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Pastor Tim Nybroten



Dear Resurrection Family,

As I reflect on this past year, I am filled with gratitude for all that God has done in and through Resurrection Lutheran Church. The reports within this booklet provide a wonderful glimpse into the life and vitality of our church—a community where faith and fellowship meet in meaningful ways. My hope is that these pages will inspire you to discover more, try something new, and join me in prayer as we continue our shared mission "to be the presence of Christ in our daily lives, so that others will follow Him."

From the Senior Pastor's perspective, 2024 has been a remarkable year of growth and blessing. We were thrilled to welcome new members and strengthened our leadership team by calling Pastor Carol George as Pastor of SaddleBrooke and Senior Ministries and by hiring Pat McDonald as our Operations Administrator. With these additions, we are equipped to enter the coming year, ready to deepen our mission, strengthen our stewardship, and serve even more effectively. Resurrection is truly a generous and benevolent congregation, and I am moved by the ways we continually show our love for God by sharing the gifts He has given us in service to others.

Reflecting on our shared achievements, your support and stewardship have empowered us to accomplish so much. This past year, we launched a Congregational Care Ministry, with 70 volunteers offering Care Visits, writing cards, and lending a hand where needed, ensuring that our community feels connected and cared for. Our support extended to 50 partner organizations locally and globally. Our church building served as a hub of activity, hosting 34 ministries and 21 community groups. Through our Child Development Center and Sunday School programs, we offered Christian education to over 130 children. We engaged 200 people in our LifeGroup ministries, small groups, and Bible study gatherings. And, thanks to our talented music ministry, we celebrated God's glory with two inspiring full orchestra and choir events.

On a personal level, 2024 has held many special moments for me. I am deeply grateful for the 13-week sabbatical granted to me from April 18th to July 17th. This time provided me with spiritual renewal, allowed me space for reflection, and enabled me to return with fresh insights and energy to serve our beloved congregation more deeply. It also allowed me to be with my family after my mother's passing. Your support during this time was a gift I will always cherish.

Throughout the year, I have had the joy of welcoming precious newborns, cheering on our youth in their pursuits, counseling young adults as they discern their faith journeys, performing weddings, and honoring the lives of saints within our congregation. Resurrection Lutheran Church is a place where everyone is embraced—a place where our pastors are honored to extend a warm welcome, celebrate the sacraments, and serve in fellowship with each of you.

Looking forward to 2025, we are excited to build on this momentum. Thanks to your commitment to the 12 + 1 Stewardship Campaign, we will be able to expand our contributions to support more organizations and ministries, strengthen efforts to combat loneliness, and invest in technical improvements to broaden our communication and reach. Additionally, we aim to support our SaddleBrooke congregation in outreach and service, provide affordable Vacation Bible School for all families, and develop resources to equip parents and educators. We are also planning "Moving Forward" seminars for those affected by trauma, a series on "A Christian Perspective on Death and Dying," and necessary salary increases for staff alongside funds for rising operational costs.

This past year has brought us countless reasons to give thanks, and as we step into 2025, I look forward to a new year of faith, growth, and service. God is good—all the time. Thanks be to God!

Faithfully,

Pastor Tim

Worship

"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever." Psalm 136:1











Connections

One of the privileges of being here at Resurrection is to be present during the week here on the main campus and as we gather to worship each weekend. We are so blessed to get to know you and to hear your stories, as well as welcome visitors and to see our church in action!

Watching you engage in meaningful connections, we are reminded of God's love shining brightly in and through each of you! Thank you for showing up and stepping out in different ways to serve with your gifts and leadership. You are turning God's love into action, living faithfully, witnessing boldly, serving joyfully, and giving abundantly of your time and talents. What a blessing it is to serve alongside you. Thank you for touching our lives and those that are here now and yet to come!

This past year with the leadership and guidance of Pastor Tim, Pastor Erin, Pastor Wyatt and Pastor Carol we have:

- Welcomed 90 New Members!
- Celebrated the Installation of Pastor Carol George!
- Celebrated 10 Holy Baptisms and four Weddings!
- Officiated 42 Memorials/Burial/Interments and grieved alongside the families.
- Celebrated Resurrection at SaddleBrooke's 10th Anniversary!
- Delighted in the first Anniversary of the Installation of Pastor Wyatt Linde and celebrated with JOY his marriage to beautiful Lindsay!
- Hosted seven PrimeTimes, including Resurrection Meats and Eats, with over 900 guests and faithful volunteers!
- Farewell Blessing and cake reception for Josh and Nicole Carlson-Kroschel! We miss them so much!
- Faithfully prayed Pastor Tim and Chandra through sabbatical, to welcome them back after three months.

God is Good!

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in it's various forms." 1 Peter 4:10







Worship & The Arts

- The Altar Arts team prepared the worship space for Maundy Thursday, Pentecost, Reformation, All Saints, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Two generous donations were given toward Christmas decorations this year.
- The Banner Committee meets regularly to select/create/ repair banners for the Sanctuary.
- The Lenten season presented a six-week worship series entitled, *Again & Again*. The Wednesday Lenten noon services featured a drama series called, *Jerusalem Speaks*. The fall season featured an eight-week series on *The Lord's Prayer*.
- A new *Healing Service* was created and implemented which takes place on the first Saturday of each month.
- The Minister of Music and Arts maintains regular tasks of creating weekly worship services, selecting worship liturgies, calls to worship, prayers, confessions, videos, benedictions, hymns, and special music, assists in selecting dramas and editing printed materials and visual media, and preparing/ providing/assigning scripture readings and readers for all services.





