
Resurrection Lutheran Church: E-Newsletter

Sunday Worship

Pastor Riley Place

Service - 9:30am
 Sunday School - 10:30am
 Fellowship - 10:30am

March Food Pantry Item

Canned Pasta

LENT STUDY SERIES: "HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE"

Pastor Riley Place

Weekly on Wednesdays
 6pm - meal provided

All are welcome!



GROWING TOGETHER AT RESURRECITON

As we continue our new newsletter rhythm, thank you for the encouragement and feedback so far. We appreciate your support as we pilot this hybrid approach, alternating between digital and print in the months ahead. Our goal is simple: to keep our congregation informed, connected, and encouraged in the life we share at Resurrection.

In each issue, you'll see more than announcements. We'll continue highlighting members of our church family, sharing brief devotionals, and including stories that reflect who we are together. If you ever have something to share, we'd love to hear from you.

Thank you for being part of this church family and for growing together in faith.

Blessings,
 Corbin Kramer

Resurrection Family,

As we enter the season of Lent, we step into one of the most meaningful rhythms of the Christian year. Lent invites us to slow down, to reflect, and to return — not out of guilt or obligation, but out of grace. Lent has often been misunderstood as a season meant to make us feel bad about ourselves. Certainly, it is a time for reflection — a time to acknowledge our sin, our shortcomings, and the ways we fall short of who God created us to be. But the purpose is never to leave us



**PASTOR RILEY
PLACE**

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stuck in shame or self-pity. Instead, Lent helps us see our need more clearly so that we can receive Christ's grace more fully. When we recognize our brokenness, the cross becomes more than a symbol — it becomes personal. We are reminded that Jesus willingly went there for us, carrying our sin and speaking words of forgiveness, mercy, and love even in His final moments. His sacrifice was not simply an event in history; it is the living promise that forgiveness has already been won through His blood. One of the ways we are walking through this season together is by gathering on Wednesday evenings to reflect on the final phrases of Jesus from the cross. Each week, we are not only hearing these powerful words but also learning practical ways to study Scripture ourselves. Together, we are exploring different Bible study methods that help us slow down, observe carefully, ask good questions, and listen for how God is speaking into our lives today. These evenings are intentionally multigenerational. We begin by sharing meals together because faith was never meant to be lived alone. Around tables, conversations happen, relationships grow, and we remember that church is not just something we attend but a family we belong to. Lent is also a reminder that faith is not passive. Jesus' command to His followers is active: "Go and make disciples." The Christian life is not simply about being saved and then retreating into comfortable routines. Instead, out of gratitude for what Christ has done, we are invited into a life of participation — receiving God's grace and sharing it with others at the same time. This is not a call to guilt or pressure. It is an invitation to trust God enough to take the next step. For some, that step may be joining a Wednesday gathering for the first time. For others, it may mean serving, inviting a friend, reconnecting with church life, or stepping just slightly outside a comfort zone. Growth in faith rarely happens all at once; it happens one faithful step at a time. The beautiful truth is that we are stronger together. God is doing wonderful things here at Resurrection Lutheran Church and throughout Mitchell — in quiet conversations, shared meals, acts of service, and moments of renewed faith. Each of us has a role to play in what God is building, and each of us is both a recipient and a participant in His work. I am truly blessed and excited for what God is doing among us. My prayer this season is that each of us hears God's invitation personally: Return to Me. And as we do, may we discover again the depth of His grace, the strength of Christian community, and the joy of being used by God for the good of others and the growth of His kingdom. Grace and peace, Pastor Riley

God's Blessings,
Pastor Riley Place

RLC Monthly Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

March 1 – Kaytlin Adams
 March 3 – Jim Handsel
 March 4 – Kaytlin Kaiser
 March 5 – Tonya Klingaman
 March 7 – Nova Bietz
 March 11- Deborah Merkwana

March 11 – Taryn Van Gorp
 March 12 – Riley Muller
 March 12 – Dean Strand
 March 14 – Jaylin Johnson
 March 15 – Nicole Kiner
 March 16- Trevor Allen
 March 18- Kris Morris

March 20 – Ronald Jendersee
 March 21 – Don Everson
 March 21 – Don Ross
 March 21- AuBree Tollefson
 March 22- Jaxson Tollefson
 March 23- William Graham
 March 24- Lynn Gades

March 24 – Leigh Anne Larson
 March 25 – Amelia Skovbo
 March 26 – Irene Tischler
 March 27 – Erin Allen
 March 27 – Chad Cody
 March 27 – Gilbert Faller
 March 27 – Dan Fechner
 March 28 – Riley Duxbury
 March 29 – Ruben Vogel
 March 30 – Jo Schamber
 March 31 – Nadine Ozanne



Prayer List

Blair Gades, Wayne Gerlach, Bo Geidel, Marilyn Hedblom, Peggy Kelly, Kris Morris, Ron Neuguebauer, Charles Pekas, Bradley Poiz, Becky Skovbo, Juanita Stone, Irene Tischler, Cal Vogel, Ruben Vogel, Troy Bollock, Diane Vander Heiden , Ryan Zilla, The Family & Friends of Peter Erickson, The Family & Friends of Tammy Miller



March Daily Prayer

Lord God,
 As a new season begins, plant Your truth deep within us.
 Renew our hearts, grow our faith, and help us trust You in every season.
 Teach us patience as we wait, compassion as we serve, and hope as we follow You.
 May our lives reflect the new life You give through Christ.
 Amen.

