



www.lcrchurch.org

March 1, 2017



Supper, 6:30 PM
Worship, 7:15 PM
Mar. 8, 15, 22, 29
April 5

Please join us on Wednesdays in the Faith Center. We will once again worship using the beautiful Holden Evening Prayer Liturgy.

Prayer Series: One Is A Win!

We hope that the prayer series was life-giving for your relationship with God. What was one thing you'll take away from the series? Pastor Ralph closed the final sermon in the series with an encouragement to **pray once a day during Lent** and a reminder that it doesn't matter how long that prayer is because to God, "One is a Win!"



Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

- † **Sunday, April 9, Palm Sunday - 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00.**
- † **Thursday, April 13, Maundy Thursday – 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.**
- † **Friday, April 14, Good Friday – Noon – 2:00 p.m.** the sanctuary is open for prayer and reflection. Join us at **7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary** – The Chancel Choir will lead a Tenebrae service which will be a somber and moving remembrance of our Lord's suffering.

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Don't forget to bring fresh flowers to adorn our Easter crosses!



Please invite your family and friends to celebrate with us on Easter Sunday as our musical groups raise the roof with glorious

Easter music.

- † **6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service** – Join us in the grove for the first celebration of the Resurrection (If raining, service will be in the sanctuary)
- † **9:30 a.m.** Contemporary Easter Celebration in the Faith Center
- † **8:00 & 11:00 a.m.** – Easter Services with the Festival Choir and Resurrection Brass in the Sanctuary

Children's Easter Egg Hunt – Details about time and location to come!

Staff

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Through the Cross

I've been staring at a door-shaped hole in the wall of my house for a couple weeks now. I know I need to drywall over it and I know how to do it. It won't even take a lot of time to complete. I just can't bring myself to doing the work.

Have you ever tried desperately to avoid some work to do, or struggle in your future, or stress, or change that you knew would be good to get through? Maybe you're avoiding something more difficult. Like you need to have a challenging conversation with a loved one, or get surgery, or refocus your life.

Our natural instinct is often to avoid work, pain, struggle, change, effort, and movement. Right?

When Jesus was on the Mount of Olives, just before he was arrested, tried, and executed, he takes a moment to pray. It seems he fully knows that he needs to struggle, work hard, and even suffer to complete his mission. His crucifixion is inevitable. If that were I, I'd run and not worry about resurrection. But Jesus prays, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." (Luke 22:42) Although Jesus knows his work will be incredibly difficult he sees great value in God's will. He knew he had to go through the cross. **Jesus embraces work, pain, struggle, change, effort and suffering because of the great value of resurrection beyond all this.**

We learn how important moving toward struggle is from Jesus approach to the cross but we also learn that we aren't alone in our effort to pursue something difficult for God's will. Immediately after Jesus prays Luke shares that, "An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground" (Lk 22:43-44) **God strengthens Jesus and strengthens us for our struggles.**



As we approach the cross during Lent, I invite you to consider what you are avoiding because it may be difficult, challenging, painful, or require change, but you know full well is God's will for you to live a full and joyous life. How might you pray to embrace this struggle and seek God's strength to approach your challenge as we walk with Jesus through the cross into a glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday?

Lookin' up,
Ralph



Join us, **Together**, in our **Lenten Journey** to support and engage in the life-changing work with the ELCA World Hunger. There are many ways to engage in our Lenten call to serve our neighbor through the ELCA World Hunger.

Worship: Ash Wednesday, March 1 at noon and 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Lenten Worship and soup suppers, March 8 – April 5 at 6:30 pm in the Faith Center.

Prayer and Daily Devotion: (click on link using the underlined phrase) [Electronic Daily Devotion](#) or pick up a paper version on Sunday after worship.

Family Questions and Activities: (click on link using the underlined phrase) [40 Days of Wondering](#) and [40 Days of Simply Living](#)

Engage in the stories of how the ELCA World Hunger has made an impact on people and communities around the world. The stories will be shared on the tables at the Wednesday evening soup suppers.

Financial Offering: Checks made payable to LCR with ELCA WH in the memo, [online giving](#), or use your Thrivent Choice Dollar designated to ELCA WH. Resurrection's Lenten Offering Goal is \$10,000.

Thank you for all you do to invest in the future of this church, deepen relationships and expand ministry opportunities that serve our neighbors and communities in the United States and around the world. Together, we can do more!