The Messengers Drama Ministry

The Messengers drama team continues under the leadership of Julie Sieger and John Rowe. Worship and Events led by The Messengers:

- End of 2023 Advent Wednesdays featured a worship series called, *O Tannenbaum*
- Lent Wednesdays featured a series of dramas entitled, Jerusalem Speaks
- Good Friday Stations of the Cross
- Fall Fest
- Reformation Weekend participated in sermon on the Five
- Upcoming Advent preparing a series of monologues which will serve as weekly messages



Cantatas & Musical Productions

- End of 2023 the Children's Choir, under the direction of Nicole Kroschel-Carlson, presented a delightful Christmas program of angels sharing the story of the birth of Christ using traditional Christmas songs.
- End of 2023 the combined adult choirs, along with the Tucson Arizona Boys Chorus, accompanied by a 30-piece orchestra, presented our most challenging choral work to date on December 9th and 10th, the cantata, Hodie, by Vaughan Williams. The program was partially funded by the Sue Drengler Memorial Fund. The results were an outstanding presentation of the story of the birth of Christ.
- Spring 2024 the Resurrection choirs combined to present a spring musical on April 5th and 6th, entitled Alleluia, A Praise Gathering for Believers, by Bill and Gloria Gaither. The musical was somewhat contemporary in nature and was accompanied by full orchestra, utilized characters and testimonies, and was presented in collaboration with a local signing ensemble called, Rise 'n Sign. The program was very well received by those in attendance and has garnered over 850 YouTube views to date, however, presenting it on a Friday and Saturday proved less popular than the traditional Saturday and Sunday presentations.
- The 2024 Children's Christmas Program, entitled *Christmas Joy*, created and directed by Chris Purzycki, will be presented on December 7th and 8th.
- The 2024 Christmas Adult Choral Program is a choral cantata entitled, *Festival of Christmas*, by Mary McDonald, and will be accompanied by full orchestra, to be presented on December 14th and 15th.







Music & Arts Staff

This past year saw a few changes in the Music and Arts staffing as we said Godspeed to longtime organist Larry Kuipers, as well as our Children's Choir Director, Nicole Carlson-Kroschel, and Director of Music at SaddleBrooke, Susan Tjossem. Chris Purzycki was hired as our Children's Choir Director in June, and in September, Resurrection welcomed new Organist, Alex Bennett. Peter Yañez is the new Choir Director and Worship Accompanist for the SaddleBrooke campus. The Music and Arts ministry is currently fully staffed.

Choral & Instrumental Ensembles

Oro Valley vocal choirs currently include Chancel Choir, Spirit Singers, Eventide Singers, and Summer Singers, directed by Tanya Elias; and the Children's Choir, directed by Chris Purzycki. The 2024 Summer Singers choir was the largest summer choir in Resurrection's history.

Las Campanas Gloria Handbell Choir – submitted by Ann Paulson

- The choir played in church during 12 worship services this past year
- We also played for Charlene Hassel's memorial service in May 2024
- Approximately 25 ringers participated at various times throughout the year
- Devotions and prayer requests are a part of each rehearsal and before worship services
- We were able to purchase another bell table cover and drape for our eighth bell table
- Our equipment is in very good condition
- We continue to play to God's Glory

The Children's Choir resumed in September under the direction of our newest staff member, Chris Purzycki. The Children's Choir sang in worship in October and is preparing for their upcoming Christmas program.

river, Resurrection's worship band, under the direction of AJ Lepore, leads and presents music in the Sunday, 10:45 AM contemporary worship service. River now has an electric guitar in the ensemble, adding a great new level of sound and musical excitement.

On Palm Sunday – a collaboration of the Spirit Singers' Choir, the SaddleBrooke Resurrection Singers, and the Children's Choir presented the morning's Musical Offering together.

On Easter, Reformation, and All Saints' Sundays – OV choirs combined with organ, piano, brass and timpani, leading the congregation in hymns and a festive choral anthems.









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SaddleBrooke Music Ministry

Our SaddleBrooke congregation has been blessed with a vibrant music ministry since its inception. Susan Tjossem, who served as accompanist from our second service of worship 10 years ago and later also directed the Resurrection Singers, our congregation choir, retired in April of this year. Our former choir director, Charles Riddell, stepped in to fill the position as choir director and Joan Chasanov, choir accompanist, stepped in as worship accompanist while we searched for Susan's replacement.

We were blessed to find Peter Yanez to accept both positions as accompanist/choir director in June. Peter, a Tucson native, brings over 25 years of experience as a pianist, vocal coach and choral director. He has directed for the Los Angeles Opera Company and the Lyric Opera of Chicago as well as many opera companies in Europe. Having settled back in Tucson, we are happy that he is sharing his gifts of music with us at Resurrection SaddleBrooke.

The Resurrection Singers, a mixed choir, 15-25 members strong, provides special music each Sunday, year-round, with Joan Chasanov on the piano. A fun addition this year is the Resurrection Men's Quartet: Sam Page, Steve Westby, John Anslay and Jerry Gustafson. They will provide additional special music throughout the year. New members are always welcome to join the choir which rehearses each Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 PM in the Sonoran Room at HOA2.





The Lord's Prayer Sermon Series

This year we dove deeply into The Lord's Prayer with a worship series that spanned our church community. Each Sunday during worship in SaddleBrooke and Oro Valley, we focused on a different statement in the prayer. The liturgy, preaching, and music worked together to explore the depth of such a brief prayer. Services were complimented by an evening course put on by the Life Groups Ministry, and a Wednesday class led by Pastor Roger Pierce on different prayer practices. As a church family, we deepened our prayer life and our understanding of The Lord's Prayer through our fall worship series. We can't wait to see how God will lead us during next fall's worship series!



Strategic Planning Update

At the Annual Meeting in 2023, the Strategic Planning Team presented the 5 Key Ministry Initiatives (KMI) for Resurrection Lutheran. These included:

- Seeking an end to loneliness in all we do
- Create a vital and active Seniors Ministry that engages aging adults
- Foster a vibrant Children, Youth and Family Ministry to connect everyday life with their identity as children of God
- Develop care ministries that address the physical, mental, spiritual and social wellbeing of our community
- Provide tools, resources and infrastructure to implement the Strategic Plan

In 2024, the staff, council and you all - the congregation - have been working towards these KMI's, as well as the overall vision of: Being a faith community who connects with and cares for all while seeking an end to loneliness in the world around us.

Listed below are the results of this hard work.

