

Frequently Asked Questions

This document seeks to provide answers to questions you may have regarding continued ministry beyond closure of Central UMC. It will be periodically updated through the planning phase (Oct 1 – Dec 18)

We are excited to welcome the Central United Methodist community into a new era of worshipping God and serving others at this historic church as the newest location of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection. Below are some answers to questions that you may have during this transition time. If you have additional questions, they can be directed to: anne.gatobu@cor.org.

What is the schedule for the transition?

- September 25, 2022 - Central UMC holds final worship celebration
- October 3, 2022 – Resurrection officially begins preparing for launch
- October – December – Pre-launch planning, facility preparation and community engagement
- December 18, 2022 – First official worship service of new Resurrection location

What happens to the congregation during the transition between the closure of Central and the launch of Resurrection?

During the transition, we will encourage you to worship at another Resurrection location. At the same time, you can get involved as we begin preparing for the launch of worship and ministries and engaging the church and community through pre-launch gatherings that include small groups, small worship gatherings, informational sessions about Resurrection, membership events (Coffee with the Pastors), and community outreach activities.

How can I get involved?

We will be providing regular email updates and invitations to ways you can be involved. If you would like to volunteer, we have a simple survey we are using to collect interests. Here's the link: cor.org/new-location.

Does my membership automatically transfer?

No. You will need to officially join Resurrection. You will have the opportunity to do that at a gathering that Resurrection calls “Coffee with the Pastors.” At these informal sessions, you will have the opportunity to meet Resurrection staff, learn about mission and ministries, and review the expectations of membership. It is followed by an official joining service. We will have a special Coffee with the Pastors for Central members on November 16 and a second one in December/ January.

How can I receive Pastoral Care and prayer during the transition period?

Resurrection wants to be your church family, caring and supporting you. We have a team of Connection and Care Ministers and pastors who are praying for you and available to connect with you. If you need to connect with a pastor, desire a hospital visit, or have a prayer request, you can go to the website: cor.org/prayer or call 913-897-0120 and let us know that you are part of the Central UMC congregation. If it is an emergency and is after hours, please call the emergency pager at 913-544-0799.

Frequently Asked Questions

This document seeks to provide answers to questions you may have regarding continued ministry beyond closure of Central UMC. It will be periodically updated through the planning phase (Oct 1 – Dec 18)

Who do I contact if I have a loved one who has died, and I would like Resurrection to assist in the funeral preparations?

Please call the Funeral Ministry at 913-208-1508. They will connect you with one of our pastors and walk you through this journey and all the resources you might need.

How can I plan a wedding at the new Resurrection location?

We would be honored to walk you through resources we have for our wedding ministries. Please email Claire.Clough@cor.org for any questions about the wedding ministry.

How can I continue to give after September 26?

Resurrection is grateful for the example of generosity and stewardship the Central congregation has shown over the years. To continue your tithes, offerings and gifts to the church, Resurrection offers a variety of ways for you to give: cash/check, online, stock, QCDs, and memorial gifts. Cash and checks can be given during worship at any Resurrection location or mailed to Church of the Resurrection, 13720 Roe Ave., Leawood, KS 66224. To give online, simply go to cor.org/givenow.

For other ways to give, more information, or to connect with our Donor Relations team, please email development@cor.org, visit cor.org/give, or contact Debi Nixon, Resurrection Donor Relations Executive Director at 913.544.0709 or at debi.nixon@cor.org. Our team is available to answer your questions and help in any way.

What will the name of the new location be?

We are still engaged in conversations with a variety of constituencies to help us determine the right name for this location.

Who will be the Location Pastor assigned to the new location?

We are currently interviewing amazing candidates both internal and external. We take this position very seriously and have advertised the position nationally to ensure we assign the right pastor for the location. We hope to conclude this work in the next few weeks. As soon as we have identified the new location Pastor, he or she will be introduced to you both by Pastor Adam's Enote and at an in-person gathering on or before September 18. Please join us in prayers as we continue to discern for this position.

What about the current Central staff?

Central staff were encouraged to apply for open positions at the new location or another Resurrection location, and the Resurrection leadership team has worked with Pastor Sally to provide information and guidance on positions for the new location. Central leadership has done a great job in offering separation packages to staff that would not continue with Resurrection. Pastor Sally will join the Resurrection team beginning October 3 until her retirement in June of 2023. We are blessed to have her as part of our team.

Frequently Asked Questions

This document seeks to provide answers to questions you may have regarding continued ministry beyond closure of Central UMC. It will be periodically updated through the planning phase (Oct 1 – Dec 18)

What happens to the Early Childhood Center?

Our goal is a seamless transition for children and families served by the Early Childhood Center. All current Central Early Childhood Center staff have accepted positions with the Resurrection Early Learning Center effective October 1, 2022. There are some planned facility updates that will happen this fall, but the team is working to ensure minimal impact on the ELC operations.

What changes will be made to the building?

The sanctuary will look largely the same as it does today, with some enhancements to the audio, video and lighting experience in the space. We are striving to maintain the integrity of this sacred space, and in many ways make it more beautiful with some enhancements to the AVL. Other subtle tweaks and enhancements to the building, particularly around the entryways to the sanctuary, to make the warm, hospitable and welcoming to guests.

What style of worship should we expect at launch?

We are currently planning for two different styles of worship at launch. One service would include more traditional music and arrangements that incorporate choir, ensembles, piano and organ. The other service would feature a modern music style.

What new ministries should we expect at Launch?

We are working to put together our full complement of ministries and programs consistent with Resurrection's other locations - worship, children's ministry, student ministry, adult discipleship, missions' programs, and care and support. No matter your stage in life or where you are in your faith journey, our ministries and programs will provide opportunities to grow in your faith and become deeply committed Christians. We are planning to incorporate some existing Central ministries (like the Prom Dress ministry to the community) that align with Resurrection's vision and purpose into ministries.

What will happen to the various groups that are currently using Central's building but are not a ministry of Central UMC?

There are a total of 14 groups currently using the Central building. They range from scout troops to community outreach organizations. We are reaching out to each of these groups to assess their needs and our capacity to accommodate their continued use of the building. We do know the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will be disbanding after Oct 1 and will no longer need to use the building. The Shepherd Center Ministries of Meals on wheels and Adventures in Learning will continue to use the building at least until May 30, 2023, at which time we can better assess possibilities of our partnership with them and/or our need for ministry space. We are in conversations with all the other groups.