

# Resurrection Lutheran Church



Called together by God's Love

We **Welcome** Joyfully

**Grow** Faithfully

and **Serve** Gratefully

in Jesus' Name

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## Sunday Morning Fall Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Christian Education

9:45 a.m.

## WoW! Worship

WoW! Meal - 5:30 p.m.

Christian Education - 5:45 p.m.

WoW! Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Promise Choir - 7:20

Praise Choir - 7:20

Confirmation - 7:20

(No WOW! Worship or Wednesday Activities on December 30)

## Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday, December 24

3:00, 4:30, 6:00

## Christmas Day Worship

Sunday, December 25

10:00 a.m.

## New Year's Day Worship

Sunday, January 1

10:00 a.m.

## Pastor Dwaine's Column

*The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*

Mark 1:1

These are the words that Mark uses to begin his Gospel. We also hear them in worship this week as part of our readings during the second week of Advent. I am intrigued by Mark's use of the word: *beginning*.

Mark is going to tell us the story of Jesus. In his Gospel we will hear about Jesus' ministry, his teaching, his miracles. As we come to the end of the book, Mark will write of Jesus' last days, his death on the cross and his rising from the dead. And perhaps we'd think that would bring Mark's story of Jesus to an end. But no. For Mark it is still only the *beginning of the good news*.

And I think Mark's point is that as important as Jesus' life, death and resurrection are; those events are not the whole story. In fact, they are just the start of a much longer story: the story of how Jesus continues to be present and working in the lives of God's people.

Mark wants us to know that the *good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God* isn't found only in the pages of a Gospel; it goes on wherever Christ's message is announced and lived. In other words, it goes on right here in the mission and ministry of Resurrection Lutheran Church. As we proclaim Jesus' message and share his love and compassion, we are part of long and wonderful tradition. It's a story that stretches all the way from a stable in Bethlehem to the day when Christ comes again to bring God's Kingdom in all its fullness. And we are smack dab in the middle of it all.

Which tells me that if Mark, the Gospel writer, was going to tell the story of this congregation, he would begin with these words: *the continuing of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God*.

Imagine that. Each week as we gather for worship and are sent out to live the faith we share, the good news of Jesus Christ continues in and through us. What an exciting privilege it is to be part of such a wonderful story!

## Share the Spirit

The Church in Society Committee is starting to make plans for this year's Christmas collection.

Casa Guadalupe Multicultural Communities in Cold Spring has asked for hats, mittens, scarves, and gloves for all ages. These may be hand knit, purchased, or gently used. Toys are NOT wanted this year. There will be a box in the narthex, as well as a tree to hang them on, beginning November 27.

We are also asking for gift certificates for People's Church in Bemidji and Casa Guadalupe. People's Church can use certificates from Walmart, Target, and Holiday gas stations. Casa Guadalupe would like certificates from Walmart, Cashwise, and Holiday gas stations. These may be purchased at the Scrip counter in the narthex anytime.

Both People's Church and Casa Guadalupe are appreciative of your partnership with them. Many of their families need the basics. Our hope is to fill the tree and box with knit items and supply both Casa Guadalupe and People's Church with many gift certificates so that they can buy needed items for their families.

The deadline for bringing gifts and buying certificates is December 11.

Thank you for helping to make the Christmas season brighter for so many.

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## Warm Clothes Collection

Thank you to all who donated clothes. Between the Community Clothing Drive in September and our own Resurrection collection, we collected 29 bags and boxes of clothing to donate to People's Church in Bemidji and Casa Guadalupe Multicultural Communities in Cold Spring. In addition, several quilts were donated by our RLC Quilters. Wow! Many more people will be warm this winter because of you. Congratulations!



## Pastor Linda's Column

*"A voice of one calling: in the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God."*  
*Isaiah 40:3*

Welcome to the season of Advent, by the time you receive this we are well into the season having lit the first candle on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Advent begins on the Sunday closest to November 30<sup>th</sup> and lasts 22-28 days ending on Christmas Eve. It begins our church year and last four Sundays.

What does Advent mean? The word advent means coming, and in the Christian church we view this time as a season of preparation as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a season of hope and expectation as we prepare for Christ's coming.

Many of us, myself included, are caught up in the preparation for Christmas, the time of year when we decorate our homes, prepare special foods and purchase gifts for loved ones. But if we could set aside all of that, how is it we can prepare ourselves spiritually for this Christ event?

