

Share the . . .

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SPIRIT

November 14, 2015



Resurrection Lutheran Church

4114 E. Oakland Avenue, Bloomington, IL 61704 (Towanda Barnes and Oakland)
(309) 663-8252 www.reslutheran.org

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**A Special Time of Praise,
Thanksgiving + Fellowship
Saturday November 21; 5 to 7 p.m.**

You are invited to join us at Resurrection for a special evening of giving praise and thanksgiving to our God for what we have been blessed with this past year. Additionally, we will share fellowship with one another.

We will begin with a time of worship at 5 p.m. We will lift our voices in song to our God, hear God's word of provision for us, receive the gift of God's Holy Supper, and return our thanks in prayer and thanksgiving for it all.

Then around 6 p.m., we will gather in Grace Hall for a potluck meal and time to share our joys with one another. You are encouraged to bring a simple dish to share. Drinks and place settings will be provided. Please bring friends and neighbors along with you to share in the joy and thanksgiving.

**Clare House Thanksgiving Service Project
Sunday, November 22; 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.**

Thank you to everyone who signed up to bring food items or contributed funds for our Thanksgiving Service Project on Sunday, November 22. It looks like we will have plenty of boxed or canned items to donate to Clare House, although more are always welcome.

Please join us on November 22 for packing sacks, writing cards, and enjoying time together in community. The Worship Team will provide a light breakfast from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Let Karen Young or Janie Houchin know if you have any questions about the project.

**Midwest Food Bank Thanksgiving Eve Service Project
Wednesday, November 25; 6 to 8 p.m.**

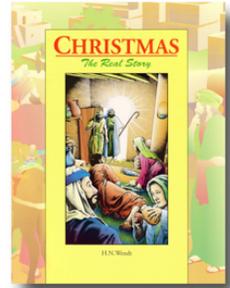
The Worship Team is sponsoring an all-congregation service night at Midwest Food Bank on Thanksgiving Eve from 6 to 8 p.m. Please sign up at the Welcome Center and complete a Volunteer Agreement if you haven't done so already – take it with you that night.

Christmas: The Real Story

Tuesday Evening and Sunday Morning Study

On Tuesday, December 1, 8, 15, and 22, from 7 to 8 p.m., and Sunday, December 6, 13, and 20, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Pastor Brian will lead an Advent study that analyzes the nativity narratives in Matthew and Luke. It also draws on Middle Eastern cultural insights to make people more aware of the real Christmas story.

The Bible tells a very adult story of Jesus' birth. Social outcasts and Gentiles were honored witnesses; a powerful king became fearful and murderous. This course explores these issues and reexamines traditional Western assumptions about the first Christmas in the context of Middle Eastern customs and culture.



Sign up at the Welcome Center to purchase a book for \$12 by November 22. Make checks out to Resurrection with "Real Story" in the memo line.



Advent Begins on Sunday, November 29!

Help Light Our Advent Wreath Candles

Individuals and families are asked to sign up on the Kiosk in the Narthex to help light the Advent wreath candles during the early and late worship services on November 29, December 6, December 13, and December 20.

Winter Worship People Power Needs

We need quite a few worship helpers for Sunday, November 29, Thanksgiving weekend. Pastor Barbara Ziah will be our guest pastor and would greatly appreciate your assistance.

Worship People Power sign-ups for December, January, and February have also begun. We are again asking folks to serve on a certain week each month.

See the People Power bulletin board in the Nursery Alcove for opportunities. Training will be provided upon request. Contact Deb Helgeson (debhelgeson@reslutheran.org; 663-8252) with questions.

Order Poinsettias by Sunday, December 6

Help decorate our Sanctuary for the Christmas season by purchasing a red Poinsettia! Flowers cost \$10 and may be dedicated in honor or in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for blessings received or a special occasion. Please sign up on the Kiosk and pay by Monday, December 6. Make checks out to Resurrection with "Poinsettia" in the memo line.



Gaming Unplugged

Sunday, November 15; 6 p.m.

