



# Resurrection News

Volume 8 Issue 11

October/November

2023

## Autumn Months

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the  
changing of the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months,  
may the earlier setting of the sun  
remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colors of the leaves  
remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air  
remind us that it is you who give us the breath of  
life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us of the  
abundance we have been given and bounty we  
are to share with others.

May the dying of summer's spirit remind us of  
your great promise that death is temporary and  
life is eternal.

We praise you for your goodness forever and  
ever.

– *Author Unknown*



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## Special Points of Interest:

- The next **newsletter deadline** is **November 15th** for the December/January issue.
- **Bible Study** meets Tuesday evenings by ZOOM at 7:00 pm. All are welcome.
- **Prayer and Care Pantry** is helping our neighbors in need. We could use donations of toilet paper, and bar soap, Of course cash donations are always appreciated.

## Rectors Reflection

### The Challenge of Change

*"I triumph still, if thou abide with me."*

*Henry Francis Late (1793-1847), from "Abide with me"*

There was a game my daughter used to play in elementary school, stuck in the pudding. She loved this game, but I wasn't sure how she played it. Did a group of kids lie on the gym floor, and, when an unsuspecting child tried to walk through their midst, did they grab the child with their legs and arms, and was the child thus stuck in the pudding? Or was stuck in the pudding a form of freeze tag, where you hold still when you're tagged until someone comes along and frees you? I may never know how to play this game because, as far as I can discover, no one plays it any more and my daughter has no memory of it. I checked the Internet, too. Time has moved on and left no record behind to tell us about it.

When we are in the moment, engaged, alive, and brimming with fun, it seems as if the world is just right the way it is, but times move on, and now, who knew it? who suspected? Suddenly, we are "stuck in the pudding." We are being grabbed and dragged down in one scenario, or tagged and stuck, movement stopped, holding our same posture forever.

Change can be uncomfortable at the very least, and often the markers of sameness, those inlet buoys that bob on the waves of time but are anchored below, don't tell us enough of our current situation to help us. We're stuck in the same posture as in the past, but the game has moved on, swirled away, and we don't know what to do.

Change is uncomfortable, but we accept it: the changing seasons, the small shifts of when sunset and dawn arise. These days, it gets later and later. Breezes, weather patterns, all of them change day by day, bit by bit. When was the summer so warm, before? When was there so much rain? I remember torrential downpours from when I was a child, when the lawn, water soaked, formed lakes with waving grasses at the bottom. I remember the coolness, sloshing through the puddles. Is this so very different from today? When did the sky look like this, angry and overwrought? Was it always this way at different times? Have we forgotten to look around us, over the years? What has attracted my attention to the weather this year and why haven't I noticed, really noticed, from before?

With so much change affecting us in subtle ways, it is no wonder that some people strike a pose and won't move, or try to make a path to the other side and get stuck, grabbed by deeper forces, by the arms and legs of others: Stuck in the Pudding. When you see someone stuck, don't think how silly they look, how illogical they sound. Instead, with compassion, think about how tired they must be, how maybe scared, really scared, as if "stuck in the pudding" isn't just a children's game lost in the mists of time, but a sinister onslaught, a flood, a tsunami, an earthquake, or some other inevitable event where being the one in the wrong place can be really serious and really get you stuck.

More than ever, we are called upon to reflect on the implications of change — and the implications to us of God's changeless love for us and for the world we inhabit. What does it mean in the midst of racial and social turmoil, climate change, the rise of demagogues, and rumblings of war? Do we all even agree that these forces are here, swirling all around us, or have some of us got stuck in the pudding, unable to move forward or back, striking a pose that threatens their very being?

As we move into Autumn — that time of year made special by the smell of burning leaves (not wildfires in Canada, we hope), with the briskness of frost beneath our feet, let us anchor ourselves (and not get stuck) in familiar times and memories that ground us, a security we need in order to move forward into a risky future. When winter comes, with its snow, all will be covered for the time being, and it will take the springtime to show us what is underneath, awaiting us.

Meanwhile, let us trust in God, who is changeless in the midst of change — in God who is beside us even when we get all turned around. As God led Moses through the uncharted tracks of the wilderness, so let us follow God through all this getting stuck, so that our relationships may become more strong, honest, and loving, and so that we can learn not to be distracted by the posturing of frightened people all around us, but be strong, to make it together to the other side, through faith and the good practice of prayer. AMEN.

