



From the Rafters

Vol. X
Issue 6
July/July
2023

Our Mission

We are a people rooted in worship, branching out into the world.

Dear Church of the Resurrection Family,

As is our custom, we will combine the June and July newsletters - so here it is! An exciting project has been given to us. As you may have noticed, the house across the street (3 Oakhaven Court)



burned in January. The owners of the property gifted us the house, as is. The Vestry and the Trustees of the Resurrection Foundation worked hard to secure the property and for funds to remove what remains of the building. For now, it will be a green space and we will dream of future uses for the property. A special thanks to John Cobb for leading the project and for our attorney, Lee Roper, for executing the property to our name.

The summer is filled with lots of activities! Of course, Mitchell's ordination is on June 3rd. I know you are as proud as I am of Mitchell!!! There are youth activities, a summer book read, Vacation Bible School, our annual stewardship dinner, Resurrection Roots activities, and much, much more. Be a part of it. "Come and see," as Jesus directs us from John's Gospel. Let your body, mind and spirit fall more in love with Jesus Christ through the work of the church!!! You are wanted here, even if it has been a while; take the leap and come back through those beautiful red doors. You are cared for here. Maybe you are sick, lonely, anxious; we are here for you. You are beyond loved here, there is a whole community of people who want to love you; you just have to let us! Our parish is a safe place for all. Make it part of your summer commitment to attend church and stay around for coffee hour.

Remember that you are loved by me, but most importantly by God!

Love,
Mary Balfour +

True Forgiveness by Murray Dunlap

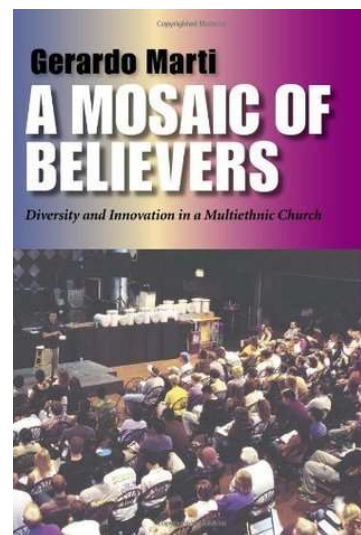
If I believed in anything
It would be the ability to forgive
Not right or wrong
Just the ability to say it is okay...

What you did will not ruin me
Or if it does, I wasn't ready
It all happened in a flash
The ability to forgive is divine
Thunder

Anti-Racism Library Book of the Month:

[A Mosaic of Believers](#)
by Gerardo Marti

Dr. Marti is a sociology professor at nearby Davidson College in North Carolina. His book is described: "Mosaic in southern California is one of the largest and most innovative multiethnic congregations in America. Gerardo



Marti shows us how this unusual church has achieved multiethnicity, not by targeting specific groups, but by providing multiple havens of inclusion that play down ethnic differences. He

reveals a congregation aiming to reconstruct evangelical theology, personal identity, member involvement, and church governance to create an institution with greater relevance to the social reality of a new generation.” Considering the growing ethnic diversity of our nation, *Mosaic* remains very relevant to the vitality of the Christian church.

Seeing God with the Eyes of our Heart

Our adult formation program on Sunday mornings concluded recently, after having four great discussions of *The Wisdom Jesus* by Cynthia Bourgeault. This book was suggested to us by the Rev. Mike Flanagan, who serves as our supply priest when Mary Balfour is away. Since so many Resurrection members are avid readers, and the book so profound, we’d like to share some of what we learned in case you’d like to read it as well.

The author, Cynthia Bourgeault, is an Episcopalian priest, a writer, and teacher. Following her ordination, she spent many years learning contemplative prayer practices taught by teachers from a variety of spiritual traditions, and she currently teaches these practices to others through her books and as a retreat leader. Her life’s work is dedicated to teaching and practicing the Christian wisdom tradition.

The wisdom tradition interprets Jesus’ teachings a little differently than what many of us are accustomed to. For example, we’re all familiar with the parable of the Good Samaritan. It’s an easy application of the great commandment to love all people, even when it’s uncomfortable and inconvenient. In the wisdom tradition, the parable becomes something deeper. The do-gooder is a Samaritan, a member of an ethnic group despised by the Jewish community. The victim – a Jew – receives the care of someone he despises. The Samaritan and the Jew must overcome their perceived separateness to heal and to be healed. Jesus tells this parable to a legal scholar of his day, someone who knows the right answer to all the questions. Jesus shows this know-it-all that he’s got it all wrong. Jesus has a deeper message than Mosaic law provides,

one that depends upon us acknowledging a oneness of all humanity and, provocatively, a oneness of humanity and divinity.