- With assistance from the Grand Canyon Synod, called our new Pastor of SaddleBrooke and Senior Ministry. (KMI2 Goal 1)
- Exploration of the space needs for SaddleBrooke Ministries has continued, as well as assessment of the ministry opportunities in SaddleBrooke. (KMI2 Goal 2)
- Through rotating our Pastoral Team through SaddleBrooke and Oro Valley, creating combined choirs for special events, and having the same worship themes at all worship services we have created more connections and continuity. (KMI 2 Goal 3)
- With the departure of our interim Youth Director and hourly High School Director, we have created a full-time position as Director of Youth Ministries. (KMI 3 Goal 1)
- Have hosted an evening of childcare, fellowship and learning for our CDC Families with plans to do more educational events for the community in 2025. (KMI3 Goal 2)
- Care teams have been recruited, trained and unleashed through Helping Hands, Card Ministry and Care Visitors. (KMI 4 Goal 2)
- A Congregational Survey was done to understand the needs and passions in regards to service and partnership agencies. (KMI 4 Goal 4)
- We have contracted with WebMo, a local company, to update and optimize our Google Professional listings, update and manage the website, as well as create and manage our social media presence through Facebook and Instagram. (KMI5 Goal 2)
- The Church Council has approved new definitions for Committees and Ministry Teams, and creating onboarding for new Council Members. A team will also be formed to research and update our By-laws, Constitution and other governing documents. (KMI 5 Goal 4)
- A new Organizational Chart has been created that prepares the staffing structures for the future. (KMI5 Goal 3)

This is not a comprehensive list, but it does capture how the Strategic Plan has impacted the ministries at RLC. We look forward to 2025 and continuing to live into the plan that Jesus is calling us into as we continue to be his presence in our daily lives so that others will follow him.

Pastor Erin Morris



Recently, I received a card from a family here at RLC and it said on the cover, "We were never meant to be mild." I have kept it on my desk to remind me that it is OK to be spicy. I have been called to bring in the flavor which can be somewhat bold at times. I give thanks to God everyday that while you may not always agree with my spice, and it may not be your favorite flavor, you still accept and encourage my spiciness.

In 2024, RLC continued to grow in our ministries and in our connections. We have lived into the call of ending loneliness through a variety of ministries (LifeGroups, Dinner Groups, Congregational Care, Mentoring, Bible and Book studies, Etc.) People connected deeper into God's word and each other through a pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey visiting the cities of the New Testament. Events like Resurrection Sings, Meats and Eats, Fall Fest and others have brought this community together in joy, laughter, and faith.

We welcomed Pastor Carol George to the team this year and the Senior Ministry is growing under her leadership as well as the SaddleBrooke Community. While Pastor Tim was on Sabbatical, I had the wonderful opportunity to lead the staff and "play" Lead Pastor. And although I enjoyed the challenge, I became more confirmed in my gifts of teaching, preaching, systems and organization. I, like all of you, was so happy when Pastor Tim came back.

We also said goodbye to a few wonderful staff this year. The absence of Josh and Nicole Carlson-Kroschel has been felt deeply amongst the staff, families and youth. We still have the position open and continue to pray for the right person to fill it. As we look towards 2025, we are excited to plan the 30th anniversary of the Child Development Center and also developing the Leadership Collective that will educate parents and early childhood teachers in raising children in faith, and understanding the emotional and social implications. I look forward to offering more classes and spaces where people can grow in their faith and in connection with each others through authentic relating and open discussions of Jesus and Christianity. Also, the next Pilgrimage Ministry will take place in Italy, tracing the roots of our church and enjoying the culture, food and drink.

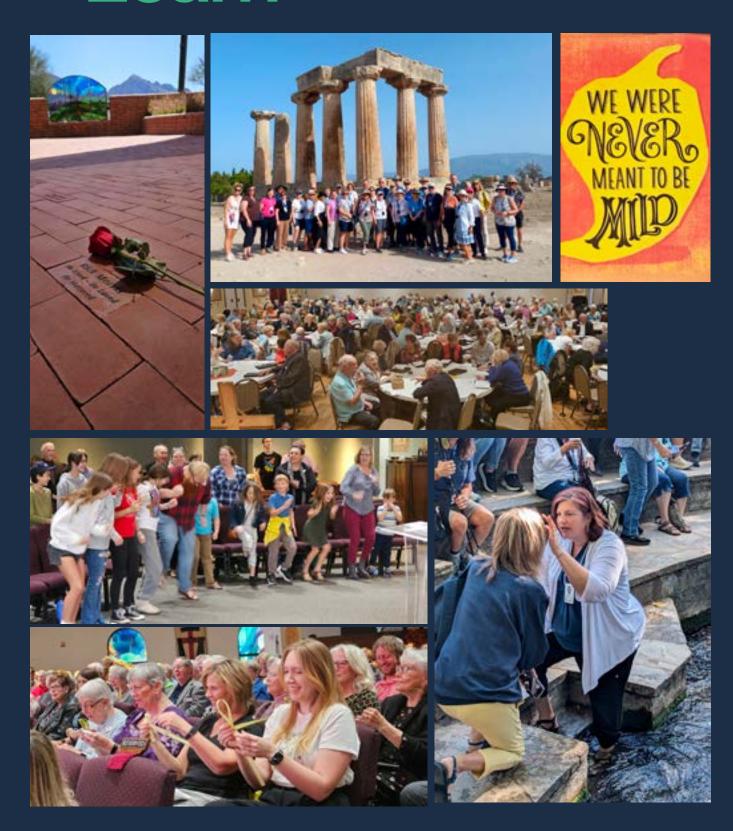
Thank you for serving alongside me and thank you for helping me be the presence of Christ in my daily life.

Pastor Erin

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

Colossians 3:12

Learn



Child Development Center

2024 has been an amazing year filled with laughter, learning and lots and lots of LOVE! Our enrollment continues to fluctuate as our community dynamics shift and more competition emerges. We currently have a total of 80 children enrolled and are anticipating 90 children to be enrolled in January. Our staff consists of 22 dedicated, professional, sparkling humans who love our children like their very own. Our staff really are the heart of our school. I am honored to join them in the mission of sharing the love and grace of God and in teaching and caring for the children in our community.

Pastor Erin's leadership of the Children, Youth, and Family team has led to a more coordinated approach to welcoming families into our Resurrection community. The children and parents love having her hang around!

The RLCDC Board continues to lead the way in visioning our CDC's future. They are committed to developing an action plan to generate additional sources of revenue to help combat rising costs of childcare.

RLCDC operates from 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM Monday through Friday, so this weekday ministry is happening 55 hours per week, 50 weeks a year in between Sundays!

After 28 years of ministry here at RLC, your Child Development Center is still thriving and growing. With the support and care from Pastor Tim and our leadership teams, we look forward to all that 2025 will bring.









Children, Youth, Family

The year 2024 has been so full of life, laughter & love around the Children, Youth & Family Ministries area of RLC. We have grown in faith and in our relationships with each other and with Jesus!

After two years of building programs in our CYF department with Pastor Erin, Josh & Nicole Carlson-Kroschel, the absence of Josh & Nicole as they left in July is felt by all of us, staff, kids and families. As we continue to carry out our ministries, we pray that God will bring us the person who He knows is perfect to fill this roll and carry on the youth programming here at RLC.