-The Reverend Anne Wichelns



## Lectionary for October & November

**October 1**—Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16, Philippians 2:1-13, Matthew 21:23-32

**October 8**—Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20, Psalm 19, Philippians 3:4b-14, Matthew 21:33-46

**October 15**—Exodus 32:1-14, Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23, Philippians 4:1-9, Matthew 22:1-14

**October 22**—Exodus 33:12-23, Psalm 99, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, Matthew 22:15-22

**October 29**—Deuteronomy 34:1-12, Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17, 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8, Matthew 22:34-46

**November 5**—Joshua 3:7-17, Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37, 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13, Matthew 23:1-12

**November 12**—Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, Psalm 78:1-7, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Matthew 25:1-13

**November 19**—Judges 4:1-7, Psalm 123, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, Matthew 25:14-30

**November 26**—Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, Psalm 100, Ephesians 1:15-23, Matthew 25:31-46

### THE GIFT OF YEARS

by Joan Chittister

A good book to inspire and encourage us who are growing older. Here are some quotes.

“There is space now and time. There is possibility now and the kind of accent on people, rather than projects, that we haven’t known for years.”

“We can be full of joy, too, because we have come to this new moment of freedom . . . We can decide to smile at everyone we meet, to play with children, to talk to seniors, to ask questions of youngsters—and this time to listen to their answers.”

I am thankful for this.  
-Leon Carapetyan

### CRAFT SOCIAL EVENING

Plan to join us for an evening of fun - and learning - on Wednesday, October 4th at 6 p.m. Sue Jennings will be teaching us how to use a knitting loom to make hats, etc. All you need to bring is a knitting loom, large needle and hook - and some yarn if you have some. She will teach us how to make beautiful gifts. You can purchase a knitting loom at Walmarts, Hobby Lobby, JoAnn Fabrics or Amazon. If you aren’t interested in this project, please come anyway and bring any project you may be working on or just come to socialize for the evening. This event is not for just the ladies of the Parish. Hope to see you all there for a fun evening!





## A LETTER FROM ANNE-MARIE REED

I am guessing that the majority of our members do not recall the years that Father Reed was our Rector. He was a wonderful man who had a dry sense of humor, exuded a sense of calm and caring, preached a meaningful sermon and on a personal note, is responsible for the Norfleet family becoming part of this Parish. One afternoon, about a month after we moved back to Oswego, he rang our doorbell. I was in the process of washing my hair and suggested that he come back at another time. He responded by saying he was happy to wait and visit with my 2 year old and 3 year old while I dried my hair. He was a determined man and that visit forged a life long relationship with not only Father Reed but with his delightful wife, Phyllis. This letter from Anne-Marie brought back wonderful memories of part of the history of our Parish.

Dear Anne,

Thank you for taking the time to give my brother, Michael, a tour at The Church of the Resurrection (and the rectory) and share your thoughts about our father, Donald Read.

Both Mom (Phyllis Read) and Dad were important in both of the communities they served—Mom in mental health and Dad in terms of spiritual grace. But they were also important exemplars for us (Michael, Barbara, Carol, Marilyn and me) when we were growing up.

When I was 14, Dad joined area clergy from the Southern Tier in NYS and traveled to Selma, AL to assist in the Civil Rights movement. Many years later he told me that this experience changed his life and deepened his faith in very significant ways. While there he slept on church pews and witnessed the incredible love and forgiveness that these African Americans had for their oppressors, including those who killed the young girls in a church bombing and those who harmed them during their marches with water canons and vicious attack dogs. After he returned he was criticized by many for “being a carpet bagger.” Dad gave the benediction at my 9th grade graduation and some people behind Mom in the auditorium loudly complained about him. Even earlier than his ministry at All Saints Church in Johnson City, he was enacting his faith outside the church walls. While at St. Johns, in Auburn, NY he routinely visited inmates at the area prison. When I asked him about that part of his ministry once, he explained that it was very much a mission of faith, planting seeds in the hearts of people knowing that you would likely not be around to witness the growing and flourishing of those seeds.

When we moved into the rectory in Oswego, throughout the house were examples of what I used to call traditional enactments of faith: “smile God loves you” written on light switch plates, bible quotes written on rocks on shelves, “Give us our daily bread. . .” written on the valance in the breakfast nook. Seeing these types of outward and visible signs, I guess it isn’t surprising that I was called a PPK (pulpit pounder’s kid) when growing up. But that wasn’t what we saw in our Dad. He didn’t preach to us, as some might assume. He didn’t quote the bible to us and didn’t expect us to memorize passages from the bible.

He just lived what he believed. And that is the greatest lesson he and Mom could have given us: enacting their beliefs in the everyday, normal things they did. For as long as I can remember, Mom fed lunch to train-riding hobos, offering them small jobs around the yard. Over the years she took in three foster children, one of whom Mom and Dad eventually adopted. I can’t tell you the number of abused women or women coming from halfway houses that Mom brought into our home, providing shelter and security as they transitioned to independent women. Mom never stopped growing and learning, moving from being a pediatric doctor’s nurse to working as a psychiatric nurse. She modeled lifelong learning for me by going back to school to earn her Masters in Adult Education, which inspired me to eventually get my doctorate. She inspired both of my sisters to go into nursing.


