

# Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

1433 NW RD Mize Rd  
Blue Springs, MO 64015

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Volume 1: 3



## A Message from the Rector ...

Once, when Mother Teresa visited Australia, a newcomer to the monastery was assigned to be her guide and “go-fer” during her stay. The young man was thrilled and very excited at the prospect of being so close to this saintly woman. He dreamed of all he would learn from her and the conversations they would have. But during her visit, he became frustrated. Although he was constantly near her, he never had the opportunity to speak with Mother Teresa, as there were always other people for her to meet.

Finally, her tour was over and she was to fly to New Guinea. In desperation, the friar had his opportunity to speak to Mother Teresa. He said to her, “If I pay my own fare to New Guinea, can I sit next to you on the plane so I can talk to you and learn from you?” Mother Teresa looked at him. “You have enough

money to pay airfare to New Guinea?” she asked. “Oh, yes,” he replied eagerly. “Then give that money to the poor,” she said. “You’ll learn more from that than anything I can tell you.”

She saw that the young man wanted to experience *a feeling* ... when he needed to simply learn *by doing*.

Dear friends, throughout this campaign, my prayer has been that, as a community, we would continue to build a culture of generosity, each of us becoming more generous with our time, talent and treasure. As the story illustrates, if we want to be better stewards of our many gifts, we do so by sharing our God-given resources with others.

On May 15, we are being asked to make an investment in our church to ensure that we continue to be a source of encouragement, faith and God’s love in

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## Our Children Get Involved, Step By Step!

Our Resurrection children believe that they can put up enough footsteps to walk from Children’s Chapel, around the Undercroft, and back to Children’s Chapel. Prior to March 13<sup>th</sup>, they had already put up 16 footsteps, one six-inch footstep for each dollar collected for our capital campaign. On March 13<sup>th</sup> the children sold 50 bags of cookies and collected \$44 which resulted in 44 additional footsteps!

We are collecting aluminum cans. We will redeem the cans for cash but first we’ll take off the pull tabs to help other kids and their families at the Ronald McDonald House. As of this newsletter

we have collected over \$7 from our can collections.

For the children’s offertory, to date, they have contributed over \$33 to the campaign. If you are counting, that is a total of over \$88 so far.

When the weather warms up we plan to have a car wash, or maybe a Frisbee Fair with hotdogs and snow cones. Who knows? We have lots of ideas, but we’ll just take it step by step and follow God in all we think, say and do.

Submitted by Diana Trammell

## Campaign Prayer

May you, O God,  
warmly embrace us with your grace  
and favor our humble lives  
to follow your direction.  
Our desire is to honor you with a  
renewed awareness of your glory.

Enable our best efforts in upgrading  
this house of worship  
and the grounds on which it stands.

Open our minds  
as stewards of your bounty  
to serve you, and serve others now  
and in generations to come,  
according to your will.

May your will be done  
through the Episcopal Church of the  
Resurrection here on earth  
as it is in heaven.

Grant us the mind of Christ  
in our actions and meditations  
so that, in all things, we say,  
not our will but your will be done.

Through Jesus Christ,  
our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

We have a vision that is amazing and exciting. We are inviting you to invest yourself through the resources that God has given you – your energy, your prayers, and your money – in this work to which God has called us.

Henry Nouwen

**Q&A:** If you have a question you would like to answered, you can send it to Bill Cordaro at [billc@church-development.com](mailto:billc@church-development.com) or call him at 816-797-1114. Bill is the consultant from Church Development assisting us with the campaign.

**Q: What can we expect from the campaign leading up to Commitment Sunday, May 15, 2011?**

A: Toward the beginning of May, each household will be mailed a 9x12-inch commitment packet that includes a colorful brochure, a letter from Fr. Ron, a commitment card, a return envelope and a refrigerator magnet. The brochure summarizes why we believe we need to conduct a campaign at this time. Please return your commitment card to church on May 15<sup>th</sup> or before.

**Q: When will we know what exactly is included in the renovation plan?**

A: Once the project team has collected bids and designs for the desired projects, a parish-wide meeting will be held to share the information and receive feedback from the parishioners.

**Q: Will the congregation get to vote on how the money will be spent?**

A: It is the responsibility of your elected Vestry members to set the project priorities and to allocate the financial resources of the church.

**Q: When do we make a commitment to the campaign?**

A: Parishioners are asked to return their commitment cards to the church on Commitment Sunday, May 15th. Commitment cards may also be mailed to the church.

**Q: Will Church of the Resurrection go into debt to pay for the projects?**

A: No. The church will not be taking out construction loans to pay for the projects. Only projects with sufficient funding will be initiated.

**Q: When will the projects begin?**

A: Work will begin once we have decided on the project details and have collected sufficient funds to pay for high-priority projects.

