



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 2023

From the Pastor

Mission...Impossible?

(John 20:19-31)

I used to watch the TV show "Mission Impossible." I remembered that recently when I heard of another installment of the movie version due for release later this year. The TV show always began with the opening title sequence, played with that famous theme by Lalo Schifrin and the lighting of a fuse that burned while scenes of that week's episode flash before our eyes. Then Jim Phelps would get his instructions for the mission from a tape recorder. The recording would have the same disembodied voice with the same invitation. "Your mission, Jim, should you decide to accept it..." Then the tape recorder would self-destruct, or Jim would throw it in an incinerator. The entire remainder of the show was dedicated to the unfolding of the mission, where the good guys would overcome the impossible to befuddle, humiliate, and defeat the bad guys. "Mission Impossible" was a fun television program and has been marvelously updated for the big screen. But it's a lousy way to think about the mission of the church. As St. John's gospel tells it, there's no mission of the Church for Christians to "choose" to accept. The mission of sharing God's love and promoting

justice in the world isn't for specialists or full-time agents of the Church. All Christians, by nature of their connection to the risen Jesus through Holy Baptism (where they've received the gift of the Holy Spirit), are ALREADY part of that mission, realize

it or not. Moreover, the mission doesn't involve befuddling, humiliating, and defeating "the bad guys." Jesus has ALREADY overcome the Enemy and everything that would overwhelm our faith! As seemingly impossible as loving on folks in need and working on behalf



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:

Palm Sunday..... April 2
First Communion Seder.... Apr 5
Maundy Thursday.....Apr 6
Good Friday..... Apr 7
Easter Sunday..... Apr 9
Coffeehouse.....Apr 14
Men's Retreat.....Apr 14-16
Ignite Youth Group.....Apr 16
Confirmation Banquet.....Apr 26
Operation InAsMuch..... Apr 29
Confirmation Sunday.....Apr 30

Sunday Morning Adult Ed

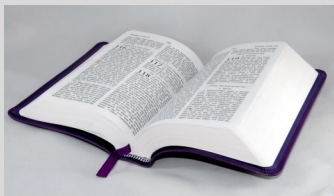
Poetry and Our Christian Faith

Poets have often addressed the key issues of life, such as love, faith, hope, grief, and death. This series of lessons will examine some of the world's greatest poems and will use them as springboards to examine what Scriptures have to say on same topics. Included in this study will be poems by Emily Dickinson, William Shakespeare, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Dylan Thomas, T.S. Eliot, and William Butler Yeats.

Join us on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall, March 5-May 14!

You will want to bring your Bibles to each class. Copies of poems will be distributed at each session. Led by Larry Cameron.

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



of a better world might at times seem, the people we encounter aren't the Enemy. The only Enemy that matters has already been defeated. And we are not sent on our mission by the disembodied voice of someone far away from the action. Jesus, our Champion, bearing the scars of the battle he has won... He is with us and sends us out as his change agents.

This month our mission is, first of all, to experience the love of God and life for God that Good Friday and Easter Sunday bring. Our pre-Covid schedule of five Easter services is back! Come out and celebrate with us... or if you are out of town for family vacations during the break, be sure to add our live streamed services to your Easter schedule. We hope and pray that our Easter season Sermon Series on 1 Peter ("Blessed Are the Peacemakers") leads you to consider the work of the resurrected Jesus in us and around us to bring peace where there is only conflict and brokenness. As April comes to a close, we look forward to seeing God send us out as His servants through "Operation Inasmuch" and affirming us in our faith together at our 8th Graders' confirmation.

It's easy at times to feel as if our mission as followers of Jesus is "mission impossible." It would be, were it up to us. The good news is that the risen Christ has gotten us out of our comfort zones and into a world where we are empowered by the wounded, yet victorious Christ. We are privileged to change the lives of real people... and to be changed in the process. As this season of Easter unfolds, let's look to the One who sends us on our mission, confident that he is sufficient for the task, though we are not.

Alleluia! He is risen!
Pastor Jonathan

RLC Worship Servants

There is a need for volunteers to help out in all of our worship services. If you have ever watched an usher, worship assistant, or lay reader and thought "I could do that", we would love to have you!

