



# CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

Parish Profile



CHURCH OF THE  
RESURRECTION

935 west union avenue • [churchrez.org](http://churchrez.org)





# Who We Are

Church of the Resurrection (or “Rez”) is a dynamic, spiritually rich community that embodies deep faith, vibrant worship, and a commitment to mission. Rooted in Scripture and a strong sacramental tradition, Rez integrates the evangelical, charismatic, and liturgical streams of Christianity, fostering a holistic and transformative faith experience.

The church is marked by passionate and biblically sound preaching, an openness to the Holy Spirit, and an emphasis on healing prayer and discipleship. Worship is both reverent and expressive, cherishing our Anglican tradition while remaining welcoming to newcomers. Our children and youth are embraced as full members, with strong ministries that nurture their spiritual growth.

The church also prioritizes the arts and creativity, which is evident in our Holy Week services and throughout the year. Resurrection is a sanctuary of transformation.



# Our Legacy

## Past

Church Resurrection was established on Palm Sunday of 1954. We broke from TEC in 1993 due to its false teaching on a number of crucial doctrinal matters, including the divinity of Christ, the reality of his resurrection, the nature of Scripture, and the Bible's stance on issues of personhood and sexuality. We joined the Anglican Church of North America in 2012.

For years, we rented various facilities for our worship services. After a few difficult attempts to acquire a building, we finally settled into our new church home next to the Lincoln Marsh in 2012.

Resurrection became the cathedral for the Diocese of the Upper Midwest when it was formed in 2013. As the cathedral, we gather and resource the diocese in its work of planting a revival of Word and Sacrament.



Photo: Michael Johnson Photography



# Present

We have a strong legacy of biblical teaching, vibrant liturgical worship in the Anglican tradition, and equipping the saints for ministry, especially through small groups and prayer ministry. More than 30 percent of our congregation participate in small groups that incorporate Bible study and prayer.

We believe in the power of the Holy Spirit, and depend on his power to lead, guide, and bless our staff and congregation. By prayer, fasting, the Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, we rely on the Lord to empower and speak to his people.

We hold Holy Scripture as our primary source authority. Our doctrine and worship are catholic (as expressed in the historic Christian creeds), reformed (as expressed in the Book of Common Prayer), and global (as expressed in the 2008 Jerusalem Declaration). We are joyfully committed to the GAFCON movement.

We are committed to leadership that reflects a partnership of men and women, equipping them to use their gifts for building up the body of Christ. Women lead in all areas of ministry outside the priesthood—as pastors, teachers, small group leaders, worship leaders, vestry wardens, and more.



# Future

We desire to continue growing in faithfulness. We want to plant churches throughout the Midwest to reach the lost and the least. We desire to reflect Christ's love to our larger community, welcoming all into worship and fellowship, and sending our congregation to join Jesus in reaching a lost and broken world.





# Mission and Values

## Our Mission



*Inviting everyone  
into a transforming  
relationship with  
Jesus and  
His Church*



# Our Values

Resurrection's five core values are drawn from the early Church in Acts 2:



"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching..."  
Acts 2:42

We are fully **scriptural**. Scripture is our foundation and authority. We are committed to interpreting the Bible with the historic Church. It fuels our preaching and teaching, which seeks to prophetically challenge and renew our culture, as well as transform our lives.



"...to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to the prayers."  
Acts 2:42

We are fully **sacramental**. We experience the living presence of our Lord in the Church, through Baptism, Holy Communion, and prayer. We view the spiritual world and material world as intertwined: God reveals himself through creation. This sacramental fullness appears in our liturgy, in our art and music, and in our lives.



"All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit..." Acts 2:4

We are full of the **Spirit**. We serve under the authority and conviction of the Holy Spirit. We affirm the ongoing, active gifts of the Spirit, including healing and prophetic ministry, which are key elements of our prayer ministry and worship.



"selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone in need"  
Acts 2:45

We are free to **sacrifice** through our fasting, service, welcoming of the lost and the least, generosity with money, forgiveness, reconciliation, and following Jesus even when the cost is high.



