



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

A CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

1950 NAGEL ROAD  
CINCINNATI OH 45255

OCTOBER 2019  
VOLUME 48, ISSUE 10

# RAMBLINGS

## OUR VISION STATEMENT

*To become a vibrant, benevolent congregation that serves God's creation both locally and globally.*

*A congregation that offers meaningful and inspirational ministries and worship for all ages that honor and praise God while maintaining the feel of an intimate family in Christ.*

*Also, a congregation that provides opportunities for all to be involved in ministries and programs that foster the development of gifts in all people needed to sustain and expand God's mission.*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Feature Article	Cover
Worship Information	2
Pastor's Page	3 & 4
Generosity Overflows	4
Navajo News	5
Upcoming Event	5
ELCA News	5
Hunger Appeal	6
Corn Maze	6
Faith Five	6
Thank You	7
Luther Tables	7
LCR News	7
Disaster Relief	8
Outreach Grants	8
New Member Breakfast	8
Meal Packing	9

## 2019 Stewardship: Good Stewards of God's Grace

-Dan Tandy, Stewardship Committee Chair

*"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." 1 Peter 4:10*

In gratitude for all that God has given us, more than we can possibly imagine, we share our love and resources with our neighbors. Our families, friends, LCR family and education and careers are some of the manifestations of gifts from God. We reflect God's love, grace and gospel when we share our gifts with others.

*How do you reflect God's love, grace and gospel?*

Building bridges to our local, national and global communities depends on the resources that have been entrusted to our care. God's commandment to love God and our neighbors is not just with our words but also with our actions. In Matthew 25:31-46, Jesus tells us that when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick and visit the imprisoned, we are doing it to Jesus. The prophet Isaiah exhorts us to "...learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow." Isaiah 1:17.

*What bridges have you built in the past week? The past month?*

*What new bridges might you build in 2020?*

LCR has an active, vibrant and engaged congregation due to the number and variety of ministries reaching out to our neighbors. From the Caring Ministry and Hospitality Committees to the Orange Ministry, Manna from Heaven, Navajo Mission, Zarrentin, Germany Task Force, Outreach Partnerships and the Immigrant and Refugee Ministry and all of the other ministries too numerous to list, we are a church family dedicated to sharing gifts with our neighbors!

*What Ministry or Ministries particularly excite you? What would you like to learn more about?*

*What gifts has God given you and how are you stewarding them?*

Please give from your heart and be as generous as you are able to support the mission of our church. Don't forget that you now have many options to donate online, either weekly or on a recurring basis using debit cards, credit cards or bank transfer!

October 12/13 - Kick-off Good Stewards of God's Grace

Estimate of 2020 giving cards in mailboxes

October 19/20 - Temple Talk

October 26/27 - Conclusion of stewardship campaign

Estimate of 2020 giving cards returned during worship



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The liturgies and services for October will be:

October 5/6: Pentecost 17, NTF liturgy

8: Enter the Silence

12/13: Pentecost 18, LBW II liturgy

19/20: Pentecost 19, Haas liturgy

26/27: Reformation Sunday, OLS liturgy  
(WEAR RED!)

### Volunteers welcomed

The Adult Choir is practicing once again. If you are interested in participating this year, please contact Matt Mauro (matthew.mauro19@gmail.com).

### *We thank our special musicians for the month of October!*

10/6: Joyful Noise

10/13: Mike Everett, voice; Adult Choir

10/19: Jan Carter and Pam Park, guitar and recorder

10/20: Joyful Noise; Claire Mengel, voice

10/26: Dan Altenau, guitar

10/27: Resurrection Ringers; Adult Choir; Amy Cheney, flute

**Have you remembered  
Lutheran Church  
of the Resurrection  
in your will?**



The next Enter the Silence, Awaken the Spirit contemplative service will be on **Tuesday, October 8** at 7:00 p.m.



**First Communion  
Classes  
October 17, 24, 29  
6-7pm  
Contact Pr. Nicole  
to sign up**



**The Endowment Fund**

### Planning Your Estate?

Please consider a gift from your estate to the LCR Endowment Fund.

