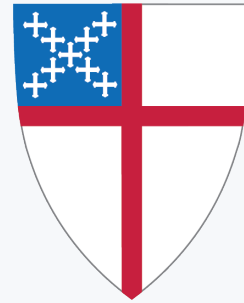


Episcopal Church of the Resurrection



1433 NW R.D. Mize Road
Blue Springs, Missouri 64015



2023 Annual Report

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In Loving Memory

Michelle Leitner

Joan Short

Gus Sifuentes, Jr.

Frances Keenon Roser Smither

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls
and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Parish Office

1433 NW R.D. Mize Road
Blue Springs, MO 64015
816-228-4220
office@episcopal-bluesprings.org

Clergy

The Rev. Jonathan W. Galles, Rector
rector@episcopal-bluesprings.org



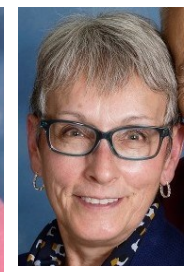
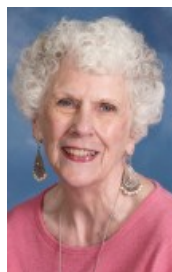
Staff

Vaughn Scarcliff, Organist and
Choirmaster



2023 Vestry

Jonathan Galles, Rector
Bill Carle, Senior Warden
Joe Owen, Junior Warden
Jim Gilligan, Treasurer
Elaine Marshall, Secretary
Gabe Conn
Tim Culver
Diane Gerlach
David Henson
Mary Liddle
Jan Pahlas



ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 2022

February 5, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Senior Warden Bill Carle at 11:00 AM. Fr. Doug Johnson, long-term supply priest, opened the meeting with a prayer. A quorum in accordance with the church by-laws [at least one-fourth of the Average Sunday Attendance recorded in the Parochial Report filed for the most recently filed calendar year] was certified. Elaine Marshall was elected clerk for the meeting.

Bill Carle remembered the faithfully departed: Gene Dexter, Amy Duell, Nancy Linthicum, Ruth Lux, Ron McIntire, Pat Still and the Rev. Donald Robert Seay.

In April of 2022, Molly Conn was baptized. Bishop Diane Jardine Bruce confirmed Lane Vermillion, Steven Dudley, Kim Culver, and Tim Culver In September.

The minutes from the February 6, 2022, annual meeting, contained in the Annual Report were approved by voice vote following a motion and second.

Retiring Vestry members are Bill Carle, Jim Gilligan, and Les Woodward. Bill Carle and Jim Gilligan agreed to serve another term and they, along with Tim Culver, were elected to the Vestry by a voice vote following a motion and second.

The election of Delegates to the Diocesan Convention and Deanery meetings was the next order of business. Bill Carle and Jim Gilligan agreed to be delegates with John Biggs serving as an alternate. Bill Carle reminded everyone that all meetings are open.

Fr. Doug Johnson talked about his service in pastoral care as well as celebrating on Sundays and referred to his article in the Annual Report.. The reports from the Senior and Junior Wardens are also included in the Annual Report.

Sr. Warden Bill Carle thanked Fr. Doug Johnson for his service to the congregation. The new Vestry was introduced.

Bill Carle talked about all the work Les Woodward has done in maintaining our building, including being here on Christmas Eve when the furnace broke. He presented Les with a token of appreciation for his service.

Sr. Warden Bill Carle recognized the leaders of our Ministry and Small Groups. Their reports are included in the Annual Report. Each group is open to new people joining them.

The creation of the "Parking Angels" has raised almost \$10,000 this year. Volunteers assist with parking at Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral during events. These folks help people find parking spots in the Cathedral parking lot during the

many activities held in downtown Kansas City, MO. The parish gets to keep up to half the proceeds from parking fees, depending on the number of churches volunteering.

Sr. Warden Bill Carle reported there is on-going discussion with a possible contractor as we move forward with the addition to the narthex and new lift. Donations received to-date total approximately \$186,000 for the project.

Treasurer Jim Gilligan reported the stewardship campaign for 2023 resulted in 44 pledges, averaging \$3,763 for a total of \$165,581. There were 7 new pledges with 9 dropped pledges. After the Treasurer's presentation, the Treasurer's report and 2023 budget were approved by voice vote.

A report of the activity of Search Committee is in the Annual Report. Jim Gilligan explained the phases of the process which include the creation of an in-depth parish profile that is submitted to the Diocese for approval and then filed with the national office before the actual search for a new rector can take place.

On behalf of the congregation, John Biggs thanked Bill Carle for the services he provides and the time he spends at the church, especially during this interim period.

Janece Buckner thanked all who serve on the Pastoral Care Committee as they continue to keep in touch with those in need. Gabe Conn, a member of the committee, said they need people to let them know of anyone who might need assistance.

Diane Gerlach, who does the scheduling of eucharistic ministers, acolytes and lectors, asked people to please consider serving in this ministry. Lisa Twitty, who does acolyte training, stated she is happy to meet with anyone who is interested in serving.

