

LAMPLIGHTER

JULY/AUGUST 2023

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A Break from all the Nonstop

PASTOR JEFF BROWNING

ike so many people we know, our family always looks forward to summer. We enjoy being outdoors in the warm weather. My children and my wife (a teacher by profession) all appreciate a welldeserved break from school. In our minds, summer promises an opportunity for much needed leisure and relaxation, time off from some of the stress that feels all too prevalent during the other seasons of the year, -- and hopefully a vacation.

In the weeks after Easter, the sense of looking forward to summer really begins to hit full stride. We start by brainstorming, most every evening. We list all the places we want to go, all the events we want to attend, all the goals we hope to accomplish, and all the people we want to see. We look at the calendar, trying to figure out what might work. We tell our friends, "Let's plan to get together this summer." Summer seems like a wonderful dream, dripping with potential. But like many wonderful dreams, what we had envisioned often proves too good to be true.

Because every single year, when summer comes, so many of our plans never materialize. The calendar fills up very quickly. Like so many, my family often struggles with a tendency to overschedule. There are very few actual free days. As many parents know, summertime commitments for school-aged children are increasingly comparable to the rest of the year. Work still has to happen. We still have doctors' appointments, car appointments, and a variety of other necessary errands that we scheduled for these months, because in our minds we were more available these months. The activity or get together that seemed like a fun idea back in the spring becomes a source of stress, just another box to check on that long list of things we have to do.

In recent years, I have come to realize that, apart from the weather, summer is not much different from the rest of the year. Summer is busy and stressful. Actual rest and relaxation get forgotten, cast aside because in all the planning and in all the hustle and bustle, it was never put on the schedule.

REST! Human beings need rest. Jesus says, "Come to me all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." For some of us, we hear those words, and the initial impact is stressful. Sometimes the practice of our faith feels like something additional to fit into the busy schedule. This is the opposite of what Jesus intends, I think.

Jesus reminds us that we can't keep all of this up. All the busyness, stresses, and burdens of trying to do everything and please everybody, eventually will get the best of us. Inevitably it will disappoint us. When it does, Jesus is there waiting with arms open to you. His unconditional forgiveness and love reminds us what's most important, and calls us to bask in what is most necessary.

Reprioritize. Whatever we are doing in our lives, we can't do it without rest, and we certainly can't do it without our God. But our God reminds us that we find the peace and the rest that we most need in His Son, Jesus Christ.



NOTES & NEWS

Message from the President

LAURA BAUER

It has been a great blessing to see Resurrection regain its forward momentum over the last 12 months.

On June 4, we held our Annual Congregational Meeting where the proposed budget for the next fiscal year was approved by the congregation. New Council members were elected: Susan LiCalzi, First Vice President; Sharon Meyer, Special Missions Chair; and Marianne Wat, Worship and Music.

Special thanks to outgoing Council members Matt Auer, Marie Dettling, and Nancy Garbowski who used their time and talents to keep Resurrection a living community of faith in very challenging circumstances.

Living Endowment committee members were also elected: Karen Schoenfeld - Chair, Amber Browning, and Joyia Roper.

The Missions Budget for 2024 was approved with a goal of distributing \$107,500 to eight missions in varying amounts. Funds will be disbursed in two equal payments to each mission, as adequate funds are received through weekly donations.

Two missions will be supported by proceeds from the Living Endowment Fund: Martin Luther School – Bread of Life, \$6,000 for their food pantry to help students and their families who face food insecurity; and Life for Ukraine - \$4,500 to help operate two centers in Romania serving Ukrainian refugees.

I encourage you all to attend the 2024 Annual Meeting. We are a self-governed church, and it is through the active interest of Resurrection's members that we share the Gospel, educate our children and ourselves, create meaningful connections with one another, and operate in a financially responsible manner.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer! If you plan to be away any significant amount of time in July or August, please consider donating through Simply Giving or through our website: <u>resgc.org/give</u>



Save the Date: Sun., Oct.1 11am Service

Commemorating the 75th Anniversary

Formal luncheon to follow

More info to come

When In Doubt ...

recently saw a sign outside a church that said, "When in doubt, reach out." It was such a simple message, but it is one that we might tend to forget. Historically, the church was at the center of the community. Churches had big steeples to make sure that people knew where to come, and most of life centered around the church community.

Fast forward to the present, and we all know all too well that church can sometimes take a back seat to other obligations. However, the power of community and congregation hasn't changed, even if the central place of the church has.

