

Share the . . .

Volume 31, Issue 10

SPIRIT

March 13, 2010



Resurrection Lutheran Church

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DIGG – Dynamic Interactive God Gathering

Sunday, March 14, 6 to 8 p.m.

"I need a God who's **now**. I need a God who teaches me **how to live now**. I need **a faith that's about today**...that helps me understand the world that I live in today, the world that you and I know is here and now...I need to know how to live here and **find meaning and purpose today**." – Rob Bell, "Trees"

Do you sometimes feel disconnected from God, disconnected with those around you? Do you sometimes find yourself searching for "a faith that's about today"? You are not alone.

You just might be interested in **DIGG**. Introducing a new form of worship at RLC called the "Dynamic Interactive God Gathering." *Dynamic* because it evolves as our faith evolves. *Interactive* because we exercise discussion, participation, and knowledge/action regarding matters of our faith journey and social justice issues. We use technology such as videos to start dialogue and spark action and contemplation of our faith, and what it means to be followers of Jesus today.

DIGG is open to **EVERYONE**, youth, high school students, college students, and adults – singles and families. DIGG is a lay-led, non-traditional worship gathering. Whether or not you attend traditional worship matters not; this is simply one more way, a different way, to connect with God in a setting where those around you may be struggling with the same questions, wrestling with their faith, and searching for "a God who teaches me how to live now."

DIGG gatherings will be held once per month with opportunities for small groups to meet outside our larger DIGG gatherings. DIGG begins on Sunday, March 14, in Grace Hall at RLC from 6 to 8 p.m. Please invite those around you...if you know someone who isn't attending traditional worship, please invite them to join us.

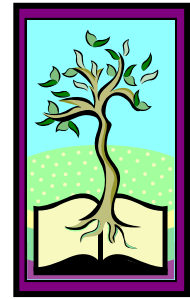
"May you believe...that you can be a partner with God in redeeming and restoring this fallen, broken, hurting world. That you can literally be a partner with God in **making this the kind of place that God originally intended it to be**. May you be the kind of person, **that when you live this way, the very trees of paradise are being planted**." – Rob Bell, "Trees"

Please email Andy Wittman if you would like to assist with the gathering in any way.

Join us on **your** journey beginning Sunday, March 14.

Be Resurrection Weekend – April 10 and 11 Branching Out on the Vine

On the weekend after Easter, RLC members will branch out on Jesus' vine in our community for our second annual "Be Resurrection" experience. **One worship service will take place at 8:15 a.m. on Sunday, April 11.** It will be similar to the worship services others may carry out into the community. No regular services at 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 10, or at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, April 11, will be held.

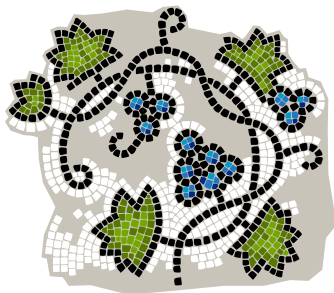


Starting on Wednesday evening, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day), you may sign up for a project at the large "Be Resurrection" display in the Narthex. During the next weeks of Lent, be thinking and gathering a "team" of friends, family members, your Sunday School class, your small group, or a new person you invite to join you on Be Resurrection weekend.

Start dreaming of where and how you would like to serve, and contact our Be Resurrection Project Manager, David Thompson, with your ideas. He will work with you on all the details needed for your project. You may reach David at david.thompson@hope.edu or his cell phone, 309-660-5077. You may also contact Kathy Eckert (663-8252; kathyeckertrlc@verizon.net) with questions.

As you are "Be-ing the Resurrection," you will worship, build relationships, and serve together in the name of Christ. Our roots run deep – Our branches reach wide.

Fruit on the Vine Spotlight! Stephen Ministry Workshop



On Saturday, February 27, our RLC Stephen Ministers demonstrated what true hospitality on the vine is all about. Together, they hosted a regional Stephen Ministry Caring Workshop for nearly 100 folks from twenty Central Illinois churches of varying denominations. The half-day event included sessions on "Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief" and "How to Care in a Distinctively Christian Way," along with an introduction and invitation to churches to become Stephen Ministry congregations.

Publicity involving a mass mailing, email invitations, personal phone calls, and a radio spot on WXRJ were expertly handled by Mary Meier, Letha Seip, Jody Linton and Mark Purcell. Donna, Jeff, and Travis Able, along with Kathy Neil, set up the Narthex tables and displays. Sharon Hoy, Letha Seip, and Kathy Neil registered our guests. Karen Dahlstrom, Marla Cerven, and Sherri Watson greeted and welcomed everyone. Linda Cooper, Deb Helgeson, and Jane Frieden baked and displayed a beautiful table of snacks, treats, and beverages for three different sessions. Donna Able and Mark Purcell coordinated the resource table and handled book sales and return shipping. Joanie Krajewski fielded questions at our Stephen Ministry display table. John Klein worked with Deaconess Nanette Dost, our guest speaker, on audio visual and technical details. Jessi Hoy, Karen Dahlstrom, and her sons, David and Tom Thompson, assisted everyone in taking down all the displays and readying Grace Hall for Sunday. Kathy Neil coordinated the various volunteers' tasks.

