



www.lcrchurch.org

October 1, 2016

Purpose Mapping Process

We've got dozens of reasons to celebrate the ministry that God has blessed us with. Our worship remains vibrant and lively. Outreach programs continue to motivate our members. The Resurrection staff team is strong and stable. Income is black. Solar panels are installed. The Imagine campaign reached its goal.

But did you ever wonder, why do we do what we do? These are all great things for a church to do and celebrate together. But, what's the reason or purpose we did them? We could easily say Jesus. But, Jesus compels thousands of churches to do thousands of different things. Knowing why we are uniquely gathered and equipped as called children of God helps us move forward excited in ministry together.

To help Resurrection determine a strong vision and mission focus for Why, we are working with consultant, Kristin Wiersma from the Joshua Group. Kristin has a great energy and passion for walking with church's to clearly hear where God is leading them. She has over a decade of experience helping churches answer the same questions we have. Primarily, Kristin will help us listen to God, ourselves, and others as a way of developing vision and purpose.

The Purpose Mapping Process has two major listening components that will take place in October and November: internal interviews, and external panels. Kristin will personally interview 60-80 members and lead teams to find out what motivates people to join us in ministry, what struggles you have, and what excites you for our future together. During the external listening panels we will host influential people from community to discuss relevant topics, problems, and possible solutions. This is so we may hear what God is doing and consider how we are called to serve.

The input from this listening phase will be compiled alongside the mission assessment profile that we completed last fall, a congregational systems index filled out by those members who lead ministry teams and a generosity index.

Kristin will use these five items to present her findings that will help determine why we do what we do. This will lead immediately into a vision process to determine a strategy of what to do next. All these results will be shared during a leadership summit in January 2017.

Our hope is that this process energizes us all about our future. The listening phases will engage anyone interested in being a formational part of Resurrection's future. Most importantly we will have a clear sense of why we are unique and impactful as children of God called together as church in ministry together.

You can be involved in three essential ways:

- 1) be praying for God's guidance, and voice to lead us.
- 2) sign up on October 9 to be interviewed by Kristin sometime between October 22-24.
- 3) join us for external listening panels with open to hear where God is calling us.

Thank you for your continued partnership in this wonderful church.

Lookin' up,
Ralph



Divine Worship: 8:00 & 11:00 AM

Contemporary Worship: 9:30 AM

Sunday School, all ages: 9:30 AM

Staff

Don Haven, Lead Pastor, 770-7078
 Ralph Supper, Family Life Pastor, 791-4661
 Karen Idler, Director of Shared Ministry, 791-4661
 Adriana Findlay, Director of Children's Ministry, 791-4661
 Dee Dee Lutz, Director of Worship & Music, 791-4661
 Patrick Neal, Director of Contemporary Worship, 791-4661
 Diane McCauley, Business & Events Manager, 837-3631
 Kathy Johnson, Administrative Asst./Communications, 791-4661

Contact Information

Church office: 791-4661 FAX: 791-5819
prdon@lcrchurch.org
ralph@lcrchurch.org
 Shared Ministry: karen@lcrchurch.org
 Children's Ministry: adriana@lcrchurch.org
 Music Ministry: deedee@lcrchurch.org
 Contemporary Worship: pat@lcrchurch.org
 Scheduling: diane@lcrchurch.org
 Church: lcr@lcrchurch.org Web Site: www.lcrchurch.org

Life Group Questions of the Month

1. What's your favorite season and why?
2. What significant life change have you been the most nervous for? Excited for?
3. Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-12
4. What does this verse say God sees these life changes as?
5. How does seeing your life in seasons help you in your struggles?

God's Work. Our Hands

September 2016

Laughter, Liking, Delighting, Loving

Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them".



"Something special happens when we come together to impact the lives of others". After worship and a commissioning prayer, over 100 people attended God's Work. Our Hands 'Gathering' held on September 11 in Resurrection's Faith Center and over 60 people attended ten different community service events.

At the Gathering our congregation wrote letters of appreciation, made baby quilts, fleece tie blankets, and homemade brownies for our local fire fighters and law enforcement, built chicken coops for Courage House and planter boxes for Home at Last, made special treats with inspirational messages for the guests at Gathering Inn, made worship banners for the Sanctuary and Faith Center, assembled school kits and Halloween candy bags for Lutheran Social Services, wrote letters of encouragement and prayers for Resurrection's young adults, Resurrection's shut-in, and family members serving in the military, learned how to knit or crochet, pray with a prayer shawl, and contemplative prayer.

