

FEBRUARY 2023

#### From the Pastor

Confirmation class is one of the highlights of my week. It is so much fun to sit down with our seventh graders for an entire hour, solely dedicated to digging into God's Word to see how God worked for His people and through in Bible times and then how He continues to work for His people and through His people today. The first part is easy. How did God work in Bible times? Well, He shows us! We have an entire book about all the amazing things that He did! It's that very last part that is the most challenging. How does God work through His people today?

When I ask the students how they can show God's love to the world, they faithfully answer, "Tell people about God!" And they are correct, but what does that look like? How do we tell people about God? First, we can look at how God has told people about Himself. In the very simplest of definitions, when asked who God is, we can answer, "God is love" (1 John 4:8). No more, no less. God cares for His broken creation so much, that He sent His very own Son into the world to die and rise for all people (1 John 9-10). But when the Son of God showed up, He didn't come with bright lights and sirens and big sign proclaiming His name everywhere He went. He showed the people that He was love in the flesh for them. Everywhere He went He embodied love for people.

How did Jesus tell people about God? He worked love into everyday interactions. His very first big act of love took place at a wedding (John 2), casually changing water into wine and sharing a glass (I imagine) with those gathered for the celebration. Jesus met His first disciples at their worksites, a fishing boat and a tax booth (Matthew 4 and 9) and showed them love by bringing them into the eternal work of loving others. Even somewhere as simple as a rest

## Worship Schedule

#### Saturday

6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

#### Sunday

8:00 am in the Sanctuary\*
9:30 am in the Sanctuary

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

\*Live Stream

#### **Dates of Interest:**

Veterans LunchF	eb	8
CoffeehouseFe	b	10
Men's BreakfastFe	b	11
IgniteFe	b	12
KICKSFe	b	15
Transfiguration SundayFe	b	19
Shrove TuesdayFe	b	21
Ash WednesdayFe	b 2	22
Blind MinistryFe	b :	24
This Is the ChurchFe	b 2	25
First Sunday in LentFe	b:	 26

## Sunday Morning Adult Ed

### Blessed are the Peacemakers

Join us for a new study on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 am starting January 8 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.

Questions? Contact the church office (919-851-7248 or office@rlcary.org).



stop (John 4), Jesus saw an opportunity to love through a simply caring conversation.

Everywhere Jesus went, He was telling people about God through His loving actions and conversations. Nothing flashy, just simple relationships focused on care and compassion in normal everyday places. So, how do we show God's love to the world? Don't think to hard about your answer. God gives us opportunities everyday in the normal and mundane events of our everyday lives. It certainly is not easy, but it is God's Work and His Mission that we are privileged to be a part of.

If you're looking for an out of the ordinary places to show people God's love, there is a new Habitat for Humanity build that begins on February 11th with RLC build days on March 25th and May 13th (contact Tim Hiteshew). We also have an information/volunteer meeting on February 5th after the 11:00 service in Room 151 to get ready to bring back the Yard Sale this spring. Something less out of the ordinary is the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 21st, simple as pancakes may be it is a great place to gather for fellowship with God's love present.

No matter what you have planned this month, we can all grow in the love of God that never ends for us and flows to those that we interact with in the normal, day-to-day, of our lives.

Your brother in Christ, Pastor Zach Sarrault

#### **Habitat of Humanity, Lutheran Coalition**

The Lutheran Coalition Build is in a new community, Old Poole Place in Southeast Raleigh.

Day 1, February 11, is exciting with each Lutheran church sending 3-5 volunteers to build walls and raise them on the foundation.

Other dates will be available.

No construction experience necessary, there are jobs for everyone with a serving heart!

Sign up online at habitatwake.org/faith/lutheran

Questions? Contact Tim Hiteshew, RLC Coalition Coordinator, Lyle Malotky, or Bill Boyer.