There being no further old or new business, Fr. Doug Johnson offered a closing prayer and the Annual Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Elaine S. Marshall, Secretary

RECTOR'S REPORT

The Rev. Jonathan W. Galles +

Greetings people of The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, Blue Springs:

What should I say to you in my Rector's report about the relatively brief time we've had together so far? Well, I'd like to open by sharing an interaction that happened my very first service here at Resurrection. Now, this didn't happen during the service itself. It happened immediately after.

We'd finished the service, and everything had gone well and I was greeting people at the back of the church as they headed out. Joan Spease walked up to me. She took my hand in both of hers and said, "welcome home." That might not seem like a big deal to you, but it was powerful for me. I was touched in a way that went beyond the words themselves. In that moment, Resurrection became a home for me and that is what I want to share with you about my time here so far. In coming to Resurrection and getting to know all of you, I've felt like I've come home to a home I never knew I had.

I've gotten to know many of you. Through conversations in many locations, many of you have shared your stories with me. I've heard your thoughts in parking lot conversations, during our bible study, and over coffee. It has been a pleasure to hear your stories and perspectives. I have truly enjoyed walking alongside you so far, and I know I will continue to do so. I look forward to getting to know those of you I haven't been able to yet, and I look forward to deepening my relationships with those I have.

This is a very special congregation. I sensed it right from the beginning. I didn't make this parish. I didn't plant this church. I came to it. So let me say thank you. Thank you to all the people who founded this congregation and to all the people who have put in work over the years to keep it going and to give it the character that it has. Thank you to all the previous clergy, and Father Doug in particular. Thank you to all the people who have served as wardens, vestry members, treasurers, and committee leaders and members in years past.

Thank you to all the people who serve today. Thank you to our wardens, vestry members, treasurer, committee leaders, committee members and our altar guild, altar servers and choir members. Thank you to our altar guild and hospitality members and to our members of outreach for all that they do. Thank you to all those who meet for Bible study and the Daughters of the King. Thank you to all those who aren't

formally a part of any group of the church but continue to support and give of their time and resources, nonetheless. Finally, thank you to all the people who wear multiple hats, serving in several of the groups I mentioned above. Thank you.

I think we sometimes get mistaken into thinking the church is its clergy. Clergy have an important role, but clergy are not the church. The church is us together. Church is not something I do. Church is something we do together. I can't do this alone. I am not the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection. We are the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection. The church is its people, and we have a lot of people for whom we should be thankful. Thank you to all of you.

Looking to the future, I will keep it simple. What we already have is good, and we will keep steadily working to build upon that. The ongoing work of the church essentially falls into three categories: new members, existing members, and financial health.

(continued on next page)



RECTOR'S REPORT (continued)

The Rev. Jonathan W. Galles +

(continued from previous page)

We need to make it as easy as possible for new members to learn about us, feel comfortable with our way of worship, and get involved. Yet also respecting that they may not wish to. I plan on doing this primarily through additional resources for newcomers online. Our online presence is the primary way new people will encounter us, and we need to take that seriously.

We also need to make sure that those within the congregation continue to feel spiritually fed and provide them with opportunities for ongoing growth, discipleship, and study. This is an ongoing conversation. We already attempt to do this. Sacramental worship is the heart of what we do here as a community. I strive to provide the congregation with meaningful sacramental worship alongside relevant and engaging preaching. Beyond this, we also seek to have ways people can engage in theological education and exploration as well as community service. We have things we are already doing, but we can always try new things and expand. I want church to be a place where you can encounter Jesus and find meaning that points to the eternal truth of God and the hope that he offers. Please never hesitate to tell me how I can help facilitate that for you.

Beyond new and existing members, we have to tend to the church's finances. Our church is at a good place financially, but that is something that only is the case because of the ongoing efforts and offerings of this community. Yet, we can

never rest on our laurels. The church's finances are only ever as healthy as the current year, and I call upon you to support the church this year as you did last year. I deeply appreciate all of your financial support of this congregation, past present, and future.

Resurrection is at a good place, but that doesn't mean now we stop and relax. Being at a good place means we keep going. We keep making it easier for new perspective members to find us and get to know us, largely through online resources. I will try to keep worship meaningful, and we will try and have programming that helps people follow after Christ. We will continue to be fiscally transparent and responsible with the resources we have.

How will we do all these things? Last week, we had a baptism. In it, you all repeated and reaffirmed your baptismal covenant. Do you remember how you promised to do things? You promised you will fulfill your baptismal covenant "with God's help." That is our path ahead. That is how we will keep going.

I feel so blessed to be here and walk with you all on this journey. 2023 was a great year. 2024 is looking bright, but it will have plenty of work to do. How will we do what we must? We will do it joyously, with God's help.

Fr. Jonathan W. Galles +

MUSIC AND CHOIR

Vaughn Scarcliff

The choir at Resurrection continues to be steadfast in its work to lead the congregation in song and liturgy.

