

Resurrection Lutheran Church

THE MESSENGER

**JANUARY
2010**

PASTOR BARB WRITES

Grace and Peace to You!

Christ is born! We're still singing Christmas hymns as we begin a new calendar year! I have always loved this season: starting a new calendar year still celebrating the birth of our Savior. I'm smug enough to fold my arms across my chest, nod my head, and say, "There you go, world. You have moved on to clearance sales and used Christmas trees. But, the Church still rejoices. We are filled with wonder and joy! So, move on, world, if you must; but, we'll stay here for a while. God is with us in the form of a baby boy!"

Oh, to be sure, we'll celebrate the New Year. Some of us will make resolutions (often only to break them). We'll be resolved to start a new diet, exercise, balance our finances, and strengthen our relationships. There are so many changes we want to make in our lives and the New Year seems to be the perfect time to kick off new programs.

I'd like to make a suggestion: be resolved to continue the spirit for as long as you can. Hold onto the wonder and mystery of God's presence among us. Even after the ornaments have been sorted and stored, after the presents have been put away, move into Epiphany aware of the gift God has given to us.

Epiphany is celebrated on January 6 as the day the magi followed a star to honor the new born King. Psalm 72 sings that all other kings shall bow down before him. Jews and Gentiles alike, peoples of all nations, will honor Christ! What has been hidden from humankind is now revealed: light has come into the world! Amen!

What a blessing to begin a new year. What a blessing as we begin 2010 with baptisms and reception of new members! What a blessing to serve a church that holds Word and Sacrament so dear! What a blessing to serve Christ by serving you!

Peace, joy and happiness,
Pr. Barb

"What lies behind us
and what lies before us
are tiny matters
compared to what lies
within us."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Inside this Issue:

- Pg. 2 Rock His House
- Pg. 3 Thank You Notes
- Pg. 4 Council Information
- Pg. 5 Youth News and
Financial Information
- Pg. 6 Farewell and Thanks
- Pg. 7 Miscellaneous

RLC's Mission Statement:
To Know Christ and Make Him Known

Rock His House!

As I write this, we have had six sessions of Rock His House. We have averaged up to 20 young people and up to 20 adults. Moving to Sunday nights has been a great success!

January dates are the 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st. The schedule is Dinner at 5:30 pm, Parent Free Zone begins at 6:00 pm for Bible Study, Fun and Fellowship. Pastor Barb holds an adult Bible study during the youth activity time.

Please remember, the entire congregation is invited to dinner at Rock His House. Dinner is at 5:30, catered by our very own Rebecca Bryan at a cost of \$5.00. Simply fill out the insert in your Sunday bulletin or call the church by Thursdays to RSVP.

Vivian Haren
Youth Director

ROCK HIS HOUSE MENUS FOR JANUARY

January 10, 2010

Ravioli, Salad / Rolls / Dessert / Beverage

January 17, 2010

Chicken Alfredo on Penne Pasta / Salad
Rolls / Dessert / Beverage

January 24, 2010

Baked Spaghetti / Salad / Rolls / Dessert / Beverage

January 31, 2010

Baked Chicken / Mac & Cheese / Salad
Rolls / Dessert / Beverage

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Nine year old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School.

"Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his engineers build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then, he used his walkie-talkie to radio headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked.

"Well, no, Mom. But if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"



CHILI LUNCHEON

January 10, 2010

12:15 p.m.

Sponsored by the Stewardship Committee

The committee will be seeking your ideas for 2010's stewardship ministry programs.

THANK YOU RESURRECTION!

Thank you so much for the Thanksgiving Basket. The food helped a lot with Thanksgiving Dinner. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. God bless you all!!

Thank you so much for our Thanksgiving feast! We are so grateful for your generosity.

I can't begin to tell you what this generous gift (of Thanksgiving Basket) means to us. We are so thankful for friends and community reaching out to us during this time of uncertainty. Thank you, and many blessings to you all.

Thank you so much for helping us out with the Thanksgiving meal. It was a blessing. We just wanted you to know how much we really appreciated all your help. Thank you for everything!

Dear People of Resurrection,

The Magi brought gifts to the Christ-child. Those gifts were of the finest among the earth: gold, frankincense and myrrh. They were symbols of the preciousness of God's gift to us: a Savior.

