



# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

---

6365 Douglas Blvd., Granite Bay, California 95746

November 11, 2009

**Pastor Don M. Haven**  
*Senior Pastor*

Dear Resurrection Disciples,

**Pastor Jason Niemi**  
*Youth and Family Pastor*

Please read the attached document inviting you to participate in one of the listening and discussion Forums planned during the next few weeks regarding the ELCA's Social Statement and the implementing resolutions.

**Kathy Kimbrough**  
*Administrative Assistant*

Your church council leaders have prayerfully deliberate how they might best respond to member's concerns, and we desire to have the fullest participation possible in this process.

**Diane McCauley**  
*Church Business  
Administrator*

**NO MATTER HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THE ISSUES RELATED TO THIS TOPIC, WE URGE YOU TO PARTICIPATE. FULL CONGREGATIONAL ENGAGEMENT IS VERY IMPORTANT!**

**Jane Anderson**  
*Director of Music  
Ministries*

Thank you in advance for your prayers and your participation.

Yours in Christ,

**Brenda Pieper**  
*Lay Ministry  
Coordinator*

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Church Council  
*Sharon Auerbach, Ed Babcock, Katy Carlsen, Caden Elvick, Pete Gonzalez, Linda Johnson, Ursel Laffin, Lorraine Littlejohn, Herb Mathay, Erich Sawatzky, Cheryl Stunz, Karen Zajac, Pr. Don Haven, Pr. Jason Niemi*

**John Murdock**  
*Maintenance Manager*

Resurrection's Mission: **"Growing Disciples by Sharing God's Love"**

# You are invited to Resurrection Congregational Forums

## Background Information:

In August, the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) passed a Social Statement entitled *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust* after several years of deliberation. In addition to the social statement, the assembly also adopted four implementing resolutions directing that changes be made to churchwide policy documents making it possible for people in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships to serve as rostered leaders in the ELCA in congregations that would so choose.

## Resurrection Listening Process on this topic:

The interpretation of these resolutions as they pertain to our congregation has caused a wide range of responses including concern, dismay, and joy among our members and leaders and has sparked a great deal of discussion. As a result, our members and leaders desire to be engaged in serious and methodical listening and deliberation about the topic. **The goals are to engage in discussion, to listen, to discern, and to heal.** Resurrection leaders desire that our congregation can continue to find ways to faithfully be God's disciples in the world under our mission: **"Growing Disciples by Sharing God's Love"**.

## Small Group Listening Format: How it will work

During December and early January, Resurrection will be holding small group sessions to clarify the meaning and impact of these resolutions as they pertain to our **congregation** and to listen to your concerns regarding them. The goal is to meet in the spirit of Christian friendship, respectful of the views of all, so all our members might be aware of concerns **so that** we, as the church council, might gauge the **types and** levels of congregational concern **as well as the** need for any formal action.

Each Forum will take approximately one hour. At each forum a moderator will conduct the meeting, council members will present information on the implementing resolutions, participant's concerns will be recorded, the implications of steps our church may wish to consider clarified, and the need for further action tallied. Each forum will be limited to 15 – 20 persons attending. The number of forums held at any one time will be adjusted to accommodate all who sign up to attend.

## Listening Group Locations

We expect that all Forums will be held at the Church, although off-site meeting places may be needed. **We encourage each of our members to sign up** for one Forum at a convenient time. [A list of Forum dates and times is listed below.](#) You can sign up by:

- Signing up on lists after worship services beginning 11/15.
- E-mail the office at [lcr@lcrchurch.org](mailto:lcr@lcrchurch.org)
- Call the Church office at 791-4661

In Christ's Name,

*Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Church Council*

## Congregation Forum Dates and Times (please sign up for one of the following)

1) Dec. 9, 7-8 pm; 2) Dec. 13, 11 am – Noon; 3) Dec. 15, 10-11 am; 4) Jan. 10, 9:15-10:45 am

As God's faithful and holy people, we all strive to work together as members of the family of God and for the glory of our Lord, **"Growing Disciples by Sharing God's Love"**.