

RESURRECTION

LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Joseph, Minnesota

1983 — 2008

25TH ANNIVERSARY



Gathering together in God's Love

We **Welcome** Joyfully

Grow Faithfully

and **Serve** Gratefully

in Jesus' Name

25 YEARS OF RESURRECTION HISTORY

On **October 1, 1982** Pastor Paul Schlauderaff was hired by the Lutheran Church of America to be a mission developer to start an LCA church (since merged to be ELCA) in the St. Joseph, Minnesota area.

On **December 19, 1982** a Service Committee was selected: The committee members were: Nancy Holy, Dick McLellan, Sandy (McWhite) Schoen, Trish Melin, Jim Tesch, Dave Steinkraus, Carol (Negaard) Ullring, Dale White and Wilbur Wilkens.

On **January 9, 1983** an interest meeting was held at the St. Joseph Lab School for all people interested in the “new” Lutheran church to be started in St. Joseph.

On **January 16, 1983** the first Sunday service was held at Kennedy Elementary School gymnasium. 186 people attended this first worship service.

On **March 6, 1983** the first Sunday School was held.

On **November 6, 1983** the charter of Resurrection Lutheran Church was signed by 62 families, Rev. Fred Marks, Rev. Ron Peterson and Bishop Herbert Chilstrom were the honored guests. That evening the St. Joseph Catholic Parish invited Resurrection to a “Renew Program” consisting of a pancake supper and a dialogue between Pastor Paul and Father Corwin Collins.

On **December 11, 1983** a constitution was adopted and Pastor Paul Schlauderaff was called as the first pastor of Resurrection Lutheran Church.

Initially Sunday worship services were held at the Kennedy Elementary School gymnasium. Lenten services were held in the basement of the St. Joseph Bank. Joint Lutheran and Catholic Vacation Bible School was held in tents at Millstream Park.

On **May 10, 1985** 1.29 acres of land was donated by Harold Rothfork and 3.12 acres of the land was purchased by the congregation to form our present church site of 4.41 acres. A building committee was selected consisting of Evelyn Eckroth, Dale Haug, Bruce Melin, Becky Thomas and Jeanie Wilkens.

Richard Hagemeister; a Resurrection member; was selected as the architect to design a church building.

On **July 12, 1987** a groundbreaking ceremony was held at the new church site.

On **November 26, 1987, Thanksgiving Day**, the first worship service was held in the new church at 610 County Road 2 St. Joseph, Minnesota. A car caravan formed at Kennedy School and was police-escorted through St. Joseph to the new worship site.

January 17, 1988 the new worship facility was dedicated. Honored guests were Bishop Darold Beekmann of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod, ELCA and Father Mathias Spier of the Saint Joseph Catholic Parish.

In **1988** a song, “God’s People”, composed by Kathy Bruns was dedicated to Resurrection Lutheran Church.

The Saint Joseph Catholic Parish donated the white, three-tiered inlay cross that adorns the front wall in our sanctuary, to Resurrection.

At the 5th anniversary in **1988**, baptized membership was 387, the annual general fund budget was \$55,310.72, and average Sunday worship attendance was 157.

Pastor Paul Schlauderaff served as pastor from **1983 - 1988**. Pastor Schlauderaff left Resurrection because of sexual boundary violations. This was a significant setback in the congregation’s history and resulted in members leaving the congregation, along with continuing financial difficulties.

In the **fall of 1988** a call committee consisting of John Anderson, Evelyn Eckroth, Beth Gould, Dale Haug, Patrick Henry, Phyllis Jorgensen, Duane Michaelson, Connie Oosterhuis, Hans Peterson, Deborah Robinson, Rachel Thralow, Doug Weiszhaar and Wilbur Wilkens was put in place to locate another pastor.

Pastor Darius Larson, campus pastor at St. Cloud State University, was chosen to serve as part-time interim pastor in **1988**.

On **September 17, 1989** Pastor Martha Halls was installed as pastor of Resurrection Lutheran Church. She served Resurrection from **1989 – 1994**.

In **1989** a large granite rock with Resurrection’s name sandblasted on it was put in place as our sign and symbol for Resurrection Lutheran Church.

At the 10th anniversary in **1993**, baptized membership was 605, the annual general fund budget was \$110,651.41, and average Sunday worship attendance was 170.

On **February 20, 1994** the Church Council accepted the mission statement, “Reaching out, learning about, and coming together in Christ”.

In **1994** a call committee consisting of Karen Bobeldyk, Lori Linn, Becky Thomas, Zach Jorgensen, Michael Schroden, and Bob Wasvick was put in place to locate another pastor.