You have gifted me this Christmas. Those gifts you have given me were unexpected, and I must admit, largely undeserved. I am the least of all of you. Nonetheless, you have reflected the love God has for the world in remembering me this Christmas.

Thank you. Thanks to all the individuals; thanks to the Church at large. I remain humbled and ever willing to be Christ's servant by serving you.

In Christ's name,
Pr. Barb

Thank you so much for your love and kindness. We greatly appreciate your generosity. You are such a blessing to us. The Thanksgiving boxes were absolutely wonderful and made a fabulous meal.

The Angel's House

Thank you so much for allowing me to participate in the Thanksgiving Basket Outreach. The work you guys do is phenomenal and I am blessed and grateful to be a part of it. I can't wait to be there again next year.

The Resurrection family was loving, welcoming and kind and opened their hearts and arms to me. I look forward to Zion Lutheran continuing to grow in their outreach.

May God continue to bless Resurrection and its family.

Lisa Gunter
Zion Lutheran Church, Newnan

The November Drive for One Roof Ecumenical Alliance was lotions and Resurrection delivered 79 bottles of lotion to One Roof. Thanks so much!

The January Drive
Toilet Tissue
Any size, any brand

A special thanks to the wonderful volunteers who have taken loads of food and supplies to One Roof in 2009:

Ken and Neva Allen
Jolynn Owens and Brandi Shroyer
Jim and Diane Guthrie
Peter Anderson
Mary Lynn Bolado



"Thanks" is such a small word but it could have dozens more letters and it still would not convey the gratitude we feel for the food. We really enjoyed it!. It's such a good variety. We can make menus for days to come.

Things are tight for us now but we know it is for a lot of people.

Be sure your church knows how much we appreciate it.

Thanks and God bless.

**Resurrection Lutheran
Church**

1250 Lora Smith Road
Newnan, GA 30265
Phone: 770.254.8833
Fax: 770.254.9477
E-mail: resluch@juno.com

Rev. E. Barbara Gibson, Pastor

Nonprofit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Sharpsburg, GA 30277
Permit # 222

Look at our Website!
www.rlchurch.com

Address Service Requested

Newsletter Mailed 12/29/09

**BLESSING &
GLORY &
WISDOM &
THANKSGIVING &
HONOR &
POWER &
MIGHT**
be to our **GOD**
for ever and ever!
AMEN!

-Revelation 7:12

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

by Jill Dance, Council Secretary

Congregation Council meets second Tuesday of the month to discuss business and hear ministry reports.

- Council heard ministry reports from Fellowship, Shepherding, Worship & Music, Staff Support & Building/Property.
- Newnan Home Improvement and Chastain Roofing have given the building committee estimates for repairing the leaking flashing on the doghouse & for gutters & downspouts, respectively. Approval was given for the leak repair, and the work will soon commence. A second estimate for the gutters & downspouts is expected in the near future.
- A final selection will be made this month for the new church software, and the first meeting with the auditor (James Jordan, CPA) will take place in January.
- Staff Support developed a compensation package for the new parish administrator, and conducted interviews with candidates. Plans were made to honor Yvonne after her many years as administrator – we have been so blessed to have her and she will truly be missed! The council gratefully thanks Jim Guthrie for his service for the past two years, and welcomes Rebecca Bryan and Glen Thompson onto the council!

Your Council wishes each and every one of you a glorious Christmas season!

Minutes from Council meetings are available in the wall pocket outside Pastor's office.

COFFEE HOUR CONTINUES IN 2010

Most of you have noticed that we're serving coffee and cookies in the narthex between services. This coffee hour was begun as a way to promote fun and fellowship, welcome visitors, and get to know one another a little better. Begun by the Church Council, it is our hope that the congregation will build this into a tradition that will last throughout 2010. If you would like to participate, please sign up by filling out the form located on the bulletin board in the hall.



Your cost is minimal: the church provides the coffee and "fixings." You just need to pick up some cookies, and perhaps some punch for the kids, set up and then clear the area. The whole process happens during the Sunday School hour. It's an easy way to serve the Lord and the church.

See you at the coffee pot!

2010 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Kathleen Ade	Peter Anderson
Rebecca Bryan	Fred Buyarski
Jill Dance	Bill Gay
Paul Haren	Nick Pierce
Glen Thompson	

OOPS!

