



www.lcrchurch.org

September 1, 2016

Message from Lead Pastor, Don Haven



And God said, “Welcome to September”! And the people said, “Already”?

Yup! We’re here on the threshold of fall as a Faith Community; ready to move even more deeply into God’s loving embrace of Grace and allowing the love of our compassionate God to flow through us to others! And there are so many things to be thankful for as we do so. I want to lift up a couple of things in particular.

First of all, I am so thankful and as a congregation we are so fortunate to have three new staff people who have come on board with us during the summer. Dee Dee Lutz brings her passion for music and worship as our Director of Worship and Music; Adriana Findlay has hit the ground running as she brings her wisdom and experience as Director of Children’s ministry; and our Audio/Visual Systems Administrator, Chris Cotter is working to make sure our sound and video equipment is enhancing our ministry. Thanks be to God for these individuals who will work closely with us to continue to make our ministry “sing”! I also want to lift up and extend my gratitude to the rest of our ministry staff and to all the committed lay leaders with whom we get to share ministry.

Secondly, I want to inform you that our Church Council has made the recommendation to begin working with Kristin Wiersma from the **Joshua Group** to begin a **Purpose Mapping Process** for Resurrection. Last fall we completed the Mission Assessment Profile survey (MAP). The next steps will take us deeper into intentionally listening to leaders of our surrounding

community (external listening) and members of Resurrection (internal listening) in order to discover what’s important to this community and to YOU and to help discern what God is calling us to do and to be! The results will be used in a visioning process which will enable us to be clear about our missional focus for the years to come and to develop a plan to implement that vision for ministry.

Finally, I want to thank you again for your generosity and willingness to serve this congregation and community. If you read our financial report, you’ll see that your giving has kept us ahead of the curve in spite of a very challenging spending plan. And as Pr. Ron Glusenkamp reminded us a few Sundays ago, the gift we gave for ELCA World hunger from special offerings during Lent this past spring totaled \$21,500 – **the most of ANY of the 9300 congregations of the ELCA**. Thanks be to God!

And so many of you have signed up to be involved in God’s Work, Our Hands, are serving as Sunday School teachers, serving at the Gathering Inn, singing in the choir and playing in the praise band, working on our campus and facilities, serving as lay communion ministers – the list goes on and on. You are truly living out our mission at Resurrection - “Growing Disciples by Sharing God’s Love”. Thank you for your ministry partnership in every way!

God’s Blessings, Grace and Peace,

Pastor Don

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
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How have you seen these council objectives reached this year?

Your church council works hard at listening to God's lead to determine and achieve objectives. Each year we compile several objectives for the coming year during our annual retreat. I would love to hear from you on how we're doing with meeting these objectives. Where have you seen these objectives reached? Please email me at ralph@lcrchurch.org soon so I can compile all the results and report in next month's newsletter. Here are your 2016 Council Objectives:

1. Provide an environment of timely and transparent communication within the congregation.
2. Grow a culture of shared ministry by involving more people and providing resources for ministry
3. Integrate Children and Teens into all areas of Ministry.

God's Work. Our Hands!

God's Work, Our Hands is an opportunity for the over 4 million ELCA members to come together for a dedicated time of service to steward relationships and serve with our companions and partners in our local and global community.

"One church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor"

This year our plan is to serve in three ways: Commissioning, Gathering, and Serving the Local Community

Commissioning: We begin during worship on September 11 with prayer and commissioning all God's people to be Jesus hands and feet in service.

Gathering: The Gathering will include multi-generational opportunities to share our love and compassion to others through homemade projects, assembling kits, and writing letters to our local law enforcement and firemen. The fun festivities include a pot-luck lunch, music and time to greet members who are new to the congregation or attend different worship services. A member described the Gathering last year with this quote. *"I loved the diverse group of workers this experience pulled in from the congregation -- truly all ages with many different skills were represented. I also loved that there were so many different kinds of projects to work on. I felt like we were truly pulling together as Christians to do God's work and help people"*.



Serving the Local Community: Serve with our companions and partners in our local community by joining team from Resurrection. Opportunities to serve in the local community include serving meals, collecting and distributing food for food banks,

planting a winter garden, making crafts and playing games with children and adults, and repairing the home of a Vietnam



Veteran. A member who served on a team last year described the experience with this quote. *"It was a highlight to hear that the work we accomplished was something they really needed doing and weren't sure how they were going to get it accomplished. God provided what they needed through us. God's work, our hands"*.



