a total donation of \$2,245.** Thank you again to all who contributed!

Ways to Donate to Resurrection While You Do What You Normally Do!

If you shop at Amazon: Go to smile.amazon.com before you put things in your Amazon cart. On the top left corner (once you are signed in), it will say "Supporting Resurrection." If it doesn't say that, you'll need to search on "Resurrection Lutheran Church Franklin Park." Click "select." As of March 2022, 92% of what Resurrection has received through Amazon Smile donations has come from Pastor Darryl. We know he's not the only one who uses Amazon, so please select RLC for your donations! If you use the Amazon Shopping app, you'll need to activate it there as well.



Resurrection welcomed into Christ's family a new addition through baptism:
Parker Jay Molley,
son of Brian and Robyn, and grandson of Wanye and Donna.

Outreach Food4Life Food Pantry/Clothing Closet News

In March the Food Pantry served 59 families consisting of 121 adults and 49 children.

We are getting several new guests each week which indicates there are 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 and toiletries each week. A big thank you to Lindsay Vega who takes all the bags of soiled and torn clothing items to St. Paul's Church.

Our "Cereal Sunday Drive" was very successful and we thank our members for their generosity. We received 101 boxes of cereal. We have started "Pasta Sauce Sunday" this week. Everyone's help in keeping our food pantry stocked would be appreciated.

Financial Summary March 2022

	March	Year to Date
Income:	\$6,547.05	\$20,387.40
<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$12,678.95)</u>	<u>(\$38,599.89)</u>
Income Shortfall:	(\$6,131.90)	(\$18,212.49)
<u>Loss on Investments:</u>	<u>\$524.67</u>	<u>(\$16,916.76)</u>
Total Shortfall:	(\$5,607.23)	(\$35,129.25)

March results show a small gain in our investments and envelope income and expenses on budget for the year. Our cash position as of 3/31/22 is \$323,721.90 in total cash assets, spread across our investment, Money Market, Operating Accounts and other investments. So far this year the stock market has been down and our investments are not helping to offset our shortfalls. If this trend continues, we could have a huge shortfall this year. God Bless. Be Healthy and Safe.

Wayne Molley, Treasurer



Church Calendar

May 4	Finance Meeting	5:30 pm
May 9	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
May 10	Celebration Committee	7:00 pm
May 11	Outreach Meeting	4:30 pm
May 29	Coffee Hour	11:00 am
Mondays	Food Pantry/Clothing Closet	
		12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Wednesdays	Bible Study	2:00 pm
Thursdays	AI-Anon Meetings	7:30 pm

facebook

'Friend' us or 'Like' us at Resurrection Lutheran Church.

In an Emergency

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