In addition, our Stephen Ministers shared their faith through the opening and closing prayers, a personal testimony and participation in small group discussions and prayer partner experiences. Kathy Eckert, workshop coordinator, can't say enough good things about the whole bunch!

Have you got a story about other "fruits" on the vine? If so, please share it with the rest of the community and give or email your contribution to Mary Meier (663-8252; MaryMeierRLC@verizon.net) for another "Fruit on the Vine" spotlight.

Grapefully yours,

Kathy Eckert, Ministry Leader for Spiritual Formation

March 13 to 21 RLC Ministry Events

- Sat., 3/13** Confirmation Lock-In Ends, 8 a.m.
Alive @ Five Worship, 5 p.m.
- Sun., 3/14** **Worship, 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.**
Pancake Breakfast, 9 to 11 a.m.
Sunday School/Zero 39, 9:30 a.m.
“Producing Fruit” Adult Forum, 9:30 a.m.
Adult Choir Rehearsal, 9:30 a.m.
DIGG Worship Gathering, 6 p.m.
March 20 *Spirit* Deadline
- Mon., 3/15** Stretch and Pray, 5:45 p.m.
Disciple Bible Study, 7 p.m.
Safe Harbor Meal Served by Thrivent Office
- Tues., 3/16** Council, 7 p.m.
- Weds., 3/17** Midweek Prayers, 10 a.m.
Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m.
Eco-Justice Team Meeting, 5:45 p.m.
Knitting and Crocheting Session, 6 p.m.
Holden Evening Prayer Service, 7 p.m.
with Nancy Kerns Speaking
Adult Choir, 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs., 3/18** Stephen Ministry Leaders, 6:30 p.m.
- Fri., 3/19** No RLC Events Scheduled
- Sat., 3/20** **Alive @ Five Worship, 5 p.m.**
- Sun., 3/21** **Worship, 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.**
No Sunday School/Zero 39
No Adult Forum
No Adult Choir Rehearsal
Wings and Prayers Service, 3 p.m.
March 27 *Spirit* Deadline



March 21 Lectionary

The **Fifth Sunday in Lent** scripture references for March 21 2010: **First Lesson** – Isaiah 43:16–21; **Second Lesson** – Philippians 3:4b–14; **Gospel** – Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32; and **Psalm** 126.

Reflection: The Lord our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the second reading we recall the transformation of Saul, the persecutor, into Paul, the apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

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**Daylight Savings
Time Begins on
Sunday, March 14!**

March 13 and 14 People Power Reminders Second Saturday and Sunday Teams

From Monday to Thursday, please contact Marcia (663-8252; marciafetzerrlc@verizon.net) to report trades or substitutions. On Friday, Saturday, or Sunday morning, call the Steward for your worship service with changes.

You can also note changes on the People Power calendar posted on the bulletin board in the Nursery Alcove. Stewards: be sure to always check the calendar for the most recent information prior to the start of worship.



Vacation Bible School Benefit **Sunday, March 14, 9 to 11 a.m.**

The RLC Fellowship Team will be serving a Pancake Breakfast in Grace Hall on Sunday, March 14, from 9 to 11 a.m. Pancakes, sausage, biscuits and gravy, muffins, coffee, tea, milk, and orange juice will be served.

A free will offering will be taken, with the proceeds going toward Vacation Bible School expenses. If you would like to assist with preparing, serving, or cleaning up, please contact Sandy McAuley.

Congregational Meeting to Elect Council Members **Sunday, March 28, 12:01 p.m.**

On Sunday, March 28, Resurrection members will meet to elect Congregation Council members. The Congregation Council's duties include leading our congregation in stating its mission, doing long-range planning, setting goals and priorities, and evaluating its activities in light of its mission and goals. The Council also seeks to involve all members in worship, learning, witnessing, service, and support and to help empower and engage the lay ministers of our congregation. In addition, the Congregation Council is responsible for the financial and property matters of the congregation.

We have a full slate of nominations for Council: The Nominating Team will officially present the following names at the March 16 Council meeting for approval to be placed before the congregation on March 28: Paul Augsburg, Chris Ayers, Braeden Barbour, Carolyn Bojarowicz, Kelly Malinowski, and Mandy Fischer.



Easter Garden

Sign Up for a Flower by March 22

You are invited to help decorate our Sanctuary in honor of the Resurrection of Our Lord with our beautiful Easter Garden. Flowers may be dedicated in honor or in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for blessings received or a special occasion. Please sign up for a flower on the Kiosk and leave a check made out to Resurrection in the attached envelope by Sunday, March 22.

Easter Breakfast

Sign Up to Provide Food by March 28

RLC's annual Easter Breakfast will be served in Grace Hall by our LYO members from 8 to 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 4. All RLC members and friends are welcome to enjoy fellowship before or after a worship service. Please sign up to bring food or beverages on the poster on the Kiosk by Sunday, March 28.