For the sake of our own well-being, and for the sake of our children, grandchildren and future generations, how can we honor this Advent season well? What are the ways we can take a few moments each day to remember what this season is really about?

This is not meant to be law, but gospel for our busy lives, so that we can refocus our attention to the Christ event and be filled with the blessings God gives as God breaks into our lives.

If you have an advent wreath, light the candles at a meal together. If this is not possible, take a few moments individually to light the candles and be reflective. Breathe into the silence and let the Spirit fill you and refresh you. Everyday pray for a different family member, and if you haven't enough family members, enlarge your family to our community of faith.

Everyday put a dollar into an envelope, or whatever amount of money you choose. Pray about this gift and at the end of the season, use the money to bring joy to someone that you would not normally choose a gift for, or choose your favorite charity.

We wait with hope and expectation for the day when Christ will come again. Yet God is always with us and God desires the best for all of God's children. Be good to yourself and to your families, use this season of Advent as a time for togetherness, reflection and thankfulness for what God is doing in our lives today.

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## Busy Mom's Group

This group meets on the third Tuesday of the month for mutual support and conversation. We as busy moms gather to encourage one another, be supported through devotion and prayer, and we also engage in service to others. One of our projects is the prayer books we make for each child baptized in our congregation. We are always looking for other ideas.

Come when you can, leave when you must.

**Next meeting: December 20th at 7:00pm.**

**Come for Cookies and Cider!**

We have several baptisms coming, so we have a need to finish more prayer books.



## Yarnovers

The Yarnovers are a group of knitters and crocheters who love to do charity work for the church and others. We meet every Wednesday of the month at 9:00am. along with the quilters. This group is committed to making **prayer shawls** and **blankets for every baptism** in our congregation. We are always in need of these items. It would be great if you could join us on Wednesdays, but if you cannot and would like to knit we appreciate your help.

***We are in need of baby blankets for baptisms, and prayer shawls!***



**A Blessed Christmas  
to all!**

## Bible Reading Group

The Bible Reading Group meets every Tuesday at Gruber's Café at 12:00 noon. This Café is just north of Famous Dave's in a strip mall. Bring your lunch or grab a sandwich or soup at the café. Walk with us as we explore the Bible and make Scripture our first language. We continue in the book of Genesis. Everyone is invited!

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## Bible Study – The Book of Ephesians

This group meets at Arlington Place to join with the residents for bible study. They are a lively group that loves to study God's Word. This is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to others in our community, especially those who are lonely and alone. We meet the third Tuesday of each month from 10:45-11:30am. We are studying the book of Timothy and Titus.

**Our next meeting is December 20th at  
10:45am.**

Everyone is welcome to this conversation, including men, women and children!



## Advent Reading Group

During the four weeks of Advent, we will be meeting Wednesdays at 12:00pm to discuss the book *Leaving Church* by Barbara Brown Taylor. We will meet three Wednesdays in December, the 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, and will meet in Pastor Linda's office.

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## Early Morning Bible Reading Group

This group meets at 6:30 a.m. on two Friday mornings each month and is led by Pastor Dwaine. Coffee and muffins are provided. It's a great way to start the day! This month's meetings will be December 2 & 16. Our readings are: November 26 – December 2: James 1-5; December 3 – 9: Amos 1-5; December 10 – 16: Amos 6 – 9; December 17 – 23: Luke 1 – 3; December 24 – 30: John 1 – 3; December 31 – January 6: Matthew 1 – 2. .

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## RLC Discussion Group

The RLC Discussion Group meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. Join us for one or all of our book discussions. Actually reading the book is optional. Light refreshments are served. For more information, please contact Lisa Wallin at 363-1056, [lwain@gmail.com](mailto:lwain@gmail.com) or contact Ellen Chovan at 320-597-3094.

December 6    Movie: Water for Elephants  
January 3     Half Broke Horses by Jeanette Walls

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## Evening Book Group

**Next meeting: December 6th at 7:00pm.**  
**Join us in reading and discussing the book**  
***Have a Little Faith* by Mitch Albom**

This group will resume in the fall. This group meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm. Book List for the coming year:

December	Have a Little Faith by Mitch Albom
January	Forever Ours by Janis Amatuzio
February	Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verchese
March	The Measure of a Man by Sidney Poiter
April	Doctor Zhivago by Boris Pasternak
May	No Biking in the House Without a Helmet by Melissa Faye Greene

## Library News

Are you looking for Christmas books to read? The Resurrection Church Library is the place to look. I was just pulling the Christmas books off the shelves so they would be easier to find and I counted 48 children's books.

