



This Issue

The Conversation is Ongoing

Pastor Browning sends an important invitation.....1

Reflections from the Bishop

Bishop Taylor sends an encouraging Resurrection Reflection.....2

Notes & News

President Laura Bauer posits how Resurrection is a vibrant congregation.....2

Media Spotlight

Kimberly Murphy discovers return of a favorite TV show.....3

Looking for Volunteers

John Mitchell announces new Outreach opportunities.....3

Autumn Mums, Christmas Greens

Carolyn Orlik invites all to order Fall and Christmas Greenery here.....3

Reflect

Diana Auer finds a dynamic insight into the Ten Commandments.....4

Building Blocks

Fall, Family Fun.....4

Thanks from St. Paul's, Bushwick

Rev. Christophe Shultz sends thanks for Resurrection's donation of school backpacks.....5

Youth & Family Ministry

Off and Running.....6

Elves Wanted: Christmas Fair

Participants, Volunteers, Shoppers, Helpers, Bakers, etc. Sign up now.....7

Daily Bread

Your Turn Create your meditation on the verse of the month for October, then share it with someone.....8

The Conversation Is Ongoing

PASTOR JEFF BROWNING

I like to ask questions. I also like to think that, every so often, I come up with good and important questions. Unfortunately, I often have a knack for missing the opportunity to ask my questions.

For example, I'll have a conversation with someone, or I'll attend a meeting, a discussion, or a presentation and a couple of hours afterward I'll think of an important question that I wish I had asked. This happens somewhat frequently. I find myself muttering, "I wish I would have asked that question when I had the chance," or "I wish I had made that point when I had the opportunity."

My sense is that this is not a challenge that

is unique to me. Many of us have been frustrated because we think of the perfect question or important points we wanted to make but have seemingly missed our opportunity.

Over the years, I have learned and frequently used what I believe to be a very important invitation: the conversation is ongoing.

If you come to a worship service, or a Bible class and you hear something that piques your curiosity and has you still thinking the next day. If you attend a meeting or an event and something is not quite clear and leaves you wondering. If you read something in this newsletter or a church email, or you see something around the church and you are in the process of formulating a

Please turn to page 2

Resurrection Reflections

THE REV. DR. DIEN TAYLOR

From my early teenage years, I remember going to Resurrection for worship services and other events. Always a happy place with a solid commitment to Christ and His mission in the world, Resurrection embodied so much of the best of what it means to be the Body of Christ in the world—generous, relevant, and faithful to Christ.

When I attended Concordia College New York, I met Tracey, a friend who was a member of Resurrection. This gave me even more opportunities to learn and grow from the members of Resurrection and from the competent pastoral leadership and tute-

lage of Pastor Meyer. I always felt welcomed, encouraged, and supported.

An icon of both stability and growth, Resurrection's reception of my college friends—Pastor and Mrs. Harmon and their children—made me excited to continue to be connected with Resurrection yet again. When I myself became a pastor, I was thankful for the support Resurrection members gave me and the reception Resurrection gave to members of my family who became members. The connection of my home congregation—Grace, Queens Village—with Resurrection has been an ongoing gift for all of us.

Please turn to page 2



Message from the President

LAURA BAUER


Resurrection’s 75th Anniversary has caused me to think about how and why Resurrection continues as a vibrant congregation.

First and foremost, the Gospel of Jesus Christ is Resurrection’s foundation, giving us stable footing in a changing world.

Resurrection’s pastoral leadership warrants recognition. We have been blessed with the talents, skills and faith of four exceptional Pastors. While I did not know Pastor Marohn, those who did speak highly of him and his leadership of a new congregation. Pastor Meyer, Pastor Harmon and Pastor Browning have also led us through growth and challenges and helped us understand and implement our faith.

The congregation, which is a living entity, adding new members, losing members, changing identity, is a part of Resurrection’s ongoing strength. So many have shared their gifts, talents and treasure with the church while learning more about their faith through many opportunities for Christian education.

I am neither a theologian nor an expert on church operations, and I have no inside information on why Resurrection has remained strong these past 75 years. We have planted a church. We have weathered real storms, the aftermath of atrocious attacks on our country, and a worldwide pandemic.