The choir returned in September with the addition of one singer to round out the overall quality of the choir. We are truly grateful to all our singers and especially the students who attend the music conservatory at UMKC. They work many hours to provide music at our services, in addition to the requirements placed on them at the conservatory.

I also want to mention anyone is cordially invited to come sing in the choir. We have rehearsal after the 10:30 service on Sundays. There is no weekday practice.



SENIOR WARDEN REPORT

Bill Carle

Resurrection faced challenges and changes again in 2023. Following the retirement of Fr. David Lynch in October 2022, Jim Gilligan and the dedicated members of the Search Committee worked diligently through the search process to bring new spiritual leadership to our parish. We are blessed that the Rev. Jonathan W. Galles was called to be the 5th Rector of the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection.

On September 16, parishioners were able to meet Fr. Jonathan and his wife Jessica and their 6-year old daughter Leona at an informal “Meet and Greet” hosted by our Hospitality Committee.

Fr. Jonathan came to us from St. Paul's Episcopal Church in The Dalles, Oregon, and celebrated his first service with us on September 17. On November 4, The Rt. Rev. Diane M. Jardine Bruce, Bishop Provisional of the Diocese of West Missouri led the Institution and Installation of Fr. Jonathan at Resurrection. A reception and luncheon followed the service.

At their May meeting, the vestry approved a construction contract with Longbow Contracting of Lee's Summit to build an addition to the church to accommodate the relocation of the stairway and a new enclosed lift. Construction began in June and has proceeded in a “2 steps forward, 1 step back” pace. My gratitude to Jr. Warden Joe Owen for overseeing this project. Please see Joe's report.

The Covid pandemic continued to provide challenges to our parish. Services were canceled on March 19 due to a Covid outbreak and the St. Patrick's Dinner was postponed until late May. Despite Covid concerns, parishioners joined in fellowship and worship for ecumenical services, parish dinners and numerous other functions.

I can't thank Fr. Douglas Johnson enough for the love and service that he has given our parish as we continued the process of calling a new priest to Resurrection. In addition to celebrating the Eucharist at both weekly services, Fr. Doug has provided pastoral care as only a long-time friend of the parish can. Resurrection was also blessed with an array of supply priests during 2023. The Reverends Mark McGuire, David Wilcox, Ryan Wiksell and Ron Keel all took turns leading Sunday services. Bishop Diane joined Resurrection again to celebrate the service on December 12 as part of her annual visit.

At our February 5, 2023, Annual Meeting, Tim Culver was newly-elected to the vestry while Bill Carle and Jim Gilligan were elected to serve additional 3-year terms. Vestry members completing their 3-year terms in January 2024,

include Joe Owen, Diane Gerlach and Jan Pahlas. Returning members include Gabe Conn, David Henson and Mary Liddle. Monthly vestry meetings were attended both in-person and via Zoom software. Elaine Marshall again served Resurrection in her role as Secretary of the vestry during 2023.

The 2023 Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of West Missouri was held November 10 and 11. Delegates from Church of the Resurrection were Fr. Jonathan Galles, Bill Carle and Jim Gilligan.

Resurrection's finances remained strong in 2023 as parishioners stayed current with their annual pledges and Capital Campaign commitments. Your vestry is thankful for the trust and support of our parish family.

Resurrection has many hard-working people serving the church and our community through various ministries. Please read the following committee reports for a full description of these ministries and feel free to join in the fun!



JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT

Joe Owen

2023 was a very active year with a few projects completed and one large construction project (Narthex expansion and lift) started.

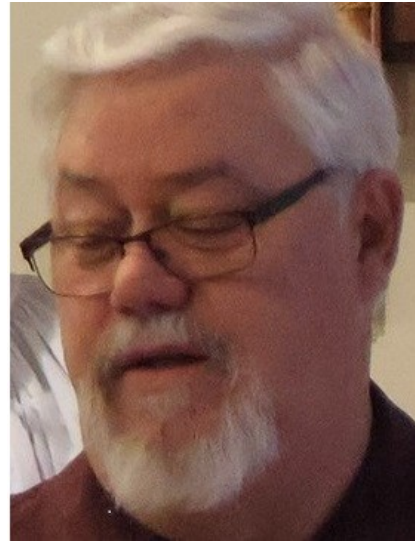
- Relocated a speaker into a constructed speaker box in the Choir loft to remove a tripping hazard and to create more space.
- Replaced one of four air conditioner condensers and a blower motor. All four units received major service and repaired all issues.
- Relocated the microphones in the Choir loft area to provide better sound both in the sanctuary and online, also cleaned up wiring to remove tripping hazard.
- Purchased new counter tops for the undercroft replacement coffee bar cabinets and installed them with a backsplash.
- Removed two dead / dying trees and stumps. The trees on the southwest side were trimmed to extend their lives and shaped to improve their appearance.
- Jan Pahlas managed the purchase of new kneelers for the communion rail. Thank you Jan for taking on this project.

