

Resurrection

1700 NE 132nd Ave • Portland • OR • 97230

503.255.8772 • www.rlcpx.net

The Herald!

Sunday Morning Virtual Worship

Lead Pastor: Pastor Michael Keys

Youth and Parish Life Ministry: Troy Lutz

Parish Administrator: Kym Tangen

Music Ministry: Todd Marston

Choir Director: Christopher Silva

RLC Website: www.rlcpx.net

facebook: facebook.com/resurrectionPDX; youtube: youtube.com/resurrectionPDX

January 2021, vol. 39 no. 1 - Published Monthly by Resurrection Lutheran Church



**ANNUAL
MEETING**



Resurrection Annual Meeting

January 31st 11:00am

**Zoom (unlimited) login info later this month
& In-Person (limit 45 people; signup required)**

(Onsite, we will have proper physical distancing and masks. Materials will be available January 16 online and the Fellowship Hall at church. Forums on the 2021 Budget and 2020 Financial Reports the week of January 17-24.)

Questions: Call the church office 503-255-8772



From the Pasture:

We Can Change Our World

AND THEN ALL THAT HAS DIVIDED US
WILL MERGE

AND THEN COMPASSION WILL BE WEDDED
TO POWER

AND THEN SOFTNESS WILL COME TO A
WORLD THAT IS HARSH AND UNKIND

AND THEN MEN AND WOMEN WILL BE
GENTLE

AND THEN BOTH WOMEN AND MEN WILL
BE STRONG

AND THEN NO PERSON WILL BE SUBJECT
TO ANOTHER'S WILL

AND THEN ALL WILL BE RICH AND FREE
AND VARIED

AND THEN THE GREED OF SOME WILL GIVE
WAY TO THE NEEDS OF MANY

AND THEN ALL WILL SHARE EQUALLY IN
THE EARTH'S ABUNDANCE

AND THEN ALL WILL CARE FOR THE SICK
AND THE WEAK AND THE OLD

AND THEN ALL WILL NOURISH THE YOUNG

AND THEN ALL WILL CHERISH LIFE'S
CREATURES

AND THEN ALL WILL LIVE IN HARMONY
WITH EACH OTHER AND THE EARTH

AND THEN EVERYWHERE WILL BE CALLED
EDEN ONCE AGAIN

Judy Chicago

Sometimes we have that feeling of not being able to handle our own problems, let alone the troubles of the world we live in. Yet, we may be surprised at how much impact we actual do have.

This poem by Judy Chicago is from a book given to me 30 years ago called *AMEN...Prayers and Blessings from around the World*. It is a powerful reminder that changing the world—even my own little world --can only be done one step at a time.

Right now, may be it is words in the first stanza “all that has divided us” speaks so forcefully to me today. We are divided by political rhetoric that negates that premise of “working across the aisle”. Condemnation and harsh, unChrist-like judging and prejudice rule the day. “You must be wrong, if you disagree with me.” Compassion and acceptance seem to have no place in public or private life. Softness and gentleness are seen as weakness.

In my own life, I recognize that there are attitudes and beliefs that divide my family, my faith community, and my neighbors. Yet, I have the power to change that, or at least be open to the opportunity to recognize when change or reconciliation is possible. Being open to such opportunities is a first step toward addressing that which divides us.

One aspect of this is that we can hold each other accountable to our relationships, finding ways to bridge the gaps which separate us.

Jesus was one who worked all angles and saw opportunities to face the divisions. He ate with tax collectors and sinners, Pharisees and religious folk. He healed indiscriminately with no pre-conditions or determination on whether or not they were worthy. He fed the crowd not asking whether they really needed this food. He did not question a person's legal status and where they came from. He faced prejudice, hatred, condemnation and death because of what he did and said. Yet, Jesus' legacy is a community that learned to live together, to discover that acceptance could be achieved even when large differences and disagreements remained. That community had to learn how to live with its own brokenness and sin within its ranks, had to self-correct when its own prejudices and "isms" got in the way. We who follow Jesus can take that example and learn from it and learn to live it. We can change the world, but only one step at a time.