[Read more and see more pictures!](#)

Two Book Fares!

Reformation 500 AND Sparkhouse Family Ministry!

Both offered on Sundays October 30 and November 6

Do you want to learn more about Martin Luther, his writings, and their impact on Christianity? Looking for devotional materials or resources on Lutheran living? Or are you looking for a faith-related Christmas gift for your kids or grandkids? Stop by the concurrently running Reformation 500 and Sparkhouse Children's Book Fares, both being held Sundays October 30 and November 6. There will be something for all ages. Save up to 50% plus receive free shipping on all Bookstore titles. Details on times and location will be provided soon.



Dear Saints Alive!



We need your assistance in taking photos (from your phone works quite well!) of the church groups you gather with between now and mid-October and photos of groups you serve with in the community, such as, St. Vincent de Paul's dining room, St. John's Shelter, Acres of Hope, **etc., etc. etc.** provided you or other Resurrection members are in the photo. These may be posed or not posed photos; casual or formal.

Remember to take "behind the scenes" photos also, such as photos of those serving from the sacristy and care of the altar, the choir rehearsal room, cooking and clean up teams, property maintenance, finance folks, etc. Include all ages in your photos whenever applicable.

Also please ask permission for the photos to be used and shared with our congregation -- especially if children or youth are in your photos or when you are taking photos of groups in the community.

Your photos will be used for a **Nov. 6th celebration of All the Saints**; the saints we remember and those living and serving with us in the present.

Please send your photos to my email address karen@lcrchurch.org between now and mid-October and pass the word around to others to send their photos to me also.

Thank you for your assistance and for the ministry we share in Christ's name!
- Karen Idler

Servant Squad – Gathering Inn

*There's no better way to spend a Tuesday, than with our awesome **Servant Squad**, hosting The Gathering Inn.*

On **Tuesday, October 18**, we welcome **The Gathering Inn**. If you're not familiar with the program, this "nomadic" community-based shelter brings together more than 60 local churches who take turns each month providing 70 – 80 homeless men, women and children a hot meal and a safe place to sleep.



If you'd like to be a part of this important ministry, we need:

- 2 Set-Up Helpers (able to move tables and chairs) – arriving at 4:00 p.m.
- 4 Cooks - arriving at 4:00 p.m.
- 8 Food Servers - arriving at 5:30 p.m.
- 4 Greeters - arriving at 6:00 p.m.
- 2 Clean-Up Helpers – arriving at 6:00 p.m.

To sign up, please email murbach5@outlook.com and let us know which team you'd like to join.

Thank you for taking the time to be a part of this life-changing ministry.

Calling All Artisans!



God's good gifts include those given to artisans.

On All Saints Sunday, Nov. 6th, we would like to showcase the artwork of members skilled in an applied art or craft. The items, created by hand,

may be functional or strictly decorative. Items sought include handwoven textiles, ceramics, leather goods, oil or water color paintings, ceramics, photographs, needlework, tapestries, etc. If you would like to display an item, please contact Director of Shared Ministry, Karen Idler, at karen@lcrchurch.org. Entries will be limited to the amount of display space available and artisans will be asked to set up and take down their item to ensure the safety of their work.

Artisans: Please fill out the form provided in this [link](#) and return it to an offering plate or to the church office. Thank you!

MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC!



"Reformation Sunday is October 30th, and we have planned a wonderful service of music for traditional worship that honors the anniversary of The Reformation. The

Resurrection Brass and guest organist Susan Hamre have prepared celebratory pieces, including a special arrangement of "A Mighty Fortress". The Chancel Choir and trumpet/piano accompaniment will perform "God is Our Refuge and Strength." Join us for a joyous morning in the Sanctuary!

No Shave November Interest List



Guys have a funny way of showing love. Every November men across the nation support men with cancer by not shaving for the month. Last year, men of Resurrection decided this was fun,

but not enough. We added fundraising goals for cancer research and opportunities to spend time with men who have cancer or are in remission. It was a lot of fun to bond over a common scruffiness and against a common enemy. If you'd like to join us this November, please let me know soon. Whether you're hoping to stop shaving for the month, have or had cancer, or want to support the goofs doing this, we all have a great desire to show love for those affected by cancer.