"And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved" Acts 2:47

We are focused on the **salvation** of others. We plant churches, and we love, bless, and pray for unbelievers—in order to invite everyone into personal faith in Jesus and into the life of the Church.



# Current Ministries

## RezGroups

Beyond Sunday worship, the primary engine of discipleship at Rez is our small group ministry. Each small group incorporates Scripture study, prayer, and fellowship.



## Adult Education

Our Rooted in Scripture class on Sunday mornings is dedicated to helping adults grow in the love of God through in-depth study of the Bible and instruction in the Christian life.





# Newcomer Engagement and Confirmation

We engage newcomers through our First Step class and Welcome Group offered several times a year. These opportunities provide an introduction to Anglicanism, our church values and history, and connection with leaders. We encourage participants to engage in our community life by joining an ongoing small group. For those seeking to learn more about Anglicanism, membership, or baptism, we offer an eight-week Confirmation Class.



## Retreats

Each year we offer vibrant men's and women's retreat weekends that offer time to connect with the Lord through fellowship, shared meals, worship, prayer, and laughter.

## Prayer Ministry

We believe in the transformative power of prayer. We invite people to receive prayer from trained prayer ministers in the sanctuary during Sunday worship, plus in-depth prayer appointments once a month. Our desire is to offer healing prayer experiences and to equip the body of Christ in seeking transformation in the Lord. We offer training workshops on various facets of prayer ministry several times a year.





# Transformation Intensive

The Transformation Intensive is a rigorous eight-month course of spiritual formation inspired by the Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius of Loyola and designed to help believers encounter Christ in the Gospel narratives. More than 400 people have benefited from prayer, healing, and spiritual renewal since its inception in 2015.



## THRIVE

Our THRIVE ministry supports and cares for Resurrection families impacted by disability, seeking to integrate them into church life. A parent support group helps equip families impacted by disabilities.





# Children's and Youth Ministry

## RezKids

We believe that children are full members of the body of Christ. We want to empower parents as the primary disciplers and shepherd children as they grow in their relationship with Jesus and his church.

RezKids ministry for infants to grade five offers children opportunities to encounter Jesus and engage with Scripture via worship and age-appropriate hands-on activities.

Midweek ministry on Wednesday evenings offers elementary children a time to build friendships, enjoy fun activities, and grow in the Lord. Our summer VBS offers children grades one through six opportunities to grow in Scripture and friendship.





# RezYouth

RezYouth invites students into a transforming relationship with Jesus and his Church. We support parents as they disciple their children by prioritizing relationships with caring adults and like-minded peers in contexts of prayer, worship, and robust biblical teaching.

## RezYouth's ministry falls under three spheres:



### Youth Group

Students meet on Wednesdays for worship, teaching, games, and small groups.



### Cohort

Short-term discipleship groups prepare 8th graders for youth Confirmation and high school seniors for graduation.



### Trips & Retreats

Annual fall and winter retreats, summer camping trips, mission trips, and attending March for Life in Washington D.C.





# Outreach

## Global Outreach

Our global vision is to send our people to where the Church is not visible or publicly viable. This includes areas with little to no access to the good news of Jesus and places where the Church is under attack. We financially support 14 global partners from Resurrection in the Middle East, Central and West Asia, Cambodia, Croatia, and the US.

Since 2002, Resurrection has collected a Good Friday Gift, a yearly offering during Lent. This gift is designated to different global mission partners and serves to raise awareness and prayer support.



Good  
Friday  
Gift





# Local Outreach

We enjoy strong partnerships with World Relief and Caring Network. We walk alongside refugees and immigrants with World Relief. Currently four teams are matched with newly-arrived families to provide concrete assistance.

Our Sanctity of Life team partners with Caring Network via our Baby Bank ministry that operates from our warehouse. Volunteers at the Baby Bank serve 60-plus struggling families from more than 20 nations, gifting diapers and baby supplies, and offering prayer and friendship.

Our annual Advent Gift benefits one of our local partners by meeting practical needs, increasing prayer support, and connecting our congregation to ministry in our community.



**Alpha**

## Alpha

We offer an 11-week Alpha course twice a year, providing an inviting environment for people outside the Church to discuss life, faith, and God.





