



# Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale

2131 Mount Road, Aston, PA 19014

(610) 459-2013

**October 2018**



"We Gather Together"

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## **Some Updated Facts About Finances at Resurrection, Rockdale: Your Priest's Unvarnished View**

Once again, we come to the time of year when we as a Christian community decide what the mission and ministry of Resurrection, Rockdale will be for the coming calendar year by deciding what financial resources we will make available for carrying out that mission. As I thought about how to approach this once more, I reread what I said last year about this. Much of it seems to be true this year as well [The stuff that isn't still as important or as true you'll see has been excised]. Rather than reinventing my own wheel, I've adapted what I wrote last year. So here's a new, updated version of some thoughts you may not have heard often (particularly from clergy) in the past:

1. **Resurrection, Rockdale operates leanly and efficiently.** There is a real cost-consciousness as decisions are made about how we do things (and which things we do). The emphasis on doing things ourselves if we can (e.g., an incredible number of repairs made by Property Committee members and others [most of which are really important, but are behind the scenes, so you probably haven't noticed] is one good indicator of that.) Shadow side of this: We have had a tendency in the past to defer maintenance or expenses beyond what is optimal for carrying out our parish's mission. [We let the place run down so we can't do what we need to do as a parish.] A piece of good news is that much of the large deferred maintenance has been addressed. Or so we hope until we learn differently. Our present big property project: bringing the Sextons' House up to livability standards.
2. **The members of our parish support it with generous gifts of time, effort, and money.** The fact is that we have achieved financial stability because of two things:

(1) the generosity of our members—Pledges have been made at levels which this parish has not seen in its immediate past, and those pledges have been paid on time (or ahead!); and (2) Many people have taken on tasks of all kinds; The stewardship of money is matched by generous gifts of time, talent, and effort. We have much to do in terms of increasing the number of people who lead and staff the many functions that make up the life of our parish. *Too much still falls on too few shoulders, especially Vestry shoulders.* Remember—the membership group that gets to come to Church now and then, comment on what others are doing, but never lift a hand themselves—that group has been closed. All of us are called to be active partners in our parish’s mission and life. Much has been done in this area; much remains to be accomplished.

3. **The Emergency Alarms Aren’t Blasting, But We Can’t Slack Off.** Our finances are more stable than they have been in some time. That is totally dependent on the generosity of money, time, and talent cited in the last paragraph. If this parish decreases its commitment, we’ll reenter the dire straits from which we have just extracted ourselves. We need to keep up the growth in generous financial commitment we as a parish have made and the increase in people stepping up to support the life and ministry of Resurrection. We’re in a better place; we all need to do our part to keep us there.
4. **Resurrection, Rockdale will be expending more money in 2019 to do what it does in 2018.** A number of new or increased expenses will naturally flow from our pursuing our mission goals. Others may include budgeting for oil usage and snow removal at a level which does not count on an unusually mild winter, repairing the steeple on the Church so it doesn’t give us rain inside the Church as well as outside, putting in the budget some things we always do but haven’t budgeted for this year, and this list could go on and on. Just doing what we do now will be more expensive in money than it has been. And by a fair amount.
5. **Engaging in renewed and expanded Programs with our mission goals will take money.** There will be a number of new and renewed programs that Resurrection, Rockdale will want to undertake as we move forward, reaching out in love and service to our community and building up the bonds of love and friendship among our own congregation. There needs to be some money unallocated for anything else so that won’t be a problem when we discover that our Resurrection, Rockdale mission is growing and renewing at a pace even faster than we have in the past.
6. **This affects you and your actions directly.** Some parishes have one or two “angels” who take primary responsibility for the financial life of the parish (and usually end up making most of the big decisions concerning the parish as well). The good news is that Resurrection, Rockdale doesn’t have that kind of decision-making system; we are all part of the decisions that get made about our ministry and mission as a parish. The challenging part of that news is that supporting those decisions with our gifts (of money, time, and effort) is a job for *all* of us. There is

no “them” to take that over from us. This means that “just the same as last year” or “add a little on to what we’re doing now” won’t make the kinds of things happen that Resurrection, Rockdale wants to do and to be for 2019 with our mission, goals, and programs. So **you** have to step up and renew your relationship with Resurrection, Rockdale. **Each of you reading this.** No one else will take up the slack for you. Your decision will make the difference.

These are the facts as I see them. As you make your financial pledge for 2019, please think and pray and act according to how you are led by the Spirit. Resurrection, Rockdale matters. Your prayers matter. Your support in word and action matters. Your money matters. Your time matters. Your help matters. God has blessed Resurrection, Rockdale in so many ways. Make yourself a strengthened instrument of that blessing during 2019.

- Fr. Wand



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**OUTREACH:** The Outreach Committee is up and operating for the new year. For further information about any service opportunities, contact **Leigh Oppelt (610)497-4576**. Leigh has offered leadership, and the congregation has strongly supported, several outreach programs during the holiday season. Outreach (like the rest of stewardship) is a year-round, 24/7/365 thing.



