

2022 Parish Survey

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, Blue Springs, MO

Several months ago Father David Lynch announced his intention to retire from active ministry effective October 1, 2022. His decision triggered the creation of a Search Committee for a new rector of the Church of the Resurrection.

Before the Search Committee engages in a formal process of looking for a new priest, it is necessary to fully understand and appreciate the wants and needs of the members of the Church of the Resurrection in their next pastoral leader.

This survey not only asks several sets of questions about our congregation's current ministry and your own involvement, but also seeks your input on pastoral leadership and your vision for our future.

There are **36 questions** in the survey divided into seven sections:

1. ***Your Church Participation (13 questions)***
2. ***Your Stewardship (2 questions)***
3. ***Your Worship Preferences (2 questions)***
4. ***Your Priorities for the Church of the Resurrection (1 question)***
5. ***The Qualities you desire in our next Rector (8 questions)***
6. ***The Future of the Church of the Resurrection (2 questions)***
7. ***Background Information about Yourself (8 questions)***

Completing this survey ensures that your views have been heard. We ask each member of your household 16 years of age and older complete the survey. The survey should take most people no longer than 30 minutes.

You may complete this survey on-line or on paper. If you choose to fill out the survey on-line, please complete it in one sitting.

If you complete the paper survey, please return it to the church in an anonymous envelope marked "Parish Survey" so that your responses can be recorded manually. Surveys may be returned in the offering plate on Sunday.

When answering this survey, please check the appropriate box or supply the required information as indicated. If answering questions with a limited number of choices, please choose the answer that comes closest to the right answer for you, even if it does not fit perfectly. Unanswered items reduce the usefulness of the survey.

Thank you for your opinion. We hope you enjoy filling out the questionnaire and that in addition to assisting the Search Committee, you find this process helpful in reflecting on your faith and the

meaning of your church experience.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact a member of the Search Committee.

*** Required**

Section 1: Your Church Participation

1. 1. How long have you been attending the Church of the Resurrection? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Less than 1 year
- ☐ 1 to 2 years
- ☐ 3 to 4 years
- ☐ 5 to 9 years
- ☐ 10 to 19 years
- ☐ 20 years or more

2. 2. On average, how often do you attend the Church of the Resurrection in-person? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Two or three times a month
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ A few times a year
- ☐ Usually just major Christian services (like Christmas, Easter)
- ☐ Never

3. **3. Which service do you typically attend when you come to church to worship? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ 8:00 am

☐ 10:30 am

4. **4. After worship in-person, do you typically attend the fellowship hour following services? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

5. **5. Do you watch the Church of the Resurrection Sunday services on-line if you do not attend church in-person? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ Always

☐ Most of the time

☐ Occasionally

☐ Rarely

☐ Never

6. **6. Do you typically watch any weekday church services on-line? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

7. **7. Do you participate or attend any parish activities outside of regular worship? ***

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Often
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never

8. **8. Please check if you have attended or participated in any of the following events (check all that apply):**

Check all that apply.

- ☐ First Sunday Breakfast
- ☐ Game Night
- ☐ Bonfire
- ☐ Yard Sale
- ☐ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- ☐ Social Dinner (e.g.: St. Patrick's Day, Cabin Fever, Cinco de Mayo)
- ☐ Book Club
- ☐ Adult Forum
- ☐ Movie Night
- ☐ Bible Study
- ☐ Men's Group

9. **9. Has your involvement in the congregation increased, decreased, or remained about the same in the last few years? ***

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Increased
- ☐ Remained the same
- ☐ Decreased

10. **10. If your involvement has increased OR decreased, which of the following are reasons for that? (check all that apply; check only the last response if your involvement is unchanged)** *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ More or less time available
- ☐ More or less commitments for children's activity
- ☐ COVID concerns
- ☐ Change in health
- ☐ A change in your faith
- ☐ Out of the habit
- ☐ Change in attitude toward the parish or priest
- ☐ Style of worship
- ☐ Other
- ☐ My involvement has remained the same

11. **11. What ORIGINALLY attracted you to come to the Church of the Resurrection?**
Please select your top three answers with #1 being the most important:

Mark only one oval per row.

	#1	#2	#3
I'm Episcopalian	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The location of the church	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The priest	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The web site	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The music	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The liturgy / worship style	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marriage to an Episcopalian or Catholic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The people / fellowship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Invitation from a member	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My family attends there	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. **12. What KEEPS you as part of the Church of the Resurrection? Please select your top three answers with #1 being the most important:**

Mark only one oval per row.