# Holy Week & The Arts



Resurrection has a rich tradition of worship and the arts that stretches back several decades. Our music teams include professional and amateur musicians who lead a wide range of musical worship, from evangelical and Anglican hymnody, to Taizé, to contemporary worship music, and original music from our leaders. Our chancel choir and choristers are active seasonally.

The heart of Resurrection's worshipping life is the Easter Vigil, featuring original music, theater, and dance. Each year our artists find new creative ways to tell the stories of Scripture.

Our building is graced with Scripture-inspired paintings, a 40-foot painted icon of Christ above our altar, carved wooden sanctuary doors, and rotating art exhibits which were all designed by artists within our congregation.

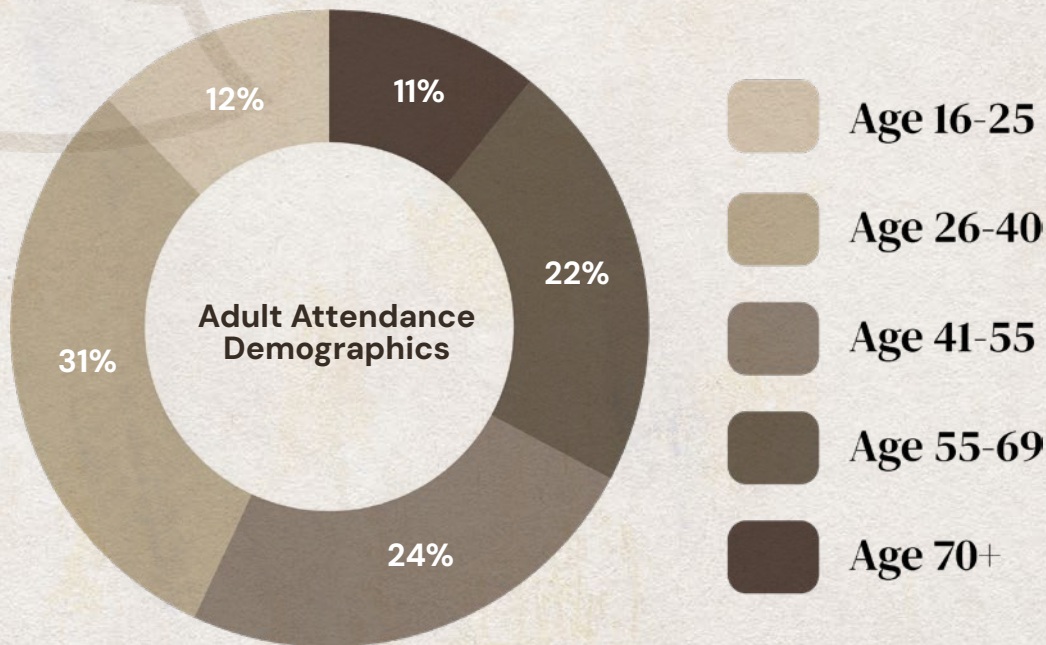
The annual RezArts Festival builds community and encourages all our people to express their faith through the act of creating.





# By the Numbers

Families with children under 18 comprise a significant portion of our congregation, 43% of a recent survey. Singles without children make up 26%.\*