We have continued with the same curriculum (Children's Ministry) for our 4th & 5th graders that we started in January 2024. Making this change in curriculum along with making the classroom setting changes such as "cool" chairs and input from the kids for snack ideas has prompted more participation and learning by this age group, and includes resources for parents to continue faith conversations at home.

For our 3 year olds – 3rd graders we changed curriculum this fall in August to Cokesbury's Big Faith. Teachers and children are enjoying the content, and the teachers who have used both our old and new curriculum prefer our new one as far as ease of teaching and conveying Biblical principles to young children.

We have eliminated some annual events that have run their course and are no longer well attended, such as making fleece blankets in November and a Christmas party in December, and replaced them with more intentional events such as Advent and Lent for families and children. These are hands-on events where families get to experience Bible stories together and are equipped with materials to continue at-home learning during these seasons.

It has been wonderful to see new faces of new Sunday School teachers. Although we are not always fully staffed, we have many new people step out in faith as lead teachers and crew guide assistants.

Staffing Holy Grounds for set up, serving and clean up continue to be a challenge. At times Holy Grounds is left unattended as I am with kids and teachers or teaching a class during Sunday School. This means that there are many times when no one is at HG to greet people, restock supplies and make additional coffee.

Thank you all for your support, I look forward to continuing ministry in this wonderful place we call RLC!









Youth Ministry

This year, our Youth Ministry has been filled with growth, fellowship, and moments of faith in action! From a cross-country trip to new programs and incredible volunteer leadership, our youth and leaders have experienced firsthand what it means to Serve Christ in their daily lives so that others might follow Him. Here are some of the highlights and major events that have made this year unforgettable.

Middle School Confirmation and High School Sunday School Weekly Programming

Our weekly programs were packed with nearly 90 hours of Christ-centered activities from January to May! Middle and high schoolers met regularly for Confirmation and High School Sunday School, diving deeper into their faith and exploring what it means to live for Christ.

Confirmation Highlights

- **Confirmation Extravaganza:** Once a month, our youth gathered for four hours of teachings, small groups, worship, lunch, and special lessons with a pastor.
- **Mentor Program:** Each month, pairs of youth connected with an adult mentor to explore a devotional together.
- **New! Confirmation Buddy Program:** Youth stepped up as leaders for Sunday School, helping guide younger students and creating a fun, meaningful experience for all!
- Rite of Confirmation: We Confirmed seven youth this year which is a 250% increase. As a celebration of Confirmation we asked the congregation to tell us Bible verses that were meaningful to them so we could highlight them in the Bibles of our Confirmands. We received 76 verses.

New! High School Sunday School Monthly Rotation

- **Curriculum Week:** High schoolers dove into lessons on topics like the 10 Commandments.
- **Buddy Sunday:** A special day for high schoolers to assist with Sunday School.
- **Faith Out Loud:** A youth or adult guest shared their personal journey of living out their faith.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) Leadership

VBS is our biggest youth event and this year our youth volunteers truly shined. From leading stations, to guiding groups of younger kids, they embodied Christ's love and created a memorable experience for everyone.









New! Resurrection Meats and Eats Fundraiser

Our Resurrection Meats and Eats was a joyful success! Serving up pulled pork, hearty sides, and live music from the Wild Cats Band, this event raised the funds for our high schoolers' trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. This gathering gave our youth the chance to connect with the larger Lutheran community and bring back fresh inspiration for our church. Over 200 people were served!

Blast Camp for Middle Schoolers

Blast Camp was a blast! Our middle schoolers enjoyed games, art projects, and unique ways to serve. They lint-rolled our sanctuary chairs (they were hairy!), wrote letters to our homebound friends, and capped it all off with indoor skydiving! Blast Camp embodied fun and fellowship, helping our youth grow closer to each other and their faith.

Staff Transitions and a Legacy of Service

This year, we said goodbye to our Youth Ministers, Josh and Nicole Carlson-Kroschel. Their dedication to developing programs and building a strong volunteer team has left a lasting impact. Thanks to their leadership, our youth ministry is ready to keep growing and serving Christ's mission.









Life Groups

- Launched nine Dining Groups for Spring with a dinner of 75 participants, four of these are continuing this fall.
- Purchased Studies for Library and maintained the Library in Luthers Lair
- Participated in the Ministry fair and new member luncheons.
- Held new member socials to promote Life Group Ministries and other church events.
- The Library in Luthers Lair was reorganized alphabetically by Author.
- Updated the LG web page and added a Library page on the new Church website.
- Our groups were redefined as Christian Faith Discussion groups and Activity Groups.
- Held a Leadership social and presented Leaders with olive wood crosses from Bethlehem.
- There are 26 Life groups, with over 250 participants.
- The team is committed to starting new groups in 2025, we hope you will join us.

The Life groups are committed to helping our church's mission to end loneliness by meeting in small groups to share with each other our faith story and learning together where God's Holy Spirit is leading us. We are always open to hearing new ideas on groups you would like to see here at RLC, from faith discussion or activities.

Women's Ministry

The Women's Ministry at RLC continued to grow in 2024. In March, we held our second annual Women's Retreat at the Redemptorist Center in Marana. Pastor Erin was once again our speaker and the 48 women who attended were moved, challenged, and led by the Holy Spirit as we shared the weekend together. Our theme was Practicing Presence: Presence with Self, Presence with Others, and Presence with God. We worshiped together, met in small groups and shared fellowship time. The women bonded with each other during their small group time.

In the fall, we had a follow-up meeting for ladies that had attended the retreat. We shared a meal and time for fellowship.



Another wonderful Women's Ministry activity began last year as well. Women's Faithful Living Fellowship began to meet one Saturday morning per month. The format is: women meet for a light breakfast and fellowship, watch a video that accompanies a study guide and then meet in small groups to discuss the material. We began with a Beth Moore study called "The Basket Case" and then moved into a study called "Heroes of the Old Testament," which highlights different authors for each chapter sharing a different Bible story about a Biblical person of the Old Testament. This format has worked really well and women are enjoying sharing in small groups as well as creating new friendships. Women are praying for each other and sharing from their hearts. A social lunch gathering of the women who attend Saturday sessions was held at Caffe Torino in December.

We hope the Women's Ministry activities are strengthening the faith of the women of our church. We hope God is becoming more real and that women are encouraged to have a closer walk with Jesus.