The Narthex expansion got started in the spring with the hope of being completed by early fall. We had several unforeseen issues and are hoping the project will be complete by early spring 2024. The old Baptismal font was relocated to the Memorial Garden before construction started. The Chair lift is on order and due in town around February 14, 2024.

When the Narthex is complete, we will have a list of issues

and projects to work to keep The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection a welcoming and safe worship space.

Thank you to all the people who have helped with all the projects, especially the Narthex addition.



COMMUNICATIONS

Jim Gilligan

Each week we send an e-mail to parishioners and friends to keep everyone informed of current events and programs. Resurrection's website (www.episcopal-bluesprings.org) is also updated weekly for service times and notices.

The website contains a wealth of information including an archive of weekly e-mails, vestry meeting minutes and financial reports. There are also links to Resurrection's official parish calendar where you can look for events and times, the current server schedule, plus much more!

Thanks to Elaine Gilligan and Lisa Twitty for updating Resurrection's FaceBook page regularly as well!

A dark blue footer for the website. At the top, there are navigation links: home, who we are, faith and worship, serve, connect, stewardship, calendar. Below these is the church's logo (a shield with a cross and a star) and the text: "The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection", "1433 NW R.D. Mize Road - Blue Springs, Missouri 64015 - 816.228.4220". A small italicized line of text reads: "The Church of the Resurrection is a Christian community cultivating a personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ, each other, and our neighbors by promoting justice, peace and love through worship, ministry and outreach." At the bottom, there are links for "Experience Traditional Liturgy and Music", "Server Schedule", "Weekly Lectionary Readings", and "Submit a Prayer Request".

ACOLYTES

Lisa Still (Twitty)

The acolyte ministry at Resurrection is a voluntary program to be involved in the worship service by assisting clergy during Holy Eucharist and other services.

The acolyte team welcomed two new members this year, Bill Noone and James Duell. Jayden has decided to step back for a while and will be available for special services.

The current active participants are Ernie, Abbie, Marie, James, and Bill. The acolyte team is always looking for individuals to be a part of our worship service. If interested, please contact Lisa Still (Twitty) for more information.



HOSPITALITY

Diane Gerlach & Elaine Marshall

There are currently sixteen (16) ladies on the Hospitality Committee. Everyone is welcome to be a part of our group as more hands make lighter work. And, we have good fellowship as we work.

We prepared the receptions for the funerals of Joan Short in August and Michelle Leitner in September. During the year there were meals after the Annual Meeting in February, and a Lenten dinner for folks from several Blue Springs churches. Later in March there was a St. Patrick's Day dinner. Fall has been a busy time for us. On September 16, there was a Meet & Greet for Father Jonathan and his family, followed by his Installation and reception on Saturday, November 4. On December 17, Bishop Diane Jardine Bruce made her annual visit, where we provided a lunch.

As we move into 2024, we will again be providing a luncheon for everyone after the Annual Meeting. Please join us in the Undercroft.



BEST CHOICE LABELS

Meg Swant

Our congregation saved a bit more than 1,000 labels this year. We should be receiving a check for \$30 (labels) plus \$30 bonus (\$60 total). Thank you to all who saved and brought to church.



ALTAR GUILD

Gabe Conn

The Resurrection Altar Guild continues to be a blessed, devoted and active committee. We have a wonderful group of ten people. They are Janeece, Judi, Diane, Kitty, Beth, Jan, Brenda, Janet, Paula and Gabe. Elaine Marshall volunteers to maintain the linens.

Our mission is to ensure that the Altar is prepared for all church services and celebrations during the year. If special additions are anticipated these are discussed with the Priest and completed.

If you are interested or just curious about what we do just ask any of our members.

We are always happy to give information to others who would be interested in this ministry. You can never have too

many members.

Our goal for the upcoming year is to call other men and women to join our ministry. We work in pairs and there is one on one instruction along with an instructional manual. No one is pressured to serve until completely comfortable with their position.



USHERS AND GREETERS

John Biggs

Ushers and Greeters are dedicated parishioners that are often the first persons to greet visitors, newcomers and regular parishioners when coming to The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection. Ushers strive to provide a friendly welcome to all entering our church to attend services.

Ushers also answer questions, encourage visitors to sign the guest book, distribute worship leaflets, provide a head count of the congregation, bring the sacraments up to the altar, collect the offering, usher parishioners to Holy Communion and tidy the church after the service has ended. Being an

usher is not just a meaningful ministry but a wonderful way to meet other parishioners.

Our 10:30 a.m. usher group is currently manned by Jim & Elaine Gilligan, Ernie & Diane Gerlach, Joe & Marilyn Owen, Brenda Sprofera & Bill Noone and John & Joyce Biggs. We would welcome additional members, so if you might have any interest in joining our group please notify any of the current ushers.