#### **Looking Ahead**

#### **February Events**

#### February 11 and 12

Last Weekend to Return Baby Bottles for Gateway Women's Care Fundraiser

#### February 21

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**, 5:30-7:00 pm in the Family Life Center Gym (Free Will Offering) Join us for an *All You Can Eat* pancakes, sausage, ham, applesauce, and the best fellowship around! Sign Up to Volunteer Here!

#### February 22

#### Ash Wednesday

8:45 am in the Sanctuary - Imposition of Ashes with Resurrection Lutheran School 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary - Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion Both Services Available via Live Stream on RLC's YouTube Channel



#### February 25

Christian Doctrine Class, This Is the Church, 9:30-11:00 am

This class will meet for 3 weeks - February 25, March 4 and 11 - in Room 151, Family Life Center. Focus of the class will be on the core doctrines of the Christian faith (including the Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Holy Baptism, Confession, and the Lord's Supper), understanding how/why they occur in our worship life, and what makes Christianity different from all other world religions. Both newcomers and veterans of the faith are welcome to take part! Contact Pastor Jonathan or Pastor Alan.

#### February 26

First Sunday in Lent

Mission and Ministry Presentation, 9:30-10:30 am, Fellowship Hall

The Porter Family will discuss their experience with hosting and welcoming a Ukrainian family.

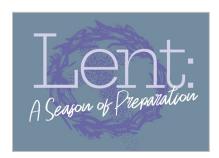
Coming up next...

#### March 1

Lenten Midweek Services Begin

#### March 5

New Adult Sunday School Class, *Poetry and Our Christian Faith* Led by Larry Cameron in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30-10:30 am.



# Gifts & Memorials

#### For the Love Fund

In Memory of Don Schautteet

Darrell and Anita Moore

#### For Christian Education

In Memory of Jim Kerns

Michael and Cheryl McQueen

#### For Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

In Memory of Doug Spitz

Mary Persson

#### For Gifts & Memorials

In Memory of Doug Spitz James and Kathryn Sanders



#### **Adult Christian Education**

#### **Weekly Bible Study Opportunities**

#### **Monday Evening**

#### Men's Ministry Weekly Study and Fellowship

Meet on **Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm** in Room 240, Family Life Center. Join us for fellowship, video, discussion, and more fellowship — all designed to strengthen the men's community and their relationship with Jesus. Come to any or all weeks as schedule permits. Friends and neighbors welcome. Contact <a href="mailto:mens-ministry@rlcary.org">mens-ministry@rlcary.org</a>.

#### Monday Night Women's Bible Study ~ Life Lessons from Revelation

Join us for Max Lucado's *Life Lessons from Revelation*, a 12-session study on the book of Revelation. 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.

Meet on **Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm** from January 9-March 27, in-person and via Zoom. Books available through Amazon and christianbook.com. A digital version is also available through Amazon. Contact Jamee Thieme through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

#### **Tuesday Morning**

#### **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. God gives His Word to instruct, guide, and bless our lives. The Scripture lessons in worship offer a menu every week to build up the people of God in faith and hope.

#### **Wednesday Evening**

No Wednesday night adult Christian education class until April 12.

#### **Men With Kids**

Join for fellowship, study, and small group discussion. Meet on **Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm** in Room 247, Family Life Center; follows the confirmation schedule. Contact Tom Gebbia at mens-ministry@rlcary.org.

#### **Engage the Nations**

#### **Uganda Mission Trip**

Life For Uganda is RLC's Uganda mission and exists to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to minister to underserved communities in Uganda. The heart of the mission is the God-centered relationship between the faithful believers of both RLC and the congregations of the Lutheran Church of Uganda (LCU). Life For Uganda works to provide clean water sources, build and equip schools, and create opportunities to thrive.

Mission team members are Pastor Jonathan and Juli Blanke, Ron Bostick, Jeff and Cheryl Fike, as well as Bruce Brodhagen and Debra Werner from St. James Lutheran Church in Shawano, Wisconsin. Team travel dates are February 2-13; they will spend most of the time in the Amudat region in northeast Uganda.