God's Work. Our Hands is a blessing. The light, O Jesus, is all from you. None of it is ours. It is you shining on others through us. In all its actions of caring, sustaining, and serving one another the community is bearing witness to the fact that God's work continues in the involvement and actions of a caring community that exercises its actions confidently in the name of Jesus.

Sign-ups run through September 4 after worship or online at <http://www.lcrchurch.org>

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

Resurrection Connection Sessions



If you're interested in becoming a member of Resurrection or simply exploring how you might connect more deeply with Resurrection's ministry, please join Pr. Don, Pr. Ralph and Karen Idler in the Teen Room (#12) on Sundays, **September 25th and October 2nd** from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

We'll begin with a light lunch, get to know each other better, and explore where your interests might intersect with opportunities to serve and grow in faith. New members will be received on October 9. Call or email the church office if you plan to attend at 916-791-4661 or ler@lcrchurch.org.

Sign up for your photo shoot starting August 28!

A new photo directory for our congregation is in the works! Sign-ups have started at church and online. (*[Online sign-up site](#) open Tuesday thru Saturday only) with photo shoots on September 27, 28, 29, 30 & Oct 1. Each Resurrection member photographed will receive a FREE 8 x 10 and a color printed directory. Plus, Resurrection will receive a FREE color online directory of our church family. We can't wait to see your smiling faces in the directory!



Fellowship Breakfast

Saturday September 10th at 8:00 A.M. (Note: new start time 8:00 a.m.) in the Fellowship Hall. September's speaker is Dee Dee Lutz, our Director of Worship and Music. Come meet and greet Dee Dee, learn more about her and her goals. Who knows, you could influence our music program just by expressing your desire for more Bach, or that famous Lutheran composer Lutzfiskin (or not). There's also a great breakfast and fellowship time. What time??...8:00 a.m.



Calling all Lectors!

Mark your calendars for September 10 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. (new time!) to attend a **lector workshop**. We will be practicing effective reading of the lessons and I'm sure we'll all learn something new! Even if you've attended a workshop before, please consider a "refresher" course. If you haven't been to a workshop, let us help you deal with those "butterflies" and set you on your way to reading like a pro! **We would like to extend a special invitation to our young people, 7th grade and up**, who may be interested in becoming a reader. For questions please contact Charlotte Morse at 916-995-0366. See you there!

Teen Ministry

- **Confirmation Open House & Information**
Sunday, Sept 4, 10:30 – 11:30 starting in room 10. Welcome parents and students from 7-8th grade who want to know more about confirmation, catechism, and craziness that is Junior High ministry. Pr Ralph will share more information and answer questions.
- **Confirmation Classes** happen the 2nd Sunday and 3rd Tuesday of each month.
 - **Second Sundays** are potlucks with parents from 12pm-2pm. This month we'll join the God's Work. Our Hands projects on September 11.
 - **Third Tuesdays** the confirmation students will join youth group in the teen center from 7-9:00 p.m. for games, and check-ins before they break off for class and small group.
- **Youth Group** is making a comeback Tuesday, Sept 6 from 7-9:00 p.m. in the Teen Center. All junior high and high school students are encouraged to join even if you've never been before. We are always looking for adults to join us. If interested, please contact Pr Ralph at ralph@lcrchurch.org

Children's Ministry News

Sunday School and Jr. High Ministry Kick-Off for Families

Sunday, September 4, 10:30 a.m., Room 10. Come to see what's new in the Children's classrooms and hear about the plans for Sunday School (pre-school-6th grade), First Communion Class and Confirmation. Led by Ralph Supper, Pastor of Family Life, and Adriana Findlay, Director of Children's Ministries. Snacks, childcare and children's activities will be provided. RSVPs are helpful: Adriana@lcrchurch.org



Mt. Cross Retreat for Children in 3rd - 6th Grade October 14-16 (Friday Evening to Sunday Noon)

An opportunity for children to bond with their Sunday School classmates, make new friends and grow their faith in a fun fall camp environment. Chaperoned by adults from Resurrection Church, with activities led by the Sierra Pacific Synod Youth Committee, this weekend in Santa Cruz Mountains has been formerly held in the spring. Cost: \$100/child. Sign-up packets available in the office, in the Children's Sunday School Room 10, and on the children's page of the church website:



www.lcrchurch.org

Registration materials due back to Adriana Findlay, Director of Children's Ministry by Wednesday, Sept. 21. [Click here](#) to download registration forms.