Pilgrimage Ministry

In 2022, when I arrived to Resurrection, Pastor Tim mentioned he wanted to take a group from our church to the Holy Lands. I told him, I know a guy. And, thus, the Pilgrimage ministry began at Resurrection.

In April of 2023, we took over 80 people from nine different states to experience the Holy Lands. We stayed in Galilee and in Bethlehem walking the places where Jesus walked and learning about the land and the people he came from. When war began in October in Israel and Gaza, we saw it from a different lens as we had worshipped alongside our Palestinian brothers and sisters.

In 2024, a new group set out to walk the roads of Paul and the Apostles. As Jesus ascended into heaven, he turned over being the hands and feet of God to those who were left to carry the good news, and they did. We remembered our Baptism at the river near Philippi where Lydia was baptized and had communion in Corinth. We marveled at the distance that Paul and others would travel for their faith and the words they used to share the Gospel.

We look forward to growing this ministry with two trips in 2025. Pastor Tim will be leading a trip to Holden Village, Washington. Since 1962, Holden Village has transformed from a copper mining town into a vibrant community of education, programming, and worship. There, they will worship, learn and serve together as a faith community. Pastor Erin will be leading a trip to Italy, starting in Rome finishing the journey of Paul and Peter and going into the Tuscan Region to be immersed into the culture and celebrate the many Saints that have gone before.

This ministry exists to help people explore their faith in Jesus, grow together as a community and see the world that God created.











Pastor Wyatt Linde



This has been a truly incredible year for our Resurrection Family! We came together to celebrate new births and baptisms as well as mourn the loss of many beloved members. We welcomed Pastor Carol George and said goodbye to Josh and Nicole Carlson-Kroschel. I got married and this family of faith threw Lindsay and I the most amazing wedding shower (thank you!). We had many new faces join our community, and saw the return of some faces we had not seen in a while. Our ministries grew, and we started new ministries as we followed God's call to end loneliness. And through it all, we gathered each week to worship God, proclaim God's love, and share Holy Communion as one family.

There are so many things to celebrate, but I want to focus my reflection this year on just a few of our servants who God has called to use their gifts to serve our church family and end loneliness. These are our Congregational Care Ministers. You can recognize them by their nametags that say "Congregational Care Minister." Each of our Congregational Care Ministers (CCMs) have been called by God and commissioned by us as a church to use their gifts in certain ministries which support our congregation. Our CCMs serve as Home and Hospital Visit Ministers, Helping Hands Ministers, Card Writing Ministers, Community Care Ministers, and Grief Course Leaders. The Congregational Care Ministry System was created this year as a part of our Strategic Plan and call to end loneliness. Our ministers are daily following God's call on their lives and on our church to share God's light of love and community.

The Congregational Care Ministries join a long and distinguished list of ministries which support

our Resurrection, Oro Valley, Arizona, and world-wide community. This year, all of our ministries have been engaged in meeting the needs of the people they serve, especially ending loneliness. It has been my pleasure to work with many of our ministries to care for God's people and support them in their call to service, and I am excited for where God is calling us to serve in 2025.

In the coming year, in addition to continuing to develop our Congregational Care Ministries, I am eager to work more with organizations in Tucson and across God's creation to serve God's people in greater and deeper ways. We have been blessed with many incredible ministry partners, and I am looking forward to exploring how Resurrection can support them in their missions and partner with them in our mission to end loneliness. I can't wait to see where God takes us in 2025! Wherever we go, I am grateful that we will go together, following The Spirit of God's call to be the presence of Christ in our daily lives so that others will follow him, and end loneliness!

Yours in Service, Pastor Wyatt

> "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."

> > John 1:5

Serve













Congregational Care Ministries

In 2024, we launched our new Congregational Care Ministries. This ministry umbrella is made up of several individual ministries which together address Resurrection's needs and work toward God's calling to our church to end loneliness. They are already making a huge impact on our community!

If you have called the church asking if anyone could help you fix a leaky faucet or install grab bars in your shower, you likely heard from one or two of our Helping Hands ministers. We currently have 11 Helping Hands Ministers who have made over 40 service requests.

If you received a card from your Resurrection family, it probably came from our Card Writing Ministers. We currently have 27 Card Writing Ministers who write and make dozens of cards each month.

If you have lost a spouse this year, you may have heard from our Coping With Grief leaders and perhaps attended Coping With Grief as you navigate the grief and loss that comes with losing a loved one. We have hosted two Coping With Grief courses this year, and continue to build an amazing community which supports one another.

If you have been in the hospital this year, you have probably received a visit from one of our Home and Hospital Visits Ministers. We currently have 16 Home and Hospital Visits ministers, who have made more than 200 visits to hospitals and homes this year.

In 2025, we hope to continue to expand The Congregational Care Ministry System by introducing new ministries to meet the needs of our church, and engaging more faithful Ministers to continue to serve in our existing Care Ministries.



Casas Por Cristo

In 2024, Resurrection Lutheran Church built four houses with Casas Por Cristo in Juarez, Mexico, for the Navarro Lugo family, the Carrillo family, the Simental family, and the Zubia Hernandez family. As a congregation, we raised nearly \$70,000 outside of the church's annual budget to build the homes and sent over 40 missionaries to Juarez to build these homes. Missionaries spent three days serving in Juarez on each trip, where they constructed homes that are insulated, secure, and have electricity on what used to be a barren piece of land.

Resurrection partners with Casas Por Cristo, a mission organization based in El Paso, Texas, in this ministry. Casas Por Cristo is a mission organization that builds homes for people in need in six cities across five countries in Latin America. As an organization, Casas Por Cristo builds relationships with churches in the communities they serve to find families who are experiencing housing insecurity. The only requirement for a family to qualify for a home built with Casas Por Cristo is that they own the land on which the home is being built. As an organization, Casas not only builds houses; through the homes they construct and the relationships they build, Casas is also ending loneliness through their work across Latin America.

When we participate in a mission trip with Casas, God creates a miracle through us. We provide a home for a family who could not otherwise afford it! This gift is lifechanging for the family, allowing them to live and raise children in a home which is warm, safe, and their own.





