

April 2021



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.

"Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life." (John 12:24-25)

On April 3, 1968, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his last public address in Memphis, TN. He traveled there in support of a sanitation workers' strike and wasn't scheduled to speak. But the workers wanted to hear from him. Dr. King came to Bishop Charles Mason Temple that evening to say a few words. Speaking without notes, he said, *"All we say to America is, 'Be true to what you said on paper.' If I lived in China or even Russia, or any totalitarian country, maybe I could understand the denial of certain basic First Amendment privileges, because they hadn't committed themselves to that over there. But somewhere I read of the freedom of assembly. Somewhere I read of the freedom of speech. Somewhere I read of the freedom of the press. Somewhere I read that the greatness of America is the right to protest for right."*

He ended this way: *"Well, I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it doesn't matter with me now. Because I've been to the Mountaintop. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you..."* It was as if he knew that it was time to remind the people that the story had to go on without him. The next day – April 4 – he was killed at the age of 39. Even with his death, the cries for justice did not stop.

Although we wish all the work had been completed in the 60's – i.e., all racism and bigotry had been solved and abolished during those days – we can look around us today and see many areas of injustice and violence based on racist assumptions, stereotypes, and prejudices. As much as we want to describe our nation as "post-racial" or "anti-racist," our daily actions and American policies still fuel these truths of racism and prejudice.

Dr. King's message was challenging enough to America that he was assassinated for his teachings. We have a lot to learn, from Dr. King. We have more to learn from the prophetic voices around us today, teaching us and awakening us to the real injustices that still exist. Let's die to ourselves and listen to a multitude of voices, from many communities and experiences, so that we can grow together in faith as the kingdom of God.

-Darryl Thompson Powell, pastor (with thanks to Pastor Carla!)



Create in me a clean
heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit
within me.

Psalms 51:10

Welcome
Spring

Church Council March 8, 2021 (via Zoom)

Devotion by Pastor Darryl – Kingdom Extension (Acts 8:1b-8, 11:19-26)

The ordinary people who followed Jesus started spreading the word to Jews and then Greeks and the church grew by leaps and bounds in that year. The apostles did not start teaching about Jesus until after this time. Pastor asked: 1) Does Resurrection Lutheran Church need a program to encourage personal witnessing. 2) How is Resurrection Lutheran Church involved in our community (other than the Food Pantry and Giving Closet)? Each council member shared their thoughts on both issues. The consensus from the group about witnessing is that most of us do not discuss our faith and a program would help. Discussion about involvement in our community determined we are good at helping on projects but weak at initiating our own programs in the community.

Homework for council: pray every day that God will give us one opportunity in the month to share the Gospel with someone.

The group discussed our Vision and Mission Homework from last month. Discussion focused on how we continue to talk about Vision and we need to do “something”. We discussed programs and exploration projects from the past. The synod is currently offering a “Fund for Mission Grant”. Pastor will explore more details to discuss at a follow-up / review meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 25th at 6:00 via Zoom.

The business portion of the meeting included approving minutes from February, we need two volunteers to attend Synod Assembly on June 5th via Zoom, Repair of Basement Stairs and other miscellaneous items.

God's work. Our Hands. Save the Date for September 12th. Pastor would like us to start thinking about ideas. Alan suggested we add hands to our windows for each person we have reached out to in our community and a hand for each member that reaches out to the community. Great idea!

The meeting closed with the updated version of the Lord's Prayer.

Financial Summary February 2021

February Income:	\$5,009.28
<u>February Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$11,237.36)</u>
February Shortfall:	(\$6,228.08)
<u>Gain on Investments:</u>	<u>\$4,900.02</u>
Total February Loss with Investments:	(\$1,328.06)
YTD Income:	\$11,356.33
<u>YTD Expenses:</u>	<u>(\$21,393.72)</u>
YTD Income Shortfall	(\$10,037.39)
<u>YTD Investment Loss:</u>	<u>(\$2,951.50)</u>
YTD Total Shortfall:	(\$7,085.89)

February results reflect a monthly shortage in envelope income of \$720.00 compared to 2021 budget and an Investment gain of (\$4,900.02). With Plate and Interest Income our total income for the month was a positive \$9,909.30. Expenses came in at (\$11,237.36) over budget for the month, leaving us with an overall loss of (\$1,328.06) for the month.

Our cash position as of 2/28/21 is \$379,308.60 in total cash assets, spread across our investment, Money Market, Operating Accounts and other investments. Our monthly expenses are averaging around \$10,700.00 a month and our average income is only around \$5,700.00 a month.

If this continues, we will use \$60,000.00 of our investments to cover our short fall in our Income for this year. Some good news was that we received a second PPP Loan of \$13,475.00 in February to help offset these shortfalls. And also, in early March we were forgiven for our first PPP loan of \$13,421.00, so we will not have to pay it back.

God Bless. Be Healthy and Safe.

Wayne Molley, Treasurer

Outreach Food4Life Food Pantry/Clothing Closet News

It has been a busy month so far. We still have two more weeks this month to serve our guests.

We have completed our mission of donating items to St. Paul Church for their mission of helping the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans. Thank you to all who donated items or monetary gifts. Your participation was greatly appreciated.

We are forever grateful to those who donate food to keep our food pantry open. Thank you to Don from Pepperidge Farm for supplying us bread, St. Paul Church, The Unity in Community Foundation, one of our pantry guests for donating meat, Starbucks, Pet Paradise and all our generous members and local members of the community. God keeps directing people to our food pantry needs. So far this month over 30 donations have been received. We are truly thankful for our many blessings. We have been able to give out extra food because of the generosity of all.

Our clothing closet continues to be a blessing to our guests. Thanks to all who donate clothing items. We have had many donations for our guests to choose from. Items that are received soiled or torn are donated to St. Paul Church for one of their ministries. The snow has melted and we are now able to bring soiled and torn items to St. Paul. Thank you to Beth Silenzi and Lindsay Vega for taking time to bring the many stored up bags to the bins at St. Paul.

Our food pantry is open every Monday from 12:00 PM until 3:00 PM.



April Church Calendar

April 1	Maundy Thursday Service	1:00 pm & 6:30 pm
April 2	Good Friday Service	1:00 pm & 6:30 pm
April 3	Easter Vigil	6:30 pm
April 6	Finance Meeting	6:30 pm
April 11	Contactless Curbside Communion	11:30 am
April 12	Council Meeting	6:00 pm
April 20	Outreach Meeting	4:30 pm
April 25	Virtual 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

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'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.**



Join us on Easter Sunday, April 4 at 9:30 am (in-person with pre-registration only, Facebook, or YouTube).