There are also some in the adult fiction, non-fiction and books of carols. There are Christmas CDs, DVDs and lots of videos.

The children's books include Hey, Mr. Angel! about a Christmas play, the old story about The Littlest Angel, The Twelve Days of Christmas, and Silent Night, Holy Night-a beautifully illustrated book giving the background of the song. Another beautifully illustrated book is The Very First Christmas by Paul L Maier. And we can't forget the books about Peef, the Christmas Bear, by Tom Hegg or his memories of Christmas past with A Cup of Christmas Tea.

Submitted by

Eloise Westby

Church Librarian

## Meal Ministry

**We have had such a wonderful response to this ministry!**

**Thanks to all of you who provide meals!**

An outgrowth of the Busy Mom's, this ministry brings a meal to a new mom or to those who have been recently hospitalized or recovering from surgery.

In order to accomplish this, we need more volunteers, those willing to make and deliver a meal.

This ministry is being coordinated by Andrea Metcalf. She will give you a call with all the information needed for the meal.

A typical meal may be: lasagna, salad, bread and dessert for the family.

We would like enough volunteers so that you need only provide 2 meals per year.

If you are interested in this important ministry, please visit with Pastor Linda or Andrea Metcalf.

**The response has been so great, thank you, but we could use a few more volunteers!**

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## We're going GREEN!

REDUCE- REUSE – RECYCLE

### Green Team

The Green Team continues to find ways to save our environment and care for God's creation. We are well into planning rain gardens for our facility and would ask any to join us who would be interested in planning and maintaining our gardens.

In addition we are always looking for ways to keep our congregation well informed about Green matters. We continue to meet about many important issues.

### Tips for a Green Christmas

Think organic for your turkey and produce, check out Coops and Farmers Markets.

Store leftovers in reusable containers.

Compost food scraps and leftovers, from holiday meals.

Recycle holiday wrapping paper and cards, better yet wrap gifts in towels, bandanas or other reusable items. Make your own wrapping paper from old maps or newspapers.

Buy energy saving holiday lights.

Buy a fresh tree and recycle your tree after Christmas.

Think differently about gift giving, maybe giving time and energy instead of "Stuff".

For more ideas, visit [eartheasy.com](http://eartheasy.com).

*Create the future rather than fear it.*

*John A. Warden*

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## January Thru October 2011 Financial Stewardship

General Fund Mission Spending Plan for January thru October 2011	\$227,178.40
General Fund Income for January thru October 2011	\$222,650.65

**We have achieved 98.1% of our 2011 YTD stewardship plan.**

# Christian Education News!

## Called to Give

### December Schedule

December 4/7 - Good Giving Fair

December 11/14 - John the Baptist Prepares the way

December 18/21- John the Baptist Proclaims Jesus'

December 25/28 - Christmas-No Classes  
January 1—No Classes

Above is our Christian Education Schedule for the next couple of months. Parents - this gives you an opportunity to know what your children are learning about during Sunday/WoW! School. Please note there are no classes on December 25 and 28 and January 1.

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### Thank You!

A super duper thanks to all those who are giving of their time to teach our children on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings! Thanks also to our substitute teachers, music leaders and the Education committee members! You are very much appreciated!

### Looking for the Right Gift?

#### Consider This...

#### Good Gifts Fair

The Good Gifts Fair is coming! This will take place next Sunday, December 4th and the following Wednesday December 7th during the education hour in the fellowship hall. This is a chance for all of us to make a difference by purchasing items for our neighbors in need around the world. The Sunday and Wednesday School children will be hosting a variety of tables with gift ideas that can be purchased. All purchased gifts and donations will be used to support the ministries of the ELCA. The ELCA ministries represented at our Good Gift fairs are; God's Global Barnyard, Women and Children, Agriculture, Water, Health Care and Disaster Response. Each ELCA Good Gift changes at least three lives: the life of the person helped, the life of your friend or loved one and your own. Consider replacing one gift this Christmas with a "Good Gift".



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### You can be a Part of Resurrection's Intergenerational Musical!

You are invited to be a part of Resurrection's first intergenerational musical! This will be held in place of our annual Variety Show on Sunday, February 12 with a dinner prior to the musical. Casting for the musical will be held on Saturday, January 7 at 10:00 a.m. Practices will be on Sunday's beginning January 8, at 12:30 p.m. Prior to the practice we will have a quick lunch and then "get to work". This year the musical that we will be doing is "Malice in the Palace", a story about Esther. People of all ages are encouraged to be a part of this exciting event. If you would like to be a part of this musical, sign up at the Welcome Center. This is a big commitment and *everyone is expected to attend all practices and dress rehearsals*. If you have any questions, contact Sandy Spiczka, Susan Curtis or Kathy Kuebelbeck.

## Resurrection's Staff

Pastor	Pastor Dwaine Bruns
Associate Pastor	Pastor Linda Lagergren
Youth & Family Ministry	
Coordinator	Sandy Spiczka
Worship & Music	
Coordinators	Jeanne Bruns
	Karen Bobeldyk
Church Secretary	Kathy Kuebelbeck
Custodian	Dale Hasch
Nursery Care	Sarah Torchia
Adult Choir Director	Jeanne Bruns
Worship Team Coordinator	Jeanne Bruns
Children's Choir Director	Kathy Kuebelbeck
Pianists	Karen Bobeldyk
	Jeanne Bruns
	Carolyn Finley
	Kathy Wirth
	Diana White

## Resurrection's Council Members

<u>Council Members</u>	<u>Committee</u>
Pastor Dwaine Bruns	
Pastor Linda Lagergren	
Steve Johnson	Finance
Dan Kuntz	Outreach Team
Mark Kranz	Stewardship
Wilbur Wilkens	Treasurer
Rachel Kuebelbeck	Christian Education
Jeanie Wilkens	Church in Society
Dale White	Staff Support
Mike Lage	Property
Troy Battig	Worship & Music
Lou Jagielski	Youth & Family

## Council Officers

Troy Battig	President
Dan Kuntz	Vice-President
Mark Kranz	Secretary

### Church Office Hours

Monday: Closed  
 Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### Phone Numbers and Staff Email

Phone Number:	320-363-4232
Fax Number:	320-363-1129
Church's Email Address:	rlc@rlcstjoe.com
Pastor Dwaine's Email:	dbruns@rlcstjoe.com
Pastor Linda's Email:	llagergren@rlcstjoe.com
Sandy's Email:	sspiczka@rlcstjoe.com

Web Site: [www.rlcstjo.org](http://www.rlcstjo.org)

## December Birthdays

Dan Kuntz	12/01
Zachary Nesland	12/01
Jerry Bobeldyk	12/02
Kara Bohlen	12/02
Lance Anderson	12/03
Kathy Wirth	12/03
Ellie Eggert	12/04
Angela Haynes	12/05
Katie Pfannenstein	12/05
Magnus Baker	12/07
Logan Battig	12/07
Dean Holtz	12/07
Amanda Steffens	12/07
Maureen Tubbiola	12/07
Jessica Kompelien	12/08
Jeanne Bruns	12/09
Rachel Haaland	12/09
Ethan Carlson	12/11
Nathaniel Dolven-Kolle	12/11
Cyre Beaumont	12/12
Pat Michaelson	12/12
Kurt Persson	12/12
Deb Robinson	12/13
Matthew Goebel	12/14
Deb Robinson	12/14
Mark Hennigs	12/14
Kendall Eggert	12/15
Gwen Kranz	12/15
Jim Parsons	12/15
Judy Schwegel	12/16
Adam Bauer	12/17
Jane Haugen	12/17
Ethan Rhode	12/17
Patrick Marushin	12/18
Deanna Birk	12/19
Brady Goebel	12/19
Holly Bohlen	12/20
Mike Smith	12/20
Lori Baggenstoss	12/22
Linda Holm	12/23
Evan Keen	12/25
Heather Zabel	12/25
Brinkley Zabel	12/26
John Anderson	12/31
Vayda Baggenstoss	12/31



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**Genesis**

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# Resurrection Lutheran Church



**Christmas Eve Worship**  
**Saturday, December 24**  
**3:00, 4:30 & 6:00 p.m.**

**Christmas Day Worship**  
**Sunday, December 25**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**New Year's Day Worship**  
**Sunday, January 1**  
**10:00 a.m.**

*Check out the "Good Gifts Fair", to be held on  
Sunday, December 4. Information on page 6 in  
this issue of the Genesis!!!! Great gift ideas for  
someone special!*

**(No WoW! Worship or Wednesday Activities on Wednesday, December 28)**