



# Resurrection

1700 NE 132<sup>nd</sup> Ave • Portland • OR • 97230

503.255.8772 • [www.rlcpx.net](http://www.rlcpx.net)

## The Herald!

### RLC WELCOMES ALL!

**Sunday Morning Worship In-Person & Livestream @ 10:00am**

**RLC Website: [www.rlcpx.net](http://www.rlcpx.net) ~ YouTube: Resurrection PDX**

**Pastoral Care Emergency Only - (971) 219-7177**

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### News From Your RLC Call Committee!

Greetings from your Resurrection Call Committee! We have completed our two-part training with Pastor David Eppelsheimer of the Oregon Synod and are working to develop questions that will guide our interview process. Once those questions are complete, we will conduct mock interviews, refine our process, and we'll be all set to interview candidates once Pastor David sends them our way. As co-chair Stephen Canova shared in church on January 18, we have developed a covenant to guide our work that includes (among other things!) prayer, a commitment to open conversation among committee members—and confidentiality.

All three of these elements are important components, and you can help us with all three. Please join us in praying for the Holy Spirit's guidance as we work on your behalf—and please respect our need to keep the work of the call committee confidential. It is very important that the pastors we interview feel their privacy is protected. It's also important that call committee members feel free to fully express their opinions to the rest of the team. We will be so excited to share the good news with you when your prayers and ours lead us to the pastor God has called to serve Resurrection. Meanwhile, we'll keep you informed (in suitably general terms 😊) of our progress along the way.

The Resurrection Call Committee: co-chairs Stephen Canova and Laura Gifford; secretary Danielle Weinberger; Sandy Anderson, Mary Brown, Bob Clare, and Sandy Getman; and alternates Nicole Bontty and Mike Petke

Dear friends,

It's hard to believe that it's already February of 2026! We wrapped up January with the Annual Meeting, and already on February 18 we will gather together for Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent!



So it is in the month of February that we transition from the Epiphany theme of “Surrender to the Call” to the Lenten theme of “Surrender to Change.” And while even the word “change” might raise anxiety levels for some, the truth is that if we are surrendering to God’s call on our lives, then change is inevitable. So you could say that practicing getting comfortable with change is actually a spiritual practice, because it helps prepare and free us to follow God’s call when it comes!

If you were at the annual meeting you will remember that I shared some insights on four areas of the congregation. If you weren’t there, you can watch it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SKyGsI2YUqg>

I offered them to provide, perhaps, some fodder for conversation and reflection as you move into the future.

During the season of Lent (starting Sunday, March 1) we will have a four-week series of “Coffee + Conversations” after worship to reflect together on these four areas and ponder together: How has RLC changed over time to be where you are now? What changes are beckoning as you respond to God’s call to RLC in this time and place?

Here, again, are my reflections on these four areas, and invite you to notice how you respond. What resonates with you? What are you unsure about? What is missing? I look forward to the Coffee + Conversations!

So...here are my current reflections on four aspects of RLC:

### **Welcome and Belonging**

You are a legitimately friendly community! That means that enough people are genuinely willing and able to greet people, initiate a conversation, invite people to things, show hospitality, etc. You’ve got the welcome center, coffee, screens with announcements, comfy chairs, nametags... All this is no small thing! And it makes a difference.

You are committed to being Reconciling in Christ and continuing to grow into what that commitment means. Your Care and Connection Ministry team is outstanding and absolutely necessary for a congregation this size and relative age. The weekly Bible study nurtures both mind and heart with learning and prayer for one another.

## **Vibrant, Spirit-filled and Theologically Grounded Worship**

Resurrection gifts the world with high quality hybrid liturgical worship every single Sunday. Pastor David Eppelsheimer said he thought this was impossible until he came to worship at Resurrection! Seriously. This is a gift that is harder and harder to find anywhere and your investment in this area is clear! Along with the dozens of you who volunteer your time, voices and leadership to creating a powerful worship experience, Troy's primary leadership in worship planning (which he has expanded into since Joel's departure) is key to the consistent quality and vibrancy of RLC's worship, and Paul's combination of talent and heart is priceless!

You also provide access to high quality livestream for members and friends who live elsewhere or can't physically come to the church, and offer many different opportunities for active participation in the worship experience. There is a LOT of strength in this area! How else might you evolve in the area of worship?

## **Cultivating Community Relationships**

This area has been less apparent during my time with you, which makes sense for all kinds of reasons. But I am aware of both Resurrection's historical commitment to being a positive influence in the neighborhood, and your continuing desire to have a meaningful impact in the local community and to share your resources in a meaningful way. Historically I understand that the sharing of resources has been primarily through charity: financial or in-kind donations, with some engagement. In the last few years, the hope was to move toward a more relational approach to community engagement, to be more partners with rather than benefactors to.

Here are some seeds and sprouts of possibilities for growth in this area that I have seen and heard:

- Deepening relationship with the Montessori School (the families and many of the teachers ARE the neighborhood!).
- Learning how to respond to the impacts of ICE's growing activity in East County.
- Facing the growing housing affordability crisis, as well as (now) the health care affordability crisis for many.
- We currently have two of our three high school students attending the Native American Youth and Family Center's (NAYA's) Many Nations Academy for high school. Are there seeds of relationships there?

