



Resurrection Lutheran Church  
Annual Report  
2023

# Resurrection Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

1211 W. Homer M. Adams Parkway Godfrey, Illinois 62035

Phone (618) 466-2788

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## February 2024

### Staff

Pastor Jan Worms, Interim Pastor	618-250-1608
Russ Henkaus, Music Leader	314-520-4975
Janet Broche, Administrative Assistant	618-401-2646

### Our Mission . . .

We are an inviting community of faith where we care for all.

### Our Vision . . .

To share God's care, we invite people personally and virtually into community, and offer opportunities to grow and serve.

### Our Guiding Principles . . .

1. Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior.
2. Transparency is key to integrity.
3. Acceptance in inviting.
4. Faithful in caring.
5. Compassion for everyone.
6. Creatively growing in service.

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**Resurrection Lutheran Church**  
**Annual Congregational Meeting**

November 19, 2023, 11:00 a.m.

*We are an inviting community of faith where we care for all.*

- Jim Lieber, Council President led the attendees in prayer to begin the meeting. Jim talked about some of the things that had been accomplished during his second term in office and that he believes the council will continue to work for the good of the church. He shared some of the work that the elected president will need to continue and hopes that the Council will work with him as well as they worked with him in the past. He also hopes that the quarterly congregational meetings will continue because it is a great way to let the church know what the council is working on and to answer any questions that might arise.
- Attendance was taken to ensure that a quorum was reached. The result was 36 members attended and a quorum was reached. Distribution of previous year's congregational meeting minutes, nominating committee roster, proposed budget and agenda was completed.
- No corrections were found in the November 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting. A motion was made by Kay Tucker to accept the minutes as written. Carol Callahan seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion passed.
- The 2024 proposed budget was presented by Kay Tucker. She explained that the budget has a negative balance due to the budget reflecting the hiring of a full-time pastor. We are in good shape. The mortgage will be paid off in August of 2024. Since we pay more than what is due, a question was raised about the advantage of paying the mortgage off early. The answer is reduced interest. Our reserves are in good shape. A motion was made to accept the budget with the correction of adding a budget amount for Faithful Innovations by Alan Robertson. It was seconded by Carol Garner. The motion passed by a show of hands.
- Tim Belfield explained the Nominating Committee process to fill the positions on the Council for the coming 2024 year. The positions to be filled are Tammy Neese, Alan Robertson and Jim Lieber. In addition, the treasurer's position has been made as a "non-voting position." The ballot contained the following: President: Neal Booth; At Large Members: Vicki Baggio, Pat Ford, and Wendy Reinbold. Jim Lieber will automatically be fulfilling a 1-year term on the Nominating Committee in 2024. There were no additional nominees from the floor. The new Council members were accepted by acclamation. The installation of the new members will be coming soon during the church service. In addition, Kay Tucker has accepted to be on the 2024 Nominating Committee.
- Committee reports will be presented at the Annual report.
- Jim presented that our community outreach (beyond our walls) totals \$8,240. The generous giving of our congregation continues to support these efforts. In addition, the Men's Club had a successful chili drive and made over \$400. Their efforts along with

additional funds (totaling \$1,000) were made in our church's name to the ELCA relief fund for Maui.

- Rich Kelley informed us that he has reached out to Amy Zietlow, the new assistant to the Bishop regarding our mission to find a new pastor. He will keep everyone informed.
- Pastor Jan Worms closed the meeting with reciting the Lord's Prayer.

*To share God's care, we invite people personally and virtually into community,  
And offer opportunities to grow and serve.*

## **President's Report for 2023**

The year 2023 was a year of getting back to normal. We began the year with Sunday supply ministers, someone new every week, the Eucharist distributed in wafer + wine packets, and a center aisle table with video camera and microphone.

In February, Pastor Jan Worms accepted our invitation to become our interim pastor. That same month, work began on the installation of our audio/visual system. Our men's club designed and built a Lenten Cross to declare Jesus' sacrifice for mankind.

It was also a year of great loss, with the death of seven members. Their example of faith and long-term commitment will be sorely missed. Yet, we had four new members join, and these have all contributed in meaningful ways already.

A community garden was begun, and many hands turned a patch of grass into a garden of bounty. May it continue and grow as we become better farmers.

With Russ Henkhaus as our new organist, we moved the organ forward, purchased a piano, organized a choir and continued to enhance worship with music.

Our building has been updated with the purchase and installation of an AED, and CPR classes have been offered to our members and the community.

While obstacles in life may test our faith, the members of Resurrection have remained strong, in our beliefs, our dedication and support, and our resolve to carry that faith forward. Thank you to the many workers who make this possible.

Jim Lieber  
Past President

## **Faithful Innovations Team**

Faithful innovations is a new approach to finding God in our lives and in our community. It is a slow, continuous process, not a “one and done” event. Team members attend three training sessions and meet with a coach monthly for study, prayer, reflection, and planning.

In late 2022, the Team decided to attend Faithful Innovations Training in St. Louis for a second time as a review. It was felt that it might help us with some new ideas, along with Sharon Groh who joined the team mid-2022 when training sessions were not available.

The first training is “Listening” (September 2022). It begins with prayer, which is where we should always begin. We ask God to help us listen to the Spirit. He gives us help and guides us. Next is a new approach to bible study through Dwelling in the Word. This is a 3-part reflection on a biblical text in which:

1. You look for something in the text that catches your attention.
2. What questions do you have concerning the text?
3. What might God be saying to you in this text

This is a great listening exercise causing you to reflect on what the text is saying to you. Then taking it to the next step of listening to one another (family, church family, friends, neighbors and community).