LunchBunch with Bishop Bruce at Olive Garden in Blue Springs on July 20, 2023.

BOOK CLUB “Finding Faith through Fiction”

Elaine Marshall

Our small group (Debbie Carle, Diane Gerlach, Carol Middleton, Maura Zumwalt & me) continues to delve into all kinds of worlds!

We continue to be fascinated by the creativity of the author’s mind, occasionally questioning “where on earth did they come up with that?” A couple of books especially led to these thoughts: *Who is Maud Dixon* by Alexandria Andrews and *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus (do you equate cooking with chemistry???)

Ivan Doig’s story, *The Last Bus to Wisdom* gave us an insight into the Depression Era and a young boy who, with his great

-uncle, took to the road as an escape, meeting fascinating people along the way to finding a home.

With so many books available, sometimes it’s a challenge to decide on just which ones to select. Have you read something to recommend?

Since the third week of the month seems to be a busy time we have moved our meeting day to the THIRD TUESDAY still at 1:00 PM. We now meet in the new Daughters’ room. Do come join us.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Jan Pahlas

In 1885, a young 31-year-old Margaret “Maggie” Juliet Franklin, a wife and mother of two, led a women’s Bible study in Manhattan, New York, parish known as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. This group of women called themselves “Daughters of the King.” Margaret, seeking a deeper, more passionate relationship with Christ and His church, called a meeting of the group on the eve of Easter. The purpose of the meeting was to “arouse their interest and urge their cooperation as a class of definite workers for Christ and His church.” On that night in 1885, what would become known as “The Order of the Daughters of the King ®,” was born.

Daughters of the King is NOT, as we recently learned that a new Daughter was told, a secret society. Daughters are united in their call for intercessory, evangelism and service to Fr. Jonathan and our parishioners.

We meet on the third Saturday of the month at 10:00 am. We discuss the prayer needs each Daughter has and what services might be needed by the church or other Daughters.

We’ve been studying the book *The Lost Gospel of Mary* as well as doing a study of some of the women in the Bible.

Each year we stuff Christmas stockings with a cap & gloves, candy (lots of candy!), popcorn, hot cocoa and a toy for the

kids in the Back Snack program. The last two years we’ve adopted a family from Hillcrest Ministries and provided what each family had on their Wish List.

Please feel free to speak to any Daughter (Dixie Flaigle, Diane Gerlach, Elaine Marshall, Carol Middleton, Marilyn Owen, Jan Pahlas, Idida Perez, Judy Ramirez, Brenda Sprofera, and Paula White) if you would like to know more about DOK. We are always happy to talk about what being a Daughter means to us and could mean to you!



PASTORAL CARE

Gabe Conn

The Pastoral Care Committee's purpose is to be there in sickness and in joy, in sorrow or celebration, in crisis or transition. To lift up to God our prayers for anyone in need. To listen and to pray.

We reach out by visiting those who are ill or unable to come to church. We take Holy Communion to the hospital or home. We deliver meals and offer ride assistance if needed. We regularly phone those who are unable to attend church and just visit with them.

We have a card ministry that Debbie Carle oversees. She also manages ECORprayers@att.net. A link is available in the weekly e-mail newsletter and on our website (episcopal-bluesprings.org.) You may also request prayers and visits by

calling the church at 816-228-4220.

The members of the Pastoral Care Committee are:

Janece Buckner	Idida Perez
Debbie Carle	Joan Spease
Gabe Conn	Marie Weisbach
Diane Gerlach	Paula White
Kitty Hampton	Janet Woodward
Jan Pahlas	

All members of the congregation who are interested in sharing our purpose are welcome to join this special group.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Rich Conn

This small, special team at Resurrection attempts to keep a watchful eye on all areas concerning safety and security. We are the background seldom seen at the church. Keep in mind that we are always seeking new volunteers for this type of outreach. Listed below are activities accomplished over the past year.

- 1) The usher/ greeter policy for the church has been re-written to avoid excluding members of this activity due to hesitations concerning duties.
- 2) The safety document for the church was re-written. It is more user friendly and concise concerning issues of safety in the church. It spans all areas concerning personal and group safety when at the church or using the equipment found at the church. When examined, several areas were noted to be deficient. These included such things as floor issues, locking doors and windows and awareness signs for traffic and wet floors. The church continues to be plagued with water issues in the undercroft. At this point in time stop-gap measures are in place to mediate the problem. It has been suggested the breaker boxes be examined and repaired as needed. This situation is being discussed. Those things found to be dangerous are being corrected.

- 3) It was found we need to identify a person or persons who are willing to address the issue of snow removal for the walks and ramp leading to the church. For those interested in meeting this challenge, please contact Rich Conn.
- 4) The fire department made their annual visit. We received a passing grade after several adjustments.
- 5) Because we are seeing an increase in the number of people who physically attend services at the church, and use of the building for classes and other activities, the following areas will be implemented in the next several months.
 - CPR and first aid classes.
 - Dealing with situations when a fire has been identified in the church or on the grounds.
 - Dealing with wind and storm scenarios.
 - Dealing with gathering disturbances.
 - Cameras and door security systems have been approved and await purchase and installation.
 - Traffic control during large events at the church needs to be examined and instituted.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Rich Conn.