When we turn to the Bible, we see example after example of community. In Paul's letter to the Galatians we hear, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal. 6:2).

In Paul's letter to the Romans we read, "I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong—that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith." (Rom. 1:11-12). The church has always known and valued community and the importance of supporting one another.

In our current society, we tend to turn inwards, or to carry shame or embarrassment, and turn away from community. We try to go at hardships alone, without the support of others. However, that's not what we're meant to do.

As the church sign reminded me, "When in doubt, reach out," which can go so many ways. It can remind us that if we are struggling, if we aren't sure if we can go it alone, we should reach out, but it also reminds us that if we think someone is struggling, or suspect that someone could use support, we should reach out, and offer a helping hand, and a shoulder to help carry their burdens.

The church means so many things to so many people, but it should always feel like a safe haven, and a place that you can turn to, without judgment or shame, knowing that there is always a community there to support you and help you walk through the challenges of this life.



Deacon Diana Auer

Director of Youth & Family Ministry, loves to sing, bake, and spend time with her husband, Matt, and their miniature schnauzer, Ollie.

SPOTLIGHT | Media Review

EISENHOWER PARK, Field	d #6 All concerts 8:00-10:00pm unles permitting. Please call 516-55	72-0201 for up to date information.
- JUNE - Saturday, JUNE 3, 6:00-8:00pm INDIAN AMERICAN NIGHT Sunday, JUNE 4 FREESTYLE SKOW with JUDY TORRES and SOMETHIN' FRESH Sunday, JUNE 11 ISRAELI FEST: 3:00-6:00pm HAREL SKAAT: 6:30-8:30pm	Thursday, JUNE 15 JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION with CL SMOOTH & NICE AND SMOOTH Saturday, JUNE 11, 750-5100pm GERMAN AMERICAN NIGHT Thursday, JUNE 21, 6:45 - 10:00pm SOUTHSIDE JOHNNY and He ASBURY JUKES WITH ANTIGONE RISING	Friday, JUNE 23 GOSPEL NIGHT with THE BROWN BOYS AND GOSPEL CHOIR Saturday, JUNE 24 RADIO FLASHBACK Wednesday, JUNE 28 GREEK AMERICAN NIGHT Thursday, JUNE 29 LEON PETRUZZI JAZZ BAND
JULY Saturday, JULY 1 [7:00 - 10:00pm TD BANK'S CELEBRATE AMERICA FIREWORKS AND SHOW Winner of Battle of Bands and Grucci World Class Fireworks Show Fireworks Rein Detr: Sunday, July 2	Saturday, JULY 3 BOYZ II MEN with gospel choir opener Sunday, JULY 9 MIDTOWN MEN (The Original Cast of Jersey Boys) Thursday, JULY 13 45 RPM	Friday, JULY 21 LAMAR PETERS (Elvis Tribute) & BEYOND FAB (Beatles Tribute) Saturday, JULY 22 7:30 - 10:90pm LORDS OF 52ND STREET with TROY RAMEY Sunday, JULY 23 NELL BERG'S 100 YEARS
Monday, JULY 3 CREOLE AMERICAN NIGHT Thursday, JULY 6 (7:00 - 10:00pm "RENT" presented by PLAZA PRODUCTIONS Friday, JULY 7 NASSAU POPS	Friday, JULY 14 DESERT HIGHWAY Saturday, JULY 15 CHINESE AMERICAN NIGHT Sunday, JULY 16 [3:30-10:00pm HARRY CHAPIN DAY	OF BROADWAY Thursday, JULY 27 ELI YOUNG BAND Friday, JULY 28 [7:30-10:00pm DR. K MOTOWN REVUE and CHICKEN HEAD Saturday, JULY 29 COLOMBIAN AMERICAN NIGHT
AUGUST - Thursday, AUGUST - SANADORIAK AMERICAN NIGHT Friday, AUGUST - Friday, AUGUST - Friday, AUGUST - Kotoxing CCT NIGHT - AMERICAN BOMESHELLS Simday, AUGUST - 600-8-300m LIVE CHILDBEN'S SHOWS Montey, AUGUST - 600-8-300m LIVE CHILDBEN'S SHOWS Montey, AUGUST - BISH AMERICAN NIGHT	Thursday, AUGUST 10 SWINGTHE BIG GAND Friday, AUGUST 11 Saturday, AUGUST 12 HALF STEP and WILL SING FOR FOOD Sunday, AUGUST 13 DO WOP SHOW Thursday, AUGUST 13 DO WOP SHOW Thursday, AUGUST 13 Hourday, AUGUST 13 Hourday, AUGUST 13 DO WOP SHOW Friday, AUGUST 13 Hourday, AUGUST 13 DO WOP SHOW Friday, AUGUST 13 DO WOP SHOW Friday, AUGUST 13 DO WOP SHOW FRIDAY 13 HOURS 10 HOURS 10 HOU	Saturday, AUGUST 19 KOREAN AMERICAN INGHT PAKISTAN AMERICAN INGHT Tuesday, AUGUST 22 TITALIAN AMERICAN INGHT URGAINAM AMERICAN INGHT URGAINAM AMERICAN INGHT SOUTHERIN ROCK FIST PREEIND & BRO'S, & FRIENDS Sounday, AUGUST 23 URGAINA MARCENA INGHT Thursday, AUGUST 23 TURKSIA MARCENA INGHT
SEPTEMBER • Saturday, SEPTEMBER 2 LATINO AMERICAN NIGHT	Sunday, SEPTEMBER 3 SUGAR RAY	Monday, SEPTEMBER 11 5:30-8:30pm 9/11 REMEMBRANCE with Christopher Macchio