Last chance to sign-up! Photos for our new Pictorial Director are underway. Sign-ups have started at church and online. Sign up [online](#) (open Tuesday thru Saturday only) with photo shoots on October 27, 28, 29. Each Resurrection member photographed will receive a FREE 8 x 10 and a color printed directory. We can't wait to see your smiling faces in the directory!



LAFF (Lutheran Adult Fun & Fellowship) hosts its 10th Oktoberfest on October 22nd this year!

You are invited to join in the fun and fellowship of LAFF's tenth Oktoberfest on October 22. There will be plenty of German food, beer and wine; ole Europe decorations and dress; music and dancing by Polka Power California; fun activities and new people to meet. This is an adult only event. You are encouraged to invite guests that may welcome an opportunity to be acquainted with a Lutheran congregation.

Tickets are \$25 per person, which includes all food and refreshments. Tickets will be sold on Sunday mornings, October 2, 9 and 16. Childcare on campus has been arranged....one group for those under 5 years and another for those between 5 and 12 years. Reservations for children must be made by October 12th to assure appropriate staffing.

The Oktoberfest begins at 6 p.m. (6-9 p.m.) in the Faith Center. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. Eight or more may request reserved seating. For more information, late reservations...please contact chair Kathy Wood, call/text 619-890-3087 (yes 619), kheinzeewood@yahoo.com


If you're looking for more social involvement at Resurrection, LAFF is always seeking more help (taking reservations, greeters, decorators, kitchen helpers, planners) contact Kathy.

Fellowship Breakfast

On Saturday October 8th at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, enjoy a great breakfast prepared by our new chef's Tim & Joan Moore. Breakfast will be followed by a program celebrating and recognizing some of the successes which have come from programs we did during the year. You may be surprised!



Daylighters News!

 The DAYLIGHTERS will meet **Tuesday, October 25**, at NOON in the Fellowship Hall. Our menu will be Pulled Pork Sandwiches, etc. and possibly some "magical" dessert. Theme is Halloween **"Magic"**. Prizes will be given for best Halloween costumes.

A \$5 donation per person is much appreciated to help defray the expenses. Our Callers will remind everyone of the event and get a head count. New to the group? WELCOME! Please call Elizabeth Bieniek 916-780-0472 to reserve a seat for you. Future meetings are scheduled for Nov. 29 and Dec.20.

Priceless Purls

Learn and Serve with Priceless Purls

Learn more about knitting and crocheting, while providing hats to chemo patients, new babies and the homeless. We also provided prayer shawls to those in need of comfort.

10:00 a.m. Monday, October 3 in the Fellowship Hall. For more info contact Joanne Auerbach at 624-3651 or bauerbac@sbcglobal.net



Children's Ministry News

Book Fair! Sundays October 30 and November 6

Are you looking for a faith-related Christmas gift for your kids or grandkids? Do you want to learn more about Martin Luther, his writings, and their impact on Christianity? Stop by the book fare to be held Sundays **October 30 and November 6**, to shop for engaging Bible stories, videos, and Reformation resources for all ages. Save up to 50% plus receive free shipping on all Bookstore titles. Details on times and location will be provided soon.

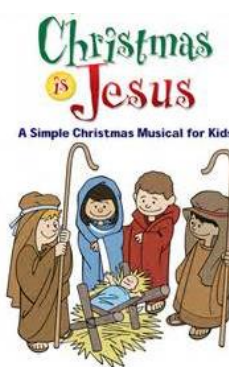


Communion Preparation Class - Sunday October 23, 10:30-12:00, Room 10

A time for parents/grandparents and their 1st-4th grade child to explore together the stories, rituals and images surrounding communion. Suitable for both children who have begun communing, and those who have not yet, the class will help families begin or deepen their understanding of this gift from Jesus. Childcare is available for younger siblings. RSVP's are helpful: adriana@lcrchurch.org



"Jesus means Christmas to me" is the title



of the **2016 Christmas Children's Musical**, scheduled for December 11th. All young children, ages 1st thru 6thgrades, are invited to join us. Sign-ups begin the next two Sundays, October 9th and 16th in the Faith Center, before and after 2nd service. Rehearsals run from the third Sunday in October (October 23rd) thru the first Sunday in

December, from 10:45 a.m. – till noon with a break for snacks. Parents can pick up a rehearsal CD and lyrics sheet at the sign-up table. Questions? Please contact Patrick Neal at pat@lcrchurch.org

Teen Ministry

Introducing Sway Phal!