Bourgeault refers to the older Jewish mindset as the “egoic operating system,” which is grounded in dualistic thinking – I / you, we/them, etc.... She contends that the Western Christian church attached itself to and perpetuated the same operating system. But times are changing. Recent discoveries of sacred texts and a spreading renewal of the contemplative practices of early Christians are offering new insights on Jesus’ nature and his teachings. Bourgeault asserts that Jesus’ teachings were intended to lead his followers through a transformation from the “egoic operating system” to a “unitive operating system.” She demonstrates her point through an enlightening interpretation, not just of the Good Samaritan parable, but several other parables and conversations between Jesus and his followers.

The juxtaposition of the egoic and the unitive can be recognized when we consider the parable of the laborers in the vineyard. When we read that the laborers who worked for only one hour receive the same pay as those who worked all day, our egoic system would cry out in righteous indignation, “That’s not fair!” But the unitive system would rejoice in the abundance that the vineyard owner is able to share. Our minds are hard-wired to perceive the world from the viewpoint of scarcity and competition for resources. Jesus calls us to “repent” from this viewpoint. The words “repent” or “repentance” that our English bibles use are a translation of the original Greek word *metanoia*. In Greek, *metanoia* means to change one’s mind or to go beyond one’s mind. Jesus calls us to move beyond our egoic mind and into the unitive one. Bourgeault calls it seeing through the eyes of our heart. The apostle Paul calls it putting on the mind of Christ (Philippians 2).

There are several examples in the Bible of Jesus’ disciples wrestling with this transformation. When Peter encounters the resurrected Jesus on the shore and professes his love for Jesus, Jesus responds three times, “Feed my sheep” (John

21). In other words, Peter, be the shepherd. Loving Jesus means doing what he did – empty yourself and simply love. When Mary Magdalene encounters the resurrected Jesus outside his empty tomb, she reaches out to touch him. Jesus stops her; “Do not cling to me,” he says (John 20). Mary understands then that to know Jesus, we must go beyond recognizing him in physical form to recognizing him through the indwelling of his spirit in us.

Other expressions of this point are found in the gospel according to John where the author quotes Jesus: “The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.” ... “Abide in me as I abide in you” (John 14, 15). Thus, all the lovely parables that describe the kingdom of heaven are not referencing a place apart from the world where God rests on a throne. The kingdom of heaven is God’s indwelling spirit that provokes kenotic, self-emptying love between, among and through all humanity. This love flows from one to another, from God to Jesus to us in an unending circuit. The path to God is not a ladder, but a circle.

One of the more profound insights that Bourgeault shares from the biblical narrative is the repeated use of the verb “to be.” God breathes creation into existence with his utterance, “Let there be...” When Moses asks God to give his name, God responds “I am who I am.” When Mary accepts her place as the mother of God, she responds, “Let it be with me...” In the garden, when Jesus accepts his fate on the cross, he says, “Your will be done.” The “to be” conjugation is a running theme. We exist as an expression of God’s love. We submit as an expression of God’s love.

The transformation from the egoic to the unitive system can be accomplished, Bourgeault suggests, through contemplative spiritual practices. The last part of her book teaches several such practices: Centering Prayer Meditation, *Lectio Divina*, Chanting and Psalmody, Welcoming, and Eucharist. I invite you to read her book and learn about these practices for yourself. You might not be comfortable with them as a regular practice, but they are worth

reading about. *The Wisdom Jesus* is worth reading in its entirety. I’ve just shared the tip of the iceberg.

The Wisdom Jesus is provocative in many, wonderful ways. Some may find it uncomfortable to discover that Bourgeault’s analysis includes, in part, her interpretation of sacred writings that are not part of the biblical canon, namely the gospel of Thomas. This and other non-canonical writings were discovered in the mid-1940s, and scholars have been studying them ever since. They are discerning their authorship, their date, their authenticity. You don’t have to accept these texts to accept Bourgeault’s premise. The Bible provides quite enough evidence that Jesus was the wisdom teacher above all others. You must simply accept that Jesus did more than just die on the cross to atone for the fall of man. Atonement and salvation are often the emphasis of our religious liturgy and education. Jesus’ crucifixion, however, is not just about his metaphorical place as the sacrificial lamb whose death accomplishes the punishment of all humanity for its sins and thereby reconciles us to our Creator. Much more than that, Jesus’ death is the ultimate act of self-emptying love. It is the practicing of that type of love that reconciles us to God. When we “believe in Jesus,” we allow God’s spirit to dwell within us and motivate us to be like Jesus – to be the shepherd of each other.