Reach out to the following for more information:

- Saturday, 6:00 pm - Lori Jannings
- Sunday, 8:00 am - Brenda Peterson
- Sunday, 9:30 am - Dara Linn
- Sunday, 11:00 am - Suzi Heffner

You may also contact the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org) for assistance.

We encourage you to find areas of interest that best suit your natural gifts, and join us as we reach out with the love of Christ, by grace, through faith, for service.

He is not here
HE IS RISEN

MATTHEW 28:6

Holy Week Observances and Easter Sunday Celebration

Palm Sunday | April 1 & 2

6:00 pm - Worship with Holy Communion on Saturday

8:00 am*, 9:30 am - Sanctuary Festival Worship with Holy Communion on Sunday
Led by Sanctuary Choir, Heavenly Handbells, and Resurrection Brass Ensemble

11:00 am* - Praise & Worship with Holy Communion on Sunday
Led by *Reign!* in the Family Life Center

Maundy Thursday | April 6

4:00 pm - Worship with Holy Communion

7:00 pm* - Worship with Holy Communion (First Communion for 5th Grade Students)

Good Friday | April 7

12:00 pm - Worship (Preceded and Followed by a Soup and Salad Lunch)
Musical Offerings by Cantus Christe Quartet

7:00 pm* - Tenebrae Service featuring *The Suffering Servant* by K.L. Scott
Led by Sanctuary Choir, Soloists, and String Ensemble

Easter Sunday | April 9

6:30 am - Sunrise Service Begins in Prayer Garden, Processes to Sanctuary
Led by Celebration Singers

8:00 am*, 9:30 am, 11:00 am

Sanctuary Easter Festival Worship with Holy Communion
Music Led by Sanctuary Choir, Heavenly Handbells, and Resurrection Brass Ensemble

11:00 am* - Praise & Worship with Holy Communion
Led by *Reign!* in the Family Life Center

*Live Stream Services

Connect through our YouTube channel at youtube.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchCaryNC.

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

Monday Evening

Monday Night Women's Bible Study ~ *Heroes of Faith*

Join us for *Heroes of Faith*, based on Hebrews 11, **Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm** from April 17-May 22. (We will not meet on April 3 and 10.) Hebrews 11 gives us a list of role models: ordinary people who trusted God in radical ways. This eight-session LifeGuide® Bible Study by Douglas Connelly on the heroes of faith will encourage you and help deepen your own trust in our great God who still keeps all his promises, so that you might live out your faith in radical ways today. Contact Jamee Thieme through RCB or the church office (919-851-7248, office@rlcary.org).

Men's Ministry Weekly Study and Fellowship

Meet on **Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm** in Room 240, Family Life Center. Contact mens-ministry@rlcary.org.

Tuesday Morning

Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Fellowship

We study the coming Sunday Scripture lessons from **10:30-11:30 am** in Fellowship Hall with Pastor Jonathan Blanke and Pastor Zach Sarrault. God gives His Word to instruct, guide, and bless our lives. Scripture lessons in worship offer a menu every week to build up the people of God in faith and hope.

Wednesday Evening

Christianity: The First 3 Centuries From Christ to Constantine

How could a tiny sect ever conquer the world? This video-based class has teachings from Dr. Paul Maier, a retired Professor of Ancient History from Western Michigan University. Each class will have a video led by Dr. Maier, and then time for questions and answers. Topics include Our Sources of Information, Jesus of Nazareth: What else do we know?, Apostles and Emperors, Persecutions and Bishops, Defenders of the Faith, Martyrs for the Faith, Torments of the 3rd Century, The Great Deliverance. Class will meet on **Wednesdays, 6:30-7:45 pm** in Room 151, Family Life Center. Led by Mindy Stephani.

Men With Kids

Meet on **Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm** in Room 247, Family Life Center. We follow the Confirmation schedule. Contact Tom Gebbia at mens-ministry@rlcary.org.



