

## Third Sunday After the Epiphany

January 22, 2023

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*Pastor's Corner for January 22-28*

### **The Light Breaks In (Matthew 4:12-17)**

Years ago, when I did my pastoral internship in Dallas, TX, I remember how surprising and, to be honest, a little annoying it was to have such bright sunlight day after day after day. In Richmond, VA where I had grown up and in St. Louis, MO where I had been a seminary student gray days were a part of the routine. Though not like the Pacific Northwest or some parts of the globe where the sun may not shine for weeks on end, we knew that a bright sunny day was a gift... something to be relished and enjoyed. And the occasional cloudy/rainy day/snowy day was a delight in its own way, too. Those were the days you yearned for something hot to eat or drink and a warm, cozy spot where you could enjoy it.

Life always has its “dark” patches and its “light” patches too. This weekend, we give thanks to God that a different kind of light— the light of Christ— shines in life’s unexpected dark places. When life brings us circumstances where it seems impossible to know what to do or even whether there is anything left to hope for, the light of Christ surprises us with a peace that the world cannot give: we are loved and valued beyond measure.

That’s worth remembering on this Sanctity of Human Life weekend... as we celebrate just how precious all human life is. I wasn’t always a fan of the weather in Dallas, but I found other things to enjoy about the city: the homegrown music, the food, and of course— the people. In treasuring life, we share a precious light that breaks into the world’s darkest places for all people of the world. What joy to shine that light for others!

### **2022 Christmas Gifts for Staff Members Received—Thank You!**

On behalf of all RLC staff, thank you for your generosity in once again remembering us with a Christmas gift! I’m especially grateful for the work of the Lay Ministry Standing Committee to see that gifts from the congregation were distributed. We are all blessed to serve.

### **Recent Churchwide Survey Completed**

If you were one of the 192 people at RLC who joined in on our recent Church Pulse survey... thank you! I’m so happy to see that many of you took the time to work through the survey and submit your answers. RLC staff will be working through the details of your responses and sharing the answers with others in church leadership (RLC Church Council, etc.) as well as putting together a report for our congregation so that we can benefit from what we learned and serve our community better. We’re grateful for the many voices of our church family.

### **Slide Advancement Team Training Session Again This Wednesday, January 25 @ 7:30 PM**

If you are interested in assisting with slide advancement for services in the main sanctuary and are available this Wednesday, January 25 at 7:30 PM, I invite you to stick around to see how it’s done. We need helpers for 6 PM on Saturdays and 8/9:30 AM on Sundays. We will meet inside the main sanctuary on Wednesday

evening. Hope to see you there!

### **My Upcoming Medical Procedure Monday, February 27**

Some of you have heard my announcement about an upcoming medical procedure in February that I'd like you to know more about: I will be having a cochlear implant installed that will enable me to enjoy improved hearing on my left side. The surgery is routine, but it does require roughly two weeks of recovery. So please know that I will be taking medical leave for two days (Feb 27-28) and working from home from March 1 to 10. I am told that the timeframe for noticing improved hearing lags a bit and requires therapy... so I will not have my bionic ear in working order for some time! However, I am so grateful that I am able to have this procedure done and happy that God has gifted me with doctors and therapists who will be able to assist me. Here are a few links that will tell you more:

- How the implant works: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k93lZHt4yc>
- Reality of life without implant and getting used to the implant: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=he11FlhwQcM>
- UNC program for people like me (person with asymmetrical hearing loss): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOf-M9Z3dls>

I invite you to join me in giving thanks to God for the medical professionals in our area. We are truly blessed!

Epiphany peace and joy,  
Pastor Jonathan

**Prayers of the Church**

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## Sanctity of Life

On the tenth anniversary of Roe v. Wade, President Ronald Reagan wrote an essay about abortion. He wrote, "Prayer and action are needed to uphold the sanctity of human life. I believe it will not be possible to accomplish our work, the work of saving lives, without being a soul of prayer."

This is the weekend that we, as a Church, demonstrate our support for the unborn and their parents. This is the tenth year we have conducted a baby bottle fundraiser to support Gateway Women's Care. As you leave each Service, you will find a table with empty baby bottles set up in the Narthex. If you would like to support this fundraiser, please take a bottle home. Talk to friends, family, neighbors and give them an opportunity to take part. Place your donation of coins, bills, or checks in the bottle and return it to the Church. You will see a closed box with a round hole in the top. The box is for the return of the bottles. When you have filled your bottle and are returning it, place it through the hole in the box. The last day for collection of bottles will be February 12.

