



# Lifeline

Resurrection Lutheran Church

**October 2022**

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## **Our Mission**

“Live and Share the Love of Christ”

## **Our Vision**

“Strengthen and grow our commitment to  
God, church & community”

## **Contact us**

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**Resurrection's Prayer Chain is available to you !**

**The power of prayer.**

Sometimes just knowing there is a place to get a prayer said for you in tough times or to enjoy a blessing received , we will pray for you in all confidence.

Simply call Kathie McFarlane at (920)499-6381 or Linda Bertrand at (920)217– 8770.

# *From the Vicar.....*

I receive an email daily from Richard Rohr's *Daily Meditations*. Richard Rohr is a Franciscan Priest and the founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation. These emails are how I begin each day. It is part of my devotional time and when I miss a day, there are things about my day that generally are just off. Perhaps it is also like that with you if you miss a daily devotional. Mine also includes coffee, so I am strained for real if I miss that. Maybe more of you can sympathize with the coffee scenario. Regardless, the part that usually speaks to me the most each day is the contemplation. Recently, the title of the meditation was "What Kind of Person are we Becoming?" I know that this can be a deep question. I often ask myself what kind of person do I want to become or similarly, what kind of person do people think I am? I found particular insight in the following:

*If we learn anything at all as time goes by and the changing seasons become fewer and fewer, it is that there are some things in life that cannot be fixed. It is more than possible that we will go to our graves with a great deal of personal concerns, of life agendas, left unresolved. . . . So has life been wasted? Has it all been for nothing?*

*Only if we mistake the meaning of the last period of life. This time of life is not meant to solidify us in our inadequacies. It is meant to free us to mature even more. . . .*

*This is the period of life when we must begin to look inside our own hearts and souls rather than outside ourselves for the answers to our problems, for the fixing of the problems. This is the time for facing ourselves, for bringing ourselves into the light.*

This reminds me of God's grace, freely given. Freely given that I may grow in love toward the other. To this, grace toward the other, is who I hope to be becoming. May you each be blessed.

*A blessing of these years is the opportunity to face what it is in us that has been enslaving us, and to let our spirit fly free of whatever has been tying it to the Earth all these years.*

Peace,

Vicar Melissa

Joan Chittister, *The Gift of Years: Growing Older Gracefully* (New York: BlueBridge, 2008), 179–180, 181, 182, 183.

# Greetings From the President.....

October greetings from the Church Council.

When I volunteered to let my name stand for Church Council this year I was very nervous about the situation here at Resurrection Lutheran. We had just said good bye to our pastor, Covid was still rampant, and we were losing friends and family to the illness. We were back in church but were still “social distancing”. That is really hard for a congregation like ours. We really like being together and being close. Supporting each other in times of trouble and joy are part of what makes us Resurrection Lutheran Church. We do seem to “Live and Share the Love of Christ”.

Things have been improving. Yes there is still a problem with Covid. But we have a new Vicar, Melissa, we have a new secretary, Jean Kaster, and we have a new Treasurer, Debbie LaPlante, and a new organist, Adria Cary.

We have also restarted choir, have had a joint church picnic with Incarnation Lutheran, have now dropped the social distancing restrictions and mask requirements, restarted more traditional communion distribution, have begun having fellowship time after church, have had an organ recital for the entire community, have restarted Quilters, and will have Trunk or Treat this month. The Kidz for Kindness group was established and it has been connecting with others in the community in several different ways. Weiner Wednesday is also up and running again. Confirmation classes are going again with Trinity, Bethel, and Resurrection Lutheran sharing resources. Plans are being developed to have some adult study events in the future. Yes there is still concern about Covid but that may never really go away. It is nice to be back together, doing what we believe we were called to do at Resurrection Lutheran.

Also just a note to let you know about the garden behind the church; it has been producing about 100# of produce per week during August and September. The pantry clients are thrilled. We have even had neighborhood people stop in and harvest from the garden to have the things ready for distribution on Thursdays as well as help with weeding. We want everyone to know we are fully open again. Things have changed but God is still involved here. We believe that God has planted us here with purpose and as long as we work toward that purpose, he will continue to provide what is needed until we have fulfilled his plan.

We hope those who attended the picnic enjoyed meeting many new people and to begin the process of developing friendships so important to ministry of the church. We look forward to the opportunity to work more closely with the people from Incarnation.

Yes, there were a lot of changes this year so far. But we are also looking forward to what God has in store for us in the future. Pray for your church council to be open to new ideas that are consistent with our mission statement. And as always, “Live and Share the Love of Christ”.