**UPDATED—Faith Community Food Pantry: Please be sure to check dates—we can not accept expired food.** They are only in need of the following items—**Coffee, Cereal and Pasta (all types)**

SUNDAY	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THURSDAY	FRI.	SATURDAY
<b>September 30</b> <b>The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8am Rite I Eucharist 10am Rite II Eucharist w/Sunday School—Healing Service	<b>OCT. 1</b>	2 <i>Dioc. Convention Deputies Pre-Convention Meeting @ 6:30pm</i>	3 <i>Girl Scout Troup Meeting 6:30pm</i>	4 <i>Finance Meeting @ 2pm</i>	5	6 <i>Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm</i> <i>Aston Community Day (see announcements)</i>
<b>October 7</b> <b>The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8am Rite I Eucharist 10am Rite II Eucharist—Children's Service <b>BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AFTER SERVICES!</b>	8	9	10 <i>Sun Valley Pre-Prom Meeting @ 7:00pm</i>	11	12	13 <i>Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm</i>
<b>October 14</b> <b>The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8am Rite I Eucharist 10am Rite II Eucharist w/Sunday School <b>FREE WAFFLES AFTER SERVICES!</b>	15	16	17 <i>Girl Scout Troup Meeting 6:30pm</i>	18 <i>Stewardship Committee Meeting @ 4pm</i> <i>American Legion Ladies Auxiliary @ 6pm</i> <i>Vestry Meeting @ 7pm</i>	19	20 <i>Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm</i>
<b>October 21</b> <b>The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8am Rite I Eucharist 10am Rite II Eucharist w/Sunday School	22	23	24	25 <i>Property Committee Meeting @ 6pm</i>	26	27 <i>Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm</i>
<b>October 28</b> <b>The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8am Rite I Eucharist 10am Rite II Eucharist w/Sunday School—Healing Service	29	30	31	<b>NOV. 1</b> <i>Finance Meeting @ 2pm</i>	2	3 <i>Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm</i>
<b>November 4</b> <b>All Saints' Sunday</b> 8am Rite I Eucharist 10am Rite II Eucharist—Children's Service <b>Pledge In-Gathering</b>	5	6	7	8 <i>Vestry Meeting @ 7pm</i>	9 <i>Diocesan Convention</i>	10 <i>Lenni Lifeline/AA Meeting @ 7pm</i> <i>Diocesan Convention</i>

<p><b>September 30</b>  <b>The Nineteenth</b>  <b>Sunday after</b>  <b>Pentecost</b>  <b>Counters:</b>  Helen Dunlap  Jill Graham</p>	<p>8am  <i>Rite I</i>  Eucharist  <i>(Healing)</i></p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Helen Dunlap  <b><u>Reader</u></b>  Rick Dunlap  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Jan Myers Knight</p>	<p>10am  <i>Rite II</i>  Eucharist  w/Sunday  School  <i>(Healing)</i></p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Karen Warren  <b><u>Reader(both)</u></b>  Phyllis Russell  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Rosemary Bezuidenhout</p>
<p><b>October 7</b>  <b>The Twentieth</b>  <b>Sunday after</b>  <b>Pentecost</b>  <b>Counters:</b>  Rosemary Bezuidenhout  Helen Dunlap</p>	<p>8am  <i>Rite I</i>  Eucharist</p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Helen Dunlap  <b><u>Reader</u></b>  Rick Dunlap  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Linda Leiby</p>	<p>10am  <i>Rite II</i>  Eucharist  Children's  Service</p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Phyllis Russell  <b><u>Reader(both)</u></b>  Marissa Cervantez  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Kylie Benditt</p>
<p><b>October 14</b>  <b>The Twenty-First</b>  <b>Sunday after</b>  <b>Pentecost</b>  <b>Counters:</b>  Jill Graham  Janet Russello</p>	<p>8am  <i>Rite I</i>  Eucharist</p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Janet Russello  <b><u>Reader</u></b>  Robin Krider  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Jan Myers Knight</p>	<p>10am  <i>Rite II</i>  Eucharist  w/Sunday  School</p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Rosemary Bezuidenhout  <b><u>Reader(both)</u></b>  Pieter Bezuidenhout  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Joan Ricciardi</p>
<p><b>October 21</b>  <b>The Twenty-Second</b>  <b>Sunday</b>  <b>after</b>  <b>Pentecost</b>  <b>Counters:</b>  Phyllis Russell  Rose Schwitters</p>	<p>8am  <i>Rite I</i>  Eucharist</p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Diane Mundell  <b><u>Reader</u></b>  Robin Krider  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Linda Leiby</p>	<p>10am  <i>Rite II</i>  Eucharist  w/Sunday  School</p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Jude Winters  <b><u>Reader(both)</u></b>  Karen Warren  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Rose Schwitters</p>
<p><b>October 28</b>  <b>The Twenty-Third</b>  <b>Sunday after</b>  <b>Pentecost</b>  <b>Counters:</b>  Jill Graham  Janet Russello</p>	<p>8am  <i>Rite I</i>  Eucharist  <i>(Healing)</i></p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Linda Leiby  <b><u>Reader</u></b>  Robin Krider  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Jan Myers Knight</p>	<p>10am  <i>Rite II</i>  Eucharist  w/Sunday  School  <i>(Healing)</i></p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Karen Warren  <b><u>Reader(both)</u></b>  Phyllis Russell  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Phyllis Russell</p>
<p><b>November 4</b>  <b>All Saints' Sunday</b>  <b>Counters:</b>  TBD</p>	<p>8am  <i>Rite I</i>  Eucharist</p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Helen Dunlap  <b><u>Reader</u></b>  Linda Leiby  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Robin Krider</p>	<p>10am  <i>Rite II</i>  Eucharist  Children's  Service</p>	<p><b><u>Chalicer</u></b>  Marsha Litwin  <b><u>Reader(both)</u></b>  Marissa Cervantez  <b><u>Intercessor</u></b>  Kylie Benditt</p>