Checks need to be made out to Gateway Women's Care and you can return them in the bottle, place them in the collection plate (made out to Gateway Women's Care), or mail them to the Church (again, made out Gateway Women's Care).

There will also be someone standing by the table. We are there in case you might have some questions. In addition, if anyone (man or woman) is interested in volunteering at Gateway, come talk to us. Yes, I said "man or woman" as Gateway works also with the fathers.

Whether you are able to financially support this fundraiser or not, please continue to pray for the unborn and their parents.

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## Principal Call Update

On Sunday, January 8 at a special Voters' Meeting, Resurrection Lutheran Church unanimously issued a Divine Call to Mrs. Heather Lowing (currently serving at Trinity Lutheran Church, Delray Beach FL) to be the Principal at Resurrection Lutheran School.

This Divine Call is the culmination of a process undertaken by the Call Committee of the RLS Board of Directors that included many hours of meetings, vetting, conference calls, and Zoom meetings, which narrowed a list of approximately 30 candidates to a recommendation of 2 equally-valued individuals.

In the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod of which Resurrection Lutheran Church is a member, typically the Calling Body (RLC/RLS) seeks the Called Worker (Mrs. Lowing). She now has two Divine Calls – the one to Trinity, where she is currently serving, and now one to RLS. She will seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit as she deliberates where she feels led to serve in ministry. During this process, which could take 2-4 weeks or more depending on her circumstances, please join your family at Resurrection in prayer as we will lift up Mrs. Lowing and her family, and the ministry at RLC/RLS that God's will be made clear to her and our faith community at Resurrection.

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## Sunday Morning Adult Christian Ed Class

Join us for the study, *Blessed are the Peacemakers*, on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 am with Pastor Alan Shaw in the Fellowship Hall!

This 6-week Bible study on personal peacemaking will run through February 19. Our study leads us to understand the basic truths about personal peacemaking from Scripture. We are each given the responsibility to serve as peacemakers. This study will focus on understanding conflict, our responses to conflict, and a simple model we can follow as ambassadors for reconciliation.



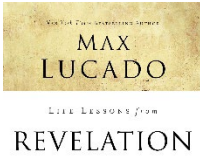
Ambassadors  
*of*  
Reconciliation™

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## Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

- **Monday Night Women's Bible Study**

Join us for Max Lucado's *Life Lessons from Revelation*, a 12-session study on the book of Revelation. We meet on Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm (in-person and via Zoom). Class will run January 9 through March 27. The apostle John writes about an amazing vision he saw while in exile that gave him a glimpse into heaven.



Key Themes are God has a plan and a future for the world, God will be ultimately victorious over evil, there will be a final accounting for our faith and our lives, and there is a better world in store. Books are available through Amazon and [christianbook.com](http://christianbook.com). A digital version is also available through Amazon. For more information, contact Jamee Thieme through RCB.

- **Men's Ministry Weekly Study and Fellowship**

We will not meet for the first four weeks of January, please consider joining the Wednesday Night Adult Study with Pastor Jonathan that started on January 4 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The topic is *Challenging Conversations*.

The Men's Weekly will start back up on **Monday, January 30** from 7:00-8:15 pm in Room 240, Family Life Center.

- **Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship**

We study the coming Sunday Scripture lessons from 10:30-11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Pastor Zach Sarrault.

- **Wednesday Night Adult Christian Ed**

*Challenging Conversations* meets Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Jonathan and will run through January 22.

- **Men With Kids**

We will not meet for the first four weeks of January, please consider joining the other Wednesday Night Adult Study with Pastor Jonathan that started on January 4 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The topic is *Challenging Conversations*.

Men with Kids will start back on **Wednesday, February 1** from 6:30-7:30 pm in Room 246, Family Life Center.

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## Food & Fellowship for the Blind



Resurrection's Ministry for  
the Visually Impaired meets

**Friday, January 27 from 5:30-7:30 pm**  
in the Fellowship Hall

Contact Annette Langefeld-Kennedy to learn more and for volunteer needs  
or the church office (919-851-7248, [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)).

