



To my siblings in Christ,

He is risen! This is the first proclamation of what we call good news, but not any old good news, it’s THE Good News, which in Greek is Gospel. As we approach and soak up that message of resurrected life, it is worthwhile to consider the life that Jesus brings. It is more than a guarantee of a life after death, it is life that is for the here and now. It is life that we describe as real life. It is meant to be lived out in a world where we are bound, broken, and executed every day in sometimes sudden heart stopping ways, and other times as a gradual chipping away and wearing down.

So, what kind of life is Jesus calling us to? Well, there is too much for us to take all of it in, but there are three Greek words in the New Testament that may be translated as life:

bi,oj: (bye-oh-ss) life; livelihood, living; property, possessions.

yuch,: (sue-kay) life; self, inner life, one's inmost being; (physical) life.

zwh,: (z-oh-ey) life; absolute fullness of life, vitality and animation of life.

When the youngest, in the parable of the prodigal son, asks for his inheritance, he asks for the bye-oh-ss (**bi,oj**) (Luke 15:12). He isn’t just asking for his share of the stuff, he is asking for his share of his father’s livelihood, his life’s work. The true nature of our **bi,oj** is something Jesus’ parable calls us to reconsider as a source and expression of our sue-kay (**yuch**) and our z-oh-ey (**zwh**). Find the whole parable in Luke 15:11-32

A few weeks back, we read as Jesus contrasted our sue-kay (**yuch**) in this world with the z-oh-ey (**zwh**) found by following Jesus. “Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will

keep it for eternal life” (John 12:25). Of course, Jesus is using excessive exaggeration (hyperbole) to make his point. There is an incompatibility between the life and self we are told to pursue in the everyday world around us (**yuch**,: sue-kay), and the vital, animated, fullness we are called to receive from Jesus (**zwh** :z-oh-ey).



Rev. William H. Smith

Here, the life Jesus is calling us to, begins by steering clear of letting our sense of self be determined by what we do and have in the everyday world. It also involves not becoming so attached to our life in the everyday world that we can’t let go of any part of it if needed. Things like power, affluence, position, and connections can be very addictive.

However, Jesus isn’t saying that we have to reject everything and everyone, run off to the wilderness, and become hermits. There is a middle ground to be found between selling out and writing off our **yuch**. Your life in the everyday world can’t be your source of self, but it should be a place to express your inmost being.

The other side of this is what we are to do with the temptation to make our **yuch** in the everyday world our everything. We must be ready to see it for the dangerous slave master it can easily become. We must know the feeling of when it begins to command our allegiance. In those moments, we need to be ready to reject it like a person who has a food allergy rejects certain ingredients. We should be repulsed by what that way of life in the everyday world can do! It doesn’t just get us lost but it can so easily ruin and destroy everything in its path.

This is what we need to be mindful of and intentional about as we follow Jesus, because all of that gets in our way of receiving the life Jesus has and is already giving. It numbs us to its presence. This z-oh-ey (**zwh**) is right there. It is right there, and it is eternal; it doesn't run out or go away. It is fully there all the time and everywhere. And notice that it is tied to this Jesus who calls us to follow and receive. This vitality, animation, and fullness of life is not tied to what we do or what we have. It is not tied to performance, reputation, importance, or influence. It is not limited by age, strength, health, gender, ethnicity, education, or intelligence levels. It is not for members only. This **zwh** simply is and is simply given because he is risen! And that is good news.

The Lord be with you.

Pastor Smith

12th Annual Elizabeth Mundroff Give Back day

This year Rob & Brenda Mundroff will be hosting their 12th workday on April 20, 2024

From 9 AM – 2 PM at Lutherwald in Howe, Indiana (with lunch being served ~12:30pm)

You can show up and leave at any time – just need to know if we need to have lunch prepared for you

Each year around this time we have a workday to help prepare the camp (LOMIK) is ready for summer campers. As always for those lumber jacks there will be logs to trim and split as well as firewood to stack.

Tools will be available for use, or if you have your favorite chainsaw, or hammer feel free to bring that along.