Purpose Mapping Process Continues with Waypoint Teams

Our listening phase with the Joshua Group and our consultant, Kristin Wiersma, revealed some great insight to our congregation and its future. Her report calls Resurrection, "healthy and vibrant" with a "centrality on worship" and a "strong collaborative staff, location, large campus, and multiuse facility." Among the joys we share it's important we continue to pursue a unified vision for ministry, a solid leadership structure, and ways to share our story.

To move forward we're developing a **Waypoint Team** for each of these three directions: Shared Vision, Leadership, and Story. Kristin will direct the work these teams will undergo over the next 6-8 months. They will manage and collaborate on our growing understanding of how we can live out our God-given identity as a church. It's obvious that these teams will influence the vitality and direction

of Resurrection for decades. Please contact Pastor Ralph if you'd like to apply to be a part of any of these three Waypoint teams. Kristin will also be on site this month to initiate the first two teams and meet with the council to help understand our transitioning governance model.

We'll continue to listen, discern, and grow together as we embrace God's purpose for Resurrection! Thanks for being a crucial part of our ministry together.

Lookin' up,
Ralph

Fellowship Breakfast

Saturday **March 11th, at 8:00 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Joanne Auerbach, will show a film and do a promo for a class on "The History of Early Lutherans" along with a discussion. The class will run Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. beginning after Easter on April 19th. Also enjoy a great breakfast prepared by chefs Tim & Joan Moore. All adults are welcome.



Daylighters Invitation!

'A Celebration of Spring' is the theme for the Daylighters luncheon on March 28th. All seniors are cordially invited to attend at 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please check the Sunday announcement sheet for more details. Please contact Elizabeth Bieniek at 916-780-0472 or bethniek@gmail.com if you are new to the group to make a reservation.



LAFF (Lutheran Adult Fun & Fellowship)





"A Miner Murder" - Members and guests are invited to dine (catered by Hickory Hank's BBQ) and sleuth through the Mother Lode (Jack's luck with gold strikes out). Tickets, \$25, are on sale March 5 and 12 after each service. Childcare provided. Typical LAFF 'fun & fellowship evening'. Please call Mark Billeci, LAFF event co-chair, for more information, late tickets, etc. 916-933-6180. **Faith Center, 6:00 p.m., March 18th.**


Children's Ministry News



VBS 2017
June 19-23

The theme this year is **"Uniquely Wired and**

Wonderfully Made!" Think robots  gears 

and Legos!  We are all created to know and love God, have a purpose, be ourselves and shine! VBS is a Resurrection Church tradition that gathers children from many places: the congregation, the neighborhood, grandkids, cousins and school friends. The team to run VBS includes about **50** guides, coordinators, leaders and assistants in a wide variety of areas (storytelling, music, decorating, crew guides, snacks, tech, games, crafts, drama, registration, and more) so prayerfully consider having a part! By making your interest known early, the recruiting process will go much faster. Please email Adriana and together we will find the perfect place for you where you are comfortable and can let your own light shine for God!

Bible Blast-Out on March 5, 9:30

Last month's "Bible Blast Out" during the lessons and sermon of the 9:30 service was lots of fun and well-attended. Another "Blast Out" will happen on **March 5th** at the same time. This is a time for preschool and younger elementary children to step into the Library for a child-level Bible message and activity. Older children are welcome to come and assist. The topic will be on preparing for Easter, and include receiving ashes on foreheads from Pastor Ralph. Our focus will be not so much on mortality but on knowing that as we follow Jesus in our baptismal calling there are times we need to say "I'm sorry" to God, and God always forgives.

Trial New Location for the Nursery

As of March 12, the church Nursery that serves children ages 1-5 will be in Room 8, in a space semi-shared with the Preschool Sunday School class. Rooms 5-6 will then be available as a conference/meeting room. Moving the Nursery has several advantages: more flexibility in how our childcare provider, Becca, can serve Children's Ministry, closer proximity of the Nursery to the Faith Center and Sanctuary, and easier transitions for the youngest children; that is, children age 1-5 will have the same space for childcare as well as Sunday School, and the transition from Nursery care to Preschool Sunday School will be nearly seamless. This will help those little ones who often don't make changes well. Please contact Adriana with questions.

