

Thank you to all those who joined in the conversation and fellowship during the meeting that followed worship on April 30th. These meetings will continue every couple of months so that **all** voices, **all** concerns and **all** opinions may be heard as a Body of Christ outside of worship.

During the meeting, we were reminded to "let go of the past, and no longer dwell on what's been done/undone," something we tackled head-on on during last year's discernment process. With the recent transitions let's not forget that solid piece of advice moving forward as a congregation into the summer months ahead !



Paul wrote to the Church at Philippi to forget those things that are behind and reach forth unto those things that are before. Before you can go on with God, you must forget about the past.

Paul, once known as Saul of Tarsus, had to forget about his past as a persecutor of Christians in order to minister effectively.

In 1 Timothy 1:11-16 Paul said of himself: " that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me. I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life."

But thank God, God's great mercy reached Paul! That's one thing he was talking about when he said, "Forgetting those things which are behind, I press toward the mark."

It would have been a terrible thing for Paul to continually remember the havoc he had wrought in the Church by consenting to the death of Stephen and persecuting believers.

If we are to be successful in our Christian life and ministry, there is one thing we must do, and it's a lesson Paul learned: we must learn to forget. If we don't learn this lesson, we'll be handicapped the rest of our lives in living for God.

Let's not be know as a handicapped congregation, but an able-bodied one, one that comes together to press toward the mark as a **whole**.

Happy Summer Resurrection Lutheran



https://www.cfaith.com/index.php/blog/22-articles/christian-living/20532-forget-the-past-2



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At our helpful quarterly congregation meeting last month, you all voted to return to three pre-COVID worship practices: return to passing the offering plate, return to the previous way we distributed Holy Communion, and to return to having Assisting Ministers carry the Processional Cross into and out of our worship.

We began passing the offering plates the following Sunday. The other two practices will return Sunday, June 4. This will be an eventful Sunday for our congregation in several ways. We welcome Russ Henkhaus as our new organist/parish musician, and restore using the Processional Cross and distribution of Holy Communion. So, please note, there is change ahead! Good change. Welcome change. Likely, there will be a few bumps, not with Russ, certainly, but as we get used to doing worship as we have before. It's been three years since we have done these things. Although they are familiar practices to most of us, we've probably gotten a bit "rusty" in the interim. So, let's review.

The Worship Committee and I asked for volunteers to serve as Assisting Ministers. We immediately had six volunteers: Robin Lusardi, Elyse Tillman, Rich Kelley, Dan Garner, Jim Lieber, and Carol Callahan. I was so pleased to see this. It shows that there is life in this congregation and folks who are eager to serve.

The Assisting Ministers will vest in a white alb, carry the Processional Cross into and out of worship, distribute the Offering Plates to the Ushers during the Offertory hymn and receive the Offering Plates from the ushers during the "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" congregational song. During the Offertory hymn they will assist me in setting the table for Holy Communion and assist the Communion Assistants during the Distribution of Holy Communion.

We're changing the setup of the front of the church a little bit for practical reasons. The Assisting Minister will sit behind the Altar on the opposite side of where I usually sit. In the past, we used the three chairs on the dais to the right of the Altar. Putting both of us behind the Altar means fewer steps, less opportunity to trip and fall, and puts the Assisting Minister closer to the Processional Cross.

Robin Lusardi is the first brave volunteer to serve on June 4. The schedule for June is printed elsewhere. Please thank and welcome this new group of volunteers. Also, it's not to late for you to volunteer to serve as an Assisting Minister. If you would like to serve, please talk to me or any member of the Worship Committee.

A reminder about Processional Cross "etiquette." When the Holy Cross is carried in procession as it will be starting June 4, it is customary to honor the Cross by turning to face the Cross. For example, at the beginning of the procession, we'll all be turned toward the back, toward the Cross. As it passes, we follow it and turn forward. After worship as the Cross leaves the sanctuary, we do the reverse. Easy Peasy! Just another example of "dusting off" practices that were once routine for us. For some, this practice may just seem like so much liturgical "mumbo jumbo" and does it really matter, anyway? Think of it this way. If the Holy Cross,

the symbol of God's love *for us* by sending Jesus Christ to die *for us* and to be raised from the dead *for us* is not worthy of our honor and worship, then what is? I can't think of anything more important for my faith and my salvation than the Holy Cross.