On Sunday, November 15, come check us out! We are a family board gaming group that meets one Sunday a month in Grace Hall from 6 to 9 p.m.

We share a meal and play games. There will be members teaching games, as well as basic games available. Children are welcome. Please sign up at the Welcome Center, so we have a number to expect.

November 14 to 22 RLC Ministry Calendar

- Sat., 11/14** No RLC Ministry Events Scheduled
- Sun., 11/15** **Worship, 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.**
Pictorial Directory Sign-Ups after Services
Pre-K through 5th grade Sunday School,
9:30 a.m.
Choir Practice, 9:30 a.m.
"Dust" Adult Forum, 9:30 a.m.
Gaming Unplugged, 6 p.m.
LYO @ Houchin's Home, 6:01 p.m.
- Mon., 11/16** Safe Harbor Meal Served by LYO, 5:30 p.m.
Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues., 11/17** Wellspring Community, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Staff Meeting, 9:15 a.m.
Robotics Club, 4 p.m.
Card-Making Group @ Chaddon's
6:30 p.m.
Apocrypha Bible Study, 7 p.m.
- Weds., 11/18** Thrive @ St. John's, 6:45 p.m.
- Thurs., 11/19** Genesis Study, 10 a.m.
Praise Team Practice, 6 p.m.
- Fri., 11/20** No RLC Ministry Events Scheduled
- Sat., 11/21** A Special Time of Praise, Thanksgiving,
and Fellowship, 5 p.m.
- Sun., 11/22** **Worship, 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.**
Pictorial Directory Sign-Ups after Services
Thanksgiving Outreach Project for
Clare House, 9:30 a.m.
No Sunday School, Zero 39,
or Adult Forum
Choir Practice, 9:30 a.m.
November 28 *Spirit* Deadline, midnight

Subject to change – for an updated calendar,
see <http://www.reslutheran.org/calendar.html>.

Thankful

Thanksgiving Offering

RLC's Thanksgiving offering will be used for the Clare House food collection project through November 15. Any funds received after that date will be designated to Midwest Food Bank. Please write "Thanksgiving" in the memo line of your checks. Special envelopes are available at the usher stand in the Sanctuary.



The Second Coming
of Christ

November 15 Lectionary

Scripture references for November 15, 2015,
Lectionary 33: **First Lesson** – Daniel 12:1-3; **Second Lesson** – Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25; **Gospel** – Mark 13:1-8; and **Psalm** 16.

Reflection: November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. So the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

November 15 Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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The Apocrypha Bible Study

November 17; 7 to 8 p.m.



Have you ever wondered about those books that are in some Bibles, but not other Bibles? Curious even a little about what took place between the time of the last book of the Old Testament (Malachi) and the first book of the New Testament (Matthew). Then join Pastor Brian for a short study of the Apocrypha. No previous Bible Study experience is needed. Pastor promises that all present will learn something new.

Your Eco-Bit

Earth-Saving, Energy-Saving Tips and Tidbits

Join in the Mega Recycling Day on Saturday, November 14, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Illinois Wesleyan Hansen Student Center parking lot.

Recycle TVs, computers (no CRT [older style] TVs or monitors accepted); VCRs; phones; small kitchen appliances; household batteries (alkaline, watch batteries, rechargeables); clothing and textiles (usable or not); shoes (usable or not); compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs); and plastic garden pots, Eyeglasses and hearing aids will be collected by the Normal Lions Club.

Only residential wastes can be recycled at the event – no business wastes and no hazardous wastes, chemicals, paints, or large appliances will be accepted.

See http://islwe.org/?page_id=263 for details.



God's World . . . Our Hands

Normal Lions Club Eyeglass and Hearing Aid Collection



The Lions Club of Normal collects used eyeglasses and hearing aids to give to people in need. Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center volunteers clean, sort, and package the donations. Most of the recycled glasses and hearing aids are

distributed to people in need in developing countries where they will have the greatest impact.



A tub for donations is on the shelves at the Welcome Center.