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# TRIANGLE FAITH.ORG

*“Are you ready to become  
a better witness?”*

**Saturday, January 28  
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**Resurrection Lutheran Church  
100 W. Lochmere Dr., Cary, NC**

## **Building Bridges Not Barriers**

Join with other Christians in a conversation that helps to engage with those in the Latter Day Saint (Mormon) community. This event is being hosted by Resurrection Lutheran in Cary in partnership with Jordan Lutheran Church, Apex and Truth in Love Ministry.

The Build Bridges Not Barriers workshop will provide a foundation on LDS (Latter Day Saint) belief and practice and abundant applications of how to engage in conversations with truth and love. Mark Parsons, the vice president of Truth in Love Ministry, brings an expert and current perspective to this conversation to equip us for ministry.

*TriangleFaith.org is a cooperative effort of congregations in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod that seeks to bring the message of forgiveness to the greater Raleigh Triangle community.*



## **Mark Parsons**

**Vice President  
Truth in Love Ministry**

Mark Parsons is the Vice President of Truth in Love Ministry and heads up their Communications Team in Nampa, Idaho.

**Truth in Love Ministry** is a Christian ministry devoted to proclaiming Christ to Mormons and empowering Christians to witness. In addition to offering time-tested training, we provide ongoing support. This includes person-to-person mentoring as well as websites with pages of practical tips, strategies, and witness stories.

**[www.tilm.org](http://www.tilm.org)**





## Saturday, January 28

We will use the Taize format of worship for the Saturday, 6:00 pm service.

A darkened setting with candles, singing of short ostinato refrains of Biblical and liturgical phrases, periods of quiet for reflection, the celebration of communion, readings, and sermon.

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### Habitat for Humanity

The Lutheran Build Coalition with Habitat is back for 2023 beginning with the warehouse wall build on **Saturday, February 11**. Site construction will continue through the end of May. The Lutheran churches in the area will join together to build a new Habitat home. Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.

This year, the Coalition homes are being built in a new community called Old Poole Place in Southeast Raleigh. On the exciting Day 1, February 11, each Lutheran church is sending 3-5 volunteers to help build the walls and then raise them onto the foundation at the build site.

We have selected 2 RLC sponsored work days (Saturdays) and we need 15 volunteers each day to support the build. Our work days are **March 25** and **May 13**. No construction experience is necessary, being a member of RLC isn't necessary,

feel free to invite a friend; there will be jobs for everyone with a serving heart.

You must register and sign up via the Habitat vhub link: <http://vhub.at/lutheranbuild>.

Not able to join an RLC build day? No worries. You can sign up for Saturdays that other churches couldn't fill or even weekday (Thursday/Friday) slots, if that works better.

\$ Support Needed! If you're not able to work on-site, there are other ways to support the project. We need additional funds to help offset the cost of building materials that the Lutheran Coalition community shares. Please mark your financial gifts "For: RLC Habitat Build".

Questions? Contact Tim Hiteshew, RLC Coalition Coordinator, Lyle Malotky, Bill Boyer, or the church office (919-851-7248, [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)).

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# Children's Ministry

## JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

### KICKS

KICKS - Kids in Christ Keep Shining is for 3rd - 5th graders. Please look for emails with details about monthly events. We look forward to seeing your child(ren) there!

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church is at the 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service. Children are dismissed after the Children's Message for crafts, games and Bible stories.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Children's Sunday School classes will resume on January 8th and continue through May 21st. Classes are from 9:30 am to 10:30 am.

Classrooms can be found in the Resurrection Lutheran School building in the following rooms:

Pre-K: room 132

K & 1st grade: room 134

2nd & 3rd grade: room 131

4th & 5th grade: room 133

Join us for stories, games, crafts, music and more!