"Friday Flash" Weekly Children's Ministry E-news - For the most up to date and detailed information on Children's Ministry, ask to be included on the "Friday Flash" by contacting Adriana Findlay, Director of Children's Ministry at Adriana@lcrchurch.org



Capernaum

Capernaum Spring Break Day Camp, April 10-14 - For five years now, our teens have run a life-changing day camp for people with special needs during spring break. We need all the teens we can get to run this high-energy, deep-impact camp. Find out more at www.lcrchurch.org/capernaum

Notes from Dee Dee



How are the hymns chosen for the 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services?

Before Pastor Don left, he and I would sit down at the piano every six weeks or so to select hymns for worship services. Our main resource guide was the Sundays and Seasons Guide to Worship Planning, published by Augsburg Fortress. This resource provides information from the Revised Common Lectionary as used by Evangelical Lutheran Church congregations, with recommended hymns, service music, anthems and other resources to support the themes and scriptures that guide worship planning for each week in the liturgical year. The goal, as stated by the first editor of Sundays and Seasons, Samuel Torvend, is “to point us to that merciful place of encounter where God comes to abide among us in the holy gospel and the sacraments of grace: the worshipping assembly.” What we sing together each week as Lutherans is very important to the worship experience!

Pastor Don suggested before he retired that we form a **Hymn Selection Committee** to continue the work of providing the necessary hymns for corporate singing that continue to support our worship experiences throughout the year. The members of the Hymn Selection Committee are **Dee Dee Lutz**, **Judy Roll** and **Kathy Wood**. The three of us meet regularly to select hymns for worship using the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal and various other hymn resources. All the hymns selected are aligned with the themes and scriptures prescribed in Sundays and Seasons, and provide support for Pastor Ralph’s sermon topics and themes.

Do you have a favorite hymn that touches your heart? Please let us know, and we will work it into the music selections that align with the lectionary. Please put your request in writing and forward it to me. My e-mail address is DredaL@aol.com. You may also write your request in the Red Visitor Folder that is passed in the pews during services if you wish. We will get the message!

Lent and Holy Week Services

Please join us for worship as we prepare for Christ’s journey to the cross and his resurrection. All our

church musical groups are preparing special music to enhance our congregation’s worship experiences throughout Lent and Holy Week. We look forward to seeing you!

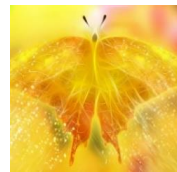
We will be returning to Marty Haugen's liturgy "Now the Feast and Celebration" on Sunday, March 5th. We're looking forward to using the beautiful music of this work to enhance our traditional worship at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection until Advent.

Blessings,

Dee Dee Lutz

Director of Worship and Music

Adult Faith Formation Ministry Team



TIE THE OLD AND NEW TOGETHER

Explore how the New Testament writers quoted the Old Testament. Discover the way Moses and the prophets foretold the coming of Jesus. This 8-week Thursday class is taught by Rev. Peter Rogers, Director of the Center of Bible Study. It is presented at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Granite Bay and begins **April 6** at 10:30-12:00 in Room 10. Cost is \$75 for Resurrection members. Call the Center; 916-332-1476. “Rev. Rodgers is an enthusiastic, humorous and delightful teacher. I highly recommend this class!” Adriana Findlay, Director of Children’s Ministry, LCR.

A HISTORY LESSON - EARLY LUTHERANS IN AMERICA

This is a 5- week video-discussion course. It begins with the earliest arrivals in the colonies through the waves of immigrants and to the transformation of Lutheranism as we know it today. Taught by Joanne Auerbach and Linda Babcock, it starts Wednesday, **April 19** at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.

CENTERING PRAYER

The Mercy Center in Auburn has a spacious and beautiful landscape. In this environment of serenity and quiet they conduct a weekly Centering Prayer Group. For more information, go to <http://www.mercycenter.org/retreat-calendar.html>

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS are available. Pick up yours in the Narthex or at the Contemporary Service.

Priceless Purls: Knit & Crochet

Our next gathering of Priceless Purls is Monday, **March 6** at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come anytime between 10 and noon to help organize hats, yarn and prayer shawls. Bring any questions on knitting or crocheting and any finished baby hats, chemo



hats, hats or scarfs for homeless shelters and/or prayer shawls. We'll start by sorting and packaging finished hats for distribution. Thanks to many industrious knitters and crocheters we distributed finished items to Kaiser and Sutter in February. For questions contact Joanne Auerbach, 624-3651 or bauerbac@sbcglobal.net

We Welcome the Gathering Inn in March



On **Tuesday, March 21**, we welcome **The Gathering Inn**. The Gathering Inn is a “nomadic” community-

based shelter for homeless families and individuals. More than 40 local churches take turns each month serving a hot meal and providing a warm, safe place to sleep.

