

VOL XLVI

July 2026

NO 7

the Resurrectionist

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

blessed

IS THE NATION WHOSE

GOD IS THE

Lord

PSALM 33:12

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Pastor's Pen

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to summer! I hope that you are enjoying the longer and warmer days and find renewal in the changing seasons.

Have you heard or used the phrase "It doesn't make one iota of difference?" Did you know that phrase dates to 325 and finds its origins in the Ecumenical Council of Nicaea? This council shaped the key beliefs about the Holy Trinity that we confess to this day.

As Christians living in the US, we highly value and celebrate the separation of church and state. Did you know that this was NOT the belief at the time of the Council of Nicaea? This council was heavily influenced by the state and the newly converted to Christianity Emperor Constantine who called the council into being, supported it financially and was hugely interested in the decisions made by the council. As contemporary Christians, we would be horrified by the state influence in this council. Yet this same council defined key beliefs we confess about the Trinity, set the manner to determine the date of Easter and prevented the early church from falling into heresy and a potentially devastating schism.

Gather with us Sunday, July 5 at 9:00 A.M. for a special presentation and discussion about the Council of Nicaea. Join us for an interesting and provocative discussion.

Enjoy Summer and the 250th Birthday Celebrations!

Peace to you and yours from me and my little grey cat, Lilly.

Pastor Jan



Did you know that Pastor Jan recently interviewed to participate in The Jordan Project? She is hopefully and patiently waiting for her official invite to confirm her role in this exciting opportunity.

Overview: The Jordan Project will ignite new life and innovation into women-led rural and small-town congregations. This project serves the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and warmly welcomes full communion partner denominations. Pastors and leaders from their congregations will explore their congregations' rapidly changing social and cultural contexts, gain clarity about their values and mission, and draw on Christian theological practices and traditions to adapt their ministry to the demands of their changing contexts. Pastors serving multi-point settings can decide how this project is launched in one or more congregations served. With this knowledge and the skills to engage, pastors and their congregational leaders will be prepared to lead thriving congregations that experience a renewal of anticipatory joy, an ethos of "Why not? Let's give it a try!" and personal, communal, and public witness to the love of God found in Jesus that will thrill the heart again

Read more about The Jordan Project by clicking on the following link

[The Jordan Project | Grand View University](#)

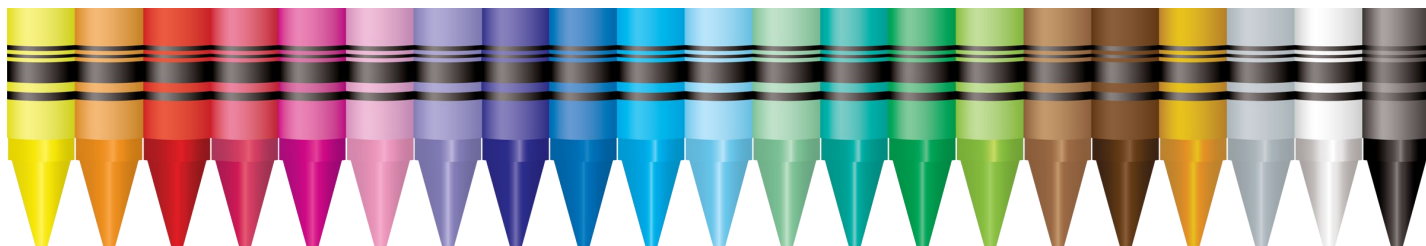


News & Updates



2nd Sunday Lunch Bunch

- Lunch Bunch takes a break in July as Pastor Jan will be away the 2nd Sunday of the month.
- *Mr. Kemper will preside for us on July 12th. Please be sure to thank him for returning to preside for us in Pastor's absence.*