The second training is “Act” (January 2023). We learn by doing. Using action learning to discover God’s leading. In this training we see how an experiment to behave our way or act our way into a new way of thinking. An experiment is just that; an experiment. A method of trial and error in which you try something. If it works great, if not that’s ok. The important part is what we learned. We explore this more in Training Three.

The third training is “Share” (April 2023). This is the intentional reflection on our actions. We typically do not do this reflecting on our actions. But it is important for us to ask, “what did we learn”? It’s not a pass/fail in the sense that if it didn’t work it’s a failure and you give up (this is more typical of what we do). No, if it didn’t work, how can you make it work or make it better? How do we do this? Each of us share what we learned. Each of us see things from a different perspective and through group reflection many different thoughts will come together to be a guide to improvement.

After months of struggling, and only two members able to attend the April 2023 training, we realized we needed to take a break. We tried dwelling in the word by email over the summer but that didn’t work out so well as everyone had a very busy summer.

We teamed up with Social Ministry to decorate the Staff Lounge at Gilson Brown Elementary School. We displayed all the school supplies the congregation had collected, decorated the room with flowers, a poster, cards, fruit basket and lots and lots of cookies. The teachers and staff were very surprised and appreciative of the donations and everything we did. Thanks to Sharon and Mark Groh, Elyse Tillman, David and Ann Isringhausen, Gary and Tammy Neese. Great Job!!!

We met once in November but unable to get anything scheduled, although conversation and support was beneficial.

A couple of changes took place this year regarding our team. During the summer our coach Ellen Koester accepted a new position at a church in Chattanooga, TN. She has not been very available but would like to be our coach in 2024. As part of all the changes with the Synod staff, our Synod liaison, Pastor Elise Rothfusz, who facilitated the Faithful Innovations Ministry, retired as of December 2023 and the position was vacant at the end of the year.

Most likely our team will be on our own in 2024. We hope that work schedules, health concerns with David and those of the families of all on the team improve going into 2024. Praying for Spiritual guidance in 2024.

Faithful Innovations Team: Elyse Tillman, Sharon Groh, David Isringhausen, Gary Neese, Rich Kelley (Chair), Coach Ellen Koester

## **Social Ministry**

Members: Ann and David Isringhausen, Carol Garner, Mark and Sharon Groh

With the participation of congregation members, the following community and congregation-focused ministries were engaged:

1. Gilson Brown Elementary School Supplies, Clothing and Coat Drives. We coordinated with the Faithful Innovations Team to decorate the Staff Lounge to show appreciation during Gods Work. Our Hands. Weekend. The congregation was provided information on volunteer opportunities with students.
2. Several bags of plush toys were gift-tagged and distributed to area First Responders, Head Start, Riverbend Family Ministries and teaching staff at Gilson Brown Elementary School.
3. Card Ministry. Donated greeting cards were sent to individuals on prayer lists, follow-up to illnesses or absences from church, birthdays, and anniversaries.
4. Alton Crisis Food Center – canned & boxed food donations, “Birthday in a Bag”, and vegetables harvested from the Resurrection Community Garden
5. Overnight Warming Center Alton - The warming center helps our unhoused neighbors with shelter during nights that are 20 degrees and colder. Team members volunteered during evening hospitality shifts.
6. Madison County Child Advocacy Center, Wood River - Carrie Cohan, Director/Social Worker at the Center provided a February presentation during an Adult Forum. Members toured the facility to learn more about the child-centered coordination between regional law enforcement, social workers, therapists, sexual and physical abuse victims, family members, schools, and community organizations. The congregation donated quart and gallon plastic bags used by therapeutic staff and investigators.
7. Bread for the World – global and domestic hunger initiative. In March, members participated in the Offering of Letters campaign directed to state and national members of Congress regarding education of, and support for, the 2023 Farm Bill. The five-year funding for the Farm Bill was discussed by Adult Forum speaker, Cindy Leavitt-Levin on February 19, 2023. Faith-based advocates have an obligation to help educate members of Congress on the many domestic programs dealing with hunger that are funded through the Farm Bill.
8. Graceful Nails Ministry with Evergreen Supportive Living, Alton. Team members provided monthly visits to share conversation, basic nail care, and tender hand massage to remind residents they are not forgotten.
9. Riverbend Family Ministries. The organization provides resources for nine smaller non-profits to work together under one roof, providing families and individuals with the tools to be self-sufficient. They concentrate their collaborative, holistic efforts on children, youth and families who’ve experienced trauma, most often due to violence, addiction, poverty, and homelessness. Members participated in a tour of the facility and later in the year, a speaker came to the church with a presentation during an Adult Forum. Donations of craft items for art therapy, prayer shawls/blankets (therapeutic support), plush toys (therapeutic support), personal care items and bottled water have been delivered since the original visit. RFM was one of three organizations to receive Advent donation funds.
10. God’s Work. Our Hands. Sunday. Homemade cookies and fruit trays were plated and delivered to Gilson Brown school staff, several community organizations, and the Alton Police Department.
11. Oasis Women’s Shelter for domestic violence victims. Provides on-site shelter,



- counseling, and support services. Donations of bottled water, garden vegetables and cookies/fruit tray.
12. Christmas Giving Tree with donations benefiting individuals accessing resources at the Salvation Army.
  13. Provided support to congregation and community members with medical transportation and advocacy.
  14. A centralized Social Ministry donation center was created. Bulletin boards updated.

Congregation members and friends are encouraged to participate in the ministry invitations “to carry out aid to those less fortunate in our community”.

*Whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.  
Matthew 25:40*

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Groh

### **Fellowship**

Young Hall was rented for 16 events to outside organizations  
Each Sunday, coffee and donuts served at coffee hour prior to church  
Young Hall and restrooms are cleaned each week  
Lenten dinners on Wednesday evening were served 5 weeks, and consisted of soup, salad, and dessert. Prepared and donated by members.  
Feb. 5 was Scout Day and cookies were prepared and served.  
Feb. 27 Discernment luncheon served following their meeting.  
April 30 luncheon served following a meeting.  
May - Funeral Luncheon for Jeanette Belfield served by committee.  
August 13, Quarterly congregation meeting and lunch served  
Advent dinners served Wednesday evenings 3 weeks  
Food provided for members due to illness and delivered to their home multiple times.

Submitted by Carol Garner, Fellowship chair.

## **Book Club**

Our group meets once a month, on the second Thursday of the month, with the exception of July (vacation month) and December (Christmas busy time). We have two months of book talk, January and August, actually it is our social night out for good food, fun and fellowship. It is a time where we talk about good books and authors we may have read and are suggested as good reading material. The other eight months we have a leader who chooses a book, which everyone tries to get read, and then discussed at the meeting.

I am trying to get leaders scheduled two months in advance giving ample time to get books from the library and read. This year we have had five new ladies join our group. Our discussions can become quite interesting, come and join us, everyone is welcome.

Ruth Wolter

## **Prayer Shawls**

Sorry to report that this ministry was discontinued this year. It was a joy to make these comforting gifts which were given to deserving people in need of some TLC.

However, there comes a time where old hands need a rest. In the past, maybe 9-10 years, we have no actual count as to how many were made and given. We do know there were many happy recipients. The items remaining were given to Riverbend Ministries who provided them to persons in need. The remaining yarn was given to a group who were teaching people to crochet and knit.

Ruth Wolter  
Sherry Wyatt

## **5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday's Soup On**

On all months that have a 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, we serve the needy in our community. It has been a blessing to all involved. This effort is done on a voluntary basis. The volunteers are: Judy Ford, Carol Garner, Kay Tucker, Ruth Wolter, Karen Woods, Rich Kelley, Fay Stoutenborough and myself. They either work the dinner and/or provide food.

Janet Broche

## **Church Properties**

The following is what the Church Properties Committee has accomplished in 2023:

1. Burned wood pile and debris
2. All 5 thermostats are now Smart Thermostats
3. Replaced 9 worn/loose receptacles
4. Removed door from kitchen
5. Repaired cabinet in Nursery which was falling off wall
6. Installed new dish washer
7. Installed 2 new faucets in kitchen

8. Cleaned and organized utility closet behind men's room
9. Cleaned and organized cabinets in Nursery
10. Straightened brass bible stand for altar
11. Spray painted bottom of stands for communion cup disposal
12. Replaced upper shelf in small meeting room
13. Replaced lamp in old sign outside
14. Weed-eated along ditch
15. Replaced kitchen floor with epoxy-type floor
16. Cleaned refrigerators
17. Cleaned and organized kitchen cabinets
18. Organized closet in hallway and Young Hall
19. Removed 1 tree on south side and 1 tree on north side of church
20. Replaced lamp (GE 300W PAR56/NSP) in ceiling of Sanctuary

Respectfully submitted:  
Dan and Carol Callahan

### **Worship**

The Worship Committee report is a part of the Pastor's Annual Report.

### **Memorial**

The Memorial Committee met after services on July 9, 2023. Those present were Pr. Jan Worms, Jim Lieber, Dan & Carol Callahan, and Kay Tucker. Two projects were approved by the committee. First, green paraments, including a superfrontal altar covering, burse & vail, pulpit hanging, and a pastor's stole, would be purchased at a cost of \$1,744.

Second, a set of liquid fuel advent candles with brass tops would be purchased at a cost of \$472. This would mean that all our candles would be liquid fuel. Both of these projects are estimates, due to shipping charges, and will be purchased from the C.M. Almy Company.

Other projects discussed were the replacement of two trees (Jim will investigate these) and the purchase of new faucets and a dishwasher for the kitchen. These latter projects would be paid for with funds from the Women's Club (with their permission) or major repair set-aside funds. Dan & Carol will take care of the purchase of these.

Submitted by: Kay Tucker, Chairperson

## Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on September 25<sup>th</sup> to prepare the proposed budget for 2024. Those present were Pastor Jan, Council President Jim Lieber, Financial Secretary John Droste, Member-at-Large Teresa Droste, and Treasurer Kay Tucker. Using the 2023 budget and projected end of year figures as a template, we developed a deficit budget for 2024. Specific information on changes included: a decrease in evangelism due to a drop in Facebook charges, small increase in insurance, a decrease in weekly video hosting to zero since we're going to post ourselves on You Tube, and PRAISE GOD a decrease in our church mortgage because it will be paid off in August! The budget reflected our hope that we would hire a full-time pastor halfway through the year, and that is the main reason for the deficit in the proposed budget.

Overall, we are in excellent financial shape with a sizeable reserve fund and monies available to cover several major repairs should they occur.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kay Tucker, Committee Chair

## Audit Committee

An Audit Committee was formed to include Bill Stoutenborough, Cheryl Margherio and Dan Garner. The stated purpose was an audit of the 2022 fiscal year which had been delayed by COVID concerns. Inasmuch as 2022 was long past, emphasis was placed on a review of internal accounting controls, defined as procedures necessary to reduce the possibility of a person being able to misuse funds as well as protecting a person from being in jeopardy by performing conflicting aspects of financial procedures.

The financial structure normally would include Treasury functions (handling cash receipts, cash disbursements and cash custody) and Accounting functions (recording and summarizing financial transactions so as to report what has transpired as well as enable future planning). Resurrection combines nearly all Treasury and Accounting activity into one function performed by the Treasurer.