Items can be dropped off at the following locations:

- All About Eyes 101 N. Veterans, Bloomington
- American Vision Center 915 N. Main, Bloomington
- Bard Optical 1700 Parkway Plaza Ste, 4, Normal
- Beltone 211 S. Prospect, Ste 14, Bloomington
- Eye Surgical Associates 1505 Eastland Dr., Suite 2200, Bloomington
- Gailey Eye Clinic 1008 N. Main, Bloomington
- McLean County Eye Center 1687 Visa Dr., Normal
- Sam's Club 2151 Shepard Rd., Normal
- Central Illinois Eyecare, LLC 407 Kays Dr., Normal
- Wal-Mart Vision Center 300 N. Greenbriar Dr., Normal
- Driver's License Office 1510 W. Market St., Bloomington
- Commerce Bank Locations
- 120 N. Center, Bloomington
- 2807 E. Empire, Bloomington
- 104 Broadway, Normal
- 1500 E. College, Normal
- 228 W. Main, Lexington

If you are willing to pick up the eyeglasses and hearing aids and take them to one of these locations once per quarter, please contact Mary Meier (MaryMeier@reslutheran.org; 663-8252).



Belize Mission Trip FYI

July 16 to July 23, 2016

For eight days in July of 2016, Pastor Brian will be leading members and friends of Resurrection on a Mission Trip to Belize. The group will be leading a day camp for children in the Belmopan area of Belize, doing small work projects at and near the Belize Christian Academy, and enjoying some time exploring the natural wonders of Belize.

You do not have to have attended the informational meeting back in October to go on the trip. If you are interested, please see Pastor Brian for details and forms.

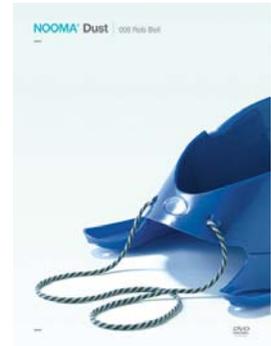
Pastor Brian is asking that sign-up forms be returned to him by December 20, 2015. The group will then work together on raising funds and finding airfare rates.

“Dust: What Does God See in Us?”

November 15th Adult Forum; 9:30 a.m. – NOOMA DVD and Discussion; Grace Hall

NOOMA is a series of short films that explore our world from a perspective of Jesus, an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion. Our November 15 topic is “Dust: What Does God See in Us?” The session description says:

Believing in God is important, but what about God believing in us? Believing that we can actually be the kind of people we were meant to be. People of love, compassion, peace, forgiveness, and hope. People who try to do the right thing all of the time. Who act on the endless opportunities around us every day for good, beauty, and truth. It's easy for us to sometimes get down on ourselves. To feel "not good enough" or feel like we don't have what it takes. But maybe if we had more insight into the culture that Jesus grew up in and some of the radical things he did, we'd understand the faith that God has in all of us.



Safe Harbor Meal Ministry in 2016



Safe Harbor is a downtown Bloomington homeless shelter sponsored by the Salvation Army. Next year, Resurrection members and friends will continue to contribute, prepare, and serve meals at the facility on the third Monday evening of every month.

The 2016 sign-up sheet for serving meals is now posted on the Kiosk in the Narthex. Please consider volunteering yourself, your family, your small group, or your co-workers to participate in this fun and rewarding ministry. Ingredients, recipes and instructions are provided.

If you are interested in applying for a Thrivent Action grant to help pay for a meal or have questions, please contact the Safe Harbor coordinator Al Meier.



Stewardship Commitment Cards and Time and Talent Form Reminders

If you haven't yet had a chance to turn in your 2016 Commitment Cards or Time and Talent sheets, please do so as soon as possible. You can mail them to the church office or place them in the offering plate during worship. Copies, as well as Simply Giving forms, are available at the round table by the Sanctuary doors.

RLC Pictorial Directory Reminders Sign Up by November 15 for a Chance at a \$100 Gift Certificate

Our Photography Dates and Times:

- Tuesday November 24 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.
[Timeslots are filling up quickly!]
- Friday November 27 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Saturday November 28 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Sign-Up Options:

- Click the "Portrait Sign-Up" button on the RLC webpage (www.reslutheran.org).
- Sign up at church on Sunday mornings on November 15 and 22.

