Resurrection Lutheran Church

November 2026

Resurrection Report

Our mission: Being an example of God's acceptance and grace to all

To my siblings in Christ,

Giving thanks is a central part of intentionally living our faith. This simple act is first a practice that reframes our perspective of the world and our way of moving about in it. At the heart of what we believe is the reality that Jesus is Lord. This is the foundation of the Gospel (Good News). Jesus' lordship is unchanging, unconditional, and without border. This matters because it makes Jesus the anchor point for all of creation; giving every last bit a place within God. More than that, it places Jesus over every other power both inside and outside creation. Jesus has the power and authority to hold it all together AND to bring about its full redemption, restoration, and transformation. The completion of this will be accomplished in Jesus' second coming.

As Christians, we believe that in Jesus' resurrection, this final state of all things broke into the world of the here-and-now. As the church we participate in God's work of making us a part of this new reality by the rite of baptism. In it we are bound to Jesus' own death and resurrection so that we too live into and out of this new reality of Jesus lordship: his giving us place within God, and the pouring out of his redemptive, restorative, and transforming power and authority into us, our lives, and our everyday worlds now. Our thanksgiving is the product of the working of the Holy Spirit and the ongoing practice of living into and out of the reality of Jesus authority and power. It is not something that is forced or faked, it is something that is awakened.

As the church, we are a community that lives into and out of the state of the second coming now. We are a part of God's family now. Jesus, the "firstborn from among the dead", is our eldest sibling. He is the heir, and by being joined to him in death and resurrection we are made fellow heirs. Beyond being family, as the church, we are also made the Living Body of Christ for the world. Each of us, as members of that body, work together to serve the truth and facts of the resurrected Jesus' authority and power in all places with all people.

This certainty causes all kinds of fruit to ripen in the life and content of a Christian. Of these, one is thanksgiving. It is not a thanksgiving that is deaf, dumb, blind, or ignorant. Jesus' Lordship amplifies and preserves everything that embodies the Kingdom of God and its effects. It also means the binding and ultimate breaking of everything that apposes God's Kingdom and their effects. This impact on our today and the outcome of all things are the cause of our thanksgiving.



Rev. William H. Smith

As an outcome of our trust in Jesus' Lordship, our thanksgiving also has the power to impact others and the world. In our own national history, we tell the story of pilgrims and indigenous peoples holding a three-day harvest festival and thanksgiving feast. During the revolution the continental congress declared several days of thanksgiving, and afterward, President Washington declared a national day of thanksgiving. However, the modern Thanksgiving holiday is traced back to the middle of the Civil War. On October 3, 1863, it was President Lincoln who issued a proclamation for a National Day of Thanksgiving on the last Thursday of November.

A symbolic act—at a time when the nation had been torn in two; when more than 200,000 soldiers had died; and the Union was still largely on the losing side of things—the call to national thanksgiving may have seemed out of place. But in the face of those powers that threatened to devour the fruits of God's Kingdom, the proclamation called all people to direct thanksgiving and praise toward God. It was betting on the power of shared thanksgiving and its ability to seed such things as unity, compassion, and hope.

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In a time that is marked by such things as anxiety, fear, division, and cynicism, our practice of thanksgiving is more essential than ever. We need it for our own preservation and growth, but the world needs it too. So, as people everywhere gather for feasts and festivities, I wonder how your life of faith will impact your perspective on all things? I wonder how it will change the way you engage traditions; how you receive your meals; and how you will see, hear, and treat those around you?

The Lord be with you.
Pastor Smith



Book Club will be meeting on Thursday, November 5th at 6:30pm at church.

We are reading and discussing the book, ***Red Sky Over Hawaii*** by Sarah Ackerman.



During WWIIs Pearl Harbor attack, Lana Hitchcock shelters German girls and a Japanese family in a secret property near Kilauea volcano, while struggling to protect their identities from authorities.

RSVP to Judy Berggren at 260-704-3619.
We always welcome new members!
Please join us if you can.

Resurrection Lutheran Church
COMMUNITY PARK

Park Loan
as of 9/30/26

Monthly Payment: $1,452.33
Principle Paid: $114,007.46
Interest Paid: $22,300.02
Loan Balance Due: $185,992.54



Homemade Pumpkin and Dutch Apple Pies in time for Thanksgiving!

Our Alliance Partner – Calvary Lutheran Church in Cromwell is taking orders for freshly baked, homemade Pumpkin and Dutch Apple pies. The pies are **$10.00 each.** Pick up dates are on the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center. The last day of the sale is November 20th. The proceeds are used to underwrite Calvary's **monthly Community Meal Ministry.**
If you have any questions, please contact Glennie Monroe at 260-615-0323 or email her at glenniemonroe@yahoo.com
Thank you for your support.

Threads of Grace

SEWING IN FAITH & FELLOWSHIP

Our next Threads of Grace meeting will be Tuesday, November 10th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come anytime during those hours. All materials will be provided, and you are welcome to bring a sack lunch or snack as we share a devotion, fellowship, and a day of work together.