Onto Distribution of the Holy Communion. I will stand in front of the Altar with the paten holding the individual hosts. I will place the host into your outstretched hands, cupped, and placed one hand on top of the other. Luther taught us that when receiving the Blessed Bread, we are to remind ourselves that our outstretched hands are making a "manger" to receive Jesus in the Holy Food. The Communion Assistant will be up front with me to my right and to my left. You have the option to either intinct (dip) the host into the chalice held by the Communion Assistant or take one of the disposable individual cups on the table beside the Communion Assistant. There will be a basket for you to place your used individual cup. Before distribution, I will use hand sanitizer. Drinking directly from the chalice *will not* be an option. Bread and Wine that has been consecrated *will not* be used again, but will be reverently returned to the earth from which it came. As I said, there may be a few bumps for a few weeks, but it will all work out. I am looking forward to returning to a more "normal" distribution of Holy Communion.

Also, on June 4, we will welcome Russ, our new musician, with a cookie and punch reception in the foyer. Please stay a moment, have a cookie and say "hello" to Russ. We are so blessed that Russ has agreed to serve us! We are honored to welcome him, and I am certain he will be a great blessing to our congregation.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I failed to commend Ken Rueter for the excellent service he has given us as organist. Ken has provided wonderful music for us, lead our congregational singing with skill and has made this transition to a different organist very easy for all of us. Thank you is such a weak word to offer for what Ken has done for us. His last Sunday with us is May 28, though I'm certain he will return as a substitute organist. Please greet Ken, thank him, and wish him well in his future endeavors.

It's time to bring this lengthy message to a close. My little gray cat, Lilly, and I wish you and yours a rich and relaxing summer, and I look forward to seeing you at worship!

Peace be with you and yours, Pastor Jan





News & Updates



Youth Programs

The Men's Group is sponsoring two teams this year for the Godfrey Park & Recreation summer programs. The sponsored boys' baseball team features our very own Brayden Broche. A girls' softball team is also being sponsored. Schedules of their games will be posted on the church bulletin board or click on the link below to see all the dates/times.

https://resurrectiongodfrey.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/parksandrec@godfreyil.org_20230510_094157.pdf

Both teams will be wearing T-shirts bearing the Resurrection logo. Members of Resurrection are encouraged to visit and watch the games, wear their own Resurrection T-shirts, meet the players and mingle with their parents. We intend to post the scores on the digital marquee as well. At the end of the season, we'll host a social for the teams and their families.

Thanks for your support, The Men's Group

Social Ministry

Value 2 of 5 Values of the ELCA: Dignity, compassion and justice - Each person is created in God's image. We respect this God-given right to dignity and, inspired by the life of Jesus, show love and compassion for all people. Through proclamation of the gospel, through worship and as servants of God working for healing and justice in the world, we uphold and seek to protect the dignity and human rights of all people.

Continue reading for local ministry opportunities to help fulfill this vision grounded in faith, in our biblical and Lutheran confessional sources, and our love of God and neighbors.

Volunteers can minister through brief, simple acts and impact the lives of elderly individuals whose home is a supportive living facility. Resurrection's new Senior Ministry, referred to as "Graceful Nails" provides basic nail care – conversation – light hand massage to women residing at Evergreen Place (100 Glenhaven Drive) in Alton. In April, four volunteers (three from Resurrection Church) spent 1.5 hours and served 12 grateful persons in April 2023. Our next dates are May 27th and June 24th. Volunteers are asked to be at the facility at 1:45 p.m. to help set up. There are simple tasks available for both men and women to increase this faith-based experience. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the hallway bulletin board. This will be an ongoing ministry held on the 4th Saturday of each month. Please contact Sharon Groh with questions at (402) 432-3942.



