



**Can you see?** This is the theme we are using on our Lenten journey toward Good Friday’s cross and Easter’s empty tomb. Lent is a time of intentional reflection when we are asked to reflect on our own faith, our lived lives, our perceptions of God, and our relationship with God and one another. The assigned readings for Sundays on our journey take us through the books of Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Psalms, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Matthew, Mark, and John. There we find all kinds of references to seeing and miracles of sight and vision. We also encounter a wide collection of images and stories of God, God’s people, and their relationship. All of these create opportunities for us to reflect on our sight.

As a leg in that journey, I offer you a little of my own reflection process. One of my passions is words. I find it helpful and extremely interesting to study words. Words are such powerful things that the combination of sounds can transmit meaning from one person to another. Such flexible things that tone or context can cause them to take on wildly different meaning. Such magical things that to scribe certain shapes onto a physical surface like stone, or paper, or even a digital screen, can preserve meaning for as long as the surface remains. So powerful that they can continue to hold their meaning long after the ability to read them has disappeared.

Let’s take a minute to reflect on that word, see. According to Merriam Webster, that word, see, can mean: to perceive, to be aware of, to come to know, to examine, to find acceptable, to visit, to accompany, to meet. We start with a simple verb that means exactly what it means, and we place it into a simple sentence creating a question, “can you see?” We read it and then we consider its meaning in our spiritual reflections during this Lenten journey: Can you see the Kingdom of God around you? Can you

see yourself as a disciple of Jesus? Can you see your place as a servant citizen of God’s Kingdom and a member of God’s family? Can you see your relationship with God and its many branches and roots out into the world and other people? Can you see Emmanuel, God with Us? Can you see? What do you see? What would you like to see?



Rev. William H. Smith

But now, let’s allow that simple word, see, to take us on another journey. In fact, let’s allow it to take us on many different journeys. In turn, replace that meaning of sight with the eye with the different meanings. “Can you see?”, becomes, can you perceive, be aware of, come to know, examine, find acceptable, visit, accompany, and meet?

The words in Greek and Hebrew that we translate as, see, are **o`ra,w** (oh-RAH-oh) and ha'r' (RAH-ah). Their brief definitions are:

**o`ra,w** (oh-RAH-oh): to see, to perceive, to behold, to take heed.

ha'r' (RAH-ah): to see, to appear, to show, to cause to see.

Like crystals in a kaleidoscope, the slightest shift allows simple words to create new landscapes along our Lenten path. They have the power to carry us off in directions we never considered, and they create sight for our eyes, minds, hearts, and souls. Can you see? What do you see? What would you like to see? What is God inviting you to see?

(Continued on next page)

I invite you to continue to journey with us through the Sundays and Thursday evenings throughout Lent. Then I request that you make every effort to join us during the last week of March as we tell and see the stories of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and on to Easter!

The Lord be with you.

Pastor Smith



Greetings Siblings in Christ,

By way of introduction, my name is Eric Black. I am currently in the candidacy process for “Word and Service” seeking ordination as a deacon. The final part of this candidacy process is for me to serve an internship. I am blessed to be doing this internship work here at Resurrection Lutheran Church. Thank you to Pastor Smith and the governing body of this church for accepting me for this time of internship.

I come to you as a member of Messiah Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne. My faith tradition in ministry was in the United Church of Christ (UCC). I served the denomination as a licensed minister. My childhood church traditions are rooted in the Church of God in Christ (COGIC) which is a branch of Pentecostalism.

My seminary work includes an M.A. in Biblical Studies from Grand Rapids Theological Seminary and my “Lutheran Year” at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago (LSTC).

Prior to entering seminary, I retired from the Fort Wayne Police Department in November of 2022. I served a total of 41 years, first in the role of a commissioned officer and then in a civilian role in the Crime Laboratory.

I have been married to my wonderful wife Joyce for almost 31 years. Without her love and support, I would not be here now. Between us, we have six children, 17 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

No one is more surprised than me to be in this wonderful position. When we answer God’s call, the places we can end up are nothing short of miraculous. I am living proof that God does not care how old we are, or where we’ve come from, or how unworthy we think we are. God has a purpose for us all! I look forward to walking this internship journey with you and getting to know as many of you as my allotted time allows. May God’s peace be on you all!