Generosity Committee

Your Generosity and Endowment Committee had a productive second year. Led by an incredibly generous couple, RLC made its first investment in the ELCA Ministry Growth Fund and has now raised a total of \$63,710 from 19 donors. Thanks to each one of you for your generosity! In addition to this landmark achievement, with the support of our Church Council, your committee:

- Performed the annual review of the charter, investment policy statement and gift planning acceptance policy.
- Said goodbye (with our deepest thanks and appreciation) to charter committee members Herman Haenert, Jon Olson and Stephanie Thompson, as well as to committee member Jerry Shaughnessy who passed away during the year.
- Welcomed Dave Amble, Bob Asbell, Pam Brandt and Barry Robinson to the Committee.
- With the Media team, created a new Giving Resources page on the church website.
- Led the first-ever All Saints Endowment giving campaign, including the creation of an endowment giving brochure.
- Participated in the Fall Stewardship Drive.
- Held several information sessions (including two ZOOM informational sessions on the new Secure 2.0 Act QCD giving opportunity) with ELCA Regional Gift Planner Lisa Higginbotham.

Support Groups

Resurrection hosts several support groups in our Outreach Building. Some groups, such as the Cognitive Decline Care Givers Support Group and the Parkinson's Support Group are hosted by members of the Resurrection community. Others, such as Women of the Big Book and Compassionate Friends, come from the Oro Valley community. As part of our calling to end loneliness, these support groups provide communities for people who are experiencing similar challenging seasons in their life. As a church, we have been blessed with a large Outreach building with several rooms. God has called us to use this space to offer people in our congregation and from all across Oro Valley, Catalina, and Marana opportunities to gather, find support, and find community in their shared experiences. In the coming years, we hope to expand the number of support groups offered at Resurrection, and increase our support of them to more fully meet the need for support, community, and connection in our city.

Social Ministries

January

- RLC Refugee Ministry Team welcomed a new refugee family
 of ten from Burundi, Africa, to Tucson. Working cooperatively
 with Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest, we helped
 provide items in the home and necessities for the family
 members.
- Several from RLC participated in the Santa Cruz River Cleanup, partnering with Lutheran Campus Ministries.

February

- Members of RLC and other Lutheran churches participated in Feed My Starving Children, packing shelf stable nutritious food packets to feed the hungry in third world countries. Our group of 208 helped pack 70,484 packets, enough to feed 194 children a year.
- Casas Por Christo, where volunteer labor and financial donations provided enough funds and volunteers to construct two family homes in Juarez, Mexico.

March

 Dental Drive which collected donations of products and financial support for the University of Arizona Global Dental Brigades. This is a student led mission trip which was going to Panama this year. Many items were donated, and \$2,684.70 was collected.

April

- Spring Food Drive was a big success. 3,550 pounds of food and \$4,792 in financial donations were collected and shared equally among Impact Catalina Food Bank, Marana Food Bank, ICS Food Bank and Canyon del Oro Assembly of God Food Pantry.
- World Vision 6k Walk for Water Financial donations used to provide clean drinking water to families and communities in remote areas. Team Resurrection walked either the traditional 6k route, or a shorter 1.5 mile route and raised \$13,087 which provides 260 children clean water for life.
- RLC Meets and Eats, a fundraiser to support youth summer trips. 240 attendees enjoyed barbecue and live jazz music and proceeds were approximately \$6,000.

May

 Anna Lawrence 3-8 School Pantry, where twice a month RLC distributes Community Food Bank items, received a refrigerator and freezer to store additional perishable foods for









the children and families.

June/July

• School Support Drive which supports the teachers and children at Prince Head Start, Coronado K-8 school and Anna Lawrence 3-8 school. \$2,588 was donated for gift cards given to each teacher at these schools, as well as to each family at Prince Head Start. Many school supplies were donated and given to Coronado K-8 School.

August

• Youth On Their Own (YOTO) Supply Drive - YOTO supports unaccompanied youth in grades 6 – 12 without a stable home and has an 86% graduation rate. RLC collected \$4,790 in donations and a generous collection of food, toiletry, school and personal items for YOTO.

September

 Anna Lawrence 3-8 Food Pantry began distribution of TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) items to families.
 This federal program provides additional food along with both refrigerated and frozen items, now available thanks to the refrigerator and freezer received last spring.

October

- Annual Craft Fair and fundraiser for Arizona Diaper Bank, where monies and diapers for children and adults are donated.
- Fall Food Drive where donations received, and food collected are shared equally among Impact Catalina Food Bank, Marana Food Bank, ICS Food Bank and Canyon del Oro Assembly of God Food Pantry.

November

 Casas Por Cristo, where volunteer labor and financial donations provide for the construction of a family home in Juarez, Mexico.

December

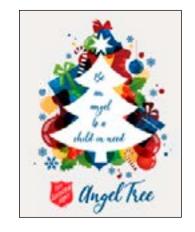
 Salvation Army Angel Tree – Christmas wish tags hung on Christmas trees in the Narthex list a gift needed for a boy or girl. Tags are given out in Oro Valley and SaddleBrooke, and gifts received are then distributed by The Salvation Army.

Additional outreach ministries include the Anna Lawrence 3-8 School food pantry. There were 15 pantry distribution dates during 2024. Primavera Men's Shelter, where members provide lunch and dinner for the residents several times a year.









25

Pastor Carol George



What a joy it has been to have been called by God to the community of faith that is Resurrection Lutheran Church and to be a part of this amazing ministry team. David and I are so grateful for the warm welcome and hospitality we have received since arriving in April and are excited to see what God will be up to with his people in this place in the years to come.

RLC's Strategic Plan identified the need to support and enrich the ministry that was already happening with older adults in our congregation and community. One of the first goals was to define what Senior Ministry would look like at RLC. Working with our pastoral team and congregation leaders, a few key areas of emphasis were chosen.

The first was to enhance the worship experience in the SaddleBrooke congregation. A small team from SaddleBrooke identified ways to engage more effectively with those who worship regularly in SaddleBrooke and with visitors, guests and our online worshippers. A series of upgrades to our worship space and audio/video capabilities are being implemented to engage our online worshiping community. A new monthly fellowship encourages worshippers to get to know one another and to provide a warm welcome for our newest guests.

A second goal was to connect our two worshipping communities more purposefully. Having a representative from SaddleBrooke on council has enhanced communication. The SB congregation is purposely invited to join in fellowship, learning, and service ministries, and our pastoral team rotates to lead worship at both campuses. The SB choir and worship team will

lead one of our Christmas Eve services at the Oro Valley campus this year.

There are many ages and stages in older adult ministry. In the next months, we will be addressing the needs and concerns of those caring for aging parents, those facing major life transitions, and those suffering grief and loss. We will be working to connect more effectively with those living in Senior Living facilities. In addition, we will explore the unique opportunities for faith formation and spiritual development that comes in the "third thirty" of life.

