

Share the . . .

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SPIRIT

February 4, 2012

Resurrection Lutheran Church

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In This Issue

[PMC Update](#)

[RLC Timeline Event, 2/19](#)

[Calendar and Lectionary](#)

[People Power Reminders](#)

[RLC Garden Project](#)

[Your Eco-Bit](#)

[Cedar Ridge Volunteers Needed](#)

[First Communion Instruction](#)

[FOTCOH Silent Auction](#)

[Earthbound Forums](#)

[Caring Ministries / Prayer Shawls](#)

[Trivia Mania Teams Forming](#)

[Parent Expo, 2/18](#)

[Thank You from Habitat](#)

[Scout Recognition Weekends](#)

[Souper Bowl of Caring](#)

[Ministry Prayers](#)

[Council and Financial Records](#)

[RLC Staff and Info Page](#)



Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) at RLC Travelogue Update February 2012

Purpose of Voyage: to help direct us into God's preferred and promised future, and to discover how RLC can be a means to God's ends.

Since RLC Council voted to participate in PMC in November 2011, the following highlights have taken place:

- ✓ A Steering Team was formed to lead the congregation in Dwelling in the Word, oversee logistics of the process, and keep the end in sight.
- ✓ A Listening Team has been formed who will meet with individuals to listen to answers to prescribed questions and integrate these responses into the narrative of our past, present, and future.
- ✓ All RLC members and friends were/are invited to join us in praying for this journey.
- ✓ RLC Council, Steering Team, and Listening Team met with Church Innovations and our partner churches at our first cluster event in December. We were given an orientation to the PMC process, became more familiar with our partners, and learned about some best practices to help us with our upcoming assignments

The first leg of our journey, which will continue through most of 2012, emphasizes listening and discovering our partners. In the next few months we have several ways we will LISTEN to God and each other.

We ask that you look for ways to join us in the upcoming months by being a part of the crew as we....

- ✓ LISTEN to God and others by revitalizing a practice we call "Dwelling in the Word." This practice has us listening to scripture TOGETHER and hearing God in our midst as we do. If you would like to add the practice of Dwelling in the Word to a team or group meeting, Larry Huelskoetter would love to be invited to your meeting and lead you through the initial experience.



Continued on Next Page

PMC Travelogue Update, continued

- ✓ Our Listening Team will be LISTENING to individuals from the congregation in one-on-one interviews. What they hear will be recorded confidentially and shared in an anonymous way to help us all understand “who and where we are now.”
- ✓ The RLC Mardi Gras Timeline Event on February 19 offers a great way for us all to LISTEN, SHARE, and DISCOVER. Please be a part of this festive and enlightening look at our past, on our way to the future, while rediscovering God in our midst. Look for more details below.

We continue to need all members to pray for the Holy Spirit to be the wind in our sails on this voyage into uncharted waters of the future and . . .

May God himself breathe new life in to our vision of who He is.

PMC Steering Team

Patti Niehm, Larry Huelskoetter, JoAnn Reith, Eric Luckey, Michael Nicklas, and Kathy Eckert



Share the **TIME** of your life

RLC Mardi Gras **TIMELINE** Event

February 19, 2012 Grace Hall
Noon to 2:15 p.m.

What is a Timeline Event? The Timeline Event is a way the congregation, through guided conversation, can construct a Timeline of our church’s history in terms of days of highs, days of lows, and days when hope was born. This congregational timeline is a part of our Partnership for Missional Church “work” to listen to each other and to recognize God in our past and in our present and in our future.

What does Mardi Gras have to do with the Timeline? Well, the PMC Steering Team seems to think best on a full stomach, so we thought we’d better add some food to this event. The closest holiday we could find was Mardi Gras. Upon further investigation, we learned that Mardi Gras, or as it is translated “Fat Tuesday”, originated as a time of feasting before fasting. At this time of feasting people used up all the fats and meats as they prepared for the Lenten season where they would offer a fast from these foods. We will celebrate our Fat Tuesday a few days early (on Fat Sunday if you will). While remembering this old Mardi Gras tradition, we also will remember our own history in the creation of our Congregational Timeline.

Who should attend? EVERYONE. We will have supervised movies, Legos, and games for children too young to attend. If your child usually naps during this time, feel free to bring something to keep them comfortable while they nap. High school age youth may have fun attending the Timeline Event and learning about our church history in this unique event.

What should I bring? Homemade pizza and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dessert or sweets. If you are thinking of giving up chocolate or sweets for Lent, consider bringing what you have around the house (disguised as a dessert of course) to this event!

How can I sign up? Look for the poster in the Narthex. Please let us know if you need childcare for infants through elementary school age kids, so we’ll be sure to have plenty of supervision.