The scope of the Audit was initiated by a review of the Constitution and By-Laws as to the responsibilities of the Council, Treasurer, and the Audit Committee. The Constitution basically requires the Council to elect one person every year for a 3-year term. That provides continuity of the audit function. That has not been done for the first recommendation is:

### **Recommendation #1 Composition of the Audit Committee**

The council should elect three (3) voting members to form an Audit Committee. Presumably one would be for a 3-year term, another for a 2-year term and another for a 1-year term. None of the three are to be sitting members of Council so if in a subsequent year, any person on the Audit Committee is elected or appointed to a Council position, he/she is to be replaced (elected by Council) to complete that person's term.

### **Recommendation #2 Maintaining financial records at Congregation's office.**

The by-laws require keeping a "set of books provided by the Congregation" and "always keep a back-up copy of financial records at the Congregation's office."

### **Recommendation #3 Tallies for cash receipts should be prepared in ink.**

Currently tallies of receipts are prepared in pencil and signed by the two counters.

**Recommendation #4 Bank statements should be received unopened by the person preparing the bank reconciliation.**

**Recommendation #5 Bank reconciliations should be performed independently.**

**Recommendation #6 A delegation of authority should be implemented.**

The chairperson of each Committee named in the by-laws, plus the Worship Committee (not named in the by-laws) shall be designated a maximum amount they can commit to buy a single item, even, or offer a stipend, without having the approval of the Treasurer and President. Such approvals by the Treasurer and President should be documented by a signed requisition. The Pastor, President and Vice President shall also be designated a maximum amount they can commit and/or approve to buy a single item, even or offer a stipend. Such items shall be approved in advance by the Council and documented in the minutes thereof.

**Recommendation #7 Treasurer should not sign check payable to her/his self.**

Respectfully submitted by Bill Stoutenborough, Cheryl Margherio, Dan Garner

### **Men's Club**

RLC Men's Club continued to grow and prosper. Our roster includes 18 members from the congregation.

2023 items of note:

1. Adopt a Highway clean up, whereas the men pick up debris along Homer Adams Parkway and Delmar street.
2. Sponsored a youth baseball and youth softball team at Godfrey Glazebrook Park.
3. Chili Drive-Thru was very successful, serving 807 12 oz bowls, and raising \$1000 for Maui Disaster Relief.
4. Built a Snowman Family display for Rock Spring Park's Christmas Wonderland.
5. Purchased and installed an AED/ Defibrillator at church. Also AED training was provided along with CPR classes.
6. Built and erected a large outdoor Lenten Cross.
7. Replacement of an outdoor grill at the fire pit.
8. Preparation and serving of the Easter Breakfast.
9. Attended an Alton RiverDragons baseball game at Gordon Moore Park.
10. Cleaning of church windows, inside and out.

As you can see, a very productive year.

Respectfully,

Dan Garner RLC Men's Club President

## **Community Garden Team**

The Community Garden is reporting a successful first year. With the help of the Men's Club, a fence was installed. A congregation member donated the community garden sign.

The garden was planted the first weekend of May with assistance from members of the committee and mayors of Alton and Godfrey. God blessed us with tomatoes, sweet potatoes, green beans, zucchini, acorn and spaghetti squash, eggplant, peppers, broccoli and cauliflower. Hundreds of pounds of these fresh vegetables were donated to the Alton Crisis Food Shelter. Thank you to all who helped with garden preparations, mowing, weeding, planting, watering, harvesting, delivering food, and garden cleanup.

Mark Groh

## **Call Committee**

The Call Committee began its work in November of 2022 with a meeting with Ken Sandlin to briefly review the Call process. The committee met a couple of times in 2022 and several times in early 2023 to complete detailed review and study of the Call documents we received from Synod. The review was completed in February. During this review process Beth Hoffman was not able to attend and stepped down from the committee. Since we had completed the planning process, Pastor Sandlin recommended not to add a replacement at this time.

In late May a candidate was considering Resurrection as a possible Call. In early June the candidate reevaluated being relocated and withdrew (the candidate was outside our region).

Later in June another candidate was interviewed by Bishop Roth and Pastor Sandlin and the paperwork was sent to the candidate for review. This pastor did accept to be nominated to Resurrection. The Call Committee contacted the nominee and set up a zoom meeting to begin the introduction process. This meeting went very well and both sides wanted to proceed with a formal face to face interview. The candidate traveled to Resurrection, toured our church and we conducted the interview. After the interview the committee was unanimous in wanting to continue the Call process. Unfortunately, the candidate after prayerful consideration decided that Resurrection was not a good fit. This was disappointing as we thought it was a good fit and Bishop Roth and Pastor Sandlin also felt the same way, but God did not agree. So, we continue to wait and pray.

Bishop Roth retired in July and most all of the staff retired by the end of August including Pastor Sandlin. We contacted Bishop Greg Busboom, the new Bishop, in August to see what might be going on with the call process. Bishop Busboom informed us that he had reviewed our MSP and was involved in the call process and that he was working on a replacement for Ken Sandlin.

In mid-September Bishop Busboom announce that Pastor Amy Zietlow would be the "New Assistant to the Bishop for Transformational Leadership". One of her responsibilities is the "Call Process". The Call Committee invited Pastor Zietlow for a visit. She was here Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> to preach and then met with the Call Committee. The meeting went very well and she was pleased with our congregation and the Call Committee. She wants to help us in anyway she can to find a pastor.

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

## **Pastor's Report**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I've enjoyed a wonderful year serving you at Resurrection and I think we've had a good year together. We've accomplished quite a bit together. It is a continuing joy, honor, and privilege to serve as your Interim Pastor.