If You Will Be out of Town on November 24 to 28, You Can Still Participate:

- Please call Lifetouch at 866-756-0281 to schedule an appointment at another location. Our Church Account Number is 338715.
- You will receive a free color 8X10" portrait and photo directory.
- You can also submit a photo for a \$10 fee. Contact the church office for details or pick up information from the display table in the Narthex.
- Please complete a Directory Update form if you will not be having your photos taken at RLC – a copy is at the end of this newsletter, or you can stop by the display table in the Narthex to pick one up. Please drop it off in the basket on the table or mail it to church by November 30.

Help Needed Checking People in for Photo Session:

- One person is needed for Saturday, November 28, from 9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Please contact Mary Meier (MaryMeier@reslutheran.org; 663-8252) if you can serve.



Adopt-a-Family 2015 Sign Up Now; Gifts Due December 1



This year, Resurrection has partnered with the Children's Home and Aid Adopt-a-Family program to provide Christmas gifts for a family of four. All of the family's needs and wishes are listed on a poster on a table in the Narthex. We currently have just a few unclaimed items left. Please bring in your gifts by December 1 and place them under or by the display table. All items should be new and unwrapped with receipts if possible. If you would like to donate but don't have time to shop, simply write a check to RLC and drop it in the black box on the Adopt-a-Family table, and we will do the shopping for you.

November Giving and Attendance

Dates	Weekly Offering	Sunday's Worship Attendance	Year-to-Date Giving
10/26/15-11/01/15	\$5,821.00	69	\$224,647.81
11/02/15-11/08/15	\$4,701.00	93	\$229,348.81

This information is preliminary and has not been verified by the Financial Secretary, so it may change slightly after verification. For detailed financial information, see the RLC website Member Pages (<http://www.reslutheran.org/apps/member/login>). For an invitation to sign up for access to the Member Pages, please contact Mary Meier (MaryMeier@reslutheran.org).



RLC DIRECTORY UPDATE (for church use only)

If you wish to be included in the RLC Directory, but are **not** having your photos taken at Resurrection on November 24, 27, or 28, please check what applies:

- Photos will be done at another Lifetouch location No photos will be taken
- Photos will be submitted (\$10 payment and release form required)

Please PRINT the information below CLEARLY:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY STATE ZIP _____

Head of Household* #1 Name: _____

Head of Household #1 Phone: _____ Landline Cell
 Unlisted & not for directory

Head of Household #1 Email: _____ Check if not for directory

Head of Household #2 Name: _____

Head of Household #2 Phone: _____ Landline Cell
 Unlisted & not for directory

Head of Household #2 Email: _____ Check if not for directory

Additional Name: _____

Additional Phone: _____ Landline Cell
 Unlisted & not for directory

Additional Email: _____ Check if not for directory

Names of each individual in your household (please list children oldest to youngest):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Add notes and additional information on back.

* This is how our church record-keeping software identifies household entries.



Resurrection Lutheran Church

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309-663-8252; www.reslutheran.org



Sunday Worship Services

First: 8:15 a.m.; Second: 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School and Adult Forums

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday – 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Resurrection Staff

Pastor	Brian Deckinger	PastorBrian@reslutheran.org
Administrator	Nikki Houseman	NikkiHouseman@reslutheran.org
Administrative Assistant	Deb Helgeson	DebHelgeson@reslutheran.org
Communications Coordinator	Mary Meier	MaryMeier@reslutheran.org
Music Director for Traditional Worship Service	Doug Reiners	
Director of Praise Team	Sara Quah	
Sound Tech	Andrae Ramsey	
Church Cleaner	Elda Lowe	

RLC Vision:

Communities claimed and empowered by God for hope and wholeness

RLC Mission:

Resurrection Lutheran Church exists to:
Invite people into the body of Christ,
Ignite passionate growth in faith, and
Excite believers for lives of service.