**ASTON COMMUNITY DAY—October 6<sup>th</sup> 8:30am-3:00pm.** We will be taking part in Aston Community Day at the Community Center. We need volunteers to help with games and crafts. We will also be selling our cookbooks, perfect cloths and hand out information about our Church and Preschool. This is a large gathering for families in Aston. It will be a great way get information out to the community about us! Please volunteer on the sign-up sheet in the Undercroft. Any questions, please contact Terri Burrell at [tesss67@aol.com](mailto:tesss67@aol.com)



**BLESSING OF ANIMALS**—Next Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, at the end of each service. Fr. Wand will bless animals at the end of the 8:00 am and 10:00 am services, in commemoration of St. Francis Day. This is a great opportunity to invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join you. They and their pets are welcome to join us for worship, or to meet us at the door of the Church at the conclusion of the service (about 8:30 am and 11:00 am) for prayers and a blessing for their pet.



**WAFFLE U. WELCOMES STUDENTS ON OCTOBER**

**14<sup>th</sup>**—We need a corps of trained waffle makers, topping arrangers, table setters, coffee makers and servers, cleanup mavens, and a whole lot more! Come get schooled in how you can

be part of this fun fellowship event bringing our parish together through ice cream, maple syrup, strawberries and so much more! Sign up on the list in the Narthex and Undercroft, and show up at 7:30 or 9:30 on October 14 to get trained by one of the best, our own Gary Koerner!



**CHRISTMAS IS ON ITS WAY!**—I hear the cry go up, “Not already?!?” As Christmas items begin to arrive in stores, we need to think about worshipping at Christmas.

Last year we held one Christmas Eve service at 4:00 p.m. That seemed to work well for a lot of people. However, last year Christmas Eve fell on Sunday evening. This year, it’s on Monday—that may make a difference for those coming from their jobs. The only way we’ll know about how it affects you and your (extended) family is if you check with family and let us know. At its next meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup>, the Vestry will be making a recommendation to the Priest about what schedule to adopt for this year. If you have thoughts about that, please speak with a Vestry member.



**LIDS FOR LIMBS:** Helen Dunlap is collecting all size plastic caps/lids for children who lost their limbs due to land mines. The lids are turned into prostheses. Containers will be labeled in the Narthex and the Undercroft for you to place your lids. Thank you!!!



**WAWA HOAGIE SALE:** Our Wawa Hoagie coupon fundraiser continues! We are selling coupons at \$3.50 each for a Wawa “shorti” hoagie, of which we keep a small profit from every sale. The coupons can be used at all Wawa’s and have no expiration date. If you are interested, please see Rosemary Bezuidenhout.



**ALTAR FLOWERS:** If you are interested in decorating the altar. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. The cost of flowers is \$35.



### **Resurrection Pre-School**

9 AM to 12 noon/5 day classes for 4 year-olds/3 day classes, M-W-F, for 3 year olds  
Reasonable rates – Financial Aid available/Children must be toilet-trained.

Please call the office 610-459-2013 for more information and pricing.

Dawn Viscusi is the Pre-School Administrator.

**Remember it is your word-of-mouth recommendation that supports our Pre-School.**

### **The Mission and Goals of Resurrection Church**

The mission of Resurrection Episcopal Church is to nourish the spiritual lives of our diverse parish family and to follow the example of Jesus through service to our community.

The Internal goal for Resurrection Episcopal Church is to grow stronger in faith, care for those who cannot be present, and unify as a family sharing in faith based activities.

The Resurrection Episcopal Church outreach goal is to become more visible and listen to the needs of the community by doing God’s work through service to others.



(From left:) Fr. Wand, Rosemary Bezuidenhout, Phyllis Russell, Janet Russello, Rose Schwitters, Helen Dunlap, Barbara Krisack. Not pictured: Marsha Litwin, Jill Graham.



### **Vestry of Resurrection Episcopal Church, Rockdale**

Phyllis Russell, Rector's Warden	610-358-0258
Marsha Litwin, People's Warden/Secretary	610-485-5531
Rosemary Bezuidenhout, Treasurer	541-246-0780
Helen Dunlap	610-485-5623
Jill Graham	610-459-5854
Barbara Krisack	610-497-1603
Janet Russello	610-497-8894
Rose Schwitters	610-331-9105
The Rev. Thomas C. Wand	610-291-4362

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