## **Evolution: Vitality, Viability and Vision**

Even though by most measures Resurrection is still a vital congregation (you can feel it when you walk in!), when 85% of the congregation are over 65, investing in long-term vitality, viability and vision is essential, starting now while you're still vital and viable!

Seriously looking at long-term viability means continuing to invest in the three areas shared above as long as they are relevant and vital. AND...when it comes to vital congregations who still have buildings and staff and institutional infrastructure, you also need three basic things: financial power, people power, and a compelling vision you are collectively moving toward. This means investing in nurturing legacy giving, and developing a thoughtful, cohesive framework for receiving and discerning the use of legacy gifts. It also means investing in leadership development. When the church invests in the growth and development of people, not just programs, then we will be developing spiritually-grounded leaders for both leadership within the congregation and leadership within the neighborhood and beyond. And it also means cultivating a compelling vision for the future. So, the question I would bring is...who is involved in cultivating that vision? Is it just RLC members? Who else might be stakeholders in the evolution of Resurrection?

The season of Epiphany invited us to “Surrender to the Call.” The season of Lent will invite us to “Surrender to Change.” I hope you’ll join me for Coffee + Conversations to listen for the call and the changes being stirred up in RLC!

Blessings,  
Pastor Solveig

**You can listen to Pastor Solveig’s Herald article here:**

**<https://youtu.be/6vwMKvEgrCQ>**



### **RLC PREACHING SCHEDULE:**

February 1 - Pastor John Beck

February 8 - Pastor Elizabeth Durant

February 15 - Pastor Solveig

February 22 - Pastor Solveig

## **An invitation from Pastor Solveig:**

Dear friends, on January 22, I joined almost 200 clergy from every corner of Oregon on a zoom call to respond to escalating ICE activity and violence. Convened by Together Lab (a ministry in the Oregon Synod), we learned more about what's happening in Oregon, and strategies to meet this moment. As we now know, this has hit very close to home, with the father of a Montessori student being detained.

Alongside clergy colleagues across the state, Together Lab is expanding the circle and inviting our congregations, key leaders, and friends to join us on **Thursday, February 12th from 6-7:15pm on zoom for a multifaith statewide convening for faith communities**. I will be on the call and if you feel so moved, I invite you to join me.

### **Please register here:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/BxsqeHLBSKu5kxxjEpSBFw>

### **Together, we will:**

- Understand the increased ICE activity in Oregon, including where and how they are operating
- Know where to plug into faithful organizing strategies across the state, including neighborhood-based, legislative, and upcoming mass mobilizations
- Take meaningful action while on the call to flex our collective muscles.

The call is being supported by Together Lab, PIRC (who run the statewide hotline you call when you suspect or see ICE), and statewide coalitions Oregon for All and Protect Oregon.



### **GRIEF SHARE**

Do you need help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend?

Please join us for Grief Share Monday mornings from 10:00am-12:00pm in the Luther Lodge. We will begin on Monday, February 2nd and run through April 27th.

If interested, please call Leslie Sawyer at 503-679-6882.

Dear RLC family:

Following the holidays and widespread severe weather, the American Red Cross desperately needs donations of blood platelets. In fact, the shortage has grown from URGENT to SEVERE!

Platelet donation requires special apheresis machines and takes about three hours. The good news: there is a new Red Cross donor center at the Wood Village Shopping Center at NE 233rd and Glisan Street. No need to travel to distant Northwest Portland! Call 1-800-733-2767 today to schedule an appointment.

Questions? Talk with me at church. Thank you, and God bless!

--Pastor Roger



## **Men's Breakfast!**

**Saturday, February 21st @ 9:20am**

Polar King – 1030 Powell Boulevard in Gresham

(No Host – that means you pay your own!)

We have been having a good turnout -  
Please come join us!

Any questions? Please call or text Rick Johnson  
@ 701-721-5056.

## **PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!**

**RLC will be celebrating Jonathan on  
Sunday, February 22nd after worship!**

**Jonathan has given his resignation and we hope you  
can join us to thank him for his amazing work @ RLC!**

**Todd Marston has set up a link so we can receive his monthly  
newsletter regarding shows, album releases, etc.**

**Please click on the link below to sign up:**

**<https://todd-marston.kit.com/bd133a416c>**



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

4th	Robert Zimmerman
8th	Patricia Cunningham
12th	Pastor Terry Moe
14th	Charyl Jacobson
15th	Troy Wittren



20th	Nora Papasadero
22nd	Pastor Gordon Pritchard
	Mary Rix
23rd	Ron Kuhnau



# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

6th	Nancy & Gene Heil	61 Years
14th	Diane & Wally Lafrenz	61 Years
	Katherine & Mike Petke	22 Years
15th	Ruth & Ron Porter	67 Years
19th	Jill & Bob Simonis	54 Years