

FIRST CHURCH OF THE  
RESURRECTION  
EST. 1810 | CANTON, OH



# THE HELPER

October/November 2021

Strong Heritage Bright Future

Volume 101 Issue 10

Dear First Church of the Resurrection,

At the end of November we will conclude our Good and Beautiful journey. I hope you've enjoyed the messages and the supporting reading material as we've talked about three central components of the Christian life: 1) Understanding who God is (*The Good and Beautiful God*); 2) Understanding how we relate to God (*The Good and Beautiful Life*); 3) Understanding how we relate to one another in the Church (*The Good and Beautiful Community*).

So far, as we've talked about characteristics of the church, we've talked about the Church as a Peculiar Community, a Hopeful Community, a Serving Community and a Christ-Centered Community. In the weeks to come we'll consider how the Church is also a Reconciling Community, an Encouraging Community, a Generous Community and a Worshipping Community.

When JR preached on the Serving Community, he challenged us with the question, "Is there any way God may be calling me to step into some expression of servanthood these days?" While this is a question to be wrestled with individually, it is also a question to be considered as a community. How can First Church of the Resurrection express service to our city and community?

Sunday, Nov. 7, immediately following the service will be our next Congregational Conversation. We've already alluded to the kinds of things we hope to talk about during that time. You might think about these three things under the headings of: vision, mission, and ministry. As your pastors, there are things that we feel God has been stirring up in us that we want to share with you, have some conversation about, and invite your blessing over.

**Vision:** God has been growing in us a vision, not merely for the perpetuation of our church, but for how the Lord may be uniquely calling us to play a role in seeing *the whole body of Christ in Canton, perpetually growing in health and unity, creating the conditions for spiritual and cultural renewal throughout the city.* We'd love to unpack this with you and try to gather whether this is something that excites you as it does us!

**Mission:** Related to that, and in light of all the various distinctives of our church's history, the circumstances of the last couple years, and the cultural trends within which God has placed us, we also believe that there is significant opportunity to be taken advantage of through establishing a new mission-focused venture that we are currently calling "Resurrection Collective." The purpose of this venture would be to carve out some new space that would bring people together who want to imagine fresh ways of pursuing God alongside one another for the sake of others and the city of Canton.

**Ministry:** Beyond those things that have been growing in our hearts, we'd also love to hear what may be growing in yours! We have floated the idea of creating a prayer team that, in addition to carrying the needs of our congregation before the Lord, would help us get reacquainted with the other churches and ministries throughout Canton, and be in prayer for them as well. But that's just one idea. We would love to hear, perhaps in light of what we have to share about growing our vision and mission, in what ways you all as members of the congregation desire to use your time, energy, and resources to minister to others.

We are diligently in prayer for each of you and look forward to getting to have these conversations together on Sunday, November 7.

Grace + Peace,  
Pastor Amy & JR

**November 2021**

**Birthdays:**

9<sup>th</sup>-Lisa Casto            11<sup>th</sup>-David Birchfield  
 19<sup>th</sup>-Shirley Dobbins    29<sup>th</sup>-Derek Souers

**Anniversaries:**

21<sup>st</sup>-Tim & Pam Cordes

*Your Friends and Family at First Church of the Resurrection want to wish you all a joyous celebration and many blessings for the year to come!*

**Please Pray for:**

Shirley Jordy            Janet Bell            Diane Fair  
 Jim Ackelson            Donna Blair        Judy Snyder  
 Rich & Zella Yohe

**In the Military:**

Scott Gordon    R J Smith        Aaron Schlabach  
 Josh Porco     Kellan Gier     Scott Smeltzer  
 Brian George   Steven Okey     Ryan Souers  
 Luke Groves   Robert Blair

**Serving as Mission Partners:**

Leonel & Belgica Ortiz - Columbia  
 Greg, Megan, Lydia & Theodore Owens - Middle East  
 Andrew & Sarah - Middle East

**Your Leadership Council at Work  
 October 5, 2021**

- The mission board, formerly in social room, will be hung in the classroom by the Chapel
- Potential dates for staff reviews were discussed
- Annual pledge letters will go out in November

**Servants for God Forever,  
 Leadership Council**

**ALL ARE INVITED** to come to the building:  
 Thursdays 6:30-8:30pm - October 14 - November 11.

Learn how to start and sustain a life-long, contemplative racial justice journey through spiritual disciplines, teaching and discussion.