I believe part of Resurrection’s strength lies in its commitment to implement the Christian faith, guided by the Holy Spirit. The Gospel is not only taught and preached, avenues to put faith into action are provided, so the Gospel can be shared with others, so that Resurrection congregants can serve others, so that we can, in gratitude for what Christ has done for us, try our best to bring grace and love to those who need it, both near and far. As is announced weekly at the end of worship - we go forth and serve the Lord – Thanks be to God! 

The Conversation Is Ongoing

Continued from page 1


response or an idea ... the conversation is ongoing.

What I mean is you can always ask, and you can always speak up. The opportunity to ask your question or share your thoughts never expires. If you think of something three days, three weeks, or three months after the fact, just ask. If you ever have questions about theology and practice, the building, the staff, the decorations, or a change taking place at the church, just ask.

Ask me. Ask another person on the staff. Ask a member of the Church Council. We will all do our very best to give you the answer or point you in the right direction. If you ever have ideas or want to discuss anything that’s happening or not happen-

ing at Resurrection, let’s have the conversation.

Resurrection is more than a congregation, we are a family of faith, united in Christ. Like all families, we aren’t always 100% on the same page. Sometimes we need more information or further clarification.

We won’t always completely agree about anything and everything. But we all can agree that our common life together is defined by the love and grace of Jesus Christ. As we live in the midst of these exciting times and look forward to more exciting times to come, please remember that the conversation is ongoing. 



Pastor Jeff Browning
Serves as Pastor
at Resurrection.

Resurrection Reflections

Continued from page 1

As a pastor in the Church, I remain connected with Resurrection as Resurrection and my own congregation—Redeemer in The Bronx—embraced a close partnership in the mission of the Lord in New York that has continued under the forward-looking leadership of Pastor Browning. With each of our members visiting each other in Garden City and The Bronx, we have shown that bridges in Christ can connect people for our mutual encouragement and delight. Redeemer youth and adults have enjoyed going to Resurrection through the years just as Redeemer has reveled in hosting people from Resurrection in The Bronx.

Honored to work with people from Resurrection in settings throughout our Atlantic District, Resurrection continually underscored the importance of looking beyond one’s own congregation to help people in need everywhere. When I became the Bishop of the LCMS Atlantic District in late 2022, Resurrection’s continued support has been an indescribable blessing for which I am forever grateful. Resurrection has been a home away from home for me

where I not only have had a chance to meet with people from Resurrection but from where I have been able to work when I am on Long Island doing other district work.

I cannot thank our Lord enough for Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Garden City. Decades of generosity and grace have inspired and encouraged me in “Making Disciples for Life” by “Engaging the World with the Gospel of Hope.” Resurrection has helped to make me who I am today. I look forward to the days ahead that our Lord gives us to proclaim resurrection in Christ Jesus in word and in deed in New York and beyond as, in Christ Jesus, the dead are raised to new life by His mercy and grace.

Thank you, Resurrection! To God be the glory!

The Rev. Dr. Dien Ashley Taylor
Bishop and President
of the LCMS Atlantic District

Pastor of Redeemer Evangelical
Lutheran Church in The Bronx



Volunteers for Outreach Wanted



Celebrity Name That Tune

While away this summer, I was cooling off in the hotel pool with friends. Every hour or so the pool activities crew led the crowd in a game. One afternoon they announced the game, Name That Tune.

We all got excited shouting out song names after listening to only a few beginning notes. I distinctly remember telling the ladies how much I loved that gameshow while growing up, and I wished they would bring it back. Everyone nodded and agreed.

A few weeks later I was up late packing boxes for college drop-off. I turned on the TV and to my surprise saw *Name That Tune*. I couldn't believe it!

I pushed the boxes aside, sat down and watched Jane Krakowski (Dickinson, 30 Rock, Ally McBeal) host the newest version of my beloved gameshow. And even more fun was that the music was played by a live band, led by Randy Jackson (American Idol). It was the cool new version I had been wishing for.

Apparently, I have been living under a rock because I was watching summer re-runs of Season 3. Season 4 just debuted two weeks ago with *Celebrity Name That Tune*, and you can catch it weekly on Fox.

