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July 1, 2016

Vacation Bible School Was Awesome!

We have had an awesome week at the Surf Shack during VBS! Thanks Be to God! There were close to **80 children** who caught the wave of God's Amazing Love. Throughout the week we learned how God helps, loves, calms, and sends through singing, bible story skits, games, crafts, science, and mission work. **Thank you, thank you, thank you** to all of the people who helped in so many different ways to help us have a successful VBS. Thank you to the **65 adults and teens** who provided their love, creativity, and wisdom to the children. Thank you to the members of the congregation who donated supplies and the community who donated props. We couldn't have done it without you!



- Lori Schnell



The Surf Shack week at Vacation Bible School was a week full of energy, singing, Bible stories, and leaning how important water is in the world. The children learned how hard and time consuming it is for children in Africa to fetch water by our children doing a small water walk around our soccer field carrying gallon jugs of water.

Another mission talk involved the groups in drawing pictures of what it would be like to live in Africa and how our lives would be different if we lived there. When asking if some of them knew what the word "mission" means, some thought of super heroes like superman who has a "mission" to accomplish. In the same light, we are sent to help others through the mission of sharing God's love. They also learned that we can help others from right here in Granite Bay by pooling our giving to actually build the real need of a water well all the way across the globe.



We witnessed a transformation of the children realizing that through prayer, giving of our money, and making an effort to help others that we can each make a difference and is a wonderful way to show the love of Christ. They have all become, in some ways, all "super heroes" through leaning, participating, and embracing the mission for the week! Between the noisy offering and change brought in through Thursday, we've raised over \$1600 towards our goal to build a well in Africa!

- Cynthia Wellington

Divine Worship: 8:00 & 11:00 AM

Contemporary Worship: 9:30 AM

Sunday School, all ages: 9:30 AM

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“We Are Church Together” – Pr. Don



That was the theme of 29th Annual Sierra Pacific Assembly in Reno, NV June 3-5. But “We Are Church Together” became more than just a theme. It really was a Spirit-filled gathering of over 500 laity and clergy from congregations in Northern California and Northern Nevada coming together to celebrate our faith in the Risen Christ; to experience inspirational worship; to discuss and debate resolutions that call for change in how we express the church in the world; to attend meaningful workshops and to listen to our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton inspire us with her preaching and teaching. In addition, our table of voting members from Resurrection experienced some great moments of friendship and sharing and meaningful conversation about where and how we are connected with other congregations and agencies of the ELCA throughout the world in so many ways. (John Crostic (see John’s article in this newsletter), Len and Barbara Merkel; Lynne Gregoire, Jane Stevens, Karen Idler, Pastor Ralph and me). For highlights and a recap of the Assembly [click here](#).

So, what does being “Church Together” mean for us at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection? [Read more...](#)



Hello from your New Children’s Ministry Director - Adriana Findlay!

I am so excited to join the Resurrection staff, overseeing the Christian Education programs for children through 6th grade, and the Nursery care. I look forward to meeting everyone; please introduce yourself if I haven’t met you yet, especially if you have children. My “office” hours will be Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays. I would love to have conversations with you about how our congregation can create welcoming and spiritually nurturing experiences here for children, as well as how I can provide assistance and resources to parents and grandparents in the faith formation of their families.

A little information about me...my husband Eric and I have raised three children, now in college and graduate school. While my children were young, I was extensively involved in their classrooms and school programs, served as a substitute teacher, and coordinated the school garden education program. I have been active in Children’s Ministry both as a volunteer and on church staff. I believe Jesus has to be discovered more than delivered, and I enjoy creating spaces and places for this to happen, in intentional but fun ways. Please contact me if you’d like to chat, or if you’d like to be a part of this ministry team! adriana@lcrchurch.org, or 916-791-4661 ext.254

Mt Cross Camp - July 11-15, 9am – 3pm

Mt Cross counselors join us to lead a week of faith-based fun, which includes group games, arts & crafts, worship, community building activities and Bible Encounters based on our summer theme.



Day Camp is for children who have completed Kindergarten through entering 6th grade. Registration deadline is July 1. [Click here](#) for registration info!

Helpers needed for Mt. Cross Camp

Junior Counselors – interested students stick with the Mt Cross counselors for the week to help lead Bible study, games, and assist where needed. Contact Pastor Ralph if you’re interested.

Snack Team – We’d love to have some adults help prepare and serve snacks daily during Mt Cross. Contact Pastor Ralph if you can help.

Dinner hosts – The 4-6 Mt. Cross counselors who join us during camp travel to a different family’s home each night for dinner. Please let Pastor Ralph know if you’d like to cook for them one evening between Monday, July 11 – Thursday, July 14.

