

SENIOR WARDEN ANNUAL REPORT

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Senior Warden for the past year. We do many great things here at COR and I am always proud to claim the Church of the Resurrection as my parish when I am out in the community. Even my acquaintances who would never dream of attending church remark that the things we are involved in are the things they have always thought "real Christians" should be doing.

Now there's a hot topic: what are the things Christians should be doing? The answers vary across hundreds of denominations across the country and around the world. Here at Resurrection we can only answer for ourselves and our little parish in the South Hills.

We are justifiably appreciated for our many efforts among the unhoused and disadvantaged members of our community. We are a visible presence at the Second Sunday Breakfast, we are active in Family Shelter Week, we are well-known for our Home Started Kit program, and we are building a small, model community of Tiny Houses in our parking lot. Recently we have been housing up to 40 destitute people per night in our parish hall. These are exactly the sorts of things Christians should be doing.

Resurrection also excels at offering opportunities for us, the parishioners, to care for ourselves and others in more personal, less visible ways. We have superior teachers among us, superior musicians and those skilled in guiding and mentoring spiritual growth. I find my own life immeasurably blessed by these opportunities and the remarkable people among us. These are the unsung heroes among us who work hard to benefit the lives of others in ways not outwardly apparent. These are also the things Christians should be doing.

In 2016 it's been impossible not to notice that this election year has been unusually and bitterly divisive. The fractures in our society have deepened to the point that many of us are feel threatened and highly apprehensive. I count myself as one of those people. That is why I am going to be marching in Washington DC on this day when many of the rest of you are doing the work of the church in various ways here in Eugene or in surrounding towns. I encourage all of you who feel injustice has gotten a toehold in our society to stand up, without fear, and make yourselves heard. This too, is what Christians should be doing.

I look forward to the future with all the rest of you and seeing what God has in store for us.

Sandi Orbell,
Senior Warden