Pastor Mike

P.S. One such step for Resurrection is to start living into our Welcoming Statement. Covid has gotten in the way of initial plans to implement, yet I confess personally I have not taken the time to make our statement "public." I will start do so.

For RLC Folks with Zoom capability...



**Want to see your friends from Church?
Want some conversation about the Sunday scriptures?**

Join us

**Sunday Mornings at 11:00am for
Scripture Conversation and Communion.
Starts January 3, 2021**



This Service does not replace the online video posted on the rlcpxd.net website.



**Happy New Year
From Our Miss "B" ...**



Epiphany Wednesday - January 6, 2021
Star Gifts...Words to Ponder All Year Long

By Mary Rix

Receiving Gifts

Are you someone, like me, who looks forward to seeing what your Epiphany star “word” for the year will be? Just like Light overcomes the darkness, Epiphany word stars will overcome Covid-19 and be arriving in your mail boxes soon. Stars have been randomly chosen for you. In households with more than one person, we will leave it up to you to decide who gets which star in the envelope, but we suggest you randomly choose too.

What is it about receiving a word on a piece of paper, in the shape of a star, that takes on a deeper meaning for so many people each year?

“Ponder These Words in Your Hearts”

When you receive your ‘word’, look it up in the dictionary to get a fuller sense of its meaning. Search for it in the Bible and pray about what God might be telling you through it.

Put your star someplace you will see every day – on your mirror, on the fridge, at your computer-so that you can revisit it over time. A word that seemed unclear in January may gain new meaning as the year goes on. Often the words seem very timely, as if they were indeed designated for the recipient. This is especially important for people who have picked a word in years past and wished they could put it back and choose another. You are meant to have the word you receive.

Out of Receiving Comes Sharing

Like any other gift, your star word can either be received with joy or discarded and forgotten. I invite you to be intentional about your star gift. My prayer is that the Holy Spirit will guide you in finding some meaning in your Epiphany word.

Epiphany is the celebration of God’s presence breaking through to shine as a light in the darkness. Each year, we can rejoice as a congregation in the reminder of our generous, giving God – one star gift word at a time. May your “word” truly be a gift that keep on giving, even long after the Epiphany season is over. Let’s plan to share “word” stories throughout the year.



RLC Photo Directory Update:

Shirley Brown
23 SE 103rd Avenue - Apt. 261
Portland, OR 97216

Please help keep our directory current by letting Kym know of any changes of information.

Thanks for your help!



1st Shirley Brown
4th Ken Molinari
6th Kara Bodack
Brenda Kayser
9th Carolyn Anderson
Jerry Sharpe
12th Mauritta Helberg
13th Bill Lambert
Deb Nichols
14th Fran Johnson

17th Sally Ritchie
18th Joey Dietz
19th Sue Hiersche
20th Holly Lippert
21st Cecilia Cardenas
Ray Schmitz
24th Claire Dobesh
Emma Dobesh
James Grady
25th Pat Cross
26th Diane Lafrenz

3rd Pastor Roger & Jean Fuchs 49 Years
10th Mike & Sally Ritchie 44 Years
20th Jerry & Gerry Hubert 71 Years
27th Kevin & Becky Jameson 30 Years

ROOF Project Update

This little picture of house repairs has turned out to be more true than we imaged.



We are getting very close to the end of the Roof replace/repair project. As you know, our goal was to replace the leaking, damaged flat roof on the original sections of our building. We turned to friends to help us understand the scope of the project, had a structural engineer do the draws and create the plan, sought out bids for the work (which grew in complexity and cost \$505,000), raised \$375,000 in cash and pledges from the congregation, decided on Brockamp & Jaeger as general contractor, negotiated a construction loan with Thrivent Financial (\$284,000 at 3.5% for 7 years) adjusted the plans several times, applied for the permits from the city of Portland (in May), AND THEN EVERYTHING STOPPED!

The City of Portland closed the permit offices for months and then faced a huge backlog which meant our project did not start until the second week in September. We have faced torrential rains, hazardous smoke from fires, freezing rain and ice, sub-contractor delays, stopping for temporary heat needs for Montessori program, and discovery of major problems with dry rot and electrical.