Reading is a wonderful way to further your religious formation. That is why Mary Balfour is offering so many opportunities for book studies. This summer, our formation continues with reading *Leaving Church* by Barbara Brown Taylor. *Leaving Church* is Taylor’s memoir of her choice to leave behind her position as parish priest and her discovery of God in places far from the altar where she served. We all love our church, our nave, our altar, our people. We meet God there every Sunday. But perhaps *The Wisdom Jesus* and *Leaving Church* will show us many other places where we might encounter God beyond the usual locales.

~Elizabeth Floyd

Upcoming Events and Opportunities for Ministry

Join us to celebrate Mitchell Felton's Ordination



June 3, 2023
11:00 am

Trinity
Cathedral

Columbia, SC



Complete the Google
form to reserve your
spot on our bus!

Scan the QR Code to
access the Google
Reservation Form



WESLEY COMMONS

Holy Eucharist at
Wesley Commons

Tuesday, June 13
11:00 AM

Please join us!

**Note: No service will be held in July.*

Resurrection's Summer Read

"[Barbara Brown] Taylor describes a rich spiritual journey in which God has given her more questions than answers. As she becomes part of the flock instead of the shepherd, she describes her poignant and sincere struggle to regain her footing in the world without her defining collar. Taylor's realization that this may in fact be God's surprising path for her leads her to a refreshing search to find Him in new places. Leaving Church will remind even the most skeptical among us that life is about both disappointment and hope -- and ultimately, renewal."

*Hear us, O Lord of life:
Heal us, and make us
whole.*

*Services of Holy
Eucharist and
Healing
12:00 in the Nave*

*Wednesday,
June 7, 2023*

**Note: No service in July.*

Save the dates!

June 24 - 25, 2023

Youth Service Weekend

Saturday, June 24th, 10 AM to 1 PM
KGCB Presentation, Lunch and Trash Pick-up

Sunday, June 25th, 11:15 to 12:45
Youth at Immanuel Lutheran Sunday Soup Kitchen
(meet at Immanuel Lutheran at 11:15)

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.
1 Peter 4:10

Church of the Resurrection Vacation Bible School June 19 - 23 9:00 to noon

Through science experiments, art, music and play, you'll enjoy learning about:

Properties of water	Countries and Cultures of the world
Water Scarcity	Water as a theme in the Bible

Register in Advance
elizabeth@episcopalgreenwood.org or call 223-5426



**The First Annual Live Like Grey Scholarship Golf Tournament
July 15 @ the Links of Stoney Point**

Be a player, sponsor, or donor, and "Live Like Grey."

Dear Resurrection Friends:

We have just celebrated the Easter Season, a time for remembering how good triumphs over evil.

You may remember when I first wrote to you in the newsletter about my dear friend Grey Hamlett who was tragically killed in a drunk driving accident still under investigation (July 2022).

Grey's family has created a Piedmont Technical Scholarship in Grey's honor. This cause is deeply important to us for many reasons – to honor the life of our loved one Grey, to help other young people fulfill their dreams through the scholarship, to honor the lives of other people's loved ones who are now with us in spirit.

To raise money for the scholarship, please join us at The Links of Stoney Point Golf Course, July 15, for The First Annual Live Like Grey Golf Tournament.

Please help us raise money for Grey's scholarship by playing in the tournament, by being a sponsor or donor, or by volunteering the gift of your time. Please see the registration form that outlines specific opportunities, and please call, text, or email me (Renee 864.396.3103 or creneelove@gmail.com) if you have any questions or ideas. I would love your input and help on our first annual Live Like Grey Golf Tournament.

All donations are tax deductible. Sponsors will be recognized on the website and at the tournament.

Thank you for your consideration to this cause that is near and dear to me and to all of us who knew and loved this precious soul. Remain blessed.

Registration forms for the Live Like Grey tournament can be found in the Gathering Space.



Could you assist in the care of our youngest members?



We need nursery volunteers!



Serve once a quarter during the 10:30 worship service

Contact Elizabeth Floyd
(205) 807-7293

**Resurrection's New
Creation Care Team**



Please join us!