In February, Musician Harvy Chiles submitted his resignation to accept another position. Ken Reuter was our very capable substitute until Russ Henkhaus began his ministry with us as our Musician on June 1, 2023. Russ is a very accomplished and creative musician and has been and will continue to be a great blessing to us at Resurrection.

### **Changes and Accomplishments in 2023 in no particular order of importance.**

#### **Liturgy**

- ◇ We learned the ELW hymn setting of the Holy Eucharist. We used this setting, Setting Ten, during the month of Summer.
- ◇ We returned to the practice of receiving Holy Communion by consecrated wafer and either intinction or individual cup. We tried out a couple of ways to distribute Holy Communion, Reception of the Sacrament by continuous table was preferred by most. Those who desire to commune are directed by the ushers to come down the center aisle, receive the host from the presiding pastor and the cup from the Communion Assistants and return to their seats by using the side aisle. Members of the Worship Committee serve as Communion Assistants for a month at a time and on a fixed rotation.
- ◇ We moved the organ from the back of our worship space to the front.
- ◇ Using memorial funds, we purchased new green paraments.
- ◇ We purchased a used piano for our sanctuary.
- ◇ We returned to passing the offering plates and sharing the Peace during our liturgy.
- ◇ Completion of the installation of our new sound/video system for our worship space allowed us to return to using the Pulpit for preaching and reading.
- ◇ We began using volunteer Assisting Ministers during Sunday worship.
- ◇ We began using Evening Prayer for our Midweek worship during Advent.

#### **Worship and Blessings**

- ◇ We held our first ever "Blessing of the Fields" after worship in May 2023. Those attending received a packet of seeds to plant in their home garden.
- ◇ In October we held our first ever "Blessing of Pets" after worship. Those with pets were invited to take home a cross collar charm for their pet or for it's pet carrier. The pets received a small package of treats. Five dogs and two cats shared worship with us and received a blessing after worship. Two cats were blessed in absentia, since it is not a blessing for every pet to be present for a blessing.
- ◇ Blessing of the Fields and Blessing of Pets were open to the community. I hope/would like to see these become annual events for Resurrection.
- ◇ In November we held a special Veteran's Day Worship Service. This Sunday afternoon worship was open to the community. Our Boy Scout Troop, the local VFW, a bagpiper and drummer participated in this worship. This is another event that we hope will become an annual tradition. Russ Henkhaus proposed this worship service to us and did an exemplary job organizing it.
- ◇ I introduced an ancient custom of reading the Passion Narratives on Palm/Passion Sunday and Good Friday using a narrative format.
- ◇ We offered a "Way of the Cross" prayer service at 3:00 P.M. on Good Friday.

- ◇ I wrote new Holy Communion Protocols for Resurrection which are posted in a binder in the Sacristy and stored on-line in our parish office.
- ◇ After many years of faithful service, Ron and Cheryl Margherio resigned as co-chairs of the Worship Committee. Pastor Jan became the new committee leader. The next called pastor can decide if s/he wants to take on this role or designate a lay leader.
- ◇ Noting that some folks appreciate silence during Distribution of Holy Communion, the Worship Committee decided that the second Sunday of each month will be a “Silent Sunday” during distribution. The only exception is if that second Sunday is a feast day or festive worship for a special occasion,

### **Other**

- ◇ We held our first ever “Wood Care Day” in Fall. Volunteers cleaned and oiled the very “thirsty” wood in our Narthex and Sanctuary. This will be repeated in Spring 2024 and become an annual event going forward. A talented, experienced woodworker friend of mine prepared a Wood Care Booklet just for us. Specific products and practices to care for our wood are included in the booklet. This guidance was received and approved by the Parish Council and will be consulted and used as guidance to care for our wood going forward.
- ◇ We held a used book fair in August. Parishioners and others were invited to clean out books to share with others. We cleaned out many of our own books from previous pastors and books no longer used but taking up space. Members of the parish were invited to take any books they wanted for a free will donation. The remaining books and several boxes of LBW hymnals were taken to and sold to Half Price Books in Saint Charles. Money gathered from the sale of the books and donated \$\$\$’s from the book fair were donated to the Saint Ambrose Heating and Cooling Fund to assist residents of our area with utility costs.
- ◇ Council voted to return to the practice of acknowledging Memorial Donations to Resurrection with a Thank You note sent by first class mail.
- ◇ We began offering parishioners resources from the ELCA such as Advent Calendars, Devotions for Advent and such. These resources are free to us and supported by our offering to the ELCA.
- ◇ Adult Education resumed with “Dwelling in the Word” meeting on Monday afternoon. In Fall, this study was moved to 9:00 A.M. Sunday morning and the name changed to the exotic title of “Adult Study.” We began with a video series on the formation of the New Testament, continued with a several Sunday discussion of the Arab/Israeli conflict. Currently we are working through an interesting and enlightening video series on the practice of Islam. Participation is high and discussion is lively.
- ◇ Noting that many hands make light work, the Worship Committee asked volunteers from the congregation to stay after worship to help with Hanging and Unhanging the Christmas Greens. Hopefully, this will become an annual practice.
- ◇ Our revised Constitution and By-Laws, approved by the congregation November 2022, were sent to the Synod Office in Springfield for review, approval by the Synod Council, and to be filed in “our file” in Springfield. This brings our church into compliance with the church with ELCA constitution. Previously, the only copy on file for us was an undated constitution printed by mimeograph.
- ◇ I am now the chief administrator of our Facebook page. Dan, Tim, and Rich also have administrative access and are now posting our Sunday worship on Facebook. Please like and share our Facebook posts. This is a cost-free way for us to reach out to others.
- ◇ We replaced our damaged kitchen floor, replaced our ancient dishwasher, completed the installation of our new sound system, and many other small tasks done by property co-chairs Dan and Carol Callhan and others.



