

October 1, 2025

Dear Resurrection people,

It's time to ask for financial pledges for 2026, and I have to say, it's getting easier to write these letters. Not because the financial needs of our congregation have all been met, but because you have shown again and again how eager you are to help.

Because of your generosity to the capital campaign, our monthly mortgage payment has been reduced from \$12,657 per month in the spring of 2024 to \$8,131 per month now. This reduction in our annual expenses is a big part of why we currently expect to end this year without a deficit. If that holds true, this will be the second year in a row we have anticipated a deficit and ended with a small surplus.

Your support makes a difference. Resurrection Lutheran Church exists to be a place to worship, a place to grow, a place to serve, and in all that, a place to belong. I think you'll agree that connection is worth investing in now more than ever. As our capital campaign continues into its second year out of three, we have an incredible opportunity: a \$180,000 matching gift has been offered. Every new or increased pledge to the capital campaign will be matched up to that amount, meaning a potential total impact of \$360,000. Completely paying off our mortgage and freeing up thousands of dollars for ministry every month is a *real possibility*.

Moving dollars from mortgage to ministry means increasing support for programs that serve our neighbors in need, ensuring our faith formation ministries for children and youth are fully funded without multiple fundraisers during the year, and keeping up careful stewardship of our beautiful, accessible facility that will always have maintenance needs. It means being free to do what God has called and gifted us to do and not constrained merely by what we can afford.

Once again, this year we have one pledge card for two appeals: the annual appeal to support our daily ministry in 2026 and the ongoing capital campaign. We hope you will consider increasing your support of our daily ministry in 2026 or maintain your support from 2025. Whatever you plan to give, please let us know by submitting a pledge, even if you give automatically every month. Simply changing the monthly amount you give automatically does not update our records of anticipated income. You may return the enclosed card via mail or the offering plate, OR you may pledge online at tinyurl.com/RLC-Pledge.

Whatever support you can offer, *every contribution matters*. If circumstances change, you may update your pledge at any time.

With gratitude for God's continuing faithfulness,

Pastor Ryan