Our team will gather monthly for education, planning and coordinating our parish's effort to conserve the natural resources that God has so abundantly provided!

Contact Elizabeth Floyd for more information.
(205) 807-7293

Please join us for our
Annual Stewardship Dinner

**SUNDAY AUGUST 27TH
6:00 P.M.
THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF THE
RESURRECTION**

RSVP to Kelly Wiseman
by August 20th
864-323-2787
kjwiseman91@gmail.com

Altar Arrangements:

June 4 – The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mary Anderson Sefton, Ethel Sefton Stevens, Marcia Stevens Wiggs, and Ethel Stevens Williams by Mr. Tom Stevens.

June 11 – The altar flowers are given in memory of Carroll and Anita Brooks by Karen and Mike Whitfield.

June 18 – The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of his parents, Jack and Kathleen Criswell and grandparents, E.J. and Lenore Dargitz and Paul Criswell and Irene Criswell Kincaid by son and grandson, Dr. Paul Criswell.

June 18 - The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jim Jefferies by Mrs. Cynthia Jefferies.

June 25 - The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of E. Loudon Brooks, Sr., Myrtle Fellers Brooks, Edward Mims Mobley, Sr., Saline Clark Mobley, and Myrtle Brooks Fisher by Dr. Mims and Mary Jane Mobley.

The Presence Candle in June is given to the glory of God and in memory of their maternal grandmothers Clarissa Jane Osborne and Rendy Kathleen Hunter Shannon by Sandra and Bill Lewis.

July 2 – The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mitchell and Hazel Hammett and George and Alice Hammett by Ms. Connie Hammett.

July 9 – The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Sam and Eloise Zimmerman by their daughter, Ann Z. Elliott.

July 16 – The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of E. Loudon Brooks, Jr. and Patsy C. Brooks, Valorie Brooks Pruitt and E. Loudon Brooks, III, by Charles and Ginger Brooks Long.

July 23 – The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for their children, Susan, Abney, Brandt and Andrew by Abney and Susu Wallace.

July 30 – The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of their parents, James and Ruby Benjamin and Shuler and Sallie Hughes, by Cindy and John Hughes.

The Presence Candle in July is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Edwin Pratt by Mary Balfour Dunlap; and in memory of his parents, Jack and Kathleen Criswell, and for all those who need healing by Dr. Paul Criswell.

Parish Connections

Music	Donna Brooks 992-3738 dbrooksgwd@gmail.com
Altar Guild	Beverly Wilson 374-3507 bhallwilson@gmail.com
Acolytes	Mary Balfour Dunlap 615-900-6190 marybalfour@episcopalgreenwood.org
Christian Formation	Elizabeth Floyd 223-5426 elizabeth@episcopalgreenwood.org
Daughters of the King	Summer Booker (512) 417-5897 summer.b.booker@gmail.com
Episcopal Church Women	Susu Wallace 229-5690 swbwallace@gmail.com
Readers/EMs/Ushers	Denise Brown 223-5426 denise@episcopalgreenwood.org
Giving Records	Lindsey Farver 223-5426 finance@episcopalgreenwood.org
Columbarium	Dean Faden dfaden@hotmail.com
CO3R Tutoring	Elizabeth Floyd 223-5426 elizabeth@episcopalgreenwood.org
Online Directory	Jo Ann Brewer 941-7199 joannbrewersc@gmail.com
Youth Group	Diana Carver 993-4665 Christine Crowder 941-6899