Pastor Jonathan will lead a week-long course at the seminary and the team will also reconnect with village communities in the Amudat districts, celebrate the dedication of the new church building in Amudat Town (construction was supported by RLC!), and attend Magamaga Seminary graduation.

#### **Prayer Requests**

- For the safety and well-being of individuals and congregations of the LCU, and for all the people of Uganda
- That the Christian message of hope and salvation will continue to spread throughout Uganda
- For the eradication of the Ebola virus in Uganda
- For energy and wisdom for Pastor Jonathan as he leads instruction at Magamaga Seminary in Jinja, Uganda
- For the safe travel, health, and well-being of this team, and for all short and long-term missionaries
- For energy, wisdom, and discernment for the Life For Uganda Board of Directors
- That Life For Uganda can broaden its committed volunteers and supporters and find resources with the expertise and skills needed to expand our message to a wider audience



BUILD WELLS • BUILD SCHOOLS • BUILD LIVES

#### Community Partner

#### Thank You!

Thank you, RLC! In the year 2022, Resurrection Lutheran Church donated 862 pounds of nonperishable food stuffs to the food pantry at Western Wake Crisis Ministry. A big part of that donation was collected from the Resurrection Lutheran Preschool families. Thank you to everyone who is helping feed hungry families in Western Wake County.

If you would like to volunteer at WWCM, make a donation, or have questions, contact Dara Linn through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

#### Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML)

#### **Mission Goal Reached!**

The LWML Mission Goal for the 2021–2023 biennium is \$2,150,000. We are filled with gratitude and joy as we announce that God has worked through your generosity and stewardship to surpass this goal. Mite offerings you have shared now total \$2,154,511!

Each time you choose to give to LWML Mission Grants, you are directly pouring God's mercy and message into the lives of others – some you may know and others you may never meet. The people you are helping range in age from little children to the elderly, and their homes are located across the globe. Some recipients may be right in your neighborhood, others are men, women, and children living abroad. No matter their age, or how near or far, God knows the needs of every single person.

Thank you for coming alongside LWML as together we proclaim Christ, support missions, equip women, and serve others! If you would like to take a look at the various ministries the 2021–2023 Mission Grants are supporting, please visit <a href="https://www.neg/mission-grants">lwml.org/mission-grants</a>.

#### **Lutheran Hour Ministries**

#### **Congratulations!**

For 72 years, Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) has entered a float in the annual Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California. This year, the LHM float ("A New Day with Jesus") was awarded the Tournament of Roses Director Award!

The parade, usually held on January 1, was moved to January 2 this year in keeping with the tradition of not holding it on a Sunday so as not to interfere with worship services. It was only the twentieth time in parade's 134-year history that the date has moved.

The LHM float, the only Christian-themed float in the parade, was decorated by the LHMFC Petal Pushers. Learn more at <u>petalpushers.org</u>.





#### FEBRUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

#### **READY TO VOLUNTEER?**

The Children's Ministry Team is in need of volunteers! It is easy and fun! Contact erika.hulse@rlcary.org

#### K.I.C.K.S.

(Kids In Christ Keep Shining)

**Next Event:** 

Wednesday, February 15 6:30-7:30 pm Family Life Center Gym

K.I.C.K.S. provides fun and fellowship for kids in 3rd-5th grade.

#### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

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

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**

We have had great attendance at Children's Sunday School classes. We'd love for your children to join us!

Classes are from 9:30 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 Children engage in stories, games, crafts, music and more!



# Happy Anniversary!

#### February 6

John and Virginia Heilman 58 years

#### February 17

Ken and Mary Elder 55 years

#### Mark Your Calendars!

March 26

**Easter Egg Hunt** 

June 26-30

**Vacation Bible School (VBS)** 

## Children's Sunday School









#### Resurrection Lutheran Preschool

Diane Hooper, Director

rlpcary.org 919-851-7270 office@rlpcary.org





#### **Student Ministry**

#### **Breakaway Connections**

February is a great month to celebrate connections! In our High School Youth Group, Breakaway, we strive to make meaningful connections with each other, with our adult leaders, with our community, and with other youth. Coming out of the National Youth Gathering, there is such excitement and focus on the connections made within our own group but also other LCMS youth from around the world.