March 2023

- Pastor Blanke mentioned the progress we are making with the slides in the main sanctuary during the services. He expressed his gratitude for all who have stepped up and volunteered. We are now asking the congregation for feedback on the quality, size, and overall “readability.”
- As was announced in the early March services, the call as RLS Principal to Jonathan Fraker was returned. The Call Committee and RLS Board have since met and are in the process of developing another set of recommendations. This may include hiring a full-time principal, because the school has been relying on Bob Unger as a part-time principal for about two years now and we owe this to the teachers, students and parents. A call may be considered in the future.
- The DCE Call is also experiencing difficulties in finding a full-time candidate. This Call Committee is now considering other options such as an internal hire (that is not a called position). Such considerations include one or more part-time employees.
- Charlie Shiel plans to retire as part-time custodian at the end of June. We thank God for his faithful service. The Council will be looking at how to fill this position during the next few meetings.
- Pastor Blanke briefly reviewed his teaching experience in Uganda at the LCU Seminary. This discussion was a segue into the continued Council discussion on a strategic plan for the use of the NEXT 40 Mission funds. Last month, we asked you all to give us feedback on your ideas for how to use about \$114,000. This offer for input is still good as the Council contemplates a meaningful strategic plan as “We Strive to Reach Out with Christ’s Love to All People” (from the original NEXT 40 Charter).
- Mike Hahne, the Council Treasurer, provided updates on the endowments and finances that will be most useful for the current Budgeting process for next year. The next Budget goes to you the Voters in June 2023.
- Mike Hahne has been studying the budget line items (which are numerous) and is finding ways to stream-line things to make things more efficient.
- With the help of the Operations Director, Margaret Hyatt, the RLC Council is pursuing the Employee Retention Credit opportunity being offered by the United States Government.
- Finally, the Council began discussions on the Pulse of the Church Survey that 192 of you took a few months back. Pastor provided you the link to this information in the March Monthly Newsletter. The Council is looking for areas of improvement for which they can contribute.
- The Council is now considering monthly walk-arounds of the entire facility with Garrett. If you are interested in this, please let one of us know.

Your Council members are listed below and are willing to take questions and suggestions.

Mike Haertling, President (505) 690-9929	Mark Dirks, Council Member (919) 345-5348
Erika Hulse, Vice-President (678) 849-3233	Charles Miller, Council Member (919) 534-5649
Mike Hahne, Treasurer (919) 749-7666	Aaron Newcomb, Council Member (919) 645-8005
Mike Heffner, Secretary (469) 644-2049	
Barry Needle, Council Member (919) 345-5088	Ex Officio: Margaret Hyatt, Operations Director (919) 851-7248
Lori Jannings, Council Member (919) 523-6619	Ex Officio: Pastor Jonathan Blanke, Sr. Pastor (301) 997-6687

Men's Ministry

Men's Retreat & Service Event

All men are invited to the annual Men's Retreat and Service Day at Camp Agape from **April 14-16!**

We kick-off Friday evening, April 14, around 6:00 pm with a cookout/potluck gathering at the Retreat House. Our study is woven in throughout the impactful weekend with sessions Friday night, Saturday morning and evening, and Sunday morning. Participants have the option to stay overnight at the Retreat Lodge or commute. Our overnight accommodations are optimal at 16 with a max of 24.

Service: Weather permitting, we will spend most of Saturday morning and afternoon tackling multiple projects throughout the camp utilizing multiple skill sets and capabilities. All men are invited. *Note, you are able to attend Saturday only.*

If interested or have questions, contact Tom Gebbia at mens-ministry@rlcary.org.

Outreach Service to the Community

CLI Prison Alliance

CLI Prison Alliance has a huge need for donated Christian books, Bibles, CDs and DVDs (including foreign language materials). They need 260,000 books per year in order to reach inmates in over 1,000 facilities.

As you are doing Spring cleaning, please consider setting some books aside for CLI. Ask friends, neighbors, and relatives if they have some. The collection box is under the coat rack by the mailboxes or you can drop them off at the CLI office, 3001 Spring Forest Road, Raleigh, from 10:00 am-4:00 pm. Many donors include a \$20 check that offsets the cost of shipping one box of books, or they make a donation online at cli.world.