We’ll be counting on you!

The PMC Steering Team

February 4 to 12 RLC Ministry Calendar

- Sat., 2/4** **Alive @ Five Worship, 5 p.m.**
 Boy Scout Recognition
 LYO Souper Bowl of Caring Collection
Earthbound Session #5, 6:15 p.m.
- Sun., 2/5** **Worship, 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.**
 Boy Scout Recognition
 LYO Souper Bowl of Caring Collection
 Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
 Zero 39 (High School), 9:30 a.m.
Earthbound Session #5, 9:30 a.m.
 Choir Rehearsal, 9:30 a.m.
 PMC Steering Team, noon
 LYO Super Bowl Party, 5:01 p.m.
 February 11 *Spirit* Deadline
- Mon., 2/6** Stretch and Pray, 5:15 p.m.
 Lectionary Bible Study, 7 p.m.
- Tues., 2/7** Executive Team, 7 p.m.
- Weds., 2/8** Midweek Prayers, 10 a.m.
Verbs of God Bible Study, 5:45 p.m.
 Confirmation, 6 p.m.
- Thurs., 2/9** *Healing the Heart of Democracy* Book Study
 @ Illinois People's Action Office, noon
 Card-Making Group, 6:30 p.m.
- Fri., 2/10** No RLC Ministry Events Scheduled
- Sat., 2/11** **Alive @ Five Worship, 5 p.m.**
 Caring Ministries Weekend
Earthbound Session #6, 6:15 p.m.
- Sun., 2/12** **Worship, 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.**
 Caring Ministries Weekend
 Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
 Zero 39 (High School), 9:30 a.m.
Earthbound Session #6, 9:30 a.m.
 Choir Rehearsal, 9:30 a.m.
 LYO, 6:01 p.m. @ RLC
 February 18 *Spirit* Deadline



February 4 and 5 Lectionary

Scripture references for February 4 and 5, 2012, **The Fifth Saturday and Sunday after Epiphany**: First Lesson – Isaiah 40:21–31; Second Lesson – 1 Corinthians 9:16–23; and Gospel – Mark 1:29–39, Psalm 147:1–11, 20c.

Reflection: In Isaiah it is the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars – it is that God who strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up to health and diakonia. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

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People Power

Worship People Power Reminders

February 4 – Saturday First Week Team
February 5 – Sunday First Week Teams

Please contact your Steward and Marcia Fetzer (MarciaFetzer@reslutheran.org; 663-8252) to report trades or substitutions.

You can also note changes on the People Power calendar posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.



RLC Garden Project

Personal Patch or Group Garden Options

In 2011, the first RLC garden project was a Tomato Patch sponsored by the Eco-Justice Team. A group of enthusiastic volunteers worked together to sow, tend, and harvest 36 tomato plants. The season concluded with a salsa making party and donations of tomatoes to Clare House and Safe Harbor.

This year, the team has decided to expand our garden and give participants two options:

Personal Patch: Individuals, families, or groups will have their own garden plot for which they will be fully responsible. They will decide what seeds or seedlings to plant and then purchase, plant, weed, water, and harvest them. The cost will depend on your individual preferences.

Group Garden: Individuals, families, or groups will share one community garden. They will also decide what seeds or seedlings to plant and then purchase, plant, weed, water, and harvest them together. The cost should be about \$5 to \$10 per person.

For both options, tilled soil and watering supplies will be provided. Personal and group responsibilities will be developed and communicated to those involved. Sharing each patch's harvests with the hungry in our community will be one expectation for all.

If you would like to participate in either type of garden project, please sign up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, February 26, and indicate your Personal Patch or Group Garden choice. Once we know how many people are interested, we will let you know how large the different plots will be so that you can start consulting your seed catalogs.

Your Eco-Bit

Earth-Saving, Energy-Saving Tips and Tidbits from the Eco-Justice Team

On the website for Restoring Eden, Christians for Environmental Stewardship, contributor Brandon Rhodes writes: "Gardening in my experience has been a deeply spiritual practice. It is a way of engaging God's creation in a personal and intimate way that I have found to be first of all frustrating, then humbling, next centering, now rewarding, and finally (if I succeed) delicious." (<http://restoringeden.org/connect/CreationVoice/EchoesofEden>)



God's World . . . Our Hands

The Eco-Justice Team invites you to experience this year's RLC Garden Project – how will it be a spiritual practice for you?

Cedar Ridge Child Program Volunteers Needed

Kathy Eckert, a Promise Council member, has learned that the Cedar Ridge Promise Council needs several volunteers (high school age and up) to assist with their Child Program during the Adult ESL Classes from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Cedar Ridge Elementary School, 2808 Breezewood Blvd in Bloomington.