- ◇ Our community Garden yielded much needed produce for our Community Food Pantry. Thanks to all who planted, weeded, harvested and watered.
- ◇ Council and our treasurer Kay, identified subscriptions and reoccurring expenses that we do not use, need or now do ourselves. These include a subscription to Best Buy, cloud access, a social media coordinator and streaming service expenses, to name a few.
- ◇ We changed our email address and changed to a less expensive internet provider.
- ◇ Surely, I have forgotten something or someone. Please forgive me.

### **Pastoral Acts – Deaths**

Priscilla Donals – March 14, 2023  
 Jeanette Belfield -- March 18, 2023  
 Sam Ellis -- October 24, 2023  
 Rose Pitts -- May 4, 2023  
 Rosalind Walker -- May 3, 2023  
 Jill Allen – May 15, 2023  
 Jeanette Weihe --August 28, 2023

*Rest Eternal grant to them, O Lord, And may Perpetual Light shine upon them.*

### **Pastoral Acts – Holy Baptism**

Delilah Ann Rau – July 16, 2023

### **Looking ahead to 2024. Or what I would like for Resurrection**

- ◇ I believe that focused, intentional outreach to our community is vital to the future of our church. We planted some good “seeds” in 2023, such as the Blessing of Gardens and Pets and our Veteran’s Day Worship and the delicious Chili sales by our Men’s Club. I would like for us to build upon and expand upon these and other creative ideas that may arise. I believe that a good goal for us is some sort of community outreach at least quarterly and preferably every other month.
- ◇ I would like for us to expand our social media presence to include Instagram and X (formerly known as Twitter). We would need to find a volunteer/s to do this.
- ◇ Prepare protocols for Distribution of Holy Communion to the sick, home bound and hospitalized and assemble a team of volunteers to do this.
- ◇ More time for me to provide Pastoral Care to the sick, home bound and hospitalized.
- ◇ Please keep inviting friends, family and neighbors to Resurrection for worship and other events.

Special thanks to our Council, Committees , Teams, Janet Broché, Russ Henkhaus, and to each of you for making this a fruitful year of worship, outreach and service at Resurrection. I look forward to continuing to work, worship and serve our Lord Jesus, with you. You are welcome to contact me anytime by phone, text or email.

Peace be with you and yours,  
 Pastor Jan

The Rev Jan S Worms  
 Interim Pastor, Resurrection Lutheran Church

## Financials

Submitted by Kay Tucker, Treasurer

### 2023 END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

	<b>DECEMBER BALANCES</b>	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
<b>FUNDS</b>		
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		
<b>OFFERING</b>		
Pledged Accounts	113,477.28	
Non pledged Accounts	34,400.05	
Lenten Offerings	1,800.30	
Thankoffering	249.17	
Advent Offerings	1,819.02	
<b>TOTAL OFFERING</b>	<b>147,877.33</b>	<b>155,000.00</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Activity Income		
Community Garden	428.68	
Hall Rental Income	1,050.00	1,200.00
Music Fund	147.00	500.00
Recycling	283.82	60.00
Special Gifts	250.00	
State of Illinois Land Purchase	1,915.00	
Worship Supplies		
Yellow Barn Income	595.46	550.00
<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>4,669.96</b>	<b>2,310.00</b>
<b>DEPOSITED INCOME</b>		
Amazon Smile	40.87	
E-Scrip Income		
Interest Income	1,859.15	225.00
Thrivent Funds	303.00	100.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITED INCOME</b>	<b>2,203.02</b>	<b>325.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>154,750.31</b>	<b>157,635.00</b>
<b>UNBUDGETED PASS THROUGH ACCOUNTS</b>		
Unbudgeted Accounts Donations	10,405.61	
Unbudgeted Accounts Paid Out	9,048.39	
<b>TOTAL UNBUDGETED ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>1,357.22</b>	

<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>BENEVOLENCE</b>		
Dues - West Central Conference	30.00	40.00
Synod Benevolence (Budgeted)	2,430.00	2,400.00
Soup's On	900.00	900.00
<b>TOTAL BENEVOLENCE</b>	<b>3,360.00</b>	<b>3,340.00</b>
<b>BUILDING &amp; GROUNDS</b>		
Building & Grounds Maintenance	2,582.36	3,500.00
Electricity & Gas	7,034.60	7,500.00
Major Repairs Set Aside	8,390.46	7,000.00
Mowing	3,500.00	2,500.00
Snow Removal		500.00
Trash Removal		500.00
Water (Barn) - Community Garden		200.00
Water (Church)	643.73	900.00
<b>TOTAL BUILDING &amp; GROUNDS</b>	<b>22,151.15</b>	<b>22,600.00</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>		
Christian Education		500.00
Sunday School		
<b>TOTAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>
<b>CHURCH MORTGAGE</b>		
Interest & Principle	19,296.00	19,296.00
Additional Monthly Principle	12,000.00	12,000.00
<b>TOTAL CHURCH MORTGAGE</b>	<b>31,296.00</b>	<b>31,296.00</b>
<b>EVANGELISM</b>		
Facebook		70.00
Evangelism: Other	536.58	200.00
<b>TOTAL EVANGELISM</b>	<b>536.58</b>	<b>900.00</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>		
Monthly Set Aside	5,004.00	
Property & Liability	4,370.00	5,000.00
Worker's Compensation	474.00	650.00
<b>TOTAL INSURANCE</b>	<b>6,453.35</b>	<b>5,650.00</b>
<b>OFFICE</b>		
Copier	1,726.71	2,500.00
Internet Access and Website	1,496.58	1,500.00
Postage	318.00	600.00
Supplies	1,028.87	750.00
Telephone	439.89	500.00

