

November 2024

# 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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*Serving Our Neighbors  Sharing Our Blessings!*

As we near a new church (liturgical) year, we come to the end of this series of articles looking at how to help neighbors feel welcome the first time they visit RLC. I started off asking for the congregation's help in figuring out where RLC is right now. Sadly, only a handful of people responded. But that's not stopping us. We're going to move ahead as best as we can even if people don't respond. Now, here's my blunt statement: If you're not going to provide input when asked, don't complain when things change.

Next, we looked at building a great website. Many thanks to Wayne M. for taking that seriously and gathering a Media Ministry Team. Half of the team are not members or regular attendees. Yet they have been committed to redesigning the website and upping RLC's social media presence. It's not finished, but it is a whole lot better than it was. Thanks to Phillip M. and Yurail M. for all their hard work!

In June I looked at what we need to do better once people walk into the church. Having a clearly identifiable Welcome Center is key. Some nice changes were made to the table we keep the bulletins on. It still isn't a Welcome Center. We should also point people in the right direction. I believe folks are doing better with this. The most important thing in that article was that every member of RLC needs to think of themselves as part of the Welcome Team. I've seen many who have taken that seriously. Thank you! I went to a bonus topic in July's article: 5 common sense tips for welcoming our neighbors. I want to thank everyone who has taken that seriously, especially #3: Introduce yourself. I've seen a drastic change at Resurrection, from one or two people introducing themselves to just about everyone doing so on Reformation Sunday. To all who introduce themselves to our guest that day by saying your name first, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Last month I mentioned how wonderful it was to receive a welcome gift at a couple of the churches I visited over the summer. It is something we can do as well with a simple gift. We're still working on that. Thanks to Walter J. for providing a couple of inexpensive options.

This last point is possibly the hardest one to implement: designing the service around new people. We're used to the service being designed around what we like, and many of us have been in church all our lives. The problem is that for someone visiting, who most likely hasn't grown up in church, what we've done for decades makes no sense to them. Part of the challenge is figuring out which parts of the service are easily understood, and which are traditions that mean nothing to new people. The service should lift everyone, not just the few. Part of it is readjusting our thinking about who church is for. Doing that requires change. Changes you will (or have) seen in worship include: 1) a welcome speech (not done by me); 2) preaching; 3) an offering statement that lets guests know they shouldn't feel obligated to give; 4) next steps (at the end of service).

Changes are coming to worship. I invite you to share with me one part of worship you'd hate to see change **and** why it's so important to you.

-Darryl Thompson Powell

Newsletter Council Meeting Minutes, October 14, 2024

Alan recited the Mission Statement and led the opening prayer.

Pastor Darryl led devotions. Matthew 28:16-20: Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

On October 16th Alan, Walter, Lauren, and Jan attended Franklin Park's Climate Resiliency Focus Group with other community members to give our input on ways Franklin Park could respond to climate events such as flooding, heat/cold waves and drought. This was the last meeting for the year, but they will soon be hosting a community open house to give residents an additional opportunity to provide feedback on a draft of Franklin Park's Climate Resiliency Plan. It will be held on Wednesday November 13, 2024 at 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. The location will be at the Franklin Park Police Department Community Room.

Our next regularly scheduled Council Meeting is November 11, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Peace & Love, Jan Ramsson

**Outreach Food4Life  
Food Pantry/Clothing Closet News**



In September the food pantry served 119 families which consisted of 249 adults and 91 children. We welcomed 6 new guests. There were five Mondays in September.

We continue to be blessed with food, clothing and miscellaneous donations from our usual sources. God continues to send donations our way. We are very grateful to those who donated items this month. We are in need of men's jeans and casual pants.

We received 59 donations from our members, companies and others in September.

It is so nice to see how many guests want to pray with us before we open.

We are so grateful for our volunteers. We have 24 volunteers of which 4 are not members of Resurrection. Our volunteers gave 221 hours of their time working very hard to make this ministry successful. Everyone should feel free to stop by on a Monday morning to see how hard our volunteers work to package up donations to serve to our guests.

We are still in need of additional people to pick up donations from Costco on Sunday morning.

Thanks be to God.

**Financial Summary  
September 2024**

	September	Year to Date
Income:	\$6,392.59	\$63,501.14
<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$12,413.97)</u>	<u>(\$108,831.11)</u>
Income Shortfall:	(\$6,021.38)	(\$45,329.97)

*September* results show a gain in our investments of \$416.33. Envelope income was under budget by (\$1,143.33) for the month & under budget (\$4,958.45) for the year. Expenses were under budget by \$90.45 for the month, & under budget by \$3,708.64 for the year. Our cash position as of 9/30/24 is \$130,283.34 in total cash assets, spread across our Money Market Fund, CD, and Checking Account. Our envelope giving year to date is behind budget and hopefully we can make up for this shortfall in the last Quarter of the year. Year to date we have taken \$32,500.00 out of this fund. If this continues, we will have no more money in this fund in the next 12 months. We will have a meeting after church on November 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss our current financial situation and our options for moving forward.

God Bless. Be Healthy and Safe.

**Wayne Molley, Treasurer**

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## *Resurrection in the Community*

Franklin Park has been busy this Fall with the Annual Fall Fest Parade and Trick-or-Treat at the Park. Resurrection volunteers participated in both Community events!

The Fall Fest Parade took place on Sunday, October 6. Resurrection was represented in the parade by Lindsay Vega and Pastor Darryl with Pastor Carla Thompson Powell driving. This year frisbees with Resurrection's name on them were thrown out to the kids along the parade route!

On Saturday, October 26, Resurrection participated in the Trick or Treat at the Park sponsored by the Franklin Park Park District at North Park. We 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 Sue Sprenger, Jeff Davis, and Barb Miralgio. Alan Miralgio also helped us by cutting out the pumpkin handouts and setting up our table. Thanks to Lauren Obrzut for the bookmark handouts! Pastor Darryl also stopped in for a visit. Donna and Wayne Molley stopped by with their son Andrew, daughter-in-law Yurail and grandson Alec. Yurail took pictures of our table and volunteers as well as the children attending the event for our Resurrection website and social media site. Be sure to check them out! Thank you to those of you who donated candy! We needed every bit of it as there were well over 500 children at the event! We also want to thank Thrivent for their support of our participation in this event through a contribution from their Action Team program!

Thanks to our Volunteers for making Resurrection's ministries visible in these Franklin Park Community events! Serving our Neighbors by Sharing our Blessings!



### **Church Calendar**

November 3	Jazz Service	9:30 am
November 3	Financial Status Meeting	11:00 am
November 5	Finance Meeting	6:30 pm
November 6	Outreach Meeting	4:00 pm
November 11	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
November 24	Fellowship Hour	11:00 am
Mondays	Food Pantry/Clothing Closet	12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Wednesdays	Bible Study	2:00 pm
	Midweek Services	1:00 pm & 7:30 pm
	Choir Rehearsal	6:00 pm
Thursdays	AI-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.**

### *All Saints' Sunday*

All Saints Sunday is a time to remember loved ones who have passed away during the past year. On Sunday November 3, the following members of Resurrection will be remembered and included in our prayers:



**Marvin Kuntze 1/27/2024**  
**Franklin Henk 4/11/2024**  
**Dolores Bjerga 10/5/2024**  
**Ella Munkvold 10/11/2024**