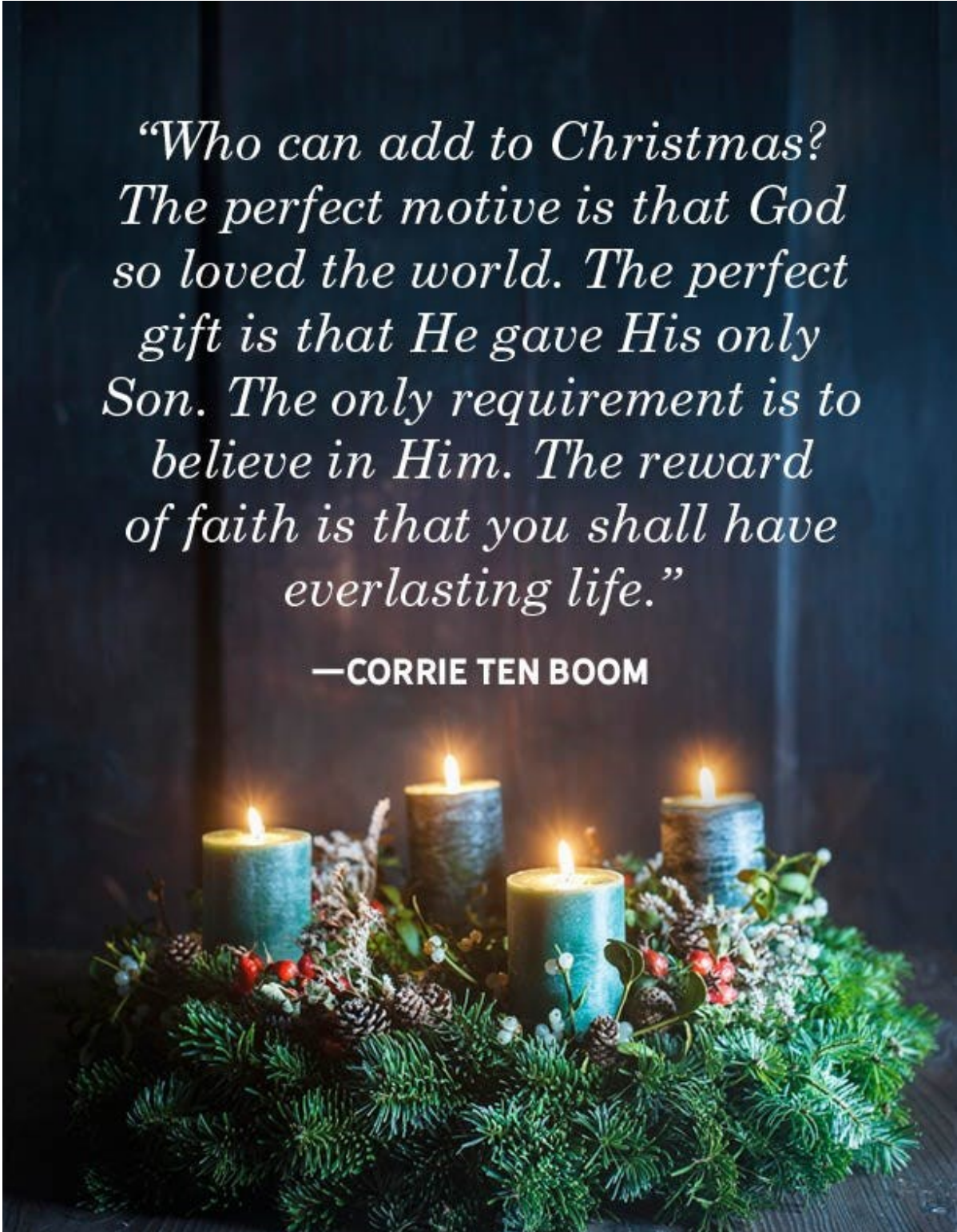


# *the* Resurrectionist

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

*“Who can add to Christmas?  
The perfect motive is that God  
so loved the world. The perfect  
gift is that He gave His only  
Son. The only requirement is to  
believe in Him. The reward  
of faith is that you shall have  
everlasting life.”*

**—CORRIE TEN BOOM**





**Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,**

**December at Resurrection is packed with opportunities for worship, fellowship, and good eats ! Continue reading to find all the details and mark your calendar!**

**Of course, the highlight is our Celebration of the Birth of Christ. God born among us as a human baby. God who gives everything to save and redeem you and me. Amazing ! A blessed Advent to you !**

**Peace to you and yours,**

**Pastor Jan**



THE BIRTH OF  
*Christ*



# CELEBRATE THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The Resurrection Men's Club presents . . .

## A *FREE* Christmas Concert

FEATURING TENOR

THOMAS TAYLOR IV

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH, 6 P. M.**



### Second Sunday Lunch Bunch

December 8th, lunch will be at Castelli's Moonlight, Alton IL.