Back story

Why do we do this. My daughter Elizabeth was killed in a car accident 12+ years ago (she was a Jr at Purdue Univ). Shortly after that, I went to my first LOMIK workday. When I arrived, I was the only one who showed up that day, except for the property steward. After I returned that day, my wife and I discussed what had happened, and we also realized how important Camp had been to all our kids both as campers as well as counselors/staff. Lutherwald happened to be Elizabeth's favorite camp, so we decided it was our mission to make sure that the camp was ready for the next year's campers. That was 12 years ago, and this year will be our 12th workday. In part to remember her, mostly because we feel how important camp can be to kids. Where they can learn about nature, Gods creation, as well as being in the open air, in a safe and caring environment where kids can be kids.

If anyone has any questions, please email me Robert.3101@msn.com

We welcome all ages. We only ask those who bring kids have a parent or guardian to supervisor them, as we will not have any child care available. This year we expect folks with ages ranging from ~1 to 80+ and all others in-between.

Please RSVP to either Rob or Brenda Mundroff.

Thanks in advance,

Rob Mundroff



Intern Reflections

Hello and Good Day to all of God's people at Resurrection Lutheran Church! I'm two weeks into my internship here and what a time it has been! When a person first begins the journey of candidacy as a minister of Word and Service (Deacon), they are asked what they intend to specialize in. My answer to that question was "administration and worship." Already, I have been involved in a project related to volunteerism and I have a couple of other projects relating to administration in the works. I look forward to participating in worship and all of the activities that Holy Week brings. I am grateful to Pastor Smith for what he has taught me so far about "everyday ministry" as well as some theological thoughts I had not seen before. Thank you, people of Resurrection who have welcomed my wife and me with open arms. You are indeed a "welcoming" congregation. It is my sincere privilege to be here serving with you.

As I said above, I have been working on a volunteerism project for the youth and actually anyone who wants to participate as a volunteer. Ultimately, we will be able to have a volunteer opportunity every month and project out a few months to see where and when those opportunities will be. This project at this writing has been completed.

Resurrection looks forward to wonderful growth opportunities as the development to the west and north of us comes to completion in the coming months and years. Our question looking forward is exploring what tools other churches have used to manage their growth. I have completed a form which is currently under review to use when having conversations with these churches, all of whom are larger than we are. For the most part, we aren't looking to "copy cat" from these churches, but to understand why they took some of the steps they took. What kind of technology, web services and social media did they grow into? How do they manage their membership rolls? Are there certain apps that worked for them when communicating with their youth? Finally, we want to know what they wished they had known at the beginning of these processes, lessons learned etc.

Finally, as I contemplate our mission statement "Being an example of God's acceptance and grace to all," I'm reflecting on the word "all." Every church sign in some way expresses that "all" are welcome and all too often that "welcome" comes with strings attached. As we begin to experience growth, and people begin checking us out in person, are we really ready to say all? Are we prepared to lavish God's grace on people who don't look like us? Are we prepared to welcome those who have had difficult life experiences? Those experiences that left their families not "Brady Bunch" perfect. Are we prepared to welcome families that are not "traditional?" And what about those brothers and sisters who have made mistakes in life that forced them into the legal system where orange jumpsuits were the uniform of confinement? All, for its three letters, and one of them is doubled, has to be the largest word in human language!

But do you know what? I believe just from the short time that I've been here, that Resurrection Lutheran Church is up to the task of welcoming and loving all who come through the church doors and worship with us online! I believe with all of my heart that this church can see with the eyes of God and love people, *all* people with the love of Christ. Thank you for being the people of God that you are. You are indeed the "light on the hill" that this world that God loves needs to see and experience!