Social Ministry (continued)



The Madison County Child Advocacy Center (CAC) provides professional intervention and supportive services to fight child abuse. Most importantly, the CAC provides a safe haven for children to talk about the physical or sexual abuse they may have experienced and to help in limiting the number of times a child has to be interviewed.

In order to provide hope and comfort to the children and families who utilize the Center throughout the year, donations for the following are appreciated:

- * toothpaste
- * toothbrush
- * deodorant
- * hairbrush
- * baby wipes
- * feminine hygiene products

All donations must be brand new, sealed, and in their original packaging.

Thank you to those who helped fill an extra-large garbage bag of various size and types of Ziploc baggies. Staff assured us they have many uses at the Center. Three Resurrection members joined several area professionals and business partners recently to tour the facility and interact with staff.

Compassion is expressed in many forms

Dignity, compassion, & justice, Sharon Groh 404-432-3942 (text or call) Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, we provide help and opportunity far beyond the communities where we live.

Churches, charities, food banks, and nonprofit organizations can't solve hunger alone. Government programs and policies play an especially important role. Thanks to an abundance of resources, federal nutrition programs provide 10 times as much food assistance as private churches and charities combined. When enough people speak up, government leaders listen.

The Social Ministry Team assisted parishioners with writing letters reference the global and domestic hunger initiative in April. Information is on display in the narthex or feel free contact Sharon Groh with any questions to continue writing to this cause.



breadfortheworld have faith. end hunger.



Community Garden

Perfect weather and enthusiasm contributed to a successful Planting Day for the Community Garden on Saturday, May 13, 2023. Eight Resurrection volunteers were joined by Alton Mayor David Goins, Godfrey Village Clerk Susan Robbins and a representative of the Alton Food Crisis Center. Following months of planning, ground preparation and nurturing seedlings grown in pots, blessings were asked for a bountiful growing season. All produce will be shared with area food hunger programs and a yet-to-be-built Blessing Box placed on the church property. This ministry is also intended to grow faith-based friendships and a welcome attitude for community members of all ages interested in helping with the summer gardening tasks.

Pray for how you might continue to support this ministry. Can you help water the plants? Share your time weeding or staking plants as they grow? Perhaps you are unable to physically be involved but could you offer conversation and your presence to those working in the garden? All can be in prayer for one another, especially for the families who face circumstances that require the need for food assistance.

The Lord can use all our talents!

Contact Mark Groh with questions or to offer your time/talents at 402-937-3748



Call Committee

At this writing we do not have a candidate. But there is some activity to report. As of late last week, Pastor Sandlin sent an email to me that he has sent paperwork to a possible nominee. What this means is somewhere out there, there is a person who may be willing to be nominated to Resurrection. At this moment a decision has not been made. Please be patient as we need to work on God's timeline and not our own.

As this person is prayerfully considering this request please continue with your prayers asking God to be the guide in finding a pastor for us. I will let you know when we have an update.

Blessings, Your Call Committee: Cheryl Margherio, Janet Broche, Mark Groh, Gary Neese & Rich Kelley (Chair)



Faithful Innovations

Our team completed the third and last training session on Saturday, April 29th. Only Sharon Groh and I were able to attend. Even though we didn't have much to report on recent activities, we participated in discussions with the other teams, heard their experiments and reflected on what has been learned/ gathered along the way. Our team actually ended up being one with many Spiritual experiments and surprising learning experiences to report on.

During conversation, the other teams sensed some of our struggles, offered concern, encouragement and help with contact information. What a wonderful outpouring of support. When one part of the Body is hurting another part of the Body is there to help.

After the session was over, our coach, Ellen Koester and Pastor Elise Rothfusz also shared concern for our team, realizing that our team needs a break or reset. But, what can we do to remedy this? Ellen suggested that we step aside, but still stay together by Dwelling in the Word through email. Pastor Elise agreed that it's always a good thing to turn to God's Word. This will be an opportunity for us to listen to God's word, which is the first thing we do at the beginning of a meeting.