Sway comes to us highly qualified from assisting teen ministries at Good Shepherd Lutheran in Sacramento for five years with great love for Jesus and a knack for building strong relationships with teens. Sway will be leading youth group as the **interim teen lead**. You may already recognize him from one of the many times he's played with the contemporary worship band on Sundays.



Youth Group

Jr High and High School students gather weekly on Tuesdays, from 7-9pm in the teen center for games, worship, and small groups.

9th Annual Craft Faire Extravaganza

Craft Faire 2016 – The Resurrection's 9th Annual

Craft Faire on Saturday, **November 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** We will need lots of baked items, & jelly, jams, pickles, etc. for our baked sale - to be delivered to Resurrection by 10 AM on **November 18**. Contact Sandie or



Doc Wright at

sandiekwright@gmail.com as they will need help selling and wrapping the items. Contact Marina Smith at marinas@surewest.net, (773-8485) or Barbara Wells, barbwells@comcast.net, (773-1881) if you can make some wonderful soup, and/or be a kitchen helper. We also could use helpers the day of the event, guys, gals, teens. Contact Susie Reese cell (916)759-2410 or email: lrcraftfaire@sbcglobal.net or Ann Jolly (916) 784-9254, tennc2001@yahoo.com if you can help the day of the faire. We are so happy we were able to get on Santa's schedule! Bring the little ones.

Some like it hot, some like it sweet....

Granite Bay Library 2nd Annual Chili Cook-off



Resurrection, along with 14 other organizations ranging from churches to schools to businesses, participated in the Granite Bay Library Chili Cook-off on Saturday, October 1. The event, held at Quarry Ponds, included:

- Master of Ceremonies three-time Emmy winner, Mark S. Allen
- Dinger from the River Cats
- The Beat, a local youth band from the Creative Arts Center our neighbor across the street
- Auburn Road, a three-girl country/pop group from our community

The winning chili was from Greenhills Elementary School with a second place tie between Bayside Church and South Placer Fire Department. Fun was had by all!

Adult Faith Formation Ministry Team

In anticipation of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, learn about **The World of Luther.**

This upcoming class will attempt to trace the life and



impact of Luther within the framework of the Renaissance. Discussions will center on what was happening around Luther in the areas of art, society, intellectual thought and political change. We

will move through Germany and Italy in Luther's footsteps as we consider Luther's life and work in relationship to what was happening around him. Here's a Luther quote to get you thinking...“ Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree”. (M. Luther). Led by Joy Rowland, the class begins Sunday, October 23rd in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Retreat: “The Gospel of Jesus – Through History and Today.”

Share a faith experience with others of the congregation at this weekend retreat. We will explore the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth and the significance of his death & resurrection. We will delve into how the early Church saw Jesus and examine the theology of St. Augustine and the mystical teaching of Meister Eckhart—two writers who influenced Martin Luther. Then we will learn from Luther himself, and see how he began the modern world. What are the challenges and opportunities for Christians living in this time? The retreat is being held at Christ the King Retreat Center in Citrus Heights, November 11th through November 13th and will be facilitated by Deacon Red Cheever. Registration begins Sunday, October 2nd.

Contemplation and Centering Prayer.

"Contemplative prayer is a process of interior transformation, a conversation initiated by God and

leading, if we consent, to Divine union. One's way of seeing reality changes in this process. A restructuring of consciousness takes place which empowers one to perceive, relate and respond with increasing sensitivity to the Divine presence in, through and beyond everything that exists. In silence we come to know and live from the Divine Mystery within us. The fruit of contemplative prayer manifests through the growing awareness of God as the Source and Center of all and in the increasing capacity to live ordinary life with extraordinary love." Share in this experience each Wednesday in the Library at 1:00 p.m. The group is led by Tanda Ainsworth

The Ahmad Family and Resurrection's Good Neighbor Team



The Advent Season is two months away, but twelve members who have come together to become a World Relief volunteer “Good Neighbor Team” are sensing the kind of anticipation that goes with

that season. The refugee family that the Resurrection team has chosen is the Ahmad family, two adults and three children from Afghanistan. The family is scheduled to arrive in Sacramento on September 28. Team members will meet them at the airport, transport them to various medical and social service appointments, provide temporary housing (thanks to Kathy Wood) until an apartment becomes available, set up the apartment for them when it's ready, help them improve their English language skills, and guide and support them as they adjust to a culture quite different from their own.