Barbara spent most of her career caring for cardiac patients and Carol became a community health nurse, utilizing many of her skills in the care and treatment of animals in the sanctuary she established. Both Mom and Dad were leaders in their ability to model and inspire others. Michael, who started out in sewage treatment eventually became a leader in water treatment, serving as president in an international water organization. An ethic of care was at the heart of Dad and Mom’s work and somehow that has infused the work of all of their children. Even though I am now retired, I continue to volunteer with horse rescue.

Thank you so much for sharing with Michael the legacy that Dad’s work left and thank you for allowing me to share some of that legacy as it has become manifested in the lives of his children.

Warmest regards,  
Anne-Marie



## PARISH LIFE

Parish life was honored to hold a special coffee hour in celebration of JoAnn and Roger's 25th anniversary and blessing of their marriage. 

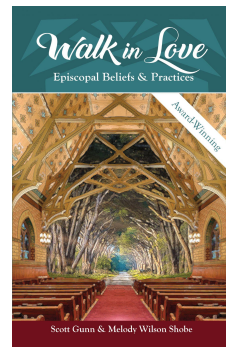
We have some exciting events coming up this fall. Starting on October 11th we will be having a Harvest Dinner. Bring a dish to pass and enjoy a wonderful evening with your parish family. Then on November 26th there will be an Advent wreath making event, more details will come as we get closer to that event.

Happy Fall everyone  
Sam



### Walk in Love

Episcopal Beliefs and Practices  
by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe  
ISBN978-0-880-28455-4



Join us Thursdays this fall at 10 AM for a book discussion on Episcopal beliefs and practices. The text we will be using is available from the church for the bulk rate of \$16. apiece — scholarships available. This fall, we will be discussing the first five chapters of the book, and, with interest in going further together, we will be holding discussions at intervals throughout the upcoming year. Open to those new to this denomination or even new to the faith— and also to all those Episcopalians of many years or even a lifetime, who just love to think and learn more about our life in Christ together.

The schedule for this fall's series is below:

Chapter 1: Beliefs and Practices (Introductory discussion) October 19, 10 AM

Chapter 2: Baptismal Beliefs November 2, 10 AM

Chapter 3: Baptismal Practices November 9, 10 AM

Chapter 4: Eucharistic Beliefs November 16, 10 AM

Chapter 5: Eucharistic Practices (Wrap up for the fall season) November 30, 10 AM

For more information, see Susan Jennings or Mother Anne. Books are available in the Office; sign up is in the Narthex — or just show up for the first meeting.

## The Unifying Pattern of the Pentatonic Scale

Ethan Mitchell

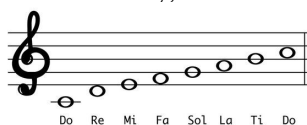
At the beginning of each month, the music committee meets to select the hymns and music that are to be used for that month's worship music. The committee selects the music based on many attributes: relationship to that week's readings, the congregation's familiarity, its position within the service, as well as personal taste. This is often a difficult balancing act that leads to varying results. On rare occasions we will stumble upon a hymn that fulfills multiple of our requisites simultaneously, and recently there have been multiple hymns that are suggested and when I go to play them for the committee someone will exclaim "Oh and this tune is so easy to sing as well!". On each of these occasions I've found that there is a commonality between these hymns that makes them "so easy to sing" (it should also be noted that your mileage may vary on what the music committee decides is easy or not). This commonality is the use of the pentatonic scale.

In music theory, a scale is any set of musical notes ordered by their pitch or frequency. In Western culture, the vast majority of our music is based in 12 distinct tones that are organized into 7 note diatonic scales. Elementary school students will learn it in syllables: "Do-Re-Mi-Fa-So-La-Ti-Do". This scale dates back very far in history, often attributed to Pythagoras in ancient Greece but actually goes back to 7th century BC Mesopotamia. But music around the world differs in how it divides pitches into different scales. Arabic music often uses a 17 note scale using 24 divisions of the octave, in Indian classical music, they use notes between the notes in the European scales to add additional color. But the scale that predates all of these is the 5 note pentatonic scale.

Pentatonic scales have been developed independently by civilizations around the world. Pentatonic scales are found everywhere from Celtic folk music to African-american blues and spirituals to melodies in China, Japan, and Vietnam to Native Americans in the Pacific Northwest and the highlands of South America. Composer and educator Carl Orff believed that the pentatonic scale was the native tonality of children. There are many ways to construct a pentatonic scale, one way is to take the 7 note diatonic scale we are familiar with and remove two notes, say Fa and Ti and you're left with a scale that is immensely intuitive to sing with some beautiful resonance and color without some of the harsher dissonances that the diatonic scale includes for color. The black keys of the piano also form a pentatonic scale.