The children's ages range from 1 year to 12 years old. They are looking for up to 6 volunteers to play games, show movies, and supervise the children each Wednesday and Thursday through May 24. This would be a fun way to use Spanish language skills, but knowing Spanish is not essential.

To volunteer or ask questions, contact Cuca Avila (CHAvila18@hotmail.com).



First Communion Instruction Begins February 22

First Communion instruction is offered for adults and children of all ages whose parents determine that they are ready to attend class and learn the basics of communion. The three classes should be attended by the child(ren) and at least one parent or grandparent. The next session will take place on three Wednesdays, February 22 and 29, and March 7, 2012, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., with the students celebrating their first communion during the March 10 and 11 worship services.

Please sign up at the Welcome Center. Childcare will be provided for those who request it by Wednesday, February 15. A \$3.00 donation for class materials is suggested. Contact Pastor Mary (PastorMary@reslutheran.org; 212-0888; 663-8252) with questions.



FOTCOH Silent Auction Items Due by February 12

A silent auction to support Friends of the Children of Haiti (FOTCOH) is being planned for February. WE ARE IN NEED OF DONATIONS AND WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS. If you would like to donate time, talent, or material gifts to be auctioned, please bring them (or a written description) to the office cubicle closest to the Nursery by Sunday, February 12. We will also have a "reverse auction" option. This is an opportunity to specify a need (raking leaves, fixing a cabinet...) and how much you would pay for having your need met. We will create a bidding sheet so that someone in a position to fill that need can sign up, and the money then goes to FOTCOH. If no one signs up, the need does not get filled.

Items and needs will be on display for bidding from February 18 to 27, with the bidding deadline at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, February 26. No contribution is too small (or large!).

Money raised by this auction will be used for operating costs and repair expenses for the FOTCOH medical clinic in Jacmel, Haiti. An application has been made for Thrivent matching grant.

For special arrangements regarding your contribution, contact Sharon Hoy or Kathy Neil.

EarthBound: Created and Called to Care for Creation

Saturdays – 6:15 to 7:15 p.m., February 4 and 11

Sundays – 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., February 5 and 12

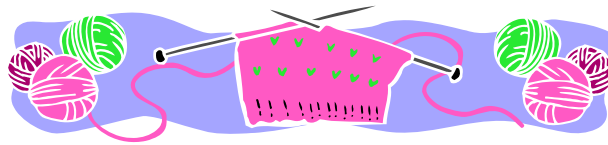
Earthbound: Created and Called to Care for Creation is a new DVD series that looks at Christians' complex relationship with God's creation. It examines the origins of misconceptions about Scripture's portrayal of creation and shows how people throughout the Church are living out a vocation of relating to and caring for creation.

Members of RLC's Eco-Justice Team will lead the sessions. Attend as you are able, as each will have a different focus and format. Snacks provided by participants will be served at the Saturday gatherings.

February 4 & 5 Now/Forever (short-term benefit, or eternal creation)

February 11 & 12 Enough/Too Much (scarcity and abundance)





Caring Ministries Focus Weekend / Prayer Shawl Ministry **February 11 and 12**

On Saturday, February 11, and Sunday, February 12, RLC will lift up several of RLC's Caring Ministries during worship and with displays in the Narthex.

One of the ways that RLC reaches out to congregation members, friends, and loved ones is through the Prayer Shawl Ministry. As recipients are prayed for during and after the knitting or crocheting of shawls, scarves, and lap robes, they are provided with a tangible reminder of the congregation's care and concern.

We will have opportunities to pray over completed shawls and also invite team members who are in the process of knitting or crocheting a shawl to bring it to church for a special blessing. In addition, anyone who has received a prayer shawl may place it on the chairs at the back of the Sanctuary. Please write your initials on a piece of paper and pin it to your shawl so that you can retrieve it after the service.

Trivia Mania Teams Forming

The El Paso Police Department will host its annual Trivia Mania at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 31, at the Parke Hotel, 1414 N. Towanda Barnes, Bloomington. Proceeds benefit Special Olympics Illinois. The entry fee for a team of up to eight people is \$180 and includes a pasta bar dinner. For more information on joining an RLC team or forming your own, contact Erin Luckey or see the flyer on the bulletin board by the church entryway.



Free Parent Expo and Preschool Fair **Saturday February 18, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p. m.** **Trinity Lutheran Church, 801 S. Madison St., Bloomington**

Parents and caregivers of kids from birth to age 12 are invited to attend one or more FREE parent education sessions and learn about community resources during this family-centered day just for parents.