Please see the sign-up in the narthex for attending and offering to carpool.

*Come join us for great conversation and fellowship !*



Hanging of the Greens will take place Dec. 1st following worship. Many hands make light work. This is no longer quite as easy as it once was with our increasing ages. Please dress accordingly and plan on helping.





## Join us for Advent Worship December 4, 11 & 18 at 7pm

A light meal will be served at 6. This year's offerings will be split between the Community Hope Center and Crisis Food Center.

## Book Club

Book Club - The Book Club will not meet in December, taking the month off to get ready for all the activities associated with the celebration of Christmas, as we remember God's most wonderful gift to us, the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

January - Social night out at a local restaurant on January 9th. Place to be announced later.

Ruth Wolter  
618-433-1469



## Poinsettias Orders

Poinsettias will again be decorating our church chancel area this Christmas season. If you would like to donate a plant in honor or memory of a loved one, or for blessings received, the forms are available on Sundays at church with the **deadline being December 8th**. The cost is \$9. Should you wish to donate a plant but are unable to attend church, call the church office and speak with Janet, or leave a message and she will get back to you.



**We have several events coming up . . .**

**Dec. 1 - setting up the outdoor Nativity scene**

**Dec. 6 - Christmas Concert set-up and sound check**

**Dec. 7 - Christmas Concert, 5-6 pm set-up. Concert starts at 6**

**Dec. 12 - Dinner at 6 and meeting at 7pm.**

Thanks, Dan Garner  
618-792-1777



## Social Ministry



For many of our unhoused neighbors, hope is often elusive, and a sense of community is absent on the streets. Becoming and staying unhoused or “homeless” has many roots, considering 12.2% of persons living in Madison County, Illinois live below the federal poverty line:

- Difficulty keeping up with rent, increasing utility costs, and paying essential household expenses is common for persons living in poverty.
- Mental Illness and mental health instability – lack of psychiatric inpatient care, medication management and outpatient counseling resources. Emergency rooms and law enforcement are used less effectively.
- Chronic abuse and Human Trafficking, especially for women and children who escape violent and traumatic relationships.
- Aging out of the Foster Care System without tools needed to be self-sufficient.
- Medical crises without financial means to sustain household expenses and pay the medical bills or transportation for care. Program eligibility can be time-consuming, and many working families are historically not income eligible until they “lose it all.”
- Job loss. Often families or individuals are already behind on paying debt and relationships are strained.
- Difficulty finding affordable rental property, especially for persons with a criminal background, history of eviction, or have excessive debt and/or bankruptcy.
- Substance Abuse / Addictions.

We are to be reminded that people cannot be lumped together as “the homeless” without understanding they have inner lives, personal histories and needs that go beyond survival. Without humanizing the issue of being unhoused, as people of faith, we are complicit with the growing problem.

For some, being unhoused is temporary. Others find themselves living on the streets for several years. It is shared by many users of local services that hardship makes them feel a special need for God. Their faith is raw – it’s part of their survival. Many unhoused persons feel shame and why volunteers at each of the programs below emphasize a relatable Jesus who suffered his own setbacks. Faith does not help everyone, but it is a source of strength, it offers meaning and purpose.

Local organizations and volunteers, including Resurrection Church, provide help in a variety of ways, including becoming aware of the needs of our neighbors. Prayerfully consider how you may use your Spiritual gifts to PROCLAIM the Lord and be a champion of hope.

**Soups On** serving every Tuesday from 11:30 – 12:30 at First Presbyterian Alton. Resurrection volunteers weekly and provides the meal on fifth Tuesdays.

**Riverbend Family Ministries** offers persons rehabilitation services, showers, laundry, job services, personal counseling, recovery coaching, survivor support, and multiple other services. Resurrection has periodic donation drives, including the 2024 Advent Giving Tree.

**Overnight Warming Locations** provide a warm place for all who are vulnerable to dangerously cold weather (at or below 20 degrees) to seek refuge. If our neighbors can survive the night, they get another chance to heal and live the life they are meant for. Resurrection volunteers serve on the Hospitality Team.