August Is "Krayons for Kids" Month

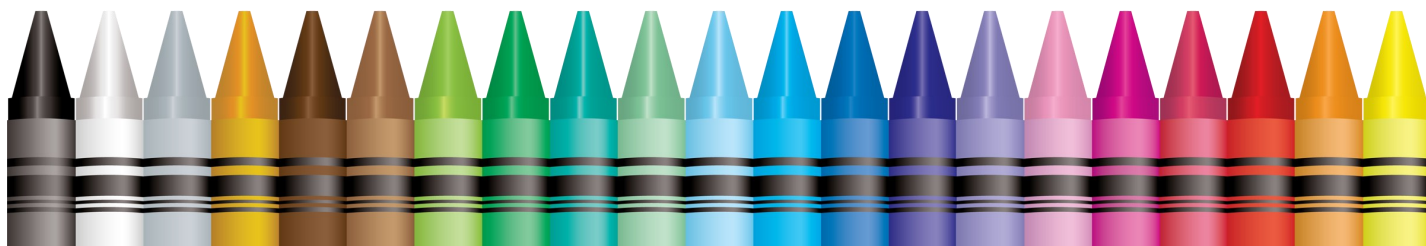
The Alton Hayner Public Library is collecting crayons during August. Our council thought it would be fun for us to participate.

Please bring a box of new crayons to donate. Any size or brand is welcome. We'll deliver the crayons to the library and Hayner will give them to the Riverbend Headstart Program.

Remember how fun it was to have a new box of crayons! The smell! The pretty colors! The beautiful sharp points! With a simple donation of a new box of crayons, you can bring this delight to a child!

We'll have a labeled basket for your donations in the Narthex. Please bring your donation to church anytime between August 2 - 30.

Hearty Thanks!
Your Church Council and the Kids of Headstart





Book Club

The Book Club will observe July as our vacation month. Enjoy a good book whether far away or spending time relaxing at home. God is everywhere, stay safe and enjoy yourself.

August 13th the Book Club will spend an evening at a local restaurant, and of course talk about books, vacations, etc. Anyone interested in joining us is certainly welcome. We will meet at 6 P.M. Our restaurant of choice will be announced soon.

Ruth Wolter
618-433-1469



MEN'S CLUB



- July 9th Dinner at 6. . . Meeting at 7pm
- August 1st, Work day starting at 9am

Dan Garner
618-792-1777

Social Ministry

In July, Resurrection will be collecting school supplies for the *Friends of Madison County Child Advocacy Center*. Sharon Groh has placed a collection box in the narthex. This will run through July 17th. If shopping in person isn't your thing, click the following link or the QR code below to purchase items from Amazon directly from their wish list; [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Thanks,
Sharon Groh
402-432-3942

School Supply Drive

Friends of Madison County Child Advocacy Center is collecting school supplies for the children we serve. Your support helps to ensure children are prepared for a successful learning experience!

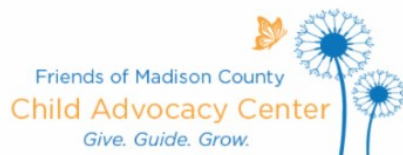
ITEMS NEEDED:

Backpacks	*Crayola Markers*	Earbuds
Sharpened #2 Pencils	Loose leaf paper	Lunch boxes
Mechanical Pencils	(Wide & College Ruled)	Paper towels
Pencil boxes	*Crayola Colored pencils*	Water bottles
Notebooks	Fiskars Scissors	Erasers
Crayola Crayons	*Clorox wipes*	Glue sticks
Glue	Hand sanitizer	Highlighters
Folders	Headphones	Ziploc bags
Tissues	Hygiene products	BLACK dry erase markers
Unscented baby wipes	3-ring binders	

ALL DONATIONS MUST BE NEW AND SEALED IN THEIR ORIGINAL PACKAGING

*Note: Items marked with an *asterisk* are most needed.*

Items will be collected through July 17, 2026.
To arrange for donation drop off, please contact
Caroline Livingstone at (618)296-5490 or
celivingstone@madisoncountyiil.gov.
Items can also be dropped off to Suite 154 in the
Edwardsville Administration Building.



Scan to Purchase
right from our
Amazon List:





July 17, 6:30 PM

Young Hall @ Resurrection Lutheran Church
1211 Homer Adams Parkway
Godfrey, IL 62035

**Tables of 6 players each are limited . . . contact any Men's
Club Member, Dan Garner or Rich Kelley to request a table !**
(618) 792-1777 (618) 791-8276



ENTRY FEE per person
or

**5 Can Goods for the
Crisis Food Center**



PRIZE TO BEST TABLE

Bring your own snacks and drinks . . . join us for a night of challenging fun !

Synopsis of the 2026 Synod Assembly

For the Work of Ministry

The Central/Southern Illinois Synod met on June 6 via Zoom, where God dwelled with us as we conducted business and listened to what God is doing across the synod.

