

2023 Annual Report



RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

2023

A YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY

Pastor Ryan shared reflection on reconciliation in Ireland
New council members elected at congregation meeting

FEBRUARY

Adults and teens considered social media, technology, and faith
Ash Wednesday worship called us to refocus
Lent at Home kits distributed
Pastor Kathy called as associate pastor

MARCH

Holden Evening Prayer provided sacred space every week
Communion instruction led RLC kids to the Lord's Table
Luther College Concert Band performed in the sanctuary and RLC families hosted them overnight

APRIL

Palm Sunday and Holy Week took us the way of the cross
With candles and ancient ritual, we greeted the risen Jesus at the Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday celebrated with brass and breakfast
Random Act of Flowers service day

MAY

Feast of the Ascension celebrated with worship and reception
H.S. graduates recognized
Change in budget cycle approved at congregation meeting

JUNE

Pastor Kathy ordained at Christ the Savior Lutheran Church in Fishers
VBS was out of this world!
RLC members witnessed to God's presence and love at Pride celebrations in Indy and Greenwood

JULY

Summer camp at Lutheran Hills
SHARE event to equip kids in Perry Township Schools
Backpacks blessed!
Community gathered at RLC to pray after the shooting at Greenwood Mall

AUGUST

Bishop Bill joined us to install Pastor Kathy
FaithBuilders and Youth Group kicked off another year of learning and living together
Weekender packing kicked off for another school year

SEPTEMBER

Faith Formation for all ages on Sunday morning
First Aid/CPR classes offered
Mom's group launched
Young worshipers welcomed with milestone event
Insights into Dementia learning event
Confirmands put faith in their own words

OCTOBER

Animals blessed
Pastor Kathy shared wisdom on prayer
Trunk or Treat rained in again
New members welcomed
Life Worth Living book discussion began

NOVEMBER

Powerful stories of Afghan refugees shared
Generosity pledged for 2024

DECEMBER

Sharing Wreath gifts purchased for kindergarten families
Community Carol Service filled our hearts with cheer
Blue Christmas service offered space for healing and peace
Christmas Eve joy!

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

"Tell me about your congregation." That was the beginning of a conversation I had with someone I met recently. I think I started by describing our location, because I really wasn't sure what he wanted to know. But then he quickly followed up, "A pretty typical congregation?" and without hesitation I replied, "Not at all."

If what my new acquaintance meant was, "Do they sing hymns, pray, and learn about faith together?" then I gave him the wrong answer. If he meant, "Do they like to serve their neighbors and do they listen politely to sermons?" then I was off the mark. There are lots of practices and characteristics Resurrection shares with other congregations, but "typical" is one of the last words I would use to describe this community of faith.

We are forward-looking. We treasure our heritage of faith and the gifts of the past, but we believe God is at work in the world today, moving us into the future. I'm not sure this is typical of most congregations. I once heard a devotion based on a story from the gospels where Jesus is in a boat with his disciples crossing from one side of the lake to the other, and two reflection questions were offered: "What does it mean to go to the other side? Is God calling you there?" It's a good reminder that God isn't interested in the shores we've left behind. And we might also consider the possibility that we are on "the other side" now. My sense is that Resurrection people understand that to be people of faith is to be future-oriented. But it also means God's activity isn't just something we wait for. No matter what is happening now, God is present. Coming out of the worst of the pandemic, many of us wondered what kind of world we would find when the dust settled. We wondered what the 'next thing' would be. Perhaps we are living it now. Whatever is happening today is the 'next thing' we were curious about yesterday.



In a very important sense, we have not arrived. God isn't finished with us yet. Like the Apostle Paul, we know we haven't already obtained everything God has in mind for us. But in another equally important sense, we *have* arrived. We are here. Today. So is God, and God is moving in significant ways. With the beginning of Pastor Kathy's ministry among us, we have ceased, for the first time in quite some time, to ponder what having a full staff would be like. New faces appear in our midst almost every week, and we know there are gifts in this congregation we have yet to discover. There's nothing wrong with being typical, but when so many assume the glory days of the church are over, trusting that even more wondrous things are to come is anything but typical.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Ryan

WORSHIP

We lift our voices, we hear God's word, we share the Lord's Supper, and God's grace comes to us.

Worship at Resurrection is vibrant and liturgical, and it is for everyone. The seasons of the church year, through Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter remind us that the story of God is the story of our lives. Children are not just welcome, they are embraced. Our music ensembles as well as the volunteers who lead up front and assist behind the scenes show us that liturgy really is the work of the people.



FAITH FORMATION

We grow stronger in faith together! Throughout the year we learn together and celebrate milestones of faith across generations.



SERVICE & OUTREACH



Resurrection people witness to God's love in word and deed and by their joyous presence in our community!

COMMUNITY

Dinners for 8, Trunk or Treat, a retreat at Lutheran Hills, or chatting it up in the narthex – being together is one of the greatest gifts of church!



2023 LEADERSHIP

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Jason Kahl, *president*
Molly Laut, *vice president*
Alison Nichols, *secretary*
Dave Klimes, *treasurer*
Steve Browder
Austin Dodd
Tanna Kay
Cora Steinmetz

PERSONNEL TEAM

Laura Bastin
Tanna Kay
Chris Osborne

FACILITY TEAM

Joe Bailey
Byron Daugherty
Pat Henderson
John Laut
Ross Peabody
John Toney

RESURRECTION STAFF

The Rev. Ryan Bailey, *lead pastor*
The Rev. Kathy VanOsdol, *associate pastor*
Victoria Hoppes, *director of youth and children's ministries*
Bonnie Fox, *parish administrator*
Gary Myers, *financial assistant*
Mark Tisdale, *digital strategy lead*
Laura Mueller, *worship and music lead*
David Duncan, *organist*

MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Leslie Daugherty
Liz Klimes
Molly Laut
Mark Tisdale

FINANCE TEAM

Ken Beckmann
David Haake
Dave Klimes
Kevin Steinmetz
Julie Weller
Gary Myers (staff)

ENDOWMENT TEAM

Byron Daugherty
Chris Dial
Jonathan Owen

Rebecca Vernon, *director of handbell and vocal choirs*
Leah Richards, *nursery attendant*

PEOPLE BY THE NUMBERS

MEMBERSHIP

Baptisms	0
Deaths	2
Members released	13
Members received	5
Total baptized membership	575
Total voting/confirmed/full members	448

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Average weekly attendance in-person	149
Average weekly attendance online	44
Total average weekly attendance	193



FINANCIAL MATTERS

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023

Checking	\$47,696
Savings	\$122,100
Designated Funds	\$126,195
Mission Endowment Fund	\$343,752
Mortgage Balance	\$1,449,066

INCOME VS. EXPENSES FIVE-MONTH INTERIM PERIOD (AUG-DEC 2023)

Total income	\$274,917
Total expenses	\$332,779
Net income	-\$57,862

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND DETAIL

Beginning account value (Dec. 31, 2022)	\$316,459.65
Gifts	\$0
Dividends and interest	\$13,386.75
Withdrawals (Grants)	-\$700
Net change in portfolio	\$30,820.67
Ending account value (Dec. 31, 2023)	\$359,967.07

One grant of \$700 was made this year to assist with an RLC member's Eagle Scout project.





Resurrection
LUTHERAN CHURCH