

"You belong here . . . God is building a home. God is using us all - irrespective of how we got here - in what God is building. God is fitting us together, brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together." (Paraphrased from Ephesians 2:19-22 in The Message)

October 12, 2023

Dear Church,

We have been through a lot in the last couple of years. To quote our own great home-grown prophet and musician, Bob Dylan, "the times they are a changing." Perhaps it is less a prophecy than a clear reminder that change pervades every time and always. Whether subtly or more dramatically.

Just as we were beginning to find our way back together following COVID, we were rocked by more change. The unexpected departure of two lead staff in quick succession has left us with some grief, uncertainty, and anxiety. We have questions. Who are we now? What do we do? Where is God in all of this?

Let's start with that last question. Because there is Good News abounding here at Resurrection! Your staff has witnessed clear evidence that the Spirit of God is alive and well, stirring this community to a vibrant life of faith. There were 72 students, leaders, and parents at the confirmation orientation/family night. Sunday school students, teachers, and helpers are back and having a great time together. Angel Haven is open for the first time since COVID. Senior Life, the Women's Bible Study, and other small groups are meeting in person enjoying food, conversation, and study. Visitors and guests continue to show up at worship. This is a vibrant community of faith! We are the church in this place. Not the pastor. Not the worship leader. The church is the people. And God is with us! Resurrection continues to be on the move, filled with hope and promise.

But our life together is not without challenge. 2022 - 2023 brought a significant change in financial support. During COVID we received government funds (PPP). That support disguised the deficits we would otherwise have had. With that support gone, we who are the church are being called to consider how we can step in and step up our financial support of God's mission in this place. There are a couple of graphs on the back of this letter. Find your place within this community of financial support and prayerfully consider increasing that support. Your financial generosity, combined with your gifts of time and talent help to sustain this vibrant community. We need each other. We are the church.

There will be more great stories of vibrant faith from within this community, more information, and more opportunities for conversation in the weeks ahead. Sunday, November 12, we will gather our statement of intent for giving cards for 2024 and celebrate our life together. Thanks in advance for your commitment to live Resurrection.

Faithfully,

Your Resurrection Stewardship Team: Jay Hickey, Justin Hummel, Theresa Hummel, Jeff Murray, Christina Womack, Pastor Lamont

Resurrection Members Monthly Giving

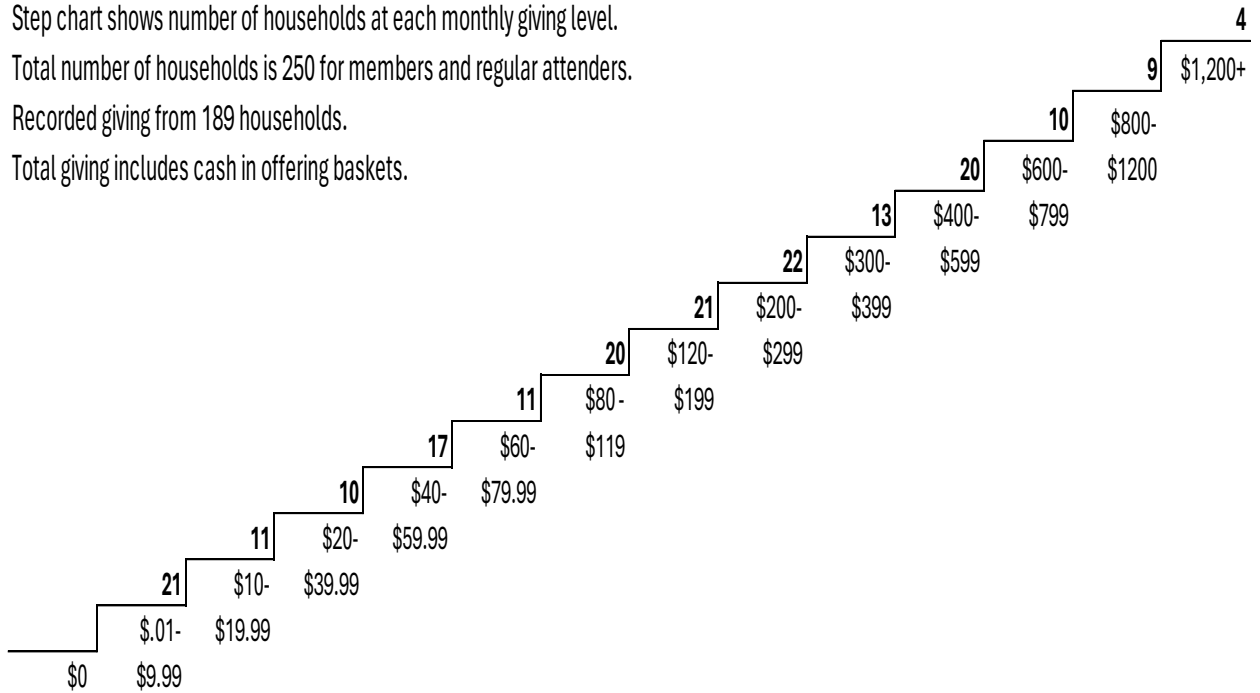
2022 General Fund Offering (non-designated)

Step chart shows number of households at each monthly giving level.

Total number of households is 250 for members and regular attenders.

Recorded giving from 189 households.

Total giving includes cash in offering baskets.



Percentage of Total Giving (black) and Households (gray) per Step