### From The Telegraph, Nov. 19th:

The Chili Drive-Thru has been a continuing project which has raised money for world hunger, local food pantries, flood disasters and the Maui fire last year. Though Lutheran Disaster Response co-ordinates with other charities assisting in the recovery process, it is known to stay longer until the people and their community are more prepared to be self sustaining in continuing the recovery process, such as coordinating construction to repair or replace damaged homes.



### Community Garden

The Community Garden is wrapping up another successful year. A heartfelt **Thank You** for the many hours of hard work from all the volunteers and the monetary support of the congregation. A special shout out to David and Ann Isringhausen for their donation of the tilt trailer to the church. This will be utilized many times over. The water line which was on our wish list, became a reality Thanks to Rich Kelley and the Men's Club. A little over 1000 lbs of tomatoes, sweet potatoes, green beans, lettuce, beets, egg plant, and other produce were donated to Alton Crisis Food Center and Oasis Women's Center. With God's grace, belief in his blessings, we more than exceeded our expectations this year.



## Highlight's from Church Council – November

### REPORTS

- \* **Treasurer's Report:** Total offering for the month was \$9,398.86. Total income for the month was \$9,673.09. Total expenses were \$11,931.98 for the month. There were no unusual expenses this month. The cash flow balance was -\$2,258.89. Although we are in the red, we still have \$3,700 being transferred to our money market monthly.
- \* **President's Report:** Concerns with hearing Pastor during the service were mentioned again and addressed with the Tech Team. The Advent and Christmas Eve Worship banner has been ordered .
- \* **Pastor's Report:**
  - Pastor recently attended the Synod Boundary Training. Original documentation for pertaining to any illegal issues that may arise within a congregation and the actions to take/consider was revised by the Synod. It is now called "Guidelines for Discipline." A copy is in the church office or the Synod office may be called.
  - Midweek Advent Worship will be held Dec. 4, 11, and 18 at 7 pm with a light supper beforehand at 6 pm.
  - Christmas Eve Worship will be Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion at 7 pm.
  - PI Team is continuing their focus on outreach. A Brochure Sub Team has been formed to update our Resurrection tri-fold brochure and to develop a family of other brochures for the various functions at Resurrection like the Book Club and Men's Club. Sharon Groh also hosted a Press Release training Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> where 3 members were instructed on methods of improving our contact with the local media.
  - Pastor's contract expires December 31.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- \* **Worship-** The Worship Cmte. met on Nov. 3.
  - Arrangements for the Veteran's Service were finalized, with offerings going to our local Wreath's Across America.
  - Arrangements for Advent and the Christmas Eve worship were discussed. Carol Garner (Fellowship) will handle light suppers with soup, salad and a dessert.
  - Concerns with music during these services was brought up. Bottom line, our time utilizing Ken Rueter has worn thin and we are aware of that. Ken will not have full availability in December. That concern has temporarily been resolved with Russ and Ken splitting up their availability. We are truly blessed at this time to be able to even say that. Pre-recorded music may become necessary if an organist/pianist isn't found soon. Russ has offered an additional contact with SIUE that has been contacted with our flyers.
  - Only red poinsettias have been ordered and will run \$9.00.
  - The Advent Wreath will be assembled on Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> and Hanging of the Greens will take place on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, both after worship.



\* **God's Work Our Hands**- Members from the Carbon Monoxide/Fire Alarm service project met on Nov. 17 to discuss arrangements for the next installation date and steps moving forward with this ongoing effort.

- The service project will now be called the Carbon Monoxide Detector Outreach by RLC & Partners, or CoDo for short.
- The fire detector installation will mostly be handled by the Fire Departments involved.
- The next installation date will be January 26 with 8 people currently on the waiting list.
- Press releases will be sent out, creating a brochure was mentioned, and an article may be submitted to Thrivent and ELCA Living Lutheran about our ongoing efforts sometime in 2025.
- Sharon is in communication with other area churches to see if they want to join CoDo.

## NEW BUSINESS

- \* After discussion on Advent Offerings, Council voted to split the offerings between the Community Hope Center and the Crisis Food Center.
- \* Council voted to accept a 1-year contract for Pastor Jan pending approval from the Bishop's Office. The Bishop's Office has since advised us that only 6 month contracts may be offered.