UPCOMING CHILDREN'S EVENTS - Save the dates:



- September 11, Sunday, 9:30 am: **First day of Sunday School** for Pre-School to 6th grade.
- September 11, Sunday, 12:00 noon: **God's Work Our Hands**, a church-wide, on-site event with children's activities included.
- October 14-16, Fri-Sunday: **Mt. Cross Retreat** in Santa Cruz for 3rd-6th graders. Information on registration available in the church office or on Children's webpage.
- October 23, Sunday, time TBD (after service): **Communion Preparation Class** designed for 1st-3rd graders and their parents.

MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC!



As summer draws to a close, we look forward to the start of the Fall Season in the Music Ministry at Resurrection. The 500th Anniversary of The Reformation will take place in October, 2017, and we anticipate a wonderful year of beautiful song and celebration of our faith through music.

The Chancel Choir's Kick-Off Rehearsal for the 2016-2017 season will take place on Thursday, **September 8th**, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., in the Music Room. If you like to sing, won't you consider joining us? No audition is required. All that is needed is a love of singing and a commitment to participate in scheduled rehearsals and worship services throughout the year. If you would like more information or if you know already that you wish to join the choir, please contact Worship and Music Director Dee Dee Lutz at deedee@lcrchurch.org prior to September 8th.

If you've ever wanted to be musical or are already musically inclined, **why not try handbells?** No prior experience needed – you don't even need to read music to start! We practice an hour a week and provide our ministry about once a month at church. We will be starting after Labor Day. Please call or email me if you are interested. Thanks, Kim Meder – Director, 916-791-2030 or kim@lcrchurch.org



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, tennca2001@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.



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

Please reserve the date; 'Fun & Fellowship' for members and their friends and family, with a special emphasis on inviting new guests as an introduction to Resurrection.

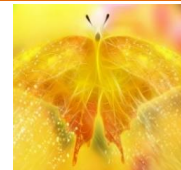
Good news for families with childcare. Childcare on campus has been arranged...one group for those under five years of age and another for those between five and 12 years of age.

The Oktoberfest includes authentic German food prepared by our own Doc Wright, German beer, wine, California Polka Power band (German), dancing (all types including polkas and the "Chicken Dance") and more. Begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Faith Center. Tickets, \$25, available on Sunday mornings in October.

If you're looking for more social involvement at Resurrection, LAFF is always needing more help (taking reservations, greeters, decorators, kitchen helpers, planners...) - Call/text Kathy Wood, 619-890-3087 (yes 619), kheinzewood@yahoo.com

Adult Faith Formation Ministry Team

NEW - Resolving Everyday Conflict in Families Class



You may be asking what **Resolving Everyday Conflict in Families** has to do with Adult Faith Formation. Why learn about conflict?

- Conflict affects relationships in our families, our marriages, the church, and our neighborhood.
- Conflict influences Christians by damaging relationships and tarnishing our discipleship of God's Grace.
- Learning about conflict teaches us a practical way to approach conflict through God's reconciliation.

This class will change how YOU respond to conflict no matter what the other person does.

Study sessions begin Sunday, September 11th, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and continue through Sunday, October 16th. They are taught by Terri Batsel. Participants do not have to share conflicts they had in the past or are currently having, but rather concentrate on the "process" of working through conflicts following Christian principles. Anything of a personal nature said in the class remains confidential to the people there. For more information or to sign up contact: Terri@eltoyon.com or 530-305-1209.

REFORMATION 500

We are rapidly approaching the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. As we anticipate next year's celebration, please look forward to these upcoming Faith Formation offerings:



"Reformation Roots" – An in-depth look at the many aspects of the Reformation. The class will be led by Joy Rolland in October.

"The Gospel of Jesus Christ - Through History and Today." - A three-day retreat at Christ the King Retreat Center in Citrus Heights. The retreat will be facilitated by Deacon Red Cheever in November.