Larry Peterson, Council President

# Food Pantry

## October 2022 Pantry Report

The usage of the pantry is increasing as the cost of food and housing is rising in our area. Usage is up 35% in from the beginning of this year. In August the food we acquired through donation and purchase was distributed to 208 families made up of 577 individuals, 185 of those individuals are minors. While this is not yet as high as prior to the pandemic, it is getting close. The amount of food we are distributing is significantly more than prior to the pandemic. We are able to keep the amount at the high level because of the generous support by people like you. Thank you for your support.

We distribute the food to our clients in their vehicles. This was initially done to reduce the risks of spread of Covid. However, we found it is working well for both the clients and the staff at the pantry, so we will be continuing that practice. We have been able to acquire a lot of fresh produce this harvest season. Some is coming from the pantry garden located behind the church, some is coming from supporter's gardens in our neighborhood, and some is coming from Feeding America. The clients are thankful for the fresh produce. One of our volunteers who was recently assigned to help clients with the produce was gratified by how many clients went out of their way to express their surprise at the amount and quality of the produce distributed.

Our goal is to provide the food and to show support for those who need the services of the pantry. They have enough problems to deal with that if we can make food less of a problem, we have accomplished a significant improvement for them. It is the support like yours that make this pantry possible. Thank you.

The pantry can always use grocery bags, paper and plastic. Please make sure the bags are neither ripped nor have holes in them. We can use packages of cookies. We usually buy them at the dollar store but any cookies are appreciated. It is one of the things we do to show we care about them as people. We go through over 200 packages of cookies per month. Likewise we also need laundry soap, dish soap, personal hygiene items; deodorant, toothpaste, tooth brushes, razors, shampoo, bar soap, dental floss, etc. These are items that can't be purchased with food share. We get peanut butter donated regularly but seldom get jelly. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are terrific snacks or lunches for school age children (and adults) and they can make them themselves when they are needed.

We are also in need of some Spanish speaking volunteers to greet and help our clients who don't speak English when they come to the pantry. We get by with translator apps and some of us who are trying to learn the language but we had a translator this summer and it worked fantastic. Unfortunately, she is a teacher and had to return to work during at the times we have the pantry open during the school year. She said she really enjoyed the time at the pantry and will plan to come back next summer.

Larry Peterson, Resurrection Lutheran Pantry Manager

# Council Meeting Minutes

<b>Council Meeting</b>		<b>Date:</b> <b>09/19/22</b> <b>Time: 6:30 pm</b>	
<b><u>Council Members:</u> (Bold indicates attendance at the meeting)</b>			
<b>Larry Peterson– President</b> <b>Bill Hartung- Vice President</b> <b>Jodi Koch– Secretary</b> <b>Melissa Pagel– Vicar</b> *Chris Peterson– Financial Secretary *Ken Rudie –Treasurer	<b>Melissa Smith</b>		
	<b>Joan Swigert</b>		
	<b>Christina Marcin</b>		
	<b>Jim Gatske</b>		
	Sally Seidl		
	<b>Val Nelson</b>		

## Devotion/ prayer call to Order

Larry Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Jim provided a devotion.

## Approval of Reports

**President’s Report-** No report

**Vice Presidents Report-** No report

**Treasurer- Financial Secretary-** reports reflect the cost of the secretary now. Current giving down compared to last year but our expenses are less.

**Secretary-** no corrections/changes

**Vicar’s Report** – No home visits 4 Pastoral calls Distributed one gas card and Had one Baptism. Vicar will be out of office 10/17-10/19 for a conference, off on Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> (Bill will cover). And doing rural plunge on 11/6.

Motion to accept Jim            seconded Val            Motion carried

## Committee Reports

**Resource and Finance-** secretary pay and vacation was discussed. Choir director salary will resume in Sept. Office equipment line doesn’t show proper balance this will be fixed. Any food pantry truck costs will come from the pantry account. Stewardship program –A future with hope will be used all year. Commitment Sunday is 11/10/22. Debbie Laplante will be taking over as treasurer. The congregation will be informed in the Lifeline bulletins and word of mouth.

**Celebration-** Joint picnic was a success. A thank you to Ken Rudie is planned for after church on Sept 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Support-** Talked high school student parking by the fence. Made an agreement to allow him to park there until Nov. Al Gabriel will help with the lawn mowing.

**Education-** Mayberry education series will start on Oct 16<sup>th</sup> .

**Worship-** Discussed not printing the liturgy in the bulletin and will refer people to the book.

**Intern Committee-** Met Aug 26<sup>th</sup> . Went through learning service agreement. Next meeting is Sept 26<sup>th</sup> .