We had a Contingency of \$45,000 for whatever surprises might arise, and boy did they.

- a) Quickly it was revealed that decades of electrical patchwork and unapproved projects had put the building at an extreme fire risk. Much of the conduit had rusted through, junction boxes buried in the ceilings, and scarce labeling of what switch went to which light, sign, or plug.
- b) Dry rot could be found around certain features on the roof, but the biggest challenge was the library outside and inside. Fascia had rotted through, roof structure around the chimney was almost gone, 24 ft beams had to be replaced (which meant taking down part of the ceiling in the library), and a window on to the patio was removed to become a load bearing wall.
- c) Skylights had to be replaced and new light fixture to replace florescent tubes.
- d) Because the sloped roof had to be higher in several places, some exterior windows had to be replaced or moved.

Obviously, we exceed our contingency.

So let us all take a deep breath.

The new roof looks great, the metal edging and drain shines, a gently sloped roof (1/4 inch per foot) moves the water, a safe new electrical system, internet capacity in the sanctuary, and NO MORE LEAKS and BUCKETS.

So what is next?

Resurrection needs to determine how the monthly payments on the Thrivent Roof Loan (\$3,817/month) will be paid. Estimate for final payment to the Contractor \$112,000 and the remaining electrical expense at \$15,000-18,000. As of last week in December, the available Thrivent loan balance is \$72,000 plus the Getting our House in Order fund cash of \$50,000 (estimated as of 1-31-2021) should cover this. The Church Council has approved moving forward with Phase II of the Capital Campaign called *Let's Git 'er Done*. Our "high goal" is to raise \$224,500. The congregation has to vote on this capital campaign at the Resurrection Annual Meeting Sunday January 31st.

Pastor Michael Keys

P.S. With the final payment for the work being made in January, we encourage folks to catch up on the *Getting our House in Order* pledges. This will really help with cash flow.

Nominations for 2021 Resurrection Church Council

The congregation is asked to surface names for those to serve on our Church Council.

As you consider raising up names, ask yourself these questions:

- + Who is a great listener in the congregation?**
- + Who has a deep prayer and spiritual life?**
- + Who might bring creative ideas and innovation to council?**
- + Who has special skills in planning, finance, recruitment, or stewardship?**

- 1.**
- 2.**
- 3.**
- 4.**

*****email to church office kym.tangen@rlcpdx.org or call 503-255-8772 *****



Merry Christmas

Congratulations Seniors! On Sunday November 22nd youth and their families gathered together to assemble Christmas wreaths and celebrate our seniors that graduated last June. Our quilters went the extra mile this year with creating the quilts for our seniors. Quilting together as a group is fun. Unfortunately this year the group has not been able to meet so all the quilts were made by various individuals within the group. Thank you RLC quilters and congratulations to (in order of pics below from left to right) Justin Weinberger, Seth Thomas, Devyn Lutz and Bailey Hurt.



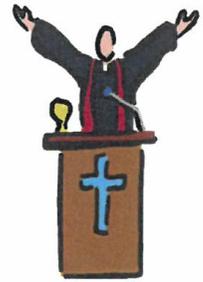
In addition to assembling Christmas wreaths for our homebound, families also gathered to record the litany and lighting of the Advent wreath for each Sunday in Advent.





Resurrection Call Process...

Where Are We?



Our Call Process began with the vote of the congregation to “call” Pastor Keys as the Interim at the Annual Meeting in January 2020. It was decided that having him continue through the Call Process would be helpful to the congregation. This turned out to be especially true with the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The Transition Team was appointed by the by the Church Council and began its work after Easter—Sue Hiersche, Judy Wheeler, Geoff Gifford, Chris Foley, Brenda Sue Penne, and Pastor Terry Moe. They started to meet around prayer, scripture and existing information (e.g. Congregation Vitality Surveys, ELCA Trend Reports, Resurrection histories, etc.). With multiple meetings online and in person, with phone calls to members, neighbors and other local churches, they listened deeply for what is Resurrection’s narrative or story today rather than five years ago. In the final months, they have been completing the Ministry Site Profile--the document the synod and prospective clergy will see. The final draft has been affirmed by the Church Council at its December meeting; and is available to the congregation on the website and by picking it up at the church office.