Some notable hymns we've sung recently that include the pentatonic scale are 674 "Forgive our sins as we forgive...". It's in the key of D minor, but in the melody the notes E and B-flat are absent. This gives the hymn a haunting, open quality that complements the sober meaning of the text. Our recent communion Taize Chant Bless the Lord my Soul, is also in a pentatonic scale. This chant has the same resonant quality of 674, but here the pentatonic scale works with the chant to emphasize introspection and affirmation. Also, because of the intuitive nature of the scale, it also helps to keep the tonation of the congregation steady and true, and enables us to sing it more easily without instrumental accompaniment.

I encourage readers to attempt to find the pentatonic scale in the music they listen to every day. Once you learn to recognize its unique qualities you will find it appear everywhere. The Pentatonic scale serves as a reminder to the innate musicality that exists in all of humanity, and that music is a natural and essential part of our lives and existence.



## VOICES FROM THE PAST

Carolyn Shenefiel and Bob Shenefiel were long time, active members of our Parish . They still consider themselves part of our Parish despite the fact they now live in the State of Washington. Carolyn recently shared an interesting piece of history regarding her grandfather, John Forster who in 1923 was the Sexton of Christ Church, forerunner of Church of the Resurrection and Church of the Evangelists. She provided a statement of some of his duties in 1923, some of which are as follows:

### In Chapel:

- Removing dust from beams and high window sills
- Cleaning steps to balcony
- Balcony floor swept and mopped
- Railings wiped
- All lavatories cleaned thoroughly
- Organ loft swept and mopped
- Pulpit, lectern, font, completely cleaned weekly
- Rector's study put in order each week

Although the physical structure of the Church has changed, the basic needs have not. Our Sexton still does the above duties each week, but perhaps with more modern tools. The dust keeps coming, even 100 years later! Thank you to Carolyn for this “blast from the past”.





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**We are on the  
Web!  
[resoswego.org](http://resoswego.org)**

Servants of Christ, feeding body,  
mind, and spirit throughout our  
congregation and greater community.

## CALENDAR

### October

3- Bible Study, 7 pm  
4- Choir, 4 pm  
Musicians Meeting, 5:00 pm  
Crafters' Meeting, GH, 6, pm  
5- Office closed at Noon  
Wardens' Meeting, 5:30 pm  
6- Prayer and Care in the GH, 9:30 am  
7- Acolyte Meeting/Training 10 am  
8- No Sunday School. School holiday!  
9- Indigenous People's day  
10- Bible Study, 7 pm  
11- choir, 4pm,  
Executive meeting 6:30pm  
Harvest Dinner, 6pm  
12- Stewardship Meeting 10-11:30am  
14- Safe Church, Pulaski 9-12:30pm  
17- Bible Study, 7 pm  
18- Choir, 4pm  
19- Clergy, 12:00 pm, Worship, 3:15 pm,  
Admin, 6:30  
21- Diocesan Convention Online  
25- St. Lukes, 2pm, Choir 4pm  
26- Office closed at Noon staff meeting  
Vestry, 6:30 pm  
31- Bible Study, 7 pm



### November

1- Choir, 4 pm  
Musicians Meeting, 5:00 pm  
7- Bible Study, 7 pm  
8- Choir, 4 pm  
Wardens, 5:30pm  
14- Bible Study, 7 pm  
15- Choir, 4 pm  
16- Clergy, 12:00 pm,  
Worship, 3:15 pm,  
Admin & Property, 6:30pm  
21- Bible Study, 7 pm  
22- Choir, 4 pm  
23- Thanksgiving day, Office Closed  
26- Advent wreath Making  
11:30-1:30pm  
28- Bible Study, 7 pm  
29- St. Lukes 2pm  
Choir, 4pm  
30- Vestry, 6:30 pm

## BIRTHDAYS

### October

5- Richard Carson  
Pam Watters  
7- Jessica Hallinan  
12- Rebecca Chatterton  
14- John Lanzafame  
Jenna Haselbauer  
22- Denen Norfleet Boyce  
24- Theresa Hamilton  
25- The Rev. Jerry Wichelns  
23- Anne Sarkissian DeRue  
28- Robert Sarkissian  
29- Liam Sugar

### November

1- Charles Rockwell  
Beverly Pomeroy  
7- Ellen Clark  
9- Addison Norfleet  
Nicholas Filkins  
10- Shelly Banner  
Rose Marie Rockwell  
11- Pryce Phillips  
Lydia Althcheson  
12- Joel Meeks  
John Spink  
Olivia Puffer  
Paul Thompson  
18- Charles Thomas Gooding  
19- Mark Regan  
20- Donna Foster  
22- Cooper Filkins  
26- Michele Marquart  
28- Susan Nalle  
29- David Sugar  
Meghan Thompson