Peace,

Eric

Treasurer Report Highlights

as of 29 February 2024 By J Groscop

BALANCES

\$20K (As of **2/7/24**) Working Capital **3.0 weeks** (TARGET 8-12 wks)
1 week = \$6,613

Checking Account (Oper)	\$20K	1/31
Restricted Accounts	\$56 K	1/31
MIF fund (Building)	\$ 2.78 K	1/31

INCOME

Feb Oper Income	\$ 21.2 K	Budget \$ 28.6 K (<i>doesn't incl. 3% Mission Support</i>)	Tracking 77.2%
YTD Oper Income	\$ 301.6 K	Budget \$336.7 K YTD (<i>doesn't include 3%</i>)	Tracking 87.5%
Other Income	<u>\$ 0 K</u>		

EXPENSES

Feb Expenses	\$21.7 K	Budget	\$28.6 K	Tracking 75.9%
YTD Oper Expenses	\$306.6 K	Budget	\$336.7 K YTD	Tracking 89.2%

RATIO

Month Oper Exp / Oper Income	105.5%	←
YTD Oper Exp / Oper Income	102.8%	←

OVERALL

Operating expenses Slightly below Budget & Plan

General OPERATING OFFERINGS were very good for Dec, [have started building Working Capital](#)

Expenses to Contributions are NOW differing by ~\$707 / Month

GREEN EGGS AND HAM

Thank you to everyone that contributed to Green Eggs & Ham, we collected over \$735 to send to St Matts for the meat portion of an Easter meal (ham) to help those in need get some good food!



VBS!

Interested in finding out how you can participate in Vacation Bible School? Sunday, April 14th 11:00am we will hold our first informational meeting in the Sanctuary after church. Can't make it but sure want to be included in future meetings.

Call or text Margo Grove 260-417-6876.

Brenda, Judy and I are looking forward to meeting with everyone.



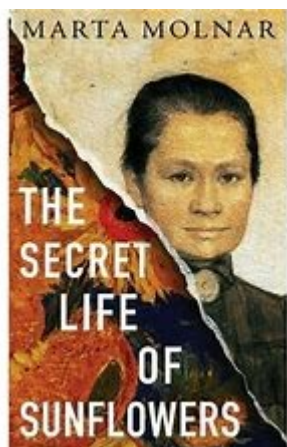
JAZZERCISE @ RLC

The Auburn virtual class is meeting online on Wednesdays at 6:15 PM. In-person classes meet at Resurrection on Wednesdays at 5:45 PM & Sundays at 1 PM. Cost is \$5 per class for RLC Members who would like to try a class & \$7 per class thereafter. The monthly cost remains \$25 per month or a 10 class pass for \$50 may be purchased. Join anytime! Questions? Contact Robin at 260.570.3385

BOOK CLUB

Our next book club meeting will be on Thursday, April 4th at 7:00 at church. We will be discussing the book, Don't Forget to Write. Please RSVP to Betty McCrory at 260-402-4447. We welcome new members.

Our May 2nd book club selection is The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Marta Molnar and Dana Martin.



A gripping, inspiring novel based on the true story of Johanna Bonger, Vincent van Gogh's sister-in-law.

When Hollywood auctioneer Emsley Wilson finds her famous grandmother's diary while cleaning out her New York brownstone, the pages are full of surprises. The first surprise is, the diary isn't her grandmother's. It belongs to Johanna Bonger, Vincent van Gogh's sister-in-law.

Johanna inherited Vincent van Gogh's paintings. They were all she had, and they weren't worth anything. She was a 28 year old widow with a baby in the 1800s, without any means of supporting herself, living in Paris where she barely spoke the language. Yet she managed to introduce Vincent's legacy to the world.

Church Directory

Our digital photo directory is active! Members can download the **Instant Church Directory** app in the apple app store or the google play store. Or if you prefer to view the directory on the computer you can go to www.instantchurchdirectory.com.

After you download the app, you will need to create a login using the email the church office has on file for you. If you have not yet submitted a photo to the directory you can use the menu option and click on "Edit My Family" to upload a photo. You can also use this menu option to update any of your information such as address, phone number, email etc. If you have any questions contact Christie Serre at

[\(260\) 580-1954](tel:(260)580-1954) or cwalk82@hotmail.com.



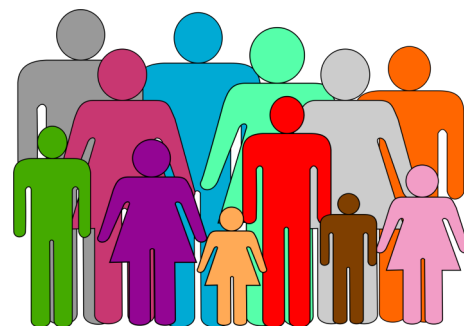
Family Night

WHAT: **Family Connection** is considered a small group for families raising kids.