Our assembly theme comes from Ephesians 4:11-12, “He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” and reflects the living out of our baptismal calling:



FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY

2026 Central/Southern Illinois Synod Assembly

- to live among God’s faithful people
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- to serve all people, following the example of Jesus
- to strive for justice and peace in all the earth

Guests: Dr. Ryan Cumming, ELCA Director of Theological Ethics, brought us the report of the ELCA and shared a message from Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry about how we are connected to each other and our communities through Christ. This and other video reports shared with the assembly are available in a playlist on our YouTube channel.

We also welcomed Mr. Mark Stutrud, president and CEO of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. In addition to his report to the assembly, Mark shared that he is retiring at the end of February 2027. We thank Mark for his leadership and faithfulness and wish him well in retirement.

Business: There were only two elections this year. The assembly re-elected the Rev. Christine McNeal as the synod secretary and elected the Rev. Darla Ann Kratzer, the Rev. Youngshim Mason, and Ms. Kay Wolken to six-year terms on the Consultation Committee.

The assembly also adopted the proposed budget for 2027 and approved three resolutions: 1) establish an endowment fund in support of campus

ministry; 2) amend our Constitution and By-Laws based on recommendations adopted by the ELCA Churchwide Assembly; and 3) recognize Marion Medical Mission as a ministry of our synod. The budget and resolutions are available at [CSIS-ELCA.org/assembly](https://csis-elca.org/assembly).

Synod Days: While we gathered online for the business session, in-person activities are still important to our life together as a synod. Worship, fellowship, celebration of anniversaries, and “Spirit Lab” breakout sessions will be held in each conference later this summer and fall as part of Synod Days, which are open to **all** disciples in our synod and are not tied to Synod Assembly participation.

Synod Days will be held on:

- August 23: Northwest Conference
- August 29: West Central Conference
- September 12: Northeast Conference
- September 20: Northern Conference
- October 4: East Central Conference
- October 17: Southern Conference

Registration, locations, and additional details will be available soon.

THANK YOU! A heartfelt thank you goes to St. John’s, Springfield, for serving as the host and “broadcast” location for the assembly; to Conrad Mayer, technology coordinator at St. John’s, for his time and expertise; and to Kim Geitl, Leslie Gumm, Lois Moorman, and Alex Ruth for volunteering their time to assist the staff.

Next year: The 2027 Synod Assembly returns to an in-person event and will be held June 3-5 at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Springfield.

Special Congregational Meeting July 19th following worship !



Dan Garner presented three bids to Council for resealing, restriping and repairing our church parking lot. A *brief* special congregational meeting will need take place on July 19th to vote on whether or not Resurrection wants to authorize this work to be completed. We must have a quorum to move on this. Please plan on attending.



Thrivent Choice®

Making generosity easy

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Donate or Direct

The Thrivent Choice program has been **upgraded**—making it even easier for organizations to receive your meaningful support.

What's New — and Why It Matters

☒ **More members can support Resurrection or other charities**

Previously: Select Thrivent members received Choice Dollars®

Now: All 1.9M members receive Choice Dollars

What it means: More members → More Choice Dollars → More impact. \$1 granted by Thrivent for each Choice Dollar directed.

☒ **Members can act sooner**

Previously: Choice Dollars accrued over time

Now: Available in full at the start of the year

What it means: All 2026 Choice Dollars are available to direct now

☒ **Nominations**

Clients with membership may nominate 501(c)(3) nonprofits or churches they wish to see enrolled in Thrivent Choice. Organizations must meet eligibility requirements, complete the application and agree to the program's Terms and Conditions. More than 50,000 organizations are enrolled.

☒ **Choice Dollar matching**

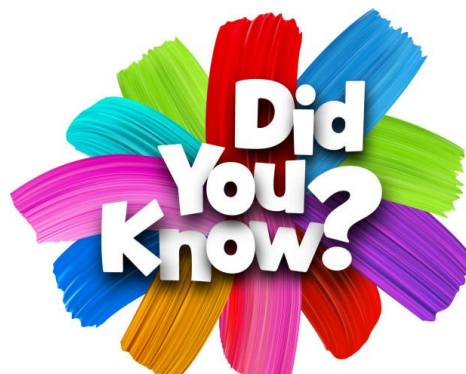
For each Choice Dollar directed, Thrivent provides \$1 in grant funding—a simple, powerful way to put generosity into action and help strengthen our mission.