Boy did we make an "oops" last November when we had our council election. Fred Buyarski has agreed to stay on Council for another term to facilitate continuity over Pastor's first year or two at Resurrection. We neglected to put his name on the ballot, so we are including a ballot in the bulletin on Sunday, January 17th. If you are a voting member of the congregation, please designate your preference regarding Fred's tenure. We realize that this isn't a perfect solution, but wanted to keep you informed and involve you in the process of building a council that you agree should serve the mission of this church.

-Council

Income and Expense ~ November 2009

Income

Offerings \$ 22,844.00

Expense

Administration	787.75
Fun and Fellowship	810.88
Learning	70.50
Payroll	7,199.73
Payroll Expense	21.90
Property and Grounds (Includes Mortgage)	7,136.21
Staff Benefits	1,795.93
Systems	29.95
Uncategorized Expense	460.88
Vision-Marketing	120.00
Witness	1,062.78
Worship	401.96
Total Expense	19,898.47
Net Income	2,945.53

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You to everyone who worked so hard on the Christmas Eve Pageant. The Youth had a great time and we hope you enjoyed it too!

Vivian Haren
Youth Director

READY FOR SOME SNOW?

Tube and play in acres of real snow. Whether you want to Race on Tube Racers or chill out in the SnoZone where snowballs can be made and thrown, a good time is sure to be had by all! We are planning on a trip in February to Snow Mountain at Stone Mountain Park. Please sign up in the Narthex if you are interested!



Vivian Haren
Youth Director

YOUTH ROOMS REFURBISHING

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who came and helped to clean out and pack-up our newly reclaimed Youth Rooms. All the youth are excited and working on plans to personalize their own rooms.

We have received a donation of one sofa, so now we need one more, a chair or two, tables and lamps. All items donated for this purpose will either be used at Resurrection or donated to a local charity. We would like donations as soon as possible. If you need us to pick up an item please let me know. We will be glad to do so.

Thanks so much for your support of our youth.

Vivian Haren
Youth Director



PLEASE SUPPORT RLC'S MILITARY WITH YOUR PRAYERS AND CORRESPONDENCE. Nick Bouchard has recently deployed to Afghanistan and his address is:
LCPL Bouchard, Nicholas J.
1/6 A co. 2nd PLT
Unit 73160
FPO AE 09510-3160

Daniel Kendzierski, son of Dan and Viki Kendzierski is in Afghanistan at this time, but an address is not currently available.

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU From Yvonne Pleasant

Sixteen years and four months. How do you wrap that much time up on one piece of paper? For starters, I would say, thank you Lord, for giving to me such a wonderful church family with whom to share ministry. From the moment I met Pastor John Derrick and heard his excitement about starting a new church, I sensed God's hand moving me from the church where I was serving to Resurrection. I have never, for one minute, doubted that Resurrection was where God wanted me to be. I so enjoyed working with Pastor Derrick, Pastor Gordon Myers, Pastor Gerald Troutman, Pastor Dan Dahl, Pastor Nancy Werner, Pastor Mary Peters, Pastor Larry Miller, and most recently, Pastor Barbara Gibson, and other lay staff members who served along the way. In addition to the fine pastors and staff, it is you, the people of this congregation that I came to love and enjoy sharing God's love with on a daily basis.

I have seen you joyous over a marriage, a new birth, a first communion, a child confirming his or her faith. I have watched some of you enter the life of a church for the very first time, and become committed Christians, offering your time and talents in such a wonderful variety of ways. I have seen you sad over the loss of a loved one, divorce, loss of a job, or disappointed in a doctor's report for yourself or someone you cared about. I have watched some of you come to the church to find solace from sitting and praying quietly in the sanctuary, or be greeted with encouraging words from the pastor. I remember the morning of September 11, 2001 when people began to come to the church for comfort and prayer, and I recall whispering a prayer of thanks to God for placing the staff at church that day. I've watched you send husbands, fathers and sons off to war, trusting God for their well-being and safe return. On the happy occasions, you have openly expressed a thankful heart for all of God's blessings. In all of the sad circumstances, I have watched you draw strength from the one who comforts a heart like no other can, offering witness to the power of God's love and blessings, even when circumstances were not what you wanted. You are a people of great faith.