**Q: How much are we going to be asked to commit?**

Each person or family is asked to make an equal sacrifice—not an equal pledge. While there is no set amount, we suggest that each household prayerfully consider committing 5 percent of total annual family income each year for the three years of the campaign.

For those on limited incomes, we suggest that you prayerfully consider committing the equivalent of 5 percent of your household assets either in a lump-sum gift or spread over the three years of the campaign. Household assets are items such as real property, investments and savings.

Please remember that your commitment to this campaign is in addition to the amount you are currently giving the church through the offertory. The chart below shows how your gift can multiply.

5% Sacrificial Giving Chart				
Monthly Income	Weekly Pledge	Monthly Pledge	Annual Pledge	Total 3-Year Pledge
\$500	\$6	\$25	\$300	\$900
\$1,000	\$12	\$50	\$600	\$1,800
\$2,000	\$23	\$100	\$1,200	\$3,600
\$3,000	\$35	\$150	\$1,800	\$5,400
\$5,000	\$58	\$250	\$3,000	\$9,000
\$7,000	\$81	\$350	\$4,200	\$12,600
\$10,000	\$115	\$500	\$6,000	\$18,000
\$15,000	\$173	\$750	\$9,000	\$27,000

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# Q&A: Continued from page 2

**Q: Will the campaign money be kept separate from money budgeted for the church operating fund?**

A: Yes. Money donated to the Capital Campaign is separate from the church operating fund. We are asking parishioners to make commitments of money and assets that are in addition to their normal annual pledges



**Q: Will the money raised in the campaign raise our parish Diocesan apportionment?**

No. Money raised for the Capital Campaign has no impact on our apportionment.

**Q: When do we start making contributions toward our three-year commitment?**

On Sunday, May 15, 2011.

**Q: What other ways can I support the campaign besides cash contributions?**

You can take advantage of any number of options to participate in the campaign.

**Income Producing Assets:** Income from rental properties or monies from other income producing assets provide a source for increased giving.

**Sale of Assets:** Selling a house, car, land, or business provides income for giving.

**Corporate Gifts:** Those who have used their business as a source for giving have made significant donations.

**And don't forget tax refunds!**

**Q: What kind of assets should I give?**

Appreciated investment property held more than one year, such as stock, mutual fund shares, bonds, real estate, collectibles, and

other such property have tremendous tax advantages.

Personal property such as automobiles, jewelry, and other items may also be given. There may be no capital gains tax benefits, but the financial and spiritual benefits can be tremendous.

**Q: Can we take advantage of the IRS Ruling that makes donating funds from IRAs very attractive?**

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows IRA account owners who are age 70 ½ and older to make direct gifts from these accounts to qualified charities without reporting the gift as income. Funds in a 401(k) or 403(b) may also be rolled over into an IRA to accomplish this. Please consult your tax advisor for more details or contact parishioner Jim Gilligan at 816-210-7611 for more information..



**Q: Can I change my commitment at a later date if I need to?**

We recognize that people's situations change, therefore; you can change your commitment by just calling the parish office. (If by chance you win the lottery, we hope you will consider changing your commitment level upward.)

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If we raise funds for the creation of a community of love, we are helping God build the Kingdom. We are doing exactly what we are supposed to do as Christians. St. Paul is clear about this: "Make love your aim".

Henry Nouwen

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**Commitment Sunday**  
**May 15**  
**Bring Your Commitment**  
**Cards to Church**

### Message from the Rector

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order that we can represent Christ and make the world a better place in which to live.

I invite you to join me in responding to God's leadership and to the request to make a three year financial commitment to the community we call our spiritual home. Your support of this campaign is important! The amount of your support, however, is not as important as the process used to determine your commitment. Please pray ... for God's guidance and for a joyful heart as we continue to serve Christ in this place ... praising our past, investing in our future.

With Joy & Hope,  
Fr. Ron+

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**Q: What happens if we don't reach our goal of \$200,000?**

We may not be able to do as many of the projects that need to be done. In this case, we will keep the parish informed about our progress as we go.

**Q: Can we take advantage of corporate matching funds at our place of employment?**

Many businesses provide corporate matching of employee's donations to non profits. Generally corporate matching gift programs will not support church operating budgets. However, they may match your contributions to the church building campaign or renovation efforts. Check with your employer for more information.

**Q: Do I have to sign a contract when I make a commitment? What happens if I can't make my commitment payment because of illness or loss of job?**

You do not sign a contract; however, we do ask that you complete a commitment card. Completing the card indicates to the leadership how much money we can expect to raise and to plan accordingly. Your commitment reflects an agreement between you and God and therefore there is no formal or legal obligation on your part to fulfill your commitment.

**Q: What is the advantage of giving our entire contribution all at once at the beginning of the three years?**

We will be depositing all campaign contributions in an account until we have enough to complete the most important projects. When you complete your contribution early, we can start on our projects