The Executive Committee of the Council established some criteria for creating a diverse Call Committee and the request went out for suggestions of who might serve. Over 50 names were lifted up in this process (*another sign of Resurrection’s commitment to what comes next*).

The Call Committee has 12 members:

Meredith Gifford, Angie Shea, Tom Lindberg, Diane Lafrenz, Sara Ritchie, Leslie Sawyer, Jodie Wittren, Diane Kern, Tom Martin Sandy Getman, Kim Dougherty, and Courtney Mealue.

The Committee began meeting in December for some orientation about their responsibilities, confidentiality, and ongoing grounding in prayer, scripture and 1-to-1 conversations. They have had a first conversation with our synod contact for our process: Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar. Laura Gifford, Sue Hiersche, Terry Moe, and Pastor Keys are assisting with the orientation. A thorough review of Resurrection’s Ministry Site Profile, reading the signs and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and a “practice” interview will be completed by the Annual Meeting January 31, 2021.

What is Next in 2021?

Jan	Annual Meeting Jan 31: Approve the salary package for 2021 budget
Feb	Synod identifies potential candidates//References, Social Media & Background checks
Mar	Initial interviews (likely over Zoom) possible second interview with 1 or 2 candidates Decision about candidates...lots of prayer and conversation
Apr/May	Post Easter-Site Visit with the Candidate and Family Recommendation of Call Committee for Council Affirmation Vote of the Congregation

Note:

This is the “perfect scenario;” delays or wanting additional names will extend the process.



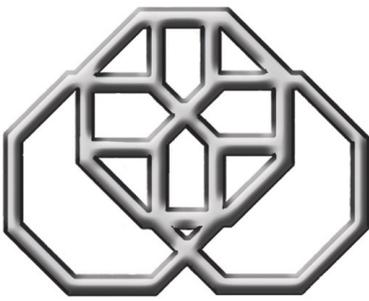
Hank and Judy Yudt thank you all for the prayers, cards, notes, words of hope and encouragement and support during Judy's recent health crisis and surgeries. Your never ending flow of hope and your prayers have surrounded us with healing and comfort.

Thank you.

I would like to thank the Thrivent Action Team program for their donation of \$250.00 to support the Veterans Outreach program. It was used to purchase fabric, quilt batting and food stuffs for our Thanksgiving and Christmas box's for vets. If you are a Thrivent member you have access to this funding. Go to Thrivent.com or contact your representative to find out how to set up an action team.

Diane Kern





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Snowcap Community Charities



OPEN HEARTS, OPEN HANDS



**January
Mission Of The Month!**

**Thank You For Your
Support...**

Imagine... Imagine when the pandemic first hit and schools closed. You thought, "We'll figure out virtual school somehow. At least I still have a job!" Until you didn't. Imagine waiting months for an unemployment check that never came--but utility bills still did. Meanwhile, maybe you couldn't be evicted for a while; but the kids were hungry now. You fed them while skipping meals yourself. Imagine how thankful you were for that food box from Snow Cap. But what about Christmas—and next year and...? Imagine...

Imagine working at Snow Cap wondering how the empty shelves could be re-filled and how many of your neighbors were counting on you. Imagine your thanks with every envelope from Resurrection Church bearing a check from something called "Million Meals" or "Souper Bowl of Caring." Imagine where you would be without them...

Friends in Christ, one of the best things churches did decades ago in East County was the founding of Snow Cap Community Charities. And one of the best things Resurrection Church did eight years ago was adopting our monthly Million Meals ingathering on behalf of Snow Cap. Imagine 1.5 million meals. You did it!

Our mission focus for January and February 2021 is Snow Cap. Imagine, friends in Christ, how much our donations and other support mean right now and in the weeks to come. Imagine a world without COVID. Imagine a community without hunger. Imagine, and give thanks a million more times! Amen.

--your Community Ministry Team