During the summer we will conduct a team email Dwelling in the Word experiment. We are just getting started and <u>we would like to invite anyone interested to join us</u>. Please send an email to <u>richdomes-ticeng@att.net</u> and I will add you to the distribution list. The tentative plan is to send a text on any given week, early in the week. Then sometime during the week, at your convenience, study the Bible text and respond. All the information you need will be in the email. I hope you will join us.

Thanks,

Faithful Innovations Team

Rich Kelley, Elyse Tillman, David Isringhausen, Gary Neese, Sharon Groh, & our Coach Ellen Koester



God Bless Yan, and Thank You very much for your generous donation to St. Ambrose Community Outreach. Your Lenten Offerings will be shared with many brothers & sisters in our community that so desperately need are help.

We recieve calls every day on aux hothine (618-466-2921 - Ext 4) prom those that are struggling with increased everyday living expenses, and emergency situations. Your contribution will help us meet Some of those needs. Please feel pree to refer to am phone number, we have volunteers that answer calls M-F, 9-5PM.

With bratitude, Easter Jey, and Unending Hope in am Risen hord, we thank you!

St. Ambrose Community Outreach

Bith Jochl Treasurer

Resurrection Piano

By now, I'm sure you have seen the gently used piano adorning **our** sanctuary, soon to enhance **our** worship. As you may or may not know, the church's digital piano has issues and a questionable life span left due to age. Many felt that that the presence of a real piano was thoroughly enjoyed while Harvey's piano was present. After a decision by Council in April to begin a search for a replacement, we set a budget of \$1500 and I went on a mission. Within a week, I located a Baldwin Acrosonic listed on a liquidation auction occurring in a home off Yale Blvd. in St. Charles, near Lindenwood University. For those unfamiliar, the Arcosonic was one of Baldwin's top sellers from 1936 until they discontinued it in the 80s. It was noted for its accommodating size, price, quality sound and high-end materials. Ken Reuter has already commented that it has an impressive level of bass.

I was the very first bidder at \$10 earlier in the week and outbid five others about two hours before the auction closed on April 30th at 7p. Resurrection won the piano for \$83. All My Sons Moving was hired to bring it to its new home for a total of \$551. Their manager, who coincidentally resides in Alton, cut down the fuel cost rate and shaved off an hour of labor after hearing where it was headed. At the home off Yale, I learned that the owner of this piano was being placed into a nursing facility and that her son took lessons on it for about two years. It was never really played and just became a piece of living room furniture for the past 40 years. He was thrilled to learn where it was headed and said his mother was would be happy as well.

On moving day, Ruth Wolter was on phone standby to unlock the church upon delivery. She also helped wipe it down and vacuum the dust out of it. Thank you for your assistance Ruth. About a week later, I came back up to church to wipe some stain over the small nicks, secure the music stand and polish it up. The next step will be having it tuned which takes place on June 6. Janet Broche helped arrange tuning with a contact/reference from Evangelical.

Upon writing this, I have been informed that some memorial funds from Jeannette Belfield are going toward the project as well. Thank you, Tim. This has really turned out to be a nice investment with several folks involved to make it happen. We have truly been blessed to secure it for a mere fraction of our targeted budget. I hope everyone is as excited as I to hear it played by our new organist Russ.





Men's Group Meeting will be Thursday, June 8, at 6:00 pm in Young Hall. Dinner provided.

Dan Garner 618-792-1777

Book Club

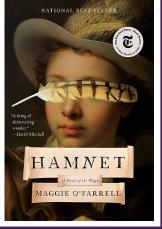
The book to read for our June meeting is <u>Hamnet</u> by Maggie O'Farrell with Judy Young as our discussion leader. This should be another interesting book for us to read and discuss as it is a novel based on the Plague that hit England and European countries in the 1580s. The book is available at the library and according to their info there should be ample books available from surrounding libraries. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please join us on Thursday, June 8, 6:30 PM, at Resurrection Lutheran Church for an evening of good discussions, fun and fellowship.