Questions? Contact  
Erika Hulse at  
[erika.hulse@rlcary.org](mailto:erika.hulse@rlcary.org)

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## Student Ministry

Middle School and High School

Here's what is coming up:

- **Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am**  
Connection Cafe, Sunday School for Middle and High School
- **Sundays, 6:30-8:00 pm**  
Breakaway Youth Group
- **Wednesdays, 6:00-6:30 pm**  
Open Warehouse



Ms. Jenny, Youth Director  
[jenny.piontek@rlcary.org](mailto:jenny.piontek@rlcary.org)

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Resurrection Lutheran  
**PRESCHOOL class Offerings for 2023-24**



Around **\$23** for a 3-4 hour day of preschool includes:

**+ Classes for children 2-years-old thru 5-years-old +**

- \* Co-Teaching Teams develop a 'learning through play' environment
- \* Developmentally age-appropriate, hands-on, child-centered experiences
- \* Balance of social/academic opportunities
- \* Experienced, nurturing, dedicated Staff
- \* Average of over 10 years staffing stability
- \* Weekly **Chapel & Movement/Music** for all ages
- \* Weekly **Science** for 4's & T-K
- \* Partnership with families to provide a top-quality program
- \* A loving Christian atmosphere

**NON-Refundable Registration Fee = \$215 / \$415 for 2 children (checks payable to RLP or cash)**

**Drive-Up Drop-Off/Pick-Up (for ALL ages)**

**LUNCH every day for ALL classes (provided by parents)**

office@rlpcary.org 919.851.7270

Children in 3-year-old & older classes must be independently toilet-trained.

Resurrection Lutheran Preschool | 919-851-7270 | [rlpcary.org](http://rlpcary.org)



RESTAURANTS • SERVICES • LIFESTYLE • SHOPPING  
 Voting open through January 31

**VOTE TODAY!**

**Resurrection Lutheran School - BEST PRIVATE SCHOOL**

**Resurrection Lutheran Preschool - BEST PRESCHOOL**



Vote Here:

[Welcome to the 2023 Maggy Awards Voting!](#)

## Resurrection Lutheran School

RLS Boys come out on top at the Lutheran Schools Tournament! Congratulations to all of our teams for a competition and fun weekend.

So much gratitude for all of our volunteers and especially the leadership of Robin Hester, RLS Athletic Director.



Resurrection Lutheran School | 919-851-7271 | [rlscary.org](http://rlscary.org)

Latest Lion's Tale

## WORSHIP SERVICES

Traditional Worship  
in Sanctuary  
Saturday, 6:00 pm  
Sunday, \*8:00 & 9:30 am

Praise Worship  
in Family Life Center  
Sunday, \*11:00 am

*\*Services Live Streamed to YouTube*

## Online Worship Bulletins

For online services, connect through our YouTube channel at

[youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC](https://youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC)

or through our website at

[rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship](https://rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship).

## Attendance and Giving

## Church Calendar



100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518

[rlcary.org](https://rlcary.org)

919-851-7248 | [office@rlcary.org](mailto:office@rlcary.org)



## Prayers of the Church – January 22, 2023

*Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence,  
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.  
Hebrews 4:16*

### **We lift the following prayer requests this week:**

#### **Ongoing Prayers**

\*Diane Cuper, \*Eve Sommers, \*David Brooks, \*Anne Altieri, \*Charlotte Raines, \*Eric Hammergren, \*Anita Moore, \*John Shaeffer, \*Vern Ebert, \*Aaron, Marcus, \*Malcolm, \*Sandy Nigg, Henry Otten, Michael Flannery, \*Helen Campbell, \*Lena Licciardi, Paul Batt, Peter and Esther Kuo, \*Geoffrey Wiggins, Marc & Elizabeth Langefeld's Baby Adoption, Caitlyn, Mark Zimmerman, Justus Nicolai, Beverly Kunitsky

#### **Ongoing Cancer Treatments**

\*Mike Allen, Anne Price, \*Gary Ferro, Angie Price, Alison Zieglmeier, Carol Diliberto, Roseanne Candiello, Jackie, Linda H., Kathy Siemon, Scott Brinkley, \*Bill Xenakis, Linda, Jimmy Ketner, Hope Mackelprang, Melissa Huntsman, Sue, Kathy, Glenn Wagner, Pamm Haley, Judy Dean, Bob, Dennis, Cheryl Schlage

#### **For Expectant Moms**

Laura, Amy Lambert

#### **Those Prayed for on January 15, 2022**

#### **Thanking God Today**

- Safe Travels
- Our RLC Family
- Family Celebrations and Time Together, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Weddings
- Our Many Blessings
- Pastor Alan's Graduation from the SMP Program at the Seminary
- Christian Conciliation Study and Bible Studies
- Students Returning for 2nd Semester
- Marlene's Birthday; Mackenzie's 14th Birthday, Graham's 10th Birthday