Hosted by "Where to Begin"  
 See Pastor JR or Pastor Amy  
 for registration information

**Pray for the following local churches, their  
 Pastors and leadership:**

Bible Believer's Baptist Church  
 Calvary Church of the Nazarene  
 Calvary Temple Assembly of God  
 Calvin Presbyterian Church  
 Canton Baptist Temple  
 Canton Community Church

**Financial Report For September 2021**

Income: \$ 8,765  
 Expenses: \$12,220  
 \$ -3,455



**DON'T FORGET!**  
 Daylight Savings Time **ENDS**  
 Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>!



**Usher's Committee Report  
 Sunday Attendance  
 September 2021**

Date	10:00 AM		
	Adults	Children	Total
Sep 5	33	6	39
Sep 12	24	4	28
Sep 19	32	5	37
Sep 26	33	4	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>141</b>

Sunday total average = 35  
 Sunday average of children = 5



## Operation Christmas Child 2021

It's time for one of First Church's favorite mission projects. Operation Christmas Child is an opportunity to pack a shoe box full of gifts for children around the world. These boxes spread the Good News of Jesus to these children as they receive an expression of God's love for them.

We will have shoeboxes available for you to fill. There will be a list of gift ideas in each box. All you need to do is fill the box and **return to the church by Sunday, November 14**. Missions committee will pay the \$9 per box for shipping.

And if you don't want to do the actual shopping, you can build a shoebox online by visiting [samaritanspurse.org/buildonline](http://samaritanspurse.org/buildonline)

**Shoeboxes will be available October 31 and November 7. Please return the filled boxes to the church by Sunday, November 14** so they can be delivered to the collection site.

Thank you in advance for your participation in sharing the love of Jesus with needy children around the world.



## Community Christmas - Adopt-A-Family 2021



Christmas is coming quickly. While Missions Committee is not officially involved in Community Christmas this year, individuals or groups are certainly invited to participate.

This year they are asking for gift cards, and/or new, wrapped gifts.

**Last day to adopt a family is Friday, November 12 with delivery on Tuesday, December 7 to the Southeast Community Center on Sherrick Rd.**

To Adopt a Family, please call Community Christmas of Stark County at 330-454-3841.

Your gifts will be helping a needy family in Stark County. Any questions, talk to Barb Davis, 330-268-9189.

Thanks to all who made RAHAB donations. RAHAB currently is in need of the following:

- Full size bottles of Body Wash
- New Blankets that the advocates can take out when they go out with the police to help victims
- Full size bottles of lotion
- New or gently used coats
- Paper Towels



**October is  
Pastor Appreciation  
Month**

## PLEDGE SUNDAY NOVEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>

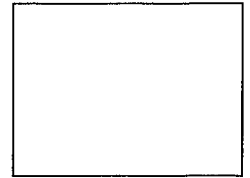
Pledge cards and information will be available on Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at the worship service. Please prayerfully consider how God may be calling you to respond. Responses can be mailed to the church office or dropped off by November 7<sup>th</sup>

## Times of Sharing

First Church of the Resurrection will be introducing "Congregational Conversations". It is a chance to congregate as members and converse with one another. This will be an ongoing gathering occurring once a quarter, beginning Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> after the service. Hope to see you there!

# THE HELPER

Serving God for 210 years  
First Church of the Resurrection  
901 East Tuscarawas St.  
Canton, OH 44707



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



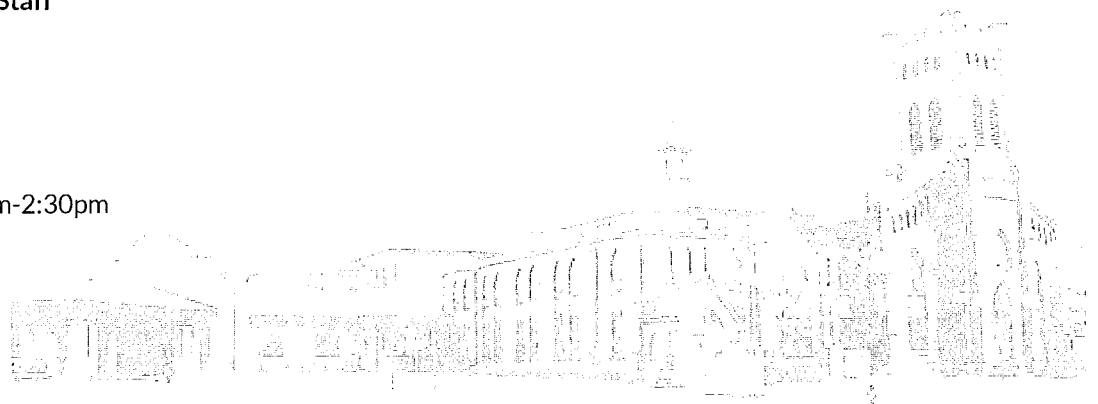
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HELPER DEADLINE the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month

## First Church of the Resurrection's Staff

Rev. JR Rozko, Lead Pastor  
Rev. Amy Rozko, Lead Pastor  
Katrina Kenyon, Worship Leader  
Seth Kenyon, Music Director  
Tina Copeland, Office Secretary  
Church Phone: 330.453.1719  
Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 10:00am-2:30pm

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website-[www.firstchurchcanton.com](http://www.firstchurchcanton.com)  
Visit our Facebook page



## Our Vision Statement:

We invite seekers and followers to come with us on an ever deepening journey of discipleship, as we serve God by building the community of Jesus.