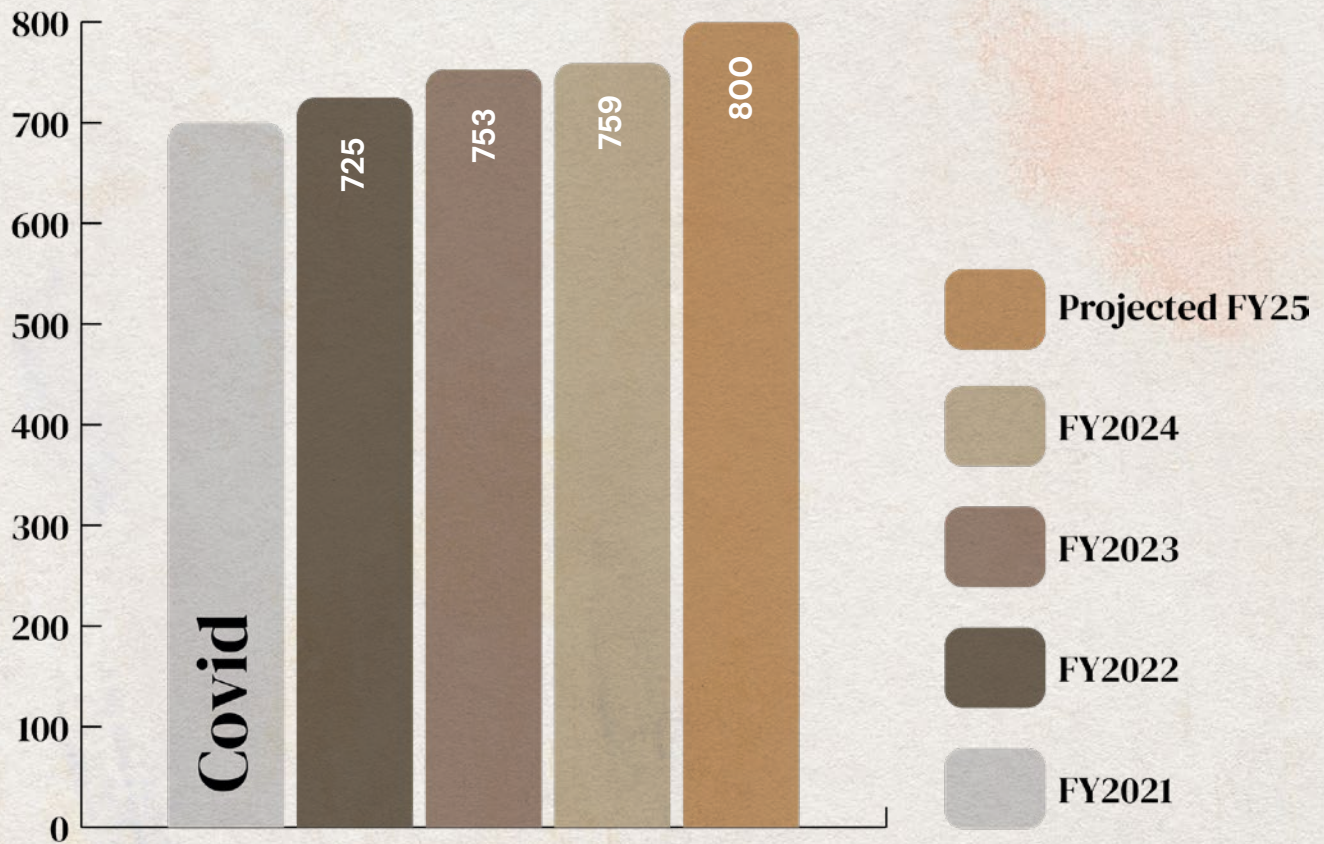


\*Figures based on 2025 survey by Leighton Ford Ministries. Survey was open to attendees aged 16 and over and was completed by 43% of our average Sunday attendance. Margin of error: +/- 4.55%





