

March 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.

“Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Mark 12:31b)

On February 14th, Resurrection’s church council discussed how to respond to the possibility of Gov. Pritzker lifting indoor mask requirements in most places on February 28. Taking a variety of things into consideration, the council voted to follow the states guidelines (beginning on 2/28) and strongly encourage those attending worship, meetings, and other church community activities to continue wearing masks while not requiring them. The Food4Life pantry will still require masks.

Some may wonder why we are strongly encouraging the wearing of masks when most members are vaccinated and boosted. From the beginning of this pandemic, I’ve emphasized that all the measure we put in place were to keep each of us **and** our neighbors healthy, alive and comfortable. It was never about individual comfort; it has always been about our community. Early on, there were those who absolutely wouldn’t come into the church for anything...and we respected that and adapted as needed. Now – after 2 years of living with COVID-19 – there are those who are still a little uneasy about gathering in larger groups, even if vaxxed and boosted...and we will respect that and adapt as needed.

We know that, medically speaking, the unvaccinated members of our community are more at risk than the vaccinated ones. Because of our love for every member of the community and our desire to include all in God’s work, we still need to maintain some commonsense regarding the pandemic. We are safer than ever, but we are not out of the woods yet. The Omicron fueled wave we’ve just experienced sickened fully vaccinated and boosted people as well as the unvaccinated. As I’ve said before, vaccines do not provide a magic shield around you. They do, however, significantly reduce the chance of severe illness, and drop the chance of you dying from COVID-19 to almost zero. Hopefully now we are entering the endemic phase with COVID-19 (like the flu). The council will continue to monitor state guidelines and adjust as needed. We do not do this because we want to make sure we’re happy, comfortable, and want to get back to “normal.” We do this because we love our neighbors as ourselves. We also remember that it’s not about going back to the way things were...but going forward to the way God calls us to be.

“Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” - Philippians 3:13b-14 (NIV) -Darryl Thompson Powell, pastor

Church Council Meeting January 14, 2022

Pastor Darryl Thompson Powell, Lauren Obrzut – President, Jeff Davis – Vice President, Wayne Molley – Treasurer, Virginia Schultz, Sue Koevenig – Financial Secretary and Beth Silenzi - Secretary

Pastor’s Devotion was about temptation and what keeps us from doing the things that God has called us to do. After the readings about temptation Pastor had an easy ice breaker question for us.

The next questions were more serious and got to the heart of why devotion time is so important.

What is your greatest temptation as a member of council? Each of us had time to share our thoughts. The temptation to do projects myself instead of delegating. The temptation to vote based on other’s expectations instead of my heart. The temptation to always put the church budget before the church mission. The temptation to hold back and do things the easy way instead of get involved. The temptation to think I know the answers before listening and learning. The temptation to lead all projects instead of influencing others to lead.

What is the council’s greatest temptation? The temptation to make “safe” choices for the congregation. The temptation to ignore God’s call when we don’t feel safe. The temptation to stop listening to our members and God.

What keeps us from breaking out of the box? In the bible followers of the young prophets that spoke about change were attacked and hated. As a council we have a fear of disappointing the members. We all want acceptance and fear keeps us from changing. Change must be centered around prayer. What is God calling us to do?

Pastor prayed: God lead us into the wilderness.

Vision and Mission – The goal of the meeting on February 8th was to finalize a theme and supporting bible verses for the celebration. After lengthy discussion the group decided additional prayer was needed. The Bible Study group on February 9th did some additional research on lessons. The group will meet again on February 22nd.

Electric Car Charging Station – Pastor provided some basic information and will prepare a more detailed proposal for the March meeting.

The new Council and Officers will be installed during the February 27th worship service.

The date for the Synod Assembly is June 3rd and 4th. 2 delegates from the congregation are needed. Please speak to a council member if you are interested in attending.

Printer for Office – The ink jet printer which is 3 plus years old is failing. Wayne will provide a proposal of ink jet vs laser printer at the March meeting.

Revitalizing Resurrection Through Celebration!

We are doing a new thing! Working with Pr. CeCee Mills of the ELCA North Carolina Synod, we are exploring ways to revitalize our vision and mission.

We're starting with a celebration of the Food Pantry/Clothing Closet! As the weeks go by, keep your eyes and ears out for more information. How exciting!

Outreach Food4Life Food Pantry/Clothing Closet News



In January the Food Pantry served 57 families consisting of 123 adults and 52 children.

Our monthly numbers are increasing which means there are many 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 to meet the needs of our guests. Food Rescue US has been one of God's many blessings. It has been amazing that God always makes sure we have food for our guests. 47 different donations were received in January. A big thank you to Virginia Schultz who donates eggs every week. Also, a special thanks to Jeff Peterson who is very faithful in donating items that are listed in the bulletin each week.

Our much-appreciated dedicated volunteers worked 129 hours in January. Their time is very much appreciated. Thanks to Pastor Darryl for picking up the Panera Bread on Monday mornings. Thank you also to Wayne and Donna Molley, Lindsay Vega and Jeff Davis for picking up at Costco on Saturday mornings. We have been blessed with volunteers that are not members of Resurrection who are picking up food from Costco on Saturdays and bringing it to the church. We thank them for their time.

God is Good! All the time!

Financial Summary January 2022

January Income:	\$5,597.66
<u>January Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$12,166.52)</u>
January Shortfall:	(\$6,568.86)
<u>Loss on Investments:</u>	<u>(\$12,188.25)</u>
Total Jan. Shortage with Investments	(\$18,757.11)
YTD Income:	\$5,597.66
<u>YTD Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$12,166.52)</u>
YTD Income Shortfall	(\$6,568.86)
<u>YTD Investment Gain:</u>	<u>(\$12,188.25)</u>
YTD Total Shortfall:	(\$18,757.11)

January results reflect a monthly shortage in envelope income of \$541.20 compared to 2022 budget and an Investment loss of (\$12,188.25). With Plate and Interest Income our total income for the month was a negative (\$6,590.29). Expenses came in at (\$12,166.52) under budget for the month, leaving us with an overall loss of (\$18,757.11) for the month.

Our cash position as of 1/31/22 is \$340,313.52 in total cash assets, spread across our investment, Money Market, Operating Accounts and other investments. Our monthly expenses averaged \$12,167.00 a month and our average income is only averaging \$5,598.00 a month. If this continues all year we will use \$78,828.00 of our investments to cover our short fall in our income for this year. 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

March 9	Finance Meeting	5:30 pm
March 14	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
March 15	Outreach Meeting	4:30 pm
March 27	Coffee Hour	11:00 am
Mondays	Food Pantry/Clothing Closet	
		12:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Wednesdays	Bible Study	2:00 pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm



'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.**



LENT

March 2

Ash Wednesday Services 1:00 & 7:00 pm
with imposition of ashes.

(in-person, Facebook, YouTube)

Wednesday Lenten Services

1:00 pm (in-person, Facebook, YouTube)
and 7:00 pm (Facebook, YouTube).