OUTREACH

Annie Scott

Committee Members: Pat Carle, Ina Lewis, Laurel Olsen, Brenda and Bob Holbrook, Rich Conn, Beth and David Henson, Beverly Hudson, Steve Dudley, Mary Liddle, Stew and Annie Scott.

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, the Outreach Ministries have continued to help many. Special thanks go to Elaine Gilligan in her effort to obtain a Jubilee grant of \$750 to aid in our efforts.

Necessity Pantry – The pantry continues to serve many in need. The toiletries pantry continues during these times in partnership with the Independence Community Services League food pantry. We collect toiletries the third Sunday of each month. Our contributions also help to provide basic necessities to those in need. Marie Weisbach delivers our contributions of toiletries to the pantry each month and also helps St. Michaels with distribution.

BackSnack – Our BackSnack angels have done an excellent job continuing with this much needed ministry. Currently, we are serving 15 children at Thomas Ultican on a weekly basis. Many thanks to all those who make this ministry happen. There is someone helping with this ministry Monday through Friday. Special thanks to our Daughters of the King who supplement this ministry during the course of the year. Community Services League – CSL continues to serve many. Our congregation has been ever present in the calls for assistance including: school supplies, collection of food items throughout the year, gift donations for the Christmas Store, parishioners volunteering at the Christmas Store, collection of knitted hats, scarves and mittens. When we receive a call from Hannah, who is the new director, we get the word out and our parishioners are always generous in their efforts to help.

Blessing Bags – We continue to provide Blessing Bags to be handed out to those in need. As we have adapted to Covid and are getting out more than in the year past, there has been an increase in the delivery of Blessing Bags. Grab a bag and have it in your car to pass out.

Uplift – Rich, Gabe and crew have done an excellent job in their effort providing 60 nutritious meals to the homeless community. We currently deliver 60 meals once a month. Rich has done an excellent job providing delicious meals even as the cost of the ingredients continue to rise. If you are interested in helping prepare the meal please contact Rich. Thanks Rich!

Hillcrest Ministries – This year we have provided a monetary donation to help with set up cost of groceries to those who

are moving in to one of the apartments. Janeece, Brenda Holbrook and Marie Weisbach help clean the apartments and help with groceries and restocking the apartment before someone moves in. There has also been a huge response from our congregation on items needed for the apartment such as pillows, blankets and silverware. Joyce Biggs and her quilting group supply quilts for the graduates of Hillcrest when they complete the program.

Primero Aqua – This ministry of providing “water first” by drilling water wells and providing well maintenance to Honduran communities in need was adopted as an International Outreach of Resurrection in 2023. Resurrection raised \$1400 and the Diocese contributed over \$2000 on our behalf to this ministry.

Our congregation is generous in so many ways. Many thanks to each and every one of you!



PARISH LIFE

Bill Carle

The Parish Life Committee coordinates and schedules the congregation's social and worship activities as well as the use of the church building and grounds. Led by the Rector, Bill Carle and Elaine Gilligan, this committee met with the leadership of our various parish ministries in January and July of 2023 to set the church calendar and to improve communication and support of our programs.

Despite lingering concerns surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic, Resurrection's parishioners managed to celebrate services and fellowship together. The 10:30am services were broadcast online via Facebook and YouTube on a regular basis. Resurrection again joined four local churches to hold the annual Lenten Ecumenical Services and dinners.

A team led by Joe Owen, Diane Gerlach and Tim and Kim Culver organized several fun activities. Parishioners attended three shows at the New Dinner Theater during 2023, and the Culvers hosted a horse-themed BBQ get-together in June.

Fr. Jonathan Galles joined Resurrection in time to preside at the October 14th Blessing of the Animals service held outside. That same day, the annual bonfire at the Biggs' home- stead was enjoyed by a large gathering. John and Joyce also hosted a New Year's Eve party to finish 2023.

Other activities included the St Patrick's and Shrove Tuesday Dinners and the first-Sunday monthly pancake breakfasts. Parishioner Independence Fire Department Captain Jason Conn gave us all a chance for hands-on training on the use of fire extinguishers in the church parking lot.

Weekly Bible Study continues with an increase in participation with the arrival of Father Jonathan's leadership. Monthly gatherings continue with "Finding Faith through Fiction" book club and the Lunch Bunch gathering at a local restaurant.

A hardy group of parishioners earned significant funds for the church by directing event parking at Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral during 2023. These funds paid for several improvements around our church.

Elaine Gilligan continued her ministry of delivering coffee mugs to the homes of first-time Sunday visitors. Elaine, along with Lisa Twitty and Elaine Marshall, organized a two-day photo session in November which will result in a new Resurrection photo directory in early 2024.