	#1	#2	#3
I'm Episcopalian	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The location of the church	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The priest	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The music	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The liturgy / worship style	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marriage to an Episcopalian or Catholic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The people / fellowship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My friends or family attend here	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adult education / Adult forum	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The outreach program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

13. 13. What is your satisfaction with the following aspects of the Church of the Resurrection?

*

Mark only one oval per row.

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied
The music (choir, anthems, and instrumentals) during Sunday worship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sunday worship service, other than the music	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The way your spiritual needs are being met	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Vestry and lay leadership of the parish	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
General communication in the weekly e-mail and website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Opportunities for fellowship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adult Christian education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Section 2: Your Stewardship

14. **14. How do you support the Church of the Resurrection? (check all that apply) ***

Check all that apply.

☐ With contributions of my time outside of worship by being actively involved with a church committee, helping with church events, working on the building and grounds, leading a fundraiser, etc.

☐ With contributions of my talent by accepting a church leadership position, singing in the choir, serving at the altar, being a substitute organist, volunteering to teach Sunday School, providing professional services to the parish, staffing the nursery, etc.

☐ With contributions of my money by making a pledge or giving unrestricted donations to pay for the operating expenses of the church.

15. 15. If the congregation was able to raise significantly more money, how high a priority would you give to the following uses of that money? *

Mark only one oval per row.

	High Priority	Moderate Priority	Low Priority	Not a priority
Increased support to the Diocese	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increased support for outreach	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increased support for world missions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increase current staff salaries or benefits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hire a clerical person	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Renovate, enlarge or add to current facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increase budget for educational programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Begin an endowment or add to an existing one	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increase evangelistic efforts and advertising	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Section 3: Your Worship Preferences

16. 16. For you personally, how important is each of the following in the mix of qualities *
that make a good worship service?

Mark only one oval per row.

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't want at all
Providing plenty of time for members to greet one another during the peace	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing worship that is spiritual and emotionally moving	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A good sermon that is intellectually challenging	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Chanting of the liturgy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of inclusive, non- sexist language	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of incense	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Silent prayer / meditation time	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Having parts of the worship especially for children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Occasional use of new or unfamiliar hymns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of altar bells	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recognizing birthdays and anniversaries by name (birthday and anniversary prayer)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Individually
remembering by name
those who are sick**

☐☐☐☐

**Use of contemporary
worship styles, music
and language**

☐☐☐☐

17. 17. For you, personally, how important is each of the following in the mix of qualities that make a good sermon?

*

Mark only one oval per row.

	Essential	Important	Not Very Important
Sets forth a clear faith position as a guide for making decisions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Based on a clear, unambiguous religious authority	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Touches directly on my everyday life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Contains scholarly or literary references	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is based on the weekly liturgical readings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Makes me reflect on current issues and events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is challenging and thought-provoking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Flows from the Priest's own personal faith and spiritual convictions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is comforting and reassuring	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is carefully composed and skillfully delivered	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is spiritually moving and inspirational	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Explores sides of an	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**issue without
advocating for one side**

**Occasionally includes
commentary or opinion
on secular politics**

☐☐☐

Section 4: Your Priorities for the Church of the Resurrection

18. 18. Listed below are a number of possible priorities for the Church of the Resurrection to undertake in the future. Please respond to each item by indicating how important you feel it is for Resurrection going forward.

*

Mark only one oval per row.

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Worship that provides a meaningful experience of God and the Christian tradition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Offering worship that expresses the Gospel in contemporary language and forms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing Christian education for children and youth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing Christian education programs for adults including bible study and discussion groups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helping members deepen their spiritual relationship with God	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Evangelism / Growing the church in numbers and participation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Engaging in outreach to persons in need	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Encouraging members to act on the relationship of the Christian faith to current social, political, and economic issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Providing a caring ministry for the sick, shut-ins and the bereaved	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing pastoral counseling to help members deal with personal problems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing fellowship opportunities for members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Actively participating in the Deanery and Diocese	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helping members understand their use of money, time and talents as expressions of Christian stewardship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supporting the global mission of the Episcopal church	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helping members discover their own gifts for ministry and service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participating in activities and programs with other local religious groups or organizations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Section 5: The Qualities you desire in our next Rector

19. 19. Select from the list below the importance of each quality you would like to see in * our next Rector for you personally.

Mark only one oval per row.