Congratulations! We’re going green!

At the special congregational meeting on the June 12th **you approved** the installation of solar on the Faith Center building and put Resurrection on track to have solar power our church by the end of August of this year.

We were required to have a quorum to vote passage. This meant many of you returned from home, or interrupted your normal coffee group sessions to return to campus - and you did that in overwhelming numbers!

All of those involved in the planning, approval, and implementation of solar are truly grateful for your outstanding participation and support.

Thank you and blessings,
Your Solar Team



Summer Worship Schedule:



Grove Services continue on the **first & third & fifth** (if applicable) Sundays throughout the summer –thru Sept. 18 at the **8:00 a.m.** service in our one-of-a-kind “Outdoor Chapel.” Please park in the north parking lot and join nature and your Resurrection friends in this beautiful outdoor setting.

Teen Ministry Update

Night Slides at Sunsplash! Tuesday, July 12th students are invited to Sunsplash for Night Slides! We will meet at Golfland Sunsplash in Roseville at 5:30 p.m. and stay until 10:00 p.m. The cost is \$20 per student for unlimited waterslide fun!



Summer BBQ Parties wrap up! July's summer BBQ party will be hosted by the Laskey's on July, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.



Paintball! Students are invited to play paintball on August 9th at Capital Edge Paintball Park in Sacramento. Stay tuned for more details.



Creative Christian Writing

If you like to write, but don't know where to start, try writing a devotion.



Resurrection will be compiling an Advent devotion book. For inspiration, think about some of the words of Advent: waiting, pondering, peace, gifts, angels, treasure, prophet, etc. Each day of Advent the devotional booklet will have a paragraph or two, based on a word, with a scripture, and a prayer. You can submit your thoughts for Advent in a rough draft, as each submittal will be edited for length and consistency. If you can't think of the scripture or prayer, just submit a draft of your thoughts and we'll add the scripture and prayer.

Submittals or questions can be sent to Joanne Auerbach at bauerbac@sbcglobal.net or dropped off at the church office. All submittals should be received by August 15 to allow time for editing and formatting.

Craft Faire 2016 – A few spots left!

Craft Faire 2016 – We have only a couple spaces open for **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. Contact Susie Reese cell (916)759-2410 or email: lrcraftfaire@sbcglobal.net for registration info.

Adult Faith Formation Ministry Team

Experience the Breadth and Depth of the World's Religions

Cultural Literacy for Religion: Everything the Well-Educated Person Should Know is your chance to experience the breadth and depth of the world's religions from *all* angles—historical, theological, and cultural. Over the course of



several engaging lectures, Professor Mark Berkson of Hamline University takes you on a tour of our world and its religious cultures. From India to East Asia to the Middle East to the United States, your journey will introduce you to the beliefs, symbols, and practices of other traditions and it will provide you with new insights into your own. Classes begin July 10th and will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. with Kay and Harry Valler leading the class. For more information or to confirm your attendance, please e-mail Kay at kayvaller7937@gmail.com

Engage in Challenging Discussions

Parables of the Bible is a continuing class led by Michelle Larsh on Sunday morning from 10:00 to 10:45 in Room 10. With study material provided each week, you will open to new thoughts and deeper understanding of familiar biblical parables. Two classes remain – July 10th and July 17th.

Help Plan God's Work. Our Hands Events!



You are invited to plan the **God's Work. Our Hands** September events. There are two initial planning meetings taking place on July 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room or July 13 at 2:00 p.m. in the conference room. Please plan to attend either of these or contact Michelle Larsh at michelle@larshfamily.com if you are interested in planning or leadership with these God's Work. Our Hands events.

UP – Praise God in Worship service through songs and prayers.

IN – Gathering in Resurrection Faith Center. We gather together on September 11 from noon to 2 pm in RFC to share our love and compassion to others through craft and building projects, assembling kits, and writing letters. The fun festivities will include a pot-luck, music, and time to greet other members who attend different worship services and build up relationships.



OUT – Sending or Scattering in the community to serve alongside our neighbors. Serve alongside those in our local community with a team from Resurrection or send packages of handmade goods to our neighbors around the world.

Celebration – Story telling of the lives impacted by God's Work.

Feeding the Hungry – Dispelling Stereotypes

On Friday June 17th, six folks from Resurrection volunteered at **River City Food Bank** in Sacramento. We spent the day individually helping clients choose a three-day emergency food supply. When we weren't serving, we helped prepare food supplies and grocery bags, bring in and register arriving food donations, and checkout outgoing clients and their supplies. It was a busy, but rewarding day!