In recent months, we've seen an increasing number of young children in the group, some of the highest counts in Gathering Inn history. Homelessness is especially hard on kids, and the hospitality we offer these families makes a big difference.

If you'd like to be a part of this important ministry, we need volunteers in the following areas:

Please note; some arrival times have changed.

- 2 Set-Up Helpers (able to move tables and chairs) – arriving at 3:30 p.m.
- 5 Cooks/Kitchen Helpers - arriving at 3:30 p.m.
- 8 Food Servers - arriving at 5:30 p.m.
- 4 Greeters - arriving at 6:00 p.m.
- 4 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 being a part of this life-changing ministry.

Words of Appreciation

From Social Ministry – Thank you for your generous support for the Sleep Train pajama collection for foster children. **119 pairs of pajamas** were donated to foster children. Eight pairs of pajamas were donated to children at our Gathering Inn dinner. Resurrection is a very caring congregation!

From Worship & Music - Because of the generosity of **Lorraine and Jim Wells** the church now has a marimba/xylophone! They have donated this beautiful instrument with the hope that it will add to the beauty of the bell choir as well as be available for the contemporary services, and for the youth to experiment with. Thank you, thank you Lorraine and Jim!!

We also want to thank **Charlotte Morse**, taking over from **Ruth Barnes**, for being the Lector

Leader for the past few years. She has done a wonderful job training and coordinating the lectors but she has decided it is time to step down. We warmly welcome **Len Merkel** into this position.

From Oroville Evacuees - I was happy to be able to deliver 18 quilts to the emergency shelter at the Placer County fairgrounds on Valentine's Day. It had been opened for the evacuees of the Oroville Dam scare. It did my heart good to be so welcomed by the people working there and by the ones that were there for help. Gods work. Our hands. Piece Makers. Josie Freiberg

Social Ministry Update/Helping Hands Giving for March

January Helping Hands was Pajamas for foster youth, the response was incredible!!! Thank you! Please read details in Linda Corr's article under Words of Appreciation in this newsletter.

February we asked our church family to bring dry goods for three food closets – Orangevale, Placer and Sunrise. Once again you came through with **over 100 bags** to be given to people in need. We thank you and the Food Closets sincerely thanks our church for your support as the need has been great in this wet and cold winter. In addition, Baby's First was delighted to receive diapers and other items that they needed.

March we will again assist World Relief with preparing Health, Kitchen, Sewing, and Bathroom kits for refugee families coming into our area. Last year committees within the church took on making these kits. We are hoping that committees, groups and families will support this project. **On Sunday March 5th we will be handing out lists of items needed for each kit.**

After having our first Good Neighbor Team supporting an Afghanistan family we see the need for many items beyond the kits. Watch for more items needed for our next refugee family in our Ministry This Week announcements! Here are a few you may have and are looking for a new home for them: clothes for everyone in the family, cookie sheets, measuring cups/spoons, muffin pans, large soup pots, frying pans, blenders, electric mixers, bedding, towels, also furniture that is needed includes chairs, dining room tables, coffee tables, rugs, and couches. Most of these refugee families arrive with a large suitcase for each individual and within it is everything they own. Think of all the things you would need to set up a household for your family! For more information call Cynthia Wellington 916-715-7319 or

cleonandcynthia@sbcglobal.net

April will be a busy month and Social Ministry is going to focus on World Hunger. More news to come. Wednesday, March 1st, is Ash Wednesday and for the next five Wednesdays we will be

addressing World Hunger in a fun and interesting way at all our Lenten Soup and Salad dinners.

May 6th is the kickoff for World Vision with a 5K water walk/run in our area. Please contact Cynthia Wellington at 916-715-7319 or go directly to www.teamworldvision.org to sign up for the Granite Bay walk.

Afghanistan Refugee Family Successes: LCR & World Relief Partnership

The First GOOD NEIGHBOR TEAM (GNT) is pleased to report that we have all thoroughly enjoyed supporting our first refugee family. We made a six month commitment to help and we have made lifelong friends. There are eleven on our team from Resurrection. When our family arrived September 30th we had attended a few classes at World Relief, yet we were unprepared for the wonderful education, interesting relationships and the true needs of our family of five.