I am learning along with you. You are most sincerely invited to share with me your questions and suggestions for senior ministry and encouraged to be involved as we, together, live out our mission... to be the presence of Christ in our daily lives so that others will follow him.

Your partner in Christ's service, Pastor Carol

"Be careful then how you live...
be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms
and hymns and spiritual songs to one
another, singing and making melody to the
Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the
Father at all times and for everything in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

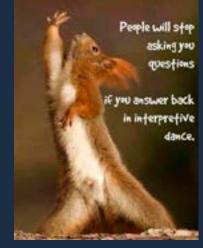
Ephesians 5:1,18b-20

Senior Ministry













Administration

Church Council

- Recommended that Pastor Carol George move forward with the Call Process as Associate Pastor of SaddleBrooke and Senior Ministry. Coordinated the congregational meeting to extend a Call to Pastor Carol George.
- Approved the acquisition of improved video and sound equipment for SaddleBrooke.
- Upon receiving generous bequests from the congregation, approved retiring the balance of the building mortgage by the end of calendar 2024.
- Held a Church Council workshop in January 2024 with a focus on RLC being a large church and the role of Church Council in a large church.
- Focused on governance matters. Developed definitions for committees, ministry teams and task forces. Reviewed
 existing committees and determined which ones should continue as committees. Recategorized a couple of
 existing committees as ministry teams and retired a couple of committees.
- Supported the development of the 2025 budget and recommended the budget be moved forward to the congregation to approve at the 2024 Annual Meeting.
- Approved contracting with an external firm for managing the RLC website content instead of hiring a part-time Digital Media Specialist.
- Created a sabbatical procedure for RLC. Approved Pastor Tim's sabbatical leave and the operational plans during his absence.

Finance Committee

2024 has been a great year of observing God's faithfulness at RLC, through your faithfulness.

The Finance Committee, working closely with the Operations Administrator, provides oversight of all the finances of RLC and the CDC. At the monthly meeting of the Finance Committee, the month-to-month and year-to-date financials are reviewed. On an on-going basis, the financial accounting, the financial systems, the annual audit and the annual budgeting process are also administered. Where and when appropriate, recommendations are made to the Church Council related to the financial integrity of RLC.

This year was also a year of re-integrating the working relationship between the Operations Administrator and the Finance Committee. RLC has not had an individual filling this role for several years. The working relationship is now up and running smoothly.

The budget that was presented to you last year included a 15% increase over the 2023 budget. At this writing, we still have a couple of months to go in the 2024 fiscal year, but the finances of the church are strong, and it appears that we will archive the budgets for both income and expenses.

The financials of the church are audited each year by The Audit Committee. The findings in the audit are presented to the Finance Committee, reviewed in detail and then presented to the Church Council. Once again, the audit found that the finances of RLC are following all generally accepted financial practices. The Audit Committee recommended several items to improve our best practices. Each recommendation has been implemented.

After many years of faithful service, Mary Joviak has decided to step away from the Finance Committee. We thank her for her leadership and her presence will be missed.

Property

Property

The property team consists of a small group of dedicated individuals working hard every day to make the RLC Campus look good inside and out, keep all key systems operating in peak performance, as well as support in any way needed, when needed.

A special "thank you" to Mike Nolan, Tracy Sisson, and John Dilger for all their hard work and dedication.

This year was full of monsoon season storms and activity. The staff did their best to keep up with all of the storm damage, keeping the campus looking good and maintaining its accessibility.

Some 2024 Property Highlights:

- Installed built-in desks and storage for Media Office in Outreach Building.
- Added fourth office in Administration Building for fourth called Pastor.
- Installed new server.
- Installed new firewall hardware.
- Re-engineered Wi-Fi network, installed new hardware, streamlined network.
- Replaced one of the large A/C units in Sanctuary.
- Removed the clay tile roof shingles on Sanctuary, fixed leaking area, placed new membrane down then re-installed the roof tiles, replacing any broken or bad ones.
- Fixed roof on CDC after storm damage.
- Replaced entry way flooring in Administration Building.
- Replaced flooring in kindergarten room at Child Development Center.
- Worked with multiple vendors to find a vendor to install Fiber Optic in 2025.
- Added security lighting on Outreach, Sanctuary, and under the shade sail in front of the Administration Building to make the area more conducive for nighttime activities and visitors, as well as provide safety and security.
- Fixed railing in parking lot after some accidental damage.

This list is not all inclusive, just touching on some highlights as we reflect on this incredible year we have had at Resurrection Lutheran Church Campus.

Thank you for your support. I am excited about the future and what will be in the upcoming 2025 year.

Property Use

Resurrection Lutheran Church uses the Outreach facilities to benefit our community. This year we have seen an increase in church activities and groups including many ministries such as book studies, prayer groups, card writing ministry, grief studies, Quilters, Knitters, game ministries, Stay on Your Feet and much more. We also accommodate several nonprofit groups such as Red Cross, Girl Scouts, AA meetings, Compassionate Friends and Pima County elections. Some of the groups who also use our facilities are Jazzercise, The Learning Curve, HOA meetings, Life Line Screening, Tucson Music Association, Parkinson's Support Group and Yoga. The gym is used, not only for youth sports practices, but for CDC playtime in the summer, Men's Breakfast meetings once a month, celebrations, PrimeTime Wednesday, receptions, and large meetings. Finally, Boy Scout troop 299 uses the gym for their weekly meetings and is a chartered ministry of RLC and has been for several years. This year, the troop refurbished the prayer path which included hauling rocks and gravel and hours of work in the sun. They also added new benches along the path.

Finance Report

Communications & Media

What a year it has been for our Communications department here at the church! This past year we launched a brand new website and implemented a completely new process for how we gather and publish information to our church family. The Communications Team has worked very hard to make our communications more efficient and consistent. It has been quite a journey and we are so proud of everyone that was involved in this lengthy process! Thank you to Nicole for all of the hard work you put into these projects before departing to Rhode Island!

Our Publications Specialist, Jennifer Labre, has done an incredible job this year putting together beautiful newsletters, bulletins, informational packets, graphics, and so much more! You are holding the proof of that right here in this Annual Report! She has worked extremely hard to maintain a consistent and professional presence for all of our printed media. This has included rebranding Resurrection as well as helping to rebrand and brand numerous ministries within our church. Thank you, Jennifer, for being the glue that holds our church family together and helps us all stay in communication with one another! We at Resurrection are blessed with a very high standard of publications thanks to you.

