

## “Challenge”

I'm not one of those people that invites people to church but ...that was the CHALLENGE. I can still hear my dear friend that invited me to Resurrection over 25 years ago. I know what you're thinking. What was I only 10 when I first came? Well, I felt like it!! Within my church life I wasn't in a stable place. My husband, the father of my children, had announced that he no longer believed in God and probably never did and that we didn't need to go to church – this was said in front of my children!! My babies! WE needed stability. So, for over 2 years I was on a search. My kids called it 'church try outs' as we were welcomed into warm, big, beautiful churches. I felt CHALLENGED; challenged to pray a lot for the answer, because in the other churches I didn't feel at home. I kept praying, God we need stability here. Then that friend of mine, that dear Sharon invited us to this church, this family of Christians and I knew within moments that I was at home. I was where God wanted me and my children.....I was very mad at God!! I prayed. I prayed really hard – you know– the prayers that cause you to cry and go to the floor in praise for the blessings and admission that I am your worst sinner God – could you please just take control!?! I had asked for stability! Resurrection Lutheran Church DIDN'T even have a building at that time!! Where's the stability in that God?!! So right when I give it all up in prayer God does what? A church without a building? Not even a basement for making Christmas candies and Sunday School? What was Sharon thinking!?! Inviting me to this God blessed, truly wonderful church family that for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in years is where God wants me, wants us. These walls have been built on the faith of people in prayer and now these walls need your prayers. Sharon's little girl, Shannon was 7 years old then, the same age as my daughter Whitney, the 10 year olds including Kari, daughter of Colleen, helped my son feel at home. And the people of Resurrection continue to bring to life the CHALLENGE of living a bible based life centered in Christ, filled with the guidance of God's answer to prayer. Today Sharon's daughter Shannon is here with her family. Colleen is here and while I've been guided by prayer at Resurrection and in Christian ministries in our community, my career and my blessed home; it all comes back to the CHALLENGE that Christ puts in front of each of us: Are you one of those people? Will you take the challenge? Will you please pray with me?

Dear Lord Jesus – HERE we are – YOUR Resurrection people asking for your guidance, thanking you for so many blessings and accepting the CHALLENGE that you've laid before us. Please keep us on your path. AMEN.

~presented by a long time member of RLC