☒ **For more information**

<https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice>

☒ **Sneak Peek: Something Special Is Coming**

Thrivent has something special planned for **Giving Tuesday** on December 1, 2026. More details will be shared as we get closer, but now is the perfect time to ensure you can easily find your organization in the catalog, and any funds can be delivered without delay.



Lifelong Learners Schedule July – Dec

July 5 – The Council of Nicea

July 12 – Break

July 19 – “Fruits of the Spirit – Generosity” – Part 1

July 26 – “Fruits of the Spirit – Generosity” – Part 2

August 2 – “What Did Jesus Really Eat?”

August 9 – “Keeping Your Daily Devotions Fresh” – Part 1

August 16 – “Keeping Your Daily Devotions Fresh” – Part 2

August 23 – “Fruits of the Spirit – Gentleness” – Part 1

August 30 – “Fruits of the Spirit – Gentleness” – Part 2

September 6 – “Animate – Bible 1” – Part 1

September 16 – “Animate – Bible 1” – Part 2

September 20 – “Citizenship as a Spiritual Calling” – Part 1

September 27 – “Citizenship as a Spiritual Calling” – Part 2

October 4 – “Exploring Christian Nationalism” – Part 1

October 11 – “Exploring Christian Nationalism” – Part 2

October 18 – To Be Determined

October 25 – Break

November 1 – “Animate Bible 2” – Part 1

November 8 – “Animate Bible 2” – Part 2

November 15 – Break

November 22 – Break

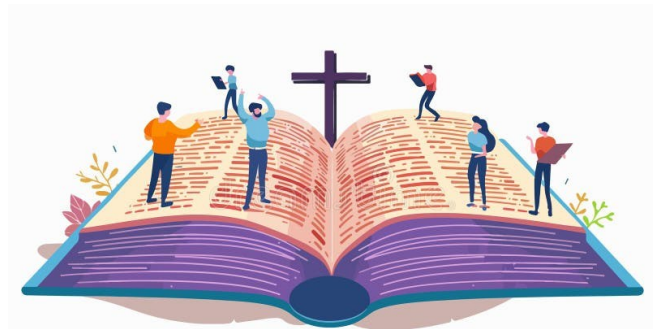
November 29 – “Introduction to Advent” – Part 1

December 6 – “Introduction to Advent” – Part 2

December 13 – “Audacious Love” – Part 1

December 20 – “Audacious Love” – Part 2

December 27 – Break



Highlight's from Church Council – May

MONTHLY REPORTS

- * **Treasurer's Report:** Total offering for the month was \$10,053.61. Total income for the month was \$11,162.74. *We have several parishioners who donate several months at a time reflecting the larger and smaller plate offering totals.* Total expenses were \$10,997.92 for the month without the \$3,100 set-aside funds. Unusual expenses included lawn mowing, weed spraying, regrading and replacement blubs for the outdoor sign. The cash flow for the month was \$164.82. We transferred \$8,000 from the checking account into to the money market account to capture the better interest rate.

* **Pastor's Report:**

- Pastor briefly shared some highlights from this year's virtual Synod Assembly. Most notable is the major clergy shortage. Out of the 110 churches in our Synod, 50% are being served by an interim, retired clergy, approved lay associate, or nobody! We have 77 clergy in our Synod. 25+ are retired and many incapable of still serving.
- Pastor shared the National Crayon Collection Month event she would like Resurrection to participate in. Crayons will be collected through the end of August for the Hayner Library who will be donating them to Riverbend Head Start.
- Church Security- It was decided that the PI Team will undertake reviewing our current security manual, updating materials and procedures as necessary based off more recent trainings and modern church trends regarding security measures. When completed, copies will be placed throughout the building.
- Pastor has been interviewed to participate in the Jordan Project. Read more about this special opportunity by clicking on the following link. [The Jordan Project | Grand View University](#)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Properties– Dan Garner presented three bids on resealing, restriping and repairing the parking lot. **A special congregational meeting will take place on July 19th to vote on authorizing the work.**
- Men's Club– The Men's Club is preparing to host a "Thank You for Your Service Appreciation Day" to honor first responders on August 22nd. More details to follow soon.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- Council finalized updates to the Young Hall rental contract. The new contract will be distributed to our current users and made available for anyone interested in renting the space.
- The church alarm system is obsolete and has expired from age. Kay presented three bids on upgrading both the alarm and fire protection system. Further information is being sought on whether monitoring fire only vs. monitoring both the premise and fire is an option. Once that information has been gathered, Council will make a decision on which company will complete the work and take over monitoring services.
- Council unanimously voted on a 3% salary increase for Pastor Jan. The synod approved the increase and the new contract, due in July has been signed and returned to the Synod Office.
- The final third of our Lenten offerings will need to be redirected yet again. Hooray for Heros was not local as we thought. It will now be going to Got Your Six Support Dogs out of Maryville, IL.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- Sherry Wyatt has stepped down from Council. An at-large replacement will be needed to serve for the remainder of 2026.