45 RPM

Last November, my mother and I attended a music fundraiser. At this benefit there were a handful of performers; high school bands, a professional vocal artist, and a local Long Island band called 45 *RPM*. My mother and I found this band to be refreshing, energetic, and nostalgic with the music they played. Their genre is songs from the '50s, '60s, and '70s, and the eight-piece band immediately captured the attention of the audience to sing-a-long and even get up and dance on a Sunday afternoon. My mother and I were both super impressed and vowed to seek out 45 *RPM* to see them again.

So, I was pleasantly surprised when I opened the Eisenhower Park Lakeside Theatre calendar for this summer and saw that 45 *RPM* will be one of the featured bands performing. If you also have a soft spot for "the oldies" and want to spend an evening enjoying good music in an outdoor pavilion under the stars, I highly recommend marking your calendar for Thursday, July 13.

So many different kinds of artists are scheduled this summer, and the venue is only ten minutes from our neighborhood. We are so fortunate to be offered this kind of entertainment by our county, and I hope you all get to take advantage of it at least once this summer. Best wishes for a safe, fun, and relaxing summer, filled with great music.

Special Missions – St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

MARIE DETTLING

ne of the congregations we have partnered with and supported is St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Brooklyn. The relationship spans many years, and, in the past, we have had choirs and youth visit and participate in Sunday worship. Pastor Schulze recently provided this update.

Greetings in the name of Jesus, our risen Lord! I pray the Easter season has been a rich one for you and the people of Resurrection.

I will be happy to share about how the support from your congregation has been an encouragement and a vital help for our ministries here at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church of Canarsie.

Since 1879, the saints have gathered regularly at St. Matthew's in Canarsie, Brooklyn -- first speaking German, then (as the social effects from World War I hit) switching to English-language worship, and now, worshiping in French and English!

I was ordained in 2000 and have served the people here as pastor since then. In the last two decades, the demographics for Canarsie have changed a great deal: the community has become younger, and predominantly West Indian, Haitian, and Middle Eastern. God has been so faithful in provision, giving us a French and Creole speaking Pastor from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti to start up (10 years ago!) a Frenchspeaking congregation which meets here each Sunday. He is the Rev. Jean Gardy Cenat, and your offerings from Resurrection have been one regular and important source of providing for this ministry, which, as far as I know, is the first French-speaking Lutheran congregation in Brooklyn -- maybe in New York City.

In addition, the regular mission support

from Resurrection has sustained us in navigating the particular challenges of the last three years. Both our Englishspeaking and French-speaking congregations are fragile, each averaging perhaps 25 worshipers a Sunday; as you can well imagine, the tumultuous environment of the past several years has made it a month-to-month challenge to pay bills, salaries, and insurance. I know that your gifts to St. Matthew's have been a real encouragement to those who have financial responsibilities among us here.

If you'd like to see who we are, here is the website for the congregation: **smlbrooklyn.com**

Our channel on *YouTube* is **SMP Brooklyn.** There you can see services recorded over the past three years.

We have a full-time Christian microschool at St. Matthew's, a ministry of our congregation. The website for Great Commission Christian School is <u>great-</u> <u>commissionchristianschool.org</u>

As I am sure you know, the substantial support from Resurrection to inner-city parishes in Brooklyn is a longstanding tradition of your congregation. I recall, back in the '90s, working with Pastor Meyer and his wife, Deaconess Marie, as people from Resurrection connected in various ways with the saints at St. Paul's, Risen Christ, and St. Matthew's. We in Brooklyn are deeply grateful that the Lord has allowed this long, faithful relationship between our congregations. Please share our thanks with the people of Resurrection.