Resurrection is preparing to form our second team and is looking for a new group of people to assist a refugee family. There are many families needing support to learn and adjust to our culture and our ways of living with many rules and regulations that must be learned.

The father, in our family, worked for the U.N. as a translator and has a medical and computer background. The mother spoke little English and was an OBGYN in Afghanistan. The children 5, 3 and 18 months spoke no English and were confused with their new homeland and homesick.

The family lives in an apartment complex in Rancho Cordova near Sunrise and Coloma Road. There are many Afghanistan families now living there. They all have basic needs and all the men worked for our CIA or the UN in their country.

In only 5 months the father has passed his driving test, has a job at a medical clinic and last weekend purchased a 2005 Sienna Toyota van. The mother is speaking and understanding English very well. The teacher for the older two children states the 5 year old daughter is well prepared for Kindergarten next year! She said "the three year old boy knows his colors, some numbers and letters and states he can say well "does this go to my cubby?" "Is it time to go out and play?" The 18 month old will be two in a few weeks and she wants to go to school too. The family all has bicycles and really enjoy them.

The mother is expecting a daughter in 9 weeks and is very homesick for her birth family. Our team attempts to fill that void for her. She and her husband are so very appreciative of all the time, energy and efforts made by the team. We are all especially thankful for the leadership of Warren Schwegel who has kept us all on task and has seen to the needs of the family by creating monthly calendars and providing everyone on the team opportunities to assist.

If you have items to donate, you can call Chris Steele 530-333-4076 or email ladychrissteelechriss@yahoo.com

Property Ministry Team Highlights

- After historic levels of rain around our community our campus has weathered the storms with no flooding.
- Our Solar Performance goal for the first 4 months since its installation in October was 18,356 kWh versus actual performance of 16,546 kWh, or slightly less than our goal. Considering the weather for the period, your Solar Team is pleased with the performance of the system. The actual dollar advantage of Solar will not truly be realized until we complete a full year solar operation with PG&E in September of this year.
- Beginning the first week of March SEL Solar will complete their solar installation with the addition of 10 panels located on the RFC foyer roof. This will complete the installation of 234 panels.
- Sometime around the first week of March, Bryce Simmons and the Property Ministry Team will be installing a new wooden cross in the Grove. Dedication of the cross will likely happen in June. Interesting to note, the cross was created by Bryce from two redwood trees, one of which was located in our campus, but had died.
- **"Confession"** Much has been made of our ICC system, that is, Inter-Committee – Communications. This system was created to better communicate between various Committees, Ministry's and our congregation. We found out from our listening sessions that communications around the church could be improved. Well, I have been playing "lip service" to the ICC system thinking that it was too difficult to learn...well, I was wrong...I learned to use our website to upload minutes from Property Ministry Team meetings and other items of interest to other groups and share those with the congregation. So if you have not been on the church Website lately; give it a try, it's very easy and informative. **Try it, you'll like it!** www.lcrchurch.org



Ed Babcock, Property Team Leader

Legacy Committee News

The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Legacy Committee has been very busy lately awarding funds for commendable causes! Here's a quick roundup of recent Legacy grant gifts:

2016

- Habitat for Humanity – Build for Unity. Read the previous [newsletter article](#) or watch the [YouTube video](#).
- Courage House – [Chicken Coop project](#)

2017

- World Relief Sacramento/Good Neighbor Team – In support and sponsorship of a new refugee family
- Cambodia Mission Trip – Watch for a summary of this trip from Sue Ernst (one of the participants) in next month's newsletter
- Children's Ministry Team, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection – CD players, playground equipment
- Ministry Team, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection – Portable projector

Are you interested in pursuing a grant for a cause you are aware of? The Legacy grant funding priorities must be consistent with the mission, purpose, and priorities of the Congregation in one of the following areas:

- 1) Extraordinary programs/ministry initiatives within the Congregation
- 2) Outreach into the local community or Synod
- 3) Church-wide ministries, world hunger, and global mission programs.

For more information about applying for a grant or on donating to the Legacy fund, visit the [Legacy page](#).

For All the Saints

Meat and Tomatoes Played a Big Role in Mary Thompson's Life

By John Frith



For some 15 years, **Mary Thompson** could often be found volunteering in the church office, helping Kathy Johnson prepare and mail newsletters along with many other tasks. She also was a fixture with the Daylighters, enjoying working in the kitchen to help prepare the

group's monthly luncheons.