Counseling Services for Seniors

Catholic Charities is now providing professional in-home counseling services to seniors of all faiths who may be struggling with depression, grief and loss, anxiety, family relationship issues, or other issues that are impacting their mental well-being.

This service is for any senior over the age of 60 who lives in their own home or apartment in McLean County and could benefit from counseling services. There are no fees for this service. Donations may be made to help support the program.

To make a referral please contact Amy Fischer, MSW (309-829-6307 ext. 222; afischer@ccdop.org).

Upcoming Lenten Services and Suppers

Wednesday, March 17 Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m.
Holden Evening Prayer Service
with Nancy Kerns Speaking, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 24 No Soup Supper (Spring Break)
Holden Evening Prayer Service
with Chris Hoy Speaking, 7 p.m.



On the Vine: Growing in Jesus Sunday, March 14, Adult Forum

During Lent, we will explore what it means to be “on the vine,” to be connected to Jesus. Join us in our final “On the Vine” Adult Forum on Sunday, March 14, at 9:30 a.m. in Grace Hall as we explore **Producing Fruit: Stewardship and Giving as a Lifestyle of Faith**. Because of Spring Break, the Adult Forum originally scheduled for March 21 will not take place on that date.



God's World . . . Our Hands

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

Did you know that that fabric softener is only necessary in loads of laundry with synthetic fabrics? Natural fabrics such as 100% cotton do not require fabric softener.

It is very easy and inexpensive to make your own reusable dryer sheet. Pour about 1.5 inches of fabric softener into a clean spray bottle. Fill the bottle with water and shake to mix. Find an old colorfast washcloth with a color easily identifiable in your laundry. Spray the washcloth with the fabric softener mix 5 or 6 times and throw it in the dryer with your laundry.

Submitted by Kathy Neil. Also see http://www.ehow.com/how_4605080_own-fabric-softener-sheets.html for additional information.

Our Giving and Attendance

Dates: 03/01/10-03/07/10

Offering: \$7,811.84

Weekly Mission-Based Goal: \$8,557.70

Year-to-Date: \$80,661.05

Year-to-Date Mission-Based Goal: \$85,577.00

Lenten Service Worship Attendance: 55

Weekend Worship Attendance: 215



This information is preliminary and has not been verified by the Financial Secretary, so it may change slightly after verification.

Ministry Prayers

Stewards: Teaching and Trusting Prayer for the Day: God, you have called us to steward your creation and to faithfully follow you into the dangers and difficulties of life. Guide us and lead us. Reconcile us and renew us for your purposes. Work in us and work through us. We want to give ourselves passionately to everything that matters to you, in Jesus' name.

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Illinois State University
Campus Religious Center 210 W. Mulberry St. Normal, Illinois 61761
309-452-4471

March 4, 2010

Resurrection Lutheran Church
4114 East Oakland
Bloomington, IL 61704

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

There is a fire deep in the heart of the mountains that blows ash into the sky. The ash falls, fertilizing the soil below. Living at the foot of a volcano may seem a little risky to us, but we do love the rich coffee that soil produces, and the bananas, nuts and other fruits.

By the time you get this, we should be in Guatemala. Because of the fire deep in your souls, ash has blown our way to enrich our trip. As young church leaders, we remain confident that the trip will bear much fruit for many years to come. We pray that La Escuela de los Santos, *The School of the Saints*, will light a fire deep in the children of the jungle around Retalhuleu.

Thank you for your gift of \$822.00, received on March 1, 2010, to make our journey possible. We hope that the stories we share when we return will enrich your life in some small way, keeping the fire of your faith burning bright.

Peace,

J. Martin Eckert
Campus Pastor

Abby Harms
Junior
Special Education-
Low Vision/Blindness
Lutheran Student
Movement, Pres.

Andrea Darveau
Freshman
Speech Pathology
APO

Kathy Eckert
AIM
Resurrection
Lutheran Church

PS: You can keep up with us at <http://www.caminosdeesperanza.com/blog>.

Expanding Minds...Deepening Faith...Inspiring Service



Resurrection Lutheran Church

4114 E. Oakland Avenue, Bloomington, Illinois 61704
(Towanda Barnes Road and Oakland Avenue)
309-663-8252; www.reslutheran.org



Schedule of Services

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 to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Resurrection Staff

Co-Pastor	David Armstrong-Reiner	PastorDavidRLC@verizon.net
Co-Pastor	Mary Armstrong-Reiner	PastorMaryRLC@verizon.net
Ministry Leader for Spiritual Formation	Kathy Eckert	KathyEckertRLC@verizon.net
Ministry Leader for Administration and Finance	Nikki Houseman	NikkiHouseman.RLC@verizon.net
Administrative Assistant	Marcia Fetzer	MarciaFetzerRLC@verizon.net
Administrative Assistant	Becky Domkuski	BeckyDomkuskiRLC@verizon.net
Publications Secretary	Mary Meier	MaryMeierRLC@verizon.net
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

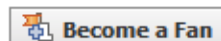
RLC Mission:

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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