GARDEN ANGELS

Gabe Conn

We developed this committee in 2018 appropriately named the Garden Angels. It was formed to develop new areas and maintain new and older areas for the garden architecture.

We have an energetic crew to work on the project. Rich, Gabe, Bill, Bob and Brenda, Janeece, Lane, Paula and Alex. This year we successfully maintained the plants and groomed the garden beds. We added some of the Easter flowers to add a splash of color.

We look forward to 2024 to see what glorious colors abound. We feel a great street presence with our landscaping is as important as a warm welcome at the door.

We will continue to formulate the expansion of the memorial garden on the west side of the church. We moved the stone baptismal font to the new area since it was displaced by the new addition. Hopefully after the addition is com-

pleted, we will work on landscaping that area.

The border garden on the East side of the church was badly overgrown creating a visual hazard for those leaving the church. A great deal of volunteer plant growth and the presence of poison ivy has slowed the progress on this project. When Spring arrives, this will continue to be addressed.

We would love to have others help us. Even if you don't know much about plants, there are many other jobs to assist with; especially maintenance.

Suggestions from the parish are always welcome. If you have any thoughts about the garden areas, please speak to any member of the committee.

We hope to see you in the Spring when new projects develop.

COLUMBARIUM & MEMORIAL GARDEN

Bill Carle

The Vestry-authorized Columbarium Board consists of five members of the Church. The Senior Warden serves as Chair of the Board while the Rector serves on the Board and appoints the remaining three members (each serving a three-year term). Current members include Fr. Jonathan Galles, Sr Warden Bill Carle, Mary Liddle (term through January 2025), Elaine Gilligan (through January 2026) and John Biggs (through January 2027). Board members held their mandatory annual meeting on November 28, 2023.

The purchase of a Right to Inurnment in the columbarium is priced at \$1,500. It is important to note that all funds received from the sale of Rights to Inurnment are separately accounted for and maintained as a restricted account for Columbarium purposes. Twenty-three of the forty niches have been reserved as of the end of 2023. Parishioners interested in the purchase of a Right to Inurnment should speak with a Board Member.

Resurrection held no services of inurnment in 2023.

The Board also oversees the parish outdoor Memorial Garden. A \$350 Interment Fee includes a memorial service for

the in-ground burial of cremains, an engraved nameplate on the Memorial Plaque and maintenance as long as the Memorial Garden exists. In 2023, Resurrection held one service for the burial of the ashes of Eva Herzog Pintus (mother of Gabe Conn).

2023 Financial Summary

	Columbarium Fund	Memorial Garden Fund
Revenue	\$0.00	\$350.00
Expenses	\$0.00	\$146.00
Balance	\$25,515.93	\$618.00

SPECIAL THANKS TO FR. DOUG JOHNSON +

Jim Gilligan

On behalf of the entire parish, special thanks and love to Fr. Doug for leading Resurrection during the transition time between Fr. Lynch and Fr. Galles. The great news is that Fr. Doug and Sue will still be with us as members of the congregation and so we will continue to be blessed with their presence and gifts.

Fr. Doug selflessly gave of himself in so many ways to Resurrection during the last year. His guiding hand, wise counsel, thoughtful sermons, administration of the sacraments and pastoral care were just what Resurrection needed. Not to mention he did all of this with relatively little compensation.

On a personal note, I have known Fr. Doug for many years. He is both a friend and a gifted priest to me. When I lost my son-in-law to cancer, he was quick to sooth my soul. As I led the Search Committee I called on Doug many times to get his thoughts, his advice, and especially his prayers. He never let me down and was always available to help in any way he could. Thank you, Fr. Doug + from my heart!!



SEARCH COMMITTEE

Jim Gilligan

The Search Committee concluded its work in 2023 with the unanimous recommendation to call the Rev. Jonathan W. Galles as the fifth Rector of the Church of the Resurrection. The Vestry met with Fr. Galles, agreed with the Search Committee, and ultimately issued a call to Fr. Galles with the approval of Bishop Diane Jardine Bruce..

Fr. Jonathan's first Sunday at Resurrection was on September 17. He was formally installed as Rector on Saturday, November 4, 2023, by Bishop Bruce. (See pictures)

Sincere thanks to the members of the Search Committee for the many, many hours of thoughtful and prayerful work which concluded with the joyous arrival of Fr. Jonathan.

Members included Jim Gilligan (Chair), John Biggs, Janece Buckner, Rich Conn, Carol Middleton, Bill Noone, Joe Owen, and Lisa Twitty.