Now 92 and living in a spacious apartment in an assisted living facility in Citrus Heights, Mary's mind is as sharp as ever and while she doesn't get to

church as often as she used to – she finally had to give up driving two years ago – she loves to attend as often as she can.

But who knew that one of the things that attracted her to her late husband, Vern, was meat – a scarcity during World War II.

The Nebraska native had just graduated from high school when Pearl Harbor was attacked and she quickly found a job in the steno pool in the Navy Department's offices in Washington, D.C., taking down correspondence in shorthand and then typing the letters and other documents.

"I roomed with three other girls. One was from Iowa, where Vern was from, and he came down from Harrisburg (Pa., where he was stationed) to see her. But she was dating someone else and so we started dating," she recalled. "Servicemen could get meat more easily than the rest of us so when he came to visit we'd cook dinner for them."

They married in the spring of 1945 and after the war ended they moved to Toledo, Iowa, about 70 miles northeast of Des Moines, and started farming a portion of his father's property. But it was tough going and they eventually bought a small welding shop/grocery store in town, where Vern ran the shop and Mary ran the store.

They raised their four sons there but in 1959 decided as so many Midwesterners did in those days that they'd rather be in California. They had relatives in Orangevale and moved there, eventually buying property on Golden Gate Avenue, where they ran a few horses and cattle. Vern went to work for the railroad and later Aerojet, and after her oldest son graduated from high school in the late 1960's she went back to work for the Navy and later the Bureau of Reclamation before retiring 25 years later.

Vern died during open heart surgery in 1980 at the age of 53 and she soon downsized into a smaller home with a stunning view of Lake Natoma. "We'd lived on a hill on Golden Gate and I told the Realtor it was nothing doing unless we had a view," she said.

She's proud that all four of her sons graduated from college, and credits at least part of their success to lessons instilled when the boys were young.

"When our youngest, Joel, got his doctorate from Syracuse University, I wrapped up some tomatoes and sent them to him," she said. "That's because my husband had made all the kids pick tomatoes when they were young to show them what manual labor was like and to encourage them to go to college. It worked!"



Besides her sons, she dotes on her 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. Thanks to a neighbor, Resurrection member Barbara Gillogly, Mary is still able to attend church from time to time and quizzed

this reporter at length about what was happening in the call process.

“I like the Lutheran theology and way of thinking, and I like Resurrection. Everyone is so friendly and I’ve never had any complaints,” she said.

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 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.

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:

Mar. 16 – *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi. The book is a memoir by a physician who received a diagnosis of Stage IV lung cancer at the age of 36.

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 Petal Connection needs vases, mugs or small tin cans

Petal Connection is a Granite Bay volunteer organization which arranges small floral displays for hospice patients in our area utilizing flowers donated by area markets and florists. We are currently providing 200+ arrangements each week to hospice and care facilities in our area and are always in need of containers which our members have donated regularly. Because of the increase in our weekly arrangements, we've gotten inventive and can use small vases, four inch mugs or 15 oz. tin cans that we can decorate with burlap or decorative stick-on coverings. Your vases, mugs and/or cans can be left in the church office for pickup. Additional information can be found on: www.thepetalconnection.org or call Kay Valler at (916)791-1001



Community Activities at Resurrection

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection has long been the center of community activities in Granite Bay. Here's what's happening in March:

- AA meets each Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday each week in the Fellowship Hall. Times vary.
- Al Anon District 10 meets Sunday, March 19 at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- American Association of University Women meets March 1 at 2:30pm and on March 21 at 10:00am. Both meetings are held in the Carlson Library.
- Emerald Brigade Surf & Turf Fundraiser, March 11 in the Faith Center: Crab, Tri-tip, Pasta, bread & salad.
- Daughters of Norway meet March 4 at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- Mankind Project meets each Wednesday at 6:30pm in Classroom 10.
- Kappa Theta Luncheon March 25th in Fellowship Hall: a non-profit international sorority.
- National Charity League, South Placer Chapter, meets March 13 at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall: fostering mother-daughter relationships in a philanthropic organization committed to community service, leadership development and cultural experiences.
- Nor Cal Children's Chorus, March 16, 23, and 30 in the Fellowship Hall: providing vocal technique and musicianship skills to children ages K-8th grade.
- Northern California Accordion Society meets March 1 at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. \$3 donation at the door. Food and entertainment provided. Donations support musical scholarships for teens.
- Olympus Jr. High, March 16th, in the Faith Center. Cooking some of the best pasta sauce in Granite Bay for their annual Jr. High Band fundraiser.
- Older Adult Collaborative meets March 8 at 8:30am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Sierra Kronan meets March 6 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.
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- Troop 121 meets March 9, 14 and 23rd. Times and locations vary.