Use this language to make a gift (bequest):

“I give and bequeath to Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, an Ohio nonprofit corporation (located at 1950 Nagel Road; Cincinnati, OH 45255; FEIN 31-0810197) [a sum of money, percentage of my estate or description of the gift]. I request that the gift be added to the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Endowment Fund.”

The Endowment Committee can help you with any questions.

## IS LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION A SAFE PLACE?

(Perhaps It Depends On Who You Are!)

**“I have started a new organization called Emmaus Collective to give definitive action steps for churches and to map those churches that are already deemed safer for persons of color.” – Pastor Lenny Duncan, *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.***

Have you ever walked into a church and wondered if it would be a “safe place” for you to worship?... I don’t mean safe in terms of your physical wellbeing. Sadly, given the world we live in today, every person could wonder about their safety in a place of worship. I don’t mean in terms of whether the church will be a friendly or a cold place. We have all likely walked into churches where we have felt unwanted. I mean, a safe place because of who you are? Somehow, if you are Christian, white, straight, well off financially (translated, well dressed), abled, and English speaking, your safety on walking into a church has probably never been questioned. It’s sort of like the question, “How often do you think about being a white person?” Typical answer, “Never.” How often do you think about being a black person? Typical answer, “Always.” Think about the ramifications!

Last winter, one of our members alerted me to the Reconciling Works website. The website offers “safe churches” for people who are LGBTQ+ people. I didn’t know that information existed. More importantly, it never occurred to me that a gay person would think that a church was unsafe! (I’ll chalk that up to my naiveté and wishful presumption that all churches would be welcoming to all people.) Low and behold, I come to find out that gay people *are worried* about unsafe churches, *they do* their homework in advance, and *there is* a place they can go to find out the information they are seeking. This is but one reason that LCR is currently in the process of becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation. We know that we are a welcoming already, but the world out there does not, and will not know until we are listed on the Reconciling Works web site.

So I just finished reading *Dear Church*, written by a black ELCA pastor. It is a love letter to the ELCA but before you get to the love chapter, you need to slog through the incriminating reasons that the author believes that we remain the whitest denomination in the United States. (As background, when the ELCA was formed in 1987, one of our stated objectives was to be a church of 10% people of color by 2000. At that time our denominational membership was 1% people of color. Today, in 2019, we are only 2% people of color. A dismal failure that earns us the distinction of being the whitest denomination in the United States.) A hint; Pastor Duncan does not attribute it to lefse and lutefisk, the liturgy, or hot dishes. He attributes it to our theological blind spots.

I have the impression that the book was motivated by the shooting at Mother Emanuel Church on June 17, 2015. Commenting on Dylann Roof, Pastor Duncan says, “Black churches, like the one the young man entered in Charleston, are often better trained in hospitality. I know what it feels like to walk into a church believing I don’t really belong – that I don’t have a place at the table. I have stood up and walked out; he pulled a gun.” Fortunately, Pastor Duncan’s first experience at an ELCA congregation in Havertown, Pennsylvania was a positive one, so much so, that it set him off on the unlikely path toward ordination in the ELCA.

As I read the book, I was struck by the notion in the quote above; a “safe church” for an African American, and it hearkened me back to the concern that I heard from our member last winter, “a safe church for a gay person.” So LCR, by unanimous consent of our Church Council is in the process of seeking public recognition as a safe place for LGBTQ+ people. And now, I am in communication with Pastor Duncan to find out what it will require to be publicly recognized as a safe community for African American people through the Emmaus Collective. Of course, we already are, but the world (e.g. African Americans) needs to know it, because unlike for you and me, the question crosses their mind before coming through our doors.

As we consider the ongoing mission of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, to build bridges to, and open doors for our community, I want to share some excerpts from the chapter of the book in which Pastor Duncan compares his life to Dylann Roof’s life. “On June 17, 2015, Dylann Roof stole my sense of safety and almost made me reconsider my call (to ordained ministry).... We (Pastor Duncan and his wife) wept for the Charleston nine. We wept because the majority of leaders in our denomination wouldn’t even mention those nine during worship on (the following) Sunday. We wept because we had been mortally wounded in our spirit that day.... Dylann Roof is Lutheran. We believe that he has to do nothing to earn salvation. But we are called to wrestle with the questions raised by the fact that he and I are both a part of the same body. We are called to make sure that we create conditions that are conducive to grace and not hatred.”

(Continued on next page)

## IS LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION A SAFE PLACE? (continued)

I don't mean to equate, in any way, Pastor Duncan's and my own experience of June 17, 2015, but I do have the impression that something deeply spiritual happened to both of us in the wake of that tragedy. I am gratified that while the majority of congregations in the ELCA did not mention the Emanuel Nine in worship the following Sunday (his assessment), Lutheran Church of the Resurrection has gone far beyond that...*as we should!* I am also gratified, and I presume that Pastor Duncan is too, that the ELCA took huge steps in addressing racism at the Churchwide Assembly last summer, among them, making June 17 a Commemoration of the Emanuel Nine in our liturgical calendar and resolving to condemn white supremacy as racism.

Is Lutheran Church of the Resurrection a safe place? As we seek to answer that question, let's not confine our answer to our advantaged place in our culture, but be sure to hear the voices of our brothers and sisters and siblings of minority groups who are equally loved by our Lord, Christ.

Peace,

Pastor Zorn

*One of the exciting aspects of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection being an "early adopter" congregation in the Southern Ohio Synod's Thrive! campaign was that we would have the opportunity to set a positive tone for all of the other congregations in our synod if our appeal was a success. Thanks to the wonderful leadership of Matt Wehrman and your generosity, we succeeded in our financial goal and our participation goal. The following is from the synod's weekly Thrive! email that goes to all of the congregations in the synod. You can see how our success is already being capitalized upon. Bishop Dillahunt and Pastor Larry Donner, the synod campaign chair are ecstatic and thankful for LCR's efforts! Update: As of this writing we have received 85 gifts with a pledge total of \$43,495!*

## **Generosity Overflows!**

### *The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Cincinnati, Sets Pace for Synod*

As "Early Adopters," The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection (LCR) in Cincinnati offered to hold its Thrive! Campaign this fall to help us practice what it takes to run an effective campaign and help set the pace for the rest of the Synod. And set the pace they did!

Having set a goal of \$25,000 and shared information about how their church might benefit from *Thrive!*, LCR completed its campaign on September 16th. The response has been overwhelming! Pastor Henry Zorn reports that after last weekend's gifts to *Thrive!* they are now at 80 individuals or families who have committed to \$42,095, including a challenge gift of \$3,000 made by one individual if at least 80 commitments would be made.

"I'm guessing we're now at about 95-99% of what we will receive," said Pastor Zorn, "though I imagine some gifts will continue to trickle in. We'll offer a full accounting and get our first check off to synod in early October. We have collected \$29,975 in cash thus far. Probably 95%, or more of our gifts are one-time gifts."

We offer our deepest thanks to the people of LCR for this outpouring of generosity and their example of how to lead an effective campaign for the sake of the gospel. They have clearly set the pace for the rest of us!



## An Invitation

A'aha'yani' is Navajo for "caregiver". Here at LCR, our Navajo Task Force has been doing just that. Since 2011 we have been caring for the students at the Mission in Rock Point, Arizona.

We "care" enough to remember the girls and boys on their birthdays and at Christmas. We send them small favors. The thank you we receive from each student shows their appreciation and trust in our endeavors.

The library books, towels, and hygiene products we provide show them we "care" about their well being.

This is an invitation to join our group - meeting are the third Thursday of the month in the LCR library at 10:00 a.m.

Think about becoming a "caregiver" along with us.



**Young Adult and  
Parents of Young Family  
Pizza & Game Night at the  
Kellys with the Doppenbergs!  
October 18th, 6:30pm  
Please bring a dessert or appetizer.  
Look for the Evite!!**



## **Blessing of the Animals**

**Sunday, October 6**

2:00 p.m.

At St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

## News from the ELCA

By Julie Pahutski, Mission Interpreter

Actually, this is not news from the ELCA, but other news from the broader church—the church beyond, but including, LCR. You don't have to look far to see the impact of Lutherans.

Recently, Pastor Zorn made me aware of a social services agency in Ohio-Indiana-Kentucky called Graceworks. LCR is a member congregation of this important organization. Graceworks' vision is to be a leader in offering services and settings that inspire and support a sense of home when people experience challenging and changing circumstances related to aging and living with disabilities. It offers financial counseling, food, and clothing to those in need.

Graceworks also offers enhanced living arrangements, assisted living, and skilled nursing care in Bethany Village. It offers home care, transportation, day programs and other housing services for hundreds of adults. Steve Sutermeister is a member of their board of directors, and can likely answer many more questions about Graceworks.



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

## Building the Bridge to a World Without Hunger

Please keep your eyes peeled for our World Hunger Appeal “Prequel” in October!

After an incredibly fruitful campaign last year, we hope to continue our strong success as a congregation that strives to end world hunger. We cannot thank this congregation enough for its time and generosity! We are already off to a great start with our summer canned food drive and donations to date. We currently have a \$9,000 start towards our goal of \$20,000, which we no doubt can surpass with the passion of this congregation!

In October, there will be several activities to help get us ready for our annual November Hunger Appeal.

1. Each weekend in October we will be treated to posters made by our Sunday School students highlighting four key aspects of our world hunger approach: Community, Farming, Education, and God’s Work Our Hands.
2. We will again be hosting a meal packing event at LCR benefiting Manna from Heaven. Spots fill up quickly, but we are looking for 100 volunteers of all ages to help pack 20,000 meals for those with food insecurity. Some friends from Allen Temple AME will be joining us. (See page 8)  
To sign up please contact Cindy Zorn or Karen Leupen, or reserve your spot with online:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b054eacaa29a31-october>
3. In preparation for our appeal in November, the Hunger Team will be distributing a list of readings and activities that will encourage us all to reflect on hunger and how we can take action.
4. You will find our annual distribution of food bags, for your generous donations, as we approach November.
5. At the end of October, you will see our Hunger Appeal visual on display. A teaser is that it is an authentic scale model of a beautiful covered bridge. This bridge is photographed frequently and resides in a neighboring state. Any guesses?

The Hunger Team again thanks you all for your love and generosity. We will continue to love our neighbor as ourselves, as we fight hunger and food insecurity together.

# Corn Maze!

Annual Jr & Sr High  
Black Out Cornmaze Event  
Saturday, October 12th!  
Worship at 5:30pm,  
followed by pizza, then  
on to Tom's Maze in  
Germantown. Wear black  
and bring your flashlight!!!  
Contact Kathy Ray or  
Pr. Nicole for more info.

# FAITH 5

My family does the Faith5. There are 5 steps.

Share your highs and your lows  
Read bible verse or bible story  
Relate highs and lows to your bible verse or your  
bible story  
Pray for your highs and your lows  
BLESS

This is a way you can learn how someone’s day went. It can even change your day. It can help you understand more about people. It can also help you remember things in the day that you forgot. Doing the Faith5 is a way to take more time with your family. I like learning about my parents’ day. I like that my family can know what’s going on and they can help me and know how I’m feeling. The Faith5 also helps explain why some things happen in life. I have had a great experience doing the Faith5. I encourage whoever is reading this to share about the Faith5 and do it. I like the Faith5 and I think you will, too.

By: Rachel Kelly



To Our Friends at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection,

We are filled with gratitude. Inter Parish Ministry would like to thank Pastor Zorn, Pastor Kelly, the staff, and the congregation of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection for your generous support of our food and clothing pantry. This past summer your food donations alone totaled nearly 500 pounds. But you didn't stop there. You filled our Back to School program with much needed school supplies. Your giving hearts put hundreds of smiles on students who happily filled their new backpacks with supplies. Thank you for partnering with us in serving the families in our community who are struggling to meet their basic needs. We appreciate you. When we hear a client say, "You treat us like family. You give us hope and encouragement," know that all of you are a part of that hope.

Claudine Elzey, Donor Relations Specialist  
Inter Parish Ministry Food Pantry

### Thanks to our 2019/2020 Orange Leaders and Small Group

#### Leaders:

Amy Altenau  
Jessica Bartolin  
Matt Best  
Steve Crawford  
Sandy Farmer  
Melissa Fireovid  
John Fireovid  
Betti Glynn

Doris Jancha  
Ted Jancha  
Brenda Kelly  
Jay Kelly  
Pastor Nicole Kelly  
Lisa Markley  
Martha Newfield

Carl Pigman  
Sarah Pritts  
Melissa Sommer  
Adam Vance  
Jonelle Wehrman  
Matt Wehrman

## LUTHER TABLES KICK OFF

The Luther Tables event has a long tradition at LCR and is a great way to get to know people in our congregational family. The kick-off is this year on Saturday, October 19 and will be hosted by Shelly and Jeff Higgins. The Doppenberg's will be there!!

What is Luther Tables? Groups of four or five couples/singles are selected and these groups then meet during the year. Each couple/single take turn hosting an event, which can be a dinner at your home or some other activity.

If you would like to be added to a group, see the sign-up poster in the narthex (you can sign up even if you are not able to make it to the kick-off event). Please contact Åsa Durtsche at 513-497-4456 or [adurtsche@hotmail.co](mailto:adurtsche@hotmail.co) with questions.

**CONGRATS:** The following students received their small catechisms on September 15, 2019:

**Kimber Barkman**, parents Chad & LeeAnn Barkman  
**Alex Bartolin**, parents Carl Pigman & Jessica Bartolin  
**Audrey Mendralski**, parents Michael & Alison Mendralski  
**Annalise Sommer**, parents Rob & Melissa Sommer  
**Griffin Tuke**, parent Lisa Markley

**WITH SYMPATHY:** Our sympathy to **Phylliss Hall** on the death of her daughter -in-law, **Denise Erwin**





## DISASTER RELIEF PLANNING TRIP

All people interested in attending the disaster relief trip **November 3-9** should attend the meeting on **Monday, October 7** at 7:00 p.m. We will be doing relief work in Dayton this year. Contact Jason Leupen with any questions

JUST A LITTLE  
*Reminder*

## OUTREACH GRANT REQUESTS DUE SUNDAY, October 13, 2019

LCR's Outreach efforts include supporting charitable projects and programs that LCR members endorse/recommend. Special giving and revenue raised from the Kroger Rewards program provides funding for us to offer Outreach grants twice each year. The *deadline for fall grant cycle applications is Sunday, October 13*. If you have a project for which you would like to apply, grant applications can be found in the Outreach mailbox in the office. Return your request to the Outreach mailbox by **October 13** or email it to Alyson Best at [abest727@gmail.com](mailto:abest727@gmail.com).



## New Member Breakfast

We will welcome our new members on **Sunday, October 27**. The 9:30 service will be followed by a light breakfast. Join us in welcoming our newest members.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION  
GROWS WHEN YOU BRING A FRIEND!

## 20,000 MEAL PACKING OPPORTUNITY

LCR and Northern Kentucky Hunger Relief will be hosting a 20,000 meal packing **Saturday, October 12** from 9:00 a.m. till noon. We are inviting our friends from Allen Temple AME to join us. The meals will be delivered to Manna from Heaven on the following Friday, October 18. While Manna is partnering with other agencies for food procurement, hunger is still a dire issue. Coal mines continue to close down and the ripple effect on the economy continues to create food scarcity and insecurity. We are looking for 100 volunteers children through adult to help with this packing. Please visit

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b054eacaa29a31-october> or contact Cindy

Zorn or Karen Leupen to reserve your spot on the packing lines. We are also need help with set-up, clean-up and loading the truck. Once you sign up you are guaranteed a spot. Thank you for your support.



### OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection strives to be:  
**A COVENANT based congregation, NURTURING spiritual growth and WELCOMING all into Christ's community through Word, sacrament and love.**



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Pastor Zorn or Pastor Nicole (see above)

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