Information session topics include:

Bully-Proofing Your Child
Love and Logic®
Sports Injuries

Study Skills
Cooking for Fun
Power of Play

Childhood Obesity
Parents Right to Say NO
Early Literacy

A Preschool Fair will also be held – 65 preschools and child care centers have been invited to host vendor booths at the Parent Expo, thus providing parents the largest single venue for meeting and talking to staff of preschool and child care centers. Child care will be provided for children three years and over at no charge with reservations. Call Aly at 834-5266 for child care reservations by February 10. Limited spaces are available.

Thank You Note from Habitat for Humanity

Resurrection recently received a letter from Habitat for Humanity of McLean County in response to receiving part of our Advent and Christmas offering, some of which said:

On behalf of Habitat's Board of Directors, staff and partnering families, thank you for your donation of \$1,626.37. Many lives are changed because of the process of building a Habitat house. Volunteers and partnering families develop character and friendships, neighborhoods and community. Your donation directly supports our mission to build simple, decent, and affordable houses for low-income families with a housing need.



Souper Bowl of Caring – February 4 and 5

Following the worship services on February 4 and 5, the LYO will hold soup pots for the Souper Bowl of Caring. They will join young adults in churches across the country to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. Since the Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990, more than \$81 million has gone to help people in need. Over the last 8 years, RLC LYO has collected \$7,501.15.

All of the money collected is donated to charities selected by the participants.

None of the money is sent to the Souper Bowl of Caring Headquarters. They only ask each participant report their collection so national totals can be determined and announced.

This year the LYO has chosen Feed My Starving Children and Sunset Gap Community Center as recipients of the money collected at RLC. Please support the Souper Bowl of Caring by dropping your check or cash in the soup pot on February 4 and 5. Checks can be made to RLC. Last year, \$1,527 was donated by RLC members and friends. Thank you!

Boy Scout Recognition Weekend– February 4 and 5

On Saturday, February 4, and Sunday, February 5, Resurrection will recognize and pray for our Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. All Scouts and their leaders are encouraged to wear their official uniforms to the worship services.

Ministry Prayers

Advocate BroMenn Partners in Healing: During the month of February, we pray for the patients and staff of the Advocate Eureka Hospital Same Day Services Unit. The Same Day Services is an 8-bed unit which provides both medical and outpatient surgical needs. The medical patients seen on this unit are primarily patients receiving IV infusions, injections, and chemotherapy. The surgical patients include all types of outpatient surgery, orthopedic surgery, general surgery, and GI procedures.

RLC Council and Financial Records

January 29 Congregational Annual Meeting Minutes:

<http://www.reslutheran.org/Council%20Reports/Annual%20Congregation%20Meeting%20Minutes%202012-01-29.pdf>

January 2012 Council Minutes:

<http://www.reslutheran.org/Council%20Reports/Council%20Meeting%20Minutes%202011-12.pdf>

December 2011 and January 2012 Staff Reports:

<http://www.reslutheran.org/Council%20Reports/Pastors%20and%20MLSF%20Reports%202011-12%20and%202012-01.pdf>

Yearly Archived Minutes and Reports:

<http://www.reslutheran.org/Council%20Minutes%20and%20Reports.html>

December 2011 Financial Report:

<http://www.reslutheran.org/Financial%20Reports/2011-12.pdf>

2011 Year-to-Date Financial Report:

<http://www.reslutheran.org/Financial%20Reports/2011-12%20YTD.pdf>

Yearly Archived Financial Reports:

<http://www.reslutheran.org/finances.html>

Hard copies of these documents are posted on the bulletin board in the Entryway Alcove.



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Worship Services Schedule

Alive at Five Saturday Worship – 5 p.m.

Sunday Worship – 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School for All Ages

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Resurrection Staff

Co-Pastor	David Armstrong-Reiner	PastorDavid@reslutheran.org
Co-Pastor	Mary Armstrong-Reiner	PastorMary@reslutheran.org
Ministry Leader for Spiritual Formation	Kathy Eckert	KathyEckert@reslutheran.org
Ministry Leader for Administration and Finance	Nikki Houseman	NikkiHouseman@reslutheran.org
Administrative Assistant	Marcia Fetzer	MarciaFetzer@reslutheran.org
Communications Coordinator	Mary Meier	MaryMeier@reslutheran.org
Music Director for Blended and Contemporary Worship	Jerry Worden	
Music Director for Traditional Worship Service	Doug Reiners	
Church Cleaner	Elda Lowe	

RLC Vision:

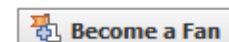
Communities claimed and empowered by God for hope and wholeness

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.



Resurrection Lutheran Church of Bloomington, Illinois on Facebook



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