

September 2019



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.

When was a time when you felt truly welcomed in someone's home? Was it when, from the moment you walked in the door, they expected you to follow their rules and rituals for their home (like taking your shoes off at the door) even though it made you feel uncomfortable? Or maybe when they served you their traditional Friday night meal even though they knew you were allergic to the main ingredient? I hope no one said yes to either of those examples (if you did, you need to tell me why!). Generally, the times we feel most welcomed are times when someone goes out of their way (or out of their comfort zone) to make sure we are comfortable. Usually that means they needed to change their expectations or preferences.

Then why is it that when it comes to church, we expect anyone who comes into the building to worship in a way that is comfortable for us and not necessarily for them? We like to worship the way we've been doing it for years. We're comfortable with it that way. It makes us feel safe...secure...complacent. Merriam-Webster.com defines "complacent" as "marked by self-satisfaction especially when accompanied by unawareness of actual dangers or deficiencies." When we become complacent as a church, we are like the junk-food-eating couch potato who doesn't recognize the severity of his health. The literal meaning of this word's Latin root is "very pleased." Even though complacent people (and churches) may seem pleased with themselves, others are rarely pleased with them. Complacent people (and churches) are unconcerned by things that should concern them, and they may neglect their duties.

'And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' (Luke 12:19)

Jesus brings this up in his parable about the rich fool. The rich person got complacent with the abundant blessings God had poured out. Instead of thinking about how that wealth could help with ministry, the rich fool decided to sit back, relax, and enjoy life. There was no concern for those in need. No concern about creating a welcoming place for others. Only thing the rich fool could think of was making themselves happy.

Siblings in Christ, Resurrection is a rich congregation. We need to make sure we are not like the rich fool, complacent with what we have and ready to sit back and make ourselves happy. To do that, we will be making a conscious effort to hear all voices (not just the loudest), including those voices that speak from outside our building. We will also try new things in worship and in outreach to help guests in our "home" feel welcomed. This is a challenge for many as worship is a constant that makes us feel comfortable and happy (i.e., complacent). I believe Resurrection is up to the challenge.

-Darryl Thompson Powell

Council Meeting August 2019

Devotions

Pastor Darryl Thompson Powell began our gathering with a reading from 2 Corinthians 5 v.11 Friendship with God through Christ. The love of Christ urges us on. Pastor Daryl asked, "What things in our life requires the love of Christ to urge us on?" The discussion that followed centered on learning to listen to each other, respecting each other, trying to understand each other, and asking God for help and guidance. We want our faith to grow. Our leadership needs to be based on Christ who will keep us secure. Christ urges us on to show love to others.

Business

The agenda and the minutes from the July meeting were approved. Vision and Mission were briefly discussed. It was asked: Are we meeting the vision and mission of Resurrection? This will be on next month's agenda for further discussion.

The cross has been made that will hold Jesus. We have had two arrangements for the altar and chairs. We currently have the altar on the south wall. The furniture will be arranged so the altar will be on the east wall during the month of September. At the end of the month the congregation will vote on which arrangement they prefer. Then the cross with Jesus will be displayed.

We are currently waiting for the state to determine our tax-exempt status. Wayne has been in contact regarding the sale of the organ. The "television for photo display" and the "basement stairs" are on hold.

The amended changes to the Special Congregation Meeting on July 1, 2018 is also on hold. All items for the September newsletter need to be sent to Linda by Thursday, August 22.

We discussed ideas for "God's Work. Our Hands", on September 8. We will contact the Franklin Park Park District to determine if we could clean two of the parks on that day.

The Franklin Park Fall Fest is on October 6. Notice will be put in the Sunday bulletin and announced for people to contact Lindsay Vega if they are attending.

The sign committee will be meeting soon.

Church insurance was discussed next. We cannot lower the value of the insurance coverage. That was determined by the insurance company. The committee's goal is to investigate other insurance options.

The reserve transfer fund item will be discussed at the next finance meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the committee reports. A second motion was made, seconded and passed to remove Interfaith Committee and 75th Anniversary Committee from the agenda since their assignment has been completed.

The next council meeting will be held on October 9, 2019. Meeting was adjourned. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Flanagan

Financial Summary July, 2019

July Income:	\$4,066.10
<u>July Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$8,467.57)</u>
Income:	\$4,401.47
YTD Income:	\$77,878.69
<u>YTD Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$66,030.98)</u>
Surplus / Deficit:	\$11,847.71

*J*uly figures reflect a continuation of a volatile stock market. For this month that means a loss of (\$908.38).

July specifics include envelope income of \$4,748.50, plus \$121.00 Plate Income, Interest Earnings of \$104.98 and investment losses of (\$908.38) giving us a total net income of \$4,066.10. Expenses came in at (\$8,467.57), leaving us with an overall deficit of (\$4,401.47) for the month and a surplus of \$11,847.71 YTD. An additional \$3,000 was sold off from our investment accounts to help cover monthly expenses. Our cash position is \$386,051.07 in total cash assets, spread across our Investment, Money Market, Operating Accounts and other investments.

Rich Andracki, Treasurer



Sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of **Marge Andrews**, a longtime faithful member of RLC, upon her passing.



Interfaith Outreach Committee



This year's 2nd Annual Backpack Giveaway was a HUGE Success! This partnered effort between SABAH, ICNA and RLC resulted in 124 filled backpacks being given away at the Hawthorne site and 7 being given away at the Grand site!

The 34th Annual GCFD Hunger Walk is Saturday, September 7th. We have several walkers ready to board a school bus headed for Jackson Park that morning! It is not too late for you to make a donation to this worthy cause. On-line use our personalized Interfaith Outreach link <https://give.classy.org/InterfaithOutreach>. If sending a check, please write **#A01550** in the memo Line of your check. Call Lois if you have questions (708) 638-2320. We will report back next month on what our total raised was!

We are providing bagged lunches for Housing Forward (PADS) guests on 5th Sundays for 20 site guests in Oak Park, beginning on Sept. 29th. Possibility of further dates as needed.

Always thankful to neighboring faith communities, individual donors, neighborhood companies and friends for all donations.

Our volunteers are great! Thank you all!!

Our Pantry & Clothing Closet hours are:

Mondays from 12:00 PM until 3:00 PM—Grand

Saturdays from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM—Hawthorne



Church Calendar

September 2 nd	Office and Food Pantry closed	
September 3 rd	Finance Meeting	6:00 pm
September 7 th	GCFD Hunger Walk	6:30 am
	Hawthorne Site Food Pantry closed	
September 9 th	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
Mondays	Food Pantry/Clothing Closet	
	12:00 pm – 3:00 pm	
Wednesdays	Craft Club	9:30 am
	Bible Study	2:00 pm
Thursdays	Al-Anon	7:30 pm
Saturdays	Food Pantry/Clothing Closet	
	10:00 am – 1:00 pm	

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In an Emergency

If you have an emergency outside office hours, you may reach **Pastor Darryl at 847-258-5580**.

"God's Work. Our Hands."
Sunday September 8, 2019