## Average Sunday Attendance



RezKids

170+

**kids** on Sundays (infants to 5th grade), served by **110+ volunteers**

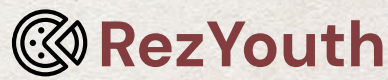
65

**kids** attend midweek ministry (elementary age), served by **20 volunteers**

80

**Kids** attended VBS (K-5), served by **30 volunteers**





# 120

**active students** (middle & high school), weekly average of 75+ participants

# 26

**adult youth leaders**




# 80

**middle & high school students** attended Fall Retreat



# 43

**high school students** attended Winter Retreat



# 14

**students** attended the March for Life in Washington DC



# 18

**students** confirmed

 **College Students**

# 125

**College Students** on an average Sunday, with a majority from Wheaton College



## 🌊 2024 Baptism & Confirmations

29

infants, children, & adults  
baptized in 2024

44

Adult Confirmations

## 👥 RezGroups

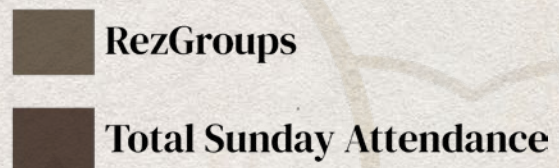
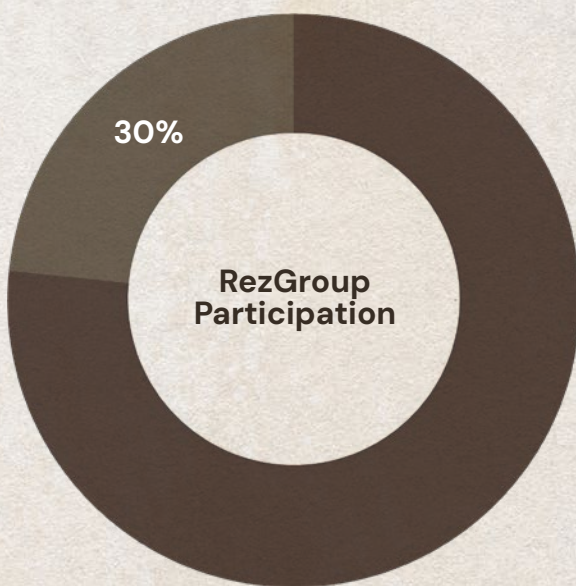
243

adults

in

26

small groups





## Men's and Women's Annual Retreats

# 50 – 100

**Adults** attend each retreat

## Transformation Intensive

# 44 with 21

**participants**

**leaders from Rez**

## Prayer Ministry

# 56

**Prayer ministers** on  
Sunday morning team

# 26

**Prayer ministers** on  
Sunday afternoons for  
in-depth prayer

# 100+

**People** attend  
regular healing prayer  
workshops

# 33

**Intercessors** for deliverance  
trained 3 times a year



# Outreach



## Global Outreach

**14**

**global partner  
families or single  
adults**

in

**7**

**countries, most  
where the church is  
not publicly visible or  
viable**



## Local Outreach – Baby Bank

**60+**

**families** from at least  
22 countries

served by

**15**

**volunteers**







# Our History

Church of the Resurrection is blessed with a strong legacy in the “Three Streams” of liturgical, evangelical, and charismatic faith. Throughout our history, we’ve celebrated God’s transforming work to heal and save. We have experienced healing miracles, disassociated from the Episcopal Church, planted seven churches, received a building miraculously, and witnessed restoration of broken fellowship among leaders. We are unashamed to need Jesus; we have learned through many challenges to admit our mistakes, seek reconciliation with one another, and rely on God through prayer and fasting.



## Palm Sunday 1954

Trinity Episcopal Church in Wheaton, led by Fr. Richard Winkler, plants Church of the Resurrection. Throughout the 1950s and 60s, Fr. Winkler becomes a significant figure in the charismatic renewal.

## 1987

Fr. William Beasley becomes rector, leads Resurrection into a season of worship and growth.





## 1993

Resurrection leaves TEC because of their break with scripture's teaching regarding sexual practice.

## 1995

We hold our first service at Glenbard West High School where we remain for 18 years as a mobile church.



## 1999

Fr. Stewart E. Ruch III becomes rector and commits to building the church on prayer and fasting.

## 2004

Fr. Christian and Molly Ruch plant Church of the Cross in the Twin Cities, Minnesota.

## 2007

Fr. Eirik & Jeanne Olsen plant Light of Christ in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

## 2010

Resurrection purchases the former Alcoa manufacturing property in Wheaton and begins renovations on her new home.



## 2012

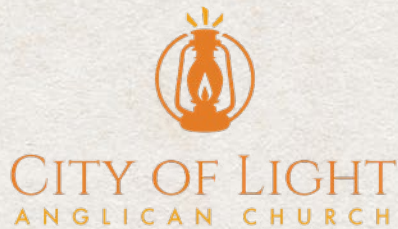
Rez joins the Anglican Church in North America and works with many other churches to form the Diocese of the Upper Midwest.