RESURRECTION CELEBRATES WITH YOU

BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE	BIRTHDAYS IN JULY	ANNIVERSARIES
2 – Carla Hobbs 3 – Henry Cary 4 – Lisa Wyn 6 – Lonnie Gillespie 6 – Ragan Gillespie 11 – Lisa Anderson 11 – Austin Haigler 11 – Peter Russell 13 – Nancy Newlon 14 – Dean Faden 14 – John Hughes 17 – Elliott Kinney 18 – John Cobb, Jr. 18 – Isabel Kinney 18 – Hailey Willis 19 – Donna Brooks 20 – Jeffrey Lanford 24 – Salley Cathcart 24 – Madden Craven 26 – Jo Ann Brewer 26 – Bailey Shedd 26 – Jean Shirley 27 – Libby Cary 27 – Paul Criswell 27 – Elizabeth Duncan 28 – Sam Hyatt 28 – Leslie Juul Merrill 29 – Billy DuPre 30 – Mims Mobley, Jr.	1 – James Park 2 – Mary Margaret Adams 3 – Lisa McMillan 4 – Sarah McKinney 6 – Allen Hughes 7 – Larry Carson 8 – Rich Wyn 9 – Kathleen Hughes 10 – Margaret Conrad 10 – Mary Jo Tolbert 11 – Summer Booker 11 – Katie Craven 11 – Ginger Long 12 – Lou Wynne 15 – Ella Shedd 16 – Gerald Brooks 16 – Jeannie Kocik 16 – Hollie Long 17 – John Scurry, Jr. 18 – Lori Brooks 18 – Taylor Tucker 21 – Lindsey Sides 22 – Rebecca Long 25 – Richard Cathcart 26 – Laura Bachinski 26 – Tripp Padgett 26 – Liam Yonce 27 – Audine Bergman 27 – Abby Cleland	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>June Anniversaries</u></p> 1 – Cindy & John Hughes 6 – Jeannie & Joe Kocik 8 – Cynthia & David Dougherty 8 – Sandra & Bill Lewis 10 – Beth & Craig Church 17 – Deryl & Bart McGuire 19 – Lisa & Lucas McMillan 21 – Dawn Puderbaugh & Andrew Hodges <p style="text-align: center;"><u>July Anniversaries</u></p> 8 – Mary Jane & Mims Mobley 10 – Roxy & Norm Fawcett 11 – Catherine & Brice Sexton 17 – Kelly & John Wiseman 30 – Audine & Don Bergman

Your prayers are asked for these members of our parish and members of our immediate families: Bill Arnold, Karen Bright, Jim Bright, Larry Carson, Paul Criswell, Carol Dean, Albert Faden, Mary Joe Ferguson, Jim Gobble, Rita Marshall, Nan Hines, Diane Lawson, Patricia Mellette, Mary Jane Mobley, Erich Normandía, Bette and Burl Ricker, Domer Ridings, Greg and Ross Ann Steifle, Mary Jo Tolbert, Carol Wynne, Linda Criswell (Paul Criswell's sister), Riley Gillam (Sandy and Chuck Gresham's niece), Joan Grist (Ken Headley-Downs' cousin), Cheri Hutchison (Jo Ann and Bob Brewer's daughter), Ian Kelso (Karen Bright's brother), Jeanette Little (Adrian Little's mom), Carol Myers (Leslie Brooks McDonnell, Gerald Brooks, and Laura Shealy's aunt), Carol Ann Pry (Susie Hinkel's niece), Mason Shirley, Doris Snelling (Donna Brooks' mother), and Stacey Spillum (Jo Ann Brewer's niece).

And for these persons: Philip Bell, Rodney Cleveland, Vicki Hart (friend of the Brewers), Melody Johnson (Renee Love's friend)

Please send additions/deletions to the prayer list or family news and prayer concerns to Denise at denise@episcopalgreenwood.org or call 223-5426.

	Pledges (Actual)	Pledges (Budgeted)	Unpledged/Plate (Actual)	Unpledged/Plate (Budgeted)	Expenses (Actual)	Expenses (Budgeted)
Month as of 5/16/23	\$17,305	\$34,530	\$901	\$1,433	\$10,637	\$37,408
Year as of 5/16/23	\$209,542	\$173,650	\$7,318	\$7,217	\$166,248	\$193,271

We give thanks for your generosity, which makes the ministry of Resurrection possible!



From the Rafters

PO Box 3283
Greenwood, SC 29648-3283

Phone: 864-223-5426
Website: www.episcopalgreenwood.org
Email: cor@episcopalgreenwood.org

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Church of the Resurrection

Vestry Members

Karen Whitfield, Senior Warden
Jim Nazarro, Junior Warden
Eddie Barber
Gerald Brooks
Diana Carver
Salley Cathcart
Phil Ellenberg
Mary Charles Haigler
Charlie Long
Deb Maschoff
Albert Merrill
Stephen Tucker
Adrian Little, Vestry Clerk
John Scurry, Treasurer

Clergy and Staff

Mary Balfour Dunlap, Rector
Al Hipp, Deacon
Donna Brooks, Director of Music Ministry
Denise A. Brown, Administrative Assistant
Elizabeth Floyd, Associate Lay Minister for
Families and Outreach
Lindsey Farver, Financial Contractor
Catherine Brooks Sexton, RN, Parish Nurse