I am thrilled to announce that we have finished six quilts in just two months! This accomplishment was made possible by Cromwell Church, which donated quilt tops that were already sewn together; members who worked from home; and everyone who helped iron, cut fabric, sew, and tie the quilt tops. Thanks to everyone pitching in, our workstations are set up and running smoothly.



Something new for our group: Threads of Grace T-shirts will be available for purchase. The white Gildan T-shirts are $15 each, cash only. To order, text Judy Berggren by Tuesday, November 10th with size needed, and bring your payment to the November meeting. See the picture for the T-shirt design.

We look forward to seeing you on November 10th.

Christmas cups of cheer

Be a part of extending fellowship to our ***homebound members*** by helping make a Cup of Cheer for them. On **Sunday, December 6th, after worship**, as we snack and visit, all ages will be invited to pitch in. If you would like to help donate goodies, please use this link **https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4AA9A72DA0F49-67101052-2026#/**

Or scan the QR code

Or let Kay know. **Please bring your items to church by Sunday, Nov. 29.** If you volunteer to deliver a cup of cheer, it will be ready to go when we are done on Dec. 6. Questions? Reach out to the church office office@rlcfw.org or to Kay Humbert. Thank you!



YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Garage Sale

Thank you, thank you, thank you, for all of the help we received! Whether you donated items, helped sort or price, worked the days of the sale, baked yummy things, helped pack up and deliver donations, or prayed for us, we couldn't do this without YOU! We had a total of 335 volunteer hours, 116 youth hours, 26.25 Young Adult hours, 192.75 other volunteers. We donated many things to Martha's Closet, as well as Blue Jacket, Little Library in the park and the Salvation Army. We raised over $3,000! Thank you for supporting our youth and ministries for them!



Huntertown Park Treat Trail

On Friday evening Ken and Betty McCroy and some of their children and grandchildren handed out candy and flyers to Trick or Treaters. On Saturday the youth handed out the candy and fliers. Some of them even dressed up. There were so many people! On Friday they ran out of candy completely, and they were close on Saturday. I heard Friday was about 1700 people and Saturday about the same. Thank you to all who donated candy!







ELCA National Youth Gathering

ELCA National Youth Gathering will be held in Minneapolis next summer from June 26 to July 3. These dates could shift if needed for travel though it should still be within these dates. This is a wonderful opportunity and our youth always come back changed in some way. It is an awesome experience and I highly recommend that your youth attend. If you would like more information please contact Sue. Sue will be registering our group Nov 10th. We will begin monthly Youth Gathering meetings to learn more about the Theme and prepare for the trip. The theme for the Gathering is "Imagine More" and we will be learning the following throughout the week while at the Youth Gathering;

Imagine more love. (Mark 4:35-41 — Jesus Calms the Sea)
Imagine more welcome. (Matthew 9:9-13 — A Place at the Table)
Imagine more grace. (Luke 15:11-32 — The Prodigal Son)
Imagine more joy. (John 20:1-18 — Resurrection and Naming Mary)
Imagine more courage. (John 4:1-42 — The Woman at the Well)

College Finals Care Packages

It is that time, to begin collecting items to send to our college students, letting them know we are thinking about them and keeping some connection to Resurrection. I have had both students and parents tell me how much they enjoy and appreciate getting packages and cards from Resurrection. If you would like to donate to the care packages check out the Sign-Up Genius link below

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D48A5AE2BA6FB6-67220791-college

Reconciling Works; RIC Designation

Our RIC (Reconciling in Christ) team has been working on a Welcome Statement that is one of the 4 requirements in order to become an RIC Congregation. Reconciling Works requires certain wording that they know lets visitors and others know that they specifically are welcome. Many people around these topics have been hurt badly by the church or by individual Christians and seeing the RIC symbol and knowing we follow their 4 commitments, they know they are welcome and that it is a safe place. The 4 commitments we as Resurrection will have to make are;

Commitment 1: Clearly state a welcome to people of "all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions" or "LGBTQIA+" and name its commitment to "racial equity" or "anti-racism" in a Welcome Statement.

Commitment 2: Be open to calling LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC (Black, Brown, Indigenous, Person of Color) Rostered Leaders.

Commitment 3: Allow sanctuary/community space to be used for LGBTQIA+ weddings and blessings.

Commitment 4: Make a meaningful contribution annually to support the national RIC program.

Youth Retreat

The Youth Retreat is taking place November 13th to the 15th. We have 5 youth signed up. If someone is not signed up yet, but would like to go, please reach out to Sue ASAP. Sue will follow up with those going to work out details.

Youth Calendar 2026

November 1	11am – 1pm Youth Gathering Meeting (2027 Minneapolis)
November 8	11am – 1pm Service Project
November 13-15	Youth Retreat Leave 5pm Friday Return 12pm Sunday
November 22	No meeting
November 29	No Meeting
December 6	12:30 – 3pm Salvation Army/Angel Tree
December 13	11am – 12:30pm Meeting during Fellowship 12:30 – 2:30pm Youth Gathering Meeting
December 20	12 – 2pm Youth Christmas TBD
December 29	No meeting

***Important future dates**

November 10:
I would like to have those going to Minneapolis for the ELCA National Youth Gathering signed up by November 10. We can add later, but the cost goes up.