May the Lord bless you and the people of His Church. Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia.

Pastor Christoph Schulze

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Resurrection: 75 Years of Missions / Helping / Making a Difference

MIKE SANTANGELO

s we continue to reflect on the past 75 years, it is important to look at the impact Resurrection has had not only on our local communities, but also the entire synod.

In December of 1982, The Saturday Evening *Post* published an article about the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) using new methods to spread the gospel. In the article, a photo of a worship service at Resurrection was included

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

LUTHERANS-MISSOURI SYNOD LOOKING AHEAD

For "people who never got out of the Bible," the Missouri Synod Lutherans employing surprisingly progressive methods to further their traditional ways.

> by Ross Irwin On the traditionalist side, one can

mber '87

A recent illustration is the \$1 mil-lion commitment to the Nehemiah Plan in Brooklyn, where the Synod has joined other denominations in a

has joined other denominations in a redevelopment effort "unmatched in the city of New York" to convert a burned-out neighborhood to 5,000 single-family homes.

single-family homes. Another example is intensive na-tional tooling-up of Lutheran social-

Computers, nonbroadcast video, word processors and vieller interconnections are gifts of God to the church," says Dr. Rajh A. Bohlmann, president of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Such a view is provocative coming from the leader of a traditionally conservative denomination, yet it indicates that he is championing invoative methods of spreading Biblical teachings through emerging technologies.
"There isn't as vast a difference between innovation

"There isn't as vast a dif-free the between isn's vastoe imes commonly thought; says Bohlmann, who en-couraged Concordia Semi-nary to use Control Data Corporation's computer-taught Greek and Hebrew language courses. The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (whose name comes from its Amer-ican beginnings in the state of Missouri) is a worldwide church with a total of some 9,000 groups of worshipers in 33 countries, its 2.7 mil-ion North American mem-bers make it the second-largest Lutheran denom-ination.

bers make it the second-largest Lutheran denom-ination. None of these members would deny that their church has a great respect for its roots, lis confession-al heritage, its tradition. But its unique character can be seen in the way in which it is both innovative and traditionalist—a seeming

traditionalist—a seeming contradiction, but for the Missouri Synod a way of life that can be documented throughout its 135-year his-

Centrality of the local congregation—one of the many strong traditions present throughout the Missouri Synod—and the importance of worship are typified by wortraditions present throughout the Missouri and the importance of worship are typified by wor-at Resurrection Lutheran Church, located in City, New York.

First page of feature article in December 1982 issue of The Saturday Evening Post, includes photo of worship service at Resurrection. (To see the complete article go to: resgc.org/media/sat-eve-post

showcasing Resurrection as a typical LCMS church, which is surprising as the LCMS is generally focused on the Midwest. The article delves into how the LCMS is a mission-minded church body, which has always been a focus at Resurrection.

Pastor Emeritus William Meyer shares, "When I arrived at Resurrection, one of the things that impressed me was the energy and support for a variety of missions. In the

years that followed, we emphasized mission education and support in three areas: local, regional, and international."

Out of this emphasis, the Living Endowment Fund was created to help missions all over the world, including support for planting THE LIFE Church. Imagine how many lives have been positively influenced by Resurrection throughout the world over the past 75 years!

BUILDING BLOCKS

Stories & News from Resurrection Preschool

Take Advantage of Summer

JEAN DIETTERICK. Director

Summer is a golden opportunity to spend time with your children while supporting the many skills they have mastered in school. There are a number of activities that will support early literacy skills. Here are a few:

(1) Find time to read together every day. Let the children choose the books to share. Make a special time and place to read together. Ask questions, notice the details in the pictures, and make predictions about what they think will happen next. Ask what they would do in that situation and how they would describe the characters. This will help to expand their vocabulary. Also visit the local library and get involved in their summer activities.

(2) When planning trips, show them a map and highlight the places and special sites they will be seeing. This will encourage reading signs and names of special places they will be visiting. Beforehand, ask them to make a list of what they want to take with them. Writing scribbles, or just letters or even drawing pictures is fine. This enables them to use their early literacy skills.

(3) Cook together. This activity encourages the importance of following directions and measuring, as well. One fun activity is to make playdough together and then enjoy using it on a rainy day.