WHEN: Monthly on Saturdays 4-6pm for family game night & potluck-style meals.

Family connection participated in 1-2 service projects per year

WHERE: @ RLC Church or other locations



Below are all the Spring dates for you to RSVP.

Apr 27th Sign Up [LINK](#)

Come join us for a monthly FAMILY NIGHT!

Andrea Munsch

Cell: 320-428-1980



Just Neighbors
Interfaith Homeless
Network

JUST NEIGHBORS

Our next rotation for just neighbors is May 19 to the 24th , if you would like to provide a meal or part of a meal, please sign up here!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4BAAAF23A5F58-48662500-just>

Thank you!



**LOMIK CAMPS &
RETREAT CENTERS**

WITH YOUR SUPPORT:

- **Welcomed 519 Campers**
- **Employed 39 Young Adults**
- **\$125,000+ Donated by Individuals, Churches, Grants, Fundraisers & Thrivent Action Teams**
- **Provided \$18,009 in Scholarships to assist 186 Campers**
- **600 Bible Studies**
- **100 Campfires**
- **165 Retreat Groups**
- **225 New Campers**
- **350 Mealtime Prayers**
- **195+ Volunteers donated 2,235+ hours of service**
- **Boosted reading skills for 107 Campers**
- **\$63,000 in Reading Camp Scholarships**
- **99 Students at Confirmation Camp with their Pastors**

2023

LOMIK Camps & Retreat Centers welcomes all and provides Christ-centered programs for building faith and life-long relationships in a safe, caring, and fun environment.

Faith-Family-Community-Service-Integrity

WWW.LOMIK.ORG | 260.667.7750

Youth Happenings

The youth went to the downtown library and Taco Bell for their most recent outing. I had people ask "why the library for a youth outing?" The answer is, because that's what the youth wanted to do. Our youth decide what fun activities, service projects and trips we do because it's their group. ❤️ Some youth got new cards, some replaced lost ones and others just hung out. Several also checked out books, movies and CD's. We had a great time and great conversation!

Easter Glow

For our 4th Annual Easter Glow, we were finally able to have the egg hunt outside. It was chilly, the youth were willing to leave eggs behind, so keep your eyes out for eggs in the park and return them to the church office if you find any. We enjoyed pizza and snacks and hanging out while picking out the prizes. It was a wonderful evening.

Youth Gathering Info

We have 13 youth and 3 adults signed up to go the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July. We have started our Youth Gathering meetings where we will be planning and doing Bible study to help us get ready for our trip and the theme of the Gathering, "Created to Be". Recently we talked about being brave and what that looks like. We discussed implicit bias and how our mind will just start filling in the blanks and that because of that, things are not always as they seem. It is important to look at things in the best possible light.

Calling All Current 5th Graders

It is time for our current 5th graders to get a taste of what youth group is like! September will be here before we know it and that means those who will be in 6th grade next year will be able to join us for Youth Group and Confirmation! We will be cooking for JNHN, a homeless shelter for families, on Sunday May 19th and current 5th graders are encouraged to join us. More information to come.



Youth Calendar

April 20	Elizabeth Mundroff Work Day at Camp Lutherwald	8-1
*This is great for families as well. Please RSVP to Sue by April 7th		
April 28	Youth Gathering Meeting	11-12:30
May 5	Youth Gathering Meeting	11-12:30
May 19	Cook for JNIHN	11-12:30

***5th graders are invited to join us for this service project to give them some idea of what youth group is like.**

June 2	Confirmation	9:30 service
June 16-21	Confirmation Camp at Lutherwald (Register ASAP)	
July 14-22	Youth Gathering	
August 23-25	Youth/Confirmation Retreat	

Confirmation Camp

Lutherwald June 16-21

Our incoming 6th through 10th graders are encouraged to attend confirmation camp at Lutherwald the week of June 16th. This is especially important for our confirmands, but those already confirmed are welcome to attend.