- 1 Wendy Reinbold
- 9 Janet Broche
- 23 Brayden Broche
- 26 Margie Snep



- 20 Bob 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.

FINANCIAL STATUS – May 2026

MONEY MARKET BALANCE	\$76,991.98
GENERAL FUNDS CASH FLOW	\$164.82
CHECKBOOK BALANCE	\$5,909.25
CD DEPOSITS	\$42,830.00 (approximate)

	<u>5/1/2026 -</u> <u>5/31/2026</u>	<u>YEAR TO</u> <u>DATE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS DETAIL		
Income		
Offering	\$10,053.61	\$68,965.96
Lenten Offering		\$1,840.00
Advent Offering		
Other Income	\$1,109.13	\$3,012.92
Total General Fund Income	\$11,162.74	\$71,978.88
Expenses		
Benevolence	\$300.00	\$1,525.00
Building and Grounds	\$3,861.37	\$9,445.33
Christian Education	\$0.00	\$0.00
Evangelism	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office	\$372.35	\$2,160.04
Personnel Costs	\$1,456.61	\$6,929.97
Personnel Salaries	\$5,007.59	\$26,738.38
Social Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Stewardship Supplies	\$0.00	\$188.01
Worship	\$0.00	\$85.20
Total General Fund Expenses	\$10,997.92	\$47,071.93
General Funds Cash Flow	\$164.82	\$24,906.95

TRANSFERS: \$2500 to Major Repairs and \$600 to Insurance set-aside in the Money Market. We have several parishioners who donate several months at a time reflecting the larger and smaller plate offering totals. Also, \$8,000 was transferred from Checking to the Money Market Account to earn more interest.

Blessings,
Kay Tucker

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Rev. Jan S. Worms gracious@midwest.net Office Hours by appointment 618-250-1608			1 ABC Christmas Book 1-3 pm	2	3	4 
5 Lifelong Learners 9am Worship 10am	6	7 Scouts 7pm	8	9 Men's Club at Church 6pm	10	11
Pastor Jan out of office - trip to Rock Island, IL						
12 Worship 10am	13	14 Scouts 7pm	15	16	17 Men's Club Trivia Night 6:30 pm	18
19 Lifelong Learners 9am Worship 10am Sp. Cong. Mtg. 11am RLC Council 11:15	20	21 Scouts 7pm	22	23 Men's Bible Study 5:30 pm	24	25
26 Lifelong Learners 9am Worship 10am PI Team 11am	27 Newsletter Deadline	28 Scouts 7pm	29	30	31	

Rev. Jan S. Worms

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Neal Booth, President
Bob Doerr, Vice-President
Teresa Droste, Secretary
Kay Tucker, Treasurer
Carol Garner, Mark Groh, Ann Isringhausen,
Wendy Reinbold, & VACANCY, *At Large Members*

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Pastor Worms, Worship
Janet Broche, Church Secretary
Russ Henkhaus, Organist/Music Ministry
Ruth Wolter, *Book Club*
Jim Lieber, *Christian Education*
Bob Doerr, *Community Garden*
Pastor Worms, *Facebook, Social Media & PI Team*
Carol Garner, *Fellowship*
Kay Tucker, *Finance*
John Droste, *Financial Secretary*
Dan Garner, *Men's Club & Property*
Keith Collier, *Mutual Ministry*
Sharon Groh, *Social Ministry*
Technology Team, *Streaming Services*
Neal Booth, *Web Designer*

Resurrectionist Editor:

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

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

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

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Service Time: In-Person & Online 10AM

Resurrection Lutheran Church

1211 W. Homer Adams Pkwy.
Godfrey, IL 62035