Solar Project Update



Lookin' Up - 171 Solar Panels on Faith Center's main roof; 53 more solar panels above Music Room

One of the rewards of looking up is our new solar roof...Resurrection now has 224 panels looking up and capturing solar energy. The panels on the main roof face due south; the panels above the music room face north by northwest. They aren't really visible from most parts of our campus, and neither are the new membranes on the Faith Center's flat roofs. We expect the system to be PG&E approved for operation before mid-September.

Resurrection was approved for a 15-year loan from Mission Investment Fund which enabled us to enter into an agreement with K12 Solar to build the system. With solar systems, excess energy produced during long daylight hours will cover nighttime uses and short, bleak winter days. Our current bill of

\$30,000 per year will drop to several thousand dollars; the 'money not spent' on PG&E bills will more than pay the MIF payments. As PG&E rates keep climbing, the annual 'money not spent' will increase dramatically. We forecast that over twenty years the 'money not spent' for power will reach nearly quarter million dollars.

Our solar contractor, K12 Solar, of El Dorado Hills has worked out well for us. K12 Solar has offered us a ribbon cutting/BBQ type of event (Q&A, video from a drone above campus, demonstration of solar monitoring equipment, workshop information on solar, etc). The tentative date is set for Sunday after worship on Oct 2nd. For more information or questions contact any of the solar sub-committee: Ed Babcock, Herb Mathay, Skip Donelson and Ron Becker.

Limber Up For Fall!

New 6-week Yoga Session begins September 1 Thursdays, 10 – 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Come for a free class and learn how easy and beneficial our Thursday Yoga classes are. Theodora, our teacher, modifies our program to suit participants on mats and sitting in chairs. Emphasizing balance and flexibility, the class of men and women have been enjoying our sessions together. Call Kay Valler, 791-1001 for additional information.



Tasty Recipes for Healthy Eating



If are searching for a quick and easy dessert, the Health Ministry would like to invite you to try these fudgy, moist brownies that are Gluten-free, and flourless, and made with beans! [Click here](#)

Mental Health First Aid

Have you ever been with a person in a mental health crisis? Maybe it was someone you encountered at work, or a friend of neighbor. Maybe someone in your family has mental health issues. If you're not a mental health professional what do you do, or don't do? Consider a class in mental health first aid. Two classes are being offered locally in October. One is at Sierra College on October 8th for \$15 (660-7490) and one is at Destiny Community Center in Rocklin at no cost on October 29th (230-3449). More information is available at www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org

Coming in October: Watch for It
CPR Training Opportunities and a Health Questionnaire to guide our Team as we move forward.

Priceless Purls

Do you knit or crochet? Or would you like to learn?



Priceless Purls, Resurrection's knitting and crocheting group has two opportunities for you to learn and serve:

☀ Sunday, September 11 noon to 2 pm in the Faith Center

At the God's Work, Our Hands Gathering, Priceless Purls will have a table where you can see samples of hats, scarfs and shawls. There will be knitters and crocheters to demonstrate beginning skills and show how the items are made. Baby hats go to local hospitals for newborns. Hats for chemo patients are taken to Sutter Roseville and Kaiser Roseville. Hat and scarf sets go to homeless programs and can be included in the annual Christmas boxes for the needy. Prayer shawls are created to provide comfort for members and friends of Resurrection who are isolated and/or going through illness and other difficulties.

☀ Monday, September 12, 10 am to noon in the Fellowship Hall

This is Priceless Purls next regular monthly meeting. From 10 to 11 we will organize hats for distribution and there will be another workshop on prayer shawls at 11 am. Bring any knitted or crocheted baby hats, chemo hats, hats for homeless shelters and/or prayer shawls. We could also use help sorting and packaging yarn that has been donated. Thanks to many industrious knitters and crocheters last month, 20 chemo hats went to Sutter Roseville and 20 baby hats went to Sutter Roseville Family Birthing Center." Contact Joanne Auerbach at bauerbac@sbcglobal.net or 624-3651 if you have questions.

