

VOL XLV

July 2025

NO 7

# *the* Resurrectionist

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



And the ball of fire in the sky, yeah  
Keeps watching over you and I, way up high, yeah  
And the ball of fire in the sky  
Keeps watching over you and I, you and I, yes, it does

In 1969, Tommy James & The Shondells wrote and sang "Ball of Fire." This is a lesser-known hit from their compilation album, *The Best of Tommy James and The Shondells*. Occasionally you will hear this song played on Sirius 60s on 60, and quite possibly even own the album. After doing a little research, it appears that the message Tommy James intended was peace and good brotherhood. This would make logical sense given the political assassinations of 1968, the social unrest, the Vietnam War and the race riots to name a few. Others believed LSD tablets were being referenced, also a trippy sign of the times.

The title "Ball of Fire" is reportedly inspired by the Book of Revelation, where Tommy James found references to a time of harmony and peace. Additionally, some sources suggest inspiration came from the Book of Ezekiel, with its mention of a blue light representing God's presence, leading to another great Tommy James song, "Crystal Blue Persuasion," with lyrics about a new day coming and people changing.

Obviously "Ball of Fire" had some degree of spiritual context vs. James' hit "Hanky Panky" in 1966, which we all know had quite the different vibe. As we embrace Summer 2025, already shining on us in full force, I think we as Christians can relate a much greater meaning to these words.

Scarlet hovering my head  
Pretty and red  
Pretty and red  
Flowers dying in their bed  
Oh yeah

Why is everyone crying? Mhm  
Look up children, look and see  
Shining down on you and me, yeah

And the ball of fire in the sky, yeah  
Keeps watching over you and I, way up high  
And the ball of fire in the sky, come on  
Keeps watching over you and I, way up high

And now the towers are falling  
Tumbling down  
Tumbling down  
Oh, can't you hear the angels calling?  
Oh yeah

Listen  
Mhm  
Shining through eternity  
As it was so it shall be, yeah. . .



Listen and watch for yourself here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wBdIgYg2XWQ>



## News & Updates



### Second Sunday Lunch Bunch

*Sunday, July 13th, join us for a summertime potluck luncheon following worship to celebrate the Bishop's appointment of Pastor Jan Worms*



### Cars, Coffee and Community

**July 12th  
8:30 - 11:30 am**



Classics, Hot Rods, Trucks, Dune Buggies, Jeeps, Sports Cars & more !!!

Join us for Coffee and Sweets

**If you aren't already volunteering for this event, please consider stopping by to show your support of our outreach efforts with the community. Cars don't have to be your "thing" to stop in for 20-30 minutes and say hi . . . maybe there will even be a chance to exercise some of that Evangelism training you just completed this spring.**

# HAPPY 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY





## Men's Club

- **Meeting July 10th - dinner at 6, meeting at 7pm**

Thanks, Dan Garner  
618-792-1777



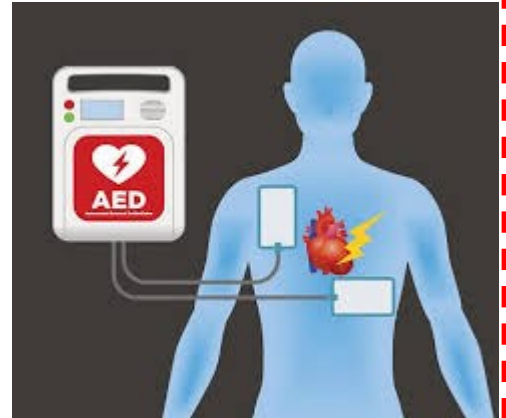
## CPR & AED Training

YOU COULD SAVE A LIFE!

It's been two years since the Men's Club purchased a defibrillator for our church. The time has come for us to review how to use it and to renew our CPR certification and/or get certified if you haven't already.

Fortunately, we have never had to use either of these at Resurrection. However, we want everyone to be prepared for a potential emergency. Knowledge of CPR is something that can be used anywhere, by anyone, at any time. Consider inviting a friend, spouse or relative who could learn these life saving techniques. If something unforeseen happens to you, and you become the emergency, they could potentially be the one that ends up saving your life.

This training will be offered by a qualified nurse and **IT'S FREE**. Mark your calendar for August 2 at 2:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the Narthex two weeks prior to the training.



Please contact Bill Stoutenborough with any questions at 618-465-5404

## Book Club

**Book Club will not meet in July due to people vacationing. Enjoy this time discovering some new books, bringing recommendations to the table for the months to come.**

August 14th, we will enjoy an evening out at a local restaurant for good food, fun and fellowship. Anyone wishing to join us is welcome. Our dining selection will be announced soon.