[Read more!](#)

HELPING HANDS FOR OCTOBER

Support a Refugee Family -

A team of Resurrection members are hosting a refugee family from Afghanistan and need to coordinate lots of practical needs for them including furniture, cleaning supplies, rides, and basic information. Anyone having such items they might wish to donate is invited to contact the Schwegel's at 916-791-1397 early this week. You can donate to help this team by writing “refugee” or “helping hands” in the memo line of a check made out to LCR.

Koinonia Family Services – Duffle Bags/Luggage for Foster Youth

During the month of October, our Social Ministry Committee's Helping Hands will benefit the foster children presently living at the Koinonia Family Services by giving them new duffel bags. While many of us may have gently used pieces that might still do the job, for a foster child already experiencing incomprehensible rejection, Koinonia will only accept new duffels. Contact Nancy Fiorini at 916-989-6819 or 916-719-2787.

Koinonia's primary function is to help children find foster and adoptive homes. They also help provide foster children with clothes and basic needs as they move to living with a new family or group home. Most foster children will have multiple placements during their time in foster care. When moving from placement to placement, they are routinely packing everything they own into black garbage bags.

The following link will direct you to two videos by Nathanael & Christina Matanick. Each show stirring portrayals of the reality of a foster child & are well worth your time.

www.removedfilm.com/pages/watch

To hear from an actual "Koinonia Kid" go to www.mikeysluggage.com and watch "Hello. My Name Is Michael".

If you are an Amazon user you can donate a percentage of your Amazon purchases by going to <https://smile.amazon.com/>. Log in to your Amazon account & from there you can choose Koinonia Foster Homes Inc.

For All the Saints

FOR ALL THE SAINTS features stories of the lives of Resurrection members some of whom, for a variety of reasons, are no longer able to worship with us. We continue to hold these saints in our thoughts and corporate prayers and reading about them is one way our entire community can get to know them also! Thanks to our interviewers, John Frith and Karen Murbach, who contact and set up interviews FOR ALL THE SAINTS and write the newsletter articles.

If you have a person you would like to have interviewed FOR ALL THE SAINTS, please email Director of Shared Ministry, Karen Idler, at karen@lcrchurch.org or phone the church office at 916.791.4661 ext. 225.

Out of Africa, via Germany & Minnesota

Congregation members reflect on their long journey to Resurrection, and the part God played in it.

By John Frith



If there are two words that personify Eric Msechu and Aisia Kitaly, they would be faith and aspiration. The couple, who were born and raised in the east African

nation of Tanzania, aspired to a better life from an early age and relied on their faith to get them where they are today. [Read more!](#)

CPR and AED Training Opportunity

- **Recertification -Wednesday - October 26th 1-4 PM**
- **New Trainee Class - October 27th 12:30 - 5:30 PM**

Training in Coronary Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and the use of the AED defibrillator in the Faith Center will be available for those needing Red Cross recertification (two years since the last class) and for those wishing to become trained and certified.



We are encouraging all members, especially staff, ushers, greeters, communion assistants and Council members to consider taking a class for the sake of:

Your family - the classes cover emergency care for babies, children and adults and offer you the training to sustain life until the medics arrive.

Your Church - There have been several instances when this training has been used to assess members who fell ill or fainted during church and support has been needed until the Fire Department arrived.

The training will be provided by the Folsom CPR and will be held in the Fellowship Hall with refreshments provided.

There is a fee of \$60 per student for each class which may be lowered depending on the enrollment. To sign up: Notify Kathy at lcr@lcrchurch.org or 791-4661

Resurrection Readers

On the 3rd Thursday each month our book club meets in the library at 2:00 p.m. Contact Beryl Bakken at 916-791-1582. **Please join us!**



What we'll be reading:

Oct. 20 – *Daughters of the Dragon* by William Andrews. Does the antique ivory comb with the two headed dragon really have magical powers?