**Outreach-** Trunk or Treat is set for Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 6 people signed up so far.

**Pantry-** In Aug 208 families used the pantry. Pantry truck is in the parking lot ready to use. There will be a pantry event upcoming at Woodmans.

Motion to accept Jim

seconded Melissa S

## **Old Business**

**Church partnering-** A website with some kind of link to other congregations and shared activities is in progress.

**Member Contact list/Directory** still in process.

## **New Business**

**Next council meeting-** due to Melissa being at a conference when the next meeting is scheduled the next meeting is moved to Oct 10<sup>th</sup> .

**Worship on Oct 9<sup>th</sup> .** Worship is planned to be scheduled as usual. There will be a campfire service post Truck or Treat the day before as for those who want that as an option.

**Thanksgiving Service-** There will be a thanksgiving service on the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving. A before service fellowship was discussed.

**Advent Services-** Mellissa will reach out to Incarnation, Bethel and Trinity about the possibility of doing a round robin.

### **Communications:**

**Choir director** –Beth had a few questions regarding pay meeting with the Vicar and if there would be any changes to her role. The pay will be the same and done on the 15th and 30th as before.

Motion to adjourn Jim

seconded Val

Motion Carried

**Adjournment: 08:00 P.M.**

**Next Meeting: Monday, 10/10/22 Devotions : Bill**

## **Announcements:**

Thank You to **Ken Rudie** for his many, MANY years of being Treasurer. Thank You!

Shout out to our secret gardener! The flower beds look awesome, thank you for doing such a great job !

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## Upcoming Events

**October 16th Bible Study** ( All Welcome) 8:00AM in the upstairs lounge. Finding the way back to Mayberry. (nine sessions).

Due to your generous contributions , Resurrection was able to deliver two(2) large grocery bags to Lincoln, Fort Howard and Elmore Elementary Schools. They were grateful to receive and share them with the children who are unable to provide their own supplies. Once again, Resurrection deserves a big Thank You to those that helped our Elementary School Neighbors.

## October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Worship 9:30AM	3	4 Quilters 9:00AM	5	6 Food Pantry 9AM	7 AA 9:00AM	8 1 1:00 Trunk or
9 8:00 AM Bible Study Worship 9:30	10 R& F mtg2:00PM	11 Quilters 9:00AM	12	13 Food Pantry 9:00AM	14 AA 9:00AM	15
16 8:00 AM Bible Study 9:30 Worship	17 Melissa @ Theologies Conference	18 Quilters 9:00AM	19	20 Food Pantry 9:00AM	21 AA 9:00AM	22
23 8:00 AM Bible Study 9:30 Worship	24	25 Quilters 9:00AM	26	27 Food Pantry 6:00PM	28 AA 9:00AM	29
30 8:00 AM Bible Study Worship 9:30	31 LIC Mtg 2:00PM					

**Reminder:** It's been a few months since Vicar Melissa joined us. Thought it was a good time to review the arrangement we have with the synod and our congregation in respect to her intern position.

It is normally a one-year full time program, however, in our case it is being spread over a two-year period. Therefore, it is a half time 50% commitment. This is important because we need to remember that she is not a full-time replacement and is not expected nor required to perform all the duties of a fulltime Pastor, so we as a congregation need to be cognizant of what our expectations are. Please keep this arrangement in mind as we continue with our two-year commitment.

Hopefully we can all work together to make this a worthwhile experience for all.

Lay Intern Committee (LIC)

## Church Requests

If you have an activity or event scheduled, please notify the church office and we can put it on the calendar in the hallway.

If you would like to add an article to the newsletter, please email [rlutheranchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:rlutheranchurch@yahoo.com)

## Happy Birthday



## Happy Anniversary

10/10 Vince & Heidi Jirik

10/1 Kris Hartung

10/23 Tammy Hanek

10/30 Sarah Borremans

10/30 Mary Rienow

### Church staff

**Vicar—** Melissa Pagel

**Secretary—** Jean Kaster

**Organist—** Adria Cary

### October

**Ushers—** Larry Neslon

**Counters—**Ken & Diana Rudie

### Shut-in

*Joyce Corriveau  
250 Nineth St #112  
De Pere, WI 54115*

### Church Council Members

Council President: Larry Peterson

Worship: Melissa Smith

Secretary: Jodi Koch

Financial Secretary: Chris Peterson

Resource & Finance: Jim Gatske

Vice President: Bill Hartung

Treasurer: Debbie LaPlante

Mutual Ministry: Carol Borremans

Church Support & Property: Bill Hartung