Highlights from the February 10th Church Board Meeting

Present: Kevin Erdmann, Dan Fechner, Corbin and Syd Kramer, Angie Petersen, Pastor Riley Place, Karen Pooley, Kristina Starr and Scott Larson

Pastor Report:

The annual meeting went well, and Tuesday Bible study remains well attended. Confirmation will pause during Lent for a “How to Study the Bible” class. Communion with unleavened bread was received positively, and several young couples have begun attending. With Ash Wednesday approaching, Pastor Riley is preparing for Holy Week. New optional lighting was added behind the crosses, and Pastor Riley is nearing completion of his seminary work.

Board President:

Dan informed the group about the Lightwell Ministry Safety Summit on March 5. It is an all-day event, and he will be attending.

Youth & Family Ministry:

The youth group held their Chopped Challenge last Wednesday, with Dani and Pastor Riley serving as judges. They are planning an Easter craft event on March 14, where Tara will provide a stencil for a wooden round welcome sign, costing \$25 per sign.

Finance:

The Finance Report was reviewed, and Church Windows updates are ongoing. Insurance remains the largest annual expense at about \$8,000, with \$1,500 in February bills so far. Some payments have moved online, and credit card receipts should be submitted to Karen. The report was approved following a motion by Kristina and a second by Angie.

Membership:

The Worship Life Committee was officially handed off to Janelle Weber following a meeting. Emily Hohn and family transferred their membership. The first e-newsletter was sent by text and email, and the 0–6 month RLC Strategic Plan was distributed as a reminder of current goals. A motion to upgrade Allen and Jo Brakke’s membership was made by Kevin, seconded by Angie, and carried.

Worship Life:

Janelle was absent, so Pastor Riley shared her updates. She created a binder for fellowship and usher volunteers, though it has received some negative feedback and may not feel as personable as desired. She also developed a volunteer sign-up sheet to help build a yearly calendar schedule, though its feasibility is still being considered given the size of the church.

Properties:

The parking lot lights are on and can be set to automatic if needed. Scott Petersen installed lights around the sanctuary crosses, and Scott Larson will check the steeple cross lights, which are currently out. Scott proposed updating the church locks and/or adding security cameras, though the board prefers to address one project at a time and views fire alarms as a higher priority. A fire extinguisher inspection is scheduled for February 19, and an updated lock quote will be brought to the next meeting.

• March Devotional: Growing in Faith

Week 1 – Renewal

Bible Story: Jesus and Nicodemus (John 3:1–17)

Nicodemus came to Jesus at night with honest questions. Jesus spoke to him about being born again — about the new life that comes through faith. Just as March brings signs of spring after a long winter, God brings renewal to our hearts. In Christ, we are never stuck in the past. We are invited into new life each day.

Prayer: Lord, renew my heart and remind me that Your mercy is new every morning. Amen.

Week 2 – Patience

Bible Story: The Mustard Seed (Matthew 13:31–32)

Jesus compares faith to a tiny mustard seed. It may start small, but over time it grows into something strong and steady. Growth does not happen overnight. God often works quietly and slowly in our lives, shaping us in ways we cannot always see.

Prayer: God, help me be patient as You grow my faith. Amen.

Week 3 – Compassion

Bible Story: Jesus Heals a Blind Man (John 9:1–12)

When others passed by, Jesus stopped. He noticed the man who was blind and responded with compassion. Christ sees people fully and responds with love. We are called to slow down, notice others, and reflect that same care in our words and actions.

Prayer: Jesus, open my eyes to the needs around me and guide me to respond with kindness. Amen.

Week 4 – Hope

Bible Story: The Triumphal Entry (Matthew 21:1–11)

As Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people welcomed Him with hope. Even when the road ahead was uncertain, God's plan was unfolding. Hope trusts that He is always at work.

Prayer: Faithful God, help me walk each day with hope. Amen.

Spring Confetti Cake Bars

Ingredients:

1 box white cake mix

2 eggs

1 cup white chocolate chips (*optional*)

1/2 cup vegetable oil

1/2 cup pastel sprinkles

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix cake mix, eggs, and oil until well combined. Fold in sprinkles and white chocolate chips. Press evenly into a greased 9x13 pan. Bake 18-22 minutes, until lightly golden on the edges. Cool completely before cutting into bars.

Church Announcements

MITCHELL'S PERSON OF THE YEAR

Our very own Karen Pooley was selected as Mitchell Republic's 2025 Person of the Year. Congratulations to Karen!

There is a reception being held **March 7th from 2:00-4:00** at the **Carnegie Resource Center**. All are welcome to celebrate her dedication, leadership, and impact on our community. We are so lucky to have Karen as a member of our congregation. She does so much for us at church, also so much for the Mitchell community.

Let's celebrate her!

Carnegie Resource Center
119 W 3rd Street

WELCOME SIGN EVENT

Youth and Family Ministry Committee is hosting a welcome sign crafting event on March 14th at 10:00 am. We will be making custom wood welcome signs. You must register for this event so that we have enough supplies available for everyone.

There are a few spots open if you would like to register, please do so by March 8th.

If you would like to sign up



SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School kids are starting their second quarter of the Two or More curriculum from Group Publishing. They will also be busy preparing to sing and ring bells during Palm Sunday service on Sunday, March 29th.

EASTER LILLY MEMORIALS

There are envelopes on the greeter table at church for anyone wishing to purchase an Easter Lilly to serve as a memorial for a loved one. If you are unable to pick up an envelope but would like to purchase a Lilly, please let us know.