If you're an **eligible Thrivent Financial member** and have Choice Dollars® available to direct during the season of Lent, Choice Dollars directed to Lutheran Church of the Resurrection will be contributed to the Lenten Offering towards ELCA World Hunger. For more info or to direct Choice Dollars, call **800-847-4836** and say "Thrivent Choice." Or click here: <http://bit.ly/XJrPZN>

Church Council – February Highlights

- **Put Resurrection's next Annual Meeting on your calendar: May 21.**
- Council asks teams to make budget priorities with reference to our 3 objectives that are listed at the beginning of the Council Agenda and Minutes. They are:
 - Provide an environment of timely and transparent communication within the congregation.
 - Grow a culture of shared ministry by involving more people and providing resources for ministry.
 - Integrate Children and Teens into all areas of ministry.
- Council is in the process of interviewing candidates for Interim Pastor.
- Kristen Wiersma will meet with council in March to help with changes in governance (transition to small council). She'll also work with Resurrection to launch the new Shared Vision and Leadership teams. Kristen will be working with us for another year.
- Dale Munson and Ed Babcock have been talking to Placer County and the Granite Bay MAC about concerns with traffic safety on Douglas Blvd.
- Cynthia Wellington is hosting a World Vision 6K Water Walk on May 6. World Vision works to provide clean water/wells throughout the world. This run will be one of many held by World Vision at multiple international sites. Resurrection members are welcome to be volunteers and participants in this World Vision event.
- Council received a handout to help us remember how to follow correct policies when we hire new personnel.
- Cindy Willis has resigned her spot on council; we thank her for her faithful service.

In His Service,
Lynne Larock

ELCA Presiding Bishop Responds to Attacks on Jewish Community

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

These famous words attributed to the German Lutheran pastor Martin Niemöller have been on my lips in recent days: *"Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out - because I was not a Jew. ... Then they came for me - and there was no one left to speak for me."*

In the face of anti-Semitism, we are called to speak out - as an expression of our love of neighbor and as our faithful response to the love of God in Jesus. In doing so, we become ambassadors of hope in the face of despair, imitators of Christ.

Our Jewish neighbors are once again living under threats, fearful for their safety and security. Over the weekend, a Jewish cemetery in St. Louis was

desecrated, and on Monday, another wave of bomb threats was made to Jewish community centers across the country. This was at least the fourth round this year alone. As Christians, we affirm that Jews remain "beloved of God" and that an attack on them is an attack on those whom our God - the one God - has called "my people."

In many places, with leadership from across this church, we are reaching out and showing up with our Jewish neighbors, often with ecumenical and inter-religious partners. We can and should continue and expand these important ministries of presence.

There is also the critical long-term work. As a church, in our 1994 Declaration to the Jewish Community, we have pledged "to oppose the deadly working of such bigotry, both within our own circles and in the society around us." This will not happen quickly. It will take concerted efforts to correct "the complicity of our own tradition within this history of hatred" and to seek deeper mutual understanding and cooperation between Lutheran Christians and the Jewish community. We have many excellent resources to aid us in these complicated but necessary tasks:

<http://www.elca.org/en/Faith/Ecumenical-and-Inter-Religious-Relations/Inter-Religious-Relations/Jewish-Relations>

So, let us continue to speak out, to reach out, to show up, and to root out this deadly bigotry of anti-Semitism. For the courage to do God's will, and for the peace of our Jewish neighbors, we pray.

In peace,
The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton

Community Activities at Resurrection

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection has long been the center of community activities in Granite Bay. Here's what's happening in March:

- AA meets each Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday each week in the Fellowship Hall. Times vary.
- Al Anon District 10 meets Sunday, March 19 at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- American Association of University Women meets March 1 at 2:30pm and on March 21 at 10:00am. Both meetings are held in the Carlson Library.
- Emerald Brigade Surf & Turf Fundraiser, March 11 in the Faith Center: Crab, Tri-tip, Pasta, bread & salad.
- Daughters of Norway meet March 4 at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- Mankind Project meets each Wednesday at 6:30pm in Classroom 10.
- Kappa Theta Luncheon March 25th in Fellowship Hall: a non-profit international sorority.
- National Charity League, South Placer Chapter, meets March 13 at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall: fostering mother-daughter relationships in a philanthropic organization committed to

community service, leadership development and cultural experiences.