#### **For Healing**

- \*Becky Berger; \*Kim Goss
- All Those Exposed to COVID, with COVID, and Recovering from COVID
- Blind Ministry Guests - Maria Barker, Judy Dean, Sheila McNair, Linda Jones, Desiree, James
- \*Brendan Nigg
- \*Marty Stephani, In Rehab, and \*Mindy
- \*Suzi Heffner, Recovery
- Cheryl Schlage, Mother of \*Danielle Altieri

- Roger Robbins; Jerry Crueger; Bruce Klevenow, Brother of \*Ralph Klevenow
- Linka Schleusener Jensen and New Baby Maiija
- \*Ellen Richter, Recovery
- Glenn, Second Round of Chemo
- Susan and David, In Rehab Together Following Auto Accident
- Nancy Waggoner
- Jimmy Harris, Brother-In-Law of \*Kay Earp
- Stuart, Randi, Alice, Justin, Red, Brian, Keith, Tim, Timmy, Carlton, Carol, Anne, Anna, Skylar, Ellen, Brendan, Lucille, Cathy, Marty, Glenn, Terry, Chuck, David, Susan, Ken, Donald, Eric, Mara, Pastor Teklu, Connie, Sue, Doug, Jaime, Abby, Judy, Chuck, Corey

#### **For Comfort**

- Friends and Family of Jim Kerns, Especially His Children, \*Shaelyn and Aiden

#### **For Provision, Peace, Strength, and Patient Endurance**

- People of Ukraine, And All Those Who Serve to Support Them
- Persecuted Christians
- Uganda Lutheran Church
- Discernment for Resurrection Lutheran School Principal Candidate - Heather Lowing
- All Those Supporting Family Members with Caregiving Needs
- Call Committee for DCE
- Safe Travels
- \*Randi and Barry Munns; Annie Ruth Ford, \*Dennis Ford's Mother; \*Eric and \*Jill Hammergren
- \*Pam Dickson; \*Bruce and \*Annette Kennedy; \*Jan and Paul Wozniak
- Jan and Rich Bloom
- Stuart and Sue Sanders, and the \*Boyer Family
- Our RLC Uganda Team Preparing for February 2023 Mission Trip, Discernment Regarding Travel
- Healthy Pregnancy
- Young Adults Decision Making
- Good Test Results

#### **For the Lord's Wisdom, Guidance, Strength for the Health and Well-Being of the People They Serve**

- Pastor Jonathan and Juli, Associate Pastor Zack and Kelsey, Assistant Pastor Alan and Faith, and Their Families
- Resurrection Lutheran Church and Schools Staff
- Area Pastors and School Staff
- Our Stephen Ministers

*Lord Jesus, thank You for Your abiding Presence and saving grace. All is in Your Hands.  
We trust You are working all things according to Your good plan and purposes,  
and with that trust and confidence, we release these prayers to You. In Your Holy Name, Amen.*

## Attendance and Giving – January 22, 2023

### In-Person Worship Attendance

#### Saturday, January 14

6:00 pm - 56

#### Sunday, January 15

8:00 am - 80; 9:30 am - 122; 11:00 am - 167

**Total In-Person Worship: 425**

### Views of Online Worship at RLC's YouTube Channel

#### Sunday, January 15

8:00 am - 90; 11:00 am - 47

**Total Online Views: 137 views**

### General Fund Giving and Spending - December 2022 (Revised)

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Receipts	\$ 180,894.24	\$ 699,979.03
<u>Total Disbursements</u>	<u>\$ 124,807.79</u>	<u>\$ 641,406.69</u>
Receipts Less Disbursements	\$ 56,086.45	\$ 58,572.34

Last Week's Offerings: \$26,133.52

Average Weekly Giving for 2022/23: \$26,922.27

Average Weekly Giving Budgeted for 2022/23: \$26,908.65

We are grateful for all who are able to maintain financial contributions to our congregation!

There are four ways to make your offering:

- Place in offering plate as you exit the in-person worship service
- Mail to Resurrection Lutheran Church, 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary, NC 27518
- Online Giving through our church website at [rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving](http://rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving)
- Download the Vanco Mobile app, search for Resurrection Lutheran Church, transfer funds from your checking or savings account to RLC

Questions? Contact [finance@rlcary.org](mailto:finance@rlcary.org).

*Updated 1/20/23*