

January 2020

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.

2020 Vision

Yep, I'm jumping on the bandwagon that so many others have climb on, using the new year to talk about the vision of the church. I was trying hard to not do this and instead be more original, but it was clear that the Holy Spirit wanted me to put aside my ego for God's leading. Once I did that, I could see how appropriate it is in 2020 to focus on the vision for Resurrection. Barring a few more minor things (and one major one with the stairs to the basement), in 2019 we accomplished all that we hoped to do in getting our new home settled. Now it's time to focus on moving RLC from a maintenance ministry to a missional one. We can't do that without a solid vision. Most people confuse "mission" and "vision." A mission defines what a church is currently doing; a vision is the ultimate goal of what a church would like to accomplish. Put in a different way, the mission is what people do in order to achieve the vision. Resurrection has focused a lot on the mission of the church; it's time to focus on the vision.

Where the mission of the church is created in community, God gives the vision for a church to its pastor. Proverbs 29:18a says in the King James translation, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." I like how the Message translation puts that same verse: "If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves." It's my responsibility – as Resurrection's pastor – to help you see the vision that God has laid out. That way RLC doesn't continue to stumble over itself. I will share more of this vision as we move through 2020. For now, let me share three of its key elements:

Connecting: Resurrection will be actively involved in connecting people in fellowship and connecting people to God in relationship. Connecting also implies partnership. We are better together than by ourselves. We want to partner with one another, with other communities of faith, and with "secular" and governmental organizations to build God's kingdom.

Growing: – God wants our church to be as healthy as possible. Resurrection needs to be growing numerically but those numbers mean nothing if we are not growing spiritually. Before we can grow wider numerically, we need to be growing deeper as disciples.

Going – We are to live our lives missionally, making disciples and serving God's people in ways that help them see just how good our God is. That means we need to deny ourselves (i.e., not make everything about me), take up our cross, and follow Jesus. When we live out our mission and are truly going, it will bring us around to connecting and growing.

For this vision to be achieved, it means that some things will need to change. The biggest change being how members of Resurrection look at living out their faith. Coming to church every Sunday is a good start. The church won't be able to connect, grow, and go if that is all members do. It will only lead to members (and the church) stumbling until RLC ends up in the same place it was four years ago, deciding if you should close the doors or sell the building. God has more in store for Resurrection; I pray that in 2020 everyone will be able to see and live out that vision.

-Darryl Thompson Powell

Council Meeting Minutes December 9, 2019

Present: Al Miralgio, Rich Andracki, Sue Koevenig, Sue Sprenger, Janet Campbell, Lauren Obrzut, Pastor Darryl Thompson Powell

Absent: Susan Flanagan, Lindsay Vega

Meeting opened at 6:05 with Bible Study: Colossians 2:6-19. Pastor Darryl posed the following questions after the reading for discussion: Who do you pray to and why? Where do we find our grounding? What is taught in churches that is not grounded in Jesus?

Motions to approve the Agenda and Minutes from November's meeting were made, seconded, and passed. Items on Agenda discussed:

Parking lot guests have left.

Tree on neighbor's property on the west side of the building was cut down on the day that the new signs went up. This particular tree was in the way of being able to see our new church sign when driving down Grand Ave.

Pastor Darryl to contact members of Nominating Committee to remind them it is time to start reaching out to the congregation to recruit new Council members.

Railing is loose on the basement stairs. To be addressed by the Property Committee.

The amended changes to Special Congregation Meeting on 7-1-18 will be added to the Agenda for January's Annual Meeting.

Holiday Worship Services to be as follows:

Christmas Eve Concert 10:30 PM, Worship 11:00 PM. No Christmas Day or New Year's Eve Services.

It was determined that we should have a special dedication of our new signs at some point in the near future. Pastor Darryl to plan.

Council must elect Auditors for 2019. Sue Koevenig has a list of candidates and will contact them.

It was decided that a gift for Maria, the business owner next door, would be appropriate to thank her for the use of her parking lot on Sundays.

There were questions and discussions about the Treasurer's and Outreach Ministry reports.

Refreshments were served by Lauren Obrzut. January refreshments will be served by Sue Koevenig. Motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and passed at 7:20 PM. We closed with the Lord's Prayer. Next Council Meeting: January 13, 2020.

The Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 26. Annual Reports must be submitted to Linda by January 6.

Submitted by: Lauren Obrzut

Dear RLC Friends,

Thank you so much for your cards, phone calls, prayers, emails, and well wishes as I was recovering from surgery.

Susan Flanagan

*Thank
You!*

Financial Summary

November 2019

November Income:	\$10,557.33
November Expenses:	<u>(\$10,360.99)</u>
Income:	\$196.34
YTD Income:	\$129,569.19
YTD Expenses:	<u>(\$104,886.39)</u>
Surplus / Deficit:	\$24,682.80

November turned positive for us overall with a strong performance from our investments. Our Envelope Income came in at \$5,712 with Plate and Misc. Income at \$167.82 and gains from our investments was a strong \$4,677, giving us a total income of \$10,557. Expenses were in line with expectations at (\$10,360) leaving us with a small surplus of \$196. Our cash position at the end of November was \$383,704 total cash and assets across our Investments, Money Market, Operation Account and other Investments.

Rich Andracki, Treasurer



Resurrection's 2nd Annual Jazz Worship is on Sunday, January 19 at 9:30 am. Come and enjoy!

Interfaith Outreach Committee

Welcome

Another year gone. That may sound depressing, but within Interfaith Outreach, we **welcome** the chance to reflect on the year we've had... knowing that we served 1,425 guest visits in 2019. We prepared and delivered 20 sack lunches to Housing Forward (PADS) in September and December. We raised in excess of \$3,500 in GCFD spending cash through the 2019 Hunger Walk in September! We **welcomed** new guests to the pantry and new volunteers throughout the year at both sites. We finished our year with abundant blessings of donations, both in cash and in gifts to be passed along to Outreach guests in coming weeks. We **welcome** those opportunities to brighten their day with new surprises, compliments of a Giving Tree! Too many 2019 events to list here.

Our Lord **welcomed** our long-time friend and pantry volunteer Marge 'home'. She is missed!

We **welcomed** partnership & community help from SABAH, St. Paul, various schools, businesses, Leyden Township, Kiwanis and countless members and close friends. We look forward to **welcoming** all who choose to help or who seek assistance in 2020!! Most importantly, we **welcome** God's help & guidance as we do the work He'd have us do!

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



January Church Calendar

January 7	Finance Meeting	6:30 pm
January 13	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
January 21	Outreach Meeting	6:30 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



'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 847-258-5580.**

Annual Congregational Meeting January 26, 2020

Please plan on attending. The meeting will be directly following the 9:30 am worship service.