Review by Kimberly Murphy

Have some free time and looking to volunteer at Resurrection? Have nice handwriting and enjoy writing letters? Do you enjoy attending public events and talking to people? If so, the Outreach and Public Relations Committee is looking to form a small Outreach Group for various projects, such as writing thank-you letters to visitors of the church and attend local public relations events.

Each week, visitors attend services. A nice way to thank them and follow up is with a thoughtful, handwritten thank you letter. This has been the Church's practice, and we'd like to continue it through the new committee. Resurrection will provide the stationery and envelopes. We just need writers to put pen to paper.

Throughout the year, Resurrection sets up tables and booths at local events to promote our church and talk to people. These events start in the morning and end in the early afternoon. Volunteers will hand out flyers from Resurrection about our preschool, church hours and

upcoming events. Ideally, volunteers will run the booth in groups of two at set times. Resurrection will set up and provide table, chairs, and all promotional items. We just need volunteers to man the booths.

In-person or Zoom meetings will be held monthly or every other month, depending on church activity and upcoming events. If this committee is something you are interested in joining, please contact Ginny Raffa or John Mitchell for more information.

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."

— Leo Buscaglia 



John Mitchell

Is a senior paralegal at a NYC law firm and enjoys writing and sports in his spare time.

Autumn Mums and Christmas Greens

Thank you to all who purchased plants for your fall gardens. Our profit from this sale was \$775.75, providing "seed money" for our Spring Plant sale May 4, 2024. Mark your calendars!

Women's Ministries Plant Sale Committee will once again be selling Christmas wreaths, roping, grave blankets, poinsettias and more. Proceeds from this sale will help a family in need during the Christmas season. Order forms are available in print and on our website at resgc.org/media/christmas-greens. 



Carolyn Orlik

Enjoys sharing her love of music (worship team), photography and writing (publicity), and gardening (Women's Ministries Plant Sale)



BUILDING BLOCKS

Stories & News from Resurrection Preschool

Fall, Family Fun

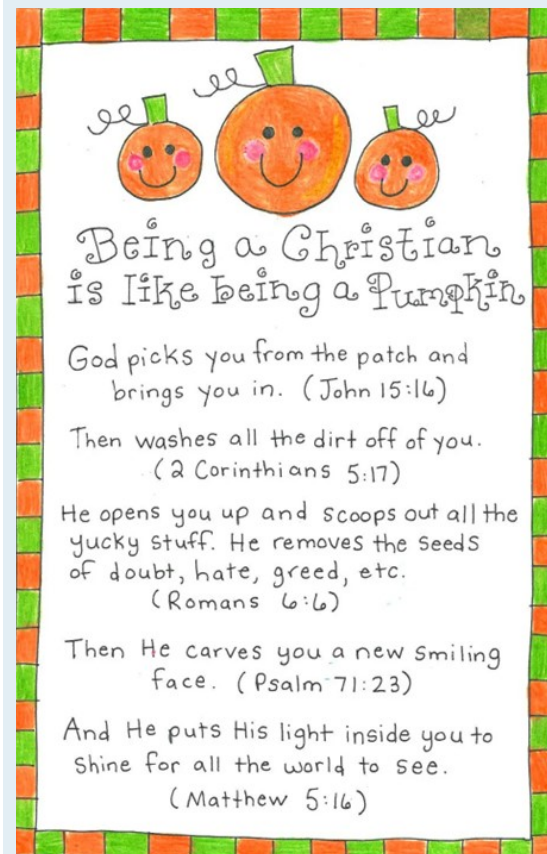
KAREN SCHOENFELD,
Lead Teacher, Time for Two's

Weather doesn't get much better than the beautiful fall crisp air. This time of year allows us to get out and enjoy nature's beauty. The changing leaves are so colorful and provide a fun place to run and jump. Taking walks around the neighborhood can become a quest for natural treasures to make a collage.

Enjoy a trip to an apple orchard and pick some delicious fresh fruit. Use your beautiful ripe apples to bake a pie or make some cider. Visit a farm and a pumpkin patch to choose the perfect pumpkin.

So many fun things to do this Fall season, make some time to enjoy all the fun this season has to offer.

Below, find a sweet children's devotional to use while carving out a "not so scary" Jack o' Lantern and share Jesus' love with your friends and family.