DATES: April 1-30 and continuing



Christian Book Drive

Donate your gently used Christian books and Bibles and start changing lives of inmates!

[LEARN MORE AT CLI.WORLD](http://cli.world)



Outreach Service to the Community

Operation InAsMuch

Join us during this annual event on **Saturday, April 29** as we provide numerous acts of service for our church, community, and country. We begin with breakfast in the Family Life Center at 8:00 am, and most activities will be completed by noon.

There will be many opportunities available for all ages to participate. Nursery care will be provided. Some of the activities will be at RLC and others off site.

This year, activities include Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran World Relief care packages, card making, quilting and sewing, and much more. You will find the full listing at the link below or on the paper forms.

[Click Here to Sign Up!](#)

You may also sign up using a form located at the information tables. Questions? Contact Jan Boyer or the church office (office@rlcary.org, 919-851-7248).



Happy Anniversary!

April 8

Keith and Yvonne Braswell
67 years

April 11

Brian and Katey Petz
20 years

April 15

Larry and Kathi Carlson
45 years

April 25

Neil and Kelly Porter
25 years

April 30

Bud and Teri McCarty
40 years

Outreach Service to the Community

Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Coalition

From Rebecca Hix, Director of Faith Relations, "Look below at the beautiful house you are building! Thanks to Resurrection Lutheran for the crowd that came out last Saturday, March 25."

The Lutheran Coalition brings 11 Lutheran churches together to strengthen relationships while serving families in need of affordable housing. In 2023, we are building in our newest neighborhood, Old Poole Place in Southeast Raleigh.

The next RLC Build Day is **May 13**, 15 volunteers each day (ages 16+).

Also please note that they hold two slots on Thursday and Friday each week for Lutherans, if you can come out during the week.

Please use this link to sign up:
<http://vhub.at/lutheranbuild>



Youth Summer Opportunity

Camp Linn Haven

Looking for a fun summer sleepaway camp experience in the North Carolina mountains for your child(ren)?

Camp Linn Haven has been providing the opportunity for children to grow in their faith and form lifelong friendships for over 80 years! There are openings for Pre-teen Week (rising 3rd-5th graders) on June 4-10 and Middle School Week (rising 6th-8th graders) on July 16-22.

Visit their website at CampLinnHaven.org for more information or contact the Camp Manager, Teirsa Lane at 828-320-2840.



Student Ministry

Easter Egg Hunt

Can't rain on our FUN! While the weather did not completely cooperate, we were blessed with so many wonderful families, very eager egg hunters, a great crew of youth, and all of the sunshine and joy of Easter packed into the Gym on Sunday, March 26.

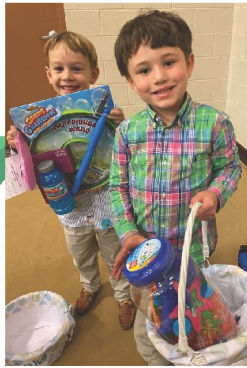
There were games, crafts, and stories that greeted our families and friends from the pouring rains outside. Of course, the highlight being those bright and colorful eggs hidden throughout the building hallways to keep everyone safe and dry. A beautiful reminder that in our not so perfect world, we have a perfect beautiful Savior, and his love and joy could be felt radiating throughout the event. As the event ended, our families were greeted with sunshine and ceased rain. A good day indeed to celebrate what Easter is all about!

Ms. Erika and Ms. Jenny



Children's Ministry News

Easter Eggstravaganza Fun!



Thank you
youth
for your
service!



Children's Sunday School

We look forward to
welcoming your child(ren)
to class Sundays from 9:30-10:30.
There will be no class April 9th (Easter)
and April 30 (Confirmation). Contact
erika.hulse@rlcary.org for more info!





Resurrection Lutheran
Preschool

Diane Hooper, Director

rlpcary.org

919-851-7270

office@rlpcary.org



**3-year-olds
to rising kindergarteners**

(children currently in our 2's classes are eligible)
(ALL Ages MUST be toilet-trained)

June 5 – 8 (9:15-12:30)

June 12 – 15 (9:15-12:30)

June 19 – 22 (9:15-12:30)

Neighbors, friends, & family welcome!