You touched my heart when I lost my dad quite suddenly, only three months after coming on staff at Resurrection, and again, just this past year when I needed to be in Texas with my mother who was seriously ill. The instructions to me were to go, and be with my family, and you all would take care of things at the church. I left town several times, covered with your prayers, and those prayers were powerful. My mother made a miraculous recovery. Thank you for ministering to me during those times.

I've pushed a lot of paper over the years. Done hundreds of bulletins and newsletters, set-up and maintained files of all kinds, made lots of certificates, just all the ordinary tasks that come with the day-to-day responsibilities. I've always loved it when you stop by the church for whatever reason, and we get to chat a little bit. Some of the most rewarding times have been when God has sent people our way who were struggling to find assistance such as a meal, diapers or baby food, or a few dollars for gas to get to a job interview, etc. Those times always confirmed to me that this church sits on this corner, of this busy highway, to be a lighthouse to those who seek a touch from God through his people. You have touched many lives through your generous giving to the ministries the church offers, and I have been privileged to be your representative Monday through Friday, for sixteen years and four months. Thank you for allowing me to serve at Resurrection Lutheran Church.

Thank you for the wonderful retirement reception. The day was truly special. I will keep watch on the Southern Magnolia tree that you planted on the church grounds, and each time I pass by, I'll be reminded of the good times we shared at RLC. The beautiful clock and lovely floral arrangement both hold a prominent place in our home, and Tommy and I will do something real special with the very generous monetary gift. Thank you for each card, note, spoken word and gift, for each is treasured.

As I leave to enter retirement, I pray God's richest blessings upon each of you. God honors all you do here on this corner, so keep on keeping on in His name.

Love to you all,
Yvonne Pleasant

A New Creation:

Congratulations to first-time grandparents: Pastors Joel and Luz Marie Leyton. The Leyton's son and daughter-in-law presented them with a granddaughter, Amelie Gwen Leyton, born December 4, 2009 in Dallas, TX.




CONFIRMED IN THE FAITH

BRANDI JEANE SHROYER

Daughter of Jolynn Owens
December 27, 2009
8:30 a.m. Worship Service

December 20, 2009



DR. PETER ACKERSON AND MS. KERRY SMITH
636 Mask Road
Brooks, GA 30205
770.842.0617

CONGRATULATIONS to Peter and Kerry who became Dr. and Mrs. Peter Ackerson on December 26, 2009 in a ceremony performed at Resurrection by Pastor Barbara Gibson.

CONGRATULATIONS!

JAZMIN MANNING
Recipient of a Soccer Scholarship
to Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, GA.

Jazmin will enter Georgia Military College in the fall of 2010.

MRS NINA ADAMS is now at
Uni Health Post-Acute Care Center
7560 Butner Road,
Fairburn, GA 30213

Please keep Nina and Jimmy in your prayers.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for the expressions of sympathy during the recent loss of my brother. Your prayers, cards and kind words were of great comfort to us.

Love in Christ,
Chris and Milton Kupfer

~~~~~  
We would like to thank our family and friends at Resurrection for their support of prayer, cards, visits and food at Jack's passing. We have been comforted to see and feel God loving us through you all.

David, Victoria, Aidan and Owen Reece  
and Vera Fowler

~~~~~  
Please accept our heartfelt thanks for the generous Christmas gifts! You are a wonderful congregation and your thoughtfulness towards us during the Christmas Season is amazing. For every gift, card and expression of appreciation, we remain grateful.

Pastor Barb, Yvonne Pleasant, Angela Sennett, Jolynn Owens

The Evangelism Committee is sponsoring a Blanket Drive
Deadline to bring a new blanket is December 13.

A SPECIAL INVITATION

Mrs. Eunice Nichols and her family extends a special invitation to each of you to attend the 11 A.M. Worship Service on November 29, 2009 in thanksgiving and dedication of the new stained glass windows, above the doors in the sanctuary, that will be presented in remembrance of Ray Nichols.

Following the service there will be a potluck luncheon with the Nichols family providing the meat and dessert. Everyone is invited to bring a favorite dish and fellowship together!

Christmas Eve Pageant

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You to everyone who worked so hard on the Christmas Eve Pageant. The Youth had a great time and we hope you enjoyed it too!

Vivian Haren
Youth Director

Church Council

