

January 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.

But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. (Matthew 24:43 NRSV)

Lately I've heard many people (not just at RLC) talk about getting together with their children or grandchildren. Sometimes when I've heard about people preparing to visit someone outside their "bubble," I'll ask, "When was the last time they got tested?" Too often I get the responses, "Oh, they are very careful. They don't have any symptoms. I'm sure they don't have COVID." Here's the thing: without being tested regularly, there is no way to know if someone has COVID-19. An older couple I know got together with one of their children and family around Thanksgiving. They didn't know that someone in that family was positive. Not only did the offspring's family start showing symptoms, the older parents and another sibling became symptomatic, with the sibling and one parent being hospitalized.

Jesus told his disciples to be vigilant because no one knows when the Son of Man is going to show up. The same can be said about COVID-19. We must be vigilant and do all we can to limit our chances of catching it and spreading it to others. There are two things I want to encourage everyone to do to be vigilant: 1) Get fully vaccinated. Whether you want to do a booster or not is up to you. There is a lot of misinformation out there. Trust the experts who say it is safe and the best way for us to beat COVID-19; 2) Wear your mask when you are in a public place or around people whose vaccination status is unknown.

You never know when COVID-19 may break into your home, even when you trying to do your best. Please continue to be vigilant.

-Darryl Thompson Powell

(This is an updated version of what was in the January 2021 e-news)

Church Council Meeting December 6, 2021

The December meeting started with a prayer about justice and the reading of the mission statement by Beth.

Devotion by Pastor Darryl - Seeds of Growth (2nd Corinthians 9:6-12)

A simple seed grows from the dark dirt.

Camp Song: It only takes a spark

Verse: New growth in spring, what a surprise.

Pastor asked the council members to be SOWERS. Plant those seeds in everything we do. How might we share in the resources of our church further?

Lauren suggested we provide small propane tanks for the homeless encampment near her office.

Pastor encouraged us to have individual goals and congregation goals to grow our relationship with the community.

Closing Prayer: Help us dip our hand into the seeds you have provided for us to sow and grow your kingdom.

The business portion of our meeting included a review of committee reports.

The update on Vision and Mission – Lauren Obrzut, Barb Miralgio, Jeff Davis, Donna Brimie, Pastor CeCee and Jettie Leverette met virtually on November 16th. The meeting included a discussion about the gifts and treasures of providing food. Pastor CeCee encourages the group to think about a celebration of this treasure of providing food. She encouraged the group to not focus on money. Suggestions included a 5-day event where the group would feed people. First responders might be one of the groups we feed. There was also discussion about a movie night in the parking lot. The group has homework to develop ideas and include bible verses to support their plan. The next meeting is January 11th.

Nominating Committee – Sue Koevenig has agreed to fill the one-year spot if needed. The members of the Nominating Committee are Pat Flanagan, Jeff Peterson and Beth Silenzi. If you are interested in serving a one year or three-year term on council, please contact one of the committee members.

Greeting Guests – discussion about how we can make our area more welcoming to guests especially if they arrive at the last minute or after the service begins. One option is to leave the last row empty on each side for late arrivals. New ideas will be discussed on Sunday and at the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting will be January 30th after Sunday Service.

Next Council Meeting: Monday, January 10th at church 6:00 and via ZOOM _____



Thank you for your cards, calls and prayers when Ron was ill. Especially your thoughts and prayers when he died. We appreciate your support. Barb, Debbie and Andy

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, phone calls and cards. Judy Hajek

Financial Summary November 2021

November Income:	\$4,281.73
<u>November Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$12,326.33)</u>
November Shortfall:	(\$8,044.60)
<u>Loss on Investments:</u>	<u>(\$4,874.83)</u>
Total Nov. Shortage with Investments	(\$12,919.43)
YTD Income:	\$62,863.05
<u>YTD Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$112,845.88)</u>
YTD Income Shortfall	(\$49,982.83)
<u>YTD Investment Gain:</u>	<u>\$24,186.72</u>
YTD Total Shortfall:	(\$25,796.11)

November results reflect a monthly shortage in envelope income of \$1,520.00 compared to 2021 budget and an Investment loss of (\$4,874.83). With Plate and Interest Income our total income for the month was a negative (\$593.10). Expenses came in at (\$12,326.33) over budget for the month, leaving us with an overall loss of (\$12,919.43) for the month.

Our cash position as of 11/30/21 is \$358,652.10 in total cash assets, spread across our investment, Money Market, Operating Accounts and other investments. Our monthly expenses are averaging around \$10,260.00 a month and our average income is only around \$5,715.00 a month. If this continues, we will use \$54,540.00 of our investments to cover our short fall in our income for this year. So far year to date we have had good gains on our investments to help offset these shortfalls. It was a very tough month for the stock market and our investments.

God Bless. Be Healthy and Safe.

Wayne Molley, Treasurer

Outreach Food4Life Food Pantry/Clothing Closet News

In November we served 62 families consisting of 132 adults and 37 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. 44 different donations were received in November. Our much-appreciated dedicated volunteers worked 110 hours in November. 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.

One of our donors donated a commercial refrigerator. It is being used in the kitchen. Our kitchen is loaded with freezers and refrigerators and we use all of the space available with donations. We get a lot of produce from Costco.

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.

During the month of December, we will be giving out gift cards and turkeys to our guests to brighten their holiday.

We have had great responses so far from our members in supporting our donations to LSSI's holiday program again this year. We are asking our members to contribute to this program. Outreach will donate \$250.00.



Church Calendar

January 5	Finance Meeting	5:30 pm
January 10	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
January 24	Outreach Meeting	4:30 pm
January 30	Annual Congregational	11:00 am
January 30	Meeting/ Coffee Hour	
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.**



Annual Congregational Meeting January 30, 2022

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