Summary: A thrilling departure: a short, piercing, deeply moving novel about the death of Shakespeare's 11 year old son Hamnet--a name interchangeable with *Hamlet* in 15th century Britain--and the years leading up to the production of his great play. England, 1580. A young Latin tutor--penniless, bullied *by* a violent father--falls in love with an extraordinary, eccentric young woman--a wild creature who walks her family's estate with a falcon on her shoulder and is known throughout the countryside for her unusual gifts as a healer. Agnes understands plants and potions better than she does people, but once she settles with her husband on Henley Street in Stratford she becomes a fiercely protective mother and a steadfast, centrifugal force in the life of her young husband, whose gifts as a writer are just beginning to awaken

when his beloved young son succumbs to bubonic plague. A luminous portrait of a marriage, a shattering evocation of a family ravaged *by* grief and loss, and a hypnotic recreation of the story that inspired one of the greatest masterpieces of all time, Hamnet is mesmerizing, seductive, impossible to put down--a magnificent departure from one of our most gifted novelists.

Thanks, Ruth Wolter 618-433-1469

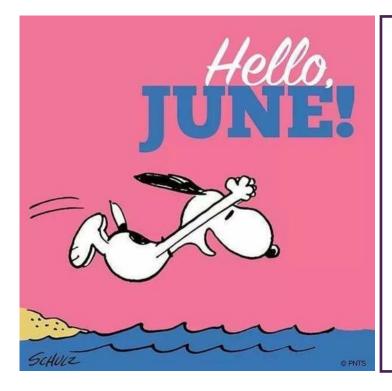






Lap Robes & Prayer Shawls

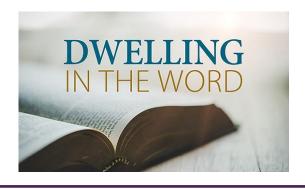
Prayer Shawls and Lap Robes are available for anyone you may know in need of comfort at a difficult time in their life, just to let them know someone does care. Whether it is an illness, loss of a loved one, bad circumstances or knowing they could use some TLC. The recipient does not have to be a member of our church, **we care for all!** . On Sundays see Sherry Wyatt or Ruth Wolter, who will be happy to assist you. Or, you can call Ruth at home, 618-433-1469 who will be happy to meet you at the church for assistance.



Dwelling in the Word

Mondays, 2-3 pm, with Pastor Jan leading

Join us June 5, 12, 19 & 26





Church services will continue to be live streamed each week. We are streaming to our Facebook page, the church website, YouTube, Riverbender.com, Riverbender's FB page and Riverbender.com TV (available through ROKU and Firestick). These

efforts are made possible via Riverbender.com (The fee is \$50/week). Thank you to the camera operators who are helping continue our ministry. Any additional volunteers would be greatly appreciated.



- 9 Alan Robertson
- 10 Marilyn Otis
- 23 Bill Stoutenborough
- 26 Pastor Bill Veith



- 9 Bill and Fay Stoutenborough
- 11 Tammy and Gary Neese
- 17 Alan and Cyndi Robertson

If you didn't see your name listed for a Birthday or Anniversary, please email Neal Booth to be added. Thanks.

FINANCIAL STATUS – April 2023

DEDICATED FUNDS BALANCE GENERAL FUNDS CASH FLOW GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$59,068.03 \$1,237.24 \$24,689.08	
GENERAL FUNDS DETAIL	<u>4/1/2023 -</u> <u>4/30/2023</u>	<u>YEAR TO</u> DATE
Income		
Offering	\$11,591.12	\$52,060.73
Lenten Offering	\$600.00	\$1,800.30
Other Income	\$844.07	\$2,157.72
Total General Fund Income	\$13,035.19	\$56,018.75
Expenses		
Benevolence	\$275.00	\$1,160.00
Building and Grounds	\$1,900.01	\$6,496.52
Christian Education	\$0.00	\$0.00
Church Mortgage	\$2,608.00	\$10,432.00
Evangelism	\$0.00	\$394.77
Insurance	\$405.00	\$1,620.00
Office	\$382.84	\$2,034.11
Personnel Costs	\$921.86	\$1,754.07
Personnel Salaries	\$4,290.52	\$13,939.98
Social Ministry	\$214.72	\$214.72
Stewardship Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00
Worship	\$200.00	\$1,059.50
Total General Fund Expenses General Funds Cash Flow	\$11,197.95 \$1,837.24	\$39,105.67 \$16,913.08