Piece-Makers



At all services on Sunday September 4th, 24 quilts made by Resurrection's **Piece-Makers** quilting group received a blessing. The quilts were donated through Lutheran Social Services of Northern California to victims of the recent devastating wildfires in Lake County. Piece-Makers continue to make quilts year round for donation to various charities within our community. It's a continuing "God's Work Our Hands" kind of thing!

Piece-Makers meet Monday mornings from 9:00 am to 12 noon (except we're off the 5th Monday) in the Fellowship Hall. On the 4th Monday of each month, we bring a sack lunch for some post-sewing fellowship. Expert sewing skills are not necessary; we need people who can select & sort fabric, measure & cut fabric, iron, layout & pin, sew, and tie quilts with yarn. We also welcome donations of cotton fabric for making the quilt tops, and flat bedding sheets, which we use for backing on the quilts. We can always use more "hands"...so feel free to join us

any Monday starting September 12. For more information or questions contact Melodee Mathay at mathay@surewest.net.

Daylighters Resume

The **DAYLIGHTERS** are resuming their meetings beginning Tuesday, **September 27**, at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch menu... Barber's Chicken Breast, Veggie /Rice dish, Salad, Dessert Theme... celebrating Daylighters. A \$5 donation per person to help defray expenses is much appreciated. Callers will remind everyone of the event. New to the group? Welcome! Please call Elizabeth Bieniek 916 780-0472 to reserve a seat for you.

Please calendar future meetings Oct. 25, Nov. 29, & Dec. 20

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.

HELPING HANDS FOR SEPTEMBER

In-Kind Donations: For **St. Vincent's** we are collecting hats and gloves for the upcoming winter season. For **Gathering Inn**, any coats, jackets, sweaters, gloves, heavy shirts and caps to fight off the winter elements for homeless individuals of all ages who will spend most of the winter daylight hours outdoors. **Please designate either St. Vincent's or Gathering Inn.** Contact Warren and Nancy Schwegel, 916 791-1397.

Financial Contributions: Roseville Home Start, the only transitional housing program in Placer County specifically serving families with children, is located at 410 Riverside Ave, Roseville. Families reside and receive training at the facility for one year and are then transitioned into permanent housing in our community. For more info contact Gary Litzsinger, tel. 772-8531 (Resurrection and Home Start Board member) or go to www.RosevilleHomeStart.org Donations can be made through your offering envelope, on-line, or directly at the Home Start website above.

Social Ministry Committee update!

The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank everyone for making the book drive so successful. Hundreds of books were received. The books will be delivered to a low income school where they will be used to bring children's reading skills up to their grade level. Le Viksten made the signs to encourage participation; Chris Steele decorated two boxes to catch people's interest and store the books. Gail Johansen will assist Frank Meder in delivering the books. We also want to thank Pastors Ralph and Don for keeping the message out to our church family going all month! We are thrilled that we are able to provide so many books to children in need. THANKS to all who helped and contributed!!!

The monetary donations for August were sent to assist the **Rwanda School Project** and for the month of September we will be assisting Home Start in Roseville with our monetary donations. Home Start helps families learn how to transition from homelessness to being independent.

Resurrection Staff Retreat



Our ministry staff met for a day long retreat this summer and came to appreciate even more deeply the gifts for ministry present in each person. I

encourage you to voice your appreciation for the dedication and commitment to ministry each of our staff members brings! We also had fun creating a "team meal" for our lunch that day! Keep us in your prayers as we continue to have the joy of working alongside you, sharing the ministry! Pr. Don

Shout Outs at Resurrection!



☆ **Nathan Wellington** thrived at TobyMac's Camp Electric in Nashville this summer, where he was instructed by famous Christian artists and bands!

☆ **Twelve families at Resurrection** are each supporting a refugee family.

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:

Sept 15 – *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, John Irving;

Oct. 20 – *Daughters of the Dragon*, William Andrews

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

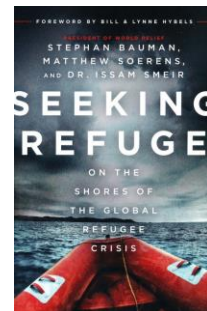
Sept. 21 – *The Nightingale*, Kristin Hannah

The Carlson Library - Patty Beers

The refugee crisis is dear to the hearts of many of us at Resurrection. We have partnered with World Relief, one of four resettlement agencies working in Sacramento, to assist those arriving in our area. As a congregation, we donated many supplies to furnish the apartments of families as they arrive. We have formed a Good Neighbor Team that will sponsor a family arriving from Afghanistan in late September.