Are you thinking about attending our meetings? Consider giving it a try . . . you know the dates and time, just show up and join in, we won't disappoint.

Ruth Wolter  
618-433-1469



# Report from Synod Assembly 2025

## **Nurturing Communities of Disciples, Equipped for Christ's Mission**

By Elyse Tillman

The Central/Southern Illinois Synod met on June 5-7 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Bloomington, where God dwelled with us as we conducted business, listened to what God is doing across the synod, and joined together in fellowship. The title above is the Synod's theme.

I'm just going to hit a few highlights –

**\*Keynote Speaker:** Rev. Dr. Dwight Zscheile of Luther Seminary. He provided three excellent presentations on **adapting the church to serve in the 21st century**. He has written several books. Both Mike and I really enjoyed his talks. If you are interested in this topic, visit the website: <https://dwightzscheile.com/>

**\*Pedal for a Purpose:** Led by the Rev. Adam Dichsen, Pedal for a Purpose raised more than \$5,000 for campus ministry. In addition to a very wet bike ride on June 4 and a short ride on June 5, an exercise bike was available for people to “ride” for donations. Pastor Amy Zietlow, assistant to the Bishop, is shown in the photo below right.

**\*Fellowship:** As always, there was plenty of food and time for fellowship at the assembly. Friday started with a National Donut Day celebration, with donuts generously provided by one of our rostered leaders and his wife (John and Vicki Lottes), in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary. Friday evening featured an “Oktoberfest celebration” of brats, pork chops, sauerkraut, potato salad, and more. The evening was accompanied by Al's Pals polka band.

**\*Next year:** The 2026 Synod Assembly will be an experimental one, with an online-only business session in June and “Synod days” of learning, worship, and fellowship in each conference in the fall. The assembly will be an in-person event in 2027.

It was an honor and privilege for Mike and I to serve as Resurrection's assembly representatives this year – thank you, Council & Congregation for your sponsorship.

For more information, please visit the C/SIS website at: <https://www.csis-elca.org/news/2025-synod-assembly-recap/>

Sincerely,  
Elyse Tillman





--I think a picture is worth a thousand words. The photo to the right shows Bishop Busboom with a pastor who was recognized for his 65<sup>th</sup> ministry anniversary – wow! This pastor, who just recently retired (!!!), is 90 years old (you would never guess). I wish you could have seen him bound down the aisle with enthusiasm and energy.

Also pictured besides the Tillmans is Pastor Ken Tegtmeier. He and Nancy send their greetings and blessings to all of you.



Elyse and Sam Tillman



Pastor Amy Zietlow as full-time Assistant to the Bishop



Pastor Ken Tegtmeier and Nancy





Sam Tillman, Pastor Ken, Stephanie and Elyse Tillman



Mike and Elyse Tillman



Stephanie and Sam Tillman



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

## Highlight's from Church Council – May

### REPORTS

- \* **Treasurer's Report:** Total offering for the month was \$9,209.48. Total income for the month was \$9,408.24. Total expenses were \$13,495.07. **The cash flow balance for the month was \$-4,086.83.** Extra expenses included a laptop for Kay and Neal for church-related purposes, Synod Assembly stipends and registration, and various donations that were made. Our CDs have made about \$1,300 in interest and we be renewing one for a 1yr term at 4.15%, which is pretty good given our current economy.
- \* **President's Report:** Neal has successfully updated our Constant Contact, Google and Microsoft accounts, with current contacts, phone numbers, emails and back-up users. He will work with Pastor on cleaning up her office computer as well.
- \* **Pastor's Report:**
  - Life Long Learners just finished a 2 week study on Mormonism and just began a 2 week study on Judaism on June 29th.
  - Pastor is cleaning out her office and personalizing the space. It will be nice to see it become an inviting space vs. the storage room it has served over the past several years.
  - Pastor will attend the Interim Ministry Worship in Springfield August 14th, that will focus on the "Discover and Invite" materials used for an creating up-to-date ministry site profile in the future. She will also attend The fall Theological Conference at Pere Marquette Sept. 22-24. She will travel for another Icon retreat in November.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- \* **Property–** Dan Garner obtained an amazing bid to repair the ailing garage door. The lower panel will be replaced, along with the broken steel cable, new weatherstripping and any necessary adjustments for \$696. A motion was made and passed to fix this issue. Bob Doerr will get back with Richard Mosby, a carpenter for bids on hand-made front doors. The efforts to redirect the gutters behind the alter appear to be working as no water has re-entered the sanctuary. Plans to bury those new lines will be made for the fall after a few more months of testing and hopefully some heavy rains.