It's tempting to assume that all of our clients were single homeless "down and outs", dependent on hand-outs, but

that simply isn't true. We met young families with children, elderly couples, college students, veterans, etc. Most were folks that wanted to be self-sufficient, but were having a rough time and needed a little help to get by for a while. To quote the Food Bank: *"A little help, and a little compassion, can make a big difference."*

At one point, a young couple was being checked out of the facility with their supplies. The male said very little, and looked uncomfortable, perhaps even wary. The female was more engaged, thanked us for our help and the supplies, and smiled as she commented on how efficiently the Food bank was run: *"It looks like you're used to helping a lot of people"*. Oh, and she was wearing a hijab – yes, they were Muslims. As they left the facility, she was overheard saying to him gently: *"You see, I told you. Christians also help their neighbors"*. She had noticed our God's Work. Our Hands. shirts.



In **John 7:24**, Jesus tells us: *"Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment"*. How true. Judgment works both ways.

- Len Merkel

Helping in Our Local Community

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection delivered 119 bags of food to the Placer County Food Bank to help those less fortunate! We had tremendous support for this local need.

For 45 years the Food Bank has been diligent in giving a face to the word "hunger" despite how invisible the profound need may be! They are proud to distribute over 6 million pounds of fresh food a year to those in need. They were thrilled with each delivery of our grocery bags from the Social Ministry Committee members of our church. Each week we were met with smiles, appreciation and many thank you's!



The mission of the Placer County Food Bank is to serve a struggling community's basic needs that have always been the heart of this organization. They serve Placer, El Dorado and Nevada counties providing support through their extensive partnership network by both educating and advocating on a domestic level. Food is a basic need, yet the Food Bank also helps by providing clothing, helping people acquire a social security card, a driver's license whatever their needs may be they do their best to help. For more information you can check out their web page placercountyfoodbank.org, or call 916.783.0481 or read the article on the kiosk.

THANK YOU again for your food donations! Our church family does make a big difference in the lives of so many people!
- Chris Steele

Words of Appreciation – T-Shirt Dresses

Members of the T-Shirt Dress Project wish to express our sincere thanks to the members of Resurrection for your support of this much appreciated project.



This summer dresses are being taken to Africa, Iraq and Peru. We also plan to donate dresses to refugees living in the Sacramento area. – Linda Corr

Service Opportunity! Gathering Inn

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



On **Tuesday, July 19**, 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 providing a hot meal and a safe place to sleep for 60 -75 homeless men, women and children.

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

- 5 Cooks/Kitchen Helpers - arriving at 3:00 p.m.
- 8 Food Servers - arriving at 5:00 p.m.
- 4 Greeters - arriving at 5:30 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 taking the time to be a part of this life-changing ministry.

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

SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

From Director of Shared Ministry, Karen Idler



DID YOU KNOW?

Resurrection has a band of saints appropriately titled the **Care Committee** working behind the scenes with families planning a reception following the memorial service of a loved one.

Care begins following notification of a memorial service from Diane McCauley, Events and Business Manager, to the Lead Chair for the **Care Committee**, Charlotte Morse, and her Assistant, Sandy Russell. Charlotte and Sandy then call upon the committee's members in rotation to assist them with the reception, including assigning members to set up and others to break down the reception.

[Read more...](#)

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.

Floyd Walker

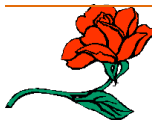
by Karen Murbach

There have been stellar highs and crushing lows over the course of the long and storied life of Floyd Walker. When there's physical or emotional pain, he holds fast to the joys and greets everything else with acceptance and grace. No small feat for a man who fully acknowledges he's got a healthy ego.



Floyd is very clear on the ratio of blessings to burdens in his life. "How do I like my life? I would love to omit some of the painful things, but it's been so full. I get to share it with the one person I wanted to. I have as big a crush on Donna today as the first time I met her in Hawaii. Kids have been pains in the butt, but they've grown out of it. I've seen an awful lot of the world and I got to stages in business that I never thought I would get anywhere near." [Read more...](#)

I'd like to give a rose to...



Vacation Bible School Co-Leaders **Michelle Larsh and Lori Schnell** who did an amazing job coordinating this year's VBS! They made each day's activities so inviting that daily attendance among the campers NEVER went down! Children and youth and adult participants all agreed it was the BEST year ever! Kudos, Michelle and Lori! - Karen Idler

The Petal Connection: Kindness...one petal at a time

The Petal Connection is a volunteer run organization providing beautiful floral bouquets to local hospice patients and seniors in need of a little joy! Originating in Granite Bay, The Petal Connection collects flowers weekly donated by local grocers, florists, corporate events and weddings. Volunteers work from 10 AM - 12N Monday and/or Tuesday mornings to create the colorful bouquets for delivery. Currently we are creating about 650 bouquets monthly for distribution to 9 hospice and care centers in our area. New volunteers receive a morning of training before joining the team.