Looking forward to 2025 we have quite a few exciting changes happening.

Our church has teamed up with a local company WebMO, to help us develop, grow, and maintain the digital presence of Resurrection Lutheran Church as well as the Child Development Center. WebMO will be helping our church in three impactful ways. First, WebMO will be helping us with our Search Engine Optimization, making Resurrection more present on Google and other search engines through pictures, reviews, and much more. This will make it much easier for individuals and families searching online for churches or schools in the Oro Valley area to be guided to our community. Second, we now have a team of full-time social media experts through WebMO that will be helping us tell the story of our church community through our social media platforms. This will give our church consistency and professionalism in the social media realm in order to help our church family grow. Lastly, the maintenance and development of our website, the many forms on our website, and our website calendar will be managed by WebMO. This will free up time for our Communications Team to put into other areas of work and it will also help our website be more efficient and effective for all of its users.

This coming year we are looking to revamp our audio/visual setup at SaddleBrooke. For our online worship community, this will involve filming with multiple cameras, allowing us to use numerous camera angles to provide a more immersive and engaging experience for viewers. For those worshiping in person, we are looking to utilize our own hearing assist system similar to the one we use at the Oro Valley Campus. The system will provide hearing assist devices for individuals to use. It also will allow individuals to use their own mobile device to listen directly through their hearing aids. Along with these new technologies, we are hoping to provide an additional tech assistant to work alongside Denis each Sunday. Denis has been such a great help to our SaddleBrooke community and we are so grateful for him! Thank you for all you do Denis!

Similarly, at our Oro Valley campus we are in the process of looking at new cameras for the sanctuary. With our online viewership being well above 300 each weekend, we are trying to find new ways to make the online viewing experience more immersive. Our tech team has been reaching out to viewers each weekend welcoming them to our services, providing them with more information about our faith community, and answering questions. We are excited to be expanding our tech personnel this next year, with additional help from Bazil and Jenna who have helped us during our busy seasons over the past few years. Additionally, we want to thank our awesome tech support at our Oro Valley Campus! Thank you Isaiah, Eli, Jojo, and Bethany for being so dependable and for caring so deeply about serving our wonderful church family!

Thank you all for your love and support of our church this past year! 2025 is sure to be an exciting year here at Resurrection and I can't wait to see what it brings!

2025 Budget

		2024		2025	
	Projected		Budget		Change
Revenue:					
Current Fund	\$	1,833,456	S	1,998,572	9%
Loose Plate		55,680		57,250	3%
Rental Income		25,482		26,500	496
Other Income		196,256		139,466	-29%
Total Revenue	\$	2,110,874	\$	2,221,788	5%
Admin Expenses:					
Compensation	\$	1,427,458	S	1,550,656	9%
Property Insurance		35,000		35,132	0%
Leasing		40,750		40,200	-1%
Professional Fees		111,000		79,830	-28%
Repairs and Maint		45,000		47,500	6%
Utilities		60,774		64,193	6%
Benevolences		72,000		75,814	5%
Synod Support		50,000		50,000	0%
All Other		121,256		125,613	4%
Total Admin Exp	\$	1,963,238	\$	2,068,938	5%
Admin-Net	\$	147,636	\$	152,850	4%
Other Departments:					
Music	\$	(34,719)	\$	(45,550)	31%
Children & Family		(44,495)		(50,672)	14%
Publishing				(22,900)	N/A
All Other	19	(26,177)	G	(33,728)	29%
Net Gain/Loss	\$	42,245	s	0	

Resurrection Lutheran Church 2025 CDC Budget

	2024 Projected		2025 Budget		Percent Change
Revenue:	\$	992,000	s	1,031,400	4%
Expense:		994,309	555	1,054,229	6%
Net Gain/Loss	\$	(2,309)	s	(22,829)	

Ministers: All the People

Pastors:

Tim Nybroten (tnybroten@orovalley.org)

Erin Morris (emorris@orovalley.org)

Wyatt Linde (wlinde@orovalley.org)

Carol George (cgeorge@orovalley.org)

Sharon Ragland (revsragland@gmail.com)

Operations Administrator:

Pat McDonald (pmcdonald@orovalley.org)

Executive Pastoral Assistant:

Kristina Randolph (krandolph@orovalley.org)

Parish Bookkeeper:

Ruth Ruff (bookkeeper@orovalley.org)

Administrative Assistant:

Donna Maxwell (dmaxwell@orovalley.org)

Welcome Coordinator:

Nova Hinrichs (nhinrichs@orovalley.org)

Director of Music and Arts Ministries:

Tanya Elias (tanyavelias@gmail.com)

SB Choir Director/Worship Accompanist:

Peter Yanez (yanezpy@aol.com)

Children's Choir Director

Christine Purzycki (cami50@verizon.net)

Contemporary Band Leader:

AJ Lepore (ajlepore@gmail.com)

Director Children's/Family Ministries:

Brenda O'Connor (boconnor2222@yahoo.com)

Child Development Center Director:

Chris Justesen (chrisjustesen1@gmail.com)

Organist:

Alex Bennett

Pianists/Accompanists:

Jamee Haddorff, Pam Batten

Handbell Choir Director:

Ann Paulson (bellgal@q.com)

Multimedia/Audio Visual Director:

Luke Amble (lamble@orovalley.org)

Publications Specialist:

Jennifer Labre (mediadesign@orovalley.org)

Tech Team:

Denis Greenland, Isaiah Nicholson, Eli Nicholson,

Jojo Nicholson, Bethany Martin

Property Manager: Michael Nolan

Maintenance Technicians:

Tracy Sisson, John Dilger









Pictured: Pastors Tim Nybroten, Erin Morris, Wyatt Linde, Carol George











Left Column: Nova Hinrichs, Pat McDonald, Ruth Ruff, Brenda O'Connor















Ending Loneliness...

Resurrection's vision is to end loneliness in our world by living out our calling "to be the presence of Christ in our daily lives." Guided by God's Holy Spirit, we seek to embody Christ's love, compassion, and hope in every interaction, creating meaningful connections that inspire others to follow Him. By fostering communities of belonging and intentionally reaching out to those who feel isolated, we aim to reflect God's unifying love and remind everyone that they are seen, valued, and never alone. Together-across **all** generations- we commit to making this vision a reality, one relationship at a time.





































Resurrection Lutheran Church

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