	Very Important	Important	Least Important
Compassion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Communication and listening skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Conducting worship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Setting a vision and goals for the parish	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Christian Education for adults	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Christian Education and programs for youth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Spiritual guidance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parish growth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Meaningful preaching / sermons	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parish involvement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outreach	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Counseling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pastoral Care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diocesan involvement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community involvement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Church administration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20. 20. Please select the top three pastoral specialties or talents you believe are the most important for the Search Committee to look for in a new Rector, where #1 is first.

Mark only one oval per row.

	#1	#2	#3
Administration (Ability to manage the administrative affairs of the parish including programs, committees, finances and record-keeping.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Christian Education (Ability to help persons of all ages to understand and live the Christian Faith and implement Christian Education programs.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Counseling (Ability to assist persons facing problems or decisions in a counseling setting.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Evangelism (Ability to train and lead others to present Christ in such ways that persons may be led to and follow Christ within the church.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Liturgical Leader (Ability to plan and conduct spiritual liturgical services of public worship.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outreach (Ability to focus on how those with	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

plenty can help those in need.)

Pastoral Care (Ability to care for people and respond to people at significant points in their lives; such as death, dying, sickness, birth, trauma and success.)

☐☐☐

Preaching (Ability to preach with clarity and to make the Gospel relevant in people's lives.)

☐☐☐

Social Ministry (Ability to enable persons within the congregation to become aware of and participate in issues.)

☐☐☐

Spiritual Guide (Ability to lead and train others in the formation and development of a spiritual discipline.)

☐☐☐

Stewardship (Ability to lead in the development and use of individual and congregational resources.)

☐☐☐

Theologian (Ability to demonstrate a sound and disciplined understanding of biblical and historical revelation and the perception of God's activity in the world.)

☐☐☐

Youth (Ability to inspire youth and incorporate them into the full life and ministry of the church.)

☐☐☐

21. **21. Do you have a preference regarding the gender of our next Rector? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ No preference

22. **22. Do you have a preference regarding the age of our next Rector? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ Under 35

☐ 35 and older

☐ No preference

23. **23. Do you have a preference regarding the work experience of our next Rector? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ Previous parish ministry experience only

☐ Newly ordained

☐ No preference

24. **24. Do you have a preference regarding the sexual orientation of our next Rector? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ Heterosexual only

☐ No preference

25. **25. Do you have a preference regarding the marital status of our next Rector? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ Single

☐ Married

☐ No preference

26. **26. Do you have a preference regarding the theological education of our next Rector? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ Formal episcopal seminary education only

☐ Alternative theological education acceptable

Section 6: The Future of the Church of the Resurrection

27. 27. Think about your vision for the future of the Church of the Resurrection. Please *
take a few minutes to discuss your hope for our church's future. What are your
desires and wishes for the church over the next five years?

28. 28. The membership and average Sunday attendance of the Church of the *
Resurrection has declined over the last few years. Considering this information,
please answer the following questions regarding your opinion how Resurrection may
respond to the challenges facing a small church with low membership and limited
financial resources.

Mark only one oval per row.

	Would definitely support	Would maybe consider	Would not support
Switch to a part-time priest instead of a full- time rector	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Combine with a nearby Episcopal or ELCA congregation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Share a priest/pastor with a nearby Episcopal or ELCA congregation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Section 7: Background Information about Yourself

29. **29. What is your gender? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ Male

☐ Female

30. **30. What is your age? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ 16 - 19

☐ 20 - 29

☐ 30 - 39

☐ 40 - 49

☐ 50 - 59

☐ 60 - 69

☐ 70 - 79

☐ 80 or over

31. **31. What is your racial/ethnic background? ***

Mark only one oval.

☐ White / Caucasian

☐ Non-white

☐ Prefer not to answer

32. **32. What is your marital status? ***

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Single, never married
- ☐ Married
- ☐ Living in a committed relationship
- ☐ Divorced or separated
- ☐ Widowed

33. **33. What is your highest level of formal education? ***

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Less than high school graduate
- ☐ High school graduate
- ☐ Some college, trade or vocational school
- ☐ College degree
- ☐ Post-graduate work or degree

34. **34. Are you: ***

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Retired (not working)
- ☐ Employed full-time
- ☐ Employed part-time
- ☐ Not currently employed
- ☐ Full-time houseperson
- ☐ Student

35. 35. How many children do you have living at home in each age group? *

Mark only one oval per row.

	None	1	2	3 or more
Age 0 - 5	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Age 6 - 12	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Age 13 - 18	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Age 19 - 21	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

36. 36. Please provide any comments, concerns or opinions you would like known.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your responses are completely anonymous and will be aggregated in the final survey results with everyone who has answered the survey.

Survey results will be presented between services on Sunday, October 2.

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