June 26 or 27-July 2 or 3:
ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis

LYYRA

Sunday, November 8th 4:00 p.m.

Trinity English Lutheran Church
450 W Washington Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Join us for the Fort Wayne premiere of this all-new, all-women, all-American vocal ensemble originating from the **VOCES8 Foundation**.
LYYRA specializes in classical, jazz, pop, and folk music from diverse traditions and backgrounds.

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 6th 4:00 p.m.

Trinity English Lutheran Church
450 W Washington Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Join five of Trinity's music ensembles for this beloved annual service, marking the seasons of Advent and Christmas. The service will culminate with the Santa Lucia procession in candlelight and will be followed by a beautiful reception, offered by the Women of the ELCA.

New Millennium Jazz/Big Band Orchestra

Sunday, November 29 at 2:30 p.m.

Zion Lutheran Church
2313 S. Hanna St., Fort Wayne, IN 46803

The New Millennium Jazz Orchestra is scheduled to perform live jazz/big band music at Zion Lutheran Church on Sunday, November 29 at 2;30 p.m.
Enjoy an afternoon of some sacred favorites and beloved Christmas classics.

November Anniversaries

1	Shanice & Tori Greener, 8 years
6	Kelley & Tim Bawmann, 33 years
21	Sue & Will Smith, 28 years
29	Dianne & John Joustra, 23 years



Is your birthday or wedding anniversary this month but not listed? Please let us know! Send an email to office@rlcfw.org or call 260-637-5900 so we can get it listed!

November Birthdays

2	Christie Serre Cynthia Sherrill
3	Forrest Van Gundy
5	Josh Braun
7	Dave Berggren
8	Misty Burgett
10	Alastair Fineran-Kanzig
13	Deanna Howell
14	Kay Humbert
15	Kenzie DeKoninck Janet Eby
17	Dave Ibe Connor Schlichter
20	Cole Hoot
21	Darlene Lebrecht Ken McCrory
24	Dave Exner Joy Poinsett
30	Dana Godfrey Pat Gottschalk

PRAY FOR



Dot
Ed Carnahan
Danny Carnahan
Dema Saxton
Annie Wrobel
Bob Wrobel
Jeff Wrobel
Scott Williams
The Smith Families
Mark Loessel
Andra Blume
Ben
Gustave
Kenneth Spencer
Jackson Spencer
Adam Ibe
Diann Williams
Susie Carnahan
Naomi
Mark Riggenbach
Ginny
Tim & Jo Hall
Craig
Chuck
Mark & Margo Grove
Steven Desmond
Michelle
Calvary Lutheran Church Cromwell
The Kanzig & Robertson Families
Family & Friends of Tina Bennet
Family of JaNahn Schlatter Sinn
Families & Friends of Margaret Haft
The Family of Ron Proctor

Military Service:

Bailey Beyer
Jaidyn Beyer
Collin Monteith
Dakota Francis
Jon Popovich
Joshua Kenegy
Richie Thoma

Homebound:

Cheryl Goble
Pat Norris
Pat & Joy Poinsett
Wendy Jackson
Richard Kiser
Cynthia Sherrill

Resurrection Lutheran Church

14318 Lima Road
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46818
260.637.5900
www.rlcfw.org

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

STAFF	OFFICE HOURS
Rev. William H. Smith prsmith@rlcfw.org	Monday | Wednesday: 10:30am – 5pm Tuesday: Sermon prep day: Out of office Thursday: 10:30am – 3pm Nursing home worship: 4pm – 5pm Sunday: All day at RLC
Office office@rlcfw.org	Monday – Thursday: 9am – 2pm
Sue Smith youth@rlcfw.org	Monday: 10am – 2pm Wednesday: By appointment Sunday: All day at RLC
Robin Wessley accts@rlcfw.org	Tuesday

Church Council Members and Ministry Team Leaders

Pastor:
Rev. William H. Smith

Council President:
Lorenzo Manquero

Vice President:
Sue Shilts

Council Secretary:
Kelley Bawmann

Financial Secretary:
Esther Meyers

Treasurer:
Darlene Lebrecht

At Large 1:
Open

At Large 2:
Zach Braun

Evangelism:
OPEN

Stewardship:
Team in place

Social Ministry:
OPEN

Fellowship:
Diann Williams & Julie Sonnenberg

Property:
Team in place

Worship & Music:
Team in place

Youth:
Sue Smith

Education:
Team in place

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday
9am – 2pm

After church hours?

Leave a message or call Pastor Smith at 260.409.6971

Sunday Worship

9:30am
In Person Worship
with Communion
every Sunday

10:45am Faith Formation
September – May

Sunday services are now available for viewiing anytime on our YouTube Channel:
https://www.youtube.com/@resurrectionlutheranchurch2301/streams

9:30am live-streamed on our Facebook page:
https://facebook.comrlcfw

Articles for the next month's newsletter are due by the 26th of each month, if you have something you would like to add, please email it to office@rlcfw.org