Reflect

Last week was the first fall class of the 2023-2024 Confirmation season. We welcomed close to 50 students to come learn, grow, and deepen their understanding of their faith, and who, God willing, will make a public profession of this faith at the end of their 8th grade year.

We have a wonderful group of students and a very special program to offer them. However, one of the challenges of the program is figuring out how to present, and re-present, the same topics to the kids each year, without it being redundant.

For example, we spend a few weeks each year covering the 10 Commandments, so we must figure out a way to present the same 10 Commandments in a fresh, new, and thought-provoking way in 6th, 7th and 8th grade.

In an effort to do this, I started looking back at my notes from last year, and one word stood out to me: reflect. One way to explain the purpose of the 10 Commandments is to describe them as, among other things, a mirror, which reflects our sins and failures back to us, while also showing us our need for Jesus.

Yet, when I stopped to think about this


word, it struck me how it is used to describe projecting images outward, while also encouraging us to look inward.

We hear about this in Proverbs 27:19: "As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart." It should be our hope that our lives outwardly project the goodness contained in our hearts, while also allow us to look inwardly, and honestly assess our shortcomings.

... the purpose of the 10 Commandments is to describe them as, among other things, a mirror, which reflects our sins and failures back to us, while also showing us our need for Jesus.

However, when confronted with the Law, sometimes, this might be more challenging than we would hope.

The Law shows us what we, at times, refuse to see when

we look within ourselves, and the Law projects a different version of how we think our outward self might appear. When we inwardly reflect on our outward image, it's easy to get overwhelmed, and feel as though we constantly come up short. However, it's these reflections that actually remind us of how grateful we should be that Jesus came not to abolish the Law, but to fulfill it, so that, no matter what image we see, we know Jesus' promise of salvation is always there to save us from our own reflection(s). 



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

Thank you, Resurrection!

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
420 Stewart Avenue
Garden City, NY 11530

Monday, September 11th A+D 2023

Pastor Browning and members of the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection:

Grace and peace to you in the holy name of Jesus, who is our resurrection hope.

On the first day of this month Pastor Browning, Vicar Peter Burch, and DCE Michelle Kollmeier trucked into Brooklyn to deliver 450 backpacks and several dozen boxes of school supplies to St. Paul's, in Bushwick. A team of our volunteers met you at St. Paul's, and we enjoyed unloading all of those boxes with you and showing you around our buildings.

It is wondrous to witness the positive "ripple effect" your gift is having here in Brooklyn, and way beyond. I have heard accounts of dozens of backpacks dropped off at family shelters in our communities, and of backpacks going to immigrant families from Yemen. A St. Paul's contact person is shipping some to Guyana, South America. Some members of St. Matthew's, Canarsie are shipping backpacks to Haiti and to Jamaica. A nearby daycare serving low-income families is receiving some of the supplies you sent. Members of both congregations have given the backpacks to neighboring families as a way of reaching out, and saying, "hello" to those with whom they've not yet made contact. ***"Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."*** (1 John 3:18) So we are commanded in the New Testament; your gift is helping us do that locally, and internationally.

On this solemn day when many of us cannot help but remember the evil effects of the terror attacks on our city and nation, it is a blessing for me to think about how God is using your generosity and hard work to help so many hundreds of children and their families. Thank you, in Jesus' name. Your work has, by His grace, borne good fruit!

The Rev. Christoph M. Schulze, Pastor, St. Paul's,
Bushwick & St. Matthew's, Canarsie

Off and Running

We are back! Resurrection's Youth and Family ministry calendar is jam-packed and filled with tons of amazing ways to get involved!

High School



Students in the high school group get to know one another and have a short Bible study.

On September 14, we had a fantastic high school youth group meeting! We soaked in the last bit of the summer sun and had our meeting outside on the lawn where we kicked off our time together with five three-minute rounds of getting to know each other. The kids all rotated through different small groups and had a chance to get to know one another a bit better.

We then had a short Bible Study where we focused on Matthew 5:14-16:

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

We discussed how we can be inspired by these verses to go and shine Jesus' light in school, at practice and everywhere we go.

We then spent some time writing down one fear we have, and one goal we have. We put our fear in a bowl of water, to remind us that all our fears and sins are washed away, and we put our goal at the foot of a small cross to remind us that God is always with us to help us, guide us and support us. We finished our time with some ice cream, and lots of enthusiasm about our next meeting!