EMAIL FOR BROCHURE & REGISTRATION FORMS!

Mark Your Calendars!

**Vacation Bible School (VBS)
Monday, June 26 - Friday, June 30
9:00 am-12:00 pm**



Shine a light on Jesus' love!

Let's launch on a cosmic quest where we'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world. Stellar rockets us on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith building fun.

We welcome all children ages 4 through rising 5th grade to join us for this amazing week in God's Word. It will be filled with games, crafts, music, and most importantly, Jesus' learning that'll last for light years to come.

[Click Here to Register Now!](#)

Cost: Early Bird Price from March 15-May 31, \$5 per child or \$15 max per family

June 1-June 26, \$10 per child or \$30 max per family

Cash or check accepted, payable to Resurrection Lutheran Church. Mail or drop off to Church Office, 100 W. Lochmere Drive, Cary NC 27518.

2023-2024 ADMISSIONS

Thanks for your commitment to RLS as we look to 2023-2024! Admission is now open to community members as we welcome new students and their families to round out our classes where there is space. Turning in your tuition agreement guarantees placement for the coming school year. Our goal, as always, will focus on maintaining a low student:teacher ratio (particularly in the primary grades) while providing a warm, safe, nurturing, Christ-centered, academically rich educational environment that challenges your child to be the best version of themselves.

SUMMER CAMPS

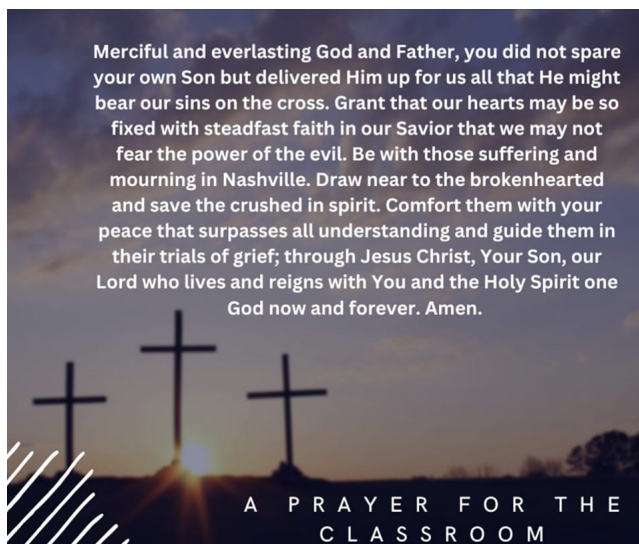
- ◇ **Summer Cheer Camp** (rising 3rd-6th) - June 5-8, 9:00 am-12:00 pm*
 - ◇ **Shore Fun Beach Camp** (rising 1st-2nd) - June 12-15, 9:00 am-12:00 pm*
 - ◇ **STEM/Coding Camp** (rising 3rd-6th) - June 5-8, 1:00-4:00 pm and
June 19-22, 1:00-4:00 pm
 - ◇ **Theater Camp** (rising 5th-8th) - June 19-23, 9:00 am-12:00 pm
 - ◇ **Shore Fun Beach Camp** (rising 1st-2nd) - June 19-22, 9:00 am-12:00 pm*
 - ◇ **Summer Dance Camp** (rising 3rd-6th) - July 10-13, 9:00 am-12:00 pm*
- *optional early drop off

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- April 3-10** No School - Easter Break
- April 18** Chick-Fil-A Fundraiser
- April 25-27** IOWA Testing (Grades 2-8)

Looking Ahead...

- May 1-5** Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week
- May 5** Early Release, 11:30 am
RLS' Got Talent Show
- May 16** Fine Arts Program, 6:30 pm



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.

stayCONNECTED

LIVE STREAM

Join us online for worship live
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 rlcary.org/ministries/online-giving
- 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 20th of each month.
Please send submissions to susan.moore@rlcary.org.

100 LOCHMERE DRIVE WEST, CARY NC 27518