Resurrection members have been donating vases since The Petal Connection's inception and small vases and containers for the flowers are always needed. **Please no large vases or bud vases** since the bouquets are for bedside tables.



Vases can be left at **The Petal Connection site at 4157 Rocklin Road**, Suite M between 9AM - 12 Noon on Mondays or Tuesdays or in the church office. For more information or to volunteer, contact Jennifer at 916-955-6698 or at thepetalconnection@gmail.com

So what was it like to attend the 2016 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly?



A couple of words come to mind – enlightenment, greater understanding and new perspective.

To get to that level – we had to pass a car with a license plate of "A Pagan"; get past the posters, attendees and music played by the band performing at the Casino – "The Cult"; and walked by individuals desperately searching for hope while

contributing to a one armed bandit with one hand and the other hand comforting an alcoholic drink or a smoke or both.

So after leaving a society and area of people who were definitely “Under Water” – we proceeded by going downstairs and a back corner furthest away – to the back office of heaven’s church.

The smiles were warm; the booths were staffed by non-pushy individuals who wanted to give exposure to unknown acts of kindness in their community, much like the ancient librarians who knew where the unknown special book section was located. Knowledge from many years was unlocked – for a short time. [Read more...](#)

June Church Council Highlights

- New council officers elected for the start of the fiscal year. President John Crostic. Vice President Lori Schnell. Secretary Lynne Larock.
- We are inviting Kristen Wiersma to the August council meeting and talk more with us face to face. After that we will consider engaging her to lead the congregation in a Listening Phase.
- It may be time to do a new Strategic Plan for Resurrection. The last one was done in 2010. We have accomplished many tasks that were agreed to during that planning process, including calling Pr. Ralph and having a successful capital campaign among other things. We will be working on communicating what Resurrection has done as a result of that plan.
- We celebrate a lot of successful MEETINGS:
 - “Spring Fling” annual meeting May 22
 - Special Solar meeting June 12
 - Representatives attended the Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly June 3-5
- VBS was a big week for kids, teens, and adults. We had more than 70 children attend (from within and without the congregation) and well over 50 teen and adults working to make the week meaningful for them.
- We have lots of spaces available for Mt Cross Day Camp on site at Resurrection for 1st - 6th graders the week of July 11. Registrations are due July 1, \$100 for 5 days, M-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and Fri. 9:00 a.m. - noon. Four teen helpers from Resurrection are also needed.
- Council’s homework for August: Write down what you think our communication strategy and methods currently are, and what you think they should be.

P.S. from P.D.

I want to thank you for your continuing support of our ministry as Church Together. Some of you have asked the question, “**Where can I direct my offering that’s been designated to the “Imagine What God Can Do” appeal now that it’s completed?**” If yours



was a commitment for the three years of the appeal, Thank You! If you are able to continue to give to the “Imagine Fund” over and above your regular offering, it will go directly to continuing to reduce our mortgage. If you wish to designate it for one of our many giving and serving opportunities (ELCA World Hunger; Refugee Support; God’s Work, Our Hands, etc.), your gifts would be welcomed. – Pr. Don

Shared Ministry Matters

From the Director of Shared Ministry, Karen Idler



Resurrection church groups are encouraged to begin group meetings and gatherings with a brief devotion and opening prayer. Groups may provide a devotion for their group or share the devotion and prayer provided in the monthly newsletters.

The following excerpt is from “Gifts that Shape the Common Good” by Emma Crossen, from the Women of the ELCA March/April 2014 issue of [Interchange](#)

Using our gifts

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To God belongs the glory and power forever and ever. Amen.”
- 1 Peter 4:10-11



Stewardship often begins with the question “How do I use my gifts to benefit the common good?”

We even ask it of others to help them get more involved.

How can she use her gifts to benefit our common good?

We should be careful, though, or else we’ll use this question to avoid change.

Instead of trying to squeeze each other’s gifts into an old vision of the “common good,” what if we asked each other, “**How is my vision of the common good changing because of the gifts someone else brings?**”

PRAYER: Giving God, you have blessed our group with many gifts, including those we name before you either aloud or silently in our hearts... (pause). Help us remain open to changing our visions of serving “the common good” according to your purposes and will. In Christ’s name. Amen.