Pastor Doug Thompson served as interim pastor during the spring and summer of **1995**.

Pastor Dwaine Bruns was called as pastor and started his service at Resurrection in **August 1995**.

The parsonage, which was originally purchased by the synod, was sold in **November 1995**.

In **September 1997**, Kathy Kuebelbeck begins her service as office secretary of Resurrection.

The diamond shaped stained glass window was dedicated on **Easter Sunday 1998**.

Rebecca Thomas, Resurrection's first member to join the ministry, was ordained on **December 13, 1998**. Rev. Thomas is now serving at First Lutheran Church, Sauk Center, MN.

At the 15th anniversary in **1998**, baptized membership was 706, the annual general fund budget was \$126,349.00, and the average Sunday worship attendance was 170.

In the summer of **1999** a "Vision for Mission Task Force" was organized to develop a vision for the future mission of Resurrection Lutheran Church. This Task Force consisted of Kathy Parsons, Gene Boysen, Dale Haug, Karen Bobeldyk, Marlys Eikmeier, Lori Linn, Wilbur Wilkens, Karen Hanson, Mark Boe, Bernie Belling, Kevin O'Leary, Renee Hendricks, Kathy Kuebelbeck and Pastor Dwaine Bruns. Through this Task Force's work, the congregation adopted the following recommendations:

Priorities: 1. Make good worship better 2. Grow and provide small group opportunities 3. Address Christian Education concerns – especially space issues 4. Grow even more in serving beyond our congregation 5. Support families and children 6. Assist people in identifying and using their gifts in ministry

Specific Goals: 1. Pursue Building Expansion 2. Begin search for music staff 3. Identify and grow small group opportunities 4. Consider adding staff time for helping people identify gifts for ministry and small group development 5. Identify ways to provide ministry to local college students 6. Cooperative work with sisters at the monastery 7. Address need for new sound system 8. Identify a major congregational service project

On **September 15, 1999** Sandy Spiczka was added to our staff as Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator.

In **1999** central air conditioning was added to the sanctuary and fellowship hall.

In **1999** an exterior sign for listing worship time and other information was installed to welcome our community to Resurrection.

On **March 11, 2001** the congregation approved plans for our Sunday school addition. The building committee members were Dale Haug, Lonnie Abbott, John Anderson, Marlys Eikmeier, Tom Krueger, Roger Linn, Lori Linn, Duane Michaelson, Sandy Spiczka and Pastor Dwaine Bruns. Norm Cole was selected to be the architect.

On **July 8, 2001** Kathy Bruns was the second member of Resurrection to be ordained into the ministry. Rev. Bruns is serving Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

On **May 1, 2002** ground breaking was held for the Sunday school addition on a very snowy Sunday.

On **October 13, 2002** the Sunday school addition was dedicated.

On **March 31, 2003** the council gave the approval for the Farmers' Market to hold their weekly produce sale on Resurrection's parking lot during the summer. They have continued with their summer weekly sales since that date.

On **June 19, 2003** the church council voted to partner with Peace Lutheran Church, Cold Spring to establish a cemetery on their property.

On **August 13, 2003** Resurrection entered the seminary internship program, with Greg Anderson as our first intern. Other interns have followed: Darlene Grega, Bobbie Bell, David Parker and Ingrid Hamilton. A major responsibility of our interns has been campus ministry

At the 20th anniversary in **2003**, baptized membership was 775, the annual general fund budget was \$217,328.00, and the average weekly attendance was 193.

On **August 1, 2004** Darlene Grega started with Resurrection doing her year of seminary internship.

On **August 1, 2005** Bobbie Bell started with Resurrection doing her year of seminary internship.

On **January 29, 2006** the following Mission Statement was adopted by the congregation: Called together by Gods' Love: We Welcome Joyfully Grow Faithfully And Serve Gratefully – In Jesus' Name

On **August 1, 2006** David Parker started with Resurrection doing his year of seminary internship.

On **January 28, 2007** Pastor Linda Lagergren was called to serve as part-time Associate Pastor of Resurrection. Pastor Linda had been serving as interim pastor for several months at this time while Pastor Dwaine recovered from illness.

On **August 1, 2007** Ingrid Hamilton started with Resurrection doing her year of seminary internship.

On **August 2007**, 21 youth and adults took part in a mission trip to St. Croix, Virgin Islands, continuing a tradition begun in 2001.

In **2007 – 2008** Resurrection partnered with area churches and community to build a Habitat Humanity home in St. Joseph.

In Resurrection's 25th year, **2008**, the baptized membership is 790, the annual general fund budget is \$305,342.00, and the average weekly attendance is 232.

January 2009