Nov. 17 – *The Plum Tree*, Ellen Marie Wiseman

Dec. 15 – Happy Holidays (no meeting)

Jan. 19 – *Eat Sleep Seek Stride*, Theodora Wilner (the author will be with us)

Feb. 16 – *Brown Girl Dreaming*, Jacqueline Woodson

Mar. 16 – *When Breath Becomes Air*, Paul Kalanithi

Apr. 20 – *Leaving Time*, Jodi Picoult

May 18 – *Dead Wake*, Erik Larson

Jun. 15 – *America's First Daughter*, Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie

Jul. 20 – *Look Again*, Lisa Scottoline

Aug. 17 – *Whistling Season*, Ivan Doig

Sept. 21 – *The Nightingale*, Kristin Hannah

The Carlson Library - Patty Beers

Just a note on donating

books... In the past we have been able to collect money for your donated books to help with our book and library budget. Our bookstore, that has been purchasing the books from us, has gone out of business. Please do not drop books off at the library unless they have religious content and are recent editions that we can add to our collection. Check with your local public library to find locations to donate your used books. I will continue to look for a location that will purchase our used books as it has been very helpful to the library in the past but until that time we do not have the space to store them.



The library is open for your use every Sunday from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. Self-checkout is available. Please include your name, email or phone number on the checkout card inside the book and place the card in the box provided on the desk. Please return books in a timely manner so that everyone can enjoy them.

Church Council – Sept. Highlights

- The Listening Process/Purpose Mapping Team started working with consultant Kristen Wiersma of the Joshua Group. Leadership team: Eric Msechu, Ellen Deutsche, Vince Dutto, Michelle Larsh, John Crostic, Carolyn Jansen, and Kay Valler. 60-80 Resurrection people will be interviewed, plus Resurrection staff, plus council, plus people from the community outside the congregation. We'll have open signups for interviews for those not tapped who want to give input.
- The Communication Team (Pr. Ralph, Cindy Willis, and John Frith) plan to expand the weekly announcements document to make it more useful. Upcoming: Make changes to and promote use of the Resurrection website.
- Seminarian Carolyn Brodt met with her discernment team for the first of many interviews. Council passed a resolution to offer support to Carolyn during her studies, both spiritually and financially. LCR will provide \$1000 per year toward her seminary expenses. Finance will set up a fund that others may contribute to, which would be added to the \$1000. Council will review this support annually.
- The Social Ministry Team seeks a leader to call meetings, lead meetings, and make sure sub-teams are on track and have what they need.
- Council will invite our new LCR staff members, one per monthly meeting, to come talk with us about their work.
- October council meeting rescheduled to Oct. 11.

- No November Council retreat this year. Instead, council members will attend a Leadership Summit in January instead, when the Listening/Purpose Mapping process is wrapping up and we are deciding what to do next as a congregation.

Shared Ministry Matters

From the Director of Shared Ministry, Karen Idler

Resurrection church groups are encouraged to begin our meetings and other gatherings with a brief devotion. Groups may choose a devotion for themselves or use the devotion provided in the monthly newsletters.



This month's group devotion is adapted from "*Unity: God's Gift in Christ*" written by former ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson in the September 2010 issue of *Lutheran Woman Today* (now *Gather*) magazine.

In the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians 4:1-4 – "I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Strength of unity

We struggle with a dynamic that God's people have lived with for centuries: the interplay between unity and diversity, both of which are gifts from God.

Within the body of Christ, diversity is unity's strength, not its weakness. When diversity becomes a problem, it's our human problem, not God's. The world needs what we are when we are true to each other as sisters and brothers in the body of Christ—not when one partisan faction triumphs over another.

When we move beyond our comfortable, entrenched position, we experience each other in new ways. We grow in understanding and wisdom. We are not only truer to ourselves and our own convictions; we are truer to others and our love for them. We will become what we are called to be and gifted by the Holy Spirit to be—faithful members of the body of Christ.

PRAYER: O God, you made us in your own image and gifted us individually in diverse ways; all for your holy purpose. Look with compassion on the human family; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Current Opportunities to Serve. [Click here!](#)