(4) Take time to play games together. This supports following directions, being patient, taking turns, logical and critical thinking and thinking ahead, while visualizing their choices. Games such as Tic-Tac-Toe, Connect Four, Letter Bingo or regular Bingo, and Jenga are good for supporting predictive reasoning, early thinking and logic skills.

Play, laugh, talk, read, and plan summer activities together. The memories of these special times will last a lifetime. Wishing you a healthy, happy, and blessed summer together!



Fighting Hunger - Again!

atalie Sweeney, a member of Resurrection's Youth Group, celebrated her 18th birthday on Saturday, June 17. According to her friend Erin Gerasimovic, what Natalie most wanted to do was pack meals for hungry people with her friends at the congregation's third Meal Packing Event.

The group of young women, Erin said, wanted to feel "the pride and joy in helping others."

In 2019 and 2022, members and friends of Resurrection participated in Meal Packing Events and packaged more than 40,000 meals for people in need. On June 17, 125 people gathered again to create another 20,000 meals.

Diana Auer, Director of Youth and Family Ministry and leader of the event, said, "It is such a simple and obvious statement, but no one should have to go to bed hungry."

Diana adds, "No child should have to go to school without having breakfast or sit in class wondering where her next meal will come from. No adult should have to decide between paying an electric bill or putting food on the table. I'm so grateful to be able to partner with Rise Against Hunger once again to help provide relief for this worldwide affliction."

Rise Against Hunger is an organization seeking to grow "a global movement to end hunger by empowering communities, nourishing lives and responding to emergencies."

As with previous events, volunteers were organized into groups of four as miniassembly lines. Others refilled supplies and moved the finished packages to stands where the bags were sealed for shipment.

While working, there was conversation and a good deal of laughter. A gong was sounded every time a significant number of meals was reached. The 40,000 meals packed in the last two events were sent to schools and orphanages in Haiti.



(top) Volunteers join with Rise Against Hunger to help provide relief against hunger.
(middle, left) Finished packages are weighed before moving them into shipping boxes.
(middle, right) Pastor Browning, complete with camera, sweeps up fallen food particles.
(bottom, left) Pouring more soy, to provide the protein component for each meal.
(bottom, right) Final stage: boxing the finished food packages, ready to load and ship to Haiti.

Said Pastor Browning, "The meal packing event has become one of the highlights of the ministry year. It's a great opportunity for families to come out together for an hour or two and really make a big contribution."

Jean Dietterick was eager to sign up again. "I felt that at last I can do something to help so many who are so needy. Seeing the hunger across the world is heartbreaking." She also says, "We always have fun when we as a church family get together, and this is a wonderful way to help and show God's love to others." Teenager Lucas McElroy said he signed up again because "it's fun and it helps people."

Elizabeth Bezrutczyk feels, "You hold that bag of food in your hands and you know it is going to provide the most basic human need for people who cannot survive without it." She adds, "In Haiti I saw those bags being turned into the meals for the schoolchildren. It's the most tangible way I have experienced to be God's hands on earth."

> Kenneth Meyn Director of Music and Handbell Choir Director He retired after 38 years at The New York Times.



Summer of Service

ummer is upon us, and our youth and family ministry programs are kicking into high gear. Over the next few months, we are looking forward to a "summer of service"! We continue to focus on helping our community, and expanding our fellowship through service, and look forward to some wonderful upcoming events and activities.

END-OF-SCHOOL ICE CREAM PARTY

We celebrated the end of the school year with an awesome ice cream party for our middle and high school students. We talked about our summer plans, reflected on the school year, and had a nice, relaxing evening together.

PARTNER MISSION TRIP WITH REDEEMER, BRONX

One of the awesome activities that we discussed at our ice cream party was our mission trip. After a three-year hiatus, we are bringing back our offsite, overnight mission trip, from Friday, July 21, through Sunday, July 23. This year we will be spending a weekend in the Bronx, with our friends at **Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran** Church, and serving within the greater Bronx community. In addition, we will be taking a half-day trip on Saturday to either the Bronx Zoo or the New York Botanical Gardens! This opportunity is open to students entering 6th grade through 12th grade. We look forward to expanding our partnership with Redeemer and bringing the spirit of Resurrection into the Bronx.

BEACH CLEANUP

In addition, on Wednesday, July 12, we will be doing a beach cleanup down at Jones Beach, in partnership with the New York State Parks Department. The kids had such a great time last year, and we are grateful for the opportunity to bring back this fantastic service event.