STEWARDSHIP & FINANCES

Annual Stewardship Campaign Results:

Total Pledges for 2024:	\$172,296
Number of Pledges:	47
Average Pledge:	\$3,666
Number of Pledges that increased	21
Number of Pledges that remained the same	19
Number of Pledges that decreased	4
Number of new Pledges	3
Number of dropped Pledges	0
Net change in # of Pledges from 2023	+3
Net change in \$ Pledges from 2023	+\$6,715

2024 Pledges			
Range	Number	Amount	Average
\$1 - \$999	9	\$3,840	\$427
\$1,000 - \$1,999	8	\$10,600	\$1,325
\$2,000 - \$2,999	8	\$19,476	\$2,435
\$3,000 - \$3,999	2	\$6,500	\$3,250
\$4,000 - \$4,999	8	\$36,540	\$4,568
\$5,000 - \$5,999	1	\$5,400	\$5,400
\$6,000 - \$6,999	3	\$18,740	\$6,247
\$7,000 - \$7,999	2	\$15,000	\$7,500
\$8,000 - \$8,999	3	\$25,200	\$8,400
\$9,000 +	3	\$31,000	\$10,333
Total	47	\$172,296	\$3,666

Cash on Hand 12/31/2023

Bank of America Checking Account	\$25,430.53
Bank of America Savings Account	\$15,186.53
Bank of America Rector's Disc. Fund	\$2,630.21
Stifel Nicolaus Brokerage Account	<u>\$450,491.37</u>
Total	\$493,738.64

Unrestricted/Restricted

Unrestricted	\$257,179.92
Temporarily Restricted	\$209,707.37
Permanently Restricted	<u>\$ 26,851.35</u>
Total	\$493,738.64

Temporarily Restricted 12/31/2023

Building Fund	\$123,610.57
Memorial and Gifts Funds	\$33,509.64
Flower Fund	\$12,221.83
Events and Fundraisers	\$10,061.19
Outreach/BackSnack Fund	\$7,995.41
Sunday Breakfast	\$4,893.34
Parish Organizations	\$4,143.04
Parking G&HT Cathedral	\$4,019.42
Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$2,680.21
Hospitality (Promotions)	\$2,192.38
Other	<u>\$4,380.34</u>
Total	\$209,707.37

Permanently Restricted 12/31/2023

Columbarium Fund	\$25,515.93
Memorial Garden Fund	\$618.00
Endowment/Foundation	<u>\$717.42</u>
Total	\$26,851.35

Operating Fund Balance

Beginning Balance 1/1/2023	\$147,035.17
2023 Net Addition	\$85,299.60
Unrealized Gain on Investments	<u>\$22,484.87</u>
Ending Balance 12/31/2023	<u>\$254,819.64</u>

Operating Fund Reconciliation to Unrestricted Cash

Operating Fund balance 12/31/2022	\$254,819.64
Plus: AP/Payroll Taxes Payable	<u>\$2,360.28</u>
Total Unrestricted Cash	\$257,179.92

ACTUAL 2023 vs 2023 BUDGET 2024 BUDGET

	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	Budget 2024
Revenues:			
Loose Offerings	\$20,000	\$14,456	\$20,000
Special Offerings	\$0	\$8,000	\$2,000
Pledge - current year	\$165,581	\$148,285	\$172,296
Pledge - prior year	\$365	\$2,375	\$0
Pledge - prepayment	(\$19,500)	\$36,510	(\$36,510)
Dividend Income	\$2,100	\$2,455	\$2,500
Interest Income	\$2,000	\$12,634	\$8,400
Miscellaneous Income	\$200	\$532	\$200
Total Revenues	\$170,746	\$225,247	\$168,886
Expenses:			
Rector's Stipend & Housing	\$68,400	\$19,833	\$68,000
Rector's Insurance	\$22,344	\$11,000	\$35,316
Rector's Pension	\$12,312	\$3,060	\$12,240
Rector's HSA Contribution	\$1,000	\$333	\$1,000
Rector's Continuing Education/Expenses	\$300	\$178	\$2,300
Supply Clergy - Stipend & Mileage	\$1,372	\$12,456	\$1,136
Rector Search and Moving Expenses	\$0	\$10,945	\$0
General Office/Supplies/Postage/Copies/Web Site	\$2,554	\$2,179	\$2,392
Building and Grounds	\$9,900	\$9,709	\$9,900
Utilities (electric, gas, water, trash, phone, internet)	\$9,310	\$9,412	\$9,921
Christian Education	\$900	\$809	\$900
Diocese of West Missouri	\$22,586	\$22,586	\$24,180
Hospitality & Pastoral Care	\$600	\$922	\$600
Insurance	\$6,350	\$6,587	\$6,650
Altar & Liturgical Supplies	\$1,000	\$1,143	\$1,000
Musicians and Choir	\$10,800	\$11,450	\$10,800
Music Director/Substitute Organist	\$14,198	\$13,898	\$14,897
Music	\$700	\$435	\$500
Finance and Stewardship	\$3,054	\$3,013	\$2,604
Total Expenses	\$187,679	\$139,948	\$204,336
Net Cash Flow	(\$16,933)	\$85,300	(\$35,450)

<i>Offset by Prior Year Pledge Prepayments</i>	\$36,510
<i>Adjusted Net Cash Flow</i>	\$1,060