## 2013

The ACNA approves the Upper Midwest Diocese and the College approves Stewart as bishop. Resurrection becomes the cathedral of the Diocese. Fr. Aaron and Laura Damiani plant Immanuel Anglican Church in Chicago, IL.







**2015**

Fr. Trevor and Bonnie McMaken plant City of Light Church in Aurora, IL.



**2018**

Fr. Scott and Marissa Cunningham plant Christ Church Madison, WI.

**2020**

Fr. Steve Williamson becomes dean (rector) of Resurrection.



**2021**

Fr. Chad and Kirstin Magnuson plant Church of the Incarnation in Appleton, WI, amid the COVID pandemic.



**Easter 2021**

We host a jubilant outdoor service during COVID for roughly 1,600 people.

**2021**

The Province assumes oversight of a diocesan investigation that was initiated by Bishop Stewart and diocesan leaders.

**2024**

Dean Steve resigns from his role as Dean, continuing to help lead worship part-time. The Vestry begins a Rector search process and Fr. Matt Woodley, Cathedral Vicar, assumes the role of interim dean.



# Our Setting

Resurrection is located in Chicago's western suburbs, near Wheaton College. We are blessed with an unusually high percentage of faithful, highly educated, and artistically gifted Christians, thanks partly to our proximity to Wheaton College. Many faculty, staff, and students attend Resurrection.

The Wheaton area offers many churches. Our leaders value Gospel partnerships with nearby evangelical churches.

We are blessed with a beautiful green space of 16 acres, adjoining the scenic Lincoln Marsh. We are excited about the possibilities our property offers for a soccer field, prayer walks, picnic space, community gardens, and more.

Our spacious building is a former manufacturing plant that contains 98,000 square feet. The remaining unfinished 40,000 square feet holds potential to expand space for our children's and adult classrooms, and much more.



Lincoln Marsh  
Natural Area



Church of  
the Resurrection

Wheaton



WHEATON  
COLLEGE



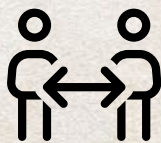


# Growth Areas

Areas for growth desired by our congregation include:



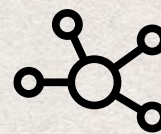
A unifying vision  
for our next  
season



deepening  
discipleship and  
vision for adults,  
men's and women's  
ministries



more adult  
education on  
Scripture and  
Anglicanism



building more  
community  
and connecting  
people



developing more  
local outreach  
and evangelism  
opportunities



Unified vision  
and voice to lead  
our preaching  
team



empowering  
lay leaders  
for service in  
the Church,  
their families,  
vocations, and  
neighborhoods



# Leadership

## Diocese of the Upper Midwest

Resurrection is the cathedral of the diocese and seat of the bishop. Bishop Stewart Ruch formed the Upper Midwest Diocese and was appointed bishop in 2013. He remained rector until 2019, when Fr. Steve Williamson became dean and rector. Our next rector will also serve as dean since Resurrection is the cathedral. Bishop Stewart continues to preach periodically at Resurrection and celebrate at services.



## Interim Rector

Fr. Matt Woodley has served as interim rector and dean of Resurrection since June 2024. He previously served as a cathedral vicar, overseeing the preaching team and global and local missions. He is committed to remaining interim dean until a new rector is in place.





## Clergy



**Staff Clergy:** Fr. Matt Woodley, Fr. Brett Crull, Fr. Will Chester, Fr. Steve Williamson, Dcn. Margie Fawcett and Dcn. Meghan Robins. **Non-staff Clergy:** Dcn. John Clark and Dcn. Val McIntyre

## Staff

9 full-time, 15 part-time

## Vestry

Our Vestry is an elected leadership team that provides direction and accountability for our resources. They meet monthly to discuss strategic issues, review budgets, and pray for the church. The junior and senior warden serve in leadership positions for the Vestry and run meetings. They also serve on an Executive Committee with the dean.



The 2024 – 2025 Vestry includes: Laura Chelsen, Ashley Condra, Aaron Cox, Brian Kelly, Andrew Merrick (junior warden), Amy Patton (senior warden) Paul Smith, Elise Tomlin, and Fr. Matt Woodley (interim cathedral dean).





