

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



THE HELPER

July/August 2022

Strong Heritage Bright Future

Volume 102 Issue 7

RESTARTING TOWARD A NEW FUTURE

On Sunday, July 10, 2022, the members of First Church of the Resurrection voted overwhelmingly in favor of moving ahead in a relationship with Fresh Expressions and Pastor Matt Lake, one of their primary mission strategists and trainers. This decision represents a major step of faith and act of commitment on the part of the congregation as well as us as pastors.

It is a step of faith because it is a decision for all of us to move into uncharted territory together. Our vote represents not merely a desire to “continue,” but to engage in a year of listening, experimenting, and pioneering. In this year, we are not seeking merely to “perpetuate” First Church of the Resurrection as it has always existed for a bit longer, but to “restart” First Church of the Resurrection toward a new future - one that is, in many ways, unknown.

In addition to being a step of faith, it is also an act of commitment on both our parts as the vote to pursue this relationship entails a number of prescriptions.

- We will engage in 40 days of focused prayer together. This will be followed by a special service in which we come together to seek whatever forms of healing and reconciliation might be necessary for us to let go of the past in order to move into a new future together.
- We will revisit what worship looks like on Sunday morning and also endeavor to explore the creation of new spaces of community, worship, and mission beyond Sunday morning through new partnerships and ecclesial ties.
- We will study through the book of Acts and other New Testament letters as a way to revisit what it means to be “church” in today’s world and our own unique context.
- We will seek to clarify and make necessary shifts regarding the different, but complementary roles of pastors and elders in the life of our congregation.
- We will gather quarterly as a congregation for an informal time of sharing, conversation, and feedback about how things are unfolding.
- In the fall, we as pastors will engage in a 360 degree review of our calling and leadership with a cross-section of those who know us well.
- We will make time to receive guidance and support from Matt Lake as pastors (monthly), elders (monthly for at least the first quarter), and as a congregation (quarterly visits).
- We will all covenant together to daily, prayerful surrender to God’s will for us and our church.

As you can see, this is indeed a major step of faith and act of commitment! Thankfully, we know and worship a resurrected Lord who promises new life (2 Cor. 5:17) and his own empowering presence (John 14:18) to all who surrender to his words and ways!

For whatever this journey may hold, to God be the glory.

Grace + Peace,
Pastors JR & Amy Rozko

August 2022

Birthdays:

2nd-Phil Vitale 4th-Mitch Souers
 16th-Donna Mace 20th-Carol Brooks
 26th-Joseph Brooks 31st-Karen Strauch
 Daryl Souers Shirley Jordy

Anniversaries:

21st-Daryl & Dawn Souers

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 Judy Snyder Diane Fair
 Jim Ackelson Donna Blair
 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
 July, 12 2022**

- Donations being received by Sunday night group through Cash App
- Discussed options for church security.
- Dates planned for meetings with Matt Lake from Fresh Expressions.

Servants for God Forever,
 Leadership Council

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

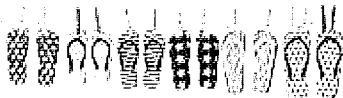
His Place for You
 Jerusalem Baptist Church
 John Knox Presbyterian Church
 Liberty Baptist Church
 Little Flower Catholic Church
 Living Hope Christian Fellowship

Financial Report For June 2022

Income: \$ 14,080 (amount without the additional \$5,000 transfer of funds)
 Expenses: \$ 16,933
 \$ -2,853

Social Hour returned

Sunday, June 5th at 9:30am
 Let's enjoy some fellowship before our 10am worship service



Fresh Expressions

Per the congregational vote on July 10 (and the absentee ballots received) First Church of the Resurrection voted to move forward with Fresh Expressions for one year beginning August 2022. More information coming soon.

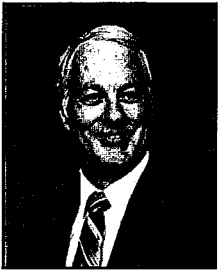
Usher's Committee Report Sunday Attendance

June 2022

Date	Adults	Children	Total
June 5	24	3	27
June 12	31	4	35
June 19	26	7	33
June 26	32	7	39

Total 113 21 134

Sunday total average = 33.5
 Sunday average of children = 5.25



Larry E. Linerode went home to be with Jesus on Friday June 17, 2022 at his home surrounded by his loving family. Larry retired as a distributor for Thomas English Muffins after 18 years of service. He was an active member of First Church of the Resurrection where he volunteered with their food pantry and Habitat for Humanity. Larry was a man of great discipline and humor. He cared deeply for those close to him. Larry is survived by his wife Sue; sons Todd (Denise) and Brian (Carrie); 6 grandchildren Brad (Melissa), Ben (Camille), Sarah (Ryan) Brittany (Tyler), Jon and Michael; 4 great-grandchildren Lilly, Matthew, Ezra, Ryan; sister Wanda Strott; and other relatives and friends.



Cards appreciated! Faye George fell and broke her hip. Faye will be recuperating at Aultman Woodlawn for the next couple weeks. The address is 2821 Woodlawn Ave NW Canton 44708. You can also send cards to her at home at 189 Grandview Ave NW Canton 44708. Let's show Faye some love.



Have you ever wanted a piano? First Church has 2 pianos available to anyone who would like them. If interested, contact an elder for more information by July 31st.

Kid Zone

PUZZLE

Beyond number

God is all-knowing, and his thoughts toward us are beyond number.

Directions: Solve the addition problems and use the code to complete Psalm 139:17-18, NIV.

sum = 13	dozen = 12	awake = 17	thoughts = 18	vast = 19	count = 21	sand = 22	precious = 23
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How _____ to me are your _____, God!
13+10 12+6

How _____ is the _____ of them!
8+11 10+3

Were I to _____ them,
15+6

they would _____ the grains of _____
3+12 4+18

when I _____, I am still with you.
13+4

PSALM 139:17-18, NIV

Answer: precious, thoughts, vast, sum, count, dozen, sand, awake

Puzzle!

Solve this cryptogram puzzle, using the clues R=I and M=T, to complete Psalm 111:10, NIV.

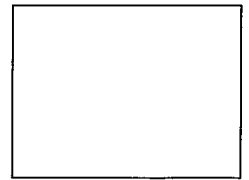
M Y L C L O Q Z C M Y L
 P Z Q N R V M Y L
 H L D R F F R F D Z C G R V N Z U
 O P P G Y Z C Z P P Z G
 Y R V B Q L T L B M V
 Y O K L D Z Z N
 J F N L Q V M O F N R F D
 M Z Y R U H L P Z F D V
 L M L Q F O P B Q O R V L

PSALM 111:10, NIV

Answer: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise. Psalm 111:10, NIV

THE HELPER

Serving God for 211 years
First Church of the Resurrection
901 East Tuscarawas St.
Canton, OH 44707



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



XXX

HELPER DEADLINE the 15th of each month

First Church of the Resurrection's Staff

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Rev. Amy Rozko, Lead Pastor
Katrina Kenyon, Worship Leader
Seth Kenyon, Music Director
Tina Copeland, Office Secretary
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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.