There is much for volunteers and concerned citizens to learn about working effectively with refugees. World Relief has provided an excellent book for anyone who wants to interact with refugees or just learn the facts about immigrants. There is a copy available in our Carlson Library waiting to be checked out.

The book provides a practical, well-rounded, well-researched guide to the refugee issue. Find answers to the following questions: 1. Who are refugees and other displaced people? 2. What are the real risks and benefits of receiving them? 3. How do we balance compassion and security? 4. As Christians, how can we answer God's call to welcome and serve "the least of these" among us? The above was written by Nancy Schwegel and she highly recommends the book, *Seeking Refuge* by Stephan Bauman, President of World Relief, Matthew Soerens, and Dr. Issam Smeir.



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 – August Highlights

- Kristen Wiersma of The Joshua Group met with Council via Skype. Kristen gave a presentation to further discuss how she can work with us on a Listening Phase this fall, having discussions with individuals and groups in the congregation and with people in our larger community to help us decide what to pursue next. Kristen also answered

questions from Council members, Resurrection staff and visitors. After her presentation, Council passed a motion to hire Kristen (backed up by her team who work remotely) to start working with us this fall. Kristen will be on site with us 7-10 days over 6-8 visits. More specifics from her presentation are in the August Council minutes.

- John Crostic took everyone present for the meeting on an on-campus “field trip” to see progress that’s been made on installing solar panels and related technology.
- Carolyn Brodt is starting as a student at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. Council passed a motion to endorse her – Pr. Ralph, Len Merkel and Cindy Willis will work with her in the candidacy process.
- Council discussed ways to improve internal communications. John Crostic, John Frith, and Cindy Willis, as well as church staff, will be working on this area more with the Communications Team.
- Resurrection’s \$21,500 raised for ELCA World Hunger earlier this year turned out to be the *most* raised by any congregation in the ELCA! Thanks be to God!
- Cindy Carroll attended the Churchwide Assembly this summer – the theme was “Church Together.” Highlights of the assembly are in August Council minutes, and in-depth information is at www.elca.org.

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, is adapted from “**Rooting for Gladness**” by Kaji Douša, Senior Minister of The Table, La Mesa, California. “I was glad when they said to me; let us go into the house of the Lord.” - *Psalm 122:1*

Hovering at the entryway, she stretched out her foot, as a cat might before stepping into a pool of water. No sooner had she begun than she retracted, recoiling with an electric-like jolt. “Are you sure it's ok?” she asked.

No wonder she was unsure. Attempting to step foot into a space declared a sanctuary is a spiritually risky endeavor. She did not know if she had what it took to enter in. The sanctuary was more than the smiling face greeting her inside. It was the home to quiet, untold saints and the claims they made and the people they embraced or sent away. She did not know where they were or what they would think of

her. Without knowing this, she was not ready to go into the house of the Lord with gladness.

A person should not have to feel that they embark on a battle of spiritual warfare as they come to church. Yet, this is precisely what some experience as they confront unseen spirits, assumptions, and pronouncements. They are bringing their very souls for comfort and refreshment yet do not sometimes receive what they are seeking.

No matter who we encounter, it is an opportunity for us, as followers of Christ, to exorcise the spirits of unwelcome from the spaces we inhabit—to tell them spirits of unwelcome have no place in the House of the Lord. It is our privilege to make glad all of the saints so that when they dare to come forward for the welcome they desperately need, no unchecked, lingering evil may step between them and their ability to proclaim gladness in any space we would claim as holy.

To those who have hesitated at our door: trust your instincts. Ask more questions, especially of God, who will meet you anywhere.

PRAYER:

Remove all spirits and practices among us that would do harm to others, O God. We all need a welcoming space to call holy and safe. Amen.

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

I would like to give a rose to...



The Raffety family would like to thank our **Church family** for all their prayers, cards, flowers and visits. We especially thank **Pastor Ralph and Pastor Don** for their visits and lovely prayers and Communion. They were very much appreciated. Jim is now home and recuperating. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful Church family.

August Average Attendance 321