Confirmation camp allows us blocks of time over several days to go more in depth on specific topics around our Lutheran understanding of the Christian faith and how it applies to our everyday lives. Both Sue and Pastor will be at camp that week to lead studies and interact with campers.

For other camp opportunities for all ages at our camps at Lake Luther, Lutherwald, and Lutheran Hills, please follow this link:

<https://lomik.org>

Cost should never determine whether a young person attends camp. Scholarships are available. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor directly.



SPRING CLEAN UP

A Spring Clean Up Day for the Resurrection Church property, is scheduled for Saturday, April 13, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The work will focus on cleaning up debris and trash around the church proper and the pond; trimming trees, grasses and shrubs, and straightening the flower bed stone borders. It will be helpful for those interested to bring gloves, pruning and edging equipment, in specific, electric grass trimmers for the grass in the mounds, loppers, and pruning shears. Any help will be appreciated.

If there are any questions, please contact Sheila Hudson at 260 241 8090.



PRAY FOR...

Duane Steffen
Jack Bigham
Eddie Carnahan
Lela & George Dunn
Craig Kirkendall
Elaine Kirkendall
Danny
Dave Martin
Jan Hieber
Dot

Chris Jr.
Nathaniel
John
Roberta
Jeff Wrobel
Hannah
Jerry Claxton
Deb Claxton
Hannah
Mary Van Wormer

Military Service:

Bailey Beyer
Jaidyn Beyer
Collin Monteith
Dakota Francis
Jon Popovich
Matthew Gephart
Alex Horvath

Homebound:

Cindy Dankert
Bob & Cheryl Goble
Norma Greener
Sarajane Hill
Joyce Svoboda

FAMILY OF MARCUS BLACK

April Birthdays

3	Tim Kiser
4	Camden Groscop
6	Madeline Jones Robert Wrobel
10	Windezsza Maxwell
12	Annette Nair Don Ripplinger
15	Nancy Lake
17	Dan Exner Molly Wietfeldt Diann Williams
20	Mary Ibe
25	Don Conkle Dan Heingartner Grace Van Gessel
26	Cameron DeKoninck
28	Will Smith
29	John Weesner

April Anniversaries

23	Richard & Eileen Kiser – 69
25	Danny & Sarah King – 15



Is your birthday or wedding anniversary this month but not listed? Please let us know! Send an email to office@rlcfw.org or call 260-637-5900 so we can get it listed!



**Resurrection
Lutheran
Church**

14318 Lima Road
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46818
260.637.5900
www.rlcfw.org



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

STAFF	Office Hours
Rev. William H. Smith prsmith@rlcfw.org	Monday Wednesday: 10:30 AM - 5 PM Tues. - Sermon prep day: Out of office Thursday: 10:30 AM - 3 PM, Nursing home worship - 4 PM - 5 PM Sunday, all day @ RLC
Robin Johnson office@rlcfw.org	Monday-Thursday: 9 AM - 2 PM
Sue Smith youth@rlcfw.org	Monday: 10 AM - 2 PM Wednesday: By Appointment Sunday, all day @ RLC
Robin Wessley accts@rlcfw.org	Tuesday

Church Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9 AM - 2` PM

After church hours?
Leave a message or call
Pastor Smith at 260.409.6971

**Sunday Worship
Schedule**

9:30am
In Person Worship w/
Communion every Sunday

10:45 am Faith Formation
September-May

9:30 am live-streamed on our
Facebook page.
<https://facebook.com/rlcfw>

Articles for the next month's newsletter are due by the 26th of every month, if you have something you would like to add, please send it to Robin J at office@rlcfw.org

Church Council Members and Ministry Team Leaders

Pastor - Rev. William H. Smith	Evangelism - Open
Council President - Dave Avery	Stewardship - Team in place
Vice President - Mary Ibe	Social Ministry - Open
Council Secretary - Kelley Bawmann	Fellowship - Diann Williams & Julie Sonnenberg
Financial Secretary - Esther Meyers	Property - Team in place
Treasurer - Justin Groscop	Worship & Music - Team in place
At Large 1 - Lorenzo Manquero	Youth - Sue Smith
At Large 2 - Bryan Burgett	Education - Team in place