Office: Other	472.82	900.00
<b>TOTAL OFFICE</b>	<b>5,482.87</b>	<b>6,750.00</b>
<b>PERSONNEL COMPENSATION</b>		
Administrative Assistant	8,409.21	20,120.00
Guest Minister	1,929.06	1,300.00
Organist	11,083.54	10,800.00
Interim Minister	23,552.78	80,000.00
Social Media Marketing Assistant	750.00	1,500.00
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL SALARIES</b>	<b>45,724.59</b>	<b>113,720.00</b>
<b>PERSONNEL COSTS</b>		
Auto Allowance	200.24	1,000.00
Basic Group Life (Portico)		
Conference Allowance		1,000.00
Continuing Education		1,000.00
Disability (Portico)		
Employee Federal Withholding	4,372.18	
Employee State Withholding	2,051.49	
FICA Allowance	1,593.76	
Medicare	372.72	
Prospective Pastor Expenses	240.39	
Professional Expenses		500.00
Retiree Support (Portico)		
Retirement (Portico)		
Thrivent 403(B)		
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS</b>	<b>8,830.78</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>
<b>SOCIAL MINISTRY</b>		
Community Garden	494.65	
Pastor's Discretionary		200.00
Social Ministry Unspecified		125.00
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL MINISTRY</b>	<b>494.65</b>	<b>325.00</b>
<b>STEWARDSHIP SUPPLIES</b>		
Supplies: Offering Envelopes		165.00
Supplies: Other		
<b>TOTAL STEWARDSHIP SUPPLIES</b>	<b>138.81</b>	<b>165.00</b>
<b>WORSHIP</b>		
Copyright License	317.00	325.00
Music Fund	609.44	750.00
Other Worship	282.46	200.00
Portals of Prayer	336.20	300.00
Supplies	725.72	2,000.00
Weekly Video and Internet Hosting	2,400.00	2,400.00

<b>TOTAL WORSHIP</b>	<b>4,670.82</b>	<b>5,975.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>129,197.79</b>	<b>194,721.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>25,752.76</b>	<b>-37,086.00</b>

**2024**  
**BUDGET**

<u>2023</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>PROJECTED</u> <u>END OF</u> <u>YEAR 2023</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>2024</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
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<b>INCOME</b>				
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>				
<b>Offering</b>				
	Plate Offering	\$155,000	\$150,858	\$155,000
	Thank Offering			
	<b>TOTAL OFFERING</b>	<b>\$155,000</b>	<b>\$150,858</b>	<b>\$155,000</b>
<b>Other Income</b>				
	Hall Rental Income	\$1,200	\$1,400	\$1,200
	Interest Income	\$225	\$1,796	\$1,900
	Music Fund	\$500	\$294	\$350
	Recycle Income	\$60	\$54	\$60
	Thrivent Income	\$100	\$550	\$250
	Yellow Barn Income	\$550	\$514	\$550
	<b>TOTAL OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,635</b>	<b>\$4,608</b>	<b>\$4,310</b>
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$157,635</b>	<b>\$155,466</b>	<b>\$159,310</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>BENEVOLENCE</b>				
	Dues - West Central Conference	\$40	\$30	\$40
	Synod Benevolence (Budgeted)	\$2,400	\$2,460	\$2,400
	Soup's On (General Fund)	\$900	\$900	\$900
	<b>TOTAL BENEVOLENCE (General Fund)</b>	<b>\$3,340</b>	<b>\$3,390</b>	<b>\$3,340</b>
<b>BUILDING &amp; GROUNDS</b>				

Maintenance		\$3,500	\$1,406	\$3,000
Electricity & Gas		\$7,500	\$8,160	\$7,500
Major Repairs Set Aside		\$7,000	\$9,000	\$9,000
Mowing		\$2,500	\$2,250	\$2,800
Snow Removal		\$500		\$500
Trash Removal		\$500		\$500
Water (Barn)		\$200	Garden	\$200
Water (Church)		\$900	\$700	\$900
<b>TOTAL BUILDING &amp; GROUNDS</b>		<b>\$22,600</b>	<b>\$21,516</b>	<b>\$24,200</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>				
Christian Education		\$500		\$300
Confirmation				
Sunday School				
<b>TOTAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>		<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$300</b>
<b>CHURCH MORTGAGE</b>				
Interest & Principle		\$19,296	\$19,296	\$13,000
Additional Principal Monthly		\$12,000	\$12,000	\$8,000
<b>TOTAL CHURCH MORTGAGE</b>		<b>\$31,296</b>	<b>\$31,296</b>	<b>\$21,000</b>
<b>EVANGELISM</b>				
Facebook		\$700	\$0	\$0
Other		\$200	\$395	\$200
<b>TOTAL EVANGELISM</b>		<b>\$900</b>	<b>\$395</b>	<b>\$200</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>				
Monthly Set Aside			\$5,430	\$6,000
Property & Liability		\$5,000	\$5,369	
Worker's Compensation		\$650	\$535	
<b>TOTAL INSURANCE</b>		<b>\$5,650</b>	<b>\$5,430</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>
<b>OFFICE</b>				
Copier		\$2,500	\$1,748	\$2,500
Internet Access and Website		\$1,500	\$1,520	\$1,400
Postage		\$600	\$372	\$500
Supplies		\$750	\$1,186	\$1,000
Telephone		\$500	\$480	\$400
Office: Other		\$900	\$640	\$600
<b>TOTAL OFFICE</b>		<b>\$6,750</b>	<b>\$5,946</b>	<b>\$6,400</b>
<b>PERSONNEL COSTS</b>				
Auto Allowance		\$1,000		\$1,000
Conference Allowance		\$1,000		\$1,000
Federal Withholding			\$3,428	
FICA Allowance			\$1,450	
Continuing Education		\$1,000		\$1,000
Medicare			\$340	