## CONTINUING BUSINESS

- \* Council reviewed the agenda and budget to be presented at the Annual Meeting that was held on Nov. 17.



5 Fred Tiemann  
7 Carol Garner  
John Droste  
20 Sherry Wyatt  
25 Jesus of Nazareth

HAPPY  
*Wedding*  
ANNIVERSARY

None that we are aware of at this time.

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



## FINANCIAL STATUS – October 2024

<b>DEDICATED FUNDS BALANCE</b>	<b>\$46,274.76</b>
<b>GENERAL FUNDS CASH FLOW</b>	<b>(\$2,258.89)</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$19,424.65</b>

	<u>10/1/2024 - 10/31/2024</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
<b>GENERAL FUNDS DETAIL</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Offering	\$9,398.86	\$125,256.12
Lenten Offering		\$1,803.21
Other Income	\$274.23	\$5,922.63
<b>Total General Fund Income</b>	<b>\$9,673.09</b>	<b>\$131,178.75</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Benevolence	\$275.00	\$3,780.00
Building and Grounds	\$4,701.17	\$25,786.15
Christian Education	\$0.00	\$0.00
Church Mortgage	\$0.00	\$20,248.78
Evangelism	\$0.00	\$394.77
Insurance	\$570.00	\$5,579.35
Office	\$405.57	\$4,059.30
Personnel Costs	\$1,253.40	\$10,175.71
Personnel Salaries	\$4,549.76	\$45,916.67
Social Ministry	\$70.94	\$1,096.51
Stewardship Supplies	\$0.00	\$138.81
Worship	\$106.14	\$2,362.74
<b>Total General Fund Expenses</b>	<b>\$11,931.98</b>	<b>\$119,538.79</b>
<b>General Funds Cash Flow</b>	<b>(\$2,258.89)</b>	<b>\$11,639.96</b>

Although the cash flow shows a -\$2,258.89, it's partially because we transfer \$3,700 each month to our money market, which show as an expense. We also have \$40,000 in CDs in addition to the Dedicated Funds in the Money Market.



# DECEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Adult Study 9am Worship 10am Hanging of Greens 11am	2	3 Scouts 7pm PI Team Bro- chure Meeting 1 pm	4 Simple Supper 6pm Advent Worship 7pm	5	6	7 Christmas Concert 7pm
8 Adult Study 9am Worship 10am 2nd Sun. Lunch Bunch 11am	9	10 Scouts 7pm	11 Simple Supper 6pm Advent Worship 7pm	12 PI Team 6:30 pm	13	14
15 Adult Study 9am Worship 10am Church Council 11am	16	17 Scouts 7pm	18 Simple Supper 6pm Advent Worship 7pm	19	20	21
22 Adult Study 9am Worship 10am	23 Newsletter Deadline	24 Candlelight Worship 7pm	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26	27	28
29 Adult Study 9am Worship 10am	30 	31	<div>Rev. Jan S. Worms gracious@midwest.net Office Hours by appointment 618-250-1608</div>			

**Rev. Jan S. Worms, Interim**

**CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

Neal Booth, President  
Bob Doerr, Vice-President  
Teresa Droste, Secretary  
Kay Tucker, Treasurer  
Vicki Baggio & Margie Snep, Wendy Reinbold,  
Alan Robertson & Sherry Wyatt, *At Large Members*

**CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Janet Broche, Church Secretary  
Ruth Wolter, *Book Club*  
Jim Lieber, *Christian Education, Evangelism*  
Pator Worms, *Facebook and Social Media*  
Carol Garner, *Fellowship*  
Kay Tucker, *Finance*  
John Droste, *Financial Secretary*  
Dan Garner, *Men's Group*  
Keith Collier, *Mutual Ministry*  
Ken Reuter, *Organist/Music Ministry*  
Dan and Carol Callahan, *Property*  
Sharon Groh, *Social Ministry*  
Dan Callahan, *Streaming Services/Technology Team*  
Neal Booth, *Web Designer*  
Pastor Worms, *Worship*  
Rich Kelley, *Faithful Innovations & Worship Cmte.*

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LIKE Us on Facebook, Twitter & YouTube:  
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<https://twitter.com/LutheranIL>  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UCvX9AiTIIQb2ZD76edJPifQ?](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvX9AiTIIQb2ZD76edJPifQ?)

Service Time:  
In-Person & Online 10AM

**Resurrection Lutheran Church**

1211 W. Homer Adams Pkwy.  
Godfrey, IL 62035