Explorers

On September 19, we welcomed our elementary schoolers back for our September Explorers meeting. We played some fun ice breaker games before we got into our Bible lesson for the day, which focused on the Holy Trinity. We talked about how we believe in God the Father, the Creator, God the Son, Jesus, and God the Holy Spirit, the teacher and helper. We watched a great video which used a science experiment with water to illustrate a way to understand how God is One but God is three. We talked about how each of the three parts of the Trinity have a special purpose, but how they all remind us of God's eternal love for us. We finished our time together with a decorative cross to take home and hang in our rooms to remind us that God is always with us.

Middle School

On September 20, our middle schoolers gathered downstairs before our Confirmation meeting to kick off the fall 2023 youth group season.

We spent some time hearing about each other's summer vacations, things we're looking for-


ward to this year, and things we hope to accomplish this year. We focused on ways that we could help and support others in school, and how we can be good examples of Jesus' love. We finished our time together with a delicious dinner of salad, baked ziti, meatballs and, of course, dessert!

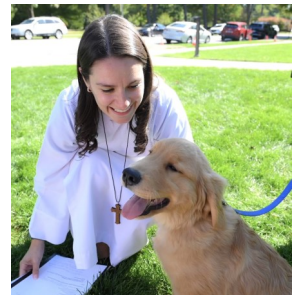
Blessing of the Animals

We look forward to so many great youth and family ministry events coming up in the next few weeks, especially our annual Blessing of the

Animals event on Sunday, October 15. Once again, we invite all our furry (or scaly, or feathered) friends to join us for a

blessing and to receive a small gift. We encourage all attendees to bring unopened pet food, treats, lightly used towels or a monetary donation to the event to help support our friends at the Little Shelter in Elwood, NY.

As we give thanks for 75 years of meaningful and inspired ministry, we look forward to many, many more ways to continue to celebrate God and our wonderful faith community. 



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Blessing of the Animals: Sun., Oct. 15, 12pm
- Explorers: Tue., Oct. 24, 4-5pm
- Middle School Youth Group: Wed., Oct. 25, 6-7pm
- High School Youth Group: Thur., Oct. 26, 6-7pm
- Fall Fest: Sat., Oct. 28, 12-2pm
- Junior Choir (On-going): Sundays, 9:30-10am for grades 3-12

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Linda Wardley, Elizabeth Bezrutczyk
 Helen Smith, Marilyn Perduto, Rolf Lohse
 Eileen Peers.



Elves Wanted!



The Christmas Fair features hand-crafted seasonal decorations .

Be an elf this year! Resurrection's "Santas" need your help at the annual Christmas Fair being held Saturday, Nov. 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For over 40 years, this event has supported hundreds of missions, here at home and abroad. But, in order to have continued success, we need the help of many volunteers.


Some of the ways that YOU can support this mission event include supplying home baked goods, crafting items for sale, helping to set up, and helping to sort and organize the many donated

items for the "white elephant" area.

On Nov. 4, you can also volunteer to take a turn at one of the specialized tables, selling our wares and helping customers.

Spread the word to your neighbors and friends; bring them to the Fair. Purchase a special item and have it personalized (for free). Enjoy a day finding treasures and

having some of the delicious lunch items that our youth provide from the kitchen.

You don't really have to dress up as an elf to help (although it's a thought). Sign up to volunteer and donate your time, baked goodies, and extra treasures. Look for sign-up sheets in the lobby between the office and education building and help make a difference. 



Ellen Farber
 Serves as a Deacon at Resurrection.



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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.

*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus
for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that
we should walk in them.*

Ephesians 2:10

Your Turn ...

Create your own devotion on the Verse of the Month for October (above). Write notes for your meditation below:

THINK:

PRAY:

DO:

WORSHIP WITH US

Sundays, Traditional Worship

In-Person — 8:30, 9:45 & 11am

Online — 9:45am

Saturdays, Contemporary Service

In-Person — 5:30pm

COMING NEXT ISSUE

The next *Lamplighter* will be your November edition, bringing inspiring features on Resurrection's people and ministries, as well as invitations to upcoming special events. Watch for more news and reflections on Resurrection's 75th Anniversary celebration.