

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.

Last month I put a challenge in front of everyone. As part of it, I encouraged you to let me know if the Spirit speaks to you in any way. So far, not one person has said a word to me. So, let me try something else: What are you looking forward to at Resurrection? Are you looking forward at all? If so, what do you see there? Are you excited for the future? I know I am. Sometimes, when we find ourselves pondering the future, we tend to get stuck there...in a good way. If we see the possibilities of the path we are on, it is easy to linger there in that place of hope, peace, unity and growth. I do. That is what I see (because that is what God has promised), and I like it there. It's gonna be so good!

But, so often, when we are blessed to catch these hope-filled glimpses of our future, when we lock in on that distant moment alone, we tend to look past the path that gets us there. It's easy to do. The truth is that God has a great plan for us, as individuals, as a church, as a community in Christ, as God's Kingdom. Though that place we are heading is going to be great, God also knows all the space between here and there. It's the space we tend to overlook.

In the last few months, I've tried to get you to see the path that takes us there. This includes the steps we need to take in faith and community to one day arrive at the place God has promised. The primary way in which we see ourselves getting there is through intentional opportunities for relationship development. Our celebration committee has done a great job with providing those opportunity through an open house and also a community BBQ. Worship also connects us to God and to each other in Christ, and (hopefully) it sparks an energy and desire to do all the things we say and pray and sing. It is our path then, to allow more space to continue in connection. Not just with each other, but with the greater community as well. Keep your eyes open for those opportunities!

those opportunities!

10-11 This is God's Word on the subject: "As soon as Babylon's seventy years are up and not a day before, I'll show up and take care of you as I promised and bring you back home. I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out—plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for.

12 "When you call on me, when you come and pray to me, I'll listen.

13-14 "When you come looking for me, you'll find me.

"Yes, when you get serious about finding me and want it more than anything else, I'll make sure you won't be disappointed." God's Decree.

"I'll turn things around for you. I'll bring you back from all the countries into which I drove you"—God's Decree—"bring you home to the place from which I sent you off into exile. You can count on it."

- Jeremiah 29:10-14

-Darryl Thompson Powell, pastor

Summary of August Council Meeting

Pastor led us in a devotion based on the creation story in Exodus where man was created in "God's image". Pastor asked us to think about two different questions and comment.

- 1) What does it mean to be created in the image of God? Comments included: A physical image is like looking in the mirror. An image is more than what we see. An image is also what comes from inside us and how we handle ourselves.
- 2) What does it mean when we don't see others for who they are? Comments included: We are not living up to God's expectations. We need to pray to learn to accept people for who they are especially when they are different from us. We need to see God in the image of others. We should trust in God that those that are different than us are also created in God's image.
- Community BBQ discussion about the successful event and tweaks for future events.
- Basement Repairs completed.

- Electric Car Charging Station Pastor provided two proposals and his preliminary recommendation. Pastor shared the following details: 95% of Chicagoland residents have not driven an electric vehicle. All electric vehicles have EV license plates ... look for them. Details are still needed regarding funding from the state. The prices of electric vehicles are comparable to gas vehicles. Discussion about how this is another way that the church can support the need of the community. Decision to table any decisions on the proposal until the September meeting.
- God's Work Our Hands, Sunday, September 11th Jewel has agreed to offer another food drive like the July drive. The barrels will be on display from September 10th to the 17th.
- Fall Fest Parade Lindsay has the paperwork for the early October event. She will lead the planning.
- Anti-Racism We watched a Ted Talk video from 2014 that was given by the co-chairman of Arial Investments Mellody Hobson. Mellody is an African American woman who was the youngest child of a large family from the southside of Chicago. She went to Princeton and is regarded as one of the most influential people on the planet. Pastor commented: If we are all created in the image of God, when we do not see the full person, we are diminishing the image of God. We must notice the difference in people but we should not JUDGE them by their differences.

Submitted by Beth Silenzi, Church Council Secretary

Outreach Food4Life Food Pantry/Clothing Closet News

In July the Food Pantry served 61 families consisting of 141 adults and 59 children. We were not open on July 4th so this total is for 3 weeks

Our guest list continues to grow each week. We are averaging 3 new guests a week.

We are forever grateful to those who donate food and toiletries each week. McDonalds has been added to our donators list. Our guests are very happy.

Our special item Sunday has been very successful and we thank our members for their generosity. We have started mac and cheese Sunday. Everyone's help in keeping our food pantry stocked is greatly appreciated.

We are working on a mission project to do around the holidays. We will partner with Unity in Community again to provide Thanksgiving food baskets for our guests.



This year Resurrection is participating in GWOH by hosting another week-long Food Drive at Jewel in Franklin Park. If you shop for groceries, you are participating!



Financial Summary July 2022

 July
 Year to Date

 Income:
 \$5,423.02
 \$43,878.57

 Expenses:
 (\$11,729.08)
 (\$87,198.55)

 Income Shortfall:
 (\$6,306.06)
 (\$43,319.98)

 Loss on Investments:
 \$13,836.97
 (\$36,250.42)

 Total Shortfall:
 \$7,530.91
 (\$79,570.40)

July results show a large gain in our investments. Envelope income and expenses are on budget for the year. Our cash position as of 7/31/22 is \$275,153.71 in total cash assets, spread across our investment, Money Market, Operating Accounts and other investments. So far this year the stock market is still down, but coming back slowly. Our investments are not helping to offset our shortfalls and if this trend continues, we could have a huge shortfall this year. Our Income shortfall year to date is concerning.

God Bless. Be Healthy and Safe.

Wayne Molley, Treasurer

Community BBQ a Success!

Thanks to all who came out and participated in our first Community BBQ!

A few facts:

People attended: 73

Hot dogs and hamburgers consumed: 160

Games for kids: 3 Face painters: 1 Music: Hot!

There was so much connecting with the community that sunny July day. The Celebration Committee is grateful to everyone who had a part in it. God's spirit was truly with us. We look forward to next year!



Church Calendar

September 12	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
September 14	Outreach Meeting	4:30 pm
September 25	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

(online only)

Thursdays Al-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.

Watch Party: 13 Lives Saturday September 10, at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm.