LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

A CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
1950 NAGEL ROAD
CINCINNATI OH 45255

JANUARY 2020 VOLUME 49, ISSUE 1

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.

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TURNING THE CALENDAR: A SPECIAL CELEBRATION IS NOW ON THE HORIZON!

"(The pastor is) the person placed in the community to pay attention and call attention to 'what is going on right now' between men and women, with one another and with God – the kingdom of God that is primarily local, relentlessly personal, and prayerful 'without ceasing.'" – The Pastor, Eugene Peterson

Turning the calendar is paradoxical. On the one hand, January 1 is nothing special. It is another day, just like any other. If we didn't have a calendar I suspect that we would not even notice the transition from Tuesday (December 31) to Wednesday (January 1). But it is the change of those last two digits in the year, from 19 to 20, that can seem to have such significance for us.

Some people will look to the New Year with hopefulness; especially if 2019 was a particularly difficult year. Some people will feel anticipation, like "2020 is the year I will...graduate from college, get married, celebrate a milestone anniversary or birthday". While the event is only one day closer, turning the calendar to that year makes it feel much more so.

As the person "placed in the community to pay attention to what is going on right now" I have had my eye on this day for quite some time. (For more than a year, actually!) The year 2020 marks the beginning of LCR's 50th anniversary celebration! Yes, LCR was founded in November, 1971. We will be celebrating our 50th anniversary from November, 2020 through November, 2021. That means the celebration begins this year...and now, on January 1, that, all of a sudden ,feels a lot closer!

I have been working on visioning our 50th anniversary with our Long Range Planning Committee for almost a year already. My adage has been that God has blessed this congregation in amazing ways over these fifty years and it would be totally inappropriate to mark fifty years with just an anniversary dinner. We owe God far more thanks than that and we owe ourselves the opportunity to reminisce, celebrate, and feel good about the distance and ministry we have covered in fifty years. I am sensitive to this because I have been a witness to it all for twenty-three of forty-eight years thus far. Many of our members have been with LCR longer than that and we will be relying on your recall to celebrate our anniversary year.

The Long Range Planning Committee has made great progress in putting together the components of our celebration. I will leave that as a teaser for future communications. It is our hope that by September of this year we will have a comprehensive calendar of what the 50th year will look like. We would like to get that calendar disseminated to all members and former members so that everybody can mark their calendars in advance and save the dates that look most exciting to you. Toward that end, we are working on a mailing list of ALL former members.

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The liturgies and services for January 2019 will be:

January 4/5: 2nd Sunday after Christmas - WOV

January 11/12: Baptism of Our Lord - Haas

Baptismal Celebration

January 14: Enter the Silence

January 18/19: 2rd Sunday of Epiphany - LBW II January 25/26: 3rd Sunday of Epiphany - OLS

The Worship Committee wishes everyone a blessed New Year filled with good health and happiness. May you all find a new song for 2020.

Volunteers welcome

Adult choir has resumed rehearsal. All voices welcome. If you are interested in joining, please contact Matt Mauro,

(<u>matthew.mauro19@gmail.com</u>). We are always looking for new members for our committee to help plan the Worship life of our congregation.

The Magi rejoiced: Alleluia! We have found the Messiah, Jesus Christ, who brings us grace and truth. Alleluia!

We thank our special musicians for January!

1/5: Joyful Noise

1/12: Eleanor Mengel (viola); Joyful Noise

1/18: Jan Carter (guitar)

1/19: Adult Choir; Resurrection Ringers

1/25: Dan Altenau (guitar)

1/26: Adult Choir; Claire Mengel (voice); Bob

Henderson (voice)

The next Enter the Silence, Awaken the Spirit contemplative service will be on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>January 14</u> at 7:00 p.m.



Did you know that LCR has an endowment fund?



Yes, I knew that. But...what's an endowment fund????

Quite simply, a gift to the endowment fund is a way to provide lasting support for LCR. An endowment fund is set up so that distributions of "income" are made according to a formula that will preserve the purchasing power of the principal over time. The power of an endowment fund is this: if you make a gift to an endowment fund and assume roughly a 5% annual distribution and a 7.5% investment return, in less than 18 years, the endowment will make distributions totaling the amount of your original gift, but the endowment still exists and will continue to benefit LCR for many years to come!

You can contribute to LCR's endowment fund by making gifts in honor or memory of others, gifts of stock or other property, making a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA (if you are more than 70 ½ years old) or by providing for a gift through your will.

Any questions? Contact a member of the Endowment Fund Committee.

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

RECONCILING IN CHRIST (RIC) CORE TEAM

RIC is an ELCA program for Lutheran communities that publicly welcomes lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people (LGBTQ). By becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation, LCR will be among the first ELCA congregations in Cincinnati and the entire Southern Ohio Synod to obtain the RIC designation. We will represent to LGBTQ seekers that LCR is a safe, welcoming church.

Do you have questions, ideas for outreach or just want to stop by to say Hi and grab a cookie, RIC button or educational materials? The Core Team (Teresa Ahrenholz, Jay Guenther, Craig Miller, Amy Morris, Tara Rammel, John Schwamberger) will have a table in the Narthex the weekend of **January 25-26.** Look for us Saturday before/after the 5:30 service, Sunday after the 8am service and before/after the 9:30 service.

We look forward to seeing you!



TURNING THE CALENDAR (continued)

That process entails reviewing forty-eight years of membership books and this is where each of you can be of help. If you have contact information (mailing address or email address) of any former LCR members it would be of great help if you could provide them to the church office as soon as possible. Additionally, if you are computer savvy and would like to work from home to help us search for contact information for former members, please let me know. My plan is to have a list of former members by March 31 and then set a team in motion to work on finding contact information by September.

If you have any thoughts about our 50th anniversary year, please share them with me during this time of planning. If you would like to know more about what we have in process already, you can speak with me or any of the members of our Long Range Planning Committee; Charlie Best, Loraine Everett, Mark Ewing, John Fireovid, Kathy Meyer, Pam Rosenbaum, Brent Vogel, or Jennifer Wagner.

Peace and a Blessed New Year, Pastor Zorn

Adult Sunday School in January

We'll have some unique offerings for adult Sunday School during the month of January. If you have not taken the opportunity to participate in our classes, perhaps this would be a good time to start!

January 5 – Culmination of the 2019 Bridge Building theme. We'll follow up worship with dialogue about the theme and what impact it had on us during the year.

January 12 – This will be a one-week "filler" session. We'll look at excerpts on a video about the Celtic saints of the Church.

January 19 – This will be the weekend of sharing the November 2019 disaster relief trip to Dayton, Ohio in worship. Our Sunday School class will be an opportunity to dialogue about this important aspect of our ministry. The year 2020 will be the 15th anniversary of our first congregational disaster relief trip in response to Hurricane Katrina. Some plans are being formed to mark the time. We'll also have some conversation about this anniversary.

January 26 – We will have two members of the ELCA World Hunger staff join us in Sunday School to talk about new developments in our denomination's hunger efforts.

Ring in the New Year with the Resurrection Ringers!

Happy New Year everyone!

By the time you read this, we will have received delivery of five new bells and a new set of tone chimes. If you don't know the difference between the two; it is an easy visual sight to see.

We are always hoping for more ringers to either add to our sound or to be substitutes. This is for ages 4th grade and beyond.

If you like the sound, wondered how they play, have some musical background or have a willingness to learn - come check us out!

If you would like a "mentor" to guide you at practice, we can arrange that. Come and try!

We resume practice on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>January 7</u> at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Feel free to talk to any ringer or Judy Von Busch.







3-in-1 Youth Group's Annual Baked Potato Supper Sunday, January 26 5:30 p.m.

Mark your calendar for a night of great food and fellowship.

What?!! You haven't heard of our Potato Supper?

There is nothing like a great big baked potato with all the toppings you can imagine.

Add scrumptious desserts.

Top it off with a charming teen waiter service.

What could be better?

How about the fellowship of our LCR family and support for the Wernle Family Services, an organization that provides housing, health care, therapy and education for children with emotional and mental baggage.

Come join us for some fun! Invite a friend too! Cost is \$5/adult and \$3/child.

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

Another Banquet?

-Mark Wegmeyer – GTF Chair

Are you glad the holidays are over? I am. Now don't get me wrong, I love the holidays! But after a month and a half of running here and there, traffic, crowded stores, bills piling up – I think most of you would agree that it's nice to have things back to normal. Especially those dinners and Christmas parties, the turkey and stuffing, cookies and pies, candy and calories, oh the calories!

So, what if I said I was inviting you to a great banquet, any takers? Well before you say no, let me explain. You may recall I wrote an article in the February Ramblings about my trip to Guatemala in January. I spoke about my feeling of "wish you were here" to my LCR church family, and what a life-changing event it can be to "come and see", as Phillip said to Nathanael.

However, I also spoke about the story in the book of Luke, of the Great Banquet. How the table was set, the cattle butchered, everything prepared – but no one came. They were all too busy to be bothered with the intrusion. Only it wasn't an intrusion at all, it was a fabulous party, a once in a lifetime event.

The planning is well underway for a trip to Guatemala for the youth and parents of LCR, in July of 2020. Others are also invited, but why wait until July? The Doppenberg's "mission season" is just beginning and everyone's invited – groups, families, individuals', everyone - for a sunny and warm vacation to beautiful Latin America! For only \$550 you can experience a short-term mission exposure trip to central Guatemala, hosted by the Doppenbergs – our member missionaries. That's right, just \$550 (excluding airfare) for an all-inclusive, one week stay! Try finding that on Travelocity or Airbnb! Any takers now? Any spring-breakers? The invitations are sent, the banquet awaits.

Think about it, pray about it, talk to me or a member of the GTF.

Below is the latest mission funding request, for those interested in supporting the DIG financially.

We have several goals for 2020 that we very much need your help to achieve.

To shorten our waiting list for attending the Centre of Hope special needs program and after school tutoring and English program.

Build and install 300 lifesaving smokeless stoves in the surrounding Mayan Villages. Many of these people have been waiting years for their dream of a stove to come true and we want 2020 to be the year we can bless them with this incredible gift of health and safety.

In order to do this, we need your help. Whatever the reason, Giving Tuesday, Christmas, Birthday, end of the year tax deductible giving, or just because, please consider the DIG as your reputable charity to support. If your donation is a gift, we do have a PDF printable card we can send you so you can give it to that special someone. All donations are tax deductible and no amount is too big nor too small.

- Smokeless Stove Package includes, lifesaving stove, cast iron cooking pot (to aid in combating iron deficiency), and nutritious plants and trees \$ 200.00
- Solar lamp and phone charger \$ 60.00
- Water Filtration System to provide a family with clean, parasite/bacteria free water \$60.00
- Total Community Empowerment Package w/ all the above \$ 300.00
- Buy a desk for the Centre of Hope so we can have more students attend and reduce our waiting list \$ 30.00
- School supplies (much cheaper here, we can get 3 times as much as in Canada/USA and help support local business) \$ 25.00
- Some of our classrooms still need flooring \$ 25.00 / m2
- Parallel Bars (permanent) for Physical therapy \$ 400.00
- Tree planting/ nutritious tree package for a family to plant \$ 25.00
- General Fund for power, water, cleaning supplies, toilet paper, maintenance etc. Any amount is appreciated.

Donations to The Centre of Hope are of no fixed size. Give from the heart and help us continue to bring education, health and healing to people in need. No donation is too small nor too big. A donation of all or any part of the above amounts is greatly appreciated. Visit us today at: http://www.thedoppenbergs.com to partner with us.

And note: One Week Short Term Mission Exposure Trip to the DIG (not including air but all inclusive of everything else) in 2020 - \$ 550.00 USD (tax deductible) - Contact us for dates and further details.



Dear Family at LCR,

Thank you for sharing a blessed Christmas season with us. We appreciate your expressions of kindness and love in all of the cards, baked goods, hugs and gifts that we received. It is our joy to serve you in ministry!

Love in Christ,

The Staff members of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection



Thank you for spreading Christmas joy!

Special blessings on all LCR members and friends who made donations to the Outreach giving trees this holiday season! The outpouring of love to those in need truly touched the hearts of many.

Thousands of items were collected for First Lutheran Church (OTR), Manna from Heaven and the Navajo Christian Preparatory Academy; gift cards were collected for Wernle Youth and Family Treatment Center and funds for Bibles were collected for the Guatemala "Centre of Hope" Therapy and Crisis facility. Once again LCR members came out "in force" to share God's love and compassion.

Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped sort, count and deliver these items to the organizations as well!

To our Brothers and Sisters of LCR:

We extend a blanket "Thank You" for making our wedding day so special.

From pulpit to kitchen, so many of you were an active part to make the festivities flow.

We thank you and may God bless you.

Phyliss and Ed



With Sympathy: Our sympathy to Kim Musselman and her family on the death of her mother and LCR member, Hazel Vollmer.

Birth: We celebrate with Brent & Ashley Vogel and with grandparents, Phil & Vicki Harper, on the birth of Trey Joseph Vogel.



Help Needed

Joel Licklider has just moved back to the states from Seoul, South Korea. He is looking for a room to rent and a car (\$6,000 or less). If you have any leads that could help Joel out, give him a call at 513-485-9666

JANUARY 2020 PUB TALK

Pub Talk for Baby Boomers

Pub Talk for Baby Boomers resumes on <u>January 28</u>. We will meet at the LaRosa's by Jungle Jim's in Eastgate for this session and the three that follow, <u>February 18</u>, <u>March 17</u>, <u>and April 28</u>. Beginning in May, we will move around to breweries in our area. Fellowship and dinner happen from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Conversation on our monthly topic takes place from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.



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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