From this excitement, there was interest in forging further connections and being assigned a buddy church. Our RLC youth were paired in October with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Minier, Illinois. Our churches have had a blast getting to know each other over the last few months through Zoom activities, making and sharing of videos about our churches, trading Christmas cards, and connecting through social media.

Our church youth in some ways look so different on paper. Good Shepherd youth are from a very, very small congregation in a rural part of Illinois with spotty WIFI but their youth group is about the same size as ours-serving members of the church and almost as many friends of the church. Our group is obviously a pretty good sized congregation in an urban setting and our group is made up of mostly church members.

Where it counts, our groups are connected by the most important thing, Christ. Colossians 1:17 reminds us that "He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." These connections and friendships across the miles are blessed because He goes before them and have been built on a foundation that lasts. We are blessed to be connected to the youth of Good Shepherd in Minier, Illinois.

Please check out the video our youth made to introduce what we love about our church here at RLC!

<u>Breakaway Loves RLC 2023 - YouTube</u>

#### **2023-2024 ADMISSIONS**

Tuition contracts have been emailed and due no later than **February 11**, **2023** in order to reserve space in your child's class for the 2023-2024 school year.

For those applying for financial assistance, the deadline is February 15. Click here to apply. Tuition Agreements will be issued after an award is communicated.

#### **SPRING UNIFORM SALE**

Are your students in need of new uniform sizes? Mark your calendars for our Spring Uniform Sale, February 22-February 24, in Room 151.

Wednesday, 7:30-9:00 am and 2:30-6:30 pm Thursday, 7:30-9:00 am and 2:30-4:00 pm Friday, 7:30-9:00 am and 2:30-4:00 pm

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**February 10** Tuition Agreements Due

February 17 Teacher Work Afternoon (Early Release)
February 20 Presidents' Day Holiday (No School)

Looking Ahead...

March 5-12 Lutheran Schools Week
May 16 Fine Arts Program

#### And the Scripps National Spelling Champion is...

Kaku Daniels - 4th Grade Cameron Parr - 7th Grade (Alternate) Congratulations to all!













### Resurrection Lutheran School

Robert Unger Interim Principal

Rosie Creasy Director of Admissions/ School Growth

> rlscary.org 919-851-7271 contact@rlscary.org

#### **Soaring to New Heights**

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

(Isaiah 40:31 NIV)

#### Mission:

Resurrection Lutheran School is committed to educating generations of children in the training and instruction of the Lord.
Because of this commitment, we will provide a Lutheran educational experience that is Christ-centered, as well as academically focused for children in junior kindergarten through eighth grade.



#### **LIVE STREAM**

#### Join us online for worship <u>live</u> Sundays at 8:00 am and 11:00 am!

Connect through our YouTube channel at youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC

or through our website at rlcary.org/about-us/online-worship.

#### Missed the live service?

Watch the worship services on our YouTube channel at any time.



#### **LEARN MORE**

rlcary.org | office@rlcary.org | 919-851-7248

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke, Senior Pastor Rev. Zachery Sarrault, Associate Pastor Rev. Alan Shaw, Assistant Pastor

#### **GIVING**

We appreciate your contributions to our congregation. Here are the different ways to make your offering:

- Place in offering plate as you exit the worship service
- Mail to 100 Lochmere Drive West, Cary NC 27518
- Online through our church website at <u>rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving</u>
- Download the Vanco Mobile app to transfer funds from your account

Questions? Contact finance@rlcary.org.

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**



facebook.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary



instagram.com/ResurrectionLutheranCary



youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC

Newsletter deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please send submissions to <a href="mailto:susan.moore@rlcary.org">susan.moore@rlcary.org</a>.

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