The Lenten Offering total of \$1800.30 was sent to St. Ambrose Community Outreach to help people with utility and water bills. We remain in the black, primarily because Pastor Jan is an interim pastor, not a full-time pastor with possibly a family. Still, PRAISE GOD for our offerings continuing to be strong and many people donating time and talent in addition to money.

June . . . Assisting Ministers, Communion Assistants & Counters

There will be an Assisting Minister meeting after worship on June 25

It's not to late for you to volunteer to serve as an Assisting Minister. If you would like to serve, please talk to Pastor Jan or any member of the Worship Committee.

Assisting Ministers for June:

- June 4 Robin Lusardi
- June 11 Dan Garner
- June 18 Elyse Tillman
- June 25 Jim Lieber

Communion Assistants:

- June- Carol Callahan and Karen Woods
- July- Ruth Wolter and Kay Tucker

Counters:

- June- Jim Lieber and Sherry Wyatt, Neal June 11 & 25
- July- Sherry Wyatt, Neal July 9 & 23, still need one more for July 2, 16 & 30
- August- Janet Broche and Sherry Wyatt



Let's hear it for Ken Rueter coming to our rescue and blessing us yet again with his musical talents. Ken you are always welcomed to worship with us !

Miscellaneous Announcements

- June 4 our new organist Russ Henkaus starts. There will be a meet and greet reception with sweets following service. Welcome to Resurrection Russ !
- June 22, there will be a Memorial Service for Rose Pitts (formerly a member of Trinity in Alton, who moved to Seattle). The Service will be at the Williams Funeral Home in Alton at 10:30 AM with Pastor Jan officiating.



Rose Marie Pitts, age 97, departed this life on Thursday, May 4, 2023 with family at her side.





graci Office H	v. Jan S. Wor ous@midwes ours by appo 618-250-1608	st.net intment		1	2	3
4 Worship 10am Worship Cmte.at 11am	5 Dwelling in the Word 2pm	6 Scouts 7pm	7	8 Book Club at Church 6:30pm Men's Club at Church 6pm	9	10
11 Worship 10am	12 Dwelling in the Word 2pm	13 Scouts 7pm	14	15	16	17 Community Garden Workday 8am
18 Worship 10am	19 Dwelling in the Word 2pm	20 Scouts 7pm Council Meeting at 7p	21 Newsletter Deadline 10p	22 Rose Pitts Memorial at Williams Funeral Home (time to be announced)	23	24 Grateful Nails at Evergreen Place 1:45pm
25 Worship 10am Assisting Minis- ter Meeting 11am	26 Dwelling in the Word 2pm	27 Scouts 7pm	28	29	30	

Rev. Jan S. Worms, Interim

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Jim Lieber, President Robin Lusardi, Vice-President Teresa Droste, Secretary Kay Tucker, Treasurer Neal Booth & Tammy Neese, At Large Members Alan Robertson & Sherry Wyatt, At Large Members

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ruth Wolter, Book Club Jim Lieber, Christian Education, Evangelism Christine Simone, Facebook, Youtube and Social Media Carol Garner, Fellowship Kay Tucker, Finance John Droste, Financial Secretary Dan Garner, Men's Group Keith Collier, Mutual Ministry Russell Henkhaus, Organist/Music Ministry Ruth Wolter, Sherry Wyatt, Prayer Shawls VACANT, Property Sharon Groh, Social Ministry Dan Callahan, Streaming Services/Technology Team Neal Booth, Web Designer VACANT, Worship Rich Kelley, Faithful Innovations

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Service Time: In-Person & Online 10AM

Resurrection Lutheran Church

1211 W. Homer Adams Pkwy. Godfrey, IL 62035