Portico Basic Group Life				
Portico Disability				
Portico Health				
Portico Retiree Support				
Portico Retirement				
Professional Expenses		\$750		\$750
State Withholding			\$1,368	
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL COSTS</b>		<b>\$3,500</b>	<b>\$6,586</b>	<b>\$3,750</b>
<b>PERSONNEL SALARIES</b>				
Administrative Assistant		\$20,120	\$8,600	\$20,120
Interim Minister			\$19,586	\$0
Guest Minister		\$1,300	\$2,924	\$1,300
Guest Organist				\$400
Organist		\$10,800	\$9,900	\$12,000
Pastor		\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000
Housing Allowance				
Social Media Marketing Asst.			\$750	
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL SALARIES</b>		<b>\$112,220</b>	<b>\$41,760</b>	<b>\$113,820</b>
<b>SOCIAL MINISTRY</b>				
Pastor's Discretionary		\$200		\$200
Social Ministry Other		\$125		\$100
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL MINISTRY</b>		<b>\$325</b>	<b>\$428</b>	<b>\$300</b>
<b>STEWARDSHIP SUPPLIES</b>				
Supplies: Offering Envelopes		\$165	\$139	\$165
Supplies: Other				
<b>TOTAL STEWARDSHIP SUPPLIES</b>		<b>\$165</b>	<b>\$139</b>	<b>\$165</b>
<b>WORSHIP</b>				
Copyright License		\$325	\$317	\$325
Music Fund		\$750	\$668	\$750
Portals of Prayer		\$300	\$313	\$300
Supplies		\$2,000	\$924	\$2,200
Weekly Video Hosting		\$2,400	\$2,800	\$0
<b>TOTAL WORSHIP</b>		<b>\$5,775</b>	<b>\$5,022</b>	<b>\$3,575</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$193,021</b>	<b>\$121,908</b>	<b>\$183,050</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL BALANCE</b>		<b>-\$35,386</b>	<b>\$33,558</b>	<b>-\$23,740</b>

## **2023 Elections**

The positions to be filled are Tammy Neese and Jim Lieber. In addition, the treasurer's position has been made as a "non-voting position." The ballot contained the following: President: Neal Booth; At Large Members: Vicki Baggio, Pat Ford, and Wendy Reinbold. Jim Lieber will automatically be fulfilling a 1-year term on the Nominating Committee in 2024. There were no additional nominees from the floor. The new Council members were accepted by acclamation. The installation of the new members will be coming soon during the church service.

The Nominating Committee for 2024 will be Jim Lieber, Chairman, Tammy Neese and Kay Tucker.

### **Current Congregational Council:**

President:	Neal Booth	314-766-8782
Vice President:	Robin Lusardi	618-433-9613
Secretary:	Teresa Droste	618-944-5243
Treasurer:	Kay Tucker	618-972-5049
At-Large Members:	Sherry Wyatt	618-600-2182
	Alan Robertson	618-580-5889
	Vicki Baggio	618-420-8758
	Wendy Reinbold	618-593-6587
	Pat Ford	618-466-8088

### **Committee Leads**

Evangelism/Congregational Life	Jim Lieber	618-402-0325
Fellowship	Carol Garner	618-792-1356
Book Club	Ruth Wolter	618-433-1469
5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday Soup's On	Janet Broche	618-401-2646
Financial Secretary	John Droste	618-830-1030
Finance	Kay Tucker	618-972-5049
Properties	Dan & Carol Callahan	618-660-8155
Social Ministry	(vacant)	
Worship	Pastor Jan Worms	618-250-1608
Audit	(vacant)	
Faithful Innovations	Rich Kelley	618-791-8276
Community Garden Team	Mark Groh	402-937-3748
Men's Club	Dan Garner	618-792-1777
Memorial Committee	Kay Tucker	618-972-5049



# **BEYOND OUR WALLS IN 2023**

ELCA DOMESTIC DISASTER.....	2,342
ELCA INTERNATIONAL DISASTER.....	1,400
ELCA WORLD HUNGER RELIEF.....	100
5A'S HUMANE SOCIETY.....	606
MEN'S CLUB (MAUI RELIEF FUND).....	1,000
RIVERBEND MINISTRIES.....	606
SOUP'S ON.....	900
ST. AMBROSE COMM. OUTREACH.....	2,505
SYNOD BENEVOLENCE.....	2,460

## **TOTAL MINISTRY BEYOND OUR WALLS \$11,919**

**IN ADDITION, WE HELPED WITH THESE PROJECTS:**

**NAIL SUPPLIES FOR GRACEFUL NAILS MINISTRY; COMMUNITY GARDEN VEGETABLES AND CANNED GOODS FOR CRISIS FOOD CENTER; WATER DONATIONS; PLASTIC SUPPLIES FOR CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER; SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR GILSON BROWN; COATS AND CLOTHING FOR GILSON BROWN AND FAMILIES; BIRTHDAY IN A BAG DONATIONS; STUFFED ANIMALS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS; COOKIES AND FRUIT FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL SCHOOLS, AND FIRST RESPONDERS; LEWIS & CLARK HYGIENE CLOSET DONATIONS; GAS & FOOD CARDS; CRAFT SUPPLIES, PRAYER SHAWLS AND LAP ROBES FOR RIVERBEND MINISTRIES; SALVATION ARMY ANGELS CHRISTMAS TREE; SUPPORT AND SHIRTS FOR SOCCER AND BASEBALL TEAMS**

**WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED  
TO BE A BLESSING TO  
OTHERS!**