# Finances

Year	Budget	Income	Expenses
<b>FY24-25</b>	\$2,342,000	\$1,840,979*	\$1,672,956*
<b>FY23-24</b>	\$2,280,000	\$2,265,815	\$2,268,150
<b>FY22-23</b>	\$2,418,500	\$2,366,222	\$2,262,114
<b>FY21-22</b>	\$2,418,500	\$2,258,141	\$2,340,304

Year	Income over Budget +/-	Actual Income over Expenses +/-
<b>FY24-25</b>	\$142,166*	\$168,023*
<b>FY23-24</b>	-\$14,185	-\$2,355
<b>FY22-23</b>	-\$52,278	\$104,108
<b>FY21-22</b>	-\$160,359	-\$82,163

\* Year-to-date ending March 31, 2025



# Rector Profile

**Church of the Resurrection is looking for a rector to lead Rez into her next season of growth and faithfulness while embracing our mission and values. Above all, the rector must be committed to following Jesus and upholding scriptural authority in all areas of life. We are looking for a strong, proven leader who unifies and catalyzes the people of God for ministry.**

A successful candidate will be an ordained male Anglican priest who demonstrates evidence of personal transformation towards Christ-likeness through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. A man of prayer, he will be equipped to lead the dynamic, ongoing work of Christ through the body of believers. He will enthusiastically embody passion for the transformation of lives in and through Christ. He will fully support the core values of the church: fully scriptural, sacramental, Spirit-transformed and led, sacrificial, and seeking the salvation of the lost. If married, his spouse will share a parallel sense of calling and be fully supportive of his call to this role and to her own unique ministry.





# Top Priorities for the Next Rector

## 1. Apostolic Leader

- Leads with spiritual authority, biblical conviction, and humility, with a deep commitment to our Anglican identity and worship.
- Discerns God's direction to launch new initiatives.
- Relies on the Holy Spirit in leadership and worship.

## 2. Strong Vision-Caster

- Understands and personally owns Rez's history and Three-Streams identity—evangelical (biblically grounded), charismatic (Spirit-led), and sacramental (liturgical).
- Articulates and defends the mission and values of Rez clearly and compellingly.
- Listens for the Lord's vision for Resurrection in the next season and galvanizes the church around that vision.

## 3. Biblically Rooted Preacher & Teacher

- Exercises pulpit leadership by preaching the majority of Sundays and providing support and oversight for the preaching team.
- Preaches scripturally-grounded and engaging messages with depth, clarity, and boldness.
- Challenges the congregation to deeper levels of faithfulness and mission.

## 4. Pastoral Shepherd

- Humble, compassionate, and emotionally mature.
- Highly relational: listens well, communicates clearly, values people, and builds trust.
- Cares deeply for the congregation and models pastoral care.



## **5. Focused on Outreach and Evangelism**

- Has a passion for evangelism: bringing in new believers and engaging the local community.
- Equips God's people for ministry in their own callings, situations, and stations of life.
- Fosters church planting in collaboration with the bishop.

## **6. Team Builder**

- Demonstrates he is a leader of leaders able to equip and empower clergy, staff, and lay ministry.
- Cultivates a collaborative staff culture through wisdom, discernment, and strategic thinking.
- Guides church transitions and challenges with confidence.

## **7. Committed to Vibrant, Embodied Worship**

- Embraces lively, liturgical worship that engages the whole person.
- Values the worship arts, including music, theater, and visual arts.
- Upholds Holy Week as core to Rez's identity and worship life.

## **8. Culturally Courageous**

- Holds and proclaims biblical truth without compromise, especially in a shifting culture.
- Operates with a kingdom allegiance that transcends political lines.
- Guides the church in thinking and acting biblically.

To apply: Please send a cover letter and full resume to [rectorsearch@churchrez.org](mailto:rectorsearch@churchrez.org).

Questions? Email [rectorsearch@churchrez.org](mailto:rectorsearch@churchrez.org).

[churchrez.org/rectorsearch](http://churchrez.org/rectorsearch)





CHURCH OF THE  
RESURRECTION

Copyright 2025