- 1 Wendy Reinbold-Mollet
- 3 Michael Golec
- Gary Neese
- 9 Janet Broche
- 23 Brayden Broche
- 26 Margie Snep
- 28 David Brown
- 29 Curt Bagwill
- Taylor Neese
- 31 Dan Callahan

HAPPY  
*Wedding*  
ANNIVERSARY

- 7 Robert and Judy Doerr
- 21 Mark and Sharon Groh

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





## FINANCIAL STATUS – May 2025



<b>MONEY MARKET BALANCE</b>	<b>\$44,065.11</b>
<b>GENERAL FUNDS CASH FLOW</b>	<b>(\$4,086.83)</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$6,041.18</b>
<b>CD DEPOSITS</b>	<b>\$41,300.00</b>

	<u>5/1/2025 -</u> <u>5/31/2025</u>	<u>YEAR TO</u> <u>DATE</u>
<b>GENERAL FUNDS DETAIL</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Offering	\$9,209.48	\$58,888.62
Lenten Offering	\$2,285.00	\$2,285.00
Advent Offering		
Other Income	\$198.76	\$2,564.70
<b>Total General Fund Income</b>	<b>\$9,408.24</b>	<b>\$61,453.32</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Benevolence	\$300.00	\$1,530.00
Building and Grounds	\$4,696.40	\$19,937.00
Christian Education	\$0.00	\$0.00
Evangelism	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$570.00	\$2,850.00
Office	\$923.40	\$3,091.71
Personnel Costs	\$2,147.88	\$8,106.31
Personnel Salaries	\$4,857.39	\$27,187.38
Social Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Stewardship Supplies	\$0.00	\$186.85
Worship	\$0.00	\$651.92
<b>Total General Fund Expenses</b>	<b>\$13,495.07</b>	<b>\$63,541.17</b>
<b>General Funds Cash Flow</b>	<b>(\$4,086.83)</b>	<b>(\$2,087.85)</b>

Expenses were higher. We purchased a laptop computer and had expenses for the Synod Assembly. We transferred \$15,000 to the Money Market reserve fund. This accounts for the drop in General Fund balance.



# July 2025

**Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

<a href="#">Rev. Jan S. Worms</a> <a href="mailto:gracious@midwest.net">gracious@midwest.net</a> Office Hours by appointment		1	2	3	4	5
6 Lifelong Learners 9am Worship 10am Worship Cmte. 11am	7	8 Scouts 7pm	9 PI Team 6:30 pm	10 Men's Club at Church 6 pm	11	12 Cars, Coffee and Community 8:30 –11:30 am
13 Lifelong Learners 9am Worship 10am Potluck Lunch 11am	14	15 Scouts 7pm	16	17	18	19
20 Lifelong Learners 9am Worship 10am Council Meet 11am	21	22 Scouts 7pm	23	24	25 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	26
27 Lifelong Learners 9am Worship 10am	28	29 Scouts 7pm	30	31		



**Rev. Jan S. Worms**

**CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

Neal Booth, President  
Bob Doerr, Vice-President  
Teresa Droste, Secretary  
Kay Tucker, Treasurer  
Vicki Baggio, Mark Groh, Wendy Reinbold,  
Margie Snep, & 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*  
**VACANCY**, *Organist/Music Ministry*  
Church Council, *Property*  
Sharon Groh, *Social Ministry*  
Technology Team, *Streaming Services*  
Neal Booth, *Web Designer*  
Pastor Worms, *Worship*  
Rich Kelley, *Faithful Innovations*

**Resurrectionist Editor:**

Neal Booth  
314-766-8782 cell  
618-433-1611 home  
mrteachme@yahoo.com

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**Resurrection Lutheran Church, Godfrey, IL**

Address:  
1211 W. Homer M. Adams Pkwy.  
Godfrey, Illinois 62035

Church Phone: 618-466-2788  
Church E-mail: [rlcelca23@gmail.com](mailto:rlcelca23@gmail.com)  
Web: <http://www.resurrectiongodfrey.org>

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[www.youtube.com/channel/UCvX9AiTIQb2ZD76edJPifQ?](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvX9AiTIQb2ZD76edJPifQ?)

Service Time: In-Person & Online 10AM

**Resurrection Lutheran Church**

1211 W. Homer Adams Pkwy.  
Godfrey, IL 62035