Kara, Lindsey, and Georgia having fun at our Jones Beach cleanup

HELP HARVEST VEGETABLES AT ISLAND HARVEST

On Wednesday, August 16, we will reprise our partnership with Island Harvest and head out to Brentwood to assist them with harvesting their freshly grown vegetables. We give thanks for Island Harvest and all the amazing work that they do to help feed the foodinsecure on Long Island.



Picking green beans and okra on Island Harvest's farm in Brentwood

INTERGENERATIONAL DAY OF MINISTRY

Finally, later this summer, we look forward to another intergenerational day of ministry and a visit with the comfort dogs from the Atlantic District. This event is such a great way for our youth groups to interact with other members of the congregation and see how faith plays a part in our lives throughout our lives. It also gives us a great opportunity to make crafts to bring a smile to the faces of our homebound members.

We give thanks for the chance to work within our communities and support those in need, knowing that we are always acting as the hands and feet of God.

Where's the Vicar Now?

Deacon Ellen Farber contacts Resurrection's sixth vicar, Rev. Nick Schram, to learn more about where God has led him and his family.

Pastor Nick tells us, "God has been so good to us here. We just wrapped up VBS. It was so great to share the love of Jesus with 90+ young people through

music, story,

and seeing the

film, Guardians



Ariana and Rev. Nick Schram excitedly await the arrival of their first child, due October 1.

icar #6 for Resurrection was Nick Schram and his wonderful wife, Ariana. This vivacious team graced us during the 2018-2019 school year. They quickly fit in with the action movie crowd and Islander Hockey fans.

All that aside, their involvement in all things at Resurrection, Garden City, was encouraging, not only to them, but to all of us.

After returning to seminary and completing his pastoral education, Vicar Nick was ordained in the midst of the Covid epidemic shutdown. The Schrams must really have loved it here, as they took a call to, none other than Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. This one is in St. Louis, Mo., another place they love. They are coming up on year three, and God is blessing them richly.

of the Galaxy, Vol. 3, brought back fond memories. They were busy embracing East Coast life from NYC to the North Fork.

Ariana continues to work for Clementine's Creamery, in St. Louis, as their area manager. She oversees all eight of their locations, and "she keeps our freezer at home stocked with lots of delicious ice cream!"

"Our biggest news-we are so very excited to welcome our first child into the world! Baby Boy Schram is due October 1st. Ariana is feeling great, and we both feel deeply loved and cared for by our families, friends, and congregation."



Ellen Farber Serves as a Deacon at



EDITORIAL & CREATIVE

Ginny Raffa, Jenny Fort

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OFFICIAL ACTS

Baptisn	ns

6/4/23
6/11/23
6/11/23
6/25/23

Weddings

Abigail Katherine Bezrutczyk & Frank Vito Marino 6/2/23

Funerals/Memorial Services	
Lauren lamascia Haynes	6/13/23
Claire Garttner	6/25/23



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The views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily held by the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. If you have questions or comments about any content, please contact Pastor Browning.

DAILY BREAD Thoughts and reflections on the verse of the month

And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 18:2-4

he question that arises is what it means to become like children. Children are characterized by their innocent faith, trust, and humility, and they have a sense of wonder and curiosity about the world that surrounds them, not burdened by the cynicism or skepticism that is often associated with maturity.

To enter the kingdom of heaven, we must become childlike in our relationship with God. We must approach Him first and foremost with humility, acknowledging our powerlessness without Him. We must trust in Him unconditionally, knowing that He has our best interests at heart. We must retain a childlike sense of wonder and curiosity regarding His love and grace.

Furthermore, our Lord Jesus proclaims that whoever humbles himself like a child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Humility is the key to greatness in God's kingdom. When we recognize our frailty and dependence on God, we open ourselves to His power and love. When we prioritize others above ourselves, we reflect the servant heart of Christ.

Thus, let us strive to become like children in our relationship with God and with one another. Let us approach Hm with humility, faith and trust, and let us serve others with love and compassion, assured surrendering to God we are secure.

SAMUEL SINGH

WORSHIP WITH US

Sundays, Traditional Worship In-Person — 8:30, 9:45 & 11am Online — 9:45am

Saturdays, Contemporary Service In-Person — 5:30pm (Paused until Aug. 19, 2023)

COMING NEXT ISSUE

The next *Lamplighter* will be your September edition, bringing inspiring features on Resurrection's people and ministries, as well as articles on timely topics. Watch for more news and reflections on Resurrection's 75th Anniversary celebration.