- Nor Cal Children's Chorus, March 16, 23, and 30 in the Fellowship Hall: providing vocal technique and musicianship skills to children ages K-8th grade.
- Northern California Accordion Society meets March 1 at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. \$3 donation at the door. Food and entertainment provided. Donations support musical scholarships for teens.
- Olympus Jr. High, March 16th, in the Faith Center. Cooking some of the best pasta sauce in Granite Bay for their annual Jr. High Band fundraiser.
- Older Adult Collaborative meets March 8 at 8:30am in the Fellowship Hall.
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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 written by **Lillian Daniel, United Church of Christ**. Groups are invited to read the author's article and discuss the questions on the definition of sainthood.



Sainthood

Technically speaking "canonization" is the act by which the Roman Catholic Church declares that a person who has died was a saint, upon which declaration the person is included in the "canon," the official list of recognized saints. Lillian Daniel talks about the different understandings of what it takes to be a "saint" in the history of the church. What do you think? Is someone a "saint" because the church canonizes them? Paul's letter to the Ephesians seems to have a more inclusive definition of the saints. Do you become a saint by being better than the average person? Do you have to be dead to be a saint? Or can you meet real live saints in schools, streets and stores?

Scripture Passage: Ephesians 1:15-19

"I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this

reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power."

The late Mother Teresa, who devoted herself to the care of orphans in Calcutta, India, got fast tracked on the path to sainthood. If anyone deserved it, she did. Usually it takes the Roman Catholic Church much longer, centuries even, but Mother Teresa's canonization process started early, in 1999, when people could remember the real person she was. We had her journals about her spiritual struggles and some revealing biographies. Turns out she was not perfect and she didn't have to be. But they did have to come up with two miracles to make her sainthood official last September.

Miracles aside, fast tracking Mother Teresa felt like a Protestant move to me. 499 years ago, Martin Luther nailed his "95 Theses" to a church door on the eve of All Saints' Day to make his point. Saints don't need hierarchical approval from popes, pastors or people. In the 1929 hymn "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God," Lesbia Scott put it so simply that a child could get it:

*You can meet them in school, on the street,
in the store,
In church, by the sea, in the house next door;
They are saints of God, whether rich or poor,
And I mean to be one too.*

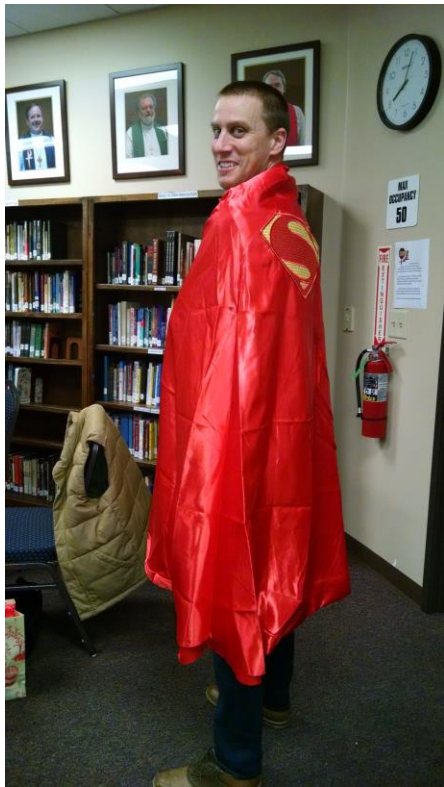
Saints are ordinary followers of Jesus, you, me and other people. It's how Paul talked about saints, and it's how we sing about saints in another classic hymn:

*For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confess,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest,
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Because being saints isn't about how great we are. It's about how great Jesus is. So go ahead. Canonize yourself. You're just claiming what has already been given to you by Jesus, who loves us, as imperfect as we are.

Prayer: God, we know our lives are far less noble than Saint Teresa of Calcutta, but we thank you for the witness of Martin Luther who joined Paul in affirming saints don't need hierarchical approval from pastors, popes, or people. We are witnesses to the saints who went before us and those we meet daily and to the saint we see in our own mirror thanks to the greatness of our Lord Jesus the Christ. Amen.

February Average Attendance – 356



Super Pastor Supper!
Wearing his gift from Church Council