Peace,

Eric

**Treasurer Report Highlights**

as of 31 Jan 2023 By RFMundroff

**BALANCES**

\$20K (As of **2/7/24**) Working Capital **2.77 weeks** (TARGET 7.5-11 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**

Jan Oper Income	\$ 42.3 K	Budget \$ 28.6 K ( <i>doesn't incl. 3% Mission Support</i> )	Tracking 143%
YTD Oper Income	\$ 280.4 K	Budget \$312.9 K YTD ( <i>doesn't include 3%</i> )	Tracking 88%
Other Income	<u>\$ 18 K</u>	<u>(Restricted)</u> Mostly Luther Foundation for Youth Gathering Summer '24	

**EXPENSES**

Jan Expenses	\$20.2 K	Budget	\$28.6 K	Tracking 71%
YTD Oper Expenses	\$284.9 K	Budget	\$312.9 K YTD	Tracking 90%

**RATIO**

Month Oper Exp / Oper Income	49%	←
YTD Oper Exp / Oper Income	103%	←

**OVERALL**

Operating expenses in line with Budget & plan  
 General OPERATING OFFERINGS were very good for Dec, have started building Working Capital  
 Expenses to Contributions are NOW differing by ~\$600 / Month

**OPERATING LOAN PAID BACK TO RESTRICTED**

Budget Created (Approved by Council to submit to Congregation)  
 Audit Complete 16 Jan 2024

**Next Steps:**

Present Budget to Congregation in Feb

**Rob Mundroff - Treasurer**

Meetings on ways that you can participate in VBS 2024 will be starting soon. The dates for VBS are June 23 through 27. We are looking forward to this being an intergenerational event where our amazing church family can share the Childhood Life and Love of Jesus to the community through gifts of time and talents!



### **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



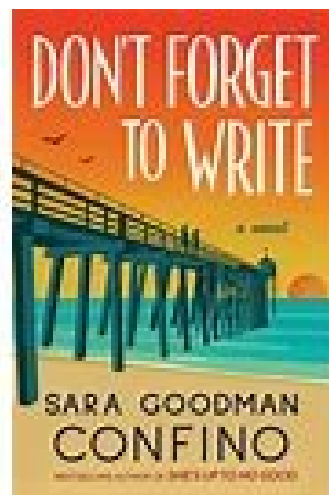
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### **BOOK CLUB**

We will be meeting for book club on Thursday, March 7th at 7:30 after the Lenten service. Please join us as we discuss and review The Book of Lost Names by Kristin Harmel. RSVP to Andra Blume at 219-863-6348.

Our April 4th book club choice is Don't Forget to Write by Sara Goodman Confino.

In 1960, a young woman discovers a freedom she never knew existed in this exhilarating, funny, and emotional novel. When Marilyn Kleinman is caught kissing the rabbi's son in front of the whole congregation, her parents ship her off to her great-aunt Ada for the summer. If anyone can save their daughter's reputation, it's Philadelphia's strict premier matchmaker. Either that or Marilyn can kiss college goodbye. To Marilyn's surprise, Ada's not the humorless septuagenarian her mother described. Not with that platinum-blond hair, Hermès scarf, and Cadillac convertible. She's sharp, straight-talking, takes her job very seriously, and abides by her own rules...mostly. As the summer unfolds, Ada and Marilyn head for the Jersey shore, where Marilyn helps Ada scope out eligible matches—for anyone but Marilyn, that is.



It's that time of year again! As you are out and about shopping over the next few weeks, please keep in mind our upcoming annual **Easter Egg Hunt and Youth Easter Glow**. The congregation has always been generous with their candy donations and their support is greatly appreciated. Thank you for supporting this outreach ministry!



Calling All Egg Hunters!!

Join us for Resurrection's Annual Easter Egg Hunt! Saturday, March 30th at 10:00am. The hunt is open for anyone toddler through 5th grade and will be held rain or shine. Please bring your Easter basket and feel free to invite friends, family, neighbors, etc. Each child will receive plenty of Easter candy and an egg to exchange for a small prize. Please join us. All are welcome!

\*\* As always, candy donations would be greatly appreciated to help support this outreach program. If you are able, please place candy in the large Easter basket near the Welcome desk. Candy that is individually wrapped is preferred. Thank you in advance!



### HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, Palm Sunday, worship starts in the gathering space at 9:30 am

Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm Maundy Thursday worship (includes meal)

Watch for details in the e-news and announcements

Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday worship at 8pm

Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> Easter service at 9:30 am



**GREEN EGGS AND HAM**

We have started our green eggs and ham collection for St. Matts food bank.

Here is how it works:

YOU pick up a green egg at church

YOU fill it with change, folding money or a check

DROP it off in the basket by the welcome center

WE collect all your monetary gifts and send them to St Matts for the meat portion of an Easter meal (ham)

THOSE in need get some good food!



***EASTER BASKETS*** We are collecting materials for an Intergenerational Easter service project – cards and Easter baskets for our beloved Homebound Members. If you would like to help, please use the link below to help provide needed items, such as signed Easter cards, treats, teas, coffees, etc. We will put the baskets together on March 17 so that they can be delivered *before* Easter,

March 31. Here’s a qr code to the SignUp Genius for needed items and volunteers to deliver the finished baskets. Please contact Kay Humbert ([kayhumbert@gmail.com](mailto:kayhumbert@gmail.com)) if you have any questions. Thank you!



**RLC 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 participates in 1-2 service projects per year

WHERE: @ RLC Church or other locations

**Scan the QR Code to sign up for Mar 23rd**



Come join us for a monthly FAMILY NIGHT!  
Contact Andrea Munsch with questions. 320-428-1980

**All are welcome.**

**Confirmation Camp**  
Lutherwald June 16-21

Our incoming 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to attend confirmation camp at Lutherwald the week of June 16<sup>th</sup>. 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.



**Daylight Savings**

Don't forget to change your clocks and spring forward an hour before you go to bed on March 9!



## Youth Happenings

We had an awesome Ash Wednesday/Valentines Day dinner fundraiser. We had 42 people join us for dinner. There were several different homemade soups made by the youth and their families. Then we had casa salad, Ziano's breadsticks, and Debrands chocolate. It was a wonderful evening. I believe people gave more because they knew there was a match. We raised \$696 and the generous members who had offered to match up to \$1000 decided to go ahead and give us the full \$1000. So our total profit for the dinner was \$1696. We received a Thrivent Action Team grant and a donation from a parent which covered all the food. Thank you for your continued support of our youth!





## Youth Calendar

March 8	Downtown Library/Taco Bell	5-7 P
	*Meet at the main entrance (facing south) at 5, pick up at 7 at Taco Bell	
March 22	Easter Glow	8-10 P
	*Pizza and snacks provided	
March 24	Youth Gathering Meeting	11-12:30
April 20	Elizabeth Mundroff Work Day at Camp Lutherwald	8-1
April 28	Youth Gathering Meeting	11-12:30
May 5	Youth Gathering Meeting	11-12:30
May 19	Cook for JNHN	11-12:30
June 2	Confirmation	9:30 service
June 16-21	Confirmation Camp at Lutherwald	
July 14-22	Youth Gathering	
August 23-25	Youth/Confirmation Retreat	



## MIDWEEK LENT SERVICES

Midweek Lent Worship Services will continue on Thursdays at 7:00 pm through March 21st with a meal of soup & bread before each service beginning at 6:15. Please join us!



## **PRAY FOR...**

Duane Steffen  
Jack Bigham  
Eddie Carnahan  
Lela & George Dunn  
Craig Kirkendall  
Elaine Kirkendall  
Danny  
Dave Martin  
Roger Norman  
Jan Hieber  
Jerry Claxton  
Deb Claxton  
Dot  
Chris Jr.  
Nathaniel  
John  
Roberta

### **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

## *March Birthdays*

2	Katie Manquero
3	Madelyn Fern
4	Wade Marsh
5	William Braun
7	Brent Serre
8	Perry Shilts
12	Abby Fern Julia Marsh
15	Luke Jones
18	Ashley Brzezinski
19	Craig Blume Kara Lowenstein
23	Ronald Proctor Curtis Wietfeldt
24	Ed Christie Tami Kiser
27	Amy Keith

## *March Anniversaries*

5	Tim & Tami Kiser – 41
23	Forrest & Marge Van Gundy – 44
25	Jon & Darlene Lebrecht – 24
29	Don & Linda Conkle – 